

November 11, 2010

Rockford Register Star
99 E. State Street
Rockford, IL 61104

Attn: Excalibur Award Committee:

I am very pleased to present this nomination of William H. Ziock, Jr. for the 2010 Excalibur Award.

Mr. Ziock was a man of vision, action, and commitment to his community. Arriving in Rockford at age 22, William Ziock Jr. spent the next three-quarters of a century building successful businesses, impressive structures, and an impeccable reputation as a leading industrialist in our growing city. "Rockford's pioneer industrialists were men of vision and foresight," and William Ziock, Jr., or "Bill," as he was known to employees and co-workers, "was one of the first to realize his community's industrial potential" (*Rockford Register*, 2/12/1957).

He followed in the very large community-oriented and philanthropic footsteps of his father, about whom local visionaries such as Ralph Emerson and Robert Tinker spoke in glowing terms. William H. Ziock Jr.'s work went far beyond that which was necessary to conduct his successful businesses. He improved working conditions and encouraged recreation among his employees and also gave moral and financial support to various community organizations, all while helping to put Rockford on the world map for industry.

During both World Wars, his knitting companies manufactured woolen socks for the military. The *Rockford Gazette* reported in early 1917 that he was eager to give form and voice to the patriotic enthusiasm of Ziock employees and neighbors. The company flew a large US flag from the previous war (Spanish War) over the William H. Ziock Sr. Building and said it "would remain up until peace [was] declared or it [was] worn out" (*Rockford Gazette*, 2/7/1917).

He was an ongoing supporter of the Rockford Hospital, the Boy Scouts, the local drum and bugle corps, and local businesses of all types. When the Rockford Automobile Trade Association feared the need to give up their plan to host the first auto show since before WWI, Ziock stepped forward, offering three recently-completed floors of the William H. Ziock Sr. Building addition as a venue. This proved to be a boon as many people came for the views from the 12th and 13th floors as well as to see the latest in automobile technology.

Perhaps his greatest legacy to the city of Rockford was in the construction of this building, Rockford's only industrial high rise, with "walls of crystal and concrete," which was "the most complete outside of Chicago ... a model of strength and convenience" (*Rockford Register Republic*, 3/11/1913; *Rockford Morning Star*, 5/10/1913). This early steel-reinforced concrete, daylight building became an example for other industrial spaces around the country.

To quote Mr. R.C. Peterson in his enclosed letter of support, William H. Ziock Jr. "set the tone of the culture by respecting and protecting workers and treating them as a valuable element of business." He did this ahead of his time and to the benefit of all in Rockford.

Sincerely,

Lenae M. Weichel and the Friends of the William Ziock Building

2010 Excalibur Award Nomination

I would like to nominate: **Ziock, William Henry, Jr.**

Address: c/o Friends of Ziock, 112 N. Wyman Street, Suite 2, Rockford, IL 61101

Business Address: N/A

E-mail Address: c/o friends@ziock.org

Phone Numbers: c/o 815-969-0988 (Don Bissell) or 815-980-5148 (Jeff Orduno)

Profession: Rockford industrialist

Companies with which the nominee was associated:

Rockford Mitten and Hosiery Company, Rockford Paper Bag Company, Rockford Paper Box Company, Nelson Knitting Company, B-Z-B Knitting Company, and the Rockford Knitting Machine Company.

It was said about the companies he founded or oversaw that “as one business firm gained a place in the business world, he would organize another” (*Rockford Register*, 2/12/1957).

Overall impact on community:

William H. Ziock Jr. “helped to chart Rockford’s course as an industrial center and to give it prominence in the textile world” (*Rockford Morning Star*, 2/12/1957). He devoted much of his time in Rockford to “building up industries which have given Rockford a high standing among the nation’s manufacturing cities. For years, the Ziock name was synonymous with the knitting industry ... [spreading] Rockford’s fame far and wide” (*Rockford Register*, 2/12/1957). Beyond that, he carried with him (and acted upon) a concern for employees, youth, the arts, and amenities that enhance community.

Major constructive achievements:

Date	Achievements
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June, 1908	Donated a wheeled litter to the Rockford Hospital
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This gurney, used to convey patients from the operating room to their convalescent room after surgery, replaced one that had worn out. It was new, “the latest pattern and the finest that could be procured from a dealer in hospital supplies ... lighten[ing] the burden of suffering” of those in the hospital (*Rockford Morning Star*, 6/27/1908). In fact Ziock, like his father, was a regular Rockford Hospital benefactor.

September, 1913	11 story William H. Ziock Sr. Building completed on SW corner of Wyman & Green Sts. This building was the tallest building in Rockford at this time, forever changing the skyline of the city. In addition to its safer, brighter, better ventilated factory design, Ziock had installed on the top floor, high above the city, a fully-equipped kitchen, dining room, and recreation hall; furnishing an ideal place for the employees outside of working hours and including billiard tables, a library, and comfortable furniture. The <i>Rockford Morning Star</i> reported during its construction that these rooms “are expected to be an example for other factories throughout the country who look after their employes’ [<i>sic</i>] welfare as well as they look after the financial end of their business” (5/10/1913).
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February, 1921	13 story addition to William H. Ziock Sr. Building completed, fronting on South Main St. Atop this additional model industrial building, Ziock had a large water tower erected for an automatic sprinkler system (as he did with the first section of this building) which protected his investments to be sure, but which also protected and contributed to a safe, comfortable working environment and peace of mind for his employees at a time when yarn and knitting mill and factory fires were still a real danger.
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Public offices and volunteer activities:

William H. Ziock, Jr. hosted numerous fundraising and recognition events for area non-profit organizations at a time when this practice was relatively unknown. Among other offices and activities, Mr. Ziock participated in the following:

Date	Achievements
June, 1908	Hosted a musicale to benefit the beautification of Haskell School. That year, Mr. Ziock served as secretary/treasurer of the Haskell School Parents' Club which was creative and mindful. The group charged itself with "enlisting the interests of the children in the school surroundings" (an idea of involvement and investment before it's time!).
April, 1920 & 1921	Hosted banquets with "elaborate programs" for Rockford Boy Scout Troop 3. Mr. Ziock hosted these banquets on multiple occasions to celebrate the young troop's anniversaries. Banquets were held on the top floor of the Ziock Building.
February, 1921	Offered three floors of the newly-finished Ziock Building addition to the Rockford Automobile Trade Association for their Auto Show. This was the first car show the community had held since before WWI and Mr. Ziock saved the event by offering his space for use free of charge. The location positively contributed to attendance (which topped 15,000) due to its views and novelty.
June, 1922	Hosted a dinner and program for the American Legion Drum and Bugle Corps, one of the local predecessors to The Phantom Regiment.
October, 1956	Purchased the pipe organ for the soon-to-be constructed Emmanuel Episcopal Church.

Membership in religious, fraternal, business or social groups:

- Life member - Moose Club
- Trustee - Rockford Memorial Hospital
- Board member – Nelson Knitting Company
- Director - Winnebago National Bank
- Charter member - Rockford County Club
- Life member - Elk's Club (at the time of his death, Ziock was the oldest living member)

Nominator name: Weichel, Lenae M.
Address: c/o Friends of Ziock
112 N. Wyman Street, Suite 2
Rockford, IL 61101
E-mail Address: Lenae@Weichel.org
Phone Number: 815-282-5482

R. C. "RAY" PETERSON

To: Rockford Register Star Excalibur Award Committee
Date: November 10, 2010
Re: Letter of Support for the Nomination of William H Ziock, Jr.

Dear Excalibur Committee:

My first glimpse of Mr. Ziock, that is William Ziock, Jr., was in 1938. I had just been hired for part time work at Nelson Knitting Company where my job was to clean machines. Mr. Ziock was a member of the Board of Directors of Nelson Knitting. A fellow worker pointed him out as he strolled through the factory. Tall, confident, and well dressed, a particularly noticeable feature was that he was missing an arm.

I learned that April 19, 1895, Mr. Ziock was involved in a shocking accident at his own factory. Large belts that power machines throughout plants at that time frequently slipped off their pulleys. Instead of insisting that his workers reinstall the belt, "Will" as he was sometimes referred to, pitched in, slung the belt over his shoulder and proceeded to heft it back into place. Instantly his shirt sleeve became entangled in the mechanism, twisting his arm off at the elbow.

As I gained experience and understanding of the industry, it became clear that this was very much in character for Mr. Ziock. He would not ask his workers to do anything that he, himself, was not willing to do.

In fact, William, Jr., powerful, yet friendly and engaging, had endeared himself so completely to his workers and to others that he was known by the office staff at Nelson Knitting as "Billy". He embodied the [pardon the pun] "closely knit" family aspect of the knitting community in Rockford.

In 1957, the same year that William Ziock, Jr., passed away, I became President of Nelson Knitting Company. Accolades and tributes bestowed on him at that time are a matter of record and were consistent with what I knew to be the culture of all of the knitting companies in Rockford. William Ziock, Jr., and his father were founders – and quite literally pioneers in this significant Rockford industry. They helped create the industry AND they set the tone of the culture by respecting and protecting workers and treating them as a valuable element of business.

William H Ziock, Jr., elected to honor his mentor, his father, and very fortunately was able to do so by creating one of Rockford's most visibly prominent high-rise manufacturing-style buildings. It was not only a manufacturing plant but as we now know, Ziock was interested in, encouraged and supported a broad range of community groups and gatherings, frequently by making the top floors of the building available to them for their events.

Thank you for this opportunity to support the nomination of William H. Ziock, Jr., for the Excalibur Award for 2010.

Sincerely,



R. C. "Ray" Peterson
President (retired), Nelson Knitting Company

6458 Old Hunters Run
Rockford, Illinois 61114-7812

PHONE (815) 282-4639

Interview Notes

J. Stanton McGroarty, Emmanuel Episcopal Church

These notes were gathered in an interview with Mr. J. Stanton McGroarty, former Warden, Emmanuel Episcopal Church Vestry (equivalent to President or Chairman of the Board of Directors of the church). Mr. McGroarty served as Senior Warden for two terms. The interview was conducted Thursday November 11, 2010. Mr. McGroarty can be reached at 815-985-6997.

- Capital planning for construction of Emmanuel Episcopal Church at its present location, 412 N Church St., was underway. One of the 'big ticket' items was the pipe organ. Much thought and effort had gone into allocating the budget proportionally, resulting in each parishioner being assigned a target amount. William Ziock, Jr., also known to fellow church members as Bill Ziock, an active and very generous member of the church was one of the parishioners at the top of the list. When approached he asked, "would you mind if I were to simply purchase the pipe organ for the church." At that point, the organ fund-raising campaign ended.
- Two descendents of Mr. Ziock were not in good health (details not known to Mr. McGroarty). As part of his estate, Bill Ziock established a trust for the children with the provision that in the event of their death, proceeds were to be distributed between four charitable organizations including Rockford Memorial Hospital and Emmanuel Episcopal Church. As a result, an endowment has been established at Emmanuel Episcopal Church, with William H. Ziock Jr, as the benefactor. While specific amounts were not revealed, the gifts are described as "substantial" and "exceptionally generous".

Interviewer: Don Bissell

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The treasury of the Haskell School was considerably benefitted by the musicale given at the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Ziock on Haskell Avenue last evening by Mrs. Charles Reitsch and Miss Glenn Culver. Parents of the school children and others interested responded in last numbers. Proceeds from the evening's entertainment will be used to beautify the school building. About \$40 will be realized as a result of the entertainment.

One of the features of the evening was the organization of the Haskell School Parents' Club, which will co-operate with the principal of Haskell School, Miss Carrie Goodfellow, in expending the funds. Mrs. Walter Hodgeson was elected president and Mr. William Ziock, secretary and treasurer. R. K. Welsh was present and told of the advantages accruing from enlisting the interests of the children in the school surroundings and of the results that have been obtained in larger cities.

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HOSPITAL HAS FINE NEW LITTER

**W. H. ZIOCK PRESENTS MUCH
NEEDED APPLIANCE.**

OLD ONE WAS WORN OUT

**Other Apparatus Needed and Any
One Who Desires May Make
Donations to Add to Effi-
ciency of Work.**

Rockford hospital yesterday received a gift from W. H. Ziock which fills a need in the operating room. It is a wheeled litter, used in conveying patients from the operating table to their rooms after surgical work. The former litter has been in use many years and was worn out. The new device is of the latest pattern and the finest that could be procured from a dealer in hospital supplies.

Mr. Ziock told the management to purchase the best to be had and send him the bill, a check to cover the cost being returned at once. Many a patient will bless the donor of this necessary appliance as it will lighten the burden of suffering in many cases.

The hospital is in need of other things for use in connection with surgical work and donations will be received gladly. Any person who desires to do good in this way can find what is desired by conferring with the superintendent or with members of the board of trustees. Some of the devices needed are inexpensive and others are costly so all financial conditions may be suited in case any person desires to assist the institution but cannot afford a large gift.

Handling so large a number of cases makes a large armamentarium necessary and additions are needed from time to time to keep pace with the advance in surgical practice.

TALLEST BUILDING NEARING FINISH

**ZIOCK COMPANY INSTALLS MA-
CHINERY IN SIXTH FLOOR.**

WILL BE 185 FEET HIGH

**Eleven-Story Structure Will Have
Fine Recreation Room and Din-
ing Room For Employees on
Top Floor.**

The B. Z. B. Knitting company and allied interests have begun the work of installing machinery on the sixth floor of their proposed eleven-story building, which is now in the course of erection. The floor was lighted up for the first time Thursday night and will soon be a busy place.

The building is to be the most complete in the state outside of Chicago and when completed will stand 185 feet above Main street, easily the highest structure in Rockford, a model of strength and convenience. It is built of reinforced concrete with heavy rails. Numerous windows afford all the daylight possible and sanitation will be correct throughout.

Workmen have been busy on the building for some time and have now reached the ninth story and are rapidly making headway to a completion of the outside work. The first six stories are now nearly ready for occupancy in all particulars and will be utilized as soon as the machinery can be installed.

One of the features of the building when fully equipped will be the kitchen, dining room and recreation hall on top, far removed from the smoke and noise of the city, furnishing an ideal place for the employees outside of working hours. They will be complete in every detail, furnishing a model kitchen, a neat, appealing dining room and a recreation room that will have billiard tables, library and furniture keeping with the general tone. These rooms will be the best that ideas can produce and are expected to be an example for other factories throughout the country who look after their employees' welfare as well as they look after the financial end of their business.

The only thing above the employees' retreat will be a large water tank that will soar above any structure or place in the city. From the level of Main street to the top of the tank that will soar above any structure, a height that will not be equalled in the city for some time, distancing any present plans for other buildings.

House Various Industries.

In this immense eleven story building will be housed the quarters and factories of the numerous Burson and Ziock interests. The knitting company will occupy several floors, giving it much more floor space and permitting the installation of new improvements that would not be possible in less extended quarters. The output of the company will be enlarged so as to take care of the rapidly growing demands for its products.

On several of the other floors will be housed the Ziock Paper Box company, which manufactures the boxes for the knitting goods and is a small industry in itself. The Ziock Machine company, which manufactures knitting machines, will also have a place in the building. Some of the machines have just been recently patented and will find a market that will tax the large new quarters. On one of the top floors will be installed a motorcycle manufacturing company that will manufacture motorcycles of an improved style.

On every floor but the top there will soon be a hum of machinery and the noise of industries that will scatter their products all over the country and add still further to the fame of Rockford as a manufacturing city. The grouping of all the separate companies into one building will add to the assembling of the products and will add to the efficiency of them all.

The solidity of the building, its absolute fire proof quality and the excellence of its construction will lower its insurance rates and add to the comfort and safety of the employees. Its completion will mark a step forward in Rockford factories, furnishing a model for others to copy throughout the country and Mr. Ziock and his co-workers are to be commended for their enterprise and their solicitude for those who work under them.

Men's "English Trooper" Hats

The popular Bow-in-Back Soft Hat
\$2.00 to \$4.00 at E. & W.

UNFURL FLAG USED IN 1898

A United States flag bought by employees of the local knitting companies at the time war was declared with Spain now floats over the 11-story Ziock Paper Box company building, in the 400 block of South Wyman street.

It was unfurled to the breeze on Tuesday morning. W. H. Zock said the flag would remain up until peace is declared or it is worn out.

The flag is 20 by 30 feet and is 167 feet in the air, higher than probably any other flag in the city.

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AUTO DEALERS TO HAVE A BANQUET ON FEBRUARY 28

Will Be Served in Ziock Building.

Following the close of the auto-mobile show next Saturday evening plans now being made provide for a banquet on Monday evening in the William Ziock building for members of the Rockford Automobile Trade association, who will have as their guest, William Ziock and business associates.

It was through Mr. Ziock's kindness in making it possible for the trade association to obtain a centrally located and adequately large building that the automobile and accessory show is to be held, commencing tomorrow noon. Efforts to obtain a show building were about to be abandoned when Mr. Ziock let it be known that three floors of his building were available.

The banquet will be held on one of the upper floors of the building, which will be utilized as a dining room for employes of the knitting concern.

Soper Is Doing Decorating.

Decoration of the interior of the showrooms was placed by the committee in charge of J. J. Soper. The walls of the showrooms are white enamel and easily lend themselves to decorations.

Mr. Soper has invoked the aid of potted plants, flowers, palms and cut flowers. The huge white enamel supporting columns are covered with smilax, more than 100 pounds being used.

Wonderful View of City.

From the twelfth or thirteenth floors of the building a wonderful birdseye view of Rockford may be obtained. This in itself, assert show committeemen, is worth a visit to the exhibit.

Notes of the Day



Now Open Rockford Automobile Show

William Ziock Building
South Main St.

Attend This Gigantic Show Tonight
Visit All Three Floors

Never before has there been exhibited in Rockford a
show which can compare with this one.

You'll learn more of the auto of today and its new
features during a pleasant hour here than through
pages of printed matter or time spent from
dealer to dealer.

Don't fail to see Rockford
from the thirteenth floor
of the William Ziock Building

Decorations by Soper Music by Block's Orchestra
Admission 35c

ROCKFORD AUTO  TRADE ASS'N.



Automobile Show

February
23, 24,
25, 26

OPEN TODAY
AT THE
William Ziock Building
South Main St., Opposite the Post Office

A Complete Exhibition
Of All That's New In Motordom

By far the greatest event of the kind ever held in Rockford

On the FIRST FLOOR--Exhibits of the New Cars and of Accessories

On the TWELFTH FLOOR--Used Cars and Accessories

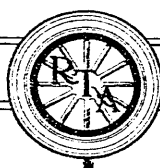
On the THIRTEENTH FLOOR--Closed Cars de Luxe

Make at least one visit to the Show. No effort has been spared to make this exposition as complete and instructive as possible, and you will be interested and entertained. Not to know the latest in the Auto World is to mark yourself a "Back Number." Come! Ask questions! Courteous attendants at every exhibit are there to serve you and answer your queries.

Your Friends Will Be There---DON'T MISS IT

Open 10 A. M.
to 10:30 P. M.
Daily.

ROCKFORD AUTO

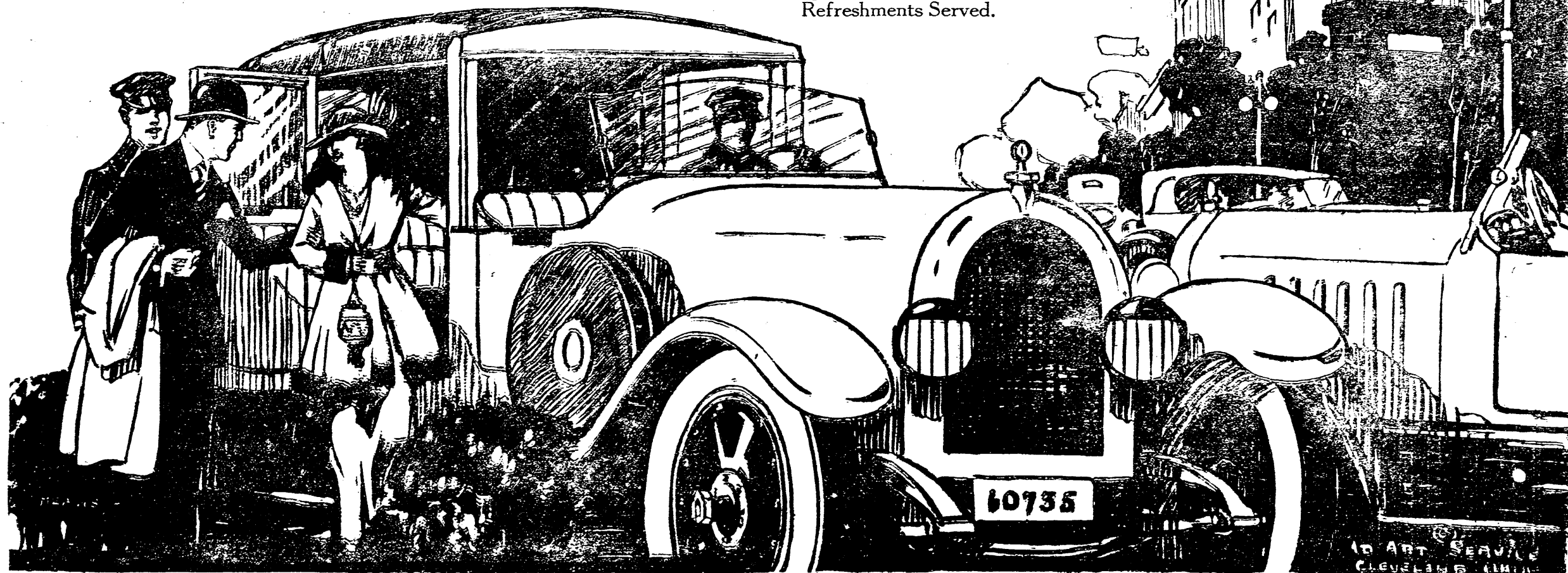


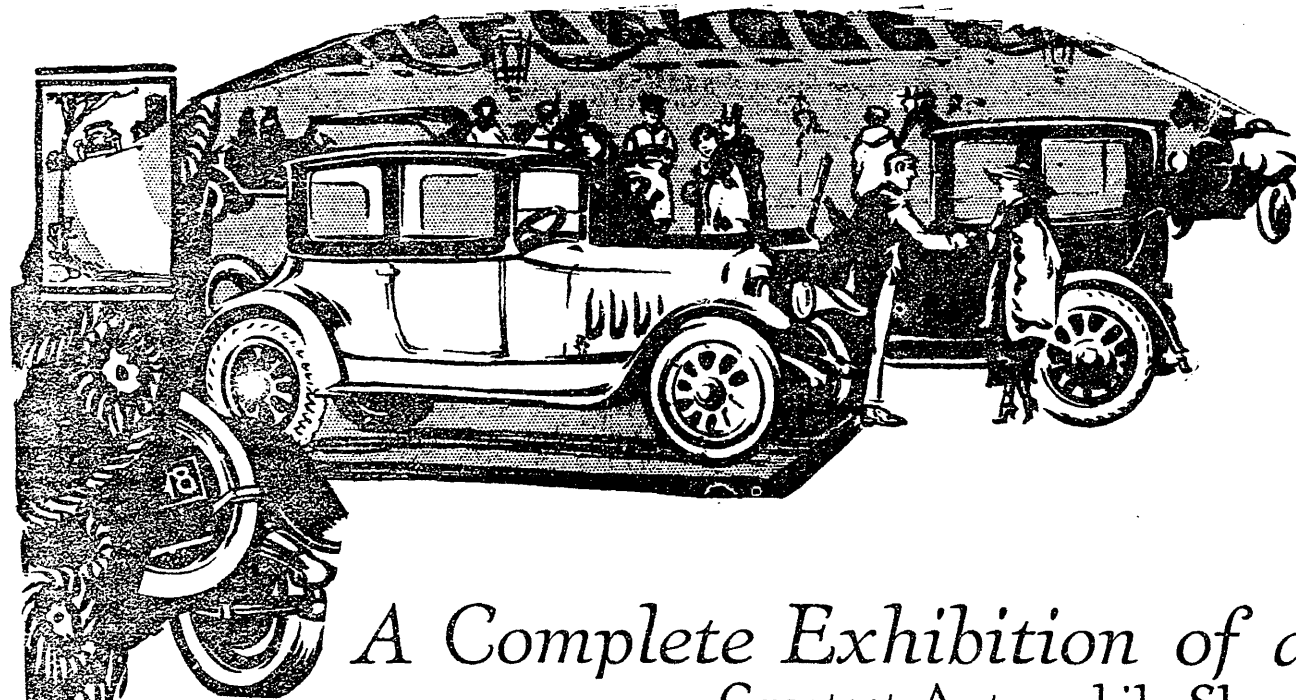
TRADE ASS'N.

ADMISSION
To All Three Exhibits.
35c.

Music by Block's Orchestra

Light Lunches and Other
Refreshments Served.





AUTOMOBILE SHOW---

Now Going On At The
William Ziock Building
South Main Street - Opposite Post Office

A Complete Exhibition of all Thats New in Motordom
Greatest Automobile Show Ever Held in Rockford

Visit All These Floors

First Floor—Exhibits of new cars and accessories.
Twelfth Floor—Exhibits of used cars and accessories.
Thirteenth Floor—Exhibits of closed cars de luxe.

Dont Fail To See Rockford From The Thirteenth Floor

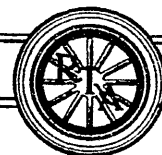
Make at least one visit to the show. No effort has been spared to make this exposition as complete and instructive as possible, and you will be interested and entertained. Come! Ask Questions! Courteous attendents at every exhibit are there to serve you and answer your queries.

FEBRUARY, 23rd - 24th - 25th - 26th

Decorations by Soper.

Open 10 A. M.
to 10:30 P. M.
daily.

ROCKFORD AUTO

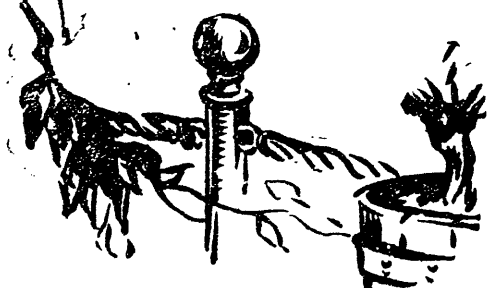


TRADE ASS'N.

Admission
To all three exhibits
35c.

MUSIC BY BLOCK'S ORCHESTRA.

LIGHT LUNCHES AND REFRESHMENTS.



Two Knitting Companies Turning Out Woolen Sox For Army's Use

Wool socks for American soldier in all parts of the world now are being produced by the Nelson Knitting company and the Forest City Knitting company for the first time since the first world war.

Large orders for both wool and cotton socks have been placed with the companies by the army quartermaster, and about half of the pro-

duction of the two plants is for soldiers. Present orders are expected to take several months to fill.

Star 2-18-45
Tuve, J. Floden, president of the Nelson Knitting company, disclosed that his factory had not produced wool socks since the first world war until called upon to do so by the army. Its cotton socks, however, have been sold around the world, and Nelson socks could be purchased from the shelves of nearly every store throughout the world.

A partial conversion of the two plants was necessary to go into wool sock production, Floden said. Some cotton athletic hose had been made for the navy, but otherwise, up to the present, all its production had been for civilian use.

The Rockford Mitten and Hosiery company, on the other hand, has been producing wool socks and woolen goods for a number of years and its present production is virtually 100 per cent for the armed forces.

Floden said that the Nelson and Forest City companies were not allowed to add to their help to fill the war orders. Both domestic and foreign wool yarn is used.

Huge Industry Began With 1st Sock in 1870

Rockford's sock industry got its start in 1870 when the first sock was knitted on an automatic knitting machine designed by John Nelson and W. W. Burton.

A huge textile industry grew, declined prior to World War II, was stimulated by the war, and today 8 million pairs of socks are turned out here annually. *Star-RR 4-9/10-64*

W. H. Ziock, 93, Dies; Rites Today

Star 2-12-57

Services for William H. Ziock, 93, 715 Garfield ave., prominent Rockford industrialist and a leader in the textile field, will be held at 3 p.m. today in the Burpee-Wood funeral home, 420 N. Main st.

The Rev. Victor Goff, pastor of the Church of the Christian Union, Unitarian, will officiate. Burial will be in Greenwood cemetery.

Mr. Ziock died at 12:20 p.m. Sunday in St. Anthony hospital after a long illness.

He came to Rockford 76 years ago from St. Louis, founded several firms, and constructed the 13-story building at 416 S. Main st. being vacated by the Amerock corporation. The structure, started in 1912, housed many textile industries before Amerock moved there.

Mr. Ziock organized the Rockford Mitten company, later Rockford Mitten and Hosiery company, which later became the Manikin Hosiery company.

He founded the Rockford Paper Box company, which now is operated by his son, Roy, as Ziock Industries in Brownwood, Tex.

Mr. Ziock was born Nov. 26, 1863, in St. Louis, son of Mr. and Mrs. William Ziock, and married Lulu Mackwitz April 24, 1889. She died in 1953.

He was a life member of the Moose club, former trustee of Rockford Memorial hospital, charter member of the Rockford Country club, and the oldest member of the Elks club.

Surviving are a daughter, Nita M. Ziock, Rockford; three sons, Roy, Brownwood, and William H., Jr. and Carl M. Ziock, both of Rockford. Carl M. Ziock was foreman of the January, 1957, grand jury here. Also surviving are four grandchildren and a great-grandson.

Industrialist

W. H. Ziock

Dies at 93

RR 2-11-57

William H. Ziock, 93, longtime Rockford industrialist and a leader in the textile field, died at 12:20 p.m. Sunday in St. Anthony hospital. RR 2-11-57

Mr. Ziock's address was 715



William H. Ziock

Garfield ave., although he had spent much of the last 10 years in Rockford hospitals.

Mr. Ziock came to Rockford 76 years ago, founded several large firms, and constructed one of the city's largest buildings.

He was born Nov. 26, 1863, in St. Louis, the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Ziock. He was married April 24, 1889, in St. Louis, to Lulu Mackwitz, who died in 1953.

He was, at the time of his death, a life member of the Moose club, former trustee of Rockford Memorial hospital, charter member of Rockford Country club, and the oldest living member of the Elks club.

Early in the 1880's, Mr. Ziock organized the Rockford Mitten company, which later became

Rockford Mitten and Hosiery company. He also founded the EZB Knitting company, which became the Manikin Hosiery company.

Later, he founded the Rockford Paper Box company, which now is operated by his son, Roy, as Ziock Industries in Brownwood, Tex.

Mr. Ziock constructed the 13-story building just vacated by American Cabinet Hardware company. The structure was started in 1912. It housed a number of textile industries before Amerock moved in.

Survivors include a daughter, Nita M. Ziock, Rockford; three sons, William H., Jr., and Carl M., both of Rockford, and Roy,

Brownwood, Tex.; four grandchildren; and one great-grandson. A brother and four sisters preceded him in death.

Services will be held at 3 p.m. Tuesday in the Burpee-Wood funeral home, 420 N. Main st., with the Rev. Victor Goff, pastor of the Church of the Christian Union, Unitarian, officiating. Burial will be in Greenwood cemetery. Friends may call from 7 to 3 o'clock tonight in the funeral home. Friends are asked to omit flowers.

William H. Ziock

STAR 2-12-57

William H. Ziock, who died Sunday at the age of 93, was one of the pioneers in Rockford's industrial development. He helped to chart Rockford's course as an industrial center and to give it prominence in the textile world. Star 2-12-57

In the early 1880's, Mr. Ziock founded the Rockford Mitten company, which later became the Rockford Mitten and Hosiery company. He later organized the B.Z.B. Knitting company, which became the Manikin Hosiery company. He built the 13-story Ziock building on S. Main street which housed a number of textile industries and later the American Cabinet Hardware company. Mr. Ziock also was a founder of the Rockford Paper Box company.

Mr. Ziock was one of the last of the men who built the initial sturdiness into Rockford's industrial life.

William H. Ziock

William H. Ziock devoted many of his 93 years of life to building up industries which have given Rockford a high standing among the nation's manufacturing cities. For years the Ziock name was synonymous with the knitting industry which spread Rockford's fame far and wide. RR 2-12-57

Mr. Ziock came to Rockford three-quarters of a century ago and organized the Rockford Mitten and B-Z-B Knitting companies. He also founded a paper-box company. More than 40 years ago, he changed this city's skyline by constructing the 13-story Ziock building which for years has been a South Main street landmark. For many years, the building was occupied by the American Cabinet Hardware corporation, which only recently moved to the city's outskirts.

Rockford's pioneer industrialists were men of vision and foresight. William H. Ziock was one of the first to realize this community's industrial potential; as one business firm gained a place in the business world, he organized another.

Mr. Ziock found time to enter the city's civic and social life actively. He was a life member of the Moose lodge and the oldest member of the Elks club, a charter

member of Rockford Country club, and a former trustee of Rockford Memorial hospital.

During William Ziock's long and useful life, he played a big part in making Rockford a thriving city.



Excalibur Nomination Form

Additional comments and supporting documentation may be included on supplemental pages, if necessary. You may reproduce this form. In order to be considered for judging, form must be legible.

Nomination Forms are due Friday, November 12th at 5pm.

Completed forms can be mailed or delivered to:
Publisher's Office, Rockford Register Star, 99 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61104

I would like to nominate: Ziock, William Henry, Jr.
(Last Name) (First) (Middle)

Address: c/o Friends of Ziock 112 N. Wyman St., Suite 2 Rockford, IL 61101
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Business Address: N/A
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address: c/o friends@ziock.org

Phone Numbers: c/o 815-969-0988 (Don Bissell) or 815-980-5148 (Jeff Orduno)
(Home) (Business)

Occupation, profession or title: Rockford Industrialist

Company associated with: Please see attachments.

Overall impact on community: Please see attachments.

Major constructive achievements:

Date Achievements

Please see attachments.

Public offices and volunteer activities:

Date Office/Activity

Please see attachments.

Membership in religious, fraternal, business or social groups and offices held:

Date Association

Please see attachments.

Other:

Nominator name:

Weichel, Lenae M.
(Last Name) (First) (Middle)

Address:

c/o Friends of Ziock 112 N. Wyman St., Suite 2 Rockford, IL 61101
(Number and Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

E-mail Address:

Lenae@Weichel.org

Phone Numbers:

815-282-5482 815-962-2725 cell
(Home) (Business)