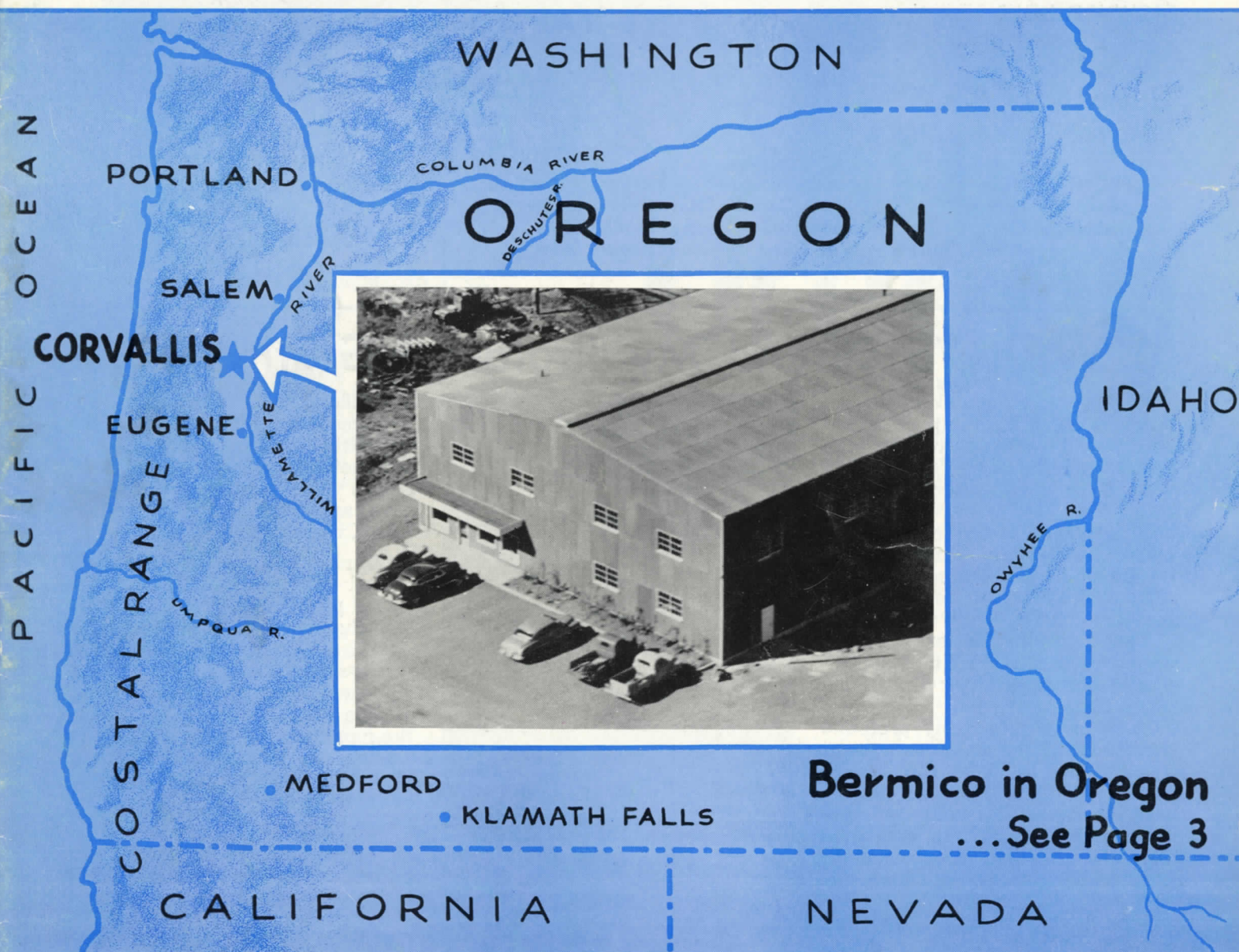


THE BROWN

Bulletin


BROWN COMPANY - BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE



Bermico in Oregon
...See Page 3

July 1956

THE BROWN *Bulletin*



PUBLISHED MONTHLY
FOR EMPLOYEES AND FRIENDS
OF BROWN COMPANY
BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

JULY 1956

VOLUME 4, No. 12

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FRONT COVER: The map of Northwest shows the location of the newest mill of Brown Company — the Corvallis Plant of the Bermico Division in Oregon. The mill, purchased from the Blacfiber Pipe Company, will make service to West Coast Bermico customers faster and more efficient.



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American Association
of Industrial Editors

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LAYOUT and ARTWORK

Claude L. Brusseau

"I Wish To Extend My Profound Gratitude..."

Each year, Brown Company co-operates in sponsorship of a Science Fair for North Country high school students and in sending the winner to the National Science Fair.

This year, Monique Blais of Notre Dame High School went to Oklahoma City, Okla., as representative of the North Country in the national contest.

The following letter was received by J. Arthur Sullivan, employee activities supervisor, from Miss Blais:

"I wish to extend my profound gratitude for the generous amount granted me to make the trip to Oklahoma City possible. Thank you very much for your contribution. Such interest in education and in science will help better our community in more ways than one. Not only did I profit by it, but my teacher, S. Ste. M.-Rosine has encased scientific treasures in her mind so as to use them to help and guide this young generation toward a more fruitful future.



MONIQUE BLAIS

"Last year, Albert Aube, Jr. won the honors as a national finalist in science. He has now decided to become a laboratory technician as a starting point in his

scientific career. This year, I, myself, came in contact with a few scientists who introduced me to new methods to continue my work. I have widened my knowledge and have appreciated this trip more than I can express.

"During our stay in Oklahoma, guided tours were organized. The official party at the fair filled thirteen chartered buses on these trips. Two hundred pupils represented thirty-seven states. We visited and were given short instructions at the University of Oklahoma, the numerous oil wells of the city, Tinker Air Base, the Museum of Historical Society, and other points of interest.

"The coordinator of the National Science Fair is very much pleased with Northern N. H. It is looked upon as being progressive, generous and possessing a fine spirit. He and Notre Dame High School greatly appreciate your interest and your help in the advancement of science.



BERMICO in Oregon

BBROWN COMPANY has purchased a West Coast mill to make Bermico products.

What does this mean to Brown Company and its employees?

The purchase of the Blacfiber Pipe Company in Corvallis, Oregon, means another step in the improvement and expansion program of Brown Company.

"Our buying the Blacfiber mill is part of the same improvement program that we see going on about us every day in Berlin and Gorham," President A. E. Harold Fair said.

"In Berlin and Gorham we are improving our facilities and expanding our production. Buying the Corvallis plant will make possible added production of our Bermico products. The present capacity of the newly-acquired mill will add about 10 per cent to the company's production of Bermico sewer, drainage and irrigation pipe and electrical conduit, all of which up to now has been manufactured at Brown Company's Bermico Mill in Berlin."

The new mill in Oregon also will make possible more adequate and more efficient service of Bermico products to customers on the Pacific Coast and in the Rocky Mountain area, Mr. Fair said.

"There is a good market and we have had a very favorable reception to our quality of pipe in that district," he continued. "However, up until now, the amount of Bermico we could sell in the West has been restricted because of high costs of shipping pipe from Berlin to the West. It is important to

keep our total cost down so that we can compete with other producers of fibre pipe. Establishing manufacturing operations at sites nearer the customers is one way of keeping costs down so that we can compete with other producers of fibre pipe."

The Blacfiber Pipe Company plant — now known as the Corvallis Plant of Brown Company's Bermico Division — is a new mill. Ground was broken for the plant in 1954 and production started in 1955. It is fully equipped with up-to-date machinery for the making of fibre pipe.

Bermico products, first manufactured in 1912, have become some of Brown Company's best sellers. New uses are being found constantly.

It was only about a dozen years or so ago that Bermico production was limited to electrical conduit. Today, in addition to conduit, the men and machines turn out miles of pipe for sewers, septic tank disposal beds, foundation drains, land drainage systems, highway drainage systems and irrigation, plus a complete line of fittings. Shipments of Bermico go all over the world.

The purchase of the Oregon mill will have a long-range overall effect on the company and its people. The new mill will strengthen the company in just the same way as the new bleachery in Berlin.

The stronger we can make our company, the more job security we have for everyone.

Co-Founder of Blacfiber Co. Named Manager of Corvallis Plant

A man who helped found the Blacfiber Pipe Company will run the Oregon mill for Brown Company.

Bernard M. Guthrie, who with Ralph Chapman established the firm, has been named manager of the Corvallis Plant. The announcement was made by Arthur R. Taylor, general manager of the Bermico Division.

Mr. Guthrie is a native of Corvallis and was graduated from Oregon State College (located in Corvallis) in 1926, with a bachelor of science degree.

He worked with the General Electric Company in Lynn, Mass., the Burroughs Adding Machine Company and the Iron Fireman Manufacturing Company in Portland, Oregon, before joining the Fairbanks-Morse Company in Chicago as chief engineer of the Appliance Division and special representative of Mr. Morse in 1933.



DIRECTS SALES . . . Earl Van Pool, Pacific Coast sales manager, together with Salesman Kenneth Terttula, has been instrumental in establishing a wide acceptance of Bermico in the Western United States.



MANAGER . . . Bernard M. Guthrie, co-founder of the Blacfiber Pipe Company, who has been named manager of the Corvallis Plant of Brown Company's Bermico Division.

In 1939, Mr. Guthrie was named vice president of the Kingston Products Co. and general manager of its Tipton Division in Tipton, Indiana.

He became executive vice president and general manager of the Steel Parts Corporation in May 1952.

Mr. Guthrie resigned from Steel Parts in 1953 to make a study of the fibre pipe business. As a result of his study, he, Mr. Chapman, Mrs. Guthrie and Mrs. Chapman formed the Blacfiber Pipe Company, which began production in 1955.

Names and Scenes—The Same In East and West

Berlin and Gorham people visiting Corvallis, Oregon, site of Brown Company's newly acquired West Coast Bermico plant, would feel right at home.

On either side rise long ranges of mountains.

It's rugged country, and it's pretty country. To the east lies the Cascade Range with a towering peak by another familiar name—Mount Jefferson, 10,499 feet high.

Corvallis, like Berlin and Gorham, is on a river. It's the Willamette, which runs into the Columbia at Portland, some 70 miles to the northeast, and then empties into the Pacific at the Oregon-Washington border.

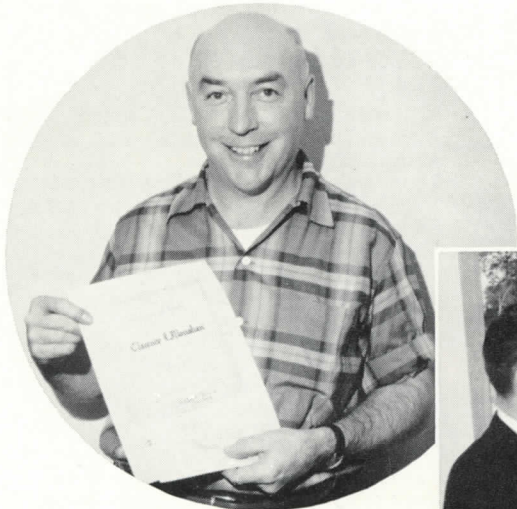
The community has about 16,000 people, approximately the size of Berlin. It is the county seat of Benton County.

Located at Corvallis is Oregon State College, a co-educational school with about 7,000 students.

The Southern Pacific Railroad and the West Coast Airlines serve Corvallis.

The Willamette River Valley is the site of many different occupations. The fertile land has made it an excellent farming area. Many other people operate dairy and poultry farms. Bricks and tile also are products of the valley.

But one of the biggest industries in the general area is one that is even more familiar to Brown Company people. Throughout the entire Northwest, of which Corvallis is a part, are pulp and paper mills. Some of the best known companies in the pulp and paper field have mills there. Now, Brown Company joins them.



There's Big Money in Suggestions

\$500 WINNER Clarence Monahan of the Burgess Lab beams after receiving a \$500 check for his suggestion. Pictured at the right during award ceremonies are, left to right, Pres. A. E. H. Fair, Dr. Paul M. Goodloe, Mr. Monahan, John Fitzgerald, Donald Borchers and Keith Jelly.



A \$500 AWARD has been presented to Clarence J. Monahan, a laboratory assistant at Burgess Mill for his suggestion for a saving in pulp production.

The award, made by Pres. A. E. H. Fair, brought to \$3,345 the amount won by employees since the Suggestion Plan was started this past January.

Mr. Monahan, who first came to work with Brown Company in 1929, received 10 per cent of the estimated saving in which his suggestion will result.

This is the second \$500 award made. The first was to Edwin Thresher of the Hardwood Sawmill.

Three other Brown Company people have won \$100 checks. Two of them are Bermico employees, Ernest Coulombe and Robert Mercier. The third is Madeleine C. Pearce of the Boston Office.

Fourteen people have won two or more suggestions. The champion for the number of different awards is Napoleon Guitard of the Bermico Mill. He has submitted six winning suggestions and has received a total of \$105 for them. Joseph Dussault, Sherman Twitchell and Mark Hickey, all of Burgess Mill, have each won three awards.



\$100 WINNERS . . . Two Bermico men, Robert Mercier and Ernest Coulombe, received \$100 checks for suggestions. Left to right, Vice Pres. Robert W. Andrews, Barkley Goodrich, Mr. Mercier, Joseph Leroux, Mr. Coulombe, Ben Hodges and Robert Thayer.

These Employees Have Won Awards, Too

\$50 Winners

Herbert Brigham, Cascade
Joseph D. Tremblay, Burgess
Edmond Hamel, Burgess
Joseph Dussault, Burgess
Thomas Vashaw, Burgess

\$40 Winners

George Toothaker, Bermico

\$35 Winners

Mark Hickey, Burgess

\$30 Winners

Charles Murray, Cascade
Allen Philippon, Bermico

\$25 Winners

Warren Hoyt, Burgess
Oliva L. Gagnon, Cascade
Roland Bergeron, Bermico
William Duquette, Burgess
Rocco Alonzo, Burgess
Roland Bouchard, Cascade
Leo P. Hamel, Burgess
Ernest Coulombe, Bermico
Edgar Jutras, Cascade
Edward A. Brown, Bermico
Robert Lavigne, Cascade
Thomas A. Jordan, Cascade

\$20 Winners

Paul Sanschagrin, Cascade
Laurier Fortier, Burgess
Alphonse Theriault, Burgess
Roland Thibault, Bermico
Joseph Dussault, Burgess
Edward Chaisson, Burgess
Joseph Daley, Cascade
Harry Elliott, Maintenance
Leo Gagnon, Cascade

\$15 Winners

Napoleon Guitard, Bermico
Henry A. Roy, Burgess
Armand Hamel, Cascade (two awards)
Philip J. Ruel, Bermico
Robert Stenberg, Chemical
Laurence Lavoie, Burgess
Norman Tondreau, Power and Steam
Elizabeth S. Chapman, Boston Office
Edward Chaisson, Hardwood Sawmill
Fernando Nolet, Burgess

\$10 Winners

Mark Hickey, Burgess (three awards)
John Dolak, Bermico
Leonard C. Gauthier, Bermico (two awards)
Leo Barbin, Riverside
Herbert Weiss, Bermico
Clarence J. Monahan, Burgess

Richard and Emile Blais, Cascade
Aurele Thiberge, Cascade
Arthur Flynn, Bermico
John Decoster, Cascade (two awards)
Napoleon Guitard, Bermico (two awards)
Edward A. Dube, Burgess
Clarence Goyette, Bermico
George Toothaker, Bermico
Harris D. Johnson, Bermico
Philip Ruel, Bermico
Sherman Twitchell, Burgess
Rene A. Mercier, Cascade
Ralph Grant, Cascade
Maurice Duchesne, Trucking
Romeo Disilets, Burgess
Leonard Jodrie, Burgess
Raoul Boucher, Burgess
Norman J. Lavoie, Bermico
Gilbert L. Lepage, Main Office
Paul Johnson, Power and Steam
Donald Amero, Burgess

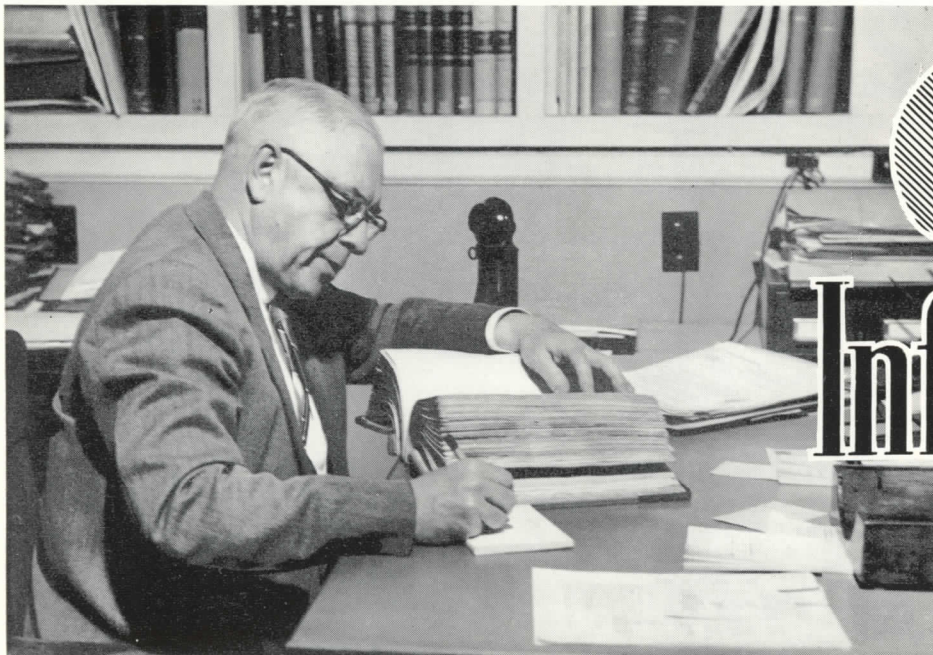
\$5 Winners

Eugene Lessard, Bermico
Lionel Voisine, Bermico
Henry Valliere, Power and Steam
Sherman Twitchell, Burgess
Richard Bisson, Cascade
Jeanne Bouchard, Main Office

Visitor From Half 'Way 'Round the World



HE CAME A LONG WAY . . . Amir G. Moini of Iran visits Brown Company's Cascade Mill. The visitor is assistant chief of the employment service under Iran's Minister of Labor. He is on a six months' tour of the U. S., studying the Divisions of Employment Security throughout this country, and at the same time seeing the important manufacturing concerns. Left to right: Edward Medley, regional representative of the Division of Employment Security, Boston; Norman Greenwood, field supervisor with the DES, Concord; Mr. Moini; William St. Pierre, towel converting superintendent; Val Doucette, manager of the Berlin DES office, and Irene Hogan of the Towel Converting Department.



Mister Information

INFORMATION MAN . . . Philip Glasson, Research librarian, who heads an information source that is invaluable to technical men of the company. Mr. Glasson has served as librarian for 26 years.

PHIL GLASSON, technical librarian of the Research Department, can truly be called "Mr. Information".

He can answer many technical questions right off the cuff and on most other inquiries he knows where answers can be found. With his 31 years of technical experience in Brown Company, 26 years of which were spent as librarian, and using the library's storehouse of information, he comes up with many hundreds of answers each year.

The work of the library is a vital part of Brown Company's activities. Phil explains it this way: "Our chief function is to serve the technical people of the company just as promptly and completely as we can. Such information service is essential if problems are to be solved quickly and wise decisions made".

Phil also combs the new technical publications for ideas which relate to the many problems on which he knows the company is working. Members of the technical staff often discuss their problems with Phil and these discussions are mutually stimulating.

The Research Library contains about 1000 technical books and perhaps 15,000 technical reports, some going back to 1914. All pertinent technical publications are available, many in bound form. All except the current correspondence is also in the library.

To save space, some of the older correspondence has been microfilmed. On microfilm, the contents of an entire file drawer can be condensed into two small 6-inch reels. Phil explains that one standard file unit would hold the film record of a stack of letters as high as the Empire State Building.

In the big job of organizing material, filing, indexing, searching and making available the needed information, Phil is ably helped by Mrs. Lois Leavitt, assistant librarian. Lois' experience and lively interest in things technical account for her ability to help turn up just the answer needed.

Lois says, "I like to think that I have a little share in the progress the company is making through its research and technical improvement programs. Yes," continued Lois, "keeping track of all these records is a big job but the varied requests which come in keep the work interesting and stimulating."

She points out that persistence is required. On the tough assignments, a librarian must keep on searching out each clue even though at times the road seems to have come to a dead end. It occurred to us, in talking with Lois and Phil, that patience and the desire to be helpful play a big part in the librarian's job.

Requests coming to the Library range from that of a new employee for a book on general pulp and paper making to involved and highly technical

SPACE SAVER . . . Microfilming—making copies on tiny film—saves a vast amount of space in the Research Library files. The reel of film held by Mrs. Lois Leavitt, assistant to Mr. Glasson, contains a complete photographic record of the entire pile of papers at the left. For reading, the film is placed in the machine and projected on the screen at the bottom.



studies of the literature or of a patent file. The library is the clearing house of Brown Company on the technical aspects of all patents and patent applications. A large file of company and competitors' patents is maintained.

If information sought is not in the library files, but has been published anywhere in the world, the

staff can obtain it, perhaps from the Library of Congress or from some specialized library.

Both Mr. Glasson and Mrs. Leavitt are glad to receive requests for technical information from all Brown Company personnel. The books and magazines are available for loan to all interested employees.



SOURCE MATERIAL . . . Scientists of the Research Department continually use the Research Library as a source of technical information. The shelves are filled with facts and figures. Librarian Philip Glason (right) finds source material for Dr. Leo Kruger (left), while Maurice Townsend (foreground) and Robert Dinsmore check information to help them in their work.

BROWNCO NEWS REVIEW

Brown Company Grants Six Per Cent General Wage Increase To Hourly-Paid Workers; Changes In Vacation and Pension Plan Given; Maintenance Work Agreement Reached

Brown Company has granted hourly-paid employees a general six per cent increase in wages, retroactive to June 15.

This is one of several items granted by the company in recent negotiations with Local 75 of the International Brotherhood of Pulp, Sulphite and Paper Mill Workers.

The new contract raises the hourly base rate ten cents to \$1.61 for men and \$1.51 for women.

Brown Company also granted additional increases in the Maintenance and Construction Departments. Additional increases of five cents an hour were given to second, third and helper class and six cents to first class.

A change was made in the vacation plan. Employees with 25 years' service are now eligible for four weeks vacation.

Several changes have been made in the pension plan, effective next November 1. These include:

1. Allowing time spent in military service before 1951 to be credited to company service.

2. Providing for disability benefits of \$50 per month for total and permanent disability after 15 years' service.

3. Providing that employees 35 through 39 years of age may be eligible to join the pension plan after two years with the company, and employees 40 years of age and over may be eligible to join the plan after one year with the company. (Employees under 35 are eligible to join the plan after five years' service.)

The pension plan agreement will be renewed for another five-year period.

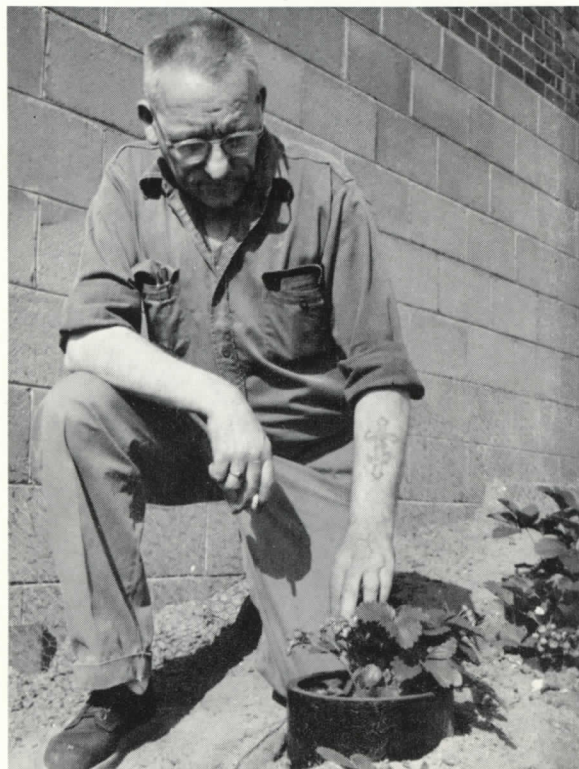
An agreement was reached between the company and union concerning maintenance work. Eliminated was the need for maintenance men working more than five days while outside contractors are on the premises. It was understood that the general maintenance work is to be done entirely by company employees, subject to certain exceptions recognized in the past. With reference to outside contractors, the company has agreed to utilize its own employees in preference to outside contractors.

Company and union officials reached a satisfactory agreement on an apprentice training program for employees entering the Maintenance Department.

Representing the company at the annual negotiations were Vice President John W. Jordan; Loring Given, industrial relations manager; Angus Morrison, Earl Henderson and Chester Bissett, plant personnel men, and Attorney Harry E. Smoyer, legal counsel.

Union negotiators included President William J. Brideau; Philip Smyth, international representative; Attorney Samuel Angoff, legal counsel; Vice President Joseph Chevarie; John Accardi; Anthony Dinardo; Rene Martin; Alphonse Therriault; Val Albert; Norman Hayes; Raymond Belanger, and Dennis Kilbride.

Here's a New Use For Bermico



"BEST STRAWBERRIES YET"

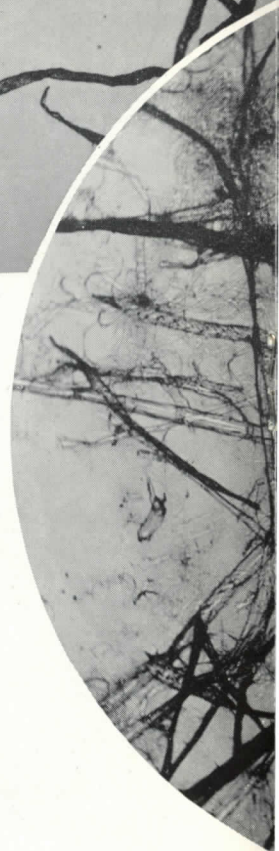
... That's the prediction of Wilfred Roy of the Burgess Mill, and he credits it to his use of Bermico pipe. Wilfred set short lengths of eight-inch Bermico in the ground, then put his strawberry plants in the center of the pipe. "Works wonderfully," he declared. "The Bermico holds the moisture around the plant, and at the same time keeps the cutworms out." Bermico is way ahead of large tin cans for this, he explained, because the Bermico can't rust and can be used year after year.

Thank You

My sincere thanks and appreciation for the fine purse of money presented me by my friends and fellow workers in the office, Finishing and Converting departments at the Cascade Mill upon my retirement.

Edmond Birt

Your Job On



SOME OF THE softest things are made from the hardest materials.

Sound silly?

It's not, at least when you're talking about pulp and paper. Some of the softest paper products are made from hardwood fibres.

That was a point made by Douglas H. McMurtrie, director of research, as he talked about what goes into what, when it comes to making pulp and paper.

"Hardwood sulphite pulp is the chosen fibre for making facial tissue," he said.

"On the other hand, if you're looking for strength and toughness you use the softwoods. The fibres are longer in the softwood tree than in the hardwood."

Those different fibres are mighty important to the people of Brown Company.

Thanks to a wide variety in types of trees on Brown Company timberlands and on adjoining lands, the company has been able to develop a big variety of pulps and papers that are used in hundreds of different end products.

Brown Company produces six basic types of pulp: bleached and unbleached hardwood sulphite, bleached and unbleached softwood sulphite, unbleached hardwood kraft and unbleached softwood kraft.

Two more basic types of pulp will be added when the new kraft pulp bleachery goes into operation this summer: bleached hardwood kraft and bleached softwood kraft.

The combinations you can make from these basic pulps are almost staggering. Those combinations give different qualities to the resulting papers.

Take paper for coffee bags. Softwood kraft is used to give the paper strength. Hardwood fibres are added to improve the surface and make it excellent for printing.

Getting back to some of those differences in fibres, Mr. McMurtrie explained that hardwood sulphite is outstanding for a so-called "dissolving pulp" for making such things as cellophane. The fibres give a relatively large surface area for chemical reaction necessary in making such a product.

Job Depends These

NOT MODERNISTIC PAINTINGS . . . These are the way wood fibres and Solka-Floc look when enlarged 67 times under the microscope. From left to right, Hardwood kraft, with its comparatively short fibres which make it ideal for soft papers. Softwood kraft, with its long fibres giving it toughness and durability. Beaten kraft, showing the resulting "fibrillates." Solka-Floc, the highly refined and purified wood cellulose in powder form used widely in making of plastics, cigarette filters, welding rods, rubber heels and soles, and in the filtering of oils, detergents and chemicals.

Hardwood is also tops for products needing high absorbency. It's the hardwood pulp that helps Nibroc Towels absorb water so well. Softwood pulps give the towels their great strength.

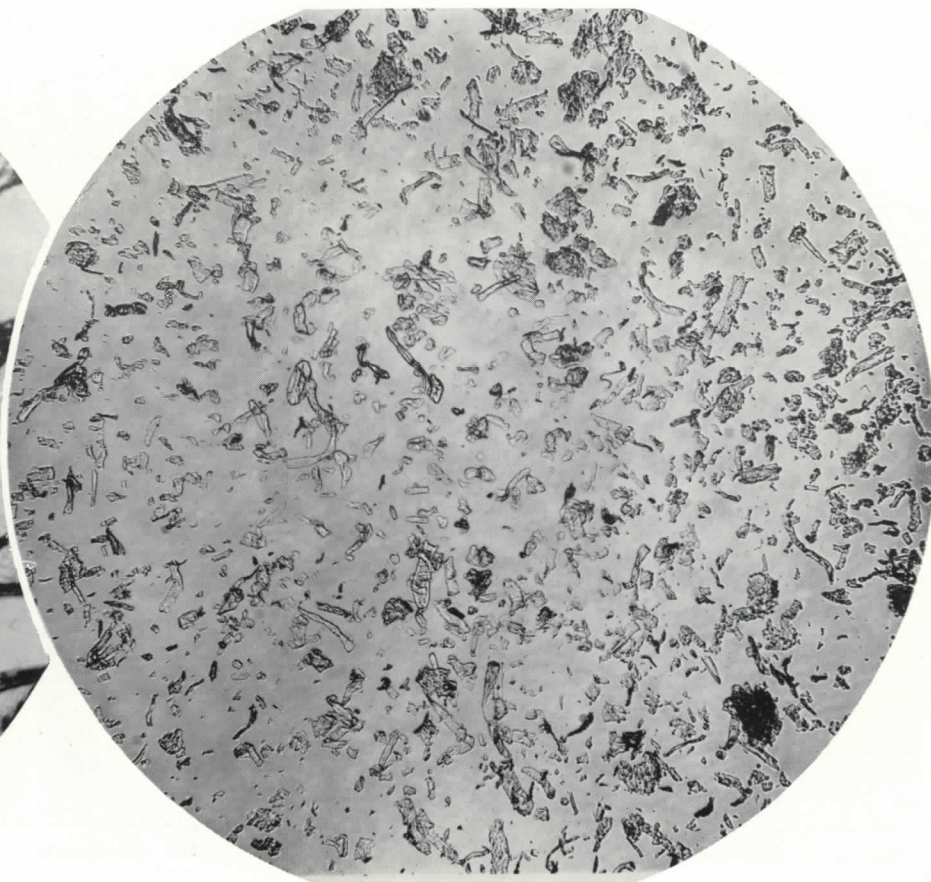
The toughness and strength that softwoods make possible led to the development of one of Brown Company's leading products. Onco is made from the softwoods.

It's amazing what you can do with the fibres from the trees of the North Country. You can give a customer pulp with just about any characteristic he wants.

You can give him pulps that will make a product tough as iron or as soft as silk. You can give him pulps that will give a hard surface or that will absorb quickly. You can give him pulps that can be spun into fine yarn or that can be used in making plasticized table tops.

"There's almost no end to the number of products that can, and are, made from Brown Company pulps," Mr. McMurtrie said.

"We are in an extremely good position here at Brown Company. We have an excellent supply of many different types of wood, both hardwoods and softwoods. Continually, we are finding new ways in which to use these many different fibres and the many combinations of fibres. No one can predict how many new products will be forthcoming within the next few years."





THIRTY-EIGHT YEARS AT CHEMICAL . . . That was the mark of William DiMaria, who has retired. The "gang" is pictured as it gathered to wish him their best and to present him with a wrist watch. Front row, left to right, Robert Horne, Gus Napert, Locke McKenna, Albert Gauvin, Eugene Marshall, Eugene Erickson, Mr. DiMaria, Plant Manager Henry Eaton, Sverre Hawkinson, George Roy, Burt Turcotte. Second row, Harvey Roberge, Bob Baldwin, Norman Lowe, Kenneth Neil, Adelard Valliere, Aldei Dionne, Tony St. Hilaire, Oscar Hamlin, Alfred McKay, William Raymond, George Reid, Edward Leclerc, Leif Ericson. Back row, Leon Sevigny, John Stranger, Albert Stone, Albert Guilmette, Guido Mattassoni, Donat Goudreau, George Lafleur, William Roberge, Fred Vallis.

Time To Relax



FORTY-FIVE YEARS AT CASCADE . . . That was the record of Edmond Birt, who recently retired. Mr. Birt, a weigher, had worked in the Towel Converting and Paper Storage Departments, as well as in the Finishing Department. Pictured, left to right, as they presented a purse of money to their fellow worker, are Philip Vien, Joseph Dube, Mr. Birt, Louis Chamberlain, Ray Libby and Henry Nolet.

20 Million Board Feet a Year



THE FINEST . . . Richard Amadon and Roland Patry load lumber from Brown Company's hardwood sawmill. This top quality product is used in fine furniture, pianos, flooring and many other well-known articles.

by Evelyn C. Lipman

THE HUM of saws and the whine as they slice through hardwood and softwood logs makes good music.

It means that Brown Company is making the fullest use possible of the trees that grow on its timberlands.

The long, straight logs—the best in the woods—move to the sawmills to be cut into high grade lumber. Bark-free chips are cut from slabs and edgings for the pulp mills.

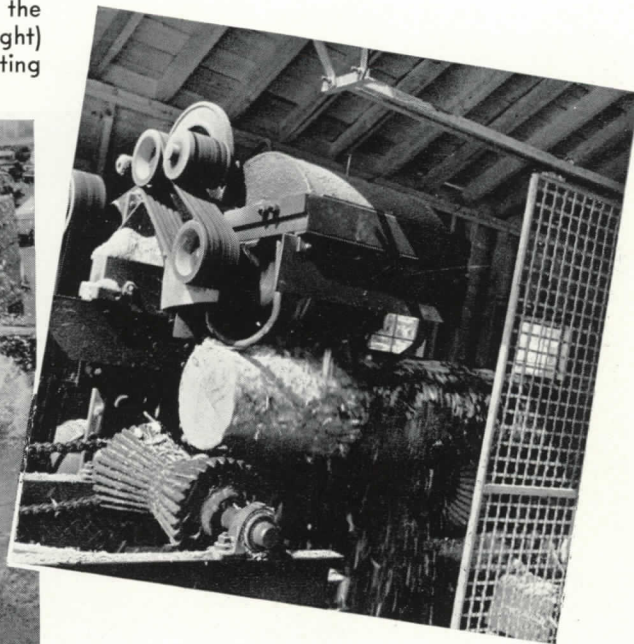
Sawing lumber is a tradition in Brown Company.

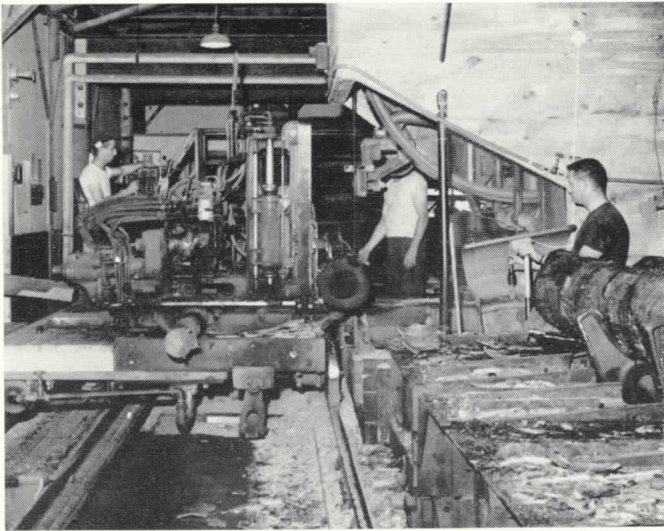
In 1826, a group of Portland business men formed a partnership under the name of H. Winslow and Company and erected a sawmill with one gang and two single saws. That was the beginning of a firm that was later to grow into the present Brown Company.

Brown Company's sawmills last year turned out 20,800,000 board feet of hardwood and softwood lumber.

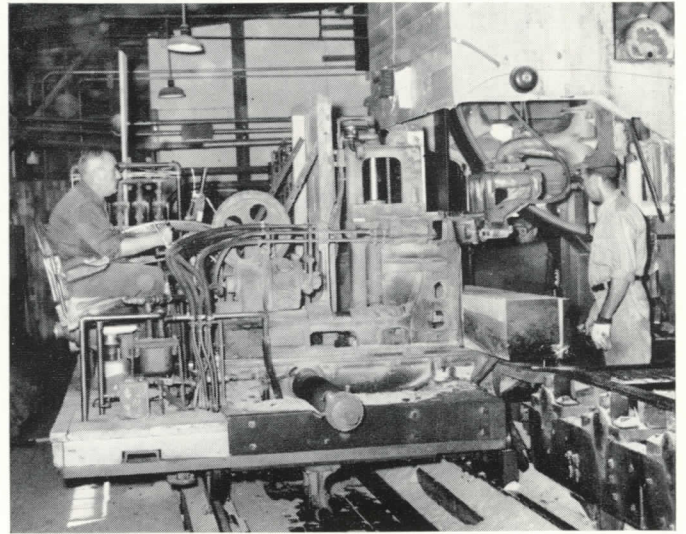
That's enough lumber to make a board walk a foot wide and an inch thick from Berlin to Nome, Alaska—or from Berlin up over the North Pole and 600 miles beyond.

GREATER EFFICIENCY . . . Mechanical equipment, like that at the left, makes handling of big logs easier and faster. Flail debarkers (right) clean the bark from the logs so that edgings and slabs left after cutting the lumber may be cut into chips for the pulp mills.





HEARTS OF THE SAWMILL . . . Large logs are cut into lumber as they travel on a steam carriage past a bandsaw. The hardwood sawmill has two of these units. At work at the left are (left to right) Setter Hubert Mercier, Tail Sawyer John Rowe and Sawyer Glendon Utley. At the right, Setter John Thompson and Tail Sawyer Joseph Babineau. Sawyer of this unit is Austin Pennell.



"The hardwood sawed at the mill", he said, "consists mainly of birch, and maple, and is used for making all types of fine furniture, pianos, floorings, etc.

"The straight-grained red birch is used in making piano key stock and hammer stock, and the 4½-inch thicknesses, for piano frameworks.

"During World War I, hardwood was used for making airplane propellers. Those times may be coming back. Just the other day, we sent a shipment to a propeller manufacturer.

"Hardwood is shipped by freight car or large truck to areas such as Massachusetts, Michigan, California and Oregon. Some shipments are sold locally—others are exported, principally to England."

About 75 men make up the crews of the two sawmills. They include sawyers, setters, resawyers, edgemen, saw filers, trimmers, graders, millwrights and foremen.

Outside, cranes and other mechanical equipment hoist lumber into position. . . a big improvement over the old way of rolling and handling logs by hand.

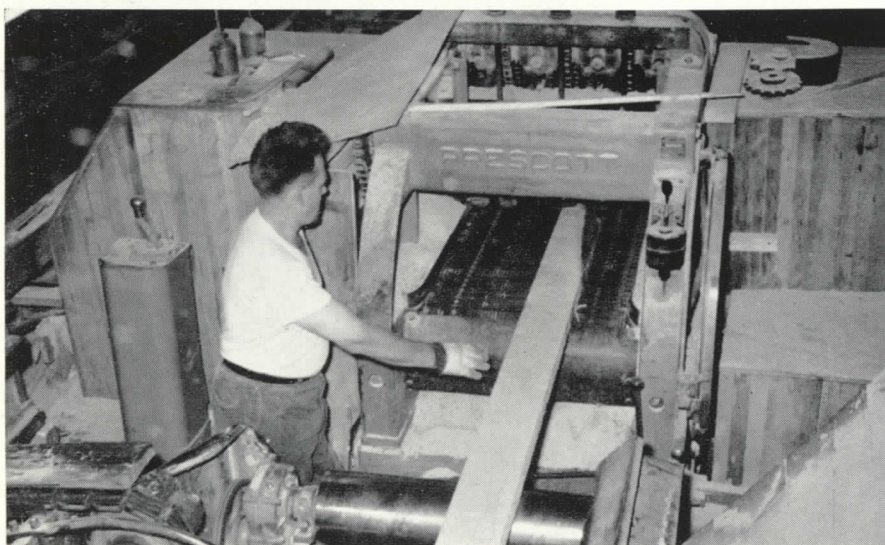
"My saw mill career began fifty years ago in the

Adirondack section of New York State", says Mr. Soule, "when at fifteen years of age, I started work on the log deck." (This is where logs travel up a belt from the pond to the carriage for sawing).

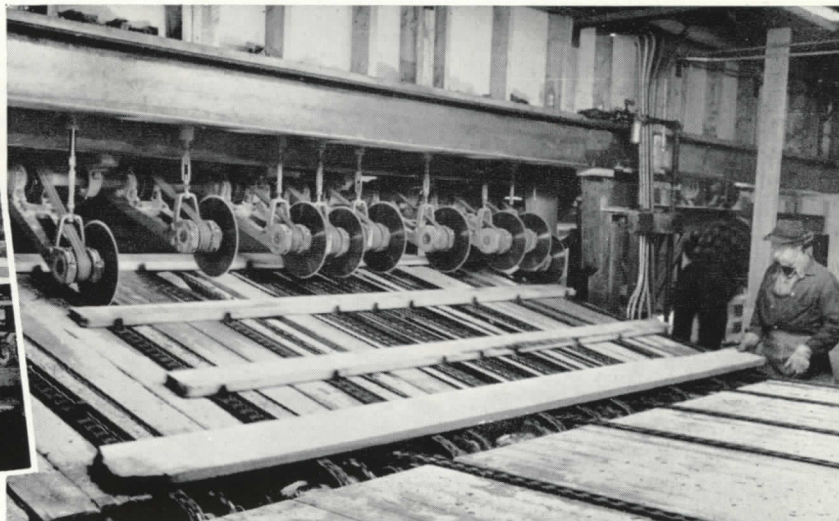
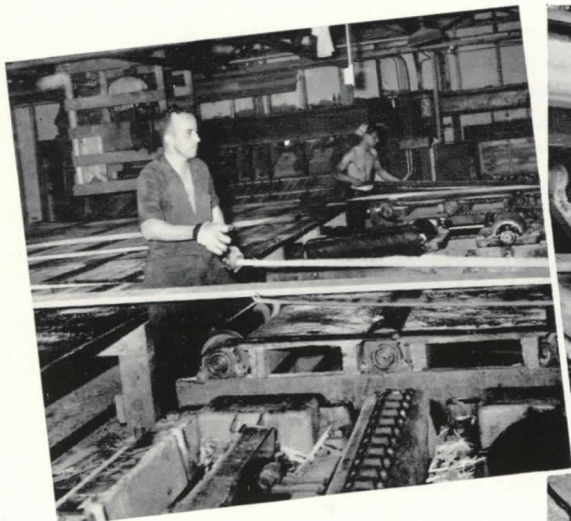
"I could never do anything else, and neither could anyone who has been around sawmills for any length of time. It gets in your blood."

To the neophyte, the perfect, rhythmic co-ordination of a sawmill is unbelievable. Mr. Soule says, "I've been manager of a saw mill for over twenty-five years, and when I hear that noisy hum, I know everything is going smoothly. . . it's when there's a sudden lull that I get worried. . . that means repairing and delays."

Let's travel with a big birch log for a moment and see what happens!



SPEEDS PRODUCTION . . . This is the resaw, operated by Bill Mullins. The saw slices the thickness of the boards. Thus, for example, the bandsaw can be set to cut boards two inches thick, and these boards, in turn, can be recut to one-inch thickness on the resaw. The result: Faster production.



"TAILERS" AND TRIMMERS . . . At the left, Oscar Dube and Leo Gagne direct the "good wood" onto the conveyor to the trim saw, and the edgings to the chippers. At the right, Edwin Thresher is pictured at the trim saw, which cuts the boards to correct lengths.

The flail debarker, running day and night, removes all the bark. Logs are debarked so that the slabs and edgings may later be cut into chips for the pulp mills.

Now, the birch log begins to travel from the debarker to the pond, up the belt to the deck. It is catapulted onto the side of the carriage by the sawyer. Here, an impressive sign language is going on between the sawyer and the setter. Up goes one finger (meaning, cut one inch thick); then, two fingers (cut two inches thick) and so on, in perfect rhythm. Back and forth shuttles the carriage to one of the two eight-foot band mills, the operator's eyes glued on the sawyer's for signals.

The lumber then moves over to one of the two five-foot resaws, to the edgers, trimmers, and onto the green chain, where it goes by carrier belt to a

platform, to be graded by a crew of markers. An inventory man takes down the footage, and standing ready to pick off the special type of lumber to go into waiting wagons, is the crew of loaders.

The slabs and edgings travel along the bottom of the mill floor and dump outside, where they climb to the chipping machine. Approximately three freight cars of chips are cut every day for making of pulp.

Key man in the whole operation is the sawyer. His band saw travels 11,000 feet per minute. As he keeps his saw slicing out boards, he sets the pace for the perpetual rhythmic operation of the entire mill.

Brown Company was originally founded on a saw mill. Mr. W. W. Brown early foresaw the great future of the lumber business, and in 1868, purchased



GRADING . . . All Brown Company lumber is carefully graded before leaving the mill. Nicholas Williams checks and marks the boards.

THESE WILL BECOME PULP . . . Barkfree slabs and edgings go into the chipper to be cut into chips for the making of pulp. Operating the chipper is Paul Cloutier.





TALKING SHOP . . . John Oswell (left), who was a sawmill man and saw filer for Brown Company for 65 years, chats with Manager Clausson Soule at the hardwood mill. Mr. Oswell began work at the old sawmill as a 12-year-old boy. Mr. Soule also has a wide background in sawmill work, starting a half century ago.

an interest in the partnership of H. Winslow and Company.

John Oswell, retired saw filer, now in his eighty-fifth year, recalls some of the early days.

"I commenced work in the old saw mill when I was twelve years old", he declared. "That was back in 1883. There were three band saws and two gang saws. We boys got \$15.00 a month for pulling up slabs during the summers."

Mr. Oswell also worked two years on the pony board saw, which sawed short logs; in the filing room; on the big board, sawing long logs, and tending works on the No. 2 board saw. His boyhood dream finally came true, when he was told he was advanced to the filer's job.

"We would get notice when the mill would start up", he said, "and I was johnny on the spot. . .I

never wanted to work anywhere else.

"In the spring, I went into the filing room, where I stayed until the freeze-up in the fall", he continued. "In the winter, I went back to school". (There were no truant officers checking up in those days!)

"Whenever I saw the men cleaning up", he said, "I knew W. W. Brown was to pay us a visit, which he did very often during the summer months."

Mr. Oswell recalled that a Grand Trunk train of between fifteen and twenty-five freight cars loaded with lumber left the company yard for Portland every day.

In 1888, Mr. W. W. Brown's son, H. J. Brown, became superintendent of the saw mill and resided in Berlin. This same year, a kyanizing plant for preserving spruce lumber was built.

In 1890, the daily production of the saw mill was 150,000 board feet, or six times that produced at the beginning. The mill also turned out by the thousands of feet laths, shingles, pickets and dopboards.

On July 11, 1897, in a matter of only a few hours, the first saw mill burned down. A temporary mill was quickly erected and used for a year until the second mill was built. In 1913, fire again destroyed the sawmill. But that didn't stop Brown Company. For the second time, the mill was rebuilt.

Changes in the business world led Brown Company to shut down its sawmill in 1930. But in 1952, the saws were again humming. A mill was built to be operated by the Heywood-Wakefield Company of Gardner, Massachusetts. The mill—the present hardwood plant—has been operated by Brown Company since 1954.



NEARLY 75 YEARS AGO . . . This was the sawmill when John Oswell first went to work "pulling up slabs" in the early 1880's. The mill burned to the ground in 1897, but was rebuilt almost overnight. This photo was taken by Mr. Oswell's brother, who was with the United States Signal Service.

News AROUND THE PLANTS



BURGESS & KRAFT

by Gene Erickson

Congratulations to the following on their recent appointments to posts in the new Credit Union of Local 75: Temporary chairman, "Chuck" Monahan; temporary clerk and supervisory committee, Clarence Lacasse; director, Real Cloutier. All, have important duties, and the crew wishes them the best of luck.

Our deepest sympathy goes to Wilfred Houle and Ronald Cavagnaro, who recently lost their brother and grandfather, respectively. They both were employed in the grader's room of the dryer building.

Congratulations to John Nelson and Bob Kelley, who became daddies for Father's Day. Both new additions were girls.

It is always a great story when you write about children—or, about some men who continue to work hard in the mills year after year, yet find time to do things for the local children. Little League was made possible by Roger Dutil, its president, who is employed at the grader room. He and the other fellows are doing a grand job promoting better boys and future citizens for Berlin, and our admiration and congratulations go to everyone of them.

by Jeannette Barbin

Lawrence M. Burns has resigned as manager of Brown Company's Pulp Division, to accept a position with the newly-formed Thurso Pulp and Paper Company, Thurso, Quebec, as mill manager and assistant to the president.

In honor of a decade of service with Brown—Mr. Burns came to Brown Company in July 1946—co-workers and associates gathered to wish him every success and pre-



RENE HEROUX

A 20-year employee of Brown Company has taken over the duties of postmaster in Berlin.

He is Rene Heroux, who had been with the Power and Steam Division of the company since 1936.

Mr. Heroux began his service with the company as a clerk at the Heine Boiler Plant. In 1946, following return from Army duty, he was appointed a draftsman with the Power and Steam Division and in 1948 as assistant mechanical repair foreman. In 1952, Mr. Heroux was named a rate engineer with the division.

sent him with a number of gifts, among them a camera, a silver tray with appropriate inscription, a share of Brown Company stock and a purse of money. Mrs. Burns received a corsage of roses.

The presentation of gifts, made by Ted Brown and John Hegeman, was followed by a few well-chosen words from Mr. Burns, expressing his and Mrs. Burns' appreciation. Mr. Burns added, also—again speaking for himself and for Mrs. Burns—that never before had they



BERMICO

by Rosaire Brault

James Tyler recently motored out Tama, Iowa, way to bring back his children.

Also on vacation was Conrad Bergeron, who helped his son build a house.

Herbert Berry and Bob Donovan have been out on sick leave.

Herman Beaudet is back to work. We're all glad you are feeling better, Herman.

ONCO PLANT

by Charles Sgrulloni and Nancy Wheeler

Ethel Piper and Yvonne St. Hilaire have been out sick.

Back from vacation are Everett Christiansen and Emile Michaud.

Roger Bass and his wife have been getting ready to take their annual motor trip. Their plan called for taking in all major parks on their long trip West, with California, the destination.

Our best wishes and good luck to Sylvio Roy, Mark Morin, and Gene Roy, who are now at the new Burgess Bleachery.

Best wishes to Conrad Aube and Theresa Morneau, who were married recently.

We welcome Shirley Bockman and Monique Michaud from the Cascade Towel Room. They have been pinch-hitting in our Finishing Room.

The Onco Plant office wishes Larry Poisson the best of everything in his new position at the Cascade Mill Office.

enjoyed an association with a finer or friendlier group of people than those of Brown and of Berlin and Gorham.

Five Fishermen Share Millsfield Club Prizes

Five Brown Company fishermen have hooked \$12.50 in prizes in the first month of the annual fishing contest sponsored by the Millsfield Sportsmen's Club.

Top man was Omer Albert of Cascade Mill, whose 2-pound, 12-ounce rainbow trout was tops in its class and also the largest fish caught by any contest entrant in the first month. This gave Mr. Albert two \$2.50 prizes.

The other winners:

Square tail—Ovila Roy, Burgess (1-pound, 9½ ounces), \$2.50; Maurice Pigeon, Bermico (1 pound, 3-ounces), \$1.50; Stanley Roy, Instrument Control (14-ounces), \$1.00.

Pickereel—Conrad Hamel, Cascade (2-pounds), \$2.50.

Monthly prizes are awarded each month through August for the heaviest rainbow trout, lake trout, brown trout, salmon and horned pout entered.

All fish must be caught in Coos County waters and must be weighed at Curtis Hardware Store.



MAIN OFFICES

by Evelyn Lipman, Julie Alonzi, Jeanne Bouchard, Nancy Roberge and Ada Anderson

Dan Cupid certainly has been busy around here lately. June weddings were Lorraine Lessard to Peter Thomas, Tina Baldassare to Richard Delisle, Sandra Mason to Richard Laroux and Lorraine Payette to Robert Lachappelle. Much happiness to you all.

Miss Amy Jacques of the Boston Office visited us this past week. Come and see us again, Amy.

Have you seen Doris Dumont Labonte sporting around in her new car? You can't miss that jet black and egg shell white creation out in the parking lot.

Eleanor Coolidge enjoyed a vacation with her sister and brother-in-law in Philadelphia.

Tommy Dame spent a week's

vacation at home doing what he's been talking about for a year now—landscaping.

Muriel McGivney spent a week-end in Worcester enjoying a fiftieth wedding anniversary party.

Ralph Sylvestre enjoyed a weeks' vacation cleaning his back yard.

Billy Johnson is grandpa again for the fourth time.

Frank Crockett has been home recuperating from an operation.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Rayner on the birth of a son. Gary Carleton weighed in at 7 pounds, 6 ounces.

Two new girls have been added to the Tabulating Department staff: Irene Arsenault (who comes to us from the class of 1956, Berlin High) and Claire Gilbert (from this year's graduating class at Notre Dame High School). Welcome to the Tab, girls.

A wedding supper was given for Tina Baldassare at the Knotty Pine Steak House, in view of her marriage to Richard Delisle of the Burgess Dryers. She was presented with a set of dishes and glasses. After the supper, the girls went to the prospective bride's home, where Pokeno was played and lunch served. Those attending were Joyce Bedard, Ann Wentworth, Laurel Rowell, Phyllis Hawkins, Irene Arsenault, Sandra Mason, Theresa Blanchette, Irene Redfern and Nancy Roberge.

Lorraine Alati substituted on the switchboard while "Honey" Cameron was out due to illness. Lorraine will be relieving the operators while they vacation.

Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Shaw visited their daughter and son-in-law, Commander and Mrs. Anthony Law, in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The morning after the heavy frost, Pat Coffin and Ralph Locke reported that they were out watering their gardens in order to prevent the frost from ruining their crops. We thought nothing but a fishing trip could get them up that early.

Merle Philbrick recently broke his wrist and found it a bit awkward to work. We are all happy to see, however, that he is back to normal again.

Lorraine and Peter Thomas are busy fixing up their apartment.



RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

by Joan Weiss and Joan Provencher

Louise Fenn, valedictorian of the Class of 1956 of Gorham High School, won a music scholarship to Bennington College and also won the Gorham Rotary scholarship for high scholastic achievement. She is the daughter of E. F. Fenn of this department.

Mr. and Mrs. John McKinley of Providence, R. I., are announcing the birth of a daughter, Karen Ann, 8 pounds, 2 ounces. Proud mother is the former Rita Bruni, formerly of this department.

Gerry Vallee, Pete Finette, Harold McPherson, Lucille Tremaine and Irene Morrisette have all recently been on vacations.

Ann Townsend, James Ramsay and Billy Neil, daughter and sons of our co-workers, were among the graduating class of Berlin High School.

Margaret Sylvestre, Joan Provencher and Joan Weiss spent a weekend camping at White Lake.

Emile Lettre spent a week at his camp at The Weirs.

Mr. and Mrs. Armand Bernier announce the marriage of daughter Venise to Joseph Gonya, at St. Anne's Church.

Mrs. Howard Mortenson and two daughters flew to Frankfort, Germany, to join her husband, Pfc. Howard Mortenson, son of Carl Mortenson of this department.

Dr. Leo Kruger and family spent a week of their vacation in Washington, D. C., where they attended graduation ceremonies of brothers of both Dr. and Mrs. Kruger.

Joan Weiss spent her vacation in Chicago, where she had a wonderful time visiting friends and relatives.

Vic Beaudoin and his wife went on a fishing trip to St. Mathiew on the St. Lawrence River. They also visited Quebec City.

Peter hasn't too much time for the Yankees now—he's too busy wiping dishes.

Continued on Page 19)

Burgess Welders Say, "So Long, Ray"



OFF TO CALIFORNIA . . . Men of the Welding Shop at Burgess Mill gather to give their best wishes to Raymond Lebrun before his leaving to join his brother in business on the West Coast. Front row, left to right: Andrew Peters, Armand Langlois, Mr. Lebrun, Welding Supervisor Albion Burt, Ernest Bilodeau, Henry Plummer, Roger Hanson. Middle row: Howard Babson, Emanuel Gauthier, Roland Croteau. Back row, Lester Clinch, Albert Dandeneau, Lionel Cote, Henry Gilbert, Maurice Bisson, Odilon Garon, Henry Blais.

SALES OFFICES

MONTREAL

by Robert A. Pope

With the summer season upon us, we anticipate that a lot of employees of Brown Company will be on the "vacation march".

If your travels take you up to the far North Country, we urge you to come in and say hello, and if there is anything that we can do to make your stay pleasant let us know—this is your office, and we would like to meet you. However, don't go looking for Brown Company—look for Brown Forests Products Ltd., the "new" addition to the Brown Family.

BOSTON

by Larue D. King

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Bob McCoy of the Foreign Division on the birth of a daughter, Heather Chandler McCoy.

A party was held for Margaret Stevens and Joanne Fritz.

Welcome to the three newcomers: Evelyn Laakso, Laura Proctor and Lois O'Leary.

Main Offices

(Continued from Page 19)

"Gil" Lepage recently celebrated his 25th wedding anniversary. Here for the occasion from out-of-town were several of his brothers and sisters, Mr. and Mrs. Don (Gloria) McCune and family, Memphis, Tenn.; Mr. and Mrs. William (Doris) Stuart and Mr. and Mrs. Jean Lepage and family, Detroit, Mich.; Mr. and Mrs. Leo (Cecile) Fournier and family of Portsmouth.

Phyllis Hayes, R.N. studying nursing at the University of Pennsylvania, vacationed for a week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Hayes.

by Janet Hamel

Philip C. Twitchell dropped into our office recently to say "hello" to his many friends and former co-workers. Mr. Twitchell, former insurance manager of Brown Company, retired in 1955 and is now leading "the life of Riley", which he well deserves. He spent the winter months basking in the Florida sunshine, and is now with his family in Portland, Maine.

WOODS DEPT.

by Peg Bartoli

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Fysh, accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Alf Halvorson, motored to Aspen, Colo., to attend the National Ski Convention.

At this convention, the Nansen Ski Club was awarded the National Jumping Championships for 1957, the largest jumping meet to be held next season in the United States.

During their stay in Colorado, they visited Glenwood Springs, Aspen, Camp Hale, Denver, Colorado Springs and Royal Gorge.

A housewarming was given the Leandre Cotes by the Woods Accounting employees.

Mrs. Vera West, group insurance supervisor, has returned to work after having been out on sick leave for several weeks. Welcome back, Vera!

Congratulations to Elise Gagnon upon her recent engagement to John Malia! "Lise" is a secretary in the Woods Employment Department. No date has been set for the wedding.

Congratulations and best wishes to Mary Ellen Nielson upon her graduation from Berlin High School. Mary Ellen has been working with us for the past few months.

Jack and Mrs. Rodgeron spent an enjoyable week's vacation at Prince Edward Island, where they visited their many friends and relatives. Hoot Mon! Glad you had a happy time at P.I.

by Lillian Brunnelle

A piano concert was given by Ann Theresa Barbin at St. Anne's Parish Hall. Ann Theresa is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilfrid J. Barbin. Having completed twelve years of music, she is now studying for her bachelor of music degree.

Helen Mortenson spent her vacation with her sister in Watertown, N. Y., and taking in the points of interest there.

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"SMOKEY" *Visits* PARMACHENEE

"Smokey" went visiting a few nights.

"Smokey" is a bear, a big bear. He roamed into the woods camps in the Parmachenee area. But unlike most other bears, "Smokey" went a step further.

He talked to the men!

That's right, "Smokey" is a talking bear. And he had some good sense to talk about. For example:

"Smokey" said that up to 900 forest fires occur every year in Maine. Nine out of 10 of these fires are caused by careless people—people who toss away lighted cigarettes or who leave camp fires burning.

"Smokey" also said that "A small fire is easy to put out—and all fires are small when they start. If you should see a fire, don't run away but do something to put it out. If you are in a group, send one



man for help and the rest of you keep the fire from spreading."

"Smokey" spoke with authority. He's the forest fire prevention spokesman for the Maine Forest Service.

The big bear is a rather unusual type. He's a huge model of a bear, rigged to a sound system that makes him talk, answer questions, sing songs and tell jokes.



He made a series of visits to the different Brown Company woods camps to talk forest fire prevention with the men.

Directing his tour for Brown Company was Joseph Robichaud, Woods Department personnel and safety representative.

"Smokey" had a few other points to make.

"When you're in the woods and need a smoke, sit down, enjoy it, but be sure to butt it on a new stump or put it in water. Be sure it's dead out.

"Never leave a lunch fire burning. Be sure it's out. Be sure to use water to stir it into the soil."

Perhaps "Smokey's" ideas are best summed up in this:

"Keep the woods green by using your head. Be careful and use common sense. Remember, the woods are your bread and butter."

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