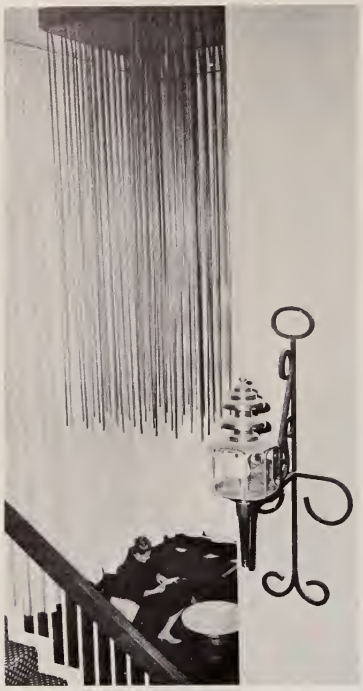
Alberta INDUSTRIAL

NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY AND DEVELOPMENT / Hon. A. R. PATRICK, Minister
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT BRANCH / R. MARTLAND, Director

VOL. 8, No. 4 EDMONTON, ALBERTA, CANADA NOVEMBER, 1964

Four members of the 22-man Japanese Economic Mission to Canada show keen interest in this working model of a capsule pipeline. The delegation doubled back from Manitoba in their cross-Canada tour to take in a portion of the Northern Development Conference held last month in Edmonton. While in Alberta they also met with Premier E. C. Manning and the Cabinet, and members of the Edmonton Area Industrial Development Association. Mrs. Jean Knott of the Alberta Government Publicity Bureau supplies information on the pipeline, a concept originated by the Research Council of Alberta with the ultimate objective of low-cost transportation of solids. The model was on display at the Macdonald Hotel. Yoshihiro Inayama (foreground), leader of the mission, said the main object of the trip is to promote better understanding and friendship between Canada and Japan and to learn more about Canada's economic conditions. Mr. Inayama is Representative Director and President of Yawata Iron & Steel Co. Ltd., leader of the Japanese steel industry and fourth largest steel maker in the world.



Fixtures and furniture in Edmonton's new Coachman Inn were supplied by the Scandinavian Light Co., Ltd. Chandelier is five feet square, 12 feet high, with light supplied from 64 flashlight bulbs. Two chandeliers in the main lobby each contain 768 feet of tubing.

Furniture and Light Fixture Manufacturer Uses Contemporary Scandinavian Styling

TRIPLEX hand-blown glassware from Sweden, Denmark and Germany, teakwood from Thailand and basic materials from Alberta are used by the Scandinavian Light Co. Ltd., Edmonton, in producing interior and exterior lighting fixtures and office and restaurant furniture. Incorporated in 1960, the company moved to its present premises at 14445 - 125 Avenue in September, 1964.

General Manager Per Arnt, an electro - mechanic, operated Arnt Electric in Edmonton for three years prior to setting up the Scandinavian Light Company. A desire to incorporate interior designing into his work prompted the change.

Incandescent lighting fixtures, both interior and exterior, are specially designed for churches, office buildings, hotels and other commercial buildings. The fixtures are made up of various combinations of glass, wood, and metal in contemporary styling. The furniture lines, in contemporary Scandinavian styling, were added this year and are used complementary to the fixtures.

Sales are largely by contract, with the remainder handled by the firm's own staff. Products are marketed across Canada, with highest volume in Alberta. Gross sales for 1963-64 were $100,000 and are expected to reach $250,000 for the 1964-65 fiscal year.

Production at the new premises is expected to reach about 30,000 pieces in 1965. The plant, including display space, presently occupies 10,000 square feet. Constructed at a cost of $65,000 the building is located on a 2.3 acre site and contains $25,000 worth of equipment. Ten employees are on the $50,000 annual payroll.

The company's first contract including both fixtures and furniture, was completed recently for the Coachman Inn in Edmonton. Included in the installations were two huge chandeliers in the main lobby. Each fixture is five feet square and 12 feet high, with light supplied from 64 flashlight bulbs. The chandeliers each contain 768 feet of tubing.

Edmonton Custom Woodwork Firm Makes Own Veneer

STARTED ten years ago in a double garage, Eberhard's Custom Woodwork Ltd. is now located in a $30,000 plant at 9540 - 62 Avenue, Edmonton. Built about four years ago, the structure contains $15,000 worth of equipment and provides 5,000 square feet of work area on a one-half acre site.

Besides doing custom interior woodwork and finishing, the company also veneers its own plywood and manufactures doors and panelling up to 12 feet in length. The bulk of their $120,000 annual gross sales is through contract work, but some special orders are filled for stores and individual home owners. Sales are, for the most part, in the Edmonton area.

About 50,000 square feet of lumber and veneer are used annually, with most of the basic materials coming from Canadian sources. Some materials are brought in from the United States, while rosewood is imported from East India and teak from Burma. High quality furniture and cabinets are the firm's main products.

Bulk of the equipment is imported from West Germany. Included is a veneer tape and matching machine made only in that country. The machine is used to join pieces of veneer to obtain greater widths.

Six employees are on the $30,000 annual payroll. Manager Eberhard R. Reichenbach says the company expects to make an addition to its present facilities in the near future.

TV-desk combination sets, along with cabinets and other custom woodwork in the Coachman Inn, Edmonton, were done by Eberhard's Custom Woodwork Ltd., an Edmonton firm which makes its own veneer.

Industrial diamonds (in ash tray) are placed in mould by hand at Canada Bit Limited in Edmonton. Various size bits and several moulds are on table. Bits are made by powdered metallurgical process in a furnace heated to 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

Canada Bit Limited Produces Complete Line Industrial Diamond Products In Edmonton

ORIGINALLY a manufacturers' distributor company, Canada Bit Limited, 15814 - 112 Avenue, Edmonton, two years ago started its own manufacturing operation. The firm now produces a complete line of industrial diamond products, some of which are marketed worldwide.

Jarvis Milner is President and J. T. Laisi is Manager of the firm, which moved to its new quarters in July, 1964. Canada Bit operates from 7,200 square feet of leased office and plant space with $40,000 worth of equipment.

Diamond bits for the mining, oil and other industries are produced, along with rock bits, grinding wheel dressers, all "down-the-hole" tools (includes core barrels, drill rods, casings, etc.) and other products incorporating industrial diamonds. Diamond coring bits are 4¼" to 9" in diameter and drilling bits may be made in any size up to 10" in diameter. The drilling bits are adaptable to any existing core barrel commonly used in the oil or mining industry.

Canada Bit is one of only eight Canadian companies using a powdered metallurgical process for making bits. A matrix of powdered metals is formed in a graphite mould and then infiltrated in a reducing-atmosphere, electrically-heated furnace at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit.

A service relatively new to Western Canada is that offered by the company's Industrial Drilling Division. The Division offers concrete and masonry drilling to the mechanical and electrical trades. This process is used instead of the many small forms for conduit and other outlets, thereby making more accurate outlet installation possible, through drilling outlet holes after machinery is positioned. The service may also be used for compression testing of concrete floors, bridges, support columns and precast work.

Smith Tool of Compton, California, with Canadian head office at Canada Bit's Edmonton site, is the distributor for the firm's Tri-cone brand bits. Assembled by Canada Bit Limited in sizes 6¼" to 13¼" diameter, hole openers for enlarging wells to provide intermediate casing are also handled by Smith Tool, who distribute both products to a world market. Other products are sold through Air Power Ltd. of Vancouver, serving the B.C. and Yukon market. The remaining Canadian sales are handled by Canada Bit's own staff.

Industrial diamonds are purchased from New York distributors, while other raw materials come from Edmonton sources.

Twelve employees working two shifts are on the company's $80,000 annual payroll. Sales have been increasing monthly, with a 1963 gross reported at about $360,000.

With present equipment working on a three-shift basis, company officials estimate annual gross sales could be increased to nearly one million dollars. Eastern Canadian sales efforts are being intensified and consideration is being given to expansion plans which may see the plant enlarged to include an additional 5,000 square feet of shop space and 2,000 square feet of office space.

STAINED GLASS WINDOWS SPECIALTY OF EDMONTON FIRM

DURING the past two years there has been a noticeable increase in the use of stained glass windows and wall inserts in churches and other buildings being designed and constructed in Western Canada. In previous years, most of the stained glass windows in churches were inserted long after construction, usually in the form of memorials to individuals, donated by members of the family. Now, however, stained glass becomes an integral part of the original design of the building, blending with the overall decor and enhancing the beauty and usefulness of the edifice.

Many stained glass windows for churches and other buildings in Edmonton and the surrounding area are being made at Winter Art Glass Studio, located at Hangar No. 3, Edmonton Industrial Airport. This is the only studio west of Winnipeg which is completely equipped to burn, collect and lead-frame pieces of stained glass.

Paul Winter was born in Wuppertal, Germany. He studied and was trained under various craftsmen of stained glass, and after completing three years of apprenticeship, he served as designer craftsman in an art glass studio well known in Germany. He came to Canada in 1957 and established his studio three years ago. Mr. Winter works alone a good part of the time, but at peak times may employ up to five additional persons.

Antique glass is obtained from Germany and France, and comes in sheets of variable thickness, approximately 2 feet by 3 feet in size. From the original design, a full-sized pattern is traced onto heavy kraft paper, and cut out with specially made double-bladed scissors which allow for the extra portion of glass which fits under the leading. From this pattern the pieces of glass of various colours are cut to required size, with diamond-tipped glass cutters. Every stained glass craftsman has his own glass cutter, and each is as personalized as a fountain pen.

To make the lead strips which join the pieces of stained glass together, Mr. Winter buys scrap lead, casts it into strips, and extrudes it in a lead mill to the proper widths. When the window is completed the lead is still shiny and new looking, but many architects or congregations desire the old, blackened look. This is acquired through chemical treatment.

Stained glass windows, formerly inserted long after construction projects had been completed, are more and more becoming a part of the original designs and specifications. Winter Art Glass Studio of Edmonton is the only firm west of Winnipeg making these windows. Antique glass must be imported from France and Germany and only skilled craftsmen are able to do the highly specialized artwork in glass.

The "burning" process is used to create different colours and shades on one piece of glass. For example, the tints which make up the eyes, mouth, and cheeks, of a face, or the folds of a robe, often cover too small an area to warrant use of an individual piece of glass. Special paints, mixed with flux, gum arabic, vinegar or balsam, are carefully applied to the piece of glass, which is then set in the kiln and "burned" or baked at a temperature of approximately 1400 degrees until paint and glass are bonded together. If more than one colour is required, separate burning must be done for each, at temperatures which might vary as much as 150 degrees above or below the 1400 degrees, depending on the colour.

An office, and the studio itself, are housed in a 13 feet by 66 feet area, with a stock room of 200 square feet adjacent. In addition to windows, Mr. Winter does custom work such as specially designed lamps for porches and rumpus rooms, which are distributed through retail stores in Edmonton. He also produces mirrors with stained glass frames, occasionally substituting gold - coloured aluminum, newly introduced into Western Canada by Mr. Winter, for the traditional lead strips.

Kiln, lead mill, scissors, glass cutters, furnishings, and stocks of glass, involve an investment of approximately $6,000. Most of this equipment had to be replaced last winter when a fire destroyed the downtown building which previously housed the studio.

Several beautiful examples of Mr. Winter's work are found in Edmonton and throughout Alberta. These include the lower windows in the new St. Joseph's Cathedral, and Wesley United Church windows in Edmonton, as well as church windows at Ponoka, Wetaskiwin, Namao and Bon Accord. Other installations of stained glass are found in the Caravan Motor Hotel, the new Coachman Inn Motor Hotel, and a number of private homes in Edmonton.

U.S. Customs Pass Classification Ruling

OF interest to fabricators throughout Alberta is the fact that the U.S. Bureau of Customs has passed a ruling on the classification of front end loaders, Malco vertical bale elevators, grain augers and farm scrapers.

Front end loaders, Malco vertical bale elevators and grain augers are classifiable under Item 666.00 free of duty. The ruling also classified farm scrapers under Item 666.00 free of duty if it is chiefly used in agricultural pursuits. If not so chiefly used, it is classified under Item 664.05 at 10 per cent.

Further information on this ruling may be obtained from the Canada Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa or from the U.S. Bureau of Customs, Washington, D.C.

INDUSTRIAL OPPORTUNITY

A STUDY started last November by the Industrial Development Branch of the Alberta Department of Industry and Development indicates there is an opportunity in Alberta for several firms to expand operations to include trailer component parts in their manufacturing lines.

Purpose of the study was to determine what parts are not available in Alberta and promote the expansion of local industry by suggesting these be manufactured locally. Results of this pilot project have been so encouraging the branch hopes to set up a continuing program of research into other areas.

Trailer component parts were chosen for the initial study because of the tremendous expansion of the trailer industry in the province over the last few years. Trailer manufacturers in 1960 did almost one and one-half million dollars worth of business. Two years later this figure was nearly tripled. During the same period the number of employees jumped from 159 to over 400. The number of manufacturers has risen from four companies making mobile-home trailers in 1959 to a 1963 total of nine making mobile home trailers and four making camping trailers.

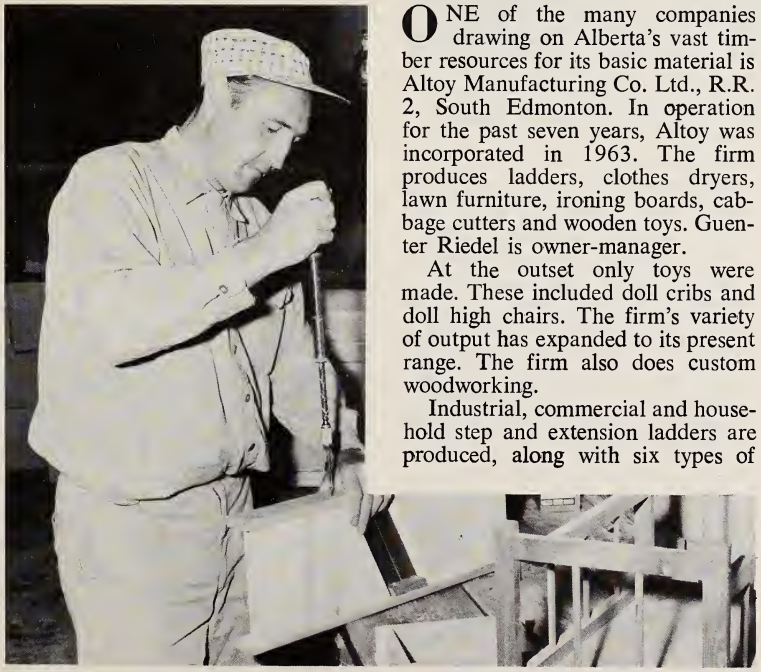
A 1964 estimate indicates there will be 3,500 trailers, excluding campers and industrial trailers, made in the province this year.

Principal trailer manufacturers in the province were interviewed and asked to fill out a questionnaire on 1963 purchases of imported component parts, materials and supplies. All firms indicated they would be more than pleased to buy Alberta made parts, price, quality and delivery being equal. The questionnaire asked for information on items purchased, estimated annual requirements, unit cost, name and location of present suppliers and comments regarding specifications of future requirements.

While the study was in progress, manufacturers who might easily adapt present equipment or add a minimum of new equipment to handle items not made in Alberta, were alerted to these possible production additions. Since the study was started, and not necessarily as a result of it, several Alberta firms have started to manufacture some of the items. These include frames, windows, doors, air vents, fibreglass sinks, calking compound, balls for hitches and extruded aluminum mouldings. Presently under consideration for possible manufacture are levelers, running gear, aluminum sheathing, folding steps, water and space heaters, and P.V.C. stripping.

Component parts not presently produced or being considered for manufacture are stamped out roof jacks, air louvres, ice boxes and propane bottles. Alberta companies interested in expanding their lines may receive more information on these by contacting the Industrial Development Branch of the Department of Industry and Development, Room 335, Highways Building, Edmonton, Alberta.

Variety of Wood Products Made by Altoy Co.



ONE of the many companies drawing on Alberta's vast timber resources for its basic material is Altoy Manufacturing Co. Ltd., R.R. 2, South Edmonton. In operation for the past seven years, Altoy was incorporated in 1963. The firm produces ladders, clothes dryers, lawn furniture, ironing boards, cabbage cutters and wooden toys. Guenter Riedel is owner-manager.

At the outset only toys were made. These included doll cribs and doll high chairs. The firm's variety of output has expanded to its present range. The firm also does custom woodworking.

Industrial, commercial and household step and extension ladders are produced, along with six types of indoor and outdoor clothes dryers. Two lines of clothes dryers have patents pending. One of the larger seasonal items is the cabbage cutter, used mainly for making sauerkraut. About 6,000 of these are produced.

A new building was erected in 1963 on the firm's three-acre site at a cost of $10,000. The structure houses $4,500 worth of equipment and provides 1,800 square feet of working area and an additional 1,800 square feet of storage space. Two employees are on the $6,000 annual payroll. Two more are to be added to the payroll in the near future, with production to increase accordingly.

All materials used at Altoy are purchased from Edmonton suppliers. Up to 100,000 board feet of lumber are used each year and the company's gross sales amounted to $36,000 in 1963. Products are marketed in Alberta, Saskatchewan and parts of B.C. and Manitoba. Sales are to wholesale outlets and department stores.

INTEGRATED ORTHOPAEDIC APPLIANCE SERVICE OFFERED BY CANADA LIMB AND BRACE LIMITED

Skilled orthopaedic specialists carefully construct artificial limbs and braces at Canada Limb and Brace Limited in Edmonton. Above, different types of shoes in various stages of completion, with complex limb alignment machine for accurate form measurements in background.

TO permit a more closely integrated service operation on orthopaedic appliances the Alberta Council for Crippled Children established Canada Limb and Brace Limited. Now in its fourth year of operation the firm was started in the Cerebral Palsy Clinic and moved to its present location at 10464 - 82 Avenue, Edmonton in November, 1963. A branch plant is located at 237 - 16 Avenue N.W., in Calgary.

A staff of specialists, who have come from four different countries, make all types of braces, special corsets, supports, partial feet and hands, and artificial limbs. Wheel chair sales and service is provided and a repair service offered on all items sold.

Realistic gloves and hands, side steels for braces and some types of limbs are imported from the United States. Wheel chairs and stump socks come from Ontario and all other materials are purchased in Alberta. Sales covering the Alberta market and parts of British Columbia and Saskatchewan are handled by the staff. Annual gross sales are about $80,000. All work handled is on a prescription basis or through clinics and hospitals.

Two orthopaedic specialists from England and one each from Austria, Hungary and Scotland are included in the staff of eight at the two plants. There have previously been no schools offering the specialized training required. However, an Ontario school is now developing such a course.

Monthly payroll is about $3,500 plus occasional help. The Edmonton plant operates from 7,000 square feet of floor space with $15,000 worth of equipment, while the Calgary operation has 3,000 square feet of floor space and $8,000 worth of equipment.

Managing Director of the firm is Walter O. Bates, instigator of the Crippled Children's Camp at Lake Isle. Mr. Bates was the founder and owner of Bates' Electric. He sold his business with the intention of retiring, but has always been interested in crippled and handicapped people and is now back on the job full time. George Clynch is Manager of the Calgary operation.

A casting machine acquired last year is the first of its type in Canada. The machine is used to fit, prepare and make fibreglass sockets. It operates on an impression basis, with intricate adjustments for perfect fitting of the sockets. Artificial limbs are completely built and constructed by this firm, starting with a cast, and a complex alignment machine is employed to provide accurate form measurements as required by the individual patient.

Trade Inquiries

THE following Swedish manufacturers are seeking agents or distributors in Canada. Further information may be obtained direct from the manufacturers or from the Swedish Trade Commissioner, 1105-207 West Hastings Street, Vancouver 3, British Columbia.

Products connected with floor care (floor polishes, varnishes, sealers, adhesives); AB Bona, Murmansgatan 128, Malmo O/Sweden.

Band saws, easily operated, suitable for use in schools or workshops, three different types; AB Rojo-Maskiner, Tryggarpsvagen, Varnamo, Sweden.

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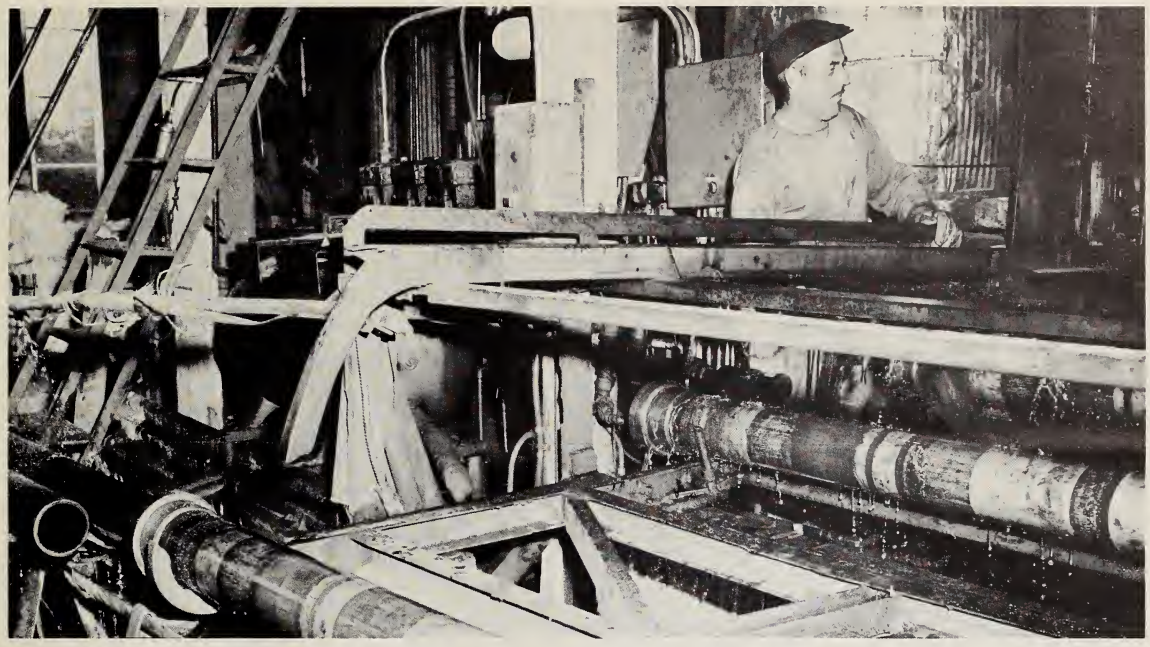

Asphalt Basic Material in Unique Soil Pipe

IN 1956 Perma Tubes Ltd. was established and had as its principal object, the development of a bituminious fibre soil pipe using asphalt produced locally as the basic raw material. In the course of the research program, the Company acquired a complete line of paper tube winding equipment and when this phase of the research program was abandoned this equipment was turned over to the production of a wide range of paper tubes. The company is now a major manufacturer of fibre tubes in Western Canada and last year added a subsidiary Perma Tube Sales Ltd. at Burnaby, B.C. The revenue from the paper production in the early stages helped finance further research on the bituminious pipe. In 1959, despite a disastrous fire which razed the entire plant, the Company's engineers and chemists produced a pipe suitable for use as a soil pipe and underground electrical conduit, using for the first time a combination of pyrobitumens and glass fibres as the basic components. The necessary production equipment was then developed in the form of underground conduit and the product went on the market late in 1960.

The Company's plant is located on a three acre site at 142nd Street north of 137th Avenue and contains 8,000 square feet of floor space and approximately $200,000 worth of equipment. The majority of this equipment was designed by the Company's own engineers and was fabricated locally in Edmonton. The fifteen to twenty employees account for an average annual payroll of $75,000 while sales are presently running around $200,000 annually.

The majority of the raw materials used in Company's operations are purchased in Alberta or come from British Columbia.

The paper products include tubes for almost every use in construction and industry and range in diameter from ½" to 48". Their uses include forms for concrete columns, pile extensions and caps, stub columns and piers, pipe sleeves, ducts for encasement in concrete in slab-on-ground heating and cooling systems, storage tubes, seismic casing, industrial cores, mailing tubes, shipping containers and drums, window and counter display tubes.

On the 'asphalt' side of the business there are two basic products, Permaconduit and Permatube. Permaconduit is designed for use as an underground electrical conduit, either for direct burial or encasement in concrete, while Permatube can be used in sewer construction, farm and low land drainage, low pressure irrigation, protective conduit weep holes in concrete, downspout and driveway run-off, septic disposal fields and foundation drainage. Production of asphalt pipe is expected to reach one million feet by the end of 1965. Research is continuing in this side of the enterprise with the object of finding a wider range of product use and the materialization of these efforts could make Perma Tubes one of the few Canadian companies expanding from west to east.

Marketing is at present confined to Western Canada but efforts are being made to include all of Canada and the United States. Sales are for the most part handled by the firm's own staff in Alberta and British Columbia while distributors are used in the two other Western Provinces.

Mr. F. Alan Batcheller is the General Manager of Perma Tubes Ltd. with offices at 1—12421-118 Avenue in Edmonton. The majority of the stockholders are Alberta and B.C. investors.

TOWN OF MAGRATH

LOCATION

Section 26-5-22-W4 in Census Division No. 2. This location is on Highway No. 5 and at Mile 37 on the Lethbridge-Cardston-Hillspring branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway.

ALTITUDE

3,218 feet. Latitude 45/25 N. Longitude 112/53 W.

TEMPERATURE

Average summer, 58 degrees F.; average winter, 30 degrees F.; average annual, 42 degrees F.

RAINFALL

Average annual rainfall, 10.06 inches; average annual snowfall, 53.3 inches; average annual total precipitation, 15.39 inches.

GEOLOGY

The bedrock of this area is a dark grey marine shale which is assigned to the Bearpaw Formation of Upper Cretaceous age. These shales contain some bentonitic material and comparatively large quantities of salts. This latter feature makes the Bearpaw Formation generally unsuitable as a water horizon.

SOIL

Magrath is in a Dark Brown Soil Zone.

LIVING CONDITIONS

Magrath is called by many persons the "Garden City of the South". The homes are beautifully landscaped with trees, flower gardens and vegetable gardens. The land west and south of the town is rolling, while the east and north is flat prairie. For the sportsman there is good hunting for ducks and upland game birds. Deer and elk hunting is available 40 miles west. Rent for an average five room house is around $60 per month.

ADMINISTRATION

The town is governed by a mayor and six councillors. The mayor is elected for a two-year term, and two councillors each year for a three-year term. The secretary-treasurer administers the town's affairs in accordance with the policy set by the council.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The town hires one police constable, while two Royal Canadian Mounted Police constables police the rural area. Building regulations follow the National Building Code and plans for all new buildings, repairs or removal of buildings must be approved by council. Electrical, gas and sanitary installations must comply with provincial regulations.

FIRE PROTECTION

The fire brigade consists of a fire chief and ten volunteer firemen. Water is obtained from two wells and is pumped into a 50,000 gallon reservoir and into the water mains. There are eight fire hydrants conveniently located throughout the town.

TAX STRUCTURE

The mill rate is 50 mills, based on Municipal 12, School 35, and Hospital 3.0. Total assessment is $1,453,276, made up of: $180,076 land, 100 per cent of fair value; $1,116,780 improvements, 100 per cent of fair value; $123,020 business; and $33,400 power.

UTILITIES

Three phase 60 cycle power is supplied by Calgary Power Limited, who also supply the water. Water is obtained from two wells and is pumped into a 50,000 gallon clear water reservoir, and from there into a 10,000 gallon hydro-pneumatic tank which feeds the mains. Several local firms have sunk their own successful wells. Natural gas is supplied under franchise by Canadian Western Natural Gas Company Limited.

Magrath

EDUCATION

The Magrath School District No. 620 is a unit of the St. Mary's Division No. 2. Grades one to twelve are taught and optional subjects include drama, art, French, home economics and shop. There are eight school buses providing transportation for the rural students.

RECREATION

Facilities for cultural activities and sports include a library, theatre, three halls, swimming pool, two-sheet artificial ice curling rink, open air rink, nine-hole golf course and school auditorium.

LOCAL RESOURCES

The area served by Magrath is devoted largely to the production of wheat, cattle and sheep on a large scale. However, there is considerable irrigation in the district and the production of sugar beets, canning crops, etc., add a measure of stability to business endeavours. Unlimited underground water is available to industries at no rates. The 1956 census figures showed that farms averaged 880 acres in size. Livestock population per farm consisted of 70 cattle, 88 sheep, 18 pigs and 156 domestic poultry. Eighty-one per cent were electrified and 76 per cent occupied by the owners. Trading area population (1956 census) was 3,861 and town population was 1,382.

BUILDING SITES

Industrial sites adjacent to trackage and residential sites are available, and can be served with all utilities.

For further information about Magrath write

Secretary-Treasurer,
Town of Magrath,
Magrath, Alberta.

or

R. MARTLAND,
Director of Industrial Development,
Department of Industry and Development,
335 Highways Building,
Edmonton, Alberta.