

Fall Of Studebaker Saddens South Bend

EDITOR'S NOTE: An economic crisis confronts thousands of workers at the Studebaker plant in South Bend, Ind., today, 15 days before Christmas. Here is a UPI team report on the dislocation. David Smother of UPI, Chicago, Robert Page of UPI, Indianapolis, and South Bend newsmen cooperated in the production.

A UPI Team Report
SOUTH BEND, Ind. (UPI)—It's 15 days before Christmas but South Bend isn't waiting for Santa Claus. This prosperous city along the northern edge of Indiana is waiting for the word at the gates of the Studebaker Corp.—how many more hours, how many more days before the auto production line stops. South Bend isn't afraid. But it is sad.

A tradition — of great-grandfather to grandfather to father to son — passed Monday with the word from New York that the Studebaker Corp. was through making cars in South Bend.

Studebaker men showed up for work today as usual, slushing through moist snow outside the gates of the 291-acre plant on the west side of South Bend. Some thought it would be their last day, some their last week.

Moving Company
The final word had to come from President Byers A. Burlingame, who Monday in New York announced he was taking its automotive production business out of South Bend into the seaways port of Hamilton, Ont.

He didn't say when. That word may come at various news conferences scheduled in South Bend today, or in New York, where the Studebaker executives were gathered.

To South Bend, a pleasant city of 135,000, which has boasted of the highest per capita income in the state of Indiana, the time and the minute seemed of secondary importance. South Benders knew it might happen. It was just hard to believe when it hit.

According to the United Auto Workers, that meant 7,000 hours.

Hospital News
Visiting Hours
2 to 3:30 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m.

Mercy Hospital
Admitted
Medical: William Hampton, Paul Baird, Linda McMurray, Roy Smith, Mrs. Ralph Beamer, Pearl Coleman, Mrs. James Godfrey, Mrs. Harold Gibbons, all of Roseburg; Julie Davis, Wilbur; Mrs. John Weaver, Myrtle Creek; Patricia Smith, Myrtle Creek; Mrs. David Miller, Azalea; Ted Heilman, Camas Valley; Mrs. Parry Van Cleve, Larry Briggs, both of Oakland; Mrs. Dennis Bossen, Winston.

Discharged
Richard Patterson, Karen Renfrow, French Trump, Mrs. Jack Rountree and son Michael Steven, Mrs. E. A. Harbough, Lester Gardner, Rodney Huffman, Mrs. Richard Phillips and son Roy Frederick, all of Roseburg; Mary McGinty, Sutherlin; Stover Harger, Oakland; Mrs. Harold Marshman, Glidre; Belinda Crouch, Dillard.

Douglas Community Hospital
Admitted
Medical: Mrs. Harland Vickers, Mrs. Robert Barrett, Mrs. Mayell Hildebrand, Mrs. Ben Blakely Jr., Mrs. Darrell Anderson, Mrs. Dennis White, Randy Young, Mrs. Richard Hink, Delana Smith, all of Roseburg; William Mease, Mrs. William Mease, both of Coos Bay; Virgil Beam, Winchester; Mrs. David Roth, Robbie Robinson, both of Winston; Mrs. John Wilverding, Glidre; Susan Preston, Dillard; Robert Collins, Riddle.

Surgery: Mrs. Howard Jenkins, Mrs. Floyd Smith, Mrs. Thomas Scott, Mrs. Ona Liles, Edward Merritt, all of Roseburg; Johnny Douthitt, Richard Diedrich, both of Oakland; Mrs. Richard Lewis, Winston; Sandra Bates, Sutherlin.

Discharged
Mrs. Glenn Atkeson and son Arthur Wade, Mrs. Donald Boeve and son Randolph Scott, Mrs. Gladys Daly, David Frum, Belinda Gill, Ovid Glenn, Carol Griggs, Michael Hill, Donald McGee, Mrs. Leonard Miller, Donna Smith, Mrs. Ward Cockram, Linda Thomas, Fritz Sjogren, Mrs. Harlan Vickers, Raymond Davis, Mrs. Harry Fritzkauf, Barbara and Susan Zimmerman, all of Roseburg; Clinton Donaca, Mrs. Walter Magby and daughter Rondeeda Ann, Mrs. Harvey Strong, all of Sutherlin; Mrs. Richard Moore, James Daugherty, Mrs. Etta Tower, Mrs. Alfred Harms, all of Winston; Robert Collins, Mrs. John Kiggins, both of Riddle; Susie Q. Johnson, Elizabeth Roberts, both of Idleyd Park; Mrs. Ronald Willis and daughter Andrea Jacqueline Tenmile; Ellie Sarraatt, Oakland.

Stunning Effect

Nobody denied the shutdown at Studebaker would have a stunning effect on life in South Bend. Conservative estimates ran at \$580,000 to be lost in weekly paychecks.

The word from Studebaker was, to all appearances, rushed. It had been scheduled for a New York news conference Wednesday. Press leaks forced Burlingame to this announcement.

—That Studebaker would discontinue auto assembly at South Bend and shift its primary auto base to Hamilton.

—Studebaker would stay very much in business with the diversified industries which have provided much of its profit since its automotive business went sour after the great year of the Lark in 1959.

—Studebaker "regrets the necessity of curtailing South Bend operations, but the economics of the operation permit no other course."

—On automobile row in Detroit, that meant a shift in the basic statistics. Now there were only four automotive giants producing in the U.S.—General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and American Motors.

It also was the end of an American story which began 111 years ago when the brothers Studebaker came to this simple agreement:

"I, Pete Studebaker, agree to sell all the wagons my brother Clem can make."

Booming Business
Actually, the Studebaker boys had been making wagons in South Bend for 11 years before the 1883 agreement was signed.

In the Civil War, and as the West was opened, Pete sold all the wagons Clem could make.

And in 1902 the Studebakers had a new-fangled electric car on the road and in 1904 the latest thing—a "gas buggy."

Studebaker was a proud name on the roads through the first decades of the automotive age. The South Bend company boasted of craftsmanship — of how South Bend father handed down his knowledge to South Bend son. In large part it was true.

But at the end, this week, that meant that a great many of the men of Studebaker were past their prime as far as the labor market is concerned. Men of 50 or older are of the stuff of which craftsmen are made, and there are many of them at Studebaker. But it is tough for them to line up at the employment office.

Christmas 'On Stage' At Riverside Meeting

Christmas was given full attention at the December meeting of the Riverside PTA.

After a short business meeting, an entertainment program was presented. Mrs. Shirley Brown opened the program by demonstrating the construction of inexpensive Christmas decorations. She also displayed some completed pieces.

Following this, while the fifth and sixth grade chorus sang carols, Mrs. Jack West made a chalk drawing of a Christmas scene. The chorus was directed by Mrs. Jean Hollyman and accompanied by Mrs. Dorothy Baumann.

Refreshments were served by fifth grade mothers following the program.

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JOINING THE HOLIDAY spirit are these two Douglas County girls, Mary Conn of Roseburg and Barbara Miller of Glidre. The girls are members of the 4-H Empire Builders club and are shown holding some of the gifts the 4-H group gathered for children in the Community Christmas project. The young people gathered the toys and held an exchange party. The gifts were then wrapped and presented to the Community Christmas committee. (News-Review Photo)

Glide Studies Driver Training

The Glide School Board has decided to investigate the possibilities of establishing a driver training course for high school pupils in the district.

At its meeting Monday night, the board instructed Supt. Don Fluke and high school principal Ray Kapus to study a proposal for the class and report back to the board on their conclusions at the next meeting.

The decision came after the Glide PTA Safety Committee introduced the subject during the meeting. On hand with members of the committee was Howard Eddy, manager of the Traffic Safety Division of the state Department of Motor Vehicles. He explained how the program is handled at other high schools, discussed costs, state contributions and other phases of the program, reports correspondent Mrs. Arthur Selby.

The board also decided to hold its next meeting Dec. 16, rather than on Dec. 23 as previously scheduled. At that time, W. M. Campbell, assistant county school superintendent, will explain the new budget law to

BAND PARENTS TO MEET

The Roseburg High School Band Parents will meet at 7:30 tonight at the high school band room. Gary Wilson, band director, reports that special entertainment will be provided by some of the band members. Coffee will be served.

POOR CREAMPUFFS

MADRID, Spain (UPI)—Police arrested a bakery manager Monday when more than 400 persons suffered food poisoning after eating his special Mother's Day creampufts.

Children traditionally share creampufts with their mothers on Mother's Day, which is celebrated Dec. 9 in Spain.

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Religious Summit Seen For Holy Land

VATICAN CITY (UPI)—The possibility of a religious summit conference during Pope Paul VI's visit to the Holy Land next month stirred increasing speculation in the Vatican today.

The Rev. Pierre Duprey of the Vatican's Secretariat for Christian Unity flew to Istanbul, Turkey, Monday night and said he would consult today with Patriarch Athenagoras, 77, spiritual leader of the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Athenagoras suggested the Jerusalem summit conference last week after learning of the pontiff's scheduled Jan. 4-6 pilgrimage.

Vatican sources said the Pope will probably answer Athenagoras by note within a few days. They said that if the Pope agrees to a meeting, he will probably send similar notes inviting other Christian church leaders to the conference.

In Amman, Jordan, Msgr. Nimeh Saman, Roman Catholic patriarchal deputy, said today "no convention of Christian faiths will take place in Jerusalem as such a convention is undesirable." He also said the Pope's Holy Land visit will be purely a pilgrimage and added, "the Pope does not have the time for conventions."

It was confirmed officially Monday that the pontiff will fly to Amman, Jan. 4 to begin the Holy Land pilgrimage.

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