

By Joy Williams

The heart of the community: Crown Zellerbach

Crown Zellerbach is the leading independent operation owned by Glen Parks in Estacada. The mill used to be an independent operation owned by Glen Parks. It was purchased by Crown in 1969.

Parks, who now owns the Safar Estacada, started the mill in 1946. At the mill was a small operation. Clark was out by making eight-foot lumber and for camps. Later he transferred to lumber as there was no longer the shorter cuts.

"The major change was in 1958 when a pond was put in and the barker and ch said Parks. "From then on, every year I've invested about a quarter of a million dollars. The last year I owned the mill, it was out 72 million board feet."

When Parks was owner he had about 100 people working for him and was responsible for 90 per cent of their business. He had the distinction of being one of the ten independent mills in the nation.

Parks decided to sell the mill after he was hurt in a hunting accident. A Land Management plane ran over him when he was on a log skid, breaking 23 bones.

Crown Zellerbach as it is today has about 100 employees including loggers, truck drivers, sawyers, chain pullers and planer men. The mill works in two shifts and is nonstop.

The logs come from timber sales by the Bureau of Land Management.

Zellerbach has its own logging crew and also buys lumber from "gyppo" loggers. In addition to local sales, some of the lumber is exported.

"We are putting out about six million board feet per month and the loggers are getting better every year," said Joe B. Personnel and Safety Supervisor at Crown Zellerbach.



Photo by Joy Williams

