



No cheerful little tearful is two-year-old Gordon Miller, a polio patient at Utica, N. Y., Children's Hospital. But the March of Dimes—through the Herkimer County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis—is helping Gordon back to health and a smiling future.

That I may come with a firm and tranquil mind to the work of this day, fearing nothing.—John Walker.

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Mill City Proud of New Industry

By ARTHUR L. DAVIS

Mill City's new industry, a commercial lumber dry kiln, hums a cheerful note as it busily works at the task of lumber drying because of the foresight and hard work of the Carl Kelly family, pioneers in community progress in Mill City.

Carl Kelly, father of Russell and Carl Kelly present owners of the Mill City Planning and Processing Company, started the company in Mill City in 1935. After the death of their father, Carl and Russell took over the operation of the enterprise. In October of last year, the new cross-circulation lumber dry kiln went into operation.

In view of the fact that the proper operation of a lumber dry kiln is a risky business for those who are not well informed of the process, Carl Kelly was delegated for the duty of attending a special course on lumber drying taught in Oregon State in Corvallis.

Oregon's Forest Products Laboratory in Corvallis is reputed as being second to none. The only forest products research station approaching it in completeness is a federal station located in Wisconsin.

Just watching the activity of the Mill City lumber dry kiln one gets the impression that this 20,000 board feet per day commercial lumber dry kiln is indeed a modern, advanced-designed plant taking a back seat to none other in the great Northwest.

Since the lumber dry kiln must have plenty of steam for heat and moisture control, the Kelly Brothers put two and two together and decided they could put to good use the shavings

from their lumber planer plant as fuel for a boiler in the process of generating steam.

The result is happy indeed—as the previously wasted shavings fly off the planer, a conveyor belt picks them up and carries them to a boiler fire nearby. To the uninitiated the steam plant of the Kelly brothers is an ominous thing as it seethes, roars, and thunders through the agony of steam generation.

When the dry kiln is operating, the thermostats with seeming human intelligence direct the introduction of more steam, the opening or closing of the ventilators on the roof of the kiln, and the movement of a recording instrument which puts down a permanent record of conditions inside the lumber dry kiln.

Thermostats properly placed inside the dry kiln provide the signals that keep the temperature in all areas of the kiln at the correct level. Thermostats also direct the nozzling of steam into the atmosphere of the dry kiln when the drying operation proves too rapid for the automatic controller.

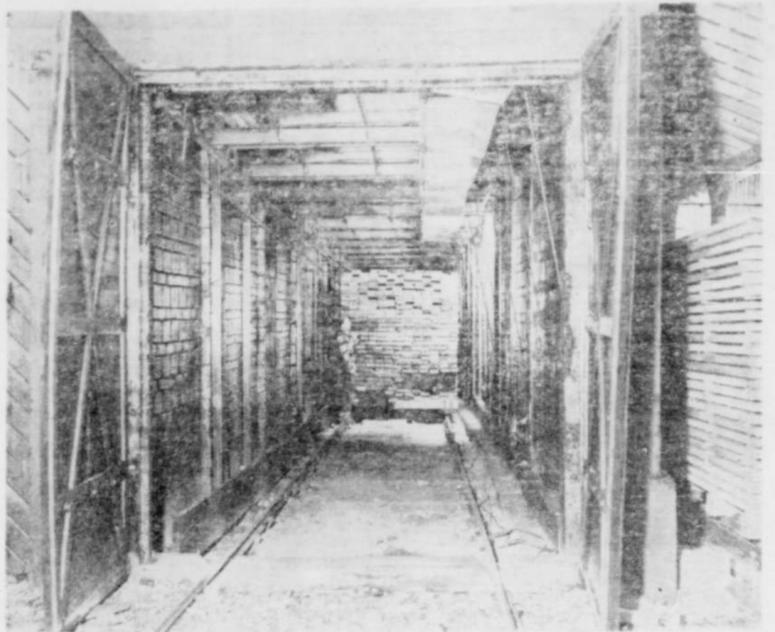
Lumbermen agree that the drying of wood is a very complex process and much is yet undiscovered. A dry kiln operator need not, however, understand all the details of the movement of moisture through wood. He may assume that the moisture in each piece of wood tends to bleed out evenly during the drying process.

The movement of moisture through wood is affected by a number of controllable outside factors. Only two of them need be considered here—the temperature and the humidity of the atmosphere surrounding the wood, that is, of the air in the kiln. Circulation of this air, adequate in both uniformity and volume, is necessary in order to control its temperature and its humidity; in fact the success of a kiln-drying operation depends very largely upon the proper regulation of heat, humidity, and circulation.

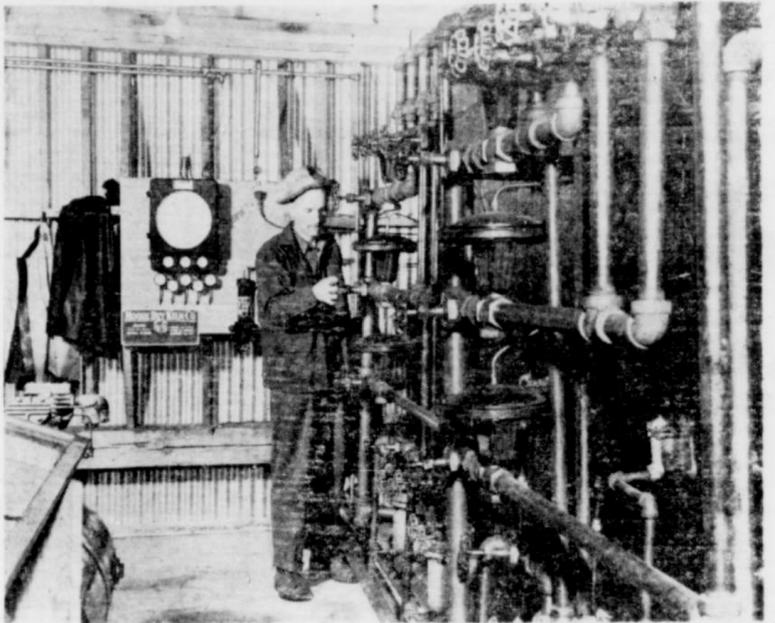
The chief aim in seasoning wood, whether such drying takes place in the kiln or elsewhere, is to remove part of the moisture naturally present in it, which if allowed to remain would ordinarily interfere seriously with its use. The amount of moisture to be removed depends upon both the quantity present and the use for which the wood is scheduled. It is seldom necessary, except in test cases, or even advisable to remove all the moisture in green lumber and leave it oven-dry.

If lumber comes from the dry kiln too brittle or stiff, the humidity should be raised, but if the individual slabs of lumber are too soft, or pliable, the humidity of the kiln should have been lowered during the drying operation.

Due to the installation of a Moore Autographic Master controller, ventilation in the Kelly Brothers' dry kiln is placed under the positive control of a trusty agent helping to maintain the proper humidity inside the kiln by utilizing moisture coming from the drying lumber and reducing the amount of steam required. This



Shown is a package of lumber stock inside one of the two-tunneled Moore Dry Kiln operated by Carl and Russell Kelly of this city. Standing on the track of the lumber carrier is Joe Slater, dry kiln foreman. (Photo Courtesy of Bob Veness and The Statesman)



Carl Kelly, co-partner and brother of Russell Kelly, here performs the ticklish task of allowing the proper amount of steam to enter the kiln when first placed into operation for drying a package of green lumber. Back of Carl can be seen one of the two Moore Autographic Master Controllers installed in the up-to-date dry kiln in the Mill City Planning and Processing Co. (Photo Courtesy of Bob Veness and The Statesman)

simple instrument also controls the temperature at each of the kiln independently.

This, finger on the pulse, control is a must in order that a temperature of some 200 degrees Fahrenheit and correct humidity be maintained during the drying of a package of green lumber.

A nice payroll is provided Mill City by some 20 men now employed by the Kelly Brothers in the operation of their re-manufacturing plant. Eight additional men were required when the dry kiln went into production.

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SUMMARY 64th ANNUAL REPORT

1950

INSURANCE IN FORCE <i>(Including Deferred Annuities)</i>	\$1,309,344,457
NEW INSURANCE <i>(Including Deferred Annuities)</i>	179,857,342
INCOME	75,691,975
ASSETS	413,855,443
LIABILITIES	388,222,034
CONTINGENCY RESERVE AND SURPLUS	25,633,409

Payments to Policyholders and Beneficiaries since the inception of the Company total \$436,306,170

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