

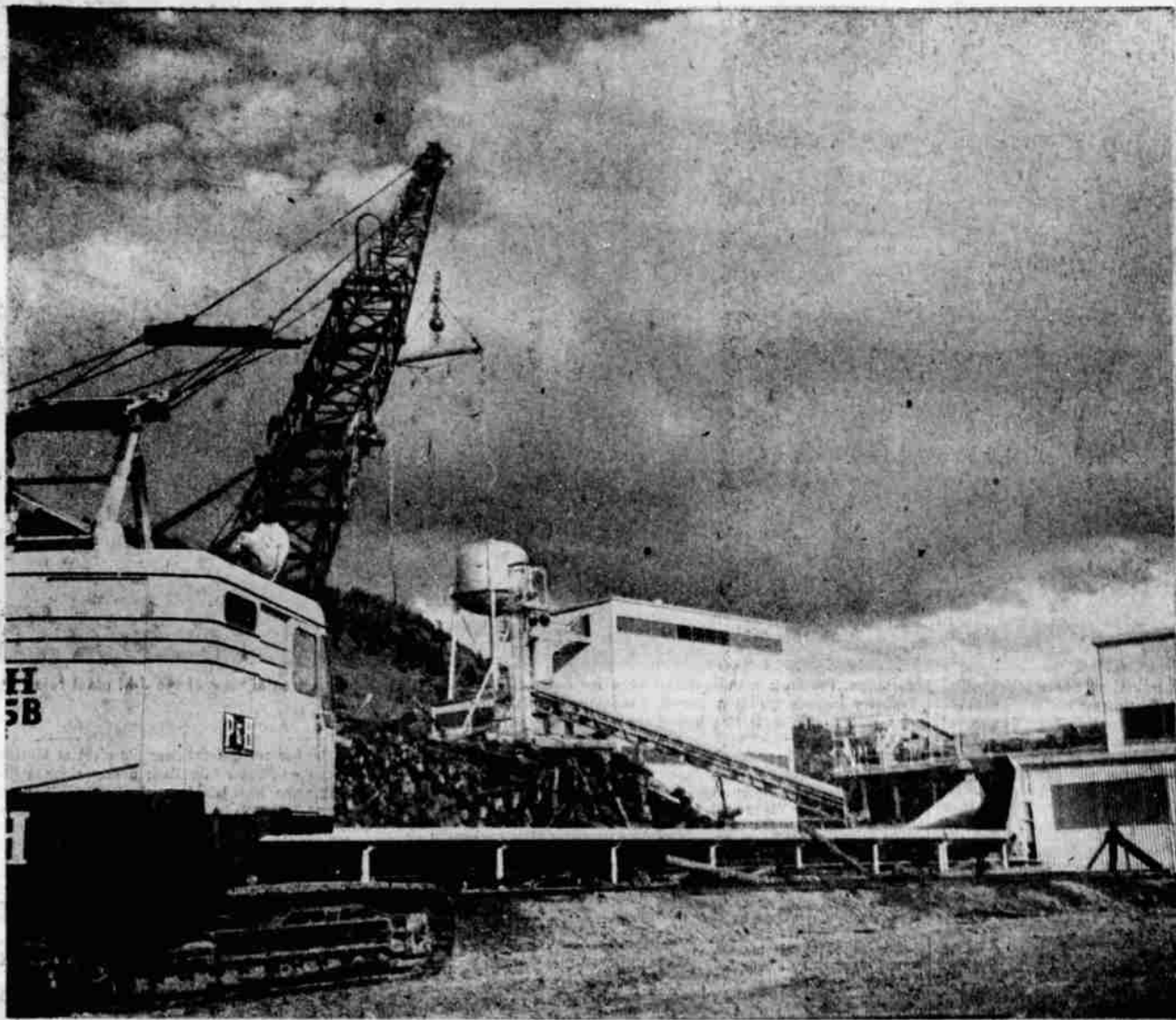
Johns-Manville Officially Opens New Plant

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SCIENCE HAS CONTRIBUTED much to the lumber industry. The huge lumbering oxen teams and the ponderous steam equipment of the old lumbering era has been relegated to museums. The new Klamath Falls Johns-Manville plant is an example of the very latest in mechanized lumbering procedures. Throughout the entire new plant, every attention has been given to ease of handling procedures and latest up-to-date methods for processing. Here, a huge crawler crane loads pulp logs from the woodyard onto a conveyor belt at the new

Johns-Manville plant. The eight foot logs are loaded here, and carried to slasher saws which cut them to four foot lengths. The colorful, compactly planned J-M plant is considered one of the finest in the entire lumbering industry. The modern method of handling logs can be sharply contrasted with the lower picture taken at the Collier Park Logging Museum. Modern handling has resulted in a safer more efficient operation at the new plant. —Photo by Leo's Camera Shop

Johns-Manville Passes Century; Started By Enterprising Yankee

Johns-Manville Corporation, which observed its 100th Anniversary in 1958, originated when H. W. Johns, a 21-year-old Yankee from West Stockbridge, Mass., went into business for himself in New York. In 1838, in the depths of a national "financial panic" when 4,225 other businesses and banks were failing, he started the enterprise as a jobber and manufacturer of paints and coatings for roofs and for preserving wood, metals and fabrics. He made a gutta percha "portable roofing" which came into general use in nearly all parts of the world.

Almost at once he became interested in asbestos fibre, after finding its fireproof qualities described in the 1830 edition of the Cyclopaedia Americana. Asbestos fibre was not then in general commercial use. He began experiments with asbestos fibre in roofing applications and soon became a pioneer in development of the worldwide asbestos industry.

BASEMENT FACTORY

From 1838 to 1860 he did business at four successive locations. His first location was at 349 Fulton Street, Brooklyn, N.Y., opposite the Brooklyn City Hall. He soon moved across the East River to 120 Wall Street at the corner of South Street, opposite the East River docks. Then he moved the business to 310 Broadway. Finally, in 1860, he found a more permanent business address at 78 William Street, where he operated a basement factory and sales office for 13 years.

Johns continued all during the Civil War, the research and product development utilizing the asbestos fibres that had engaged his attention since 1850. When a new era of growth in America started after the Civil War he was ready for it. He made public the results of his years of work with asbestos fibres, which he had obtained from outcroppings of Staten Island, N.Y., in 1868. Mr. Johns began the commercial manufacture and distribution that year of numerous asbestos fibre specialties he had developed, many of which were destined to become standard materials for mechanical, structural and electrical applications.

PIONEERED INDUSTRY

Expanding business forced the company to seek enlarged manufacturing space in 1873 and H. W. Johns moved his business offices to 87 Maiden Lane in Lower Manhattan. Production was transferred to a new, larger factory which the company had built in Long Island City, New York.

Increased demand for asbestos fibre, which H. W. Johns had stimulated, led to the discovery in 1876 of huge deposits of high quality ore in Quebec, Canada. The superior quality of the Quebec fibre made

possible much wider uses of the "magic mineral." Large quantities of this basic raw material became available to H. W. Johns for expanded commercial production in the United States. H. W. Johns' asbestos products began to be used all over the world. Many competitors soon appeared. When Mr. Johns died in 1898, the "New York Times" and the "New York



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Chairman, President

Herald" both identified him as the "pioneer of the asbestos industry." Today, the industry is a billion dollar operation.

FIRMS MERGE

In 1901, the Manville Covering Company of Milwaukee, in business since 1888, was merged with the H. W. Johns Manufacturing Company of New York, taking the firm name of H. W. Johns-Manville Company on January 1, 1902. In 1920, the company became known as Johns-Manville, Incorporated. T. F. Manville, Sr., was President. He died in 1925 and his brother, H. E. Manville succeeded him as President. Shortly thereafter, in 1927, the company began its transition from family to widespread stockholder ownership under its present name of Johns-Manville Corporation.

Meanwhile, headquarters of the company had been moved in 1898 from 87 Maiden Lane. The offices went to 100 William Street. Production was transferred to a new plant in Brooklyn, which had been built to replace the Long Island City Plant that had burned. In 1912, company headquarters were moved again, this time to 292 Madison Avenue. A big, new plant was

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KF Plant Tops In Industry

Less than 50 years ago, insulating board was merely an idea. Today it provides an important new industry in Oregon with Johns-Manville Manufacturing lodgepole pine into a strong, serviceable building board that is in wide demand on the West Coast as well as in the rest of the country.

The company's new plant at Klamath Falls is one of the most



W. H. GRAHAM
KF Plant Manager

modern insulating board production centers in the country as it embodies over 20 years of experience in operating similar plants in other sections of the United States and Canada.

The story of insulating board is a typical example of Johns-Manville's industrial efficiency all along the line—in conservation of natural resources, in manufacturing techniques, and in benefits and economies from the finished product.

The basic raw material used in the manufacture of Johns-Manville insulating board at Klamath Falls is lodgepole pine, a timber resource previously unused commercially. Trees from 6 to 11 inches in diameter are used. An average log only 6 inches in diameter and about 6 1/2 feet long will make a sheet of insulating board 4 feet wide by 8 feet long by 1/2 inch thick. Every bit of the tree, except twigs and needles is used.

Even the bark is used to provide fuel for the plant.

Under a long-term contract with the Government, Johns-Manville will take about 30,000 cords of lodgepole pine a year from the Fremont and Rogue River National Forests. The operation provides one of the first major commercial uses for this type of timber and makes a significant contribution to the economy of the area.

Insulating board is a product resulting from the formation of tough wood fibres into sheet form by wet processing, then pressure and heat. The thousands of tiny air spaces trapped in the sheet together with the wood fibres themselves create a structural board material with good insulating and noise reducing values.

The pulpwood is stored in the woodyard in 8 foot lengths. As required the logs are conveyed by a mechanical conveyor to slasher saws where they are cut to 4 foot lengths. These are conveyed to a barking drum where the bark is removed. The bark is mechanically conveyed to the power house to be burned as fuel and the barked logs are carried to soaking tanks where the sticks are soaked in a mild caustic solution for several hours at a temperature of 190 to 200 degrees F.

The logs are then lifted from the tank by means of a crane and dropped into a trough conveyor which carries them to the grinders. Here the pulpwood is mechanically ground and mixed with water to form what is called ground-wood stock.

After grinding the stock goes through several screening and refining operations and then is pumped to the stock chests. From the stock chests the material is pumped as required to the forming machine, where a thick wet mat is formed.

This wet mat or sheet is conveyed in a continuous operation on rollers to a press section where heavy press rolls squeeze the mat to reduce the moisture content. The sheet is cut into lengths when it comes from the press section and then the cut sheets are automatically loaded into an oven or "dryer" as it is called, where the balance of the water is removed from the sheets by heat application. The dryer is a very large unit with a total length of 623 feet. The drying zones alone

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ON EXHIBIT at the Collier Logging Museum on US 97 north of the Crater Lake junction is this relic of the past era in logging. This steam engine is just one of the many museum items included in this popular tourist attraction. Most of the items included in the exhibit were used in this area in the early logging days. The exhibit provides a sharp contrast with the modern day methods. These two color pictures,

were both processed in the Herald and News engraving room with standard equipment and represent one of the first color efforts by our own staff. Jack Metz, working under the direction of Chief Engraver Ernie Hedlund produced these vivid color photos.

—Photo by Leo's Camera Shop