



## From The Mailing Room ...

Oddly enough, the mailing room of a newspaper is not where newspapers are mailed. Rather, it is the place where papers are counted, bundled, tied and dispatched to trucks waiting to rush them to carrier boys.

Observer Newspapers' new mailing room is highly automated and capable of considerable future expansion.

As newspapers are printed and leave the press, they are carried by a conveyor system through the wall of the press room and into a Cutler-Hammer counter-stacker.

This large machine automatically counts the newspapers into the required bundle size (usually 100's), stacks them into neat piles, and shoves them onto another conveyor. The counter-stacker can eventually be driven by a computer, producing exactly the number of papers required by each carrier boy although this is not being done at the present time.

**THE BUNDLES** of newspapers are top-wrapped for protection as they move along the conveyor, and just before they reach the automatic tying machine a bottom wrapper is added automatically.

Plastic strapping material is automatically wound around the bundles and fused into a tight seal by heat. Plastic is more reliable than hemp rope and less dangerous to carrier boys' hands than old-fashioned wire.

After passing through the tying machine the tight bundles move along another conveyor, ready to be loaded into trucks and station wagons.

The significance of an automated mailing room, such as that at Observer Newspapers, is that it saves time, making sure that the papers get from the press to the carrier boys as quickly as possible. Usually your hometown paper reaches your carrier's house less than 45 minutes after it is printed.

