

# Reel Room Feeds Press

As you read these very words, taking it as a matter of fact that, yes, they are printed on a sheet of paper, little does the average Observer subscriber realize that the product in his hands quite likely stems from woodlands in the watersheds of the Sault-au-Cochon and Bersimis Rivers, 180 miles east of Quebec.

That is the source of most of the wood used by Anglo-Canadian Pulp and Paper Mills, Ltd., whose products are sold by Montmorency Paper Co., Inc. to ONI.

Observer Newspapers' current weekly consumption of newsprint amounts to 100 tons, meaning the use of approximately 5,200 tons for a full year.

A constant inventory of some 200 tons is maintained in the huge storage area adjacent to the press room, replacement deliveries being made every few days.

When one realizes that the printing surface in just one ton of newsprint would blanket 10 football fields, it is possible to gain some conception of the enormity of the paper supply necessary for publishing the seven Observers.

Anglo-Canadian has been one of Canada's major producers of newsprint for more than 40 years. The mill, located in the heart of the historical city of Quebec, was completed in 1927, with an original capacity of 125,000 tons per year. Since then, on-going modernization of the four paper machines has increased this capacity to more than 300,000 tons of newsprint annually.

The growth of Anglo-Canadian has not been limited to newsprint. The company is a member of the Reed Paper Group of London, England, and has expanded and diversified steadily.

With sales offices located in Montreal, Toronto, Quebec, Winnipeg, New York and Chicago, Anglo-Canadian's products are shipped throughout Canada and the United States, to South America, the United Kingdom and Europe. Annual net sales now total close to \$100 million.

While newsprint is one of the most vastly used forms of paper, it is only one of about 7,000 different kinds, leading to the oft repeated assertion that paper is "the handmaiden of civilization." Communication, industry and government would be unable to operate without paper, all of which dates back to a discovery in China in A.D. 105.

The ancient Egyptians used papyrus for making a writing material, cutting stalks of the reed into thin slices and then pressing them into sheets. The Chinese used silk and bamboo, and then under Emperor Ho-Ti it was found that the inner bark of the mulberry tree could be broken into fibers and pounded or matted into a sheet. The Chinese later found that good paper could be made by pounding rags, hemp and old fish nets.

This art of papermaking spread gradually to other parts of the world, but it was virtually a thousand years before papermaking became known in Europe. Still, it was not until 1798 that there was an invention (by a Frenchman) of a machine that would make paper in continuous rolls, rather than small batches, and rag pulp still was the base.

The process of grinding logs into a fibrous pulp was discovered in 1840 by a German named Keller and the modern papermaking industry has its beginning at that time. Today, millions of tons of paper and paperboard come from the mills every year and in the United States alone the consumption is estimated at more than 430 pounds per person every year.

