

Future Bright For Bustling Evans Plant

A bright future for Evans Products Co., especially for the transportation equipment division in Plymouth, was predicted by James Conway, vice president and general manager of the Plymouth plant, in a talk before the Plymouth Rotary Club.

"Evans currently is playing a leading role in this area," Conway said.

"We expect it will become even greater in the years ahead. If the present continues, we know that Evans will have to make additional expansions in the Plymouth facilities."

Conway referred to the recently completed plant for manufacture of railroad and truck damage prevention equipment.

"Evans' facilities in Plymouth now include more than a half-million square feet," he said. "In addition, we have more than 10,000 feet of railroad tracks. These totals do not include the operations at Grand Rapids and Gagetown, which are divisions of the transportation equipment plant."

"At the present time, railroads have between \$120 and \$135 million damage annually. We have perfected equipment devices to reduce these losses and with the increased transportation volume, we are looking at the future with more than a little interest."

"We have devices for every type of shipping. We see nothing but growth in the railroads. This will require a big replacement program and Evans wants to be a major part of that program."

Conway traced the contributions Evans has made to national transportation, dating back to the time when the company developed and manufactured the first oil loader.

During the year, Evans developed an auto-railer, damage-free loader, ship-damage system for a diamond head, bi-level and tri-level loaders, coil steel cars, cushioning device for box cars which is being used by 48 railroads, one-man installation sidewall piece for damage prevention, and the recently developed

and perfected coil car. Conway told of the tremendous growth of the company since 1951 when it lost \$2.04 per share. This compares with earnings of \$2.51 in 1963 and anticipated \$3.25 for 1964.

"Evans' stock has climbed from \$8 per share in 1961 to more than \$48 at the present moment," Conway said. "This should become indication of the high esteem people in the financial and business world have for the reorganized Evans Products Co."

"We employed a total of 780 workers in the Plymouth plant a year ago and despite several shifts, which involved transferring some manufacturing to Grand Rapids and Gagetown, we now have a total of 909 on the payroll and expect to boost that total before the end of another year."

Conway indicated that Evans listed 1,180 workers in Michigan in 1963 and has a total of 1,630 at the present time.

"Our payroll in the Plymouth area was \$3.6 million in 1963 and will probably go over \$6.5 million for 1964," he told the Rotarians.

He emphasized that Evans was in its 50th year of operation—starting in 1915—and had more than 40 years in the Plymouth community, moving to the present site shortly after World War I.

The company has had an amazing growth in the past 10 years, showing gross figures of \$25 million in 1954 and an anticipated \$36 million in 1964.

He pointed out that Evans serves in three fields: transportation, building materials and mobile homes. The company has 41 warehouses throughout the United States.

Manufacturing in Michigan and the Plymouth area takes in transportation and the mobile homes with the emphasis on the former.

"We are proud of the growth here in Plymouth, we hope that it will be expanded," he said. "We added a plant recently to take care of the expanded production of damage prevention equipment. We have additional space in Plymouth and at the current rate of business, we plan to make full use of it in the not too distant future."

Wants ads get quick results!



The Observer

Wednesday, November 18, 1964 Page Three

Michigan Bell Starts Work on Expansion To Plymouth System

The rapidly growing Plymouth business and industrial community received another boost with the announcement that Michigan Bell has started work on a half-million dollar expansion of its telephone central office at 1360 Ann Arbor Road.

Plans for the proposed

expansion were announced last spring but the contract wasn't awarded until a few days ago to the R. E. Davis Construction Co. of Ann Arbor.

John Kamego, Plymouth manager for Michigan Bell, indicated construction on the project is expected to be completed by midsummer of 1965.

The work, when completed, will boost the tax base of the City of Plymouth inasmuch as the Michigan Bell facility is located on the city side of Ann Arbor Road.

Kamego said the expansion is being undertaken to meet continued growth in the Plymouth area and to take care of future demand for residential and business service in the future.

A new two-story portion will be added to the Ann Arbor Road building to provide an additional 8,240 square feet of space which is to contain more dial switching equipment.

The total cost of the building and the additional equipment will amount to \$470,700, according to Kamego.

The addition, which will measure 40 by 103 feet, will be constructed of reinforced concrete faced with brick to match the existing structure.

Architectural work was performed by Smith, Hinchman and Grylls Associates Inc.

Livonian to Train Terry R. Hillis, 18, son of Mr. and Mrs. N. R. Hillis of 29040 Bardonia, Livonia, has begun basic training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Ill.

The nine-week training includes naval orientation, history and organization, seamanship, ordnance and gunnery, military drill, first aid and survival.

Clarenceville Schools May Lose \$60,000 Under State Tax Law

The Clarenceville School Board voted Thursday to ask the State Attorney General's office for a ruling on the provision in the new constitution prohibiting differentials in tax allocations for school districts.

Clarenceville—because it covers parts of three communities: Livonia, Redford Township and Farmington—could conceivably lose approximately \$60,000 in next year's budget.

At the present time the millage assessments in Farmington and Livonia are equal while the assessment in Redford Township is placed at a level two mills less. The Board fears that the Wayne County Allocation Boards in order to even the allocations, will take the additional two mills from Farmington and Livonia away from the school funds.

A similar case in Farmington was heard by the State Tax Commission ruled to equalize the millage and the county allocation board lost approximately \$2,000.

The School Board is currently studying the long-range financial needs of the district and any action by the State Tax Commission would affect these long range needs.

School Board Attorney Harry Dell told the Board that the Attorney General presents an unfavorable opinion on the matter (that is, states that the constitutional provision is legal) the case could be taken to the State Supreme Court or the Board could request the voters to vote to restore the two mills.

School Board member Raymond Chalken was appointed to represent the Board at the meetings of the Northwest Educational Television Association, Harold Keivil, Director of the Instructional Materials Center, represents the district's staff at the Association meetings.

The Board passed a resolution stipulating that any petitions from staff members which would have an effect on the 1965-66 budget must be in writing in the Board of Education office "on or before Jan. 14, 1965." This will ensure proper consideration of such requests while evaluating the financial needs of the district for the coming year.

In other action, the Board: Authorized provisions for additional ventilation and heat control in the storage room of the cafeteria section of the Senior High School.

Authorized the architect to proceed to provide for additional ventilation in the Junior High School gymnasium and the Board of Education; and Voted to purchase a portable

stage for the Westbrook School, Reports on the Gifted Program, the Business Officials Convention and the In-Service Training Program were received and filed.



NEW RED CROSS headquarters for Redford Township, Livonia, Plymouth and Nankin Township opened with a tea last Thursday in the Merri-Five Shopping Center in Livonia. Officials of the organization in all four communities were on hand, and Livonia Mayor Harvey Moelke and City Councilman

Peter Ventura (above) were on hand for the ceremonies. With the officials were Mrs. Harry Campbell, Garden City; Mrs. Vincent Kisting, Livonia; Mrs. Mabel Cooley, Northville; Mrs. Blaine Lytle, Plymouth; and Mrs. John Glanville, Redford Township.

and Mrs. John Glanville, Redford Township.

RESIDENTS on Penman Ave. in Plymouth are well protected during the recent sunny days of the Indian summer by a junior member of the Police Department. He's four-year-old Johnny, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Davidson, 1380 Penman. Johnny, attired in his uniform and carrying his tiny "billy", appears bright and early each morning to guard the street—especially when his older friends leave for school via bus or on foot.

School Board Officials at Conference

Byron E. Oliver, administrative assistant of the Farmington Public Schools and Mrs. Sidie Miller, child accounting clerk met with other state attendance workers for the annual Fall Conference of the Michigan Child Accounting Association at Michigan State University on November 13. New educational legislation, pupil suspension and expulsion and the census of the handicapped child were discussed.

Red Cross Offers Recordings for GPs By Area Relatives

"You can put a lot into your serviceman's Christmas package, but you can't pack Home into it," said Mrs. Richard Cook, 8355 Riekie, Garden City, Northwest Regional Chairman for the Voices from Home program of the Detroit Chapter of the

American Red Cross. "However, 'Voices from Home' recordings provide the next best thing—the sound of home and loved voices."

The recordings may be made, free of charge, at the Northwest Regional Office, 31228 Five Mile Road, Livonia. They permit 12½ minutes of personal message for the holiday season, a birthday or family anniversary which can be played back in private by the serviceman through facilities provided by the Red Cross Field Director stationed at all military installations. Hours for making the recordings are 11 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday, November 30 through December 12.

Call the Northwest Regional Office of the Red Cross, 422-2787 now and make your appointment to send your serviceman the gift only you can send.

Students Sell Candy For Plymouth Home

Madonna College students have volunteered their services to man sales stands of candy and cards for the benefit of the Plymouth Association for Retarded Children.

The candy sale profit will be used to buy equipment which the state budget does not cover. The 24,000 boxes of candy are expected to bring in about \$7,000 in profit. This will be donated to the Plymouth State Home and Training School.

Dollars for the retarded children can be used to help our retarded children—and perhaps prevent retardation in the case of normal children.

Free Chest X-Rays Set Wednesday

Free chest X-rays will be available at Tompkins School, Warren and Farmington roads, on Wednesday, November 25.

The tests, available to anyone 21 years or older, are highly recommended by Dr. John J. Hamilton, new health director of Detroit and Wayne County.

A chest X-ray is a quick and easy way to find tuberculosis early. Tuberculosis can be cured most quickly when found and treated early—before signs and symptoms appear.

The Wayne County and Michigan Health Departments and the TB and Health Society (Wayne County's Christmas Seal organization) are co-sponsors of the survey.

The mobile unit providing the free chest X-rays in the Nankin Township area, will be open from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and from 2 to 6 p.m. Additional information may be obtained from the TB and Health Society, Woodward 1-1897.



MADONNA COLLEGE freshmen received their collegiate caps and gowns last Sunday. Sixty coeds received their caps and gowns for use during their college life. In the picture the Rev. Leon Kennedy, Professor of Philosophy, presents Margaret H. Kleinert with her robes. Margaret is the daughter of Livonia City Council President and Mrs. Rudolph Kleinert.

NEW CAR IN MIND?

For the Best Deal in Town on a Ford See Bill Brown and Test Drive Total Performance '65!

CLEARANCE
 of '64s
 1964 GALAXIE HARDTOP
 500 2-DOOR
\$2116

AT
BILL BROWN FORD, INC.
 37222 PLYMOUTH ROAD
 GA 1-7000 LIVONIA, MICHIGAN KE 2-0900