

# Evans Opens Property For Industrial Park



Evans Products Co., located on Eckles Road in Plymouth Township, started industrial and real estate circles in the Midwest and Detroit area Thursday with the announcement that it will make 95 acres of its property available for an industrial park.

At the same time, officials announced the company will continue to manufacture railroad devices and specialized freight cars.

This follows a recent announcement that the company will discontinue the manufacture of box cars at the Plymouth plant and transfer that operation to one of its subsidiaries near Chicago.

WILLIAM E. FINKENSTADT, division vice president and general manager of the company's Industrial Division headquartered in Plymouth, said Evans has made its plans known to the Plymouth Area Planning Commission and real estate firms.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT comes on the heels of an earlier communication from company officials in Chicago that the

new office building, which has been in use for less than two years, will be placed up for lease.

Finkenstadt said another factor influencing the company's decision was its intention of confining its transportation equipment manufacturing activities to Evans' long established damage-prevention device-business and to freight cars of specialized design.

This statement verified the recently announced story that it was discontinuing the mass production of box cars at Plymouth and would revert to its original role as a producer of specialized equipment tied in with the specific needs of railroads and shippers.

"OUR INDUSTRIAL Division, whose Michigan plants are located at Plymouth, Grand Rapids and Gageville will continue to manufacture DP and DP-B damage-prevention devices, freight car side-filler, gondola bulkheads, the new 'Air Pak' bulkhead, hydraulic cushion underframes, material handling racks and containers, XAP car devices, truck and piggyback DP equipment, DP loader components, truck and bus heaters, ventilating system and air conditioners, laminated die model and pattern stock, automobile interior trim and metal faced trailer doors," he said.

"We will also produce specialized freight cars such as the Evans DP-C car for transporting coils of steel or aluminum."

The Evans Industrial Division is part of the company's Transportation Equipment Group, headquartered in Chicago. The group's other plants, in Chicago and Blue Island, Ill.; Washington, Ind.; and Ann Arbor, also produce railroad

equipment, reconstruct and repair freight cars, lease freight cars and manufacture ecological insulated panels for low-temperature structures.

Evans' corporate headquarters are in Portland, Ore. Two other semi-autonomous product groups within the company—the Building Products Group and the Retail and Home Group—are important factors in the nation's building material and pre-cut homes industries.

"DURING THE PAST four years, Evans expanded the facilities at the Plymouth plant by an estimated \$6.5 million, making extensive additions to the railway car operation.

The company had announced its intention of making Plymouth the center of its railway car construction program and indicated the major portion of the new buildings would be used for specialized freight cars and box cars.

Evans enjoyed a peak of prosperity for a period of almost three years with orders pouring in from railroads throughout the nation—but then the bottom dropped out of the business, and reliable sources report the company has had no orders for box cars for a long period of time.

This was duly reported and reflected in the annual report to stockholders at the end of the 1966 fiscal year. It was reported the company had huge losses in the railway equipment and car manufacture division.

THE REPORT also indicated that steps were being taken to correct the situation and shortly thereafter there was a major change in executive personnel at the Plymouth plant.

## Educators Get Four-Day West Point Sales Talk

By FRED DeLANO

Five high school guidance counselors from Observant were among 32 Michigan educators who last week were exposed to the full spectrum of cadet life at the United States Military Academy as West Point officers continued to combat what they call an "information void" among the young men of America.

During the current academic year, the academy has preached its educational and career opportunities to nearly 1,000 high school faculty representatives from 41 states. The Michigan delegation was the last to visit West Point in the current program, which was prompted, according to an Academy spokesman, when a survey "revealed numerous misconceptions about the Military Academy among secondary school guidance counselors and students."



TOUR OUTLINE — Capt. R. J. Nicholson, Military Academy admissions officer, explains to five Observant high school guidance counselors, points of interest to be toured during

"Results will be evidenced through this group alone for the next 20 years."

Soave, who is an active member of the Army Reserve, declared, "This was a revelation. I was surprised at the classroom informality, but deeply impressed to see that integrity is made an inseparable part of a cadet's life."

"Every college encourages integrity, of course, but nowhere have I seen it stressed with such devotion as West Point shows to its motto of 'Duty . . . Honor . . . Country.'"

Mrs. Prescott spoke in the same vein when she said, "Integrity apparently becomes a part of each man, and it was good to see that honor is of prime importance. Having been there, all of us can give better information to our students on qualifications for academy admission."

MARKS COMMENTED, "I think we've all gained an appreciation of West Point's mission. I had some wrong ideas before this trip and probably we all did. They have been corrected."

"One of the most impressive aspects is the concern for each cadet shown by the instructors and general staff."

Libbing, who moved to Plymouth High School next fall from East Junior High School, pointed out:

"It is obvious that it takes a fantastic combination of factors in a boy to make him properly suited for West Point, but it's great for those with the motivation."

"I talked with many of them, and in every one there was a great sense of pride. I would say that for the boy who possesses the right combination of abilities, and who can get through his first year, the academy is ideal."

These five and their colleagues were given far more than a tourist's view of the historic military post which was established in 1802 on the site of a key Revolutionary War fortress overlooking the Hudson River, 52 miles north of New York City.

They attended classes with the cadets; they ate hot dogs, beans and chili in the mess hall; they were given thorough briefings by officers who conduct all phases of military, academic and physical education instruction; and they were taken behind the scenes in department after department to see how the pulse of the academy is maintained.

That pulse is The Corps.

their West Point visit. From left to right are: Robert Marks, John Soave, Mrs. Patricia Prescott, Capt. Nicholson, Fred Libbing and John Ort.

gave them a parting shot of, "Don't forget that it was the Air Force who brought you to see the Army"—the Michigan educators heard the Academy's basic mission outlined by Col. William J. Whiteener, representing the No. 1 man at West Point, Maj. Gen. Donald V. Bennett.

He made it sound simple: "The mission of the United States Military Academy is to instruct and train the corps of cadets so that each graduate will have the qualities and attributes essential to his progressive and continued development throughout a career as an officer of the regular army."

Two days later, after being "sold" on the general academic functions of the Academy, these same Michigan educators were brought back to reality by Col. William J. Love, in a briefing for the department of tactics.

He, too, made it sound simple: "We teach these men to kill."

It recalled an earlier statement by Col. Whiteener: "There are approximately 28,000 high schools in America and from them we want 1,250 highly motivated young men a year. We want them to make a career of the Army."

One June 5, the academy will graduate 705 first classmen (seniors) who remain from the 997 plebes who were introduced to "beast barracks" four years ago.

Through the years, it has been found that about 30 per cent of those who are accepted for West Point simply can't cut it.

Currently there are 29 cadets at West Point, from a total enrollment of nearly 4,000 from Michigan. None is from Observant.

UNDER PRESENT REGULATIONS, a boy who is accepted for appointment as a cadet is making a nine-year commitment. These include four full years at West Point, followed by a five-year assignment with the regular Army. When graduated, he has the rank of second lieutenant.

Classroom brilliance, with a leaning toward mathematics, science and engineering, carries a 60 per cent value in rating each applicant for admission. Leadership qualities are valued at 30 per cent, and physical aptitude 10 per cent. Heartfelt motivation toward a military career is left to prove itself, John Woodruff of the Admissions Department stated.

This was a part of the route Michigan's educators were taken on their behind-the-scenes tour.

**MAY**

<b>MONDAY</b> <b>20</b>	SEE DISPLAY OF ANTIQUE CARS IN MALL - all makes, and models
<b>TUESDAY</b> <b>21</b>	LADIES DAY, free movie, coffee, prizes - coffee at 9:30 a.m. in Cinema 1. WEIGHT WATCHERS in Community Room 12:15. SQUARE DANCING in Community Room, 8 p.m.
<b>WEDNESDAY</b> <b>22</b>	COLONIAL SENIOR CITIZENS in Community Room. SEE ANTIQUE CARS IN MALL all week - Way back to 1909 model.
<b>THURSDAY</b> <b>23</b>	SEE 1915 MODEL T TOURING in Mall - 36 ANTIQUE CARS ON DISPLAY
<b>FRIDAY</b> <b>24</b>	HOW ABOUT A 1925 RENAULT? See Antique Cars Display through Saturday.
<b>SATURDAY</b> <b>25</b>	COIN CLUB in Community Room from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. AUCTION at 4 p.m.

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BEFORE LITTLE BIG HORN — Cadet Michael Hoen of Dearborn Heights tells Bentley High School's Patricia Prescott of the glories of a one-time Academy predecessor, Gen. George A. Custer.