

Amherstburg News

A Newsletter for DC-SL Operations personnel

Volume No. 18 - No. 2

July 8, 1977

PLANT MANAGER'S REPORT

Starting next week July 11th our Plant will be closed down for two weeks for vacation purposes. The only activities planned are the Maintenance program for the General Maintenance group and the annual overhaul of the Power House equipment. Several weeks of planning have been spent to make sure that the many jobs to be done are carried out during the short time available. It will be a busy time for the mechanics, stationary engineers and their helpers. Larry Delmore, who is in charge of the General Maintenance group, and our new Chief Stationary Engineer, Julian Dender, will experience their first major maintenance program during a plant shutdown and they are hoping to have two very productive weeks available to them. While the maintenance crew would like to have some relief from the hot humid weather we have experienced recently, we wish to all employees who will be off on vacation a wonderful time, plenty of sunshine and a few weeks of good rest and relaxation. We have a very busy Summer and Fall Bottling program ahead of us and now is a good time to enjoy a few weeks of Summer activities and replenish our energy for the months ahead.

On Tuesday, May 17th, we had four distinguished guests visiting the Plant: Mr. Charles Bronfman, Mr. Phil Beekman, the new President of the Seagram Company, Mr. Mel Griffin and Gabor Jellinek. They were on a week-long trip to visit all the Canadian Seagram plants to familiarize themselves, and in particular Mr. Beekman, with our operations. The executives were most pleased with the appearance and the performance of the plant. Our Bottleshop always makes a great impression on the visitors and it is a facility we can be proud of. Several photos were taken during their visit and the highlights are shown in the picture page at the back of this issue.

We have also included in this issue several pictures taken during the Long Service Award banquet of last March 12th, 1977. This turned out to be a very successful event. We were delighted to have as our special guests Mr. & Mrs. Mel Griffin, Mr. & Mrs. Len Babich and Mr. & Mrs. Doug Pashleigh. There were a record number of eighty-five recipients of their twenty year watches this time and 240 employees and their guests in attendance. We were able to provide the awardees a well deserved recognition for their long service to the Company.

PENSIONS

The retirees were notified of the Company's decision to increase existing pensions received from the Company pension plan commencing in June 1977. The increase will amount to 10% of the normal retirement pension or widow's benefits subject to a minimum of \$10.00 and a maximum of \$50.00 per month. Eligible recipients are all retirees who retired before 1977 except for those employees who retired on or after February 1, 1976 under the new Employee Pension Plan. The last such increase to pensions occurred in June 1975.

SAFETY

We were pleased with the excellent safety performance in the plant this year so far. We had almost completed six months without a Lost Time Accident when unfortunately our enviable record was broken by an accident in the Maintenance department resulting in a loss of one day. We hope that this will not cause a repeat of our performance in 1975 when we incurred several lost time accidents after a similar accident-free period earlier in the year. The members of the Safety committee hope that this good performance so far is not an accident but the result of a greater awareness on the part of all employees to the safety rules in the Plant. The Safety Committee inspects every department each month and their recommendations are getting immediate attention should a serious hazard exist. Safe working habits are even more important to prevent accidents and when you are being reminded by your Supervisor or Department Head regarding a safety rule, accept it as good advice. To promote safety, we have installed a Safety Performance board in the Guard House above the time clock. We have also introduced a safety draw which provides three prizes for each quarter (three months) without a lost time accident. Recently we had decided to add one prize for each accident free month between quarters. At the last safety meeting in June, two more prizes were drawn and the winners were Mrs. Diane Foreman and Alphonse Meloche, who each received a 5 lb. ABC Fire Extinguisher representing the prizes for the months of April and May. We hope that our performance in the remaining six months will be as good as in the first half of the year, which would mean a significant improvement over 1976. Let's all work together and make the Amherstburg Plant the safest plant in the Seagram organization.

RETIREES

The revised pension benefits, coupled with possibly a slight feeling of Spring Fever made several of our long service employees decide to go in retirement. Since February 1st, 1977, the following employees have retired: Jim Coyle, Edna Coyle, Anna Quick, Gord Scanlan, Frank Dufour, Gladys Taylor, Jake Tremblay, Sybil Munro, Freda Robinson, Evelyn Pillion, Berniece Deacon and Jim McBride. We were able to share a few moments of reminiscing with each of the retirees and we enjoyed the stories about this plant and the early days of the distilling industry.

We wish each of these new retirees a happy retirement and we hope that they will enjoy their new life style with happiness and in good health for many years to come.

PRODUCTION

In the last few months we have seen a much improved throughput in the Distillery. We have made some gradual changes in the cooking and mashing procedures by using more backset and cooking at 190°F instead of 212°F as before. Significant savings were obtained in the steam usage but these savings were slightly offset by higher cost of raw materials. Energy conservation has become an important part of our operation. We are now on a full base whisky production cycle which has resulted in an improved Dry House performance and an increase in total plant throughput. Arend Markies is continuing making small changes with the aim of up-grading our total plant performance and increasing the base whisky yield.

MATURING:

Much of the activities in this department is centered around blending operations. We are handling more bulk volumes received from other plants than ever before. Planning of the

whisky movements and the available tank space are very important to meet our bottling requirements in particular now our busy season has started. The new tank car and tank truck unloading facilities are used to capacity to handle the many shipments received from other plants. With the new overhead sprinkler system and the proper drainage facilities, tank car unloading has become a safer operation with regards to fire risk. The large tanks in the old Reliance building are going to be converted to new production holding tanks and allow us to allocate more tanks in the blending building for the V.O. blending operation.

BOTTLING:

We have had mostly a three line operation this Spring but from June on, we have been bottling with 4 lines to provide adequate stocks for a higher shipping volume in June and carry us over the shutdown period.

The Crown Royal shipments were also up in June and we have seen steady runs of Crown Royal production on both lines 3 and 4. As far as metrification is concerned, we have now changed over the V.O. Half-pint to 200 millilitre size while the fifths were converted to 750 ml several months ago. The most recent changes were the conversion of the V.O. half-gallon to a 1.75 litre and the conversion of the half-pint Crown Royal to a 200 ml size which has been in production this week for the first time. Although the changeovers to these new packages has been relatively smooth, we did experience at times some problems with the glass quality. The Bottling personnel must have noticed the frequent visits from the representatives of the glass companies who are working together with us in eliminating these difficulties. The employees who have seen the Xmas line in operation have noticed that the Company has decided to switch back with our new Xmas carton to a design similar to the 1975 package. We will bottle V.O. - 750 ml., V.O. quarts and V.O. Gallons in the 1977 Xmas Wrap Program. In this run, we can apply most of the experience we gained from 1975 and we hope it will be a very successful package both for production and customer acceptance.

MAINTENANCE & YARDS & GROUNDS

The yard gang has been busy this spring with cleanup of our grounds and improving the lawn. Two areas where the lawns were damaged beyond repair: the area in front of the Distillery and the Case Bond facing Sandwich Street were re-worked and re-sodded. Favourable weather conditions and regular grass cutting have provided a much improved condition of our lawns and has added to an overall improved appearance of the plant.

Stan Owen and Alphonse Meloche have carried out an extensive touch up painting program during the Spring. We plan to continue this program on an ongoing basis and gradually upgrade the entire plant appearance.

Preparations are under way as reported earlier for the maintenance work to be done during shutdown. Some of the major jobs to be done are the reshellings of one of the dryers, the dismantling, inspection and installation of new gaskets of the batch rectifier column and the installation of the overhauled dried grain press received from B.C. Julian Dender and his crew will inspect and clean all the equipment in the Boiler House as part of a maintenance program as they have only one chance in the year to properly open up and inspect the boilers and do the necessary repairs to make the unit run efficiently for the next 12 months.

RETIREEES

Calvert Retirees Club President Jack Jones advised us of a successful 76-77 program. Seven retirees along with 41 other senior citizens joined a travel group on May 11 & 12 and spent 2 full days at Niagara Falls staying at the Sheraton-Brock Hotel. They also had a chance to visit the Welland Locks at St. Catharines. Jack indicates that these trips are held monthly. The last one which was a mystery trip, turned out to be a bus drive up the Canadian side to Sarnia, across the Blue Water Bridge to Port Huron and along the American side to Detroit and then back to Windsor.

Mrs. Bernie Ong a member of a vocal group "The Sweethearts of the Golden Age Club", tells us that in the last week of June, being Senior Citizens Week, they sang at the Devonshire Mall. Bernie reports that this was a tremendous success.

CALVERT FAST BALL LEAGUE

Bob Sinasac Sr recalls that up to 1952, Calvert had a good fast ball team. However, over the years, interest died down and it was only recently re-activated. Joe Beneteau and a friend Don Dalpee from Windsor, got together and attended meetings in Windsor to try and enter a local team in the Greater Windsor Fast Ball League. After getting the O.K. and being awarded "a franchise", Joe approached management who provided uniforms for the team - Calvert's colours Navy Blue and Gold. Appointee/volunteer Bob Sinasac Sr., manages the team which is coached by Joe Beneteau and Don Dalpee,

The team is now in first place with 15 wins and 1 loss. They play a 27 game schedule, twice a week - Tuesdays in Windsor at 6:00 p.m. and Friday at 8:00 p.m. under the lights at Centennial Park in Amherstburg.

Other teams of note in the League, are sponsored by the Westwood & Wellington Taverns and Hiram Walker. Calvert will be entering the O.A.S.A. playdowns sometime in July. Players from Calverts are Bob Sinasac Sr., Glen Murray, Gerry Lucier, Joe Beneteau, Leslie Sprague, Mike Purdie and Brian Sprague Jr. and the rest of the team is made up of friends from Windsor and Amherstburg.

AMHERSTBURG-WATERLOO GOLF TOURNAMENT

The first leg of the Amherstburg-Waterloo Golf Tournament was played at the Roseland Golf Course on Saturday July 2nd with a dinner afterwards at the Anderdon Tavern in Amherstburg. The weather was excellent and Golf League President Guard John White reports everyone had a terrific time.

Top prize winners were:	Low Gross - 81 Al Betts, Waterloo
	83 Brian Sprague Jr., Amherstburg
	Low Net - 72 Wayne Hannusch, Waterloo
	72 Leslie Sprague, Amherstburg
Nearest to pin-1st 9	- Duncan McIntyre, Amherstburg
2nd 9	Bill Finlay, "
Longest drive	- John Gordon, Waterloo

There were 16 golfers from Waterloo and 31 from Amherstburg. All the golfers are looking forward to the return play in Waterloo on August 27th.

CANOE RACES

Brian Ferguson from the Yards & Grounds Crew, an ardent canoeist, reports an interesting race from Turkey Creek in LaSalle to Callam's Bay (South of the new Bob-Lo Ferry dock). There were over 100 participants and approximately 40 canoes including three 16 seater Montreal canoes and two 8 seater Northern canoes manned by local service clubs. These canoes are replicas of the old canoes used in the fur trading days.

Brian was also enthusiastic about the canoe race from Lake St. Clair to the Ambassador bridge on July 2nd as part of the International Freedom Festival. Brian and his pal Dick Malott came first in the "men's open".

BOWLING

Calvert's Bowling League wind up of the 1976-77 bowling season turned out to be a very pleasant & enjoyable evening on Friday May 27th at the K of C Hall. After a good meal, outgoing President Doug Goodwin, assisted by Mae Stocker presided over the award presentations to the bowlers.

Elections for the September/77 to May/78 season was chaired by Parker Odette. The new elected committee are:

President -	Mrs. Judy Reaume
V. Pres. -	Mrs. Claire Bertrand
Secretary -	Mrs. Mae Stocker
Treasurer -	Mrs. Doreen Goodwin

All bowlers are looking for the usual well attended and supported season.

Prizes for the season were as follows:

1st place team	The Pints
Men's High average	V. Bouchard 176
Women's High average	Judy Reaume 159
High Triple - Team	Pints 2497
Men	V. Bouchard 652
Women	Nikki Bondy 552
High Single Team	Crown Royal 875
Men	V. Bouchard 256
Women	Terry Beaudoin 223

"HAM" RADIO OPERATORS CONVENTION

Amateur Radio/Yeasting and Fermenting Operator Dave Beckett is a "Ham" of long standing. He attended the 26th Hamvention in Dayton Ohio on April 29th. Dave reports a very successful meeting at which 20,000 amateur radio operators attended. He says that in Dayton (a city the size of London) with an influx of 20,000 "hams" for three days had its complications. Everyone had to stand in line for all three meals, etc., etc!!! One of the highlights of the gathering was a flea market where new and used equipment as well as manufacturer's items were on sale. A unique sight at the meet was one van outfitted with 11 antennas - for receiving and transmitting to every part of the world.

FLINT-LOCKS & BLACK POWDER

Programmer Operator Bob Sinasac Jr. is certainly an enthusiast on flint-locks and long rifles. He informs us that there is now a growing interest in this antique method of marksmanship and hunting. Bob specializes in .45 calibre percussion long rifles and makes his own ammunition. He and his wife Ann, also an enthusiast and participant, will be attending the National Convention in Friendship, Indiana the week of July 18th. Afterwards they will travel around the areas to purchase "locks, stocks and barrels" to assemble new units on their return home. Bob says that the blank stock comes in 4 x 4 and he carves them to the style and type to fit the complete rifle.

Bob has quite a workshop in his basement and he is trying to get people in the area interested in this sport. He has lots of books and pamphlets and advice. Anyone wishing information can contact him at 736-2562.

PERSONAL

Our condolences to:

Bottling Operator Tom Renaud on the death of his wife Jean on March 29th. Jean worked in the Bottling for 18 years until she had to leave because of illness in 1972.

Retiree Evelyn Pillon on the death of her father Joseph (Duffy) Pillon on March 31st.

Mrs. Mae Stocker and Mrs. Mary Jaber and families on the death of their mother, Mrs. Mary Beetham on April 19th.

② Case Bond leadhand Leo Deslippe and his wife Doris on the death of their son Michael Bradley on May 15th.

Bottling Operator Gene Chikaz on the death of his father Steve Csikasz on May 29th.

Congratulations to:

Dan Lacey of Bottling and his wife Peggy on the birth of their first child Liberty Ann.

Mike Purdie of Bottling and his wife Suzanne on the birth of their first child Michael Paul.

Noel Witherell, Office Supervisor and his wife Pam on the birth of their second daughter Lily Vale.

Doug Goodwin on his being elected President of the Essex County Fire Services. This includes all fire departments in the County. Fire Chiefs in the area meet every other month to discuss training programs and other associated items.

General Maintenance Mechanic Gerry Lucier who was the first to successfully complete our Millwright Apprentice program which was started in 1974. (Sorry Gerry that picture we took of you & Mr. Murray (from the Dept. of Colleges & Universities) presenting you your certificate just didn't come out properly.)

Maturing Coordinator Jack Forristal on starting his 37th year with the company on July 7th.

WELCOME TO:

Our new Chief Stationary Engineer Julian Dender
Our new P.M.C.'s who joined the company recently:

Randy Head & Joe Hobson	- Bottling
Richard Giel	- Distillery
Nik Rozgaj	- Bottling Maintenance
Distillery Lab Technician Rick Eagen	
Summer Students: Kathy Duffy	- Distillery Lab
Calvin Matte & Brenda Shepley	- Maturing
Tracy Shepherd	- Office Admin

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO:

July 4 - Randy Head	July 12 - Brenda Shepley	July 20 - Ernie Meloche
5 - Jack Sherlock	14 - Ron Nedin	Paul Jaber
Tracy Shepherd	- Bert Beneteau	July 21 - Dave Beckett
7 - Jackie Deslippe	15 - Lorna Beaudoin	Kathy Neumiller
8 - Norman Renaud	- Joe Schiefer	22 - Marcel Renaud
9 - Gord Freeman	16 - Gerald Drouillard	24 - Gene Beaudoin
10 - Shirley Paquette	J. Forristal	28 - Rich Eagen
- Betty Lou Beaudoin	17 - Veril Bratt	30 - Garnet Deneau
- Dorothy Ferris	Kent Wagle	31 - "Buck" Bondy
11 - Stella Masse	20 - June Couch	Aug. 3 - Mary Whittal
		- Brad Bailey

GET WELL WISHES TO:

David Beckett	Mary Jaber	Jean Renaud
Anne Beneteau	Mary Lou Levack	Don Ridsdale
Margaret Carriere	Verda Malenfant	Len Robinet
Marie Cote	Loretta Nelson	Nora Sautter
June Couch	Rita Overgaauw	Eva Tenay
Art Hatch	Mike Purdie	Shirley Vance
Pearl Hutchinson	Barry Renaud	

HERE COMES THE TORNADO SEASON AGAIN!

Here's how to detect a tornado:

- 1) Turn on your television set and let it warm up
- 2) Then turn to channel 13. Using the brightness control, darken the screen so it is almost black.
- 3) Turn to channel 2. Leave set alone. Do not reset brightness after the initial adjustment.
- 4) Lightning appears on the screen as horizontal flashes or streaks.
- 5) If the screen becomes bright or the darkened picture becomes visible and remains continuously visible, this is the signal of a tornado within 20 miles or less.
- 6) Take Shelter immediately. Turn off your TV set and move to a safe place.

HERE COMES THE TORNADO SEASON AGAIN!

Because electrical power may be interrupted, augment your TV warning system with a battery operated transistor radio. Here's how this works: -

- 1) Set the radio alongside your television set.
- 2) Turn the radio to the low end of the dial (about 550 kilocycles)
- 3) Lightning makes intermittent static on the radio.
- 4) A tornado is coming when the radio makes continuous static.

MAY EVERYONE ENJOY A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER VACATION!



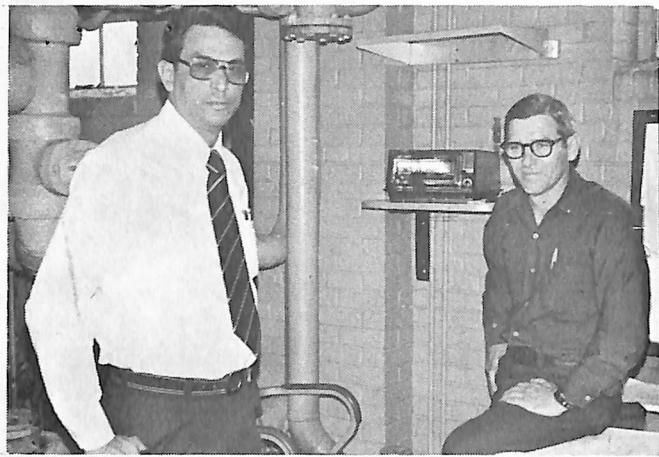
1975-76-77 Twenty Year Award Recipients

Cleary Auditorium

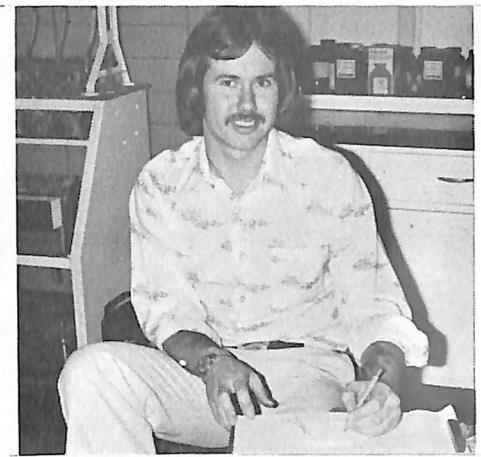
March 12, 1977

SCENES FROM 1975-76-77 TWENTY YEAR AWARD DINNER - MARCH 12, 1977

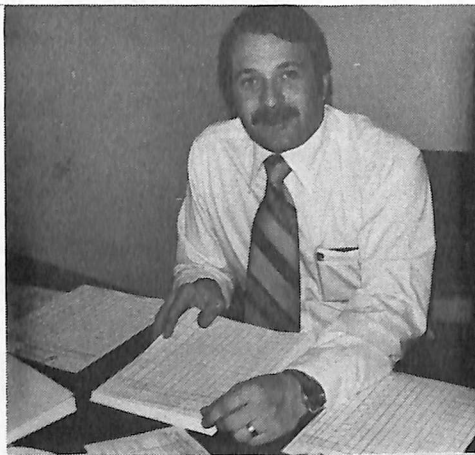




Left -
New Chief Stationary
Engineer Julian Dender
& George Deutschlander



Right -
Rick Eagen, new Lab
Technician



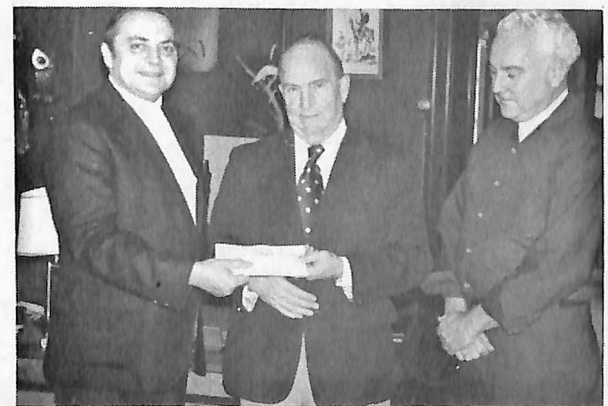
Left -
John Moreland, new
Admin. Assistant



Right -
Gerold Finlay, new
2nd Class Stationary
Engineer



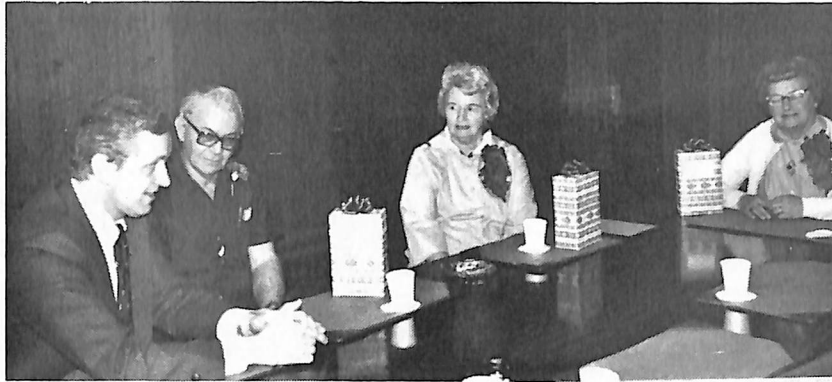
Left -
Alice Dufour &
her Panda Choco-
late cake raffled
off for charity



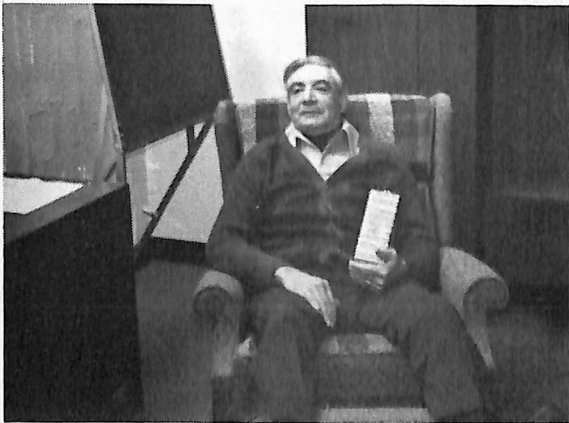
Above - Presentation of \$5,025.00 donation
by the Company to the House of
Shalom as part of our Matching
Donation policy - L. to R.
Father Ware, F. Lacey &
G. Nicholson



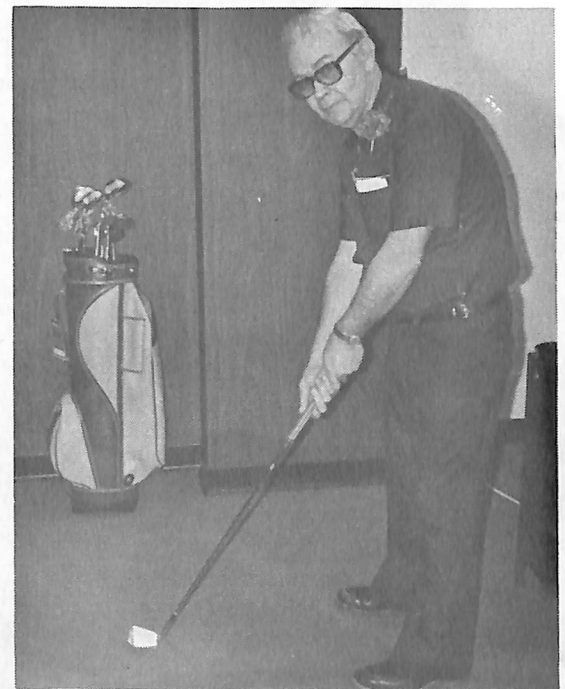
Left -
Fire Watch Bill Laing with his new
"wheels".



Recent retirees talking with Mr. Breshamer on their last day at work - from left to right
Jim Coyle, Edna Coyle, Anna Quick



Frank Dufour relaxing in his new Lazy Boy chair



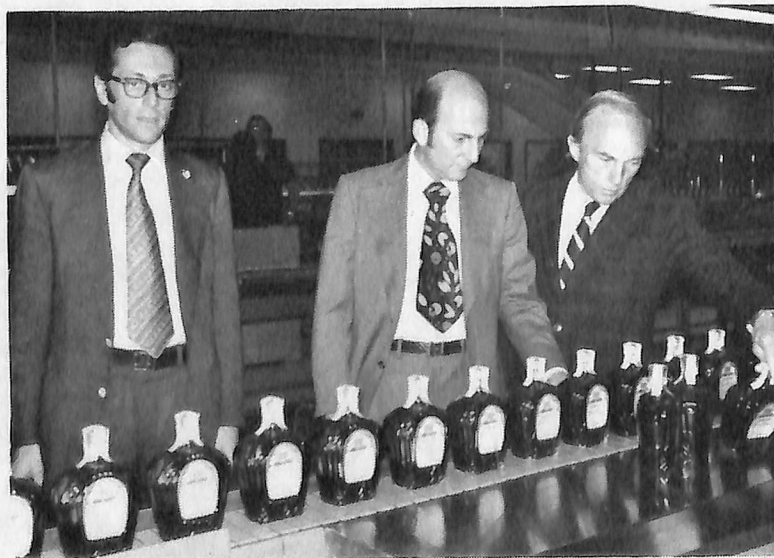
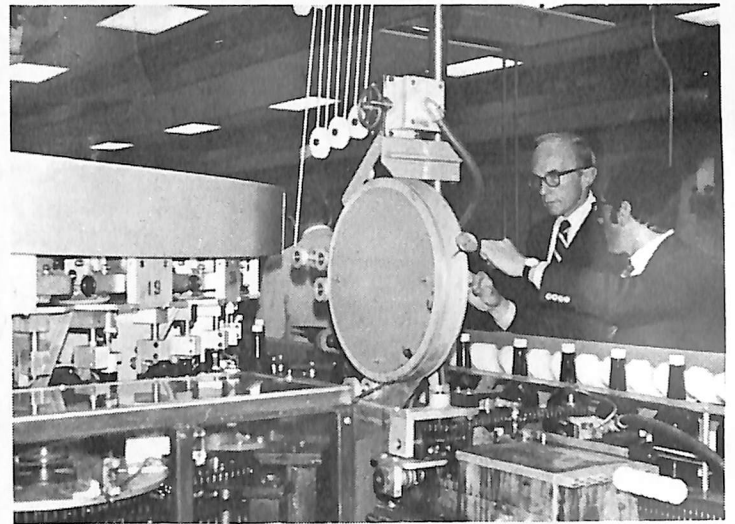
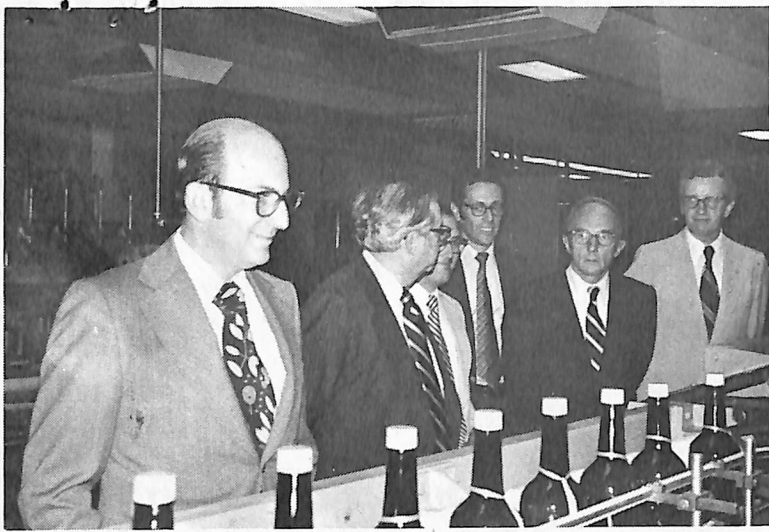
Jim Coyle practicing his golf swing with new set of clubs



Gladys Taylor admiring her new jewellery



Gord Scanlan "unveiling" his new Lazy Boy chair



EXECUTIVE VISIT - MAY 17TH, 1976