# Started in Omaha, Carpenter Paper Business Thrives

## Company Has Had A Long Record of Service To Middle West

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as early as 1903 by traveling salesmen, but Carpenter did not get a real foothold in California until 1917 when P. C. Holland, an experienced paper man, sold out his interest in an established house and became the Carpenter representative. He built up the business steadily, and incorporation of the Carpenter Paper Co., of California was effected in 1931 with Holland as vice-president and manager.

**Into North Texas**

Since then there have been acquistions of other competitive houses; the senior Holland has died and his son, Kenneth, is now vice-president and manager of the Carpenter west coast interests.

Latest major acquisition of the Carpenter domain has been in north Texas. The firm was well established in south Texas as early as 1913, but not until 1935 did it get into the Dallas-Fort Worth area in earnest. In June of that year it bought out a competing organization, the Tayloe Paper Co., of Memphis. The Tayloe brothers, incidentally, began their paper career in Omaha in 1903, but soon moved over to Tennessee and their paths did not cross with the Carpenters again until the north Texas deal was started.

**All in One Company**

The Carpenter Paper Co., of Texas was organized with headquarters in Fort Worth, and since then additional warehouses have been established in Lubbock and Dallas.

In 1937 all of the assets of the 14 subsidiary companies were liquidated into one organization, the Carpenter Paper Co. Thus, the Carpenter empire now extends through 17 states west of the Mississippi river and serves this vast territory with warehouse stocks of merchandise in Omaha, Kansas City, Oklahoma City, San Antonio, Fort Worth, Dallas, Denver, Salt Lake City, Los Angeles, Lincoln, Billings, Great Falls, Grand Island, Sioux City, Des Moines, Harlington, Austin, Ogden, Pocatello, Topeka, Lubbock, Pueblo and Albuquerque.

While policy and central management is settled at Omaha, each subsidiary has a local operating staff which identifies itself closely with local interests. Each company personnel takes an active part in civic and community affairs; each branch supports local projects and builds itself into the life of the territory from which it obtains its trade. Purchases for each office are made locally so far as this is possible.

**Moser Active in City**

In Oklahoma City, for example, Ralph R. Moser, the manager, has been one of the most active workers in the chamber of commerce. He has been a director, chairman of numerous committees, and a reliable workman in the ranks whenever help was needed. Moreover, he has been active in Rotary and has served as president of both the Oklahoma City Wholesalers and Manufacturers association and of the Oklahoma Paper Merchants association.

This civic activity is typical of the Carpenter organization everywhere. Company executives are encouraged to give time and effort to worthwhile civic endeavor. The various branches carry their share of the financial obligations arising from community funds, chambers of commerce, etc.

**Young Men Are Trained**

Each year a carefully chosen group of young men is brought into the organization and started on a rigid training regime which eventually will fit them for the executive positions of the future. The company has through this system now built up a reservoir of potential executive talent from which it can draw its future managers as time requires.

All the present executives of the company have come up through the ranks and have long service records with Carpenter.

**J. A. CARPENTER,** chairman of the board, has been active in the paper business for almost three decades. He was born on a farm in Marengo, Ill., and started selling papers on the streets of Chicago in June, 1884. He drove a horse and wagon all over the south side and built up a steady business for those days. In February, 1887, he gave up his Chicago business and moved out to Omaha where his brothers already had laid the foundations of the Carpenter company. He served as city salesman in Omaha until February, 1902, when he was sent to Kansas City to take charge of the subsidiary Kansas City Paper House. He retained this connection until December, 1925—when his elder brother, Isaac died. J. A. succeeded Isaac as head of all the Carpenter interests and when the Carpenter Paper Corp., was formed in 1930 he became its president. He was named chairman of the board in April, 1936—the position he still holds.

**I. W. CARPENTER JR.,** is president. From his Omaha headquarters he directs the merchandising and operating activities of the entire Carpenter group. He came into the paper business in 1916 as a city salesman and became active in the manufacturing and merchandising departments. He soon was made manager of the Federal Envelope Manufacturing company, one of the Carpenter subsidiaries. He continued his merchandising and sales work in the fine paper department and in 1926 became vice-president of Carpenter Paper Co. of Nebraska. In 1930 when the Carpenter Paper corporation was formed he was elected first vice-president and later, in 1936 became its president.

**H. F. FIELD,** first vice-president and treasurer, is responsible for the finances of the company. He joined the Carpenter organization at Omaha in 1892, and soon became cashier of the Omaha office. He later traveled the northwest territory as salesman, and in 1902 went to Knasas City as treasurer of the Kansas City Paper House, at the time it was acquired by the Carpenters. In 1930 he was made a vice-president and treasurer of the Carpenter Paper corporation, and in 1937 was elected first vice-president and treasurer of the Carpenter Paper company.

**G. E. CARPENTER,** vice-president, started with the company in 1905 as city salesman. Later he broadened his experience by selling in the important country territories of Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska. In 1925 he was elected vice-president and appointed country sales manager. He is now in charge of the Montana operations and is on the general office merchandise staff at Omaha.

The executive committee consists of James A. Carpenter, chairman; I. W. Carpenter jr., H. F. Field and G. E. Carpenter. These four are on the board of directors as are Charles E. Schoff, vice-president, of San Antonio, A. P. Spitko, vice-president, Salt Lake City, and C. Y. Offutt of Omaha.

The officers of the company, in addition to those mentioned above are:

R. R. Moser, vice-president, Oklahoma City, Okla.

D. A. Hoadley, vice-president, Omaha, Nebr.

K. C. Holland, vice-president, Los Angeles, Calif.

H. C. Carpenter, vice-president, Billings, Mont.

Wm. J. Madden, vice-president in charge of operations.

H. D. Tohmpson, vice-president.

C. Y. Offutt, secretary.

## Papyrus Gives Name To Modern Product

Paper takes its name from "papyrus," a bullrush found on the banks of the Nile and from which the ancient Egyptians made the first writing material that assumed the property of the substance we know as paper.

# Historical Papers Sold as Waste

Faced with the problem of bringing order into an accumulation of half a million uncatalogued historical documents and propaganda leaflets, some dating from the seventeenth century, the keeper of the archives at Tomsk, Siberia, solved it by selling them as waste paper. He brought down official wrath on his head.

Those that were blank on one side were sold as writing paper, of which there was a chronic shortage. Soon after, the village Soviet's collective farm managers and others were astounded to receive letters of introduction on the backs of which were appeals for restoration of the czar.

Paper is reported to have been employed as a substitute for the animal tissue used in casing sausages.

# Rolls of Papyrus Preserved in Tomb

## Durable Paper Found With Records Intact

Egypt's glory is a thing of the past and many precious secrets pertaining to her arts and manufacture lie buried deep beneath the dust of ages.

One apparently fragile substance has survived for centuries—the inexorable finger of time has touched lightly the rolls of papyrus which have been unearthed from Egyptian tombs.

The papyrus plant is a kind of weed which grows along the banks of the Nile. "Papa" is the Egyptian name for reed, and from this, the word paper is derived.

## 'Bootlegged' Watermarks

In 1760 the British placed a heavy tax on colonial paper. In order to avoid this stamp tax some Pennsylvania paper makers were accused of having "bootlegged" English water marks, which they used in their American-made papers.

# Rag Pulp Made By Cooking Old Cloth

## Careful Salvaging Is Used in Mills

Rag pulp for paper is made by cooking the rags in chemicals to separate the fiber from fatty and starchy matter. The dirt is drained off and the pulp carefully washed for several hours, after which it is bleached, rewashed and refined in the beater.

The raw material may be obtained direct from textile mill ends or bales of unsorted dirty rags from collectors. They first are thrashed to remove dust, then sorted and all buttons, hooks, buckles, et cetera, cut off before being reduced to pulp.

## Papers Attack Crime

Every hour, night and day, detectives in large cities watch the newsstands that sell "out of town" newspapers. Missing men from everywhere, drawn by the irresistible lure of their hometown papers, invariably drift to these stands.


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