

Mead Johnson of Canada Ltd

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Mead Johnson

New Expansion Cost \$1,600,000

The 55,000 sq. ft. expansion of the Mead Johnson plant in Belleville was officially opened yesterday by Dr. J. Russell Scott and D. Mead Johnson, president of the company.

The plant is extending its production into a new field — the processing of sterilized milk products, which necessitated the \$1,600,000 expenditure.

Although only 18,000 sq. ft. of the new space is being used for actual manufacturing one half of the total cost was spent on obtaining specialized equip-

ment such as giant sterilizers.

The remainder of the new space is being used for storage and shipping of products such as Metrecal and Enfalac. Although competitive products are manufactured in a few other plants in Canada the Belleville location does have a unique product.

Beniflex, which is a new feeding system for hospitals, is in use at Belleville General Hospital as well as many others across Canada. It is not for home use, however, since special equipment is needed

to administer the product.

Although the official opening was held yesterday the new area of the plant has been producing since January. It went into full scale production in April.

Construction on the expansion was started in November of 1966 by the Mollenhauer Construction Company Ltd. of Toronto.

The expansion also necessitated hiring 16 new employees at the plant, which employs 160 people at the present time. The new section is staffed mainly by people transferred

from other parts of the plant.

With 270 products marketed in 105 countries and manufactured in 11 — Mead Johnson has grown by leaps and bounds since 1953 when it was mainly a North American corporation.

A plant was established in Belleville in 1925 and has been expanding ever since.

Gerald Wishart, vice-president of manufacturing, said that "there is already talk about the next expansion which could come in a mere three years."

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...Quest for Excellence: President

The official ribbon cutting ceremony at Mead Johnson yesterday was followed by a plant tour and a luncheon at the Hotel Quinte.

D. Mead Johnson, president of the corporation, was introduced to representatives of the city and Belleville businessmen by David Menzie,

chairman of the board of Mead Johnson Canada Ltd.

The president's concise remarks emphasized the company's strong connection with Canada and especially with Belleville where over 60 per cent of the company's Canadian employees live and work.

"We dedicate more than enlarged facility," Mr. Johnson said, referring to "a chaotic world" where true human qualities such as loyalty, justice and courage are constantly evidenced by progress and achievement.

"The quest for excellence renews our dedication to our

fellow man," Mr. Johnson concluded. He thanked Mayor J. Russell Scott and city of Belleville for their friendly support of Mead Johnson's enterprise here.

After George Hume, chairman of Belleville's Industrial Commission, thanked Mr. Johnson for his remarks, Gerald Wishart presented the mayor with the scissors he had used to cut the ribbon at the new facilities.

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