

New product promises to revolutionize insulation



Alfred Neumann demonstrates how his revolutionary product is attached to a strapping. Mr. Neumann plans to show his products at the Kitchener Home Show and also at the Toronto Home Show.

By GEORGE EVASHYK
Herald staff writer

If Alfred Neumann of Georgetown had started up his company five years ago, "I would have fallen flat on my face," he says. But now, with rising prices for energy, the outlook looks warm and rosy.

Mr. Neumann, 47, is the founder of Condecor Products Ltd., the only firm of its kind in North America. It supplies a building material which combines insulation and decoration in one simple process and is designed for the do-it-yourselfer or the tradesman.

"We can apply our system to the inside, or outside of a building, above or below ground and even on a damp surface," he told The Herald in a recent interview.

The product is a 14 by 32 inch tongue and grooved, prefabricated panel of a fire retardant material, urethane and a decorative finish, all bonded together.

Each component of the panel is flexible in that either the fire retardant section, the thickness of the urethane and the thickness and design of the decorative finish can all be varied to suit the individual application.

The heart of the panel is of course, the urethane. A thickness of 1 1/4 inches provides an insulation factor of between R 11 and R 13.5. Three inches of urethane will give between R 22 and R 25 and more insulation can be used for a R factor of 40.

Mr. Neumann said the original concept for the product was developed in Europe in 1968. He holds several patents for his specific designs.

There are practically no restrictions on application of the product, he said. It is flexible enough to meet the building code requirements of any municipality. As well, installation and manufacture of the product is simple and workers can be trained easily in a short time.

"It helps you to save energy and gives you a better house," he says. He estimated that about 6,000 square feet can be heated with the same amount of energy needed to heat 1,200 square feet of building that doesn't have the product.

In winter, Mr. Neumann says, the cold is "stopped dead" and in hot body heat actually warms the room.

Condecor Products has ap-

plied its insulation to a house in Speyside. Two men worked ten days, installing between 50 to 80 panels daily, but as the crews become more familiar with the product, that time can be reduced.

Mr. Neumann says the cost of his product is competitive with other firms offering insulation although his panels are different in concept and require less steps to install.

In the next five years, Mr. Neumann expects to see the company expand across Canada. The heat office and research and development, however, will stay in Georgetown, he says.

Mr. Neumann describes himself as an entrepreneur.

"All my life I've been looking for a challenge," Condecor Products Ltd. "is a chance of a lifetime."

But besides his revolutionary product is another concept of labor-management relations. Mr. Neumann believes that harmony is the key ingredient in success of the venture.

Day this week in his company is that the employees receive bonuses which are calculated for each month. When the company is profitable, they have bonuses for the year. "If you don't have a bonus, you don't have a job," he says. "I don't think the world would be different."

TWO REJECT PAY HIKE

A second councillor at Halton Region council has decided to refuse the 5.4 per cent pay increase.

Hurlington mayor Mary Munro has joined fellow Coun. Ben Ciprietti in rejecting the \$186 increase which will be added to the \$8,995 regional councillors now receive.

Mr. Ciprietti said councillors salaries are not justified for the amount of work they do. Salaries in private industry were once more lucrative than in public service, but that no longer is true, he said. "We receive automatic increases and I don't agree with that."

Hilton Coun. James Watson, who voted in favor of the increase, suggested that other councillors who voted against the increase should also return their stipend.

Immigrants in their own country, speaker says of Franco-Ontarians

By MAGGIE HANNAH
Herald staff writer

Franco-Ontarians feel like immigrants in their own country says the woman who founded La Chasse Galerie as a cultural and information centre in Toronto.

Speaking to the University Women's Club about the French dilemma Madeleine St. Cyr told her audience that there are 600,000 Francophones in Ontario and yet

there are no French institutions here to serve them.

If they want to learn English they have to pay for the lessons. This angers them, she says, because if they were immigrants they would receive this help free.

Madame St. Cyr says that immigrants are angry with the French because they see them as a minority who have been given rights not given to other minorities. Their lack of un-

derstanding of the background of Canadian history makes them bitter as to why French should be an official language when their own tongue is not accepted.

We should realize that neither the French or the English is the king of this country, she says. The Americans have the upper hand here and unless we are very careful our own immature culture will disappear.

Language is not the place to begin trying to communicate with each other, she says. She feels that learning more of each other's culture would improve our tolerance.

Language should be taught through the schools so that future generations will automatically be bilingual and the communication problem will resolve itself in a generation or two.

Mde. St. Cyr says that if

Quebec separates after the referendum many Franco-Ontarians will return to Quebec. She expects, in fact, that there will be more French Canadians from all over Canada returning to Quebec than Quebec anglophones leaving the province. If separation occurs she expects Canada to become unilingual.

Mde. St. Cyr blames the government for some of the lack of tolerance between

French and English here. They would rather give grants to a totally French community centre or school or whatever organization the French community chose to set up than help an organization aimed at exchanging information between the two cultures.

Her own effort in this direction, La Chasse Galerie in Toronto, was refused grants and had to close a year ago because of lack of funds. It will re-open next year, she says.

Mde. St. Cyr feels that Quebec Bill 101 will hurt immigrants more than established Anglophones. She offered no comment when one member of the audience got up and told how she had to leave Quebec because even three years ago she could no longer work there as a nurse because she was not bilingual.

The lady who did not give her name, said that she had been born and raised in the province.



DEBUT

The five members of a new band in town, Dolly Varden Revue, gave their first performance Saturday at St. George's Anglican Church Hall. With a name like Dolly Varden, you'd expect a female in the band; however, Dolly Varden is the name of a former community on the CNR

line through Halton Hills. Members of the band are Ed Cherwonak, organ; Bruce Herd, lead guitar; Ken Merkley, drums; Ken Middaugh, bass; and John McDonald, lead vocals.

Correction

There were three names spelled wrong in a report in last week's Herald on the Peacock-Castle wedding. The correct name of the bride's father is Orval Peacock. The correct name of a special guest at the wedding held Nov. 5 at Norval United Church, is Karen Merton of New Brunswick. And one of the showers held for the bride was by her friend, Brenda Davison. The Herald regrets the errors.

First Treaty

The United States signed its first Indian treaty on September 17, 1778 with the Delaware Indians.

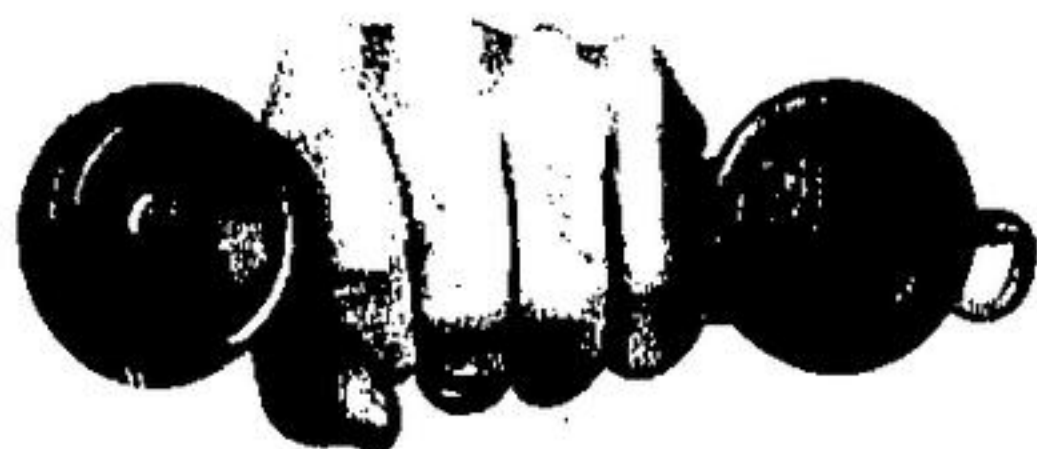
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