



The BAKELITE/Union Carbide World 1909-1940

As Reported by the BB Site Tabloid, "The Trefoil"

manufacture of cast resins was discontinued two years ago. Bakelite Gesellschaft is in constant contact with its foreign associated companies, particularly with Bakelite Corporation, New York, for an exchange of experience gathered and progress made.

Organization - The board of directors of Bakelite Gesellschaft includes four men who are directors of Bakelite Corporation, New York.

Looking into the future, it is to be expected that with its numerous products, Bakelite Gesellschaft will remain a substantial factor in the economic life of Germany and in German exports to countries where Bakelite plants do not exist.

January 1937

Bakelite Corporation of Canada Limited

When Dr. Baekeland was granted his patents in 1909, there was in Toronto a partnership between Dr. Vandelinde, eminent rubber chemist, and Dr. Cohoe, Professor of Chemistry at McMaster University. They operated a company called "Chemical Laboratories Limited" to produce fine chemicals. They secured a license to produce resins from Dr. Baekeland and built a plant on Van Horne Street. This new plant, under the name "Plastics Limited", produced at first the old "Solid A" soda catalyzed resins from which they made only asbestos-filled molding compounds. Later, they produced the No. 1 varnishes and undertook coil impregnating in addition to the molding operations which had been practiced from the beginning.

On The Move - Bakelite production continued on the Van Horne Street property from 1910 to 1916, when the plant was moved to Junction Road and Weston Road. During this period (1911-1915) Mr. Harry P. Mills came with the company. He was later associated with the Bakelite Corporation in Europe. After about one year's operation in the last named location, Plastics Limited was moved to Weston, Ontario, where it was housed with the Vandelinde Rubber Company. About this time, probably in an effort to increase business or to forget past errors, the name of the business was changed to "Electrical Hard Moulding Company Limited". This title persisted from 1918 until the beginning of 1920. In June 1919, W.M. Davidson—the present Manager—and his associate, J.B. Rathbun, had taken over the company and on November 1 of the same year, T.B. Jones, the Mechanical Superintendent, joined the organization.

Under the new management the plant was moved to Mount Dennis and production of varnishes and resins continued as formerly. The stillroom foreman and chief (and only) operator, George Wort, trusted firmly in the deity which watches over the destiny of all resins makers, and turned out of his ten-gallon still any required amount of whatever was needful. By following a fixed routine and holding his mouth in a certain way, somewhat more than half of the varnish was good. Early in 1920, Mr. Davidson arranged with the Cutler-Hammer Company of Milwaukee that the company should produce C-H cold mold compounds. The relatively large production of cold mold products, together