

SHORT RESUME OF THE HISTORY OF THE JELLO PLANT
CR. OF LEWIS ST. & NIAGARA BLVD. FORT ERIE.

by J.M. Daly. May 17, 72.

The building in question, now owned by the Strong Cob Arner Comp. of Canada Ltd., was formerly owned and I believe, built by The Genesee Pure Food Comp. of Leroy N.Y. around 1918.

The original plant was used in the manufacture of Jello deserts and puddings, and was built sometime between 1910 & 1920. It is a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ story building constructed mainly of cement. The first or main floor was used for offices, storage and packaging. The second floor contained the two mixing machines, where the Jello ingredients were mixed together. The mixtures were dropped down to the holding bins located above the packaging machines, there being a separate bin for each flavour. The third floor was the sugar room. The small basement room was used to house the coal fired steam boiler, which heated the building.

The Woodward family were the owners of the plant in the early days of it's operation, and continued as co- owner down through the years; and through the various changes of the ownership of the Company. Mr. Woodward was first manager, and Mr. Davis was the second. He lived with his wife and family in what was known as the Jello house, at the north cr. of Wintemute St. and the Niagara Blvd. The Plant Superintendent was Karl Brierley. When Mr. Davis was trnsfered to another branch of the company, Mr. Brierley became the General Manager.

Mr. Davis's secretary was Miss Margaret Daly, the sister of Mr. John Daly who is the current Alderman of Fort Erie. Miss Daly married Mr. Brierley in the late 1920's, and they took up residence in the Jello house. They lived there till his transfer to Montreal August 7, 1930. It is regretfully noted that Mr. Brierley passed away on May 4, 1972 in Leroy N.Y.; where they had settled down at # 1 south st. after his retirement some nine years before.

South of the foremen back in the 1920's which I can recall, are as follows:::

Mrs. Eva Fickel(nee Sprental)

Mrs. May Young

Mr. Lyle Alexander

Mr. John Hall

May Wale. Alice Coulthurst: Ruby Hanes: ___Tatford: Bertha
Goulding

Around 1927 the plant was sold to the Arner Cpmpany of Buffalo N.Y., who were manufacturers of Pharmaceutical products. During the ensuing years the Arner Company merged with the Strong Cob Company to become The Strong Cob Arner Compnay of Canada Ltd. Since 1959 it is controlled by the International Chemical Nuclear Corporation of Pasadena California . At the present time Mr. W.J. Harlow is the Vice Presidnet and General Manager. He took over from the former manager Bazil Keavey. Several additions have been added to the original building to accomodate the phenominal increase in the Company's business.

Jon M. Daly.