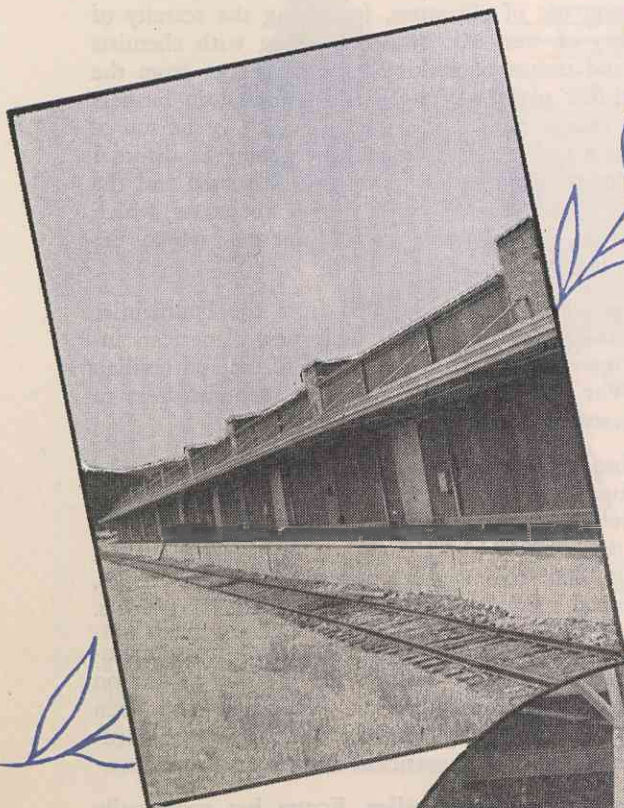


FIBRE WAREHOUSE



The fibres of the seed flax plant, raw material for the world's finest cigarette paper, are separated from the flax stalk by a decorticating process in mills in California and Minnesota. These fibres are packed in bales of approximately 140 pounds each, and shipped to Pisgah Forest for storage in Ecusta's 34 large warehouses.

Over a year's supply of fibre is maintained at all times for use in the manufacturing processes. As needed, the bales are carried by an elaborate conveyor system to the digesters in the Pulp Mill. Due to climatic conditions, the Minnesota fibre is much darker than the cream-colored California fibre. These two are blended together to meld their characteristics.

