

**MR. GOEPFERT
RETIRING
JULY 1**



Mr. Otto Goepfert, Chief Engineer of Converting and Superintendent of Endless Belt, announced recently that he will retire from his duties at Ecusta on July 1 of this year.

Mr. Goepfert has been with Endless Belt since 1922 when the company was located on 40th Street in New York City. A short time after joining the company as Production Supervisor and Development Engineer he converted belt-weaving looms from a single to a multiple loom. This enabled one girl to operate two sections of the loom instead of only one. He also made several other revisions on the looms, one of which was the changing of the shuttle action thereby preventing a great amount of breakage of equipment and at the same time introducing a greater safety factor.

When Endless Belt Corporation was moved from New York to its present site at Ecusta in June 1939, Mr. Goepfert was made Chief Engineer of Champagne Paper Division as well as Superintendent of Endless Belt Corporation. His was the responsibility of all existing machinery and the designing and development of all the new machines in both Champagne and Endless Belt. He not only designed but supervised the construction of all the present machines in use in Endless Belt. These machines were constructed in the Champagne Machine Shop. Mr. Goepfert also served as Development Engineer for the manufacture of various types of cigarette paper booklets and machines and end papers used in home

permanent wave kits. To date, he holds approximately a dozen patents on various types of machinery.

Mr. Goepfert was born in Freiberg, Germany. He was educated in Germany and was employed in several European countries before coming to the United States in 1910 as Technical Representative of E. Leitz, Wetzlar Scientific Instrument Manufacturer of Germany. When the European War started there was no more importation of German instruments, forcing him to turn to other fields of work. After associations with various companies he became acquainted with Mr. Harry Straus in 1922 and subsequently joined Endless Belt Corporation.

During World War II, Mr. Goepfert developed a four-harness twill weave loom which required the use of cotton heddles. Cotton heddles soon became unobtainable due to European importation stoppage, so the idea was conceived of manufacturing cotton heddles here at Ecusta. Since the heddles were essential in the manufacture of belts the development of our own heddle machine preserved our wide-belt business.

Mr. Goepfert is married and has one son and two grandchildren. Soon after coming to Brevard in 1939, he built a home near Camp Straus where he and Mrs. Goepfert resided until early this year.

Mr. Goepfert expressed his regrets at having to leave his many friends at Ecusta but felt that he should act on the advice of his physicians and retire in the interest of his health.