

Olin news

ECUSTA PAPER AND FILM GROUP

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Calling it a Place of Honor, THEY SAID IT LOUD AND CLEAR: THE OTHER PICTURE MAY BE GREAT, BUT LEAVE "UNCLE HARRY" UP THERE

Let there be no question about it. Employees here are faithful to the memory of the late Harry H. Straus, and they let it be known.

In this period of the 40th anniversary of the establishment of the Ecusta Paper Corp., the protests were abundant when the oil portrait of Mr. Straus was moved from above the fireplace mantel to another wall of the Ecusta cafeteria. The light installed over the portrait helped to show it off, but did nothing to stop the telephone calls protesting the change. Not all of those persons protesting can be counted among the Ecusta pioneers. Quite a few who came to Olin years after Mr. Straus's death were as vocal as the senior employees.

This rumpus in the realm of tradition came about as result of a gift to Olin.

Richard Jennings of Asheville and Cashiers had a storage problem and told us about it: A large photographic mural was crated and stored in a building in Biltmore he had just sold, and he needed help in placing it



where it would be appreciated. He said that it was of Whiteside Mountain and the work of Elliott Lyman Fisher. After opening the top of the crate in Biltmore, we hastened to accept the mural, thinking it probably would go in the lodge at Camp Straus.

Only when it was fully uncrated could we judge the excellent condition and the beauty of the mural, too fine to be exposed to the wide range of temperature and humidity at Camp Straus. It seemed the perfect size for the cafeteria fireplace.



ECUSTA IN THE LEAD

Olin's Ecusta Paper plant at Pisgah Forest was at the very top of the list of the South's 30 safest pulp and paper mills for the calendar year 1978.

The Southern Pulp and Paper Safety Association placed Ecusta in the No. 1 position with 4,154,762 man-hours exposure and a rating of zero in four classifications: disabling injuries, frequency rate, severity rate, and injury index.

The average injury index among the 88 mills reporting was 6.617 in 1978, an improvement over the average injury index of 8.392 in 1977.

The results were reported in *Southern Pulp and Paper Manufacturer*.

Flossie (Florence T.) Gillespie was one of the first to telephone about relocation of the portrait:

"I was deeply hurt. The first thing I do on entering the cafeteria is to glance at Mr. Straus's portrait, then I turn to go in line. I've done that ever since the portrait has been over the fireplace.

"He was such a great person, so understanding. I never was close to him but I talked with him one time about a problem a friend of mine was having. He took care of it. Later on he asked me whether everything was all right.

"We all owe him a debt of gratitude. The majority of the people working here own him quite a bit. I'd have had to go out of the county for a job had it not been for this company he started."

She followed through by expressing her appreciation when the

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