Plant No.3

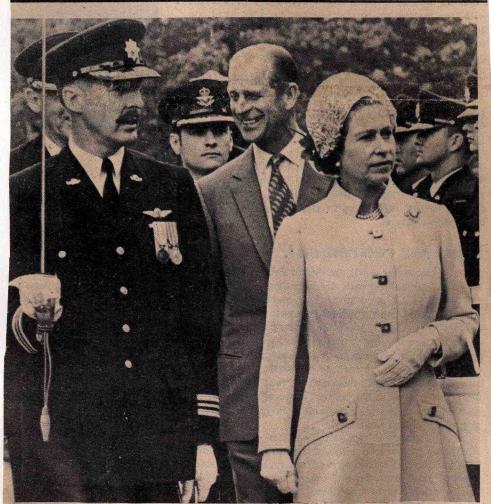


New Kilns



New Warehouse





MAJOR RAY J. S. JOBSON, OFFICER COMMANDING THE HONOR GUARD WHEN THE Queen and Prince visited London last June, retires from the Canadian Armed Forces today, Thursday, Jan. 31st, after $21\frac{1}{2}$ years service, 19 of which were with the Royal Canadian Regiment. Friday he will join his father-in-law, Wolfgang Leipmann, and brother-in-law, Winn, at Milner-Rigsby Co. Ltd. Ray is the husband of the former Dagmar Leipmann. They have three children: Roger 11, Jane 10, and Catherine 3, all of whom will be moving to West Lorne as soon as possible. Ray is the son of Col. Roger and Mrs. Jobson of Saskatoon, Sask.

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ERIE FLOORING & WOOD PRODUCTS LTD., in WEST LORNE, ONT.

The Company was founded and brought into operation in August 1940 to manufacture Hardwood-Flooring in the plant of the former Seaman-Kent Co., in West Lorne. The plant, which was idle for 10 years, was bought from the village of West Lorne, has been thoroughly repaired and considerably altered. It succeeded in a short time in producing first class flooring for the general market, later also for Government purposes.

The Company maintains a Wholesale Branch for Flooring and Hardwood Lumber in Toronto.

Since March 1942, the Company had been engaged exclusively in the manufacture of Army Crates for Chrysler Corporation of Canada.

The Company was controlled and managed by three brothers, Dr. Arthur, Robert and Alexander Haas, who came from Czechoslovakia.

The Management and 150 employees - all Canadians - did their best for the War effort.



Founders of Erie Flooring



Gabriel Gat, 53, Erie Flooring manager, dies of heart attack

Gabriel Gat, 53, of 536 Chiddilngton Ave., London, passed away Friday, April 25th, in Victoria Hospital, the result of a heart attack.

He was vice-president and general manager of Erie Floorting and a highly respected citizen by everyone who knew him.

Born in Czechoslovakia, he came to Canada in 1950 with his wife, the former Stephanie Hantman. They have two sons: Gabriel Jr. and Douglas, both of London.

He was employed first as manager of West Lorne Lumber Co. until it was sold in late 1962. In 1958 he became vilce-president of Erile Flooring and Wood Products after the death of Dr. Haas, and became manager of the plant following the death of Mr. Por in 1965.

He was a charter member of West Lorne Kiwanis Club, joining shortly after he came to the villlage. Since then he has been interested in every worthy cause in the communilty.

Mr. Gat was a member of several filooring associations.

During his managership Erie Flooring expanded considerably in the number of employees, products and productilon.

After expanding the plant greatily the past few years for block fillooring production, with new lequipment, new buildings, etc., he was working on plans for even greater expansion at the Itime of his death.

His death will be a great loss to the company, its employees, the community and his family.

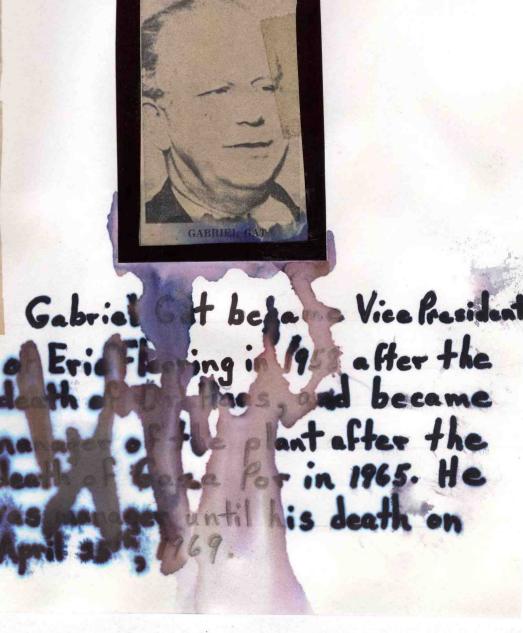
The body rested at Prevent Funieral Home until Saturday at 2.30, when Rev. John Scharrer of St. Thomas Lutheran Church, former pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, West Lorne, officialted at the funeral. Father E. Boday of St. Stephen's Church, London, offered prayers. Miss Vikki Gibbard of St. Thomas, sang, "When does dealth overtake me."

Interment was in St. Peter's

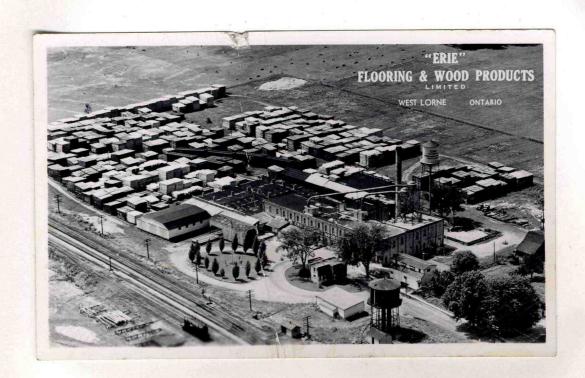
Cemetery, Tyrconinell.

Pallibearers were: Wolfgang Lilepmann, Tom Por, Robert Walker, Norman Walker, Newton Walker and George Berdan.

Business associates, friends and relatives attended from Winnipeg, Monttreal, Toronto, Kitchener, Tillsonburg, London, St. Thomas, Windsor, Samia, Chaltham Rodney, Dutton, West Lorne and community.



Erie Flooring





Company car



General Manager Robert G. Walker 1969 - 1991

