

Mr. George Judd,
5890 Granville St., Vancouver

Interviewed March 21, 1972.

-40 years with Company General Supt. Canada Rice Mill

Born London, England - July 9, 1899

First located Railway St., Vancouver.

-1931 began construction of a new mill and dock in Richmond - built by Duncan Gavin, Vancouver (Pres. Canada Rice Mills and Martin Robinson then)

-September 1932 started operation - main object of site was docking facilities - could get overseas ships unload at mill, storage raw material, process right there - water, rail facilities at dock- first ship, Talthibus, Blue Funnel line, from Hong Kong July 1932 was discharged before mill ready (Sent) - mill continued handling only rice until 1954 - then Martin Robinson' (downtown) operation dried fruit, dates came out to the Mill -

-before in 1938 Rice Mill dock nearly totally destroyed by flood Fraser broke banks just east - dyke re-inforced, broadened, raised 2 feet - flood reached 6 ft. over high tide added more machinery - increased capacity 30 tons to 50 tons.

1962 big fire destroyed all packaging plant - took 12 months to get in machinery to operate machinery mainly from U.S.A. (Fresno and Oakland) cleaning machinery and scales.

-in 1932 eleven employed - in 1969, 40 permanent males, 20 permanent women, and 40 on spare list.

-only 2 major rice mills in Canada, Canada Rice Mills, Richmond and Dainty Foods (which used to be Mount Royal Rice Mills) Montreal - little competition - Great Lakes dividing line for sales.

- adjacent Cannery - Queen Charlotte Food Processors, owned by Robert Gavin (son of original President) on Rice Mills ground around 1964 operated - each as division of Donald H. Bain, Vancouver.
- 1950 expansion on 20 year plan.
- Mill could expand in production without re-building by adding another shift, or more machinery.
- warehousing could expand.
- 5,000 ton ships dock there - early view shows 4 houses adjacent built for millers and other - old Woodward's Landing (ferry) was at foot of No. 5 Road before Tunnel built - dock is 420 ft.
- raw rice from: 3/5 of world supply now grown in U.S. - before W.W. II came from Siam, China, Japan, Egypt, Italy - Communist overrun forced U.S. expand - areas Arkansas, Texas long grain from South America; Argentine and Brazil grow type of rice suitable make beer - brewers grits - a separate operation.
- also rice flour(from broken grains) - by products for animal feed, pet foods -cereal - #2 flour as paste for glyproc - shorts used to blend other grain.
- Ship rice to Canada, U.S., some to Hamburg, Germany (dates to tranship) rice to Korea after War.
- Chinese use long grain ((patina) rice - no dealings with Red China for years (dealt within Communist Bloc.)
- sometimes entire shiploads at dock with rice or 2 shipments for annual order - never unload less than 500 tons of anything - 3,500 on maximum.
- all dried fruit comes in from Australia (3 shipments year) - all

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pineapple from Singapore - also canned fruit from Australia - fruit juices come from Tampa, Fla. - In 1950 started packaging rice (employed 1/2 doz. girls) previously bulk. - 1954 included dried fruit, date operation.

-since expanded to bring in for other principals.

-Present dock 20 feet narrower than dock destroyed 1938 because flooding took out big sandbar - now 54 feet water at edge of dock - sandheads at mouth of Fraser biggest problem - larger ships reluctant to come in unless have 30 feet of water down - Johannes Merch stuck 48 hours in fog at end of Raphael's Island 7 years ago.

-Rail facilities (spur line) C.N. Rail there branches off for Crown Zellerbach then parallel river to Mill - now another line past Mill to new Mazda dock.

-originally (before 1932) railway ran from Westminster parallel to River into Steveston - during War pulled up old rails, neat fires undermined railway so abandoned to come down old Great Northern line and branched off.

-used to be house corner Rice Mill Road, all farms around then - Savage brothers (Ladner) had all that land (now Greczmiel) down to Rice Mill on lease from C. N., let out to Chinese gardeners (right) some Japanese gardened on left.

Re: Flood

Fraser River noted for changing course - used to be slough back Deas Is. now closed in - set current over to North bank - dikes then not reinforced by stones - driftwood used to be on sandbar adjacent - all went in 1938 flood.

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-Water table constant - no shifting under Mill - piles under Mill in 5 clusters - 18 pile cluster in centre - some piles go down 60 feet - front piles penetrate 40 feet in river bed - describes process of dry rot and steam from river (not tides) on piles (foundation)

-Judd came from Australia to Vancouver and Rice Mill 1932 - 1969: 40 years.

-raised family in Richmond, returned 21 years ago to Vancouver.

Family - Daughter - Barbara. Australia now Mrs. Larry Beaulne, Vancouver.

Son Richard, Corporal R.C.M.P. Milk River, Alberta.

Youngest Daughter Pamela, Mrs. Ashcroft, Crescent, Partner in Modern Music, Vancouver.

Rice Mill first industry on South Arm of Fraser between Steveston and New Westminster.

Comparison rice prices (raw) 1932: sack selling for \$4.75, to-day worth \$12 .00 - nearly all bulk then.

Wife born Kildaire, Ireland, went to Australia after W.W.I met, married there.

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