

The Marietta Armstrong Carpet Plant is celebrating its tenth anniversary.

The buildings that now house the carpet plant were built in the 1940's by the Army Transportation Corps but later abandoned. The real estate was just sitting there, uselessly, until Armstrong moved in.

Today the plant is a big part of our area's economy. Hundreds of local people work at the plant—about 85% of the work force lives in Marietta, Mount Joy, Columbia and the Township—and the plant is now part of the tax base.

Almost everyone in our area knows someone who works in the carpet plant. Many of the plant workers have been employed there since the first carpet rolled off the looms in 1968.

The carpet plant makes hundreds of varieties of carpet, including the very top of the Armstrong line—the Trustmark Collection.

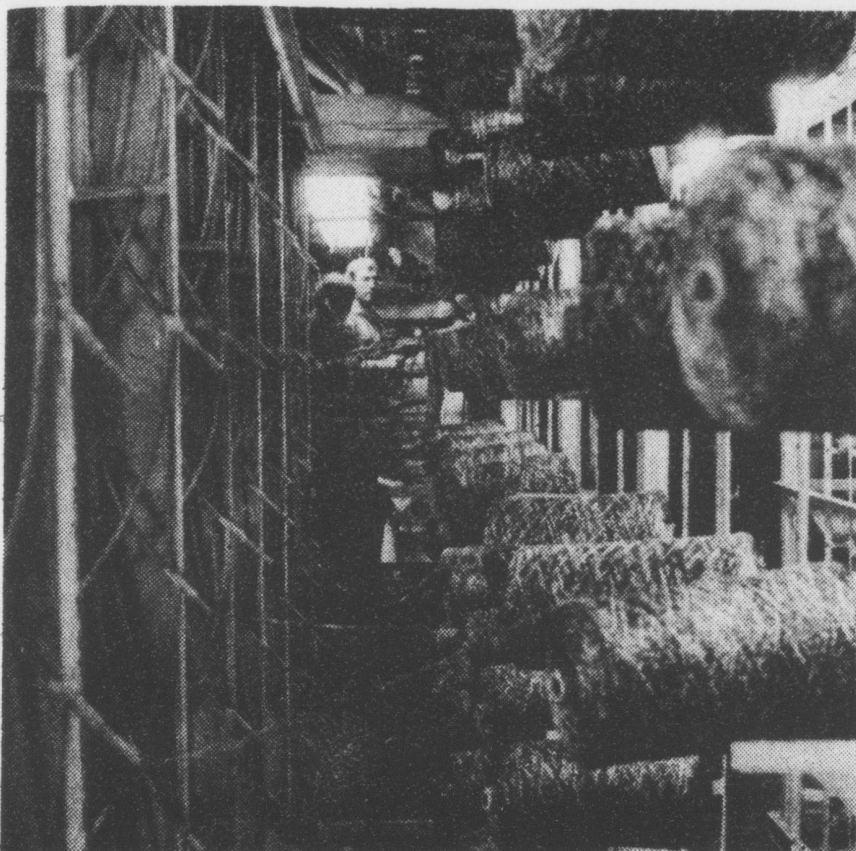
The plant management and employees have been celebrating with a series of "birthday parties." These are in addition to the regular turkey shoots, trips, and get-togethers of the Activities Association, which has been organizing about 2 events a month for years.

"We're very proud of our employees," said plant manager R.A. Graff. "Ten years ago, we had very few people in this area who had any experience with carpet making. But people came off the streets, cast their lots in with us, and we all learned together. The success of this plant is a tremendous credit to them."

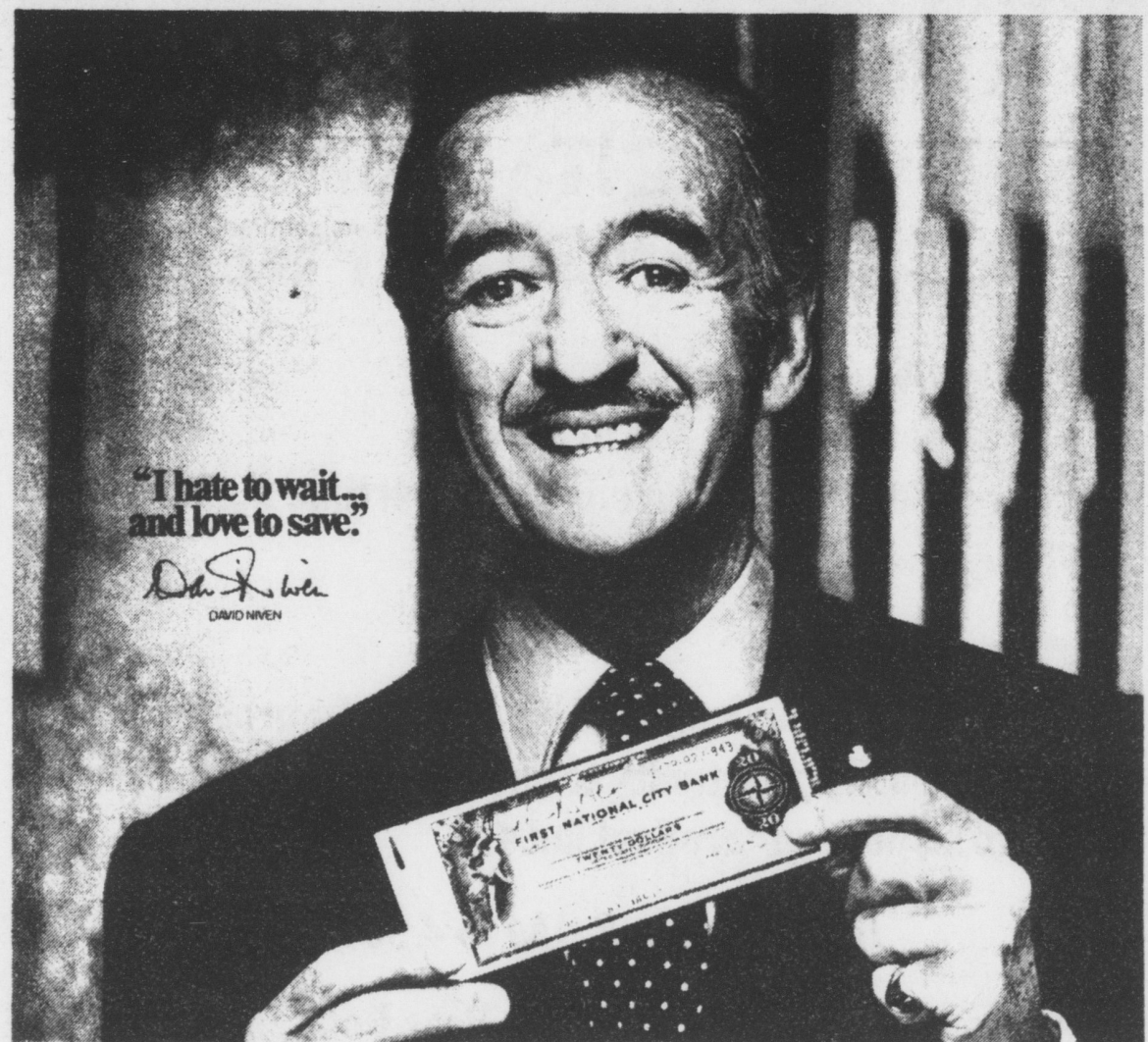
"Many of our employees have given generously to the United Fund," he continued, "and some have been recognized by the

entire community for their bravery in the local volunteer fire and ambulance organizations—for instance, Bill Zimmerman of Mount Joy, and Steve Bailey of Marietta."

Steve Husak, in charge of employee relations at the plant, commented to the Times reporter while showing him around, "I've worked in a number of carpet plants, and this is the cleanest one I've seen," which was another comment on the workers at the carpet plant.



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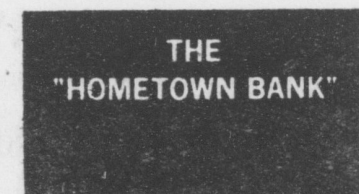
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