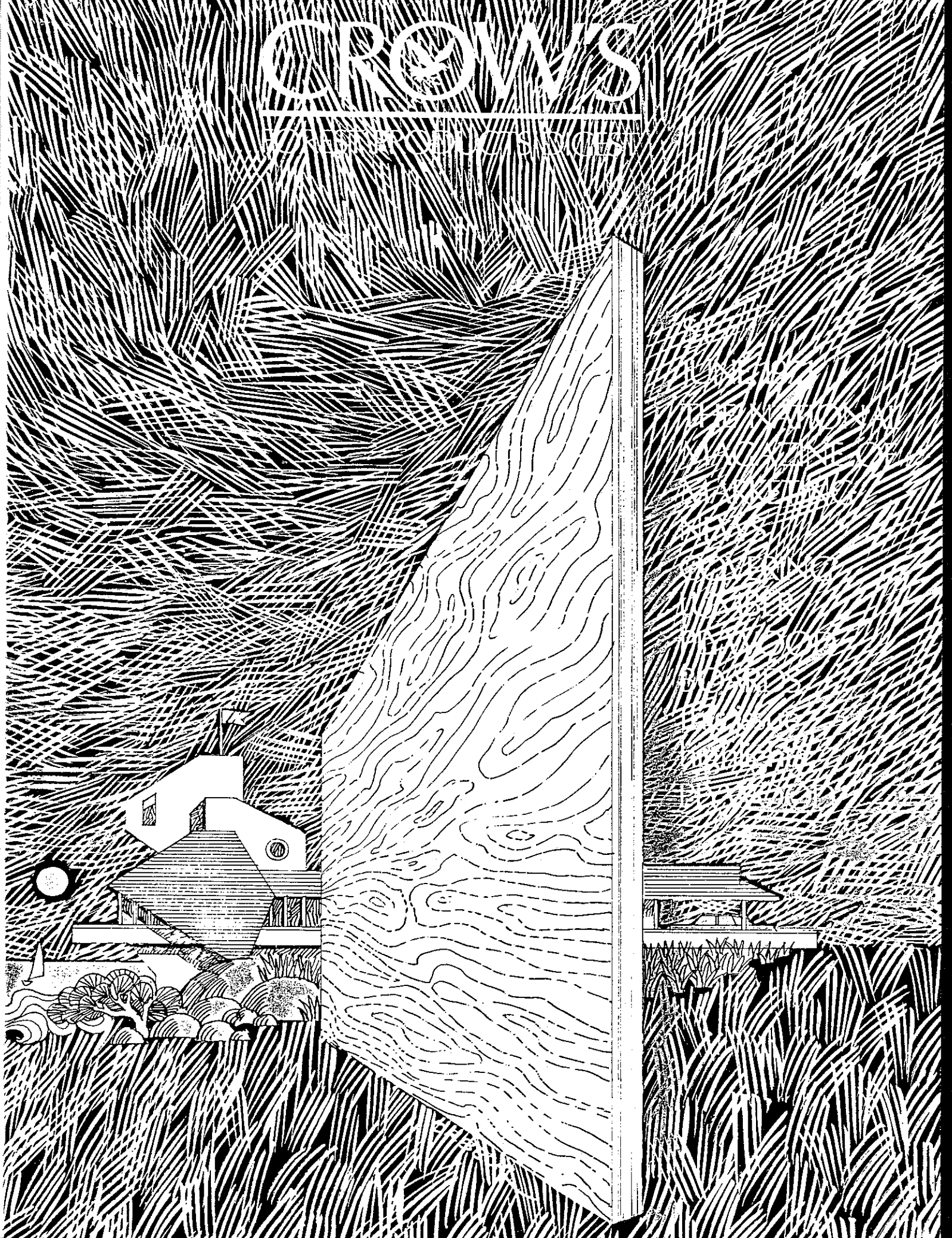


CROWNS

BY JAMES H. HENNING



TECO—Past, present and future

Travelers on Oregon's North-South Expressway see the TECO sign identifying the facility of contemporary design which houses TECO in Eugene. There are no logs in dry deck. There is no pond. It's what's happening in the building that is of interest to lumber and wood products people.

The building is comparatively new and utilizes a wide variety of industries' products in its construction. The facilities offer a great diversity but, at the same time, are single purpose in scope. Diversity — because the combination of facilities and personnel enable the laboratory to run on a volume basis all of the quality control and certification tests for the principal wood products, including plywood, particleboard and laminated beams. Single purpose — because, unlike a general laboratory, this facility is concerned directly with wood products and focused on the limited area of product testing and certification.

The range of capability of the laboratory is impressive. Do you want to check the effectiveness of windows against a 90 MPH wind or even a hurricane? The facilities are available here to do just that. How about checking the accuracy of the electro-mechanical stress rating machines for grading lumber? The TECO lab can and does this routinely on its 30,000 pound capacity Universal Testing Machine.

Some of the other out-of-routine facilities at the lab are the Swellograph for measuring the efficiency of water repellent-preservative solutions used for treatment of millwork, and a wall racking test for determining structural adequacy of wall designs and panel materials. Main function of the laboratory, however, is the very necessary routine and repetitive testing of commercially produced plywood, particleboard, and laminated beams. The lab facilities utilized in this work, ranging from the sample cut-up area through environmental rooms, serve these purposes most effectively.

The work at the Eugene center is but a small part of the testing conducted to back up the familiar TECO TESTED grade-stamps. The aptly named TECO "Man-in-the-Mill" programs for plywood, particleboard and glulam certification are based on the inspection and testing by a TECO man at the point of production. It is here that quality is determined and controlled. When the TECO grademark is stamped on the product as the assurance of conformance with the requirements of the standard, testing is done in a TECO operated testing facility in that plant. These in-plant laboratories contain all of the necessary equipment to run the required routine quality control tests including the complete glueline tests specified for plywood under PS1-66. Additional

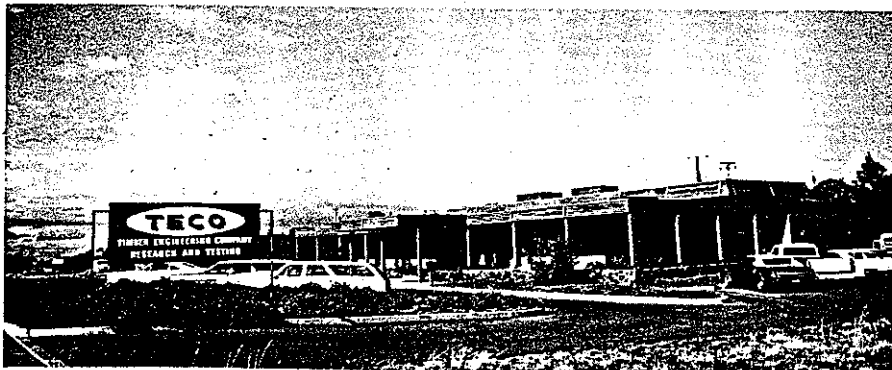
testing and the periodic routine comparative testing is done at the Eugene laboratory. Eugene is the back-up facility for the in-plant activities for testing and for supervision and monitoring of the personnel and programs.

Operations of the Research and Testing Division of TECO headquartered in the Eugene laboratory are under the supervision of L. A. Patronsky, a vice president of TECO and director of the division. Patronsky is assisted by Richard C. Cranch, general manager of the division, and a staff of experienced people.

Corporate headquarters for TECO are located in Washington, D. C. Ralph H. Gloss, president and chief operating officer of the company, is located there, as is David R. Norcross, vice president and director of the products division. The Washington headquarters also include the operating staff of the products division, which is responsible for the manufacture and sale of structural wood fasteners and the development and marketing of building systems. Some of the products which have been developed and marketed by the products division are truss connectors, framing anchors, joist hangers and post and beam connectors.

Patronsky, when reflecting about TECO in past, present and future says: "I can recall being the only TECO research representative on the West Coast and, relatively speaking, it was not too many years ago. At the time, TECO was a subsidiary corporation of the National Lumber Manufacturers Association (now National Forest Products Association), and I was soliciting projects to be conducted at the company's Research and Product Development Laboratory in Washington, D. C.

"Research, which has played such a prominent role in our activities led directly to our softwood plywood testing and prod-



TECO's Research and Testing Division Laboratory just off Interstate 5 south of Eugene, Oregon, houses latest instrumentation for testing and evaluating laminated beams, plywood, modular housing components, particleboard and other wood products.

uct certification programs. It started with plywood in 1958 at four coast mills. Interestingly, the original concept of the program, full time man-in-the-mill, is still the outstanding feature. Shortly thereafter, we established and operated our first particleboard certification program at Duraflake Company in Albany, Oregon and Forrest Industries in Dillard, Oregon. This was soon followed by the start of our laminated program with Potlatch Forests in Lewiston, Idaho. During that time, we were located in Corvallis, Oregon, but successively our need outstripped our facilities and finally led to the design and building of our present plant in 1967 at Eugene as a more central geographic location.

"The increase from a total of four plants serviced in 1959 to our present roster of 42 plants is a statement of our dramatic growth. Along with this numerical increase, the parallel advance in acceptance of the TECO TESTED stamp appears on plywood sold in all 50 states and in most foreign countries where United States wood products compete as imports.

"In addition to the conventional sanded and sheathing plywood covered by PS1-66, several specialty panel designations have gained wide acceptance. Each of these is in basic conformance with PS1-66 and bears the TECO TESTED stamp as evidence.

"The 1-1/8" thick seven-ply Floor Panel is widely used as subfloor/underlayment for spans up to 48" o.c. Formall is the name assigned by TECO for Class 1 concrete form, as defined by PS1-66.

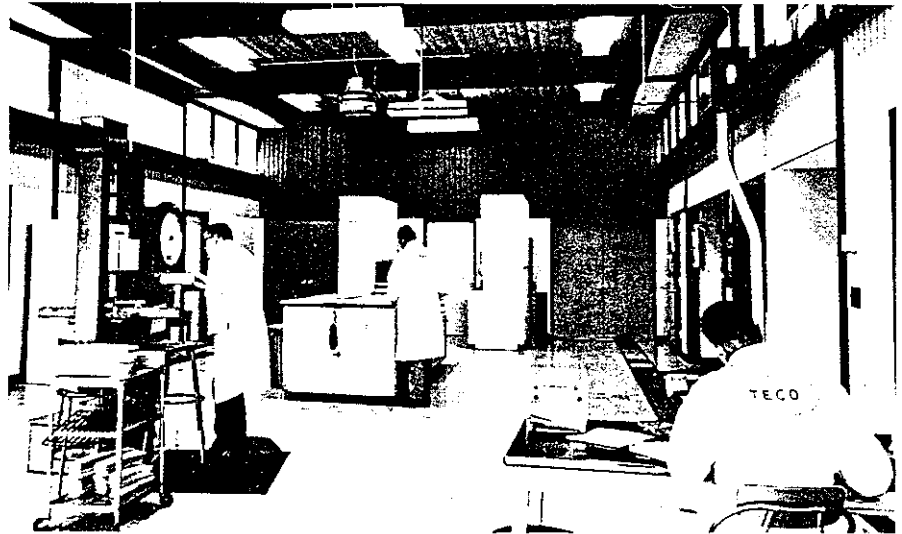
"Varied wall claddings, designed to accent the grain and design of natural wood, are being distributed under the TECO TESTED designation. Grooved Texture is a 5/8" shiplapped exterior panel siding with deep grooving to simulate the natural board exterior. The Specialty Siding group includes panels striated, brushed, rough sawn, or saw-knifed to reveal and embellish the beauty of the selected natural wood of the panel face veneer.

"The listing of regularly serviced clients is a mixture of major integrated wood products manufacturers and large and small independent producers. Included on this list are production units of Potlatch Forest, Inc., International Paper, Southwest Forest Industries, Willamette Industries, Inc., U. S. Plywood, Lane Plywood, Evans Products Company, Brand-S, Alpine Veneers, Ellingson Timber, Rogue Valley Plywood, Cascade Fiber Company, among others. Geographically, the areas serviced include all the main producing regions including the Pacific Northwest, Northern California, Inland Empire, Southwest, South, and Southeast. Recent growth of our services in the South has been encouraging and most rewarding."

Patronsky continues, "So much for the present with a bit of the

past. We at TECO see our future with that of the wood products industries. We see advances in equipment and systems for faster, more accurate and responsive quality control. We can see logic in the extension of quality control to the installation of the product and a relationship of standards to product performance.

"Advances in the industry in general hasten the transition of the manufacture of wood products from an art to a science. One does not have to be a prophet to know that we cannot be satisfied with less than total utilization of wood fiber in our wood industries. The tremendous demands for housing to be met by wood based products at least cost and the growing pressures to reduce the available timberlands make this conclusion inevitable." ▲



Above: PARTICLEBOARD SAMPLES yield modulus of rupture readings (left) and linear expansion figures (middle) under test by technicians at the TECO Eugene Laboratory. Technician at right calculates and records results. Below: TECO Technician, Mike McKay, at Brand-S, Natron Division, takes veneer thickness measurements at the dryer as part of his daily series of reports to management and TECO Research and Testing Division headquarters in Eugene.



26 REASONS TO SPECIFY TECO

FOR THE BEST
PLYWOOD
FROM THE
SOUTH AND WEST

ALPINE VENEERS, INC.
PORTLAND, OREGON

BROOKS-WILLAMETTE CORP.
REDMOND, OREGON

C&C PLYWOOD CORPORATION
KALISPELL, MONTANA

CABAX MILLS—PLYWOOD DIV.
EUGENE, OREGON

CAROLINA-PACIFIC
PLYWOOD, INC.
WHITE CITY, OREGON

CRATER PLYWOOD, INC.
GRANTS PASS, OREGON

DIAMOND NATIONAL PLYWOOD
RED BLUFF, CALIFORNIA

ELLINGSON TIMBER COMPANY
BAKER, OREGON

FIR PLY COMPANY
WHITE CITY, OREGON

FORTUNA VENEER COMPANY
FORTUNA, CALIFORNIA

INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO.
LONGBELL DIVISION
WEED, CALIFORNIA

LANE PLYWOOD, INC.
EUGENE, OREGON

LEADING PLYWOOD CORP.
EUGENE, OREGON

MILWAUKIE PLYWOOD CORP.
MILWAUKIE, OREGON

NATRON DIV. BRAND-S CORP.
SPRINGFIELD, OREGON

NORDIC PLYWOOD, INC.
SUTHERLIN, OREGON

OREGON-WASHINGTON
PLYWOOD CO.
GARIBALDI, OREGON

POTLATCH FORESTS, INC.
LEWISTON, IDAHO

POTLATCH FORESTS, INC.,
PIERCE DIV.
PIERCE, IDAHO

ROGUE VALLEY PLYWOOD, INC.
WHITE CITY, OREGON

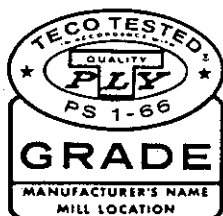
U.S. PLYWOOD—
SHASTA OPERATIONS
ANDERSON, CALIFORNIA

U.S. PLYWOOD—
SOUTHERN PINE OPERATIONS
HOLDEN, LOUISIANA
WAYCROSS, GEORGIA

WHITE CITY PLYWOOD, INC.
MCMINNVILLE, OREGON

WILLAMETTE INDUSTRIES, INC.—
GRIGGS DIVISION
LEBANON, OREGON

WOODWARD-WALKER-
WILLAMETTE, INC.
MINDEN, LOUISIANA



YOUR
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