The Blairs"

# Seventy-five Years

AMERICAN CRAFTSMANSHIP

OF.

ONONDAGA POTTERY COMPANY

SYRAGUSE \* China



Seventy-five Years

OF DISTINGUISHED
AMERICAN
CRAFISMANSHIP



ONONDAGA POTTERY COMPANY

SYRACUSE, N.Y.



The building of the Onondaga Pottery has been the work of three generations since the Company was founded in 1871. The success of this organization has been due primarily to two factors closely related to one another.

The first of these is the character of the men and women who comprise the Onondaga Pottery today and also the character of those who have made up this organization in the past and who still are more a part of us than we may realize. The second is the spirit of mutual respect, confidence, and goodwill in which we all have worked together through the years. This spirit cannot be expressed adequately in words, but it is explained partly in the opening sentence of our Statement of Policy:

"The first principle of the Onondaga Pottery is that this business exists to be of service—to the public which buys our china—to the people working in this organization—to the stockholders who provide our plants and the equipment with which we work; that the interests of these three groups are essentially the same; that these, our common interests, can be served well only as we of the Pottery serve each other well."

Fine chinaware is an exception in this mechanistic age, in which machines have displaced for the most part human skill. The making of true china remains largely a human job, reflecting the diligence and loyalty and skill of those who make it.

These human values inherent in our Syracuse China are our heritage from the striving, fruitful span of our "75 Years of Progress." They are also the promise for our future as the Onondaga Pottery moves on into the years ahead, building success not only on ever improving processes and equipment and formulae, but above all on the people who comprise this organization.

It is to the people of the Pottery, present and past, who have made possible this Seventy-Fifth Anniversary, that this book is dedicated.

President

M. H. Van

#### SERVICE CLUBS

COMPLETE HISTORY of the past seventy-five years is not the purpose nor the intent of the following brief pages. It is, rather, a presentation of the highlights of the past and present, through the medium of brief narration, factual presentation and pictures.

The most complete section presents photographically the Service Club which is composed of present day members of the organization who have created an enviable record through both the excellence of their work and their long years of faithful service with the Company. That the beauty and intrinsic value of their work are nationally known is evidenced by the ensuing pages. Due to circumstances beyond our control, all Service Club Members do not appear in the photographs. Their names, however, will be found in the accompanying service roll lists.





50 YEARS OF SERVICE AND OVER

> Charles Billion Martin Brown William Dailey Albert Hannam William L. Huber Michael Kindler

Harry Aitken Fiorangelo Albino Nellie Bennett Emmett Carroll



Michael Carroll
John Casey
Berkeley Claiborne
John Conway
William Cooper
Freeman Craver
William Cummings
Frank Denham
John Dwyer
Frank Fonda
Charles Fraiser
Lena Gibbs
Sidney Hall, Sr.
Bertha Hammond

Edward Irving
Anna Lowery
Agnes MacDonald
Ernest McMillan
John Miller
Mary Moran
Loretta Murphy
Arthur Newton
John Rieth
George C. Schultz
William Smiedy
LeRoy Taylor
Edward L. Torbert
William Wigley







FAYETTE PLANT

Jesse Allen Lucian Allen Joseph Besig Martin Blundred Herman Bohland Christian M. Britschgi Anthony Brzezinski Zygmunt Burda John Burkhart Frank O. Cheney Charles Decker **Edward Demong** Robert Demong Gaetano DeSocio William Dinehart Marie Dorkins Samuel Dunlop

James Foley Katherine Foley Carl Franklin Michael Frushell Fred Gebert Victor Gillette John Glatz Vincent Gleason Dorothy Hacins George Hartman John Hedrick Mary Heffernan August Heller Albert Hoffshire Albert Hraba W. Bradley Huber Benjamin Jackson

Chester Jacobowski Stella Kaske Tony Kostine Leland Lints Royal Lints Peter Lynch Ludwig Mortas Grace Mullen Catherine V. Neuser Frank Neuser Guidino Pallerino Richard Pass Harlow Pierce Joseph Pietrucha Sara Powers George Pratt Adam Radecki

Vincent Radecki
Joseph Rink
Frank Ruppel
Bert E. Salisbury
Christian Schopf
Catherine Schultz
Anna Shaughnessy
Margaret Shea
Andrew Tarkowski
John Wigley
Harry Wilkinson
W. C. R. Williamson
John Wood
Walter Zalewski





COURT PLANT

Stanley Adamczyk Angelo Andreassi Dominick Barletto Anna Barrett Florence Becker Serafino Bernozzi Harold Bidwell Charles Black Anthony Boccaccio Anna Boonzha Chester Brudzinski Robert Bryant Charles Bugnacki Anna Burke Robert Burke Eurnice Byrne Howard Calkins Joseph Carella Joseph Carno, Jr. Libbie Carnrike William Carter John Cerrone Jay Chapman Ovila Charbonneau Joseph Cifaratta Kenneth Clark

Emerson Cleverly Howard Crego Joseph Creme Fred Cushman **Edward Daley** Rose Daley Gordon DaVia Mary DeCerce Michael Degilormo Rose Delcioppo Leonard DelVecchio Helen Deneen Angeline DeSocio Mary DeSocio Thomas Devereaux Carl Dieterle Grazio Dimunno John Dirnberger Guiseppe DiToro Louise Doust Joel Edwards Frank Emmi Howard Evans Thomas Evans Chester Featherly Lyman Finkler

Frank Fitch Dennis Fonehouse Frank Forleo Paul Forleo Ralph Fortino

John Gandino Anna Garni Theresa Gillette Delia Gilvarry Elizabeth Glenn



Frank Gorski
Reuben Green
A. Winifred Gruver
Hugh Gulgert
George Guth
Mary Hahn
Bertha Hannam

Matilda Hartman Mary Hartnett Leo Hartson Ray Henderson Hugo Hern Mary Hogan Florence Hope

COURT PLANT







FAYETTE PLANT

Glenn Howe Margaret Hutchinson Guiseppi Iacampo Charles Ingraham Walter Isaevski Joseph Jones William R. Jones Louise Joslin Lottie Karleski Josephine King



Clifford Klaisle Peter Klementowski Erwin Kneller Joseph Knoblock Helen Kohanski Stefan Kosakowski Carl Krause Bruno Krezewinski Mary LaDue Ernest Lamson Walter Lefancheck Bernadino Leone Roman Lewandoski Francis Lukasiewicz

Lottie Lukasiewicz Joseph Lull Florence McIntyre Frank McCullough Anna McDermott Agnes Mahar Frank Makowski Antoni Marcyoniak Leland Marshall Thomas Matthews William Mentor Dorothy Miller Wendell Miller Arthur Mimutillo Nick Minotti Michael Moran Fred More Lawrence More John Morris Grove Morton Elizabeth Murphy Leonard Muser Dominick Nanno Helen Nigro Maurice Olmstead Nicholas Oriend

Margaret O'Shea Concetta Palladine Clifford Parmelee Leon Pratt Boleslaus Puchalski Alceo Purchiaroni Rocco Rachetta Joseph Raczkowski Clayton Rawson Leo Renk Mary Rettig Fred Richter Charles Riel Samuel Roberts Bessie Rose Anthony Rudy Oscar Runvik John Ryan Walter Ryan Lena Sagarella **Edward Schramm** George Schultz Adam Schylinski Florence Scott Mary Sears Jacob Seeland

FATETTE PLANT





FAYETTE PLANT

Frank Selvester
Arthur Sharp
Adam Smith
Peter Solinsky
Nellie Sowinski
Louise Spinks
Gordon Starr
Germaine St. Georges
John Stonger
Clayton Storms
George Sutkus
George Taffe

E. R. Talbot
Francis Taylor
Holton Thomas
John Thomas
William Thompson
Thomas Tunstall
Anna VanBuskirk
Philip Vannelli
Alfio Vecchio
Antonino Vecchio
Carmelo A. Vecchio

Joseph Vecchio
Josephine Vecchio
John Vellano
Anna Venditte
Francis Waltos
Anna Welch
MacFarland Wetmore
John Whelan
Donald White
George White
Thomas White
William Wickert

William Wiederhold Boleslaw Wierzbicki John Wilkinson, Sr. John Wilson Waldo Woodcock Edna Wright John Wright Augusta Wyman Jacob Zoll, Jr.

Once upon a time, only the very few could afford fine china. Even the man who performed the skilled work could rarely afford to possess the finished product.

Kings vied with each other in obtaining china in the days when only the king and a few wealthy nobles could afford really fine ware. A special service made for Henry II, King of France in the 16th century, carries a value of \$125,000 and to date there are some 50 pieces remaining.

+

A set of china made for the famous Mme. De Pompadour is reputed to have cost \$5,000.

In 1778 the Empress Catherine had a service of 744 pieces made at the famous Sevres Pottery in France, for a cost of one million dollars.

\*

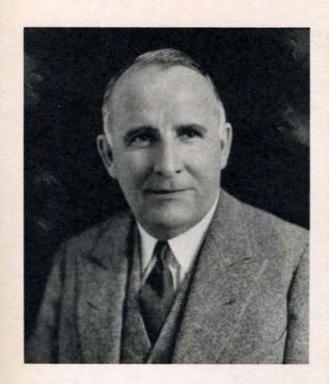
Today, by modern methods of manufacture, fine china can be and is possessed by a great many Americans. In fact, the contrast with ancient days becomes very striking when one stops to consider that all of us who help produce Syracuse China can and do buy our product which, by our modern methods, is of a finer type than was available for any amount of money back in the days when kings were eating from plates costing \$100 apiece.



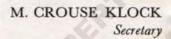
B. E. SALISBURY
Chairman of the Board of Directors



RICHARD H. PASS President



E. L. TORBERT Vice-President







ROBERT A. BRYANT Treasurer

FOSTER T. RHODES Manager of Production

JOHN T. WIGLEY Superintendent, Court Plant



DR. EDWARD SCHRAMM, Research



ALFRED P. HOFFMAN, Lithograph



WILLIAM R. SALISBURY Superintendent, Fayette Plant





W. BRADLEY HUBER Hotelware Division Sales



EDWIN R. HINRICHS General Sales



MACFARLAND WETMORE



Dinnerware Division Sales

M. H. OLMSTEAD Assistant Secretary

and Personnel Director



FREDERICK RICHTER-Assistant Treasurer and Purchasing

B. W. WART Chief Accountant







Foreman's Production and Quality Control Organization

Angelo Andreassi

Martin Blundred

Frank Cheney

Sam Dunlop

Katherine Foley

Hugh Gulgert

George Guth

Walter Haswell

Ray Henderson

Charles Ingraham

Carl Klipple

Stella Lewandoski

Lawrence More

Maurice Olmstead

Leon Pratt

James Pringle

Lillian Runvik

William Salisbury

George Schultz

Adam Schylinski

Ernest Toft

Walter Zalewski

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Gladys Abuhl
Harold Bidwell
Walter Blundred
Joseph Carella
I. Howard Crego

Rose Daley Joel Edwards

Chester Featherly

Ann Fehlmann

Henry Fischer

Carl Franklin

Anna Garni

Alfred Hoffmann

Elwood Jaycox



Foreman's Production and Quality Control Organization

Clarice Klassi

Joseph Knoblock

Robert Krause

Florence Kulesa

Leland Lints

Dorothy Miller

Joseph Pietrucha

Georgianna Sanders

Margaret Shaughnessy

Florence Stager

Frank Taylor

Holton Thomas

Charles Tiel

Raymond Tuttle

Thomas White

John Wigley

Ola Woodward

Beatrice Yager



# Sales Representatives

Roy Lewis
MacFarland Wetmore
J. K. McCollum
Clayton Storms
W. Bradley Huber
J. Berkley Claiborne
E. L. Torbert
Gorden Jensen
Ray Merchant
S. Gorden Starr
E. Burton White
Ernest MacMillan
W. R. C. Williamson
Edwin Hinrichs



Harry Aitken
Douglas Bourne
Guy Cowan
Edwin Hinrichs
Alfred Hoffmann
Charles McKaig
Edward Otis
Richard Pass
Adam Schylinski
MacFarland Wetmore
John Wigley



## Art Council

In January of 1942 Mr. Pass organized the Art Council, which is composed of our artists, designers and other members who act as advisers. The purpose of this group is to design new and original patterns, new shapes, and to improve upon our present shapes, not only from a standpoint of market acceptance but also from a shop production consideration as well. Practicability from a manufacturing point of view is the keynote of all Art Council procedure.

Our new Airlite China is an example of the type of original shapes the Art Council group is developing. During the war years we predicted air travel in post war would become a large industry, and we believed the service of food aboard planes would be an important factor in air transportation. Upon this premise we started work in the development of a china which would be suitable for serving food aloft. In order for china to be suited for airplane food service it had to be light weight, lighter than anything the market offered. This then was our basic clue which guided our thinking.

Experiment after experiment began. Finally we produced a weight of China which we believed

satisfactory. After this came the development of shapes which we thought would be practical from a manufacturing standpoint and functional for this new use for Syracuse China. Again we proceeded with trial and error method in modeling shapes and sizes of this new feather-weight ware. After many months of work we produced in sample form several items, which in our opinion would serve food aboard an airplane efficiently and pleasingly to the passenger. These shapes were submitted to the American Airlines who recognized the advantage of using China over any other item for food service aloft. American Airlines made exhaustive tests of our ware in actual food service. Within a few months we received orders from them for Airlite China, which has now been made and is in service aboard American Airlines planes. It is interesting to note that the original shapes, sizes and weights (with some very minor changes) as developed by Art Council were purchased by this Airlines company.

When conditions permit many other new and original shapes developed by Art Council will be flowing through our production lines. Coupled with these shapes will be new decorations. These decorations are based upon contemporary design and colors; they incorporate good taste with the scale of design favored by the market, which we have called the youthful market; the market of forward thinking Americans.





General Offices







# Research Laboratory

William Dixon
Dr. Edward Schramm
Remington Murphy

## Personnel Department

Ola Woodward
Leslie Borland
Dr. Leonard Nichols
Margaret Shaughnessy
Blanche Tayler
Beryl Tapping
Maurice Olmstead
Jeanne Corry





10 TO 19 YEARS OF SERVICE









10 TO 19 YEARS OF SERVICE









#### 10 TO 19 YEARS OF SERVICE

#### Initiation of a Potter

In the good old days, many a boy's mother was wide eyed with astonishment at the tale told by her son returning home on his first pay day. So the story goes, the batter-out boys had to do just as the jiggermen told them or they would lose their jobs. Hence, according to the custom, the new batter-out was escorted across the street to Parkson's Saloon on his first pay day where he was permitted, yes even forced, to watch while his boss and friends drank up his first week's wages—usually about a dollar.

Of course, there was always the black eye and bloody nose league to which all the Clay Shop boys were given "forced" memberships. The jiggermen used to arrange fights between their boys and bet on them, just like a couple of game cocks. And there was nothing to be done except fight, if you expected to last any length of time as a potter.











#### LESS THAN 10 YEARS OF SERVICE

Pages 23 to 33 inclusive contain pictures of those who have been with the Company less than 10 years.































































#### Let Us Spray

(Wallace Alvord-on experiences in the Clay Cellar in the early 1900's.) "One of the executives . . . was trying to impress a visitor by showing him all the operations necessary in properly refining the clay. ... He turned the wrong valves, thereby releasing a fine spray of slip over the gentleman. On another occasion, when delivering a lecture on 'The Theory of China Making' they . . . stood beside one of the presses so that the entire party . . . was caught in the shower of liquid clay that was released when the press 'blew out', draping all of them in a wet, milk white blanket. . . . We have been told that an experience of this kind dulls the interest of a visitor in the 'Art of Potting.' ... It would be interesting if the victims could let us hear some of their opinions of the place so that we might compare their thoughts with their looks as they departed."

#### Those Were the Days!

(George Fay described the potting of the 1890's.) "On cold winter mornings we would find a thick crust of ice over our dipping tubs, which we had difficulty in chopping out with a knife. As the steam refused to make use of the steam pipes, on extremely cold days we had to wear overcoats and mittens and frequently go down to the boiler room to get warm." This description leaves the modern dipper somewhat puzzled, since no one is sure just how to manage mittens in a dipping tub these days.

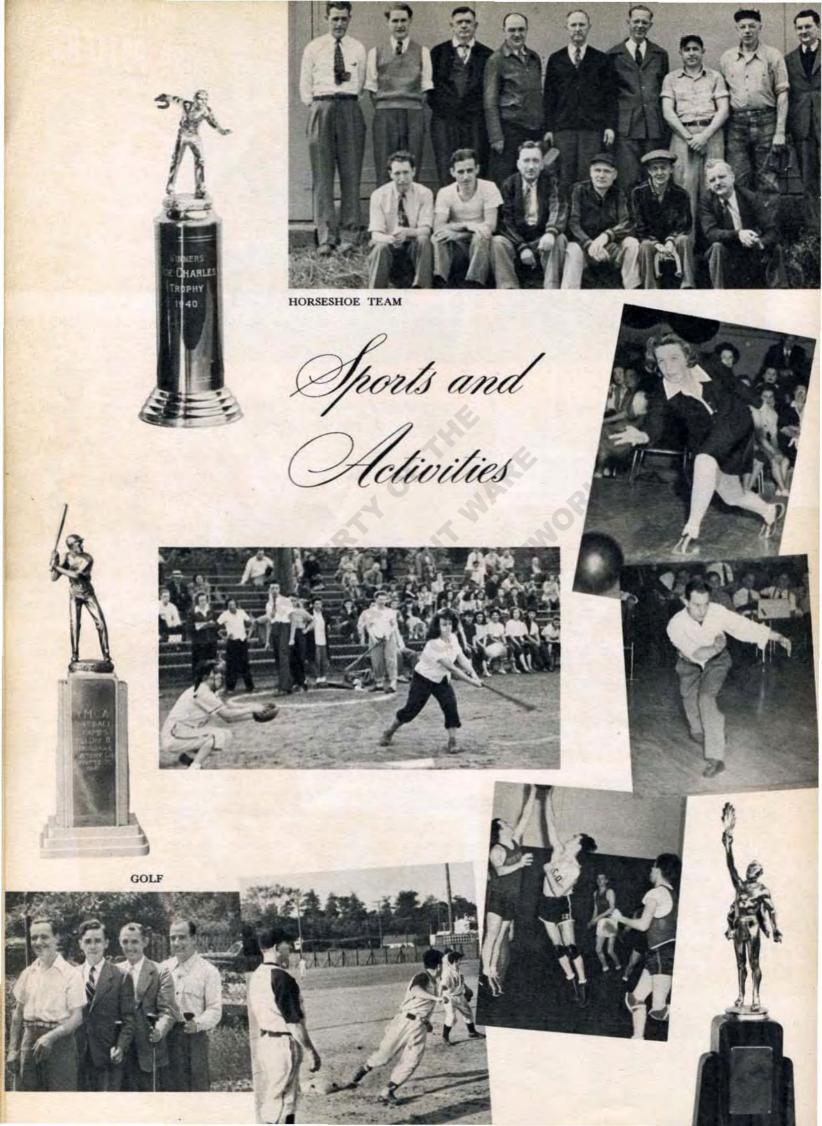
### James Pass, The Potter and the Man, A Thumbnail Sketch

(As written in 1921 by Mark Haley-Modeler and Researcher.) "Mr. James Pass' days were rather full with supervising all construction and repair, instructing the modeler, the carpenter . . . the glazemaker, managing the Clay Shop, preparing the clays and the glaze. . . . He bossed the kilnmen and looked after the dippers, in several instances dipping whole kilns of ware himself and then fired both biscuit and glost kilns. He found time to improve the gold mixtures . . . construct a pug mill of his own design and so thoroughly understood kiln building as to erect them (later) with the assistance of local brickmasons. . . . His claim that he could do or had done everything in a pottery from a bit of modeling to carrying a sagger, was accepted as a statement of fact of which we were often witness."

(Joe Weiss—Platemaker.) "One day James Pass was sorting defective cups and as he found an imperfect one, he threw it down a chute to the Clay Cellar. It happened that a man by the name of Babcock was taking clay away at the foot of the chute and about every other cup would bang him on the head. After he had stood this supposed persecution . . . as long as he could, he bounded

up to the Clay Shop and angrily accused every fellow there but Mr. Pass. The latter . . . laughed, 'I'm the fellow who is hitting you with the cups'."

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CHINA POTTERS



SERVICE CLUB BANQUET





CLAMBAKE





Ceramics

POTTERY MAKING is not only one of the oldest skills known to mankind, but one of the most revealing. In fact this art has been found to be a fairly accurate measure of human culture, of the progress and achievements of nations both ancient and modern.

More than 5,000 years ago, potters were making crude clay vessels of both useful and decorative nature. Each successive generation of potters added new ideas and improvements. As the centuries passed, great skills were developed in clay forming, firing and decorating. By the 16th century the Italians understood and used most of the colors and metallic lustres which we use today.

In Europe, the manufacture of china was brought to a high stage of development, each country producing a type of ware in keeping with its tastes and traditions. France, Germany, Italy, England, etc. each developed characteristic styles under familiar trade names known the world over.

Just as America, in the New World, traces its ancestry to Old World Europe, so also do we of the Onondaga Pottery Company trace our American pottery beginnings to Europe. We have been the natural heirs of European pottery tradition and thus in the early stages produced things European to a great extent. As the United States gradually has developed a modern national life of its own, we are reflecting our way of life by the creation of American ceramic products designed to complement the American living, to fit American standards and to suit American tastes.



W. H. FARRAR'S ROCKINGHAM AND YELLOW WARE POTTERY OF 1858.

# History and Growth

THE PRESENT SITE of the Fayette Plant of the Onondaga Pottery Company was chosen in the 1850's by W. H. Farrar "who had some experience in making butter crocks and whiskey jugs." The establishment carried the sign "Farrar's Rockingham and Yellow Ware Pottery." Bean pots, pie plates, mixing bowls, tea pots, clay dogs, cats, frogs, lions, etc., comprised the chief items of the manufacturing efforts.

A few years later the Empire Pottery Company was organized to take over the property which had been operated by Mr. Farrar. A line of "white ware" for table use was added, but it was true to name only in comparison with the earlier product and, like most pottery of those days, was very susceptible to crazing. The Company struggled along until the evening of July 8, 1871 when thirteen men met in Geddes and organized the Onondaga Pottery Company.

The new Company also faced a struggle for existence, but by means of the manufacture

of a white granite ware, started in '73, the Company actually showed a profit at the end of four years.

In 1875, James Pass entered the employ of the Company. The zeal and skill of James Pass was undoubtedly the largest single contributing force to the development of the Company. A student of chemistry, he experimented with the qualities of many minerals and with new methods of manufacture until about 1890 he developed the product now known as Syracuse China.

ONE OF THE FARRAR POTTERY
JUGS NOW IN POSSESSION OF
THE ONONDAGA POTTERY.



In 1880 a new plant was built on the site of the old. This was added to in 1900, and again in 1907, by which additions the capacity was trebled. By 1917 a further expansion was well under way which, generally speaking, completed the physical contours of the present incomparably fine factory site after a thorough survey of all possible locations in the vicinity of Syracuse. Our Court Plant has been enlarged subsequently by several additions. Today that plant, a single story structure, has approximately 6.9 acres of floor



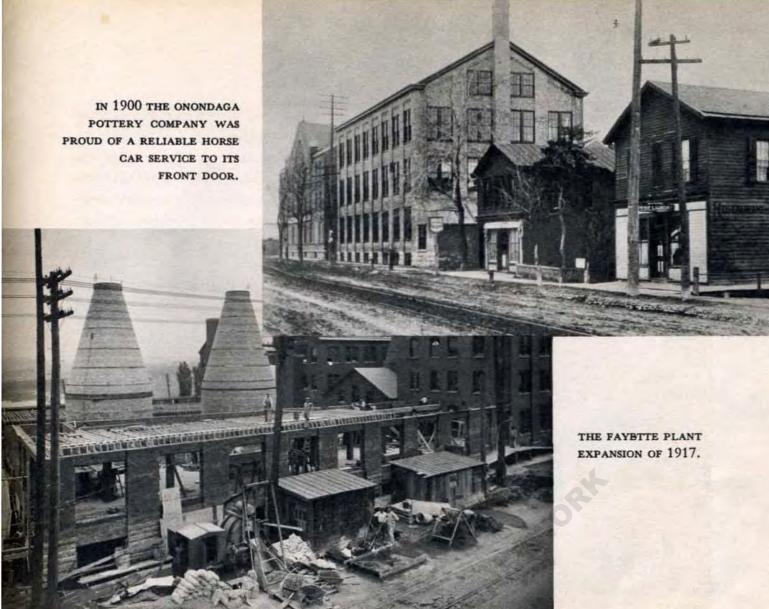
THE ORIGINAL BUILDINGS AS THEY APPEARED IN 1871 WHEN TAKEN OVER BY
THE ONONDAGA POTTERY COMPANY.

day Fayette Plant, which includes approximately 7.6 acres of floor space.

On the 50th Anniversary of the Pottery in 1921, a new factory, our Court Plant, was started on a 300 acre farm site just east of the City. In an impressive ceremony attended by all members of the organization, ground was broken by Mr. B. E. Salisbury, then President of the Company and now Chairman of our Board of Directors, who had selected this

space, about which are grouped several outlying buildings such as the lithograph plant, the power house, storage bins, etc.

In response to ever growing demands for Syracuse China, since the conclusion of World War II the Court Plant again has enlarged its productive area. This expansion includes a new glost tunnel kiln, a decorating kiln and additional decorating facilities, all of which will greatly augment the capacity.

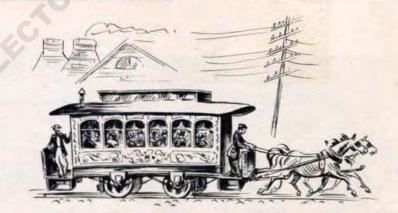


Thus, in keeping with her tradition, Syracuse China is accepting the challenge of the future and pushing steadily forward toward the new world day already dawning on the horizon.

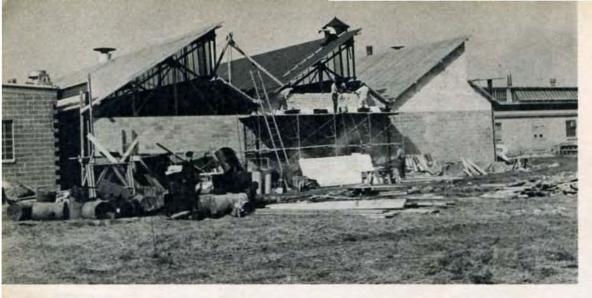
"HORSE CARS PASS OUR WORKS.

15 MINUTES RIDE FROM
NEW YORK CENTRAL DEPOT."
(FROM SALES PRICE LIST, 1890.)

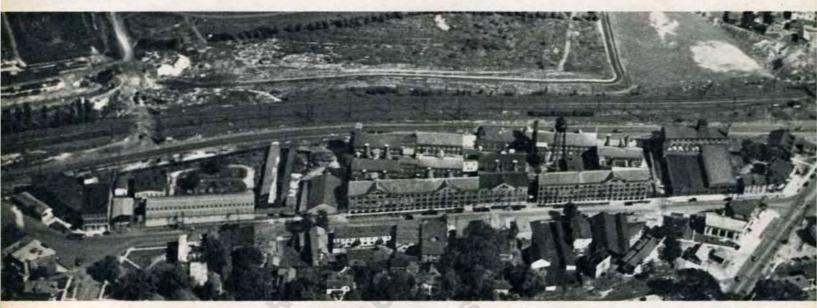
THE LATE MR. KOCH BREAKING GROUND FOR THE LITHOGRAPH PLANT AT COURT STREET IN 1923. THE NEW COURT PLANT, STARTED IN 1921, APPEARS IN THE BACKGROUND.







PART OF THE 1945-6
COURT PLANT EXPANSION.



ONONDAGA POTTERY COMPANY—FAYETTE PLANT

ONONDAGA POTTERY COMPANY—COURT PLANT





YEP! IT'S SYRACUSE CHINA!

### Back Talk

Back Talk" means a great deal to those who know and recognize fine china. Each little trade mark or back stamp is a condensed story in itself—a brief explanation of what's been going on in the Onondaga Pottery Company for the past seventy-five years. Every potter is a twin brother to the gentleman caricatured on this page. How many potters can resist at least one quick peek at the back stamp, no matter the place or the time?



When great-grandmother was a blushing young maid, she saw "Ironstone China" on the back of her saucer. In a potters' language, this trade mark described the first product of the Onondaga Pottery Company, an earthenware type which finally gave way, in 1873, to a good grade white granite.

O. P. CO. CHINA. SEMI-VITREOUS After many years of experimentation, a new product referred to as "Semi-Porcelain" appeared on the market in 1885. By the next year, an improved product was developed, which was, as the back stamp indicates, a superior grade of hard fired porcelain in table items. This ware was guaranteed against crazing, which we believe to have been the first time American made tableware carried such warranty.



1888 marked the first production of a pure translucent china, "Imperial Geddo." A very beautiful and fragile product, it was composed of strictly American clays, and was confined to a small line of art ware.





The beginning of the so called "Gay Nineties" saw the first showing of "Syracuse China" as we know it today. A full line of thin, translucent dinnerware was completed by 1891 and marketed as "Syracuse China" for the first time. A strictly American product, combining many ideas and methods based on twenty years of experimentation, suggested a trade mark representative of the "New World," which was adopted in 1893.



The present "Syracuse China" trade mark came into existence at the time of the Spanish-American War in 1898, and is still seen on some of the presentday product.



Through the era of the giddy "Roaring Twenties" or the "Flapper Age," the Onondaga Pottery Company progressed steadily, in spite of all distractions, to perfect and produce both dinnerware and hotel china in ivory body from 1926 to 1928.



1929 ushered in the great stock market crash and the following years of depression and "hard times." Yet by 1932, the Onondaga Pottery Company had developed and marketed an entirely new idea in the line of china, "Adobe Ware." A dark body of this nature was, to speak mildly, somewhat at odds with the traditional ideas of fine china. But a certain amount of "peasant" type ware imported from Southern Europe was finding acceptance here although it was coarse and heavy. The west coast was the scene of the first general acceptance of the new line, whose brilliant Mediterranean colors harmonized so well with the darker background of the body.



The "Econo Rim" line of ware was introduced to the trade in 1933. With its almost indestructible nature due to style of structure, it has become very popular, not alone for its sturdy qualities, but for its space saving and eye appeal.



A new quality of fine, thin ware became a part of the Syracuse China line in 1937. Known as "Shelledge," it was, at that time, the lightest ware produced by this Company. As the trade name implies, the edge of each piece is fluted after the fashion of a sea shell. The fine texture and styling of "Shelledge" has created an unusually distinguished and delicate product.



The well known "Federal" shape made its appearance early in 1938, as a part of the dinnerware line. It is characterized by a simple fluting along the edge.

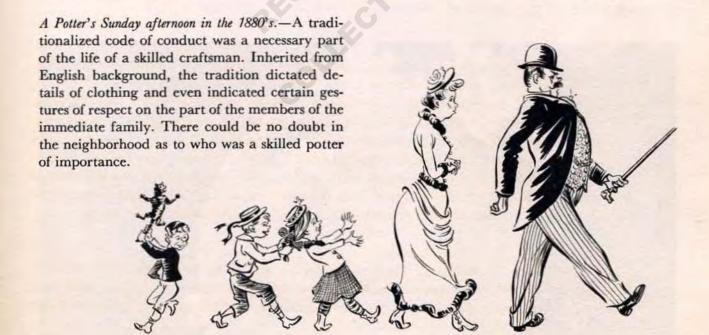


The most recent addition to the Syracuse China family is a strictly "high-flying" newcomer, the manufacture of which began in November 1945. "Airlite" china, paper thin, feather weight and shaped to enhance its delicacy, is the first china ever to be used on airlines.



As of January 1946, the old back stamp, used on white ware since 1896, was discontinued to make way for the latest trade mark which will appear on all of our white chinaware in the future.

From a small obscure beginning, Syracuse China has grown up to take its place of leadership in the ceramic industry. Those familiar back stamp trade marks have blazed a trail across the nation in homes, restaurants, and hotels. The ships at sea, the luxury diners on the railroads and now the American Airlines reveal the "mark" of Syracuse China to their patrons.



## What is SYRACUSE CHINA?

Three of the outstanding characteristics of Syracuse True China are defined by the fol-

lowing expressions: vitreous, translucent and clear ringing tone.

#### Vitreous

Firing to an extremely high temperature vitrifies china clay making it non-porous and giving it added strength. Because vitreous ware is completely non-porous, it is nonabsorbent and thus will not absorb liquids or foods. Other types of ware, because of their porous body, become unsanitary as soon as they are chipped or cracked. Syracuse China, having a *vitrified* body, will retain its original color and ornamental value as long as it remains unbroken, even though it is chipped so that the body is exposed.

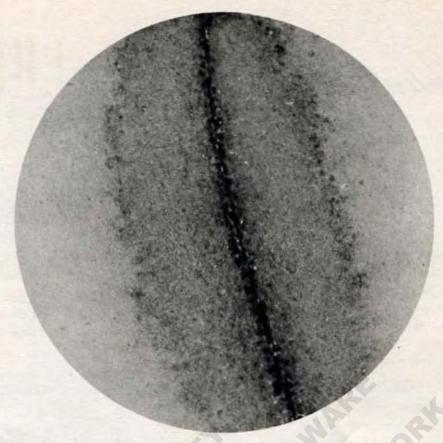
#### Clear Ringing Tone

True vitrified china, when balanced on the tips of the fingers, will produce a clear ringing tone when tapped sharply with a pencil. Syracuse China is true to its tone.

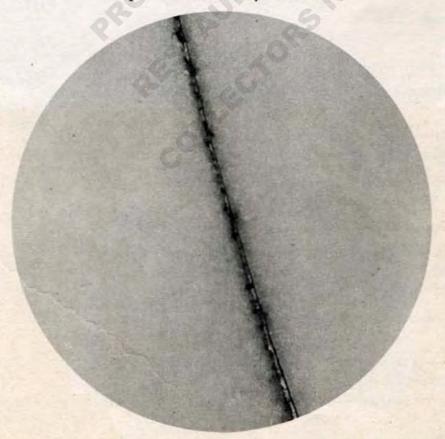
#### Translucent

Translucency may be demonstrated by holding a china plate in front of a light. The hand silhouetted against the back of the dish will be plainly visible. Syracuse China is translucent, a quality which is demonstrated pictorially on this page.





Photomicrographs at a magnification of thirty times compare absorption in dinnerware. Above, a piece of inferior ware indicates a considerable amount of absorption starting from the crack which has exposed the body of the ware. Syracuse China, shown below, shows no absorption into the body of the ware.



## "Selected Firsts"

Just as modern America is the result of pioneer efforts which blazed new trails across a wilderness and explored unknown lands, so is the prestige of modern Syracuse China the culmination of research and exploration in the field of ceramics during the past seventy-five years.

#### The Milestones of Progress

- 1885—Hard fired semi-porcelain, guaranteed against crazing.
- 1890—Creation and quantity production of thin, translucent, American type chinaware in decorative pieces and for household tableware.
- 1896—Pioneering in the field of special designs of tableware for hotel service, the Onondaga Pottery Company became the first American Pottery to produce the Rolled Edge Shape which has since become so generally used.
- 1897—First American Pottery to establish its own ceramic lithograph decalcomania plant.
- 1908—Developed and produced the first underglaze multicolor decalcomania to be made either in this country or abroad.
- 1928-Perfected and made the first vitrified Ivory Hotel China.
- 1932—Perfected and produced the Adobe line of vitrified hotelware.
- 1933—Developed the Syratone Process of decorating, yielding mass color effects of great variety.
- 1933—Introduced Econo-Rim, a new body design of distinction and having unusual space saving qualities.
- 1934-Developed Artint decoration for Econo-Rim ware.
- 1937—Perfected and produced the Shadowtone decoration which offers a wide variety of patterns and distinctive decorative creations.
- 1938—Development of the Vitritone Process for mass color effects.
- 1945—Production of Airlite china, the first ever used on passenger airlines. First to make thin chinaware production a commercial success in America.



HIGH AWARD MEDAL
RECEIVED AT THE WORLD'S COLUMBIAN
EXPOSITION OF 1893



GRAND PRIZE MEDAL
AWARDED TO ONONDAGA POTTERY
COMPANY IN 1904 AT THE LOUISIANA
PURCHASE EXPOSITION IN ST. LOUIS





Our Service Roll

MEN AND MATERIALS

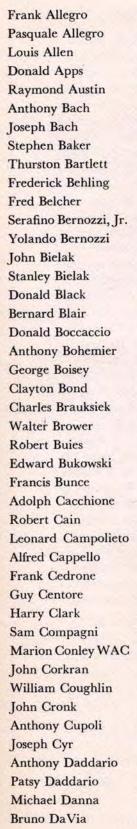


Louis Mortas Clifford W. Nichols John Kwasnik Bruce Fargo Thomas Dunlop George Barnes James Sharkey Frank Makowski John O'Brien William Dinehart James Bloss John E. Cummings John Sagehorn C. D. Thomas William Birks Samuel Dunlop John Fiorentino Albert G. Inkster Frederick Gebert Harlow Pierce LeRoy A. Lewis Peter Kostine Charles Gebert Joseph Mecholin Ray Ryder Joseph Schlinski Tony Bergett Carl Franklin Edison Oderkirk Benjamin Zielinski Fred Zoll Tony Boccaccio Bert Evans

Louis Farmer Lee Lints James Reynolds Richard Pass Charles F. Decker Thomas Burke John Pagogna Ben Bencopki Joseph Devoro William Gleason Vincent Gleason Nick Oriend John Kropsczak George Sedner Frank Levinschock John Wright Anthony Vecchio Walter Cummings Alex Rudy Tom Wilkinson George Barnes Howard Cato James Garrison Paul Gridley Peter Gridley Walter Kaleski Michael Macko Andrew Nadrotowski George Pratt Harry Pratt Fred Rushinski Frank Wiech Walter Zalewski

#### WORLD WAR II \* FAYETTE PLANT

As of Jan. 1st, 1946



Norman Dear Bernard Delcioppo Louis Delcioppo Amedio DelCostello Frederick Demboski Louis DeSantis, Jr. Sam Desiato Frank Dimperio Peter DiOrio Lloyd Dorman Leonard Downing John Dydyk Frank Dziczkaniec John Ecker Robert Eldred Frank Empey Richard Evans James Forleo Frank Formica Ralph Fortino Edward Fralicker John Frushell Angelo Galutz William Gandino George Geiger Arland Gould John Greene Raymond Greis Robert Greis John Grossi Joseph Gugliuzza Frank Guido John Haley Albert Hannam, Jr. Rex Hardy Byron Hart Bernard Hess Woodrow Higgins Alan Houston Richard Howe Thomas Howe David Jones Garfield Jones, Jr.

Roscoe Johnson, Jr.

James Iannuzzo Charles Ingraham Irving Klementowski Nick Klimeck Robert Klink Bernard Koagel John Kochianski Robert Kohl Paul Kolakowski Edward Kozubowski Marvin Lamson Harold Lane Lloyd Lanieu Thomas Lanni Patsy Laratts, Jr. Jewell Larson Thaddeus Lenkiewicz Roman Lewandoski John Licameli Nick Licameli Robert Lints George Loguski Walter Lukasiewicz Edward Lukowski Thaddeus Lukowski James Lynch William Mahyna Herbert Martin Harold Mathews Thomas Mathews William McCarthy Edward McGraw Chester Mechowski Chester Meck William Meyer Alphonse Miceli Edward Model Roy Monroe John Moore Russell More Stanley Mydelnski Edwin Nadolski

Michael Nanno

Dr. Leonard Nichols

Merrill Nichols Frank Nigro Robert Norton Robert Pacheck Jennie Partlow WAC Vito Pelose Frank Perricone Kenneth Peterson Andrew Petta Harlow Pierce, Jr. Ray Pisarek Elmer Pitcher Edward Podolak Pat Praino David Pringle Charles Quinn Irving Quinn Thomas Quinn Bennie Quirce John Rahalski James Ransear Howard Rhoades Harlow Robarge Paul Rieth Robert Rittell Thomas Robinson Anthony Romaszewski Stephan Romaszewski Clyde Root Roderic Ross Bruno Rubacha Stephen Ruscito Edward Ryan Andrew Rybak Joseph Sadowski **Edward Samuel** Anson Shady Dorothy Shannon WAC Paul Wozniak Joseph Shard Don Sherwood Charles Siedlicke Francis Siedlicke

Michael Slezak John F. Smith **Edward Smoral** Chester Sojda Angelo Spagnala Michael Stachowicz Joseph Starowicz Chester Stepien Anthony Sterpe Donald Stevens Thomas Sunheimer, Jr. Anthony Synakowski Thaddeus Szafraniec Clifford Timerson, Jr. Bernard Toft Philip Toia Rutherford Tonkin **Edward Trachimowicz** Samuel Tremont, Jr. Anthony Trybus William Turcott Joseph Tyminski Harry Underwood Donald VanWie Andrew Vecchio Joseph Vecchio Vincent Vecchio Francis Vellano Raphael Vitale David Walsh William Walsh Bernard Welenc William Wickert John Wilkinson, Jr. William Winchell John Wolford Alfred Woolston John Wright, Jr. Raymond Yorkowski Theodore Zalenski Chester Zajac

Honor Roll



#### WORLD WAR II \* COURT PLANT

Robert Capocefalo Richard Clark Ralph Reichard Carl Wetzel James Settineri Walter Gorski Kenneth Pudney Chester Kozlowski Andrew Anguish Eugene Beebe Joseph Bozzuto John Brazosky William Cook David Cosbey William Crego Grant Cuddy Leo Cullen Francis Dann Charles Degilorma Vito Degilorma Edward Dombrowski George Druce Walter Goldsmidt Winton Green Leroy Guiles Guy Hamilton Richard Hinds James Iacampo Stephan Kaleta Henry Kaminski John Kelly Lawrence Kelly Robert Kerr Edwin Klassi John Jenner James Dippold Donald Doolittle Anthony Grazul Lewis Reale Thomas Sharkey Charles Merulla Frank Kolodzicjczyk John Koval Carl Krause Charles Krause Carl Kurtz Max Lell Cosimo Laquidare David LaDuke

Frank Lewis Theodore Lynn John Marziale William Mason John Matteson Charles McCabe Daniel McGill Robert McMaster **Edward Middlemore** Albert Miller William Miller John Mishanec Gordon Mohr Walter Noll Leo Perigny Joseph Pietrucha Joseph Procopio Bernard Works Paul Haverlock Nicholas Pallotta Lansing Hibbard Louis Greis Irwin Radney Clifford Graverson Clovis Ray Charles Reiman Pasquale Riccinto Leon Rocco Harold Russell John Rusyn Myron Rybak Joseph Scarsi Albert Schond Robert Schultz Dan Sasario **Emil Schwab** John Scott Peter Seeland Edmund Serwatka William Shean Belden Stering Luther Stone Charles Stucker Anthony Triolo Robert Vanderbrook Joseph Vecchiarelli Joseph Waltos Richard Wiggins Carmen Zerrillo Chester Zerrillo

Carl Zimmer Stella Welch, (Wac) Wanda Legawiec, (Wave) June Eggert, (Wave) Josephine Cardone, (Wave) Mary Patapow, (Wave) Bernice Reed, (Spar) Tomasina DeRoma, (Wac) Marion Usatynski, (Wac) Eunice Bachman, (Wave) Edward Miesch Reid Hoev Frank Stagnitta Angelo Varre John Goetz John Dalessandro Lee Wadsworth Francis Berda Thomas Angiolillo Jay Stanton Leland Prouty William O'Kipney Homer Bonspille Frank Settineri Richard Greenwood Robert Hoffman **Edward Bailey** Louis Newman Relph Dozipone Henry Wisinki Verne Bryant Chester Sikora Edward Tarkowski Harry Welch Walter Bellrose, Jr. Robert DeCoursey Homer Kingsbury Nicholas Vecchiarelli George Sutton Joseph O'Brien Anthony Sackett Martin Murray Walter Sakowski Robert Pudney Major Jenkins Charles Metzger Ir. Dominic Busco

Robert Heaps

Lewis Slowik

William Praxyl

Willis Broberts Victor Schaefer Charles Schultz Stanley Dzikowski Stanley Lukasiewicz Merrill Kaszubinski Ferdinand Amody Walter Popielarski Gareth Webb Frank Lovecchio Jack McConnell Mack Tyminski Leo Kane John Perrotti Stanislaus Skoczen Joseph Letizia Sherman Forsyth Antonio Bartorillo Stenen Calcagino Ralph Hanley Robert Bower Robert Penney Anthony Marco Hrynyk Earl Kinberely August Harms Norbert Schmidt William Bryce William Robinson Ross Proughty John McNamara Edward Phelan Edward Kelly Walter Thorpe **Edward Fadford** Silvio Salvagni

David Chapman

Joseph Lentz

### Our Gold Stars



WORLD WAR I Charles Gebert
Peter Kostine
Joseph Mecholin
Ray Ryder
Joseph Schlinski

MORLD WAR II Frederick Behling
Anthony Bohemier
Bernard Delcioppo
Peter Di Orio
Frank Dziczkaniec
Louis Greis
Joseph Gugliuzza
Paul Haverlock
Lansing Hibbard
Nicholas Pallotta
Irwin Radney
Charles Siedlicke
Bernard Toft
Harry Underwood
Bernard Works

### First Line Materiel ... M-5

A VETERAN in the world of American ceramics, the Onondaga Pottery Company turned her efforts in the early war years to an entirely new and untried field, the art of Ceramic destruction. In the unfamiliar field of offensive weapons, using the newest and the oldest of materials, the engineers, scientists and technicians of the Onondaga Pottery Company, in cooperation with Pass and Seymour Inc. and with Army Ordnance, were successful in developing and producing new lethal weapons which complied with unusual specifications.

One of these, the basic constituent of which is nothing more or less than Syracuse China, is known as the M-5 non-detectable, anti-tank land mine. Some of the requirements of the new weapon as set up by the Ordnance Department were: Must contain no particle of metal; ability to function in any soil, even under water; resistance to detonation from neighboring mines placed in the field at a minimum of 4 feet; precision construction to insure safety for advancing infantry while exploding under the only slightly greater pressure per square inch of moving vehicles such as tanks; assured performance at temperatures ranging from  $-40^{\circ}$  to  $+170^{\circ}$  F.

The new type fuze for the mine, the first high speed chemical fuze for Ordnance, was developed by the Onondaga Pottery Company and was produced by Pass and Seymour. To our knowledge, the still secret components of the fuze are the only ones that meet the specifications set up by Army Ordnance. Actually, nothing like the mine and fuze had ever been produced before either in this country or abroad. The mine and fuze, being entirely non-metallic, defied all known methods of detection when buried.

Because of several features of the design, which had never before been achieved in land mines, the production problems were extremely difficult, necessitating the development of new methods and equipment in order to produce and assemble the mine and its fuze. In addition, subcontractors had to be found who could produce plastic, fiber and rubber parts which would meet specification tolerances not heretofore demanded in other than metal components. Originally designed machine equipment supplemented by a moving belt system comprised the assembly scheme which became a model for other concerns who soon were to aid in swelling the stream of mines flowing in to the national arsenals. In spite of the fact that these weapons were unprecedented, the production schedules were met with the Court Plant, where the production was performed, receiving the Army-Navy "E" Award.

It is reported that the M-5 mine, containing so many unusual materials, was used in the Italian Campaign and as flank protection for General Patton's Army in the drive across France into Germany. And—unless a new method of accurate detection has been developed to locate and clear out these mine fields, some French cow is going to come to a sudden and violent end, an innocent victim of Syracuse China.

Our M-7 "pocket mines," which also were detonoted by one of our chemical fuzes, were used in the Burma and Pacific sectors.

In cooperation with Pass and Seymour Inc., we developed for Army Ordnance, three types of mines for different purposes and four types of fuzes. The production of these in our own plants totalled 1,300,000 mines and 4,000,000 fuzes.





THE INVENTORS COUNCIL WHOSE EFFORTS MADE THE M-5, M-7 AND T-3 MINES AND FUSES POSSIBLE. (FRONT ROW) LEFT TO RIGHT: FOSTER RHODES, DR. EDWARD SCHRAMM, JAMES COOPER, OF HALL AND MCCHESNEY CO., RAY HENDERSON, MARK RUSSELL OF PASS AND SEYMOUR. (SECOND ROW) GORDON HUGGINS, WILLIAM SALISBURY, WALTER HASWELL, RICHARD H. PASS.

Thus the Onondaga Pottery Company turned a source of beauty into a force of destruction. One of the finer products, so much a part of the American Way of Life, became a force in the defense and preservation of that American Way.

The components of the so called "Syracuse secret weapon of World War II" (M-5 Mine) are perhaps best described in terms of the well known war time shortages. Syracuse China was the standard for the mine body and was fitted with that two way stretch girdle for which you shopped in vain. Those missing plastic coat buttons appeared in the guise of fuze adapters and the wall board you couldn't find on the market was busy holding up 5 pounds of TNT. Scotch tape did a first rate job on the mine jacket made of asphalt roofing material while heavy duty adhesive tape sealed it. O.D. paint camouflaged the case and plaster of paris and rubber cement held internal parts in place. In all seriousness, it may be truthfully said that everything went into this creation including the kitchen sink as one cooperating concern actually used this material to build a mine body.

FINAL STAGE OF ASSEMBLY AT THE END OF NO. 2
CONVEYOR SHOWING THE FINISHED PRODUCT
LEAVING THE CONVEYOR.



INSPECTION OF CHINA BODY AND BASE OF THE A-T, N-M, M-5 MINE.



NO. 1 CONVEYOR SHOWING PLASTER TABLES AND FIRING PINS SELECTOR.



NO. 2 CONVEYOR SHOWING APPLICATION OF CEMENT AND MACHINES FOR CEMENTING RUBBER BANDS ON CHINA ASSEMBLY.



### Second Line Materiel .. CHINA

Syracuse China first, answered the "call to the colors" in World War II by turning a great part of her production facilities toward supplying essential chinaware requirements. As the nation drew rapidly upon her man power resources to build a great fighting machine, certain basic needs in the line of equipment became evident.

It is generally conceded that "an army travels on its stomach." By the same token, it follows that a means of supplying food for that collective stomach is an essential requirement. It was in this capacity that the Onondaga Pottery Company was first asked to serve by directing a large part of her chinaware output to the needs of the armed forces.

Large contracts were filled according to the specifications of the United States Navy, the Army Quartermaster Corps, the Army Medical Corps and the United States Marine Corps. Flying field cafeterias throughout the United States were supplied as well as naval bases, army camps and officers' clubs.

One of the classics of pottery legend, well worth repeating, is the story of two people and a stove. (Mary Moran—Print Decorator.) Back in the good old days, Mary Moran (now in her 50th year with the Company) was blissfully eating her lunch in the Print Shop when an oil burning stove nearby burst into flame. Quickly throwing a blanket over it, our heroine heaved the whole works out the third story window. As fate would

have it, Mr. James Pass, president of the Com-

On the civilian home front, chinaware equipment was also a "must" item for various essential organizations. For example, the Welfare Association of Washington, D. C., as the directing control of the public cafeterias, contracted for large quantities of Syracuse China as necessary equipment in feeding the rapidly expanding personnel of the various war-time government agencies and bureaus. Industrial cafeterias serving the aeronautical factories, munitions plants, etc. also held high priority ratings in their capacity as suppliers of essential war materials.

Thus the Onondaga Pottery Company contributed substantially to the war effort in the line of established products, directing their efforts to supplying the needs of the fighting man as well as supplying the man behind the man behind the gun.

pany, was descending from his buggy at that very moment in the street below. Only by some miracle was Mr. Pass able to control his astonishment and duck in time to escape this unexpected missile.

'Tis truly said that men and women of decision built the Onondaga Pottery Company as we know it today. Mary made her decision in this instance and Mr. Pass congratulated her on her quick action in preventing a serious fire.



SYRACUSE TRUE CHINA FOR THE GOVERNMENT



## war Department

expresses its appreciation for patriotic service in a position of trust and responsibility

to

R B. PASS

For outstanding services rendered in time of war to the Ammunition Development program of the Ordnance Department

Washington, D. C. 3 December 1945

Lieutenant General, Chief of Ordnange

General
Commanding General, Army Service Forces

RLY P. Patterner of twar

The War Department's Award, reproduced above, should be regarded properly as applying to the people of the Pottery organization as a whole. The War Department's practice in regard to Citations for distinguished civilian service in time of war, is to designate an individual rather than an organization. Since the accomplishments of each of us in this Pottery organization are dependent on the service and cooperation of the people of the Pottery as a whole, I am aware, and I want everyone at the Pottery to realize, that the honor which the War Department has bestowed by this Award belongs to you all.

Cordially yours,

P.H. Pan

# The following pages

product, the culmination of the work of the modern potter and craftsman, the final end and aim toward which the creative and productive efforts are directed. The ensuing photographic studies are a representation of the settings in which each type of ware has been designed to blend with the surroundings. These are some of the back drops against which Syracuse China is displayed in every day use. Whether Syracuse China is required to serve the public or complement a home, it is designed in structure and pattern to meet the needs and tastes of the user. Unfortunately space does not permit us to show all the establishments representing satisfied users of Syracuse China. It is, in effect, a pictorial sampling suggesting the range and variety of national users, both in the public and private sense.



PINE ROOM, THE CORONADO HOTEL, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI







COCOANUT GROVE, AMBASSADOR HOTEL, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MARINE DINING ROOM, EDGEWATER BEACH HOTEL, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS









PUMP ROOM, AMBASSADOR HOTEL, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS





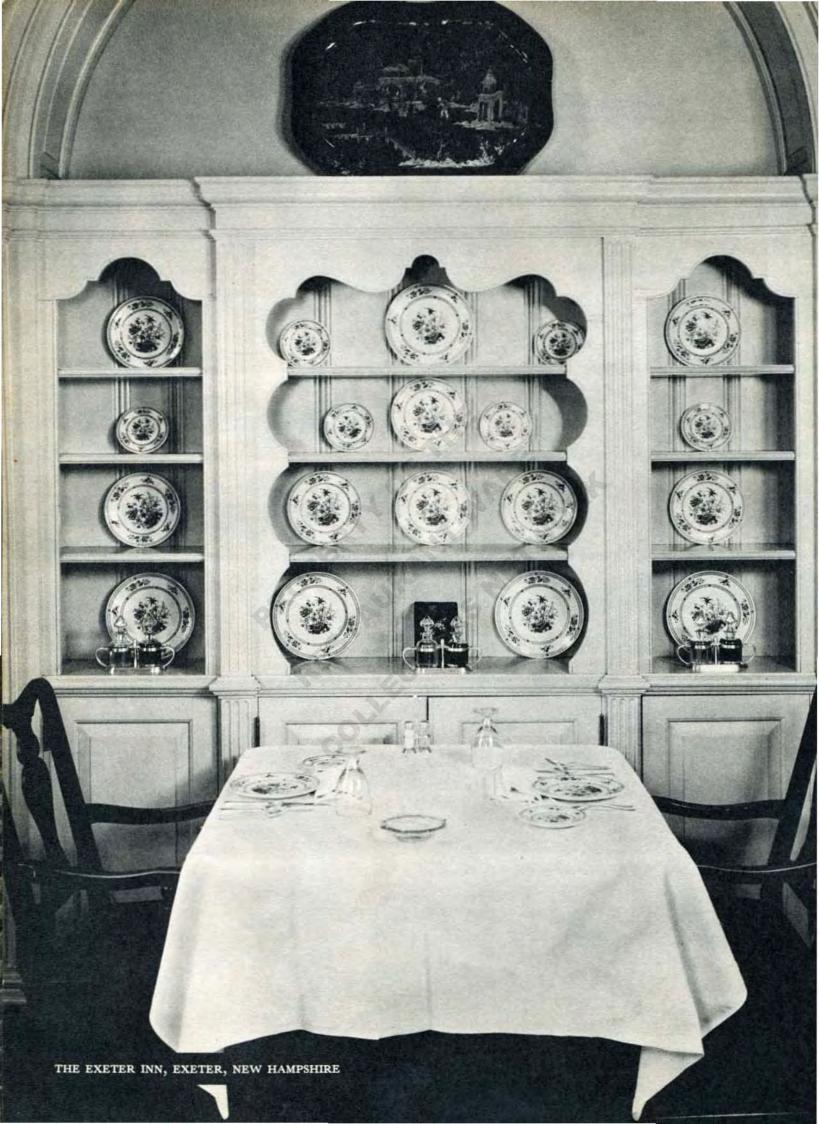
PEACOCK COURT, HOTEL MARK HOPKINS, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA





COLONIAL ROOM, SCHRAFFT'S RESTAURANT, NEW YORK CITY













EMERALD ROOM, BROWN PALACE HOTEL, DENVER, COLORADO













HOTEL ROANOKE, ROANOKE, VIRGINIA



TAPESTRY ROOM, THE ST. ANTHONY HOTEL, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS







MOUNTAIN VIEW HOUSE, WHITEFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE









EMPIRE ROOM, HOTEL UTAH, SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH







SYRACUSE CHINA IN SERVICE ON ONE OF THE SANTA FE'S SUPER CHIEF DINERS







ON THESE PAGES
ARE SHOWN A FEW
SAMPLES OF THE NEW
DINNERWARE PATTERNS
DEVELOPED BY THE
ART COUNCIL



## Autographs

E E DONNELLEY GRAVURE & SONS CO CHICAGO

