

Articles from the Atlas Tack Corporation

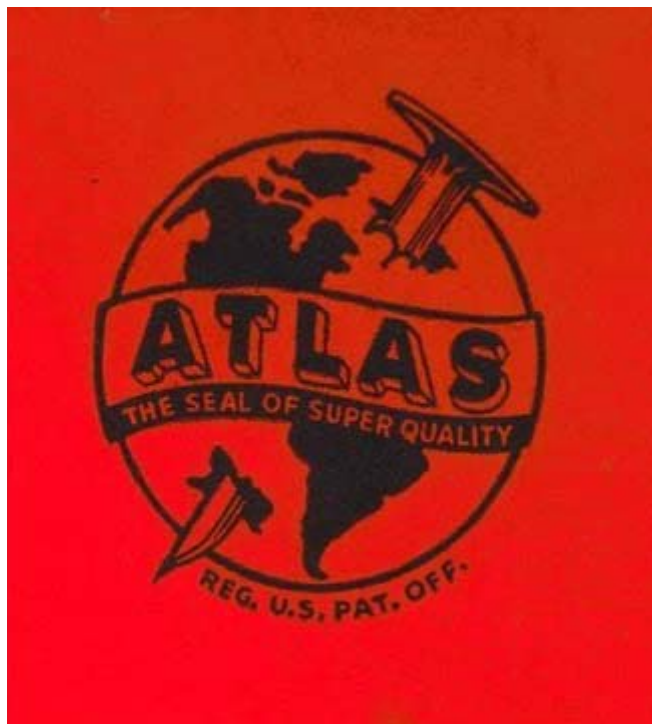
1885-2006

Compiled from the Fairhaven Star & Standard Times

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Fairhaven, Massachusetts

July 5, 2017



Atlas Tack Company
Atlas Tack Corporation
American Tack Co.

SEE ALSO; WEYMOUTH, GEO. W.

AMERICAN TACK CO.

SEPT. 13, 1879

The American Tack Co.'s business is fast increasing and the works now run ten hours a day. It is rumored that they will soon be in operation six days in the week instead of five, as at present. 9-13-79

NOV. 22, 1879

The American Tack Co. have dug another well on their lot east side of Fort street, in order to obtain more water for their works. 11-22-79

APRIL 3, 1880

The American Tack Co. is to erect a building three stories in height, and 40 by 60 feet in size, on Fort street, north of their factory. 4-3-80

MAY 1, 1880

George A. Bourne & Son sold at auction last Saturday 5 shares of American Tack Co. at \$97.75 per share. 5-1-80

MAY 15, 1880

Five shares of American Tack Co. stock were sold at auction Saturday by Bourne & Son at \$91.50 per share. 5-15-80

MARCH 3, 1883

Ten shares American Tack Co. stock were sold at auction in New Bedford Saturday at \$112.25. 3-3-83

AUG. 11, 1883

The principal industry of our town, the tack business, is just now a good deal depressed. The factories are running only 32 hours per week, being eight hours a day, four days a week. This makes short time for the hands and rather hard on them, but in view of the many failures that have recently occurred, it is evident that the manufacturers were wise in combining and thereby controlling the production. For had the tack factories of the country run full time during the past two years, the present depression would have witnessed some failures in other than the shoe and leather trades. 8-11-83

DEC. 10, 1881

Joel Stetson and Charles H. Taber have built for the American Tack Co., a flat roofed addition to the "pickle house" at the tack works on Fort street. 12-10-81

SEPT. 11, 1880

A schooner arrived at the American Tack Co.'s wharf this week with vitriol for the Tack Company. 9-11-80

MAY 17, 1884

Two patents have been granted to the American Tack Co. for labels for carpet tacks and for tinned carpet tacks. 5-17-84

APRIL 12, 1884

Platform scales are being built on the north side of the Tack Works.

It is reported that the New Bedford & Fairhaven Horse Railway Co. is to do its own blacksmithing, including shoeing the horses, at the O. C. R. R. locomotive house in this town.

Fall River has tried the free text book plan and thinks it a success. The books are so well preserved as to last for several generations of pupils, and including stationery, the expense has averaged only one dollar a year for the enrolled pupils, which is considerably less than what the parents previously paid. Nothing is said about the contagious diseases, measles, mumps, etc., which may be handed down from class to class by means of the old books. 4-12-84

MAY 24, 1879

George A. Bourne sold at auction on Saturday 40 shares of American Tack Works at \$55.50 per share. 5-24-79

FEB. 12, 1881

The annual meeting of the American Tack Company was held Thursday. The following officers were re-elected:

Directors, O. P. Brightman, Loum Snow, C. D. Hunt and L. S. Judd of Fairhaven.

A dividend of eight per cent was paid. 2-12-81

MARCH 5, 1881

Eleven shares of the American Tack Co.'s stock were sold recently at auction for \$100.25 per share. 3-5-81

MARCH 19, 1881

Last Saturday 20 shares of American Tack Co. was sold at \$100. 3-19-81

APRIL 2, 1881

Last Saturday five shares of American Tack Co. stock sold for \$100 per share. 4-2-81

AUG. 13, 1881

The roof of the stone building on Spring street, used by the American Tack Co. as a store house, is being re-shingled by Joel Stetson. We understand that 55,000 feet of shingles will be used, and the expense will be about \$300. 8-13-81

OCT. 22, 1881

The tack works was obliged to shut down at 3 o'clock Thursday P.M. on account of the scarcity of water. 10-22-81

AUG. 25, 1906

The old tack factory on Fort street will soon be a hive of industry. Shoes are to be manufactured there for the purpose of demonstrating the new shoe machinery. A good number of hands will be employed. 8-25-06

MARCH 24, 1906

George Allen, who resides in the Baker house on Green street, while looking out of a rear window about midnight Saturday, saw two men enter the yard of the old tack factory on Fort street. His suspicions were aroused and securing the help of Patrick Sullivan who lives next door, started out to investigate, and gave chase, but the men disappeared. 3-24-06

The matter was reported to Constable Shooks who found that the factory had been entered and several feet of belting taken.

OCT. 13, 1906

Preparations are being made at the old tack factory on Fort street to begin the manufacture of shoes for the purpose of demonstrating the new shoe machinery. A force of men is engaged in making alterations in the building and occupancy will take place at an early date. 10-13-06

NOV. 3, 1906

A large force of men are engaged in making alterations in the old tack factory building, Fort street, which is to be used for the manufacture of shoes and shoe machinery. The old brick stack is being torn down and a steel stack 80 feet high will take its place. 11-3-06

FEB. 25, 1882

Last Saturday Geo. A. Bourne & Son sold at auction 12 shares American Tack Company at \$110; 7 shares National Bank of Fairhaven, \$79.50. 2-25-82

MARCH 25, 1882

The American Tack Company of this town is running full time and still is unable to keep up with the orders for goods. 3-25-82

MAY 25, 1882

An addition 30 by 60, three stories high, and a boiler house, will soon be built on the north side of the Tack Works. Both buildings are to be of stone.

tack machines, etc., will be put up. The Thayer & Judd Tack Works at New Bedford have succeeded in securing plates and will soon start up 38 machines. The Gosnold Mills of that city are going into the tack business.

NOV. 27, 1886

The Tack Works closed Wednesday night for the remainder of the week, enabling employees to properly enjoy their Thanksgiving dinner and recover from the subsequent effects. During the shut down the main belt was renewed.

DEC. 25, 1886

Another foreign order has been received at the Tack Works which will cause business to continue brisk for some time.

JAN. 1, 1887

At a meeting of the Central Labor Union in Boston Sunday evening, a communication from the Tackmakers' assembly was received, stating that the American Tack Co. of Fairhaven had reduced their help 25 per cent. and that the men, eleven in all, had quit work, and were now out; also asking that the Central Labor Union extend them its aid. The matter was referred to the persuading committee for it to use its best endeavors in this vicinity, and the assembly is to be asked to give all the information it possesses on the subject.

JAN. 8, 1887

The Tack Works is now running but five days a week, and nine and a half hours a day, thus dispensing with lights in the morning.

MARCH 5, 1887

The American Tack Co. has received another large order for 50 tons of tacks and nails. This will necessitate the works running a half day on Saturday until the order is filled.

MARCH 12, 1887

The Tack Works and Iron Works shut down on town meeting day.

One of the striking tackmakers at the American tack factory, who have been out over five months, denies the report that the men are applying for their old jobs. One of them was sought for by the management recently, with an offer of the old rates, and the others consented that he might go back. The strikers are still receiving \$12 a week each from the Tackmakers' Union.

JULY 2, 1887

The Tack Works will probably shut down next week to enable the employees to go "a haying" for the company.

AMERICAN TACK CO. (CONT.)

APRIL 23, 1887

The American Tack Co. shipped 60 tons of tacks by propeller Monday, 40 tons of which go to South America.

MAY 28, 1887

Another large order at the steam mill in Mattapoisett for boxes, from Fairhaven Tack Factory.

JULY 23, 1887

The Tack Co. has sold its hay this season to the Union Street Railway Co.

DEC. 10, 1887

The American Tack Co. contemplates an extensive enlargement of their factory, — perhaps next spring. The addition will be of stone, of which there is a large quantity in that vicinity.

JAN. 15, 1888

Workmen at the Tack Works are highly elated in that they receive wages equal to a full week's work of 60 hours, although they work but 5½ days, and but 9½ hours a day. One workman in speaking of the matter said, emphatically, "It is not everyone that would do as much for his workmen."

JAN. 21, 1888

A brighter outlook for spring trade is contemplated by the American Tack Co., than for several years past. Already, the year has opened up by extra work being done on Saturdays. The full complement of help in the packing room has been called into requisition lately, and taking the good beginning made as a basis, the prospect for a good trade during 1888, is flattering.

APRIL 28, 1888

The Gosnold mills tack and nail machinery which was bought by the American Tack Co., is being brought into town today from New Bedford. The Gosnold mills real estate has been sold to the Old Colony Railroad for a freight depot.

JUNE 30, 1888

The Tack Works will probably run but four days a week after July 4th.

OCT. 6, 1888

It is estimated that it will cost \$300 to repair the washout in the Tack Works yard.

APRIL 6, 1889

The Tack Company has fenced in its land on the new extension of Green street.

MARCH 30, 1889

The American Tack Co. made a shipment of goods this week to South America via Hamburg, Germany. This is the second lot the company has shipped via Hamburg, and is the cheapest and most direct route to the port to which they were sent. It is hoped the present administration will imitate the European governments, and assist some lines to run from New York direct to South American ports.

JAN. 30, 1915

The old Atlas Tack factory on Fort street, now known as the Twin City Ice Co., was not sold Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock, as advertised. C. W. Kinseller came on from New York Wednesday and matters were adjusted to the satisfaction of the mortgagee, Everett B. McLoud.

A group of a dozen or fifteen men gathered on Fort street in front of the building and until after three overcome the effects of the raw wind by rubbing their hands and stamping their feet. There was not even a red flag to radiate warmth in the vicinity. Neither auctioneer nor anyone else in authority appeared so all hands sounded taps on the sidewalk for the last time and started for home, via shanks mare, all except Robert W. Pease, who rode away holding reins attached to the real thing in horses.

During the wait conversation drifted to what uses the building might be put. A hotel was one suggestion, the water privilege making it a valuable property. Mr. Pease thought it might be divided into sections and used as bowling alleys. There would also be room for a skating rink, both roller and ice, a pit in one section of the building lending itself admirably to the scheme.

This led Mr. Pease to tell how he won \$5 once in a velocipede race in old Piorean hall, in New Bedford.

"Was that how you got your start?" he was asked, an inquiry that caused considerable merriment.

JAN. 4, 1913

A 100-ft. addition to the storehouse at the Atlas Tack factory is being built. 1-4-13

APRIL 2, 1910

J. W. Bishop Co. has begun to build the addition to the Atlas Tack Co.'s plant. The construction will be of brick. 4-2-10

JULY 11, 1935

Labor troubles at the Atlas Tack Corp., whose exact details are zealously guarded, but which were said to have arisen over a dispute regarding hours of employment, resulted in a two-day strike of tackmakers at the plant Tuesday and Wednesday of this week. 7-11-35

According to one of the strikers, 20 tackmakers were directly involved and 50 feeder boys and six inspectors were affected by the walkout.

Roger D. Edwards, president of the concern, could not be reached for a statement, but Harry L. Sunderlin, treasurer, did not deny trouble existed, although he declared that the number of tackmakers reported to have quit work was greatly overstated. Beyond saying that work was going on as usual, Mr. Sunderlin refused to comment on the situation.

Charles R. Driscoll, president of the local branch of the International Association of Tackmakers, and chairman of the shop committee at the Atlas plant, yesterday made the following statement:

"An adjustment of the difficulties was made this morning, satisfactory to both sides, and the men will go back to work tomorrow morning."

Mr. Driscoll denied that there was any real difficulty and refused to elevate the incident to the proportions of a strike, declaring that the men had merely decided to suspend work until they could have a conference with the company's officials.

AUG. 15, 1935

The Atlas Tack Corp., Fairhaven's largest taxpayer, has made application to the board of assessors for abatement of assessed valuation on its plant to the extent of \$250,000. The board has taken the matter under consideration. 8-15-35

APRIL 1, 1899

The Fairhaven branch of the Atlas Tack Co. is filling a large number of export orders. 4-1-99

ATLAS TACK CORP.

APRIL 26, 1902

A tack machine was started up in the new mill of the Atlas Tack Co. Monday afternoon at 4 o'clock. There were present, Manager Weymouth; E. G. Paull and C. D. Hunt, two of the inventors of this fast machine; Superintendent Joseph Pettee, Jr., and Assistant Superintendent N. M. Paull, of the local branch of the company; C. H. Morton; I. Giles of the Atlas Eyelet Co.; Engineer Thayer, superintendent of construction of the new mill; Engineer Morris who has been in charge of the work for the contractors; a Star reporter, and a few workmen in the mill.

The power was thrown on the machine to try the speed after which the belt was thrown off and E. G. Paull made one tack, the first in the new mill. The second was made by C. D. Hunt and the third by Manager Weymouth. The belt was then thrown on and tacks were turned out at the rate of 380 a minute and they were all eagerly secured as mementoes by those present. 4-26-02

MAY 3, 1902

The dedicatory ball which was to have been given in the new Atlas Tack Mill last Thursday was postponed until next Thursday as Mr. Rogers could not be present until that date. 5-3-02

MAY 10, 1902

The immense new mill of, the Atlas Tack Co. was dedicated on Thursday night with a grand ball which was attended by nearly a thousand people. The festivities took place in the north part of the mill and the hall was so spacious that twice the number could have participated. Over 300 took part in the grand march.

The affair was a brilliant one. It was held under the auspices of the Fairhaven Poor Society, the members of which have worked with the tackers, under the direction of Norman M. Paull, for several months. 5-10-02

JUNE 7, 1902

About everything has been transferred to the new tack mill from the old plant of the Atlas Tack Co. and while an army of men is working hard arranging the great quantity of machinery, stock, etc., it will be some little time before everything is settled and running smoothly. 6-7-02

MAY 24, 1902

The entire plant of the Atlas Tack Co. in Taunton will shut down tonight. Machinery has been shipped from that city, here, at the rate of six carloads a day. Operations in the old local plant on Fort street will cease May 31. By July 1, it is expected that everything will be in operation at the new plant. 5-24-02

JULY 19, 1902

The Atlas Tack Co. has purchased 2,000 feet of hose and the necessary number of nozzles. A line of hydrants extends all around the immense plant. Every precaution is being taken to prevent damage by fire. 7-19-02

APRIL 3, 1904

The tacking department of the Atlas Tack factory began operations at half past six instead of seven o'clock Monday morning. The new arrangement is to be in force during the Summer months so that the whole factory will be closed on Saturday afternoons. 4-2-04

JUNE 16, 1904

Notices were posted at the Atlas Tack factory yesterday stating that the mill would run 55 hours a week instead of 58. 6-16-04

AUG. 13, 1904

The Atlas Tack Co. is now said to be paying a fair profit for the first time in many years. 8-13-04

SEPT. 3, 1904

The Atlas Tack department commenced running on 55 hour time Monday, an increase of five hours. The eyelet department will also be operated on Saturdays after this week. 9-3-04

MARCH 25, 1905

The Atlas Tack factory which has been running 58 hours a week commenced the 55 hour schedule Monday. This is in order that the employes may have a half holiday Saturdays. 3-25-05

JAN. 4, 1908

The Atlas Tack factory, which has been closed down to take account of stock, will start up on Monday. 1-4-08

SEPT. 22, 1906

The fire alarm was rung Wednesday to try the new steam whistle at the Atlas Tack factory which is to be used in connection with the system. 9-22-06

APRIL 19, 1929

At a sheriff's sale Monday, the stock, machinery and fixtures of the Phoenix Braid Co., located in the old Atlas Tack building on Fort street, were sold to the Westport Factory. The price paid was \$1,050. 4-19-29

MAY 24, 1929

The American Laundry Machine Co., Cincinnati, O., will abandon its branch plant in the old Atlas Tack works on Fort street about July 1. Albert K. Sparrow, who is in charge, estimates that about 50 people will be thrown out of employment. 5-14-29

APRIL 4, 1930

A new steam valve has been placed in service on the fire whistle located at the Atlas Tack property. The old valve, over 20 years old, had not been operating properly of late. 4-4-30

MARCH 11, 1899

Business at the local branch of the Atlas Tack Co. is humming. There are many orders on hand not only for American concerns, but for foreign as well. 3-11-99

The local concern is the largest tack factory in the world, and at the present time, is manufacturing more tacks than ever before. The factory is running four nights each week. 52 tack machines have just been brought here from Plymouth, increasing the number of machines to over 200, and brings the capacity of the mill up to 56,000,000 tacks per day.

OCTOBER 28, 1905

The County Commissioners met at Taunton on Tuesday and voted to reduce the assessment on the Atlas Tack property in this town \$90,000 and the corporation will pay a tax of \$6,431.25 as against \$8,006.25, the amount of the tax as fixed by the Fairhaven assessors.

The commissioners had a hearing on Tuesday of last week and the decision is the outcome.

The decision is in the nature of a compromise, the total assessment fixed on being about an even split between the assessment made by the assessors and the sworn statement submitted by President Weymouth. The commissioners have fixed the total assessment at \$387,500, while the figures of the assessors fixed it at \$457,500. President Weymouth's sworn statement placed the value of the plant at \$300,000, the amount on which he asked to be assessed.

OCTOBER 21, 1905

The county commissioners gave a hearing on Tuesday in the Selectmen's room of the town hall on the petition of the Atlas Tack Co. asking for reduction of the tax placed upon the property by the assessors, amounting to \$8,006.25 — an amount which it claims is unjust.

After a long discussion, the matter was taken under advisement.

SEPT. 23, 1905

The watchman at the Atlas Tack factory looked out of the office window about 8:30 o'clock Wednesday night and saw a man pushing a wheelbarrow out of the yard. The watchman called to him and the man dropped the barrow and ran. In the barrow was found 200 pounds of copper. 9-23-05

OCT. 17, 1930

Irving Verimilya, owner of radio station WNBH, announces that while the studio will remain at the New Bedford Hotel, the control room where the radio takes the air will be changed to the Atlas Tack factory in this town, which will mean a better reception for listeners. 10-17-30

APRIL 18, 1903

The watchman at the tack factory unintentionally made prisoners of a couple of workmen the other night. Supposing that the men were all out of the room, the door was locked; but the prisoners were not a great while in making the condition of things known and they were finally given their freedom. The occurrence gave rise to the report that the men, after they were locked in, cut their way out of the room. 4-18-03

AUG. 8, 1903

The real estate and other property of the Atlas Tack Co. in Fairhaven is to be sold at auction August 26. That at Taunton will be sold on the 25th. 8-8-03

AUGUST 22, 1903

James R. Carter, William A. Rust and Seth L. Cushman, trustees of the bondholders of the Atlas Tack Corp., will sell at public auction on the premises next week the real estate, machinery and personal property formerly belonging to the plants of the Albert Field Tack Co. and the Taunton Tack Co., at Taunton; the American Tack Co., at Fairhaven, and Loring & Parks, at Plymouth and Duxbury.

AUG. 27, 1903

The Fairhaven property held by the trustees of the bond holders of the old Atlas Tack Co. was sold at auction last Thursday by J. E. Conant & Co., of Lowell. The amount realized was about \$13,300. The real estate and buildings brought \$11,069, and the machinery and other property, something over \$2,000.

Lot eleven, with a harbor frontage of 400 feet, comprising the main mill, boiler and engine, and 2½ acres of land, on Fort street, was put up first. \$3,000 was the first bid offered by T. Wolfson of New York. The bids were increased by small amounts until it was knocked down to Mr. Wolfson for \$6950. Assessed value, \$20,000. 8-29-03

The wharf property comprising a stone wharf 78 feet wide and extending into the harbor 315 feet, a stable, a wagon shed and a store house, together with 1½ acres of land, was next offered. The wharf is said to have cost over \$40,000. The first bid was \$1,000 by William J. Dunn of Fall River. The bidding was principally between Mr. Dunn and Mr. Wolfson until the latter offered \$3420. The property was sold to Mr. Wolfson for \$3420. Assessed value, \$4800.

Z. W. Dodge estimated the value of the buildings in the first lot at \$31,755.

The next lot, with a frontage on Fort street of 45 feet, depth 226 feet, with shore privilege, went to W. J. Dunn of Fall River for \$239. The opinion was expressed that the purchase was made for Mr. Wolfson.

The lot on the east side of Green street with a frontage of 80 feet and a depth of 75 feet was sold to T. Franklyn Gay of New Bedford for \$460.

SEPT. 5, 1903

The Atlas Tack Co. offered a new schedule of wages to the tackmakers last Monday morning. The tackers immediately gave the company two weeks' notice. In the afternoon the tackers found a notice posted to the effect that the new schedule would go into effect September 1. When the six o'clock whistle blew, the 30 tackers walked out, some with their kits of tools. They said that they had been locked out. 9-5-03

Tuesday the tack making department was idle.

The tackmakers consider that the new rate means a cut in wages of 20 to 30 per cent.

SEPT. 26, 1903

Four experienced tackers are now working at the Atlas Tack plant and a number of men are being instructed. Six of the old tackers have secured employment elsewhere. 9-26-03

OCTOBER 17, 1903

The seventh week since the inception of the strike at the Atlas Tack factory finds the situation but little changed, and neither the company nor the men profess any desire to make any change on their part. The company has five experienced tackers at work.

The men who are out of work are looking toward Taunton to furnish them employment. At the new Taunton company's mill, the machinery is being shifted about, and the electrical apparatus removed. It is proposed to run the tack machines direct from the engine. The Taunton plant is equipped with 165 machines.

NOV. 7, 1903

The new United Tack company started operations at the former A. Field & Sons works in Taunton, Tuesday, with a force of 16 expert tackmakers, all of whom are members of the force of the Atlas Tack Co. who severed their connection with that corporation some time ago after refusing to accept the new schedule which that concern presented. 11-7-03

MAY 24, 1934

More than 200 employees of the Atlas Tack Co. met last Thursday in Cornell hall, New Bedford, and took steps toward organizing a union. Applications were signed and dues paid by most of those present. 5-24-34

Temporary officers were chosen and Ferdinand Sylvia, secretary of the Central Labor Union, was appointed to secure a union charter. The organization will be known as the Federal Union of Tack Workers and will be affiliated directly with the American Federation of Labor.

AUG. 9, 1902

The proposition of the Atlas Tack Co. to the tackers to run machines night and day was formally agreed to by them Tuesday, and the new order of things will commence as soon as the men can be secured.

The tackers now employed will be responsible for their machines night and day, and they are to employ the men who will operate the machines at night. 8-9-02

ATLAS TACK CORP. (CONTD)

NOV. 4, 1899

In spite of rumors of all kinds in regard to the Atlas Tack company, its present condition and future prospects, the plant is running as usual. The strike of the feeder boys that occurred last week over the discharge of some of them on account, as they say, of their staying out one of the days of the county fair without consent, has failed, says a dispatch from Taunton. 11-4-99

The places of the strikers have been filled with others, and the chances of the strikers getting their jobs back are not brilliant.

It is evident that there is to be a change in the Atlas Tack company. In fact, the deal is on and the stock is being transferred to the new owners as rapidly as possible. Who the purchasers are is not announced.

NOV. 18, 1899

The property of the Atlas Tack company, a corporation organized under the laws of Maine, and which has been in the hands of receivers for some time, is to be sold under the hammer in Boston on December 19.

The property of the corporation is located in Boston, Plymouth, Duxbury, Taunton, Fairhaven and Lynn, in this state, and in New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Chicago, Baltimore, and other places. 11-18-99

FEB. 3, 1900

A notice was posted at the tack factory Tuesday morning informing the employees that, commencing on that day, the factory would run eight hours a day instead of ten. Five or six of the feeder boys struck for ten hours' pay, but finding that they would not get what they asked for, some of them returned to work. 2-3-

FEB. 17, 1900

The tack works shut down on Thursday night on account of the lack of soft coal. There are two tons burned a day. 2-17-

DEC. 28, 1901

A committee of young men are arranging for a ball to dedicate the new Atlas Tack factory. It is hoped the mill will be ready by the eve of Washington's birthday. Mr. Weymouth, the manager, will hold an informal reception, and there will be dancing and cards.

The proceeds, above expenses, will be turned over to the Poor Society. 12-28-01

MARCH 31, 1900

The Atlas Tack company will have a beautiful, extensive and costly exhibit at the Paris exposition. It will consist of four large panels covered with heavy green plush velvet, upon which are worked intricate and handsome designs, all of which are made with goods manufactured by the concern. 3-31-

Over these four panels will be oil paintings, each giving a view of one of the four mills belonging to this company. Beneath the panels will be cases containing 2,100 different kinds of tacks, wire nails, rivets, staples, eyelets, and the many other articles made by the Atlas company.

JAN. 8, 1902

The local tack factory is running full time and there are plenty of orders on hand. 1-8-02

FEB. 1, 1902

The new 40-foot flagstaff, which the Business Association will present to the Atlas Tack Co., is about finished. It will be placed over the office portion of the new factory building. 2-1-02

FEB. 8, 1902

The property of the Atlas Tack company was sold at auction once more in Boston, Thursday, a committee of the bondholders bidding \$65,000, and to them it was knocked down. The sale included the factories, real estate, equipment and property in Taunton, Fairhaven, Plymouth, Duxbury and other places.

The original value is said to have been \$500,000. It was sold two years ago to H. H. Rogers, but owing to an illegality it had to be resold and Mr. Rogers decided not to bid. 2-8-02

FEB. 8, 1902

The new Atlas Tack Mill will be dedicated April 18 or 19 when a celebration will be held. 2-8-02

MARCH 15, 1902

The date set for the dedicatory ball of the new Atlas Tack works is May 1, and already plans are being made for the event. 3-15-02

APRIL 12, 1902

The new flag pole, a gift from the Business Association to the Atlas Tack Co., was placed in position yesterday on the new tack mill. 4-12-02

AUGUST 9, 1902

The old tack works on Fort street which for so many years has been the site of the town's principal industry, now rests silent and deserted. The clatter of the tack machines is no longer heard in its neighborhood. One cannot help wondering what will be the disposition made of the buildings, and if some other industry will be started at this admirably located plant.

AUG. 27, 1902

Probably the largest building enterprise in the way of cottages in Fairhaven ever engineered by one man is now being conducted by Charles C. Tilton of New Bedford.

Last October when there was a prospect of a demand for tenements, on account of the business of the Atlas Tack Co. being consolidated in Fairhaven, Mr. Tilton bought the lot on Pleasant street between Center and Union, opposite the Rogers school. The work of erecting cottages was commenced in November and up to the present time, nine cottages have been built.

8-27-02

Mr. Tilton recently purchased a lot at the corner of Washington and contemplated Pleasant streets, but he does not expect to build there until Pleasant street is built.

SEPT. 27, 1902

The eleven hydrants on the grounds of the Atlas Tack Co. are being housed in an attractive manner. The buildings are octagon in shape, seven feet high with roof. About 150 feet of hose will be placed in each.

9-27-02

MARCH 31, 1906

The Atlas eyelet factory, which has been working 10 hours five days in a week and eight hours Saturday, started Tuesday on 13 hours five days a week and eight hours on Saturday.

3-31-06

SEPT. 1, 1906

Manager Weymouth of the Atlas Tack Co. has come into possession of the old sign of the American Tack Co., which formerly had a place on the factory on Fort street. It will be placed in Atlas hall.

9-1-06

OCT. 20, 1906

Business in some departments of the Atlas Tack Co. is very brisk. As soon as enough help can be secured the tack department will run evenings until 9 o'clock.

10-20-06

SEPT. 6, 1908

The Atlas Tack Co.'s supply of coal is limited and if the coal already ordered does not arrive, fuel will have to be carted from the city next week. The factory consumes about 12 tons a day.

9-6-08

OCT. 4, 1902

The Atlas Tack Co. has been operating its new plant on South Pleasant street since May 30, and increasing its output steadily. Four hundred and fifty tack and nail machines are now running in one mighty roar 20 hours a day. The services of 500 employees are required, and of the 15 acres owned by the company south of Consolidated's tracks, more than four are occupied by the buildings.

The present officers of the company are as follows:

President and manager, George W. Weymouth; secretary and treasurer, Urban H. Broughton; assistant treasurer, H. H. Elliott, and directors, George W. Weymouth, Henry H. Rogers, U. H. Broughton, John Bushnell and H. H. Rogers, Jr.

10-4-02

The new eyelet made by the Atlas Tack Co. has been named the "Fairhaven Eyelet." It is said to be the finest eyelet on the market.

10-4-02

FEB. 13, 1904

About 20 of the boys who feed machines in the Atlas Tack factory struck Tuesday for more pay. Since the strike of the tackers, the boys have been working on piece work and have been paid by the company instead of by the tackers. The boys claimed that they were making 30c a day less. The places of the boys were quickly filled. One of the boys was asked what pay he was getting. He said, "One dollar a day, and three of the boys were getting \$7.25 a week."

2-13-04

AUGUST 31, 1907

The Atlas Tack factory and the Iron Works shut down Tuesday and Wednesday to allow its employees to participate in New Bedford's Old Home Week.

APRIL 15, 1911

Partly through a disagreement and partly on account of a misunderstanding 21 tackers at the Atlas Tack factory left their machines Thursday.

4-15-11

A set of 23 rules had been posted and to some of them the men objected. In some instances the objectionable rules were withdrawn or modified and the men expect to return to work on Monday.

AUG. 5, 1948

ATLAS TACK FEARS RESULTS OF INFLATION

Current inflationary tendencies in American manufacturing may tend to lose export markets to manufacturers in this country, the management of the Atlas Tack Corp. states in a report issued in connection with declaration of a regular quarterly dividend of 50 cents a share, payable August 31 to stockholders of record August 14.

An attempt is being made to hold prices on as many items as possible in the export field, the concern states, in order to protect this market, despite recently increased steel prices and advancing wage levels. Tack making concerns have caught up with the domestic demand and are making headway in catching up with orders for export, the statement adds.

8-5-48

JUNE 24, 1911

The J. W. Bishop Co. is building for the Atlas Tack Co. a one-story house 140 x 27 feet. It is located on the north side of the factory near the west end.

6-24-11

DEC. 30, 1911

The Atlas Tack Co. will soon install 90 additional tack and nail machines which will mean a considerable increase in output as well as an increase in the number of employees.

12-30-11

The factory has been running nights but is unable to keep up with orders.

JAN. 6, 1912

When the 95 new tack and nail machines are installed at the Atlas Tack factory, 75 more hands will find employment.

1-6-12

JUNE 16, 1936

Recently the Atlas Tack Corp. erected sign boards directing strangers to its plant. At the corner of Green and South streets is a neat sign reading, "Atlas Tack Corp., Largest and Oldest Manufacturers of Tacks and Nails in the World." The sign directs travelers up South street.

7-16-36

The visitors need go only one block to meet up with what must seem to them to be the oldest and largest holes in the world. If there is anything tougher anywhere in the world than the two blocks of pavement on South street nearest the tack works, it never was intended for traffic.

This same piece of street was so bad after the Spring thaw that it was necessary to close it to traffic until the frost was out of the ground. Just what improvement was made then is doubtful,

4-4-17

A new tack machine by E.G. Paul is in operation at the Atlas Tack Co. Nineteen others are being built. It is called "The Atlas."

but conditions existing today are of many months standing.

FEB. 4, 1937

Early this week a group of about 20 tack makers declared a walkout at the Atlas Tack Corp. plant here in protest against what they declare are too long hours, and in an endeavor to win either time and a half pay for overtime or establishment of an eight hour day.

2-4-37

At the plant it was reported the tack makers are paid from 95 cents to \$1.05 per hour.

MARCH 11, 1937

Rumors current this week that the five weeks old strike of tack makers at the Atlas Tack Corp. plant here had ended in a at least partial victory for the workers were denied by officials of the company.

3-11-37

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Those reputedly heading the strikers are extremely reticent and apparently do not care to comment on the situation, possibly through fear of jeopardizing their chances of re-employment.

MARCH 25, 1937

Sharply contradictory statements were issued this week by the management of the Atlas Tack Corp. and a spokesman for 25 striking tack makers and apprentices.

3-25-37

The strikers allege that the wages paid locally are lower than in tack plants in Whitman and other nearby towns, and that the company has attempted to import strikebreakers.

The company has offered to re-employ the striking workers, but the spokesman for the strikers says that proposals made by the concern that the tackmakers teach the trade to at least 15 apprentices, together with men now working whom they consider strikebreakers, are unacceptable.

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Strike leaders explained that the purpose of the picketing is peaceful, and said there is little danger of trouble developing unless the management attempts to import workers, a contingency they deem remote.

The union demands include a general increase of 10 cents per hour in wages; a minimum wage of 50 cents an hour for women and 60 for men; an eight hour day and 40-hour week, with time and a half for overtime; an increase of one third in piece work rates, and recognition of the union.

The management of the Atlas Tack Corp., reluctant to conduct strike negotiations through the medium of the press, nevertheless denied the majority of the claims of the strike leaders.

It was maintained that the number of workers who left the plant at the call of the union was only about 200, the remainder of the workers being sent home to prevent trouble. The union claims a membership of 453 at the plant.

A management spokesman stated that up to Wednesday afternoon no employees had presented any demands or grievances. It was declared that the payroll loss in the mill amounts to about \$12,000 per week.

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ATLAS TACK CORP. (CONT.)

announcement that if the plant were opened their groups would immediately return to work.

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"We consider the rumored announcement that the plant is to open, and the corporation negotiations with the 'company' union an absolute breach of good faith.

We have in our possession the company's own record of our conference with Mr. Kauer last Friday, in which he asserted that no negotiations would be carried on with anybody until the Labor Board election decided who the bargaining agency should be.

"We are absolutely confident that the outcome of the election would show that the Atlas Tack workers favor the C.I.O. union as their bargaining agent.

"We will resist every effort by this conspiracy of the corporation and the 'company' union to break the strike and to hang a company union around the necks of Atlas Tack employees."

JUNE 3, 1937

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6-3-37

JUNE 3, 1937

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Chief Sykes declared, "We have favored neither side in this strike, but have done our best to preserve order. On Friday morning Mr. Edwards (Roger D. Edwards, Atlas Tack president) opened the doors of the plant, expecting the workers to go in. They chose not to do so and he was disappointed, blaming the police.

"We have spent more than \$600 to police the strike, and the end is not yet in sight. Last Friday morning, even veteran state policemen agree, there was a strong possibility of a serious riot when the gates opened. The police department was not responsible for the situation but, observers declare, handled it efficiently and

effectively."

Early this week Mr. Edwards announced that "because of inadequate police protection" the plant will remain closed. "until such time as the safety of its workers is assured." Since that decision was made there has been no trouble at the plant, with the exception of minor incidents.

JUNE 10, 1937

The strike of workers at the Atlas Tack Corp. plant here, now entering its fifth week, produced little in the way of excitement this week, although definite steps have been taken toward arbitration of difficulties and the holding of an election to determine what bargaining agency shall represent the majority of the workers.

A new factor entered the situation with the announcement that an A. F. of L. union was in process of formation within the ranks of the workers. A meeting of the union was held last night in Phoenix hall, with an A. F. of L. organizer from Boston in charge.

The new group has absorbed the independent company union which had been organized at the plant.

JUNE 17, 1937

By a vote of 320 to 199 the CIO union of Atlas Tack workers defeated the newer AF of L group in the state's first "labor consent" election at the town hall yesterday afternoon.

Liam Donlon, CIO organizer who has led the victorious battle of the union, expressed delight at the result of the election. He said the group expected to enter into negotiations with the management at an early date.

JUNE 24, 1937

Although rumors of all sorts are current, definite information as to the progress of negotiations between the Atlas Tack Corp. management and leaders of the CIO union is lacking.

The CIO was elected as bargaining agent by the majority of the workers at the plant last week. One week was set as the period for direct negotiations. Thereafter the state board of arbitration and conciliation is to intervene, if no agreement is reached.

At the plant it was stated "We have no statement for the press at this time." Leaders of the majority union could not be reached for a statement.

JULY 15, 1937

The state board of labor and industries this week heard evidence regarding the situation at the Atlas Tack plant here, where negotiations between management and a CIO union have reached an apparent deadlock.

According to John L. Campos, member of the state body, the case has been taken under advisement and a verdict is to be given later.

JAN. 25, 1913

The dance held in the town hall Wednesday evening under the auspices of the Attaco Club, an organization of employees in the cast department at the Atlas Tack factory, was very successful.

Miss Sara B. Clarke and Miss M. Louise Norris were the patronesses. The ushers were F. W. Apellquist, W. W. Atkinson, J. L. Gillingham, Jr., B. E. Kempton and A. G. La Rocque.

DEC. 19, 1940

Tack Co. to Move Part of Operations

Henderson, Kentucky, Plant
Acquired by Atlas
Corporation

The Atlas Tack Corp. has acquired another plant in Henderson, Ky., and will transfer part of its operations there in the near future, Roger D. Edwards, president, announced this week.

In his announcement, Mr. Edwards said that up to half of the operations now performed at the local plant might be transferred to the Kentucky factory, which was previously operated by the H. J. Heinz Co. He declared that the transfer is occasioned by "economic necessity" and to be nearer the sources of supply and demand.

The announcement issued by the company stated:

"The location is desirable from the standpoint of obtaining raw material and the company also will be able to effect prompt deliveries to customers as a majority are located in the Central West. It is expected that Atlas eventually will manufacture in the Henderson plant up to one-half of all the products now produced in Fairhaven. It is expected that operations will require approximately 200 employees at the start at Henderson.

"The Henderson Board of Trade was instrumental in urging the At-

las Tack Corporation to locate a plant in Henderson through donations made by many business concerns and individuals in the cities of Henderson and Evansville, Ind., and the State of Kentucky also contributed other incentives in connection with free taxes for five years and other concessions including free water, light and a special rate on power, gas and coal.

"The officials were reluctant to move a substantial portion of the operations from Fairhaven however, it was not a matter of personal choice but rather one of economic necessity to locate closer to the source of supply and demand. Moreover the company, because of its location, is a high-cost producer in relation to its competitors, who are located in the Midwest and this move is intended to place the company on a sound basis from the standpoint of the future."

DEC. 19, 1940

AN INDUSTRY MOVES

The loss of at least part of the operations of the Atlas Tack Corp. in Fairhaven is bound to have a somewhat serious effect on local economy. Fortunately, at this time the general upturn in business as a result of the expansion of industry for defense contracts will in a large measure cushion the shock to local pocketbooks.

However, the loss of perhaps half of the town's largest industry may have an effect on the tax rate. The Atlas Tack Corp. is the town's largest taxpayer and the removal of machinery from Fairhaven will reduce the ratables and place a larger portion of the tax burden on home owners.

In the days when the manufacture of tacks and other small metal articles was started in Fairhaven, the greater part of the factories of the nation were concentrated in New England, and all were on an equal basis of wage rates, accessibility of raw materials and transportation to markets. Today industry is scattered throughout the country, and it is necessary for a concern of this type to be near sources of supply and in a central position as regards its market in order to compete successfully with other firms.

New England still has important advantages for industry, however. Most important of these considerations is the large supply of skilled labor

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available. Factory operations requiring judgment and discretion must be performed in a section where workers having training and experience are available. New England can offer a better supply of skilled workmen than any other part of the land.

Another important factor is transportation. Blessed by nature with many harbors for water-borne commerce, New England has abundant railroad facilities and motor-freight lines to supply materials to manufacturers and deliver finished goods.

At the present time, many industries have left this section to go elsewhere, lured by offers of free buildings, tax exemption and low cost services. Massachusetts towns, and quite rightly, are forbidden by law to exempt corporations from taxation. This plan, by ultimately allowing competition between towns to lead to financial disaster, can only lead to chaos.

We sometimes wonder if the many plants which have left New England and the industrial East to settle elsewhere will not find that their ultimate costs, after a period of years, will no be greater than if they had stayed among familiar and understood conditions.

MAY 9, 1963

VOTE UNION AFFILIATION 5-9-63

At a certification election last week, production employees of the Atlas Tack Corp. plant here voted to accept New Bedford Local 168 of the United Auto Workers as bargaining agent in contract negotiations this year. The current contract between the employees and the corporation expires July 1.

JULY 4, 1963

UNION CONTRACT RATIFIED 7-4

At an election last week, employees of the Atlas Tack Corp. voted to ratify a contract negotiated with the company by Local 899 of the United Auto Workers Union, which has represented the employees for about two months.

ATLAS TACK CORP. (CONT.)

NO DATE

SEC Upholds Stock Market Delisting of Atlas Tack *THURS*

Atlas Tack Corporation of Fairhaven has been turned down in its appeal to the Securities and Exchange Commission against the delisting of its shares by the New York Stock Exchange. In a decision just announced, the SEC upholds the action of the New York Stock Exchange in dropping Atlas Tack shares from trading on the big board.

The commission has thus yielded to the New York Stock Exchange the right to drop from its trading lists the stocks of companies which do not meet the newly-defined minimum requirements for continued listing.

William W. Swift, hearing examiner for the SEC, ruled that it is not within the jurisdiction of the commission to overrule the application of the exchange to delist as it sees fit. He said "no substantial evidence was brought forward warranting the imposition of terms on the exchange in dropping Atlas Tack shares."

Ruling Grants Autonomy

The ruling is held to grant a new degree of autonomy to the New York Stock Exchange, permitting it to delist a company's shares on its own terms.

Atlas Tack Corporation plans to appeal from the ruling, and to ask for a hearing before the full membership of the SEC. Sydney R. Cook, treasurer of the company, believes the action of the commission was taken simply on the strength of the recommendation of its hearing examiner whose ruling made no mention of the action of the exchange in making its minimum requirements retroactive without notice to the affected companies.

"Atlas Tack shares have been listed on the New York Stock Exchange ever since 1920," he said.

"We believe we have been unfairly treated, and we propose to fight the matter through, even to the extent of appealing to the courts, if necessary.

"Since our name begins with the first letter of the alphabet, we are the first to suffer from this action of the exchange, but there are about 15 other companies scheduled for the same fate, if this ruling is upheld.

"The New York Stock Exchange is carrying on a nationwide campaign to encourage the general public to buy stock listed on the exchange. They encourage purchase of any and all listed securities, including the 12 or 15 issues that we understand are scheduled to be delisted just like Atlas Tack.

Grounds Seen for SEC Action

"That seems to us to threaten very unfair treatment of the general public if it happens to buy the issues scheduled to be delisted. We think there are just grounds for SEC action and even, perhaps for court action. We are planning to carry the matter through as far as it can go to obtain fair treatment."

Mr. Cook has sought to learn

whether delisting of other stocks is to be made without prior notice to the affected companies. He said he has been advised that the SEC will not require the exchange to publish in advance the names of stocks scheduled for delisting.

The Atlas Tack case is the first instance of delisting action being taken as a result of an application by the issuer of the stock itself.

The controlling portion of the stock of Atlas Tack Corporation is owned by the employees' beneficial funds of the Springfield newspapers.

JULY 15, 1899

A disagreement arose between a tacker and an official at the local mill of the Atlas Tack factory Wednesday afternoon and the tacker was ordered to run off his machines. This he did, but the other 20 tackers did likewise and all went out about 5 o'clock. Mr. Garrett met the tackers in the evening and the differences were settled. The men returned to work Thursday morning. 7-15

DEC. 3, 1950

Atlas Tack May Absorb Alliance

A proposal to combine the Alliance Manufacturing Company of Alliance, Ohio, with the Atlas Tack Company whose plant is in Fairhaven, is reported to have been approved by controlling interests in both corporations.

The merger is to be accomplished by an exchange of stock, according to the reports. Stockholders of Alliance Manufacturing Company are to receive five shares of Atlas Tack stock for each nine shares of Alliance they now hold.

A special meeting of Atlas Tack stockholders is said to have approved the proposal and to have authorized the issuance of 85,000 additional shares of Atlas to be used in the exchange. Issuance of the Atlas Tack new stock however, is said to be contingent upon the listing of these new shares on the New York Stock Exchange, where present Atlas Tack shares are now regularly listed.

Atlas Tack officials were not available at the weekend for comment upon the proposal.

7/1/1937

History Reveal Many Vicissitudes of Atlas Tack

The making of tacks and nails in Fairhaven had its beginning in the advent of the American Nail Machine, organized in which moved to Fairhaven in 1865, and located in the buildings in Fort Street. Because of the competition in the West, the directors decided to forego manufacturing cut nails and turned their entire attention to the making of tacks and small nails.

The policy of the company was concentration and so, a small concern at Sandwich was purchased, and the machinery moved to Fairhaven. The leather head carpet tack business and machinery were brought by M. M. Rhodes and Sons of Taunton. The next step was the purchase of the business and trademarks of William S. Guerinneau of New York. The company shortly bought out many other small concerns thus completing its system of expansion.

May 1, 1901, the American Nail Machine Company, with its various requirements was reorganized as the American Tack Co. with Charles E. Brigham as president, and J. A. Downais as treasurer. In 1870, the three story stone building was completed. This was later known as Mill No. 4 of the Atlas Tack Corp. and is now occupied by Pierce & Kilburn Co.

Starting without trade or prestige, the business gradually built up until it was third in the country. Its products were known wherever tacks were used.

Consolidated 1891

In 1891, a plan for consolidation of Dunbar, Ericson Tack Co., and Longfellow & Parks Co., was put forward. It seemed an auspicious time for consolidation. Business throughout the country was good, and the officials of the company were sanguine of success. The tack manufacturers had always recognized the benefits of cooperation in order to allow them to secure such

prices for their products to allow them to pay good wages, and to make a fair profit for themselves. Methods of doing business were rapidly changing. The telephone and other means of ready communication put the buyers in close touch with the producers. This made competition very easy and reliance on trade very uncertain. Therefore, the method of doing business had to be changed to conform with the changing conditions.

It became apparent that these changed conditions must be met by a consolidation of interests in which it would be easy for the individual to promote the interests of his associates, formerly his competitors, and thus promote his own. The promoters of the Atlas Tack Corp. intended at the time to include every tack manufacturer in the country, but further changes defeated this move.

(over)

Foreign Competition

It required a year to get the consolidation in working order, during which time the company was doing a good business, and making a fair profit. Officials then made the mistake of spending money too lavishly, and a change in the fiscal policy of the government nearly wrecked the new consolidation. A new tariff, which failed to place any barrier on German tacks made with cheap materials by cheap labor, was passed in Washington. A fierce competition resulted with Germany, and the consolidation broke up. Final disintegration came when the Amer-

ican producers cut prices below cost to compete with the German manufacture. The consolidation went into receivership. The company continued to lose money, became heavily mortgaged, and was finally purchased at public auction by H. H. Rogers, the great benefactor of Fairhaven. A modern plant was built at Fairhaven. All modern machinery was bought to replace the old.

In 1903, the entire properties of the Atlas Tack Co. (with the exception of the new building) were sold.

Sold By Rogers Family 1920

The company was owned by the Rogers family until 1920, when it was sold to Boston bankers, who, in turn, placed the stock upon the

market. It is now incorporated under the laws of the State of New York.

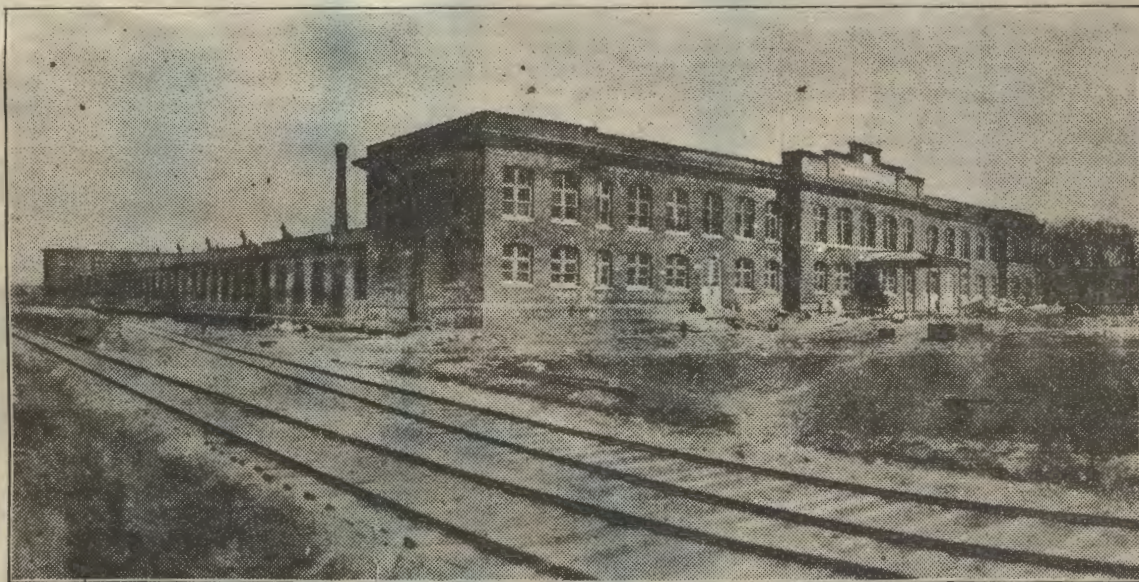
During its life history, the Atlas Tack Co. has acquired 18 concerns located in various parts of the country, bringing all of the machinery, assets, and patents to Fairhaven.

The plant and its property comprise 13½ acres and is engaged in the manufacture of tacks for all purposes, small nails, rivets, burrs, shoe eyelets, hooks, tufting buttons, clothing buttons, bottle crowns, finishing washers, furniture nails and glides, staples and a wide variety of miscellaneous items finding their way into 30 classifications of industry, consumed in this country and in many foreign countries.

THE HISTORY OF TACK

THE STAR
MAY 17, 1902

MAKING IN FAIRHAVEN.



[Photographed by Edwin Stowell.]

THE NEW PLANT OF THE ATLAS TACK COMPANY.
The Largest and Only Modern Plant for Manufacturing Tacks in the World.

The tack business is our most important industry, and now that the new factory is completed our scribe has endeavored to gather such facts as he could of its history so far as it relates to the business that is concentrated in our town.

The present large factory, the largest for the manufacture of tacks and those goods germane to the business in the country, if not in the world, is the result of a policy inaugurated at the very beginning of the business here and steadily adhered to until the present time, resulting in the consolidation of many small concerns at the outset and finally culminating in the absorption of five of the largest tack concerns in the country.

These five concerns, now consolidated in the Atlas Tack Co., date back to the year 1810, when B. Hobart started in the business of making tacks by machinery in Abington. Mr. Hobart's business, after passing through various stages of development, was finally represented at the time of its absorption by the Atlas Tack Corporation by Dunbar, Hobart & Co. of Whitman.

This company had enlarged its plant and increased its machinery until it was next in size and in the quantity of its productions to the Albert Field Tack Co. of Taunton. The latter concern, though the largest in the country, was not chronologically the second, but was the third. Starting in

business in 1827, Albert Field built up a business with a worldwide reputation for excellency of quality of goods unequaled by any other manufacturer in the country.

The Albert Field Tack Co. declined to enter the consolidation, but it agreed to sell to the corporation after it had been organized. That plan was adopted by the four concerns which organized the Atlas Tack Corporation, and the Field company was bought after the organization was perfected and merged in the new company.

The Taunton Tack Co. was one of the four that organized the Atlas Tack Corporation; another was the firm of Loring & Parks of Plymouth, and the American Tack Co. was the fourth.

The American Tack Co. succeeded to the business of Arby Field, who started in the manufacture of tacks in New York city in 1824.

Arby Field was an elder brother of Albert and handled a portion of the products for a few years. Being located in New York, Arby found a ready market for his goods in the city; he also supplied the exporters with such of his tacks and nails as were called for in the foreign trade.

Thus Arby Field built up quite a large trade for those early days of 1830 to 1850. On the death of Arby Field his brother, Jude Field, succeeded to the business, which was in turn transmitted to his stepson, William S. Guerin.

Associated with Mr. Guerin was Mr. Sayers Hadley, who had been in the employ of Arby Field as a boy, and by delivering the goods as he did in those days direct from the factory became acquainted with all the hardware trade in New York as well as the buyers for important trade.

Mr. Hadley has been an important factor in the tack business and is still in the employ of the Atlas Tack Co. and is the best informed man in the trade today, having been in it continually from early boyhood except what time he was in the army serving his country as a soldier during the rebellion. On the termination of the war Mr. Hadley returned to the business in which he had served so long a period.

The American Tack Co., the nucleus of the present consolidation, was the successor of the American Nail Machine Co., a Boston corporation organized in 1864. In 1865 the business was moved to Fairhaven and located in the Rodman buildings on Fort street. The buildings were originally used for the manufacture of spermaceti candles.

The company was induced to locate in this town by Mr. William Durfee of New Bedford. Mr. Durfee was employed through the influence of Messrs. David R. Green, Edward L. Baker and J. H. W. Page, all large stockholders, the latter being the treasurer of the original company, but the most of the



[Photographed by C. L. Heath, Erecting Engineer for McIntosh, Seymour & Co., Auburn, N. Y.]
A VIEW OF A SMALL PORTION OF THE TACK MACHINES.
 Superintendent Paul in the Act of Operating.

stockholders of this parent company were Boston men, including George W. Warren, Lewis S. Rice, Charles H. Brigham, L. L. Tower and other prominent Boston men who invested their money in the company for the purchase of the patents of Hoard & Wiggins, who had invented an automatic feeding nail machine.

The directors of the company were induced to abandon their original intention of manufacturing cut nails by the manager, who convinced them that nails could be made cheaper in the west, where coal and iron were cheap, than in the New England states, to which locality the raw material would have to be freighted. The wisdom of the final action of the directors in deciding to engage in the manufacture of tacks and small nails instead of cut nails was exemplified a few years later when the competition from the west crushed but nearly every nail concern in New England.

Out of over 1,000 nail machines that were operated in Weymouth, Bridgewater, Wareham, East Taunton, Providence and Fall River only two concerns escaped in the fierce struggle for the market so long supplied by eastern nail manufactories. The two strikes of the New England nailmakers in 1864 and 1865, the first lasting ten months and the second eleven months, helped the west to gain control of the southern and New York markets, which they never relinquished. Every year prior to the rebellion the Parker mills of Wareham had shipped 20,000 kegs of nails to New Orleans, but during the strike nails were sent down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers from Pittsburg and Wheeling, and the markets for which New Orleans was an entrepot from the north were supplied by the western manufactories.

Turned aside, then, from the manufacture of cut nails, the directors permitted the management to engage in the manufacture of tacks and small nails and articles germane to the tack business, but enough of the patented automatic feeding nail machines were built to test the utility of the invention

and so conciliate the speculative interest which constituted the foundation on which the company was organized.

In this departure from the purely speculative character of the corporation a sharp struggle was precipitated between the two factions that composed the company. Ignoring the strife between the contending factions, the company pursued its course of establishing and prosecuting the manufacture of tacks and, having built and installed some twenty of the patented nail machines, added forty tack machines and started in as a manufacturer at a most critical time for such an undertaking.

Raw material was very dear. Common iron was 4 cents a pound, Swedes iron was 6½ to 8 cents, according to the gauge; copper 45 cents, and zinc 9 cents.

Soft steel was then unknown. Iron shortly advanced \$10 a ton, but the company had secured sufficient to supply it for a year.

At that time dealers in Boston were strongly prejudiced against any new brand of tacks; therefore it was almost impossible to induce them to buy of a new manufacturer.

The statement made by Mr. Warren of Dock Square to the manager of the local tack company was characteristic of the attitude of the dealers in Boston at that time. "I don't doubt that your tacks are as good as any made, but I have dealt with A. Field & Sons for over forty years, and I would not buy any other brand of tacks if they were made of gold."

This strong statement, indicative of the general opinion of Boston dealers, decided the management to seek the consumers' trade, which resulted in better prices for the goods sold to them.

As stated at the outset, the policy of the company was concentration, so far as possible, and with that object in view a small concern at Sandwich was bought and the machinery moved to the local factory.

Next the leather head carpet tack business and machinery were bought

of M. M. Rhodes & Sons of Taunton. The next move was the purchase of the business and trademarks of William S. Guerineau of New York.

As stated above, Mr. Guerineau was the successor of Jude Field, his stepfather, who succeeded his brother, Arby Field.

His machinery was too old and antiquated to be of service and was not wanted, but the company did want and secure Mr. Guerineau's services and with them the business and trademarks of Arby and Jude Field.

This purchase and agreement with Mr. Guerineau, including Mr. Hadley's services, with his knowledge and acquaintance with the New York dealers, was a most fortunate transaction and insured the immediate success of the company, which would have been much slower without them. Continuing the same policy of concentration, the business of Martin G. Williams of Raynham was bought and the machinery moved to Fairhaven and installed in the local factory.

Mr. Williams was the inventor and original manufacturer of chisel pointed boat nails. These nails were used in the building of whaleboats, for the construction of which imported hand-made nails were used until Mr. Williams' nails displaced them. This boat nail business was always a profitable branch of the local industry, which justified its acquisition.

Following the above purchase, the lining nail business of M. M. Rhodes & Sons of Taunton was secured and the machinery moved here. This addition gave employment to twenty-five additional hands. Next the Star Tack Co. of Assonet was bought, and its machines helped to increase the number then operated. A number of the machines of the Dighton factory, which was bought by the association, was added.

On the night of Jan. 5, 1867, a portion of the works was burned, but the main factory was saved. It was on this occasion that Mr. Hathaway at the risk of his life extinguished the fire in the attic of the main building.

On the 1st of May following the company was reorganized as the American Tack Co., with Charles E. Brigham of Boston president and J. A. Beauvais of New Bedford treasurer.

In 1870 the three story addition was built which gave needed room for the business that was slowly growing from its modest beginning.

In 1882 the three story stone building on Fort street was erected, and other buildings were added as the growth of the business and the addition of machinery required.

Starting without trade or prestige, the business was gradually built up year by year by continued accretions to the plant by purchase and construction until it ranked the third in size in the country, and its products were known wherever tacks were used.

In 1891 the American Tack Co. was merged in the Atlas Tack Corporation, which was absorbed by the Atlas Tack Co., saw the pride and hope of the town.

PERSONAL.

In 1863, when the works were moved from Boston to this town, the company

secured the services of Mr. Russell Hathaway, one of the best machinists and most skillful mechanics of this section. Mr. Hathaway was placed in charge of the machinery department, which position he held during the entire existence of the American Tack Co.

Mr. E. G. Paull, an expert blacksmith and a masterly workman, was engaged at the same time, and these two men are now in the employ of the new company, Mr. Paull being the general superintendent of all the company's works.

To the skill, devotion and loyalty of these two men much is due for the success that attended the business, and success at that time was obtained only by unremitting attention to even minute details, and the most economical and careful management was required to build up and establish a new industry at that time and in this then isolated locality.

Much credit is also due the workmen who took a lively interest in the success of the undertaking, some of whom are yet in the employ of the Atlas, and, although growing old after thirty-seven years of labor, yet ripe in mechanical knowledge which can be obtained only by years of practical experience and the mature judgment that comes from it.

Mr. Thomas B. Fuller, who had at the starting of the business just graduated from Oberlin's Commercial college of Boston, was the first clerk of the company, and he continued with the company until it was well established. Mr. Fuller was always deeply interested in the welfare of the business, and he retained this interest so long as he lived.

The company employed some 125 hands and paid out in wages down to 1891 the sum of \$1,200,000.

REASONS FOR CONSOLIDATION.

The Atlas Tack Corporation was composed of the five largest concerns in the country, and the time, 1891, seemed very auspicious for its advent. Business throughout the country was good, and the officials of the corporation were sanguine of success. That time was before the "community of interest" principle had received the attention it has commanded during the past five or six years. In fact, it was

the beginning of the application of that principle as applied to industrial institutions in this country. To be sure, the tack people had always recognized the importance as well as the necessity of co-operation in order to secure such prices for their products as would enable them to pay good wages to their workmen and to make a little profit for themselves—at least a fair compensation for the management of their business—but the methods of doing business were rapidly changing, and the telephone and other means of ready communication put the buyers in touch with the producers that made competition very easy and reliance on trade very uncertain. Therefore the method of doing business had to be changed to conform to the changed conditions.

So long as the buyers were content to stick by the old manufacturers the simple agreement among them to maintain prices was a sufficient guarantee, but new conditions were making themselves felt, and a change became necessary, so the simple agreement was supplanted by more stringent rules, deposits and forfeits were required of the members of the tack fraternity, these were in turn displaced by pooling; each method answering in turn for the time, but manufacturers were increasing, and new devices were invented to sell goods in violation of agreements and to evade penalties. It there-

fore became apparent the changed conditions must be met by a consolidation of interests in which it would be for the individual to promote the welfare of his associates, his former competitors, thereby promoting his own.

Such were some of the influences and necessities that induced the formation of the Atlas Tack Corporation, and the times were good and seemed to invite the consummation of the plan.

PURPOSE OF THE PROMOTERS.

Its promoters intended to extend the principle until every tack manufacturer was included, but changed conditions defeated those plans. At the time of the consolidation each constituent company had a large stock of merchandise aggregating over \$750,000. It required a year to get the consolidation in working order, during which time the new company was doing a good business and making fair profits, but this favorable condition, coupled with

May 17, 1902
FIVE STAR

the outlook for further extension of the concentration and larger profits, induced unjustifiable expenditures which were not consonant with the homely economy that had always heretofore characterized the tack managers. The extravagance might have been borne without serious effect had there not come a sudden and unexpected change in the fiscal policy of the government, which policy changed the entire industrial conditions of the country.

THE TARIFF REDUCED.

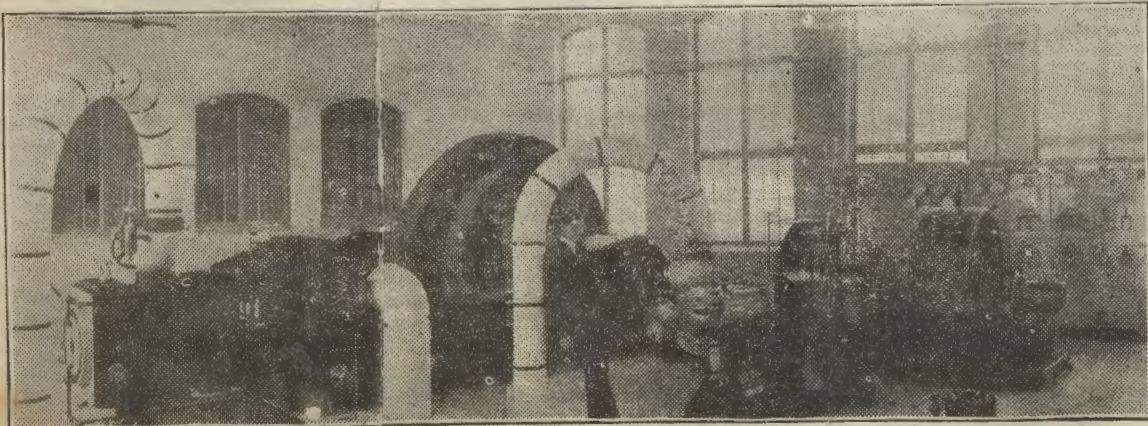
The year 1892 was the banner year for this country, and prosperity had blessed the people as never before. Therefore a vote of the people to change the administration and thus reverse the conditions that existed was not deemed within the bounds of probability, but such was the fact, and as a result more than half of our great railroads were forced into the hands of receivers and a large part of our industrial concerns were bankrupted.

The tack business had been protected since 1824, when the importation of tacks had ruined what few manufacturers there were in the country by a specific duty which practically excluded foreign made tacks and enabled American manufacturers to secure intelligent workmen by paying good wages for their skilled labor.

But the Germans had adopted the American tack machine and had built large factories for the manufacture of tacks, which were being sold in continental Europe and in England in

competition with the American tacks that were exported to those countries. Sharp competition was inaugurated between American and German manufacturers, and the English manufacturers were driven entirely from their own markets by the importation of tacks from America and Germany.

Mr. Richard Heathfield of Birmingham, who visited this town in 1862 and bought a few of the American machines, was one of the unfortunate English manufacturers who was ruin-



[Photographed by C. L. Heath, erecting engineer for McIntosh, Seymour Co., Auburn, N. Y.]

VIEW OF ENGINE ROOM OF ATLAS TACK COMPANY'S PLANT.

Showing Two Engines and Switchboard. Mr. Heath Erecting Engineer for McIntosh, Seymour & Co. in the Foreground.

ed by the American and German competition.

SHOE MACHINERY A FACTOR.

American machinery for the manufacture of boots and shoes had been imported into England and Germany, and the tacks used in the lasting machines were made in this country.

Tacks for the lasting machines had to be uniform in size and shape and free from all poor work. This the American manufacturers had learned from experience, and of course the operators generally preferred American tacks to German, but the Germans had an advantage in cheap material and cheaper labor, paying less than one-half of what American manufacturers were paying.

SWEDES IRON A FACTOR.

The tacks which were used in the lasting machines were made of imported Swedes iron, our great tin plate mills not having at that time rolled any plate for the tack manufacturers.

The new tariff under the Wilson-Gorman bill placed a duty of 35 per cent on Swedes iron, but let in foreign tacks made from the same material for only 25 per cent duty.

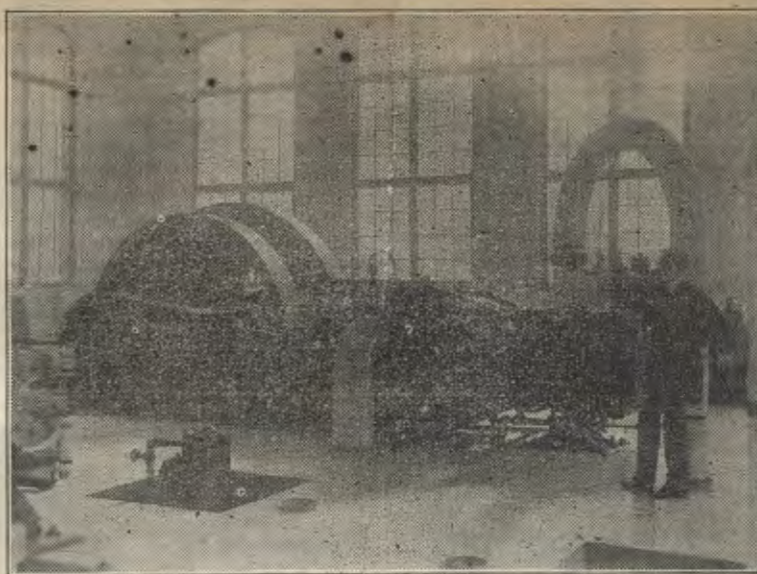
While the bill was in the senate, awaiting action by that body, the tack manufacturers from all parts of the country united in sending a representative to Washington to protest against the injustice of a higher duty on the raw material than on the finished product made from that material and against so ruinously low a rate on tacks.

The representative conferred with Senators Hoar, Lodge and Aldrich, who did all they could, but referred him to Mr. Gorman, who was the leader of his party in the senate. The case was stated to him and the discrepancy explained. Mr. Gorman said it ought to be corrected; that "it was not the intention of his party to ruin any American industry." However, the bill passed laying a duty of 35 per cent ad valorem on Swedes iron, but only 25 per cent on tacks made from it.

ADVANTAGE OF FOREIGN MANUFACTURERS.

This gave the foreign manufacturers an advantage over American manufacturers which the Germans were quick to see and improve. An agent of the German manufacturers visited this country and made a proposition to the American manufacturers — viz, "You keep out of Europe and we will keep out of America." The American manufacturers had a large trade in England and sold a good many of their products in Germany and other continental countries and declined to accede to the demands of the Germans, but they made a counter proposition, "You (the Germans) not to undersell American prices in this country and we will not undersell your (German) prices in Europe." But these terms were not acceptable to them, and soon German tacks were sent into this country and sold in the markets for one-half the prices of the manufacturers of this country.

A sharp competition between American and German tacks in the market



[Photographed by C. F. Heath, Erecting Engineer for McIntosh, Seymour Co., Auburn, N. Y.]
A VIEW OF THIRD ENGINE OF ATLAS TACK CO'S PLANT.

resulted, aggravated by the dealers, who felt they had been charged too high prices when German tacks could be bought for one-half what they had been paying.

THE TACK ASSOCIATION BROKEN UP.

As a result of the competition the tack association was broken up, and a fierce struggle for trade was inaugurated that broke prices below cost to the manufacturers.

RECEIVERSHIP.

At that critical time, requiring nerve, ability, economy and loyalty, the treasurer resigned, leaving no alternative but a receivership. The course was approved by the larger creditors and principal stockholders, and the business and trade of seventy-five years was saved from total destruction by being placed in the hands of receivers. Under their management the expensive Boston office was closed and moved to Taunton.

A change in ownership succeeded.

followed by a partial concentration of the business by the removal of portions of the machinery from Whitman, Fairhaven and Plymouth to Taunton, which were installed in the Albert Field factory. Now, under the reascent Atlas Tack Co., the final concentration of the five consolidated concerns is to be completed by the removal of portions of the best machinery that was operated by them to the new factory, but new and improved up to date machinery will be installed to displace all the old and antiquated machines that were operated by the original concerns.

By the adoption of the new and improved machinery the company will have a great advantage in the prosecution of its business.

In the construction of the new factory all the modern inventions and improvements have been adopted, both for the economy of manufacture and for the comfort and convenience of its many employees.

The consumption of tacks and articles germane to that manufacture

comprising altogether several thousands of sizes, varieties and kinds, has increased enormously and promises to grow with the growth of the country and with the increased transportation facilities now promised to foreign countries.

The Atlas has a field as wide as the world, with trade established under well known labels that give it an advantage over all competitors. We bespeak for it the abundant success that the enterprise and capital invested in the new mill and modern machinery so richly merit and which they will assuredly achieve.

ATLAS TACK REPORTS INCREASED PROFITS

10/26
Net earnings of 80.4 cents a share for the first nine months of the current calendar year compared with 20.7 cents a share shown for the same period last year were reported this week by the Atlas Tack Corporation in an interim report. This constitutes an increase of 59.7 cents a share over last year, or a gain of nearly 300 percent.

Net sales for the nine-month period totalled \$1,864,440.72, an increase of \$250,557 or 15½ percent over the corresponding period a year ago. Net profits after deduction of all charges, amounted, for the nine-month period this year, to \$76,009.98, as compared with \$19,629.36 in 1938.

For the month alone, net sales were \$226,105 or \$28,103 more than in September 1938. September net profits totalled \$12,275 or 13 cents a share as compared with a net of \$8,649.75 or September last year, 9.1 cent a share.

Tack Makers

FHVN STAR
May 17, 1902

And Inventors.

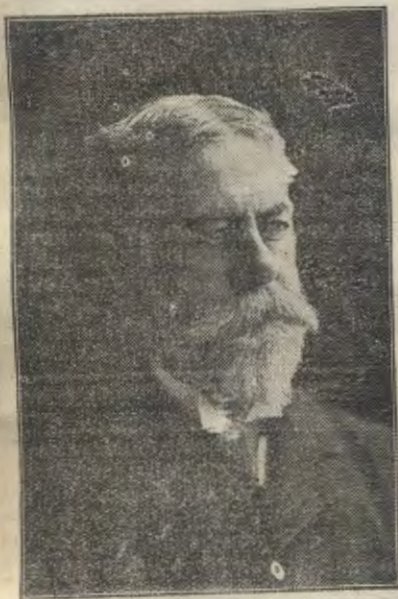
Sketches of Those Who Have Been Prominently Identified With Fairhaven Tack Making.

CYRUS D. HUNT.

Cyrus D. Hunt was engaged by the original company and entered its employ in 1864, the machinery being then in Boston. Mr. Hunt was born in East Weymouth Nov. 15, 1833. At the age of sixteen he entered the nail factory of the Weymouth Iron Co., where he learned the trade of making cut nails. He worked ten years in the nail factories, the last four being at Somerset, in the Mount Hope works. While at work there he became acquainted with Russell Hathaway and Elbridge G. Paull and learned of their skill as mechanics and their characters as men.

By too close application to his trade Mr. Hunt was obliged to leave the factory in 1861 and, having prepared himself by study, entered the Normal school at Bridgewater, from which he graduated in 1863.

After teaching school one winter he was engaged by the American Nail



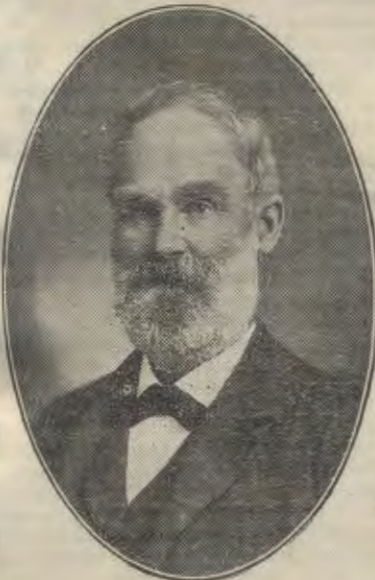
CYRUS D. HUNT,
Founder of Fairhaven's Tack Industry, and
One of the Inventors of the Rapid "Atlas"
Tack Machine.

Machine Co. of Boston, and through his influence the company abandoned its original intention of manufacturing cut nails and entered into the manufacture of tacks and small nails. The business was started here in Fairhaven in 1865. Since that date his record was that of the American Tack Co., to the establishment of which he devoted his whole time and mind until it was merged into the Atlas Tack Co.

ELBRIDGE G. PAULL.

Elbridge Gerry Paull was born in Freetown, Mass., April 21, 1836, the eldest of nine children of Elbridge G. and Abigail Paull. He received the indifferent schooling of the country boy of the period. He evinced great mechanical ability and ingenuity at an early age, as various sleds, boats, etc., constructed by him before he was fifteen testified.

He was apprenticed to Daniel Strange of Freetown to learn the blacksmith's trade when sixteen years of age. After serving his time he worked at Taunton and at Groton, Mass., until he was twenty-two, when he went to work at Somerset, Mass., at the Old Colony Iron Co.'s works. He remained there until 1865, when he came to the newly formed American Machine Nail Co.'s works in this town and has followed that variable concern through all its changes. He acquired the tack cutter's trade in 1870, became foreman in 1883, superintendent in 1885, was mill agent and branch superintendent under the Atlas Tack Corporation from



ELBRIDGE G. PAULL,
General Superintendent for the Atlas Tack Co.
He is one of the Inventors of the Rapid "Atlas"
Tack Machine and has always been Prom-
inently Identified with Tack Making in Fair-
haven.

1891 to 1897 and became general superintendent of the reorganized Atlas Tack Co. in 1897, which position he still holds.

Mr. Paull was married in 1859 to Nancy M. Hathaway of Freetown. They have had three children, of whom two survive.

Many persons in town will remember Mr. Paull's 'semiprofessional' ventures in the manufacture of rings, cane heads and other articles useful and ornamental.

He was first master of Pioneer lodge, A. F. and A. M., in Somerset, charter member and second master of Concordia (now George H. Taber) lodge and is one of the trustees of the latter.

He was a charter member of the Improvement Association and has served on various committees. He puts the principles of the association into practice and has always kept a fine appearing estate.

He has been assessor and school committeeman and a member of the board of sewer commissioners since the board was formed. He is now chairman.

No one has desired the advent of

the Atlas Tack Co.'s factory into Fairhaven more ardently than he or has any one worked more faithfully for the success of that company, and he is deserving of a large measure of gratitude from all who wish Fairhaven well.

RUSSELL HATHAWAY.

Russell Hathaway was born in Fall River, Oct. 1, 1825. He attended the Middleboro academy and the Scituate academy until he was 16 years of age, when he shipped on a 19 months' voyage whaling on the bark Jane, which sailed from Somerset. He followed the sea for four years.

At the age of 22 years he entered the employ of Hawes, Marvel & Devol, manufacturers of cotton machinery in Fall River. He came to Fairhaven in 1865 and entered the employ of the American Tack Co. as machinist and has remained in their employ and their successors ever since.

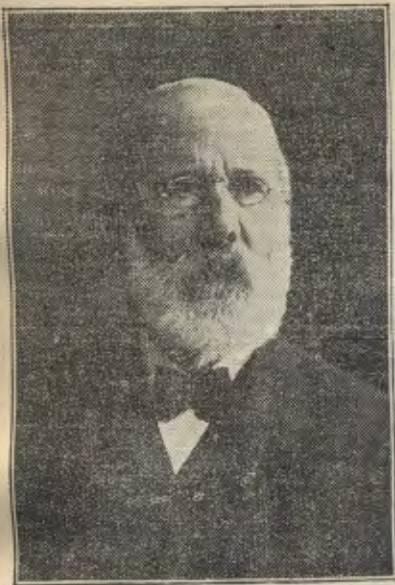
He was the originator of a number of improvements on various machines used at the tack mill, and was superintendent of the machine shop for a number of years.

JOSEPH PETTEE, JR.

Joseph Pettee, Jr., superintendent of the Fairhaven factory of the Atlas Tack Co. for the past four and one-half years, was born in Abington, Mass., March 2, 1845. His tack career began in 1860, when as a boy during vacations he was employed putting up sample cards for B. Hobart & Son, then in East Bridgewater, Mass., where they had removed after being burned out in South Abington. Early in 1862 he entered their office as shipping clerk and general office boy.

In 1865 the company, under the name of Dunbar, Hobart & Whidden, moved back to South Abington (now Whitman) into a new factory built for them. He served the company successively as shipping clerk, bookkeeper, confidential clerk and treasurer, and on the death

of H. F. Whidden in 1887 was admitted to the firm, together with J. F. Hobart, who is now in charge of the Atlas Tack Co.'s selling department, in New York. The firm name was Dunbar, Hobart & Co.



RUSSELL HATHAWAY.

He has been employed as a Machinist from the beginning of the industry and is one of the inventors of the Rapid "Atlas" Tack Machine.

Soon after the death of the senior partner, W. H. Dunbar, in 1890 it was thought best to join the Atlas Tack Corporation, which they did by turning over everything but the factory buildings. Mr. Pettee was placed in charge of the Dunbar, Hobart & Co. branch in Whitman. Soon after the new Atlas tack machines were built he promptly saw that it was for the interest of the company to place all the work possible with the Fairhaven factory.

At the request of the treasurer of the company Mr. Pettee invented a metallic adjustable hanger to support spring beds on an iron bedstead. This was patented and many thousands were sold. The company at this time was manufacturing spring beds in large quantities.

Mr. Pettee thinks that it may be of interest to state that B. Hobart & Son employed John G. Rhodes, now of New Bedford, to put in a patent machine for putting leather heads on carpet tacks, and later on, after removal to South Abington in 1865, he introduced capping machines for making lining and saddle nails. He also at this time perfected an eyelet machine and first started in that business with one of the firm under the style of Dunbar & Rhodes, with Isaac W. Giles, who is now with the Atlas Co., as superintendent. These eyelets under the capable management of Mr. Giles soon had a worldwide reputation, particularly on account of the black elastic finish and the fine quality generally. On the death of Mr. Dunbar Mr. Rhodes bought out the business and removed to New Bedford.

Mr. Pettee brings to mind that during the civil war he made up the accounts of the company for revenue or

war tax, which often amounted to over \$1,000 per month.

Mr. Pettee says: "Dunbar, Hobart & Co. had no superior as to quality of goods of their manufacture, and the Atlas Tack Co. is now manufacturing goods under that brand and label as well as under that of A. Field & Sons, American Tack Co. and Taunton Tack Co. The old Fairhaven factory contained many more machines than any other in the world. The new factory will accommodate still more."

JOHN P. MORRIS, C. E.

John P. Morris, C. E., manager for the B. F. Smith Co. in this district, came to America from England in 1892 and was immediately installed as foreman for the J. W. Bishop Co., then Cutting & Bishop, and was engaged in building mills for that firm in Saylsville, Lonsdale, Manufacturers' building, Providence; Bank building in Canada; also the Providence Public library. He entered the firm of B. F. Smith Co. in April, 1899, as manager and has built the No. 6 mill, Atlantic mills, Ann & Hope addition, a work of considerable difficulty on account of the soft ground; the Lafayette mills, at Woonsocket, and the new River Spinning weave room.

He has been in this district just one year and built in that time the Atlas tack mill, Fairhaven; the Soule mill, and the Dartmouth mill weave shed, the largest weave shed in New England, in New Bedford. He is now building in that city the No. 2 Whitman mill.

Before coming to America Mr. Morris as contracting engineer was engaged in a very difficult class of work,



JOSEPH PETTEE, JR.,

Assistant Superintendent for the Atlas Tack Co.

including the Metropolitan railways, Metropolitan sewers, the Amsterdam canal, the Manchester ship canal and several breakwaters and harbors. Mr. Morris is generally known in England and America as the "Bricklayer Poet."

HON. GEO. W. WEYMOUTH.

Hon. George Warren Weymouth president and manager of the Atlas Tack Co. was born in West Amesbury, now Merrimac, Mass., August 25, 1850, and received his education in the public schools of that place. He has been interested in several different businesses and for a long time was vice president and general manager of the Simonds Rolling Machine Co. He is a director of the Fitchburg National Bank and trustee of the Fitchburg Savings Bank. He is a director of the Fitchburg and Lowell street railway and also of the Orswell mills and Nocke mill. He was formerly president of the Fitchburg board of trade.

He has served one year in the city council of Fitchburg, was in the state legislature in 1896 and a delegate to the national convention at St. Louis. He was elected to the 55th Congress as a Republican, receiving 20,062 votes against 8,857 votes for I. Porter Morse, Democrat.

Mr. Weymouth resigned as a member of Congress to assume the position he now holds with the Atlas Tack Co.

Mr. Weymouth removed from Hudson to Fitchburg in 1882 and while he resided there was identified with many of the leading and most successful enterprises. He was instrumental in helping to found and promote several concerns that have added largely to the prosperity of that city. He was one of the original organizers of the F. & L. street railway, and was a director in that company. He was one of the original promoters and founders of the Orswell mills and of the Nocke mills both prosperous industries of Fitchburg. He was one of the original projectors of the Simonds Rolling Machine Company, of that city, and assumed the management of it at a time when it was on the verge of bankruptcy. By his superb executive ability, he placed this company upon a sound financial footing and so increased its business that it employed a double set of hands and ran its works constantly during 23 1-2 hours a day for a period of nearly two years, a record that cannot probably be beaten for continuous hours of operation by any other manufacturing enterprise in New England; and at a time when many other large manufacturing concerns, in that city and elsewhere, had been running upon only half time or had been shut down altogether. In each and all of the foregoing enterprises, Mr. Weymouth risked his money at the beginning and was personally active in putting them upon a permanent basis.

Mr. Weymouth was one of the original projectors, too, of the beautiful F. A. C. house in Fitchburg.

As president of the Fitchburg Board of Trade for some years, Mr. Weymouth has been particularly fortunate in being able to serve the city upon several important occasions. Not the least of these was the influence he was able to bring to bear to induce the removal from Worcester to Fitchburg, of the Iyer Johnson Arms and Cycle Works.

In securing for Fitchburg the State Normal school, Mr. Weymouth had a not inconsiderable part.

Another important matter that Mr. Weymouth as president of the Fitchburg Board of trade has been able to help along, is the now almost universal

Roller Bearing now on the market. The prejudice against Roller Bearings in general, which has been caused because of the number of unsuccessful attempts to make ordinary Roller Bearings operate satisfactorily on line-shafting, could not have been overcome but from the fact that the Hyatt Flexible Roller Bearing possessed merits which now some of the most prominent engineers throughout the United States acknowledge. The principal advantage of the Hyatt system of transmission is a large saving in frictional load present in the babbitted bearing by a series of hollow spring rollers. This friction is reduced to a very large percentage, thus cutting down the cost of power necessary to drive machinery to an amount equal to the entire cost of the bearings in less than one year's time. Hundreds of prominent plants throughout New England are fitted up with these bearings, and the bearings are endorsed by engineers prominent on their profession. The Atlas Tack company's installation consists of some six hundred hangers, and the good judgment of this company has been clearly illustrated, when they decided to disregard the first cost in considering the transmission equipment of this modern plant. While the first cost is of course considerably above the cost of ordinary hangers, it is of course contrary to one's own best interests to consider the cost of an equipment of this kind upon the first cost only, when the results mentioned above can be accomplished in such a short time.

All the electric wiring for generators, exciters, motors, arc lamps and incandescent lamps was done by the Lord Electric Co., of 81 Milk street, Boston, Mass. The wiring was done on the three phase system, with current delivered at 240 volts for the motors, 220 volts for the arc lamps, and 110 volts for the incandescent lamps. The wires start from the bus bars on the back of the switchboard and run through the tunnel which connects the power house with the main mill. Where the wires pass through the tunnel they are protected with a lead sheath. Where wires enter the main building they are changed from the lead covered to slow burning waterproof. The motors, of which there are nineteen of 30 h. p. each, are controlled from a point near the floor where they can be easily operated by the Westinghouse "Auto" starter. This starter is built into the main brick wall, making a very handy arrangement of control. The wiring for the arc lamps, of which there are 85 in number, is done in the same general manner as stated for the motors. The current for the arc lamps is brought from the switchboard through three 3-phase transformers located on the roof of the main building, and distributed to the arc lamps at 220 volts. At the present writing only wires for the motors and arc lamps have been installed, but so great is the size of the mill that this work alone has been of considerable magnitude. There has already been installed upwards of 20,000 pounds of copper wire. Before all the incandescent lamps are installed probably double this amount of copper will be necessary. All the electric wiring has been done under the personal supervision of

C. B. Macfarlane, chief superintendent of the Lord Electric Co., in accordance with plans furnished by Lockwood Greene Co.

For heating the main building the B. F. Sturtevant Co. of Boston have furnished a 240 inch blower, with a blast wheel 12 feet in diameter, arranged to be driven by a direct steam engine. The air is drawn through a heater containing over two miles of pipe, and the heated air is blown through large rectangular galvanized iron pipes throughout the length of the building, the air being delivered into the various rooms.

The main pipe runs through the centre of the building and the air is blown to the exposed sides, making a very compact and serviceable arrangement. The office part of the building is heated by a separate apparatus consisting of a 100 inch fan drawing air through a large steam heater and discharging the air through round galvanized iron air ducts which connect to floor registers, the offices being located on the second story. There is a separate apparatus for heating the Eyelet Department, consisting of a 80 inch fan with a direct connected engine and heater, the hot air being carried up to the different floors by means of galvanized iron piping. The blacksmith shop is fitted out with Sturtevant forges throughout, the blast being furnished by a small blower, and the smoke being carried away by means

of a 50 inch pulley-driven exhauster, which discharges through the roof of the blacksmith shop. They have also furnished a special 120 inch fan, with direct connected engine, for furnishing air supply to the cooling tower.

All the door and window hardware was furnished by the Union Hardware and Electric Supply Co., Providence R. I.

All the piping in the mill and power house was done by the New Bedford Boiler and Machine Co., New Bedford, Mass. A new feature introduced here was the reverse current Automatic Boiler Stop Valve. It is the first valve of this kind to be placed in this vicinity.

The two annealing furnaces were erected by the Rockwell Engineering Co. of New York. One in the south part of the mill is 17 ft. 0 in. long by 12 ft. 6 in. wide and 7 ft. 9 in. high. It is equipped with four Rockwell Oil Burners. There are two sets of doors on either end and between each is an air space of 12 inches. The interior is a steel shell. The furnace in the wire and rivet room in the north part of the mill is 8x10.6 feet and 6 feet high. It is of entirely different construction from the first named furnace. There are two oil burners and it is adapted for either oil or coal. The furnace is of the double pattern with three ovens in each making in all six ovens. Either side of the furnace can be operated independent of the other. Three furnaces were moved from Taunton and erected and equipped with the Rockwell oil burners by the Company.

An oil tank with a capacity of 10,500 gallons is located north of the building and the company has put in two of their duplex pumps each with a capacity of 100 gallons per hour, which will pump oil from the tank to the burners.

The Van Noorden Company Boston, Mass., has just erected on the immense new plant of the Atlas Company, 496 single pitch skylights 8x8 feet, and 103 revolving ventilator cowls, 18 inches in diameter. A fully illustrated and most "enlightening" catalogue dealing with the Van Noorden Skylight system will

be mailed without charge to anyone, asking for Catalogue "B" when addressing.

The apparatus furnished to the Atlas Tack Co. by the Westinghouse Co. consists of one 400 kilowatt, 3 phase, alternating current, engine-type, revolving field generator, operating at 440 volts, 7200 alternations and 150 revolutions per minute; also similar machines of 225 kilowatt, engine-type, direct-current generators, operating at 125 volts and serving as exciters for the alternators; one of these exciters is driven by a 45 horse-power induction motor. The motors furnished by this Company include nineteen 30 horse-power motors, one of 15 horse-power. In the Rotating Field Engine-Type alternators the armature is stationary and the field revolves. This method of construction facilitates the insulation of the armature winding and requires that the field current instead of the armature current shall pass through brushes and collector rings. Consequently, alternators of this type are especially adapted to high voltage of large current output.

The polyphase induction motor, the invention of Nicola Tesla, has two main elements: the primary, which is directly magnetized by the currents supplied from the power circuit; and the secondary, in which low potential currents are induced by the action of the primary. The windings of the primary are so arranged that when supplied with alternating currents differing in phase, i. e. polyphase currents, a rotating magnetic field is produced. This field acts upon the secondary winding and induces currents therein. Rotation is produced by the action between the secondary currents and the rotating field of the primary.

In the motors primary is stationary and the secondary revolves from a mechanical point of view this motor is reduced to the simplest possible elements, i. e., a stationary part permanently connected to the main circuits, and a rotating part having no electrical connection with any external circuit, and having no electrical contacts or adjustments; in fact, no sliding or working friction except that of the shaft in the journals. The company furnished the equipment of the Atlas Co's. plant in Taunton.

The roofing material used on these buildings is known as Warren's Natural Asphalt "Anchor Brand", manufactured by Warren Chemical & Mfg. Co., of 170 Broadway, New York city and 12 Pearl st., Boston, Mass. It is made from asphalt imported from the island of Trinidad, West Indies, and refined at the above Company's works at Brooklyn, New York. The chief advantage of this roofing consists of its great durability. This is due to the remarkable fact that asphalt materials are not injuriously affected by atmospheric agencies, especially that they do not waste and become brittle by evaporation as do coal tar materials. More than 15,000,000 square feet of this roofing have been used on mills, railroad buildings and business blocks in the United States and Canada, giving general satisfaction. The roofing on these buildings was applied by Thomas J. Hind, 19 Milk street, Boston, Mass., who does a general roofing business.

Description of the

FHM STAR

May 17, 1902

New Tack Mill.

It Is Thoroughly Modern and Complete in Every Detail of Construction.

The factory of the Atlas Tack Co., into which they are now moving, is indeed a building which is the pride of Fairhaven's people. Situated, as it is, on grounds of fifteen acres in extent, its immense proportions are evident to the eye from whatever angle we view it. The monotony of its flat roof and low contour is relieved by the handsome two story portion at the front and the three story eyelet department at the rear, which, together with the power house and lofty chimney, lend due proportion to the home of our largest local industry.

This mammoth structure of brick, glass and timber may not differ in some respects from thousands of busy hives of industry situated all over our land, but it is in every detail adapted to the peculiar necessities of tack-making, an industry that has been for many years handicapped in all parts of the country by being domiciled in all kinds of old buildings that could be made to shelter the machinery.

So this is added cause for congratulation that at last the work is to be

the front, or western end, of the factory is two stories in height, and the extreme front wall is surmounted by a two course barricade, with stone tablets bearing the date "1901" and the title "Atlas Tack Company."

Forty feet of the rear is three stories in height, and the remainder is one story. The interior of this middle portion is divided lengthwise by a fire wall. The roof of the one story part, or main mill, is of the saw tooth pattern. Four rows of the "saw teeth" light the rooms on each side of the longitudinal partition. The roof is supported by columns 25 by 20 feet apart. The walls are of brick. The central fire wall is of brick, and the two story and three story parts are separated from the main mill by brick walls. The floor is constructed in the most substantial manner and consists of six inches of cement concrete, one inch of asphalt and pitch and six inches of lumber, laid as follows: Two inches of hemlock plank laid crosswise, three inches of hemlock laid diagonally and one inch of maple laid in the direction of greatest travel.

The roof columns rest on piers of brick, with iron caps, and are of yellow pine. They have iron capitals, on which is carried the yellow pine framing of the roof.

The flat roofs on the two and three story parts are covered with roofing

paper and gravel, and the flat portions of the main roof are covered in the same manner. The "saw teeth" are covered with a chemically prepared paper. The flashings are of zinc and the sashes of galvanized iron. All the glazing in the factory is of ribbed glass except in the two story or office part.

All the roof water is collected, and the conductors run down near columns to a trench beneath the floor north of the fire wall of the main mill, through which the pipe is carried to two reservoirs south of the building.

These reservoirs have a capacity of 350,000 gallons, and the water will be used for condensing purposes.

The building will be heated by the Sturtevant system. Steam from the boilers will be conducted through a pipe in the trench before mentioned to three heaters. These consist of coils of pipe of great surface, of a blower driven by a small engine, taking its steam from the pipe.

The air is drawn through the coils of heated pipe by the blower and is then sent out by flues to all parts of the mill. One heater takes care of the main mill, one of the office portion and the third of the eyelet department, or the three story part at the east.

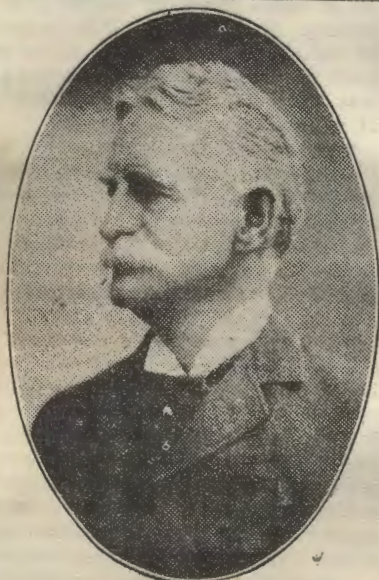
The mill is equipped throughout with automatic sprinklers of the Grinnell type. Over the front entrance is a porte cochere. Entering the main door in the west front, we are directly at the foot of the office stairs, which are of iron. To our right and left are locker rooms for the employees. The lockers are of expanded metal, giving good ventilation to the clothes hanging in them.

Mounting the office stairs, we reach the main office, which is finished in dark oak. At the south of the main office are two private offices, one of which is occupied by the president of the corporation. These private offices are finished in cherry, and the easterly one is fitted with a fireplace. Adequate cloakrooms and toilet facilities are provided, both for the private offices and the main office.

At the north of the main office is an unfinished room which may be used for storage or for a drafting room or any other purpose which occasion may require.

Now we will descend the stairs and enter the southern portion of the main mill through the door to the room for the manufacture of lining nails, tufting buttons, paper headed tacks, leather headed carpet tacks, cast head coffin tacks and glaziers' points. This department occupies a space 75 by 110 feet.

East of this room is the tack and nail cutting department. At the very east end of the room is a space for the storage of the plate, which is assorted and passed through the slitting machines, which cut the plate into strips. Next, west of these, are the machines for cutting nails for shoe heels, then the larger nail cutting machines, then the smaller nail cutting machines, the large tack machines and the smaller ones. This department occupies a

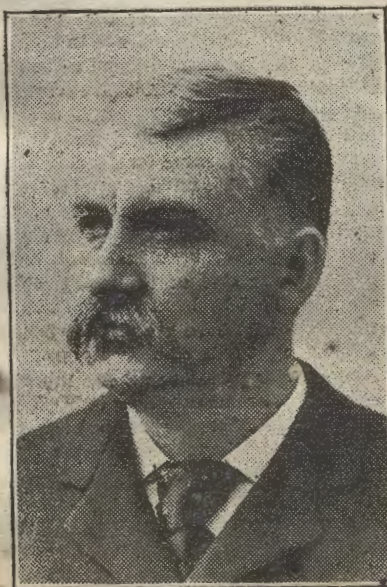


HENRY H. ROGERS,

Owner of the Business and who Believes Tacks Can be Manufactured in Fairhaven as Cheaply as Anywhere Else.

done in suitable quarters in the first new factory of any great size that has been built in the United States for many years for the express purpose of manufacturing tacks.

The new mill is 673 feet long and 226 feet wide and covers an area of three and a half acres. Forty feet of

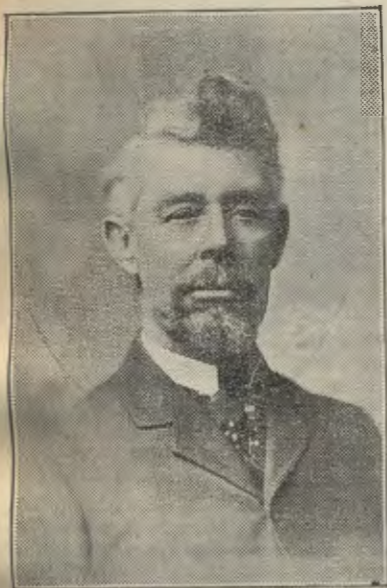


HON. GEORGE W. WEYMOUTH,

President and Manager of the Atlas Tack Co.

space 250 by 110 feet and contains nearly 500 high speed tack machines.

Next, east, comes the construction and repair department, containing the machine and blacksmith shops. There are five forges in the blacksmith shop, the smoke from which will be taken off by an exhaust fan. There is also a triphammer. The machine shop has a



JOHN P. MORRIS,
Manager for the B. F. Smith Co. who built the
New Plant of the Atlas Tack Company.

toolroom in the southeast corner which will contain a lathe, milling machine, a gutter grinder and a twist drill grinder. In the machine shop are three planers, three shapers, a radial drill, two milling machines, a cutting off saw, three upright drills, nine or ten engine lathes and two or three speed lathes. This department occupies a space 50 by 110 feet.

Next east comes the wire department, and again the first process is at the east. This is the wire drawing. Then come machines for cutting rivets and burs, then a row of machines for cutting wire nails, then a row for cutting double pointed tacks and staples. This department occupies a space 100 by 110 feet.

East of the wire department is a room for galvanizing, coating with tin and electroplating. South of this is a small room used as a carpenter shop. At the eastern end of the main mill is a scaling room, where the oxide is removed from the tack plate and from the wire used in making wire nails. South of this is a small room for the storage of wooden patterns. These four rooms last mentioned together occupy 100 by 110 feet.

On the north side of the main mill the room at the west is devoted to packing and shipping, the manufacture of wooden boxes and the storage of goods, both unpacked and packed. This room is 350 by 110 feet and was the ballroom at the time of the dedication of the building, May 8, 1902.

Next east comes the bluing room, so called. Here the tacks are assorted and annealed as required. A portion

of the floor of this room is of brick. The space occupied is 100 by 110 feet.

Next east is a room 100 by 110 feet for the storage of material.

On the first floor of the eyelet department are rooms for finishing, etc., and on the second and third machines for manufacture. This department is fitted with an elevator.

The machinery of the mill is run by eighteen electric motors, most of them being of thirty horsepower each. The buildings will be lighted throughout by electricity, and this requires more than eighty Nernst lamps and 1,200 incandescent lamps. The Nernst lamps use a "glower" made of oxides of some of the rarer minerals, and each lamp contains from two to six glowers, according to the size. Renewals are necessary only once in 800 hours.

Ample sinks and toilet facilities are provided for all the employees. The sinks are piped for cold and hot water. The piping for these purposes is contained in the trench before mentioned, which also contains the sanitary sewer drains and drains for the removal of waste material from the scaling and finishing departments.

Each department contains one or more electrically acting clocks controlled from a common center and also one or more clocks for the registration of the employees' time.

The power house is an independent building connected with the mill by the trench, which runs along the inner side of the eastern wall of the eyelet department and enters the northwest corner of the power house basement. The power house covers a space 143 by 52 feet. A portion of the west end has a basement. The remainder is one story in height. The stack is at the southeast corner and is 18 feet in diameter at the base, 11 feet at the top and 180 feet high. The core opening is seven feet in diameter. Some people have expressed the opinion that this is the handsomest stack on the Acushnet river.

The boilers are located at the eastern end of the power house in the one story portion. There are four of 250 horsepower each. They are the Babcock & Wilcox type, manufactured by Aultmann, Taylor Co., Mansfield, O.

There is a Green fuel economizer in a room directly south of the boiler, which utilizes the heat of the waste gases before going into the stack.

Directly west of the boiler room are the fire pump room, containing two Knowles fire pumps, with a capacity of 1,000 gallons a minute each, connected with the reservoirs and supplying a line of hydrants extending entirely around the mill; the boiler feed pumps and a small feed water heater, and a small entry way from which stairs rise to the second floor, where the engines and generators are located.

There are three MacIntosh & Seymour engines, on solid concrete foundations, and of 350 and 150 horsepower respectively. They are connected direct with Westinghouse generators of the three phase type, giving a current of 440 volts E. M. F. There is a

seven panel switchboard of gray marble at the south side of the engine room. There are two condenser pumps of the Dean Bros. make between the two smaller engines, and a 110 volt exciter direct connected to a Westinghouse engine is west of the medium engine. An exciter connected to a three phase motor is also provided.

There is a cooling tower for cooling the condensing water south of the engine room. This is provided with a Dean Bros. circulating pump and a Sturtevant blower for a supply of cooling air.

Features never before used in the tack business to any great degree are heating the various small furnaces with crude petroleum, compressed air hoists in the scaling room, etc., and the use of roller bearings on all the shafting.

The factory is fitted with a complete outfit of telephones, electric bells and speaking tubes.

The general arrangement of the mill was laid out by Elbridge G. Paull, general superintendent of the Atlas Tack Co. Lockwood, Green & Co. of Boston were the architects and engineers, and their local representative was R. A. Thayer. The B. F. Smith Co. of Pawtucket, R. I., had the contract for building the mill. The boilers and engines and electrical machines were set up by representatives of the companies furnishing them. The piping was done by the New Bedford Boiler Co., and the New Bedford Machine Co. put up the shafting.

In conclusion it is not too much to say that to Mr. Paull is due not only the general layout, but a very careful supervision of the whole enterprise.

The present officers of the company are as follows:

President—George W. Weymouth.
Secretary and Treasurer—Urban H. Broughton.
Assistant Treasurer—H. H. Elliott.
Directors—George W. Weymouth,
Henry H. Rogers, jr., John Bushnell,
H. H. Elliott.

TACK MILL

FHVN STAR

May 17, 1902

DEDICATED.

Nearly 1000 People Attend Grand Ball in the Mammoth Structure.

The immense new mill of the Atlas Tack Co. was dedicated Thursday night with a grand ball which was attended by nearly a thousand people. The festivities took place in the north part of the mill and the hall was so spacious that twice the number could have participated. Over 300 participated in the grand march.

The affair was a brilliant one. It was held under the auspices of the Fairhaven Poor Society the members of which have worked with the tackers, under the direction of Norman M. Paull, for several months. Considerable satisfaction was expressed over the successful outcome of the well laid plans.

The weather conditions were all that could be desired.

The interior was decorated in a limited way, the immensity of the structure preventing anything elaborate. The bandstand, located in the centre of the hall, was trimmed with bunting and flags and similar decorations appeared at intervals over the windows on the north side. Potted plants around the bandstand and at the west end of the hall completed the decorations.

Blackwelle's Band gave a concert outside the building early in the evening.

The program:

March—Corey Hill Club.

Boston Commandery.

H. F. Odell
F. M. Carter

The inside program was:

Jolly Blacksmith.
Overture—Superba.
Baritone Solo.

Dodd

March—Message from Mars.

James Corcoran.
Emil Ascher

March—The Tale of the Kangaroo.

Gustave Luders

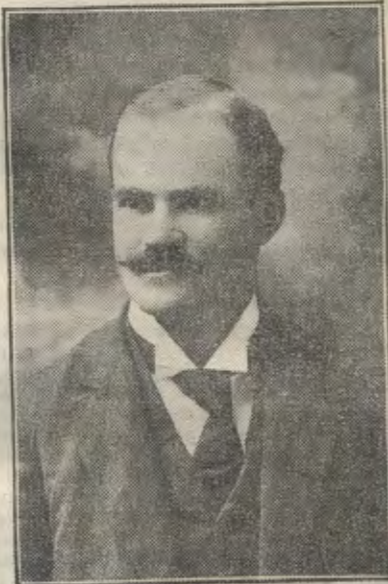
The grand march commenced at 9 30, and during the interval preceding Hon. George W. Weymouth, President and Manager of the Atlas Tack Co., and Mrs. Weymouth received in front of a bower of potted plants west of the bandstand. Later Mr. and Mrs. U. H. Broughton assisted and Mrs. Hearne and Miss Buckingham also met many people.

Mr. Rogers and Mr. and Mrs. Broughton, who came from New York on steam yacht Kanawha Thursday morning, arrived at the factory about 9 o'clock. Mrs. Broughton wore a handsome gown of gray crepe de chene, trimmed with silver passementerie, and a necklace of diamonds.

The grand march was led by Mr. Weymouth and Mrs. Broughton. They were followed by Mr. Broughton with Mrs. Weymouth; Joseph Pettee, jr., with Mrs. J. F. Hobart; J. F. Hobart with Mrs. Pettee; Mr. and Mrs. Sayres Hadley; Mr. and Mrs. Norman M. Paull.

At the conclusion of the march dancing was begun and continued until one o'clock. There were 20 dances on the order.

Among those present were the following who are prominently connected with the Atlas Co.:



NORMAN M. PAULL,
Through Whose Efforts the Dedictory Ball
Was Successful.

J. F. Eobart New York representative; Sayres Hadley; N. B. Deane, N. J. Crossman, Howard Elliot, Assistant treasurer, Edward Wyatt, Mr. and Mrs. F. O. Lincoln, and F. F. Davis of Taunton; Miss Agnes Raycroft, private secretary to Manager Weymouth.

The cover of the dance order bore a design of the Power house surrounded by a border showing the products of the factory. It was the work of C. A. Hacker.

Bradford Bowen of Melrose, a native of Dighton who is 91 years of age and the oldest living tack-maker, was present and he enjoyed the evening as much as anybody.

Mr. Bowen occupied a seat with William F. Nye of this town near the receiving platform. When Mr. Nye introduced Mr. Bowen to Mr. Rogers as the oldest living tacker, Mr. Rogers remarked "Well I am the youngest" which pleased the old gentleman immensely.

A large room on the south side of the building was reserved for refreshments and a large corps of waiters were on hand.

Rooms were reserved for card playing, smoking, and cloak rooms in the office part of the building.

Joseph K. Nye was floor director and his aids were Alfred E. Lincoln, jr., Dennis McEnerny, Howard Elliot, Harry L. Pope and Herman H. Hathaway.

The ushers were Walter P. Winsor, George H. Tripp, Dr. C. W. White, jr., W. H. Judd, George B. Luther, Alton B. Paull, L. W. Tilden, William B.

Gardner, Drew B. Hall, Dr. W. H. Thayer, Elton S. Wilde and Arthur B. Fuller of Fairhaven; F. W. Luscombe of New Bedford; F. O. Lincoln, C. L. Soule and J. F. Rockett of Taunton.

Sullivan & Gray's orchestra of 15 pieces furnished the dance music and a concert programme before the dance.

Among those present were the following:

Henry H. Rogers, Mr and Mrs. Urban H. Broughton, Mr and Mrs. George W. Weymouth, Mr and Mrs. Walter P. Winsor, Mr and Mrs. George H. Tripp, Miss Esther A. Bryden, E. G. Tallman, Mr and Mrs. Zenas Winsor, Mr and Mrs. E. B. Gray, Mr and Mrs. Ludger Poisson, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Poisson, Mr and Mrs. C. F. Wing, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Paull, Mr. and Mrs. J. Goodnow, Mr and Mrs. E. E. Benton, Miss Melora B. Handy, Mr and Mrs. N. M. Paull, Mrs. Emma Winsor, Mr and Mrs. A. Kelley, W. A. Robinson Jr., C. S. Kelley Jr., Walter P. Winsor Jr.; Joseph Bancroft 2d, Miss Edith Wires, Carl Shippee of Milford; Miss Anna Bancroft Winsor, Miss Alice Winsor, Miss Genevieve Slayton of Manchester N. H., Wilfred Saeger of Sagertown Pa., Richard Bourne of Cleveland O., Miss Elsie T. Clark, Miss Annie Nye Fuller, Henry V. Bisbee, Ralph S. Bryden, R. A. Swan, Mr and Mrs. Fred R. Fish, Mr and Mrs. Arthur L. Tucker, Mr and Mrs. Cornelius Grinnell, Mrs. Sarah F. Fuller, Mr and Mrs. Martin L. Bisbee, Mr and Mrs. Lyman C. Bauldry, Miss Anna Dodge, Miss Goddard, Philip Robinson, Dr. W. L. Peters, Mr and Mrs. H. P. Crowell, H. D. Waldron, C. E. Ellis, C. W. Cobb, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Jenney, Misses Jennie and Mabel Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Rounselle, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Gault, Mr. and Mrs. Niel Nicholson, Mrs. Fred Akin, Mr. Edward Rooney, Mr. Chas. Goodwin, J. S. Peck, Mr. and Mrs. Reeves, Benjamin Rae, G. L. Packard, jr., Fred Solgren, Clarence Avery, Adolph Gunderson, Signard Gunderson, Frank Davis, Frank Blackwelle, Frank Dufrane, Mr. and Mrs.

Henry Putz, Chas. Ricketson, Miss Elizabeth C. Holmes, Miss L. P. Urquhart, Miss Grace Burgess, Miss Minnie Allen, John Taber, Mr and Mrs. B. F. Cottelle, Robert W. Pease, Miss Bessie Nolan, Miss Jane Thuman, Miss Ethel M. Brownell, William A. Wing, Otto A. Olstein, Horace C. Wing, Franklin J. Ross, Miss Carolyn Jones, Mr Miller, Mr and Mrs. Louise W. Tilden, Mr and Mrs. Horace K. Nye, Mr and Mrs. Charles W. Tobey, Mr and Mrs. James Gifford, Rev. Willis B. Holcombe, Dr and Mrs. Charles D. Hunt, William F. Nye, E. G. Spooner, Miss Lucy A. Leonard, Mr and Mrs. George D. Hammond, Mr and Mrs. B. F. Cottelle, Mr and Mrs. Isaac W. Giles, Mr and Mrs. Benjamin F. Luther, Mr and Mrs. Frank H. Church, Miss Helen Cope land, Mr and Mrs. Peter Murray, Mr and Mrs. H. M. Knowlton, Mr and Mrs. W. H. Collins, Mr and Mrs. William C. Hawes, James H. Brown, J. T. Kenney, Mr and Mrs. Nelson LeB. Shurtleff, Charles Gooding, Mr. and Mrs. John I. Bryant.

Miss Helen P. Maxfield, Miss Annie C. Maxfield, Miss Ruth P. Almy, Mr and Mrs. Thomas A. Tripp, Dr. F. E. Stetson, George H. H. Allen, Herbert C. Terry, Arthur B. Fuller, Clarence A. Cook, Mr and Mrs. John L. Clark, Mrs. Mattie Stoddard, Edward A. Pierce, Mrs. A. Martin Pierce, Mrs. Alfred Butler, Worcester, Edward Ingraham, George A. Gordon, Miss Sybil Luther, Miss Louise C. D. Stoddard, Charles C. Tilton, Dr and Mrs. C. W. White, jr., William M. Allen, Miss Sarah Allen, Mr and Mrs. George D.

Habicht, Mr and Mrs William B Gardner, Frank O Dillingham, Arthur W Weeks, Miss Grace Tripp, Miss Edith Tinkham, Miss Helen Morton, Miss Bertha Spiller, Miss Bessie L Ellis, Mr and Mrs William B Topham, Miss Grace H Perry, Miss Annie Gillingham, Ned Wing, Mr and Mrs James Hindle, Charles R Maxfield, Miss Mattie Norris, Thomas Clark, Mr and Mrs J R Kelly, Mr and Mrs H B Shurtliff.

Mr and Mrs Frank H Sisson, Mr and Mrs John P. Morris, Frank M. Jones, Miss Cora Braley, Fall River, Leroy A Sturgis, Mr and Mrs Fred A Williams, Everett E. Perry, Miss Florence Smith, Miss Emma Dodge, Alton B. Paull, Frank H Murkland, Converse Merrill, Miss Bessie Hathaway, William D Champlin, Ernest W Le., Miss Julia Beauvais, Miss Linnie Neal, Elton S. Wilde, Mr and Mrs E G Morton, Miss Florence Keith, Miss Agnes A Wyse, Miss Annie E Wyse, Mr and Mrs Fred Keith, Miss Emma Hervey, Miss Maz lie Taber.

The committees in charge of the arrangements are as follows:

Executive—Mrs. G. H. Tripp, Miss Esther Bryden, Mrs. T. A. Tripp, Mrs. C. W. White, jr., Mrs. W. P. Winsor.

Tickets, Music and orders—Alton B. Paull, Miss Annie N. Fuller, Miss Aurelia Leonard, C. A. Hacker.

Decorations—J. Pettee, jr., Mrs. Sarah Fuller, Mrs. T. A. Tripp.

Reception—The Executive Committee.

Dressing Rooms—Miss R. L. H. Taber, Miss G. E. Fairfield, Lloyd N. Ellis.

Smoking Room—F. M. Taber, Mrs. W. C. Stoddard, Mrs. John Stoddard.

Refreshments—J. N. Gifford, Miss Esther Bryden, Mrs. L. R. Merrill, Mrs. C. W. White, jr., Mrs. W. P. Winsor, W. Crossman.



JOSEPH K. NYE,
Floor Director at the Dedictory Ball.

Card Room—E. E. Benton, Mrs. John L. Clark, Miss Louise C. D. Stoddard, Mrs. Emma Winsor.

The expenses of the dance were \$375 and about \$100 will be added to the treasury of the Poor Society. The aim of those who had the affair in charge was to make it a success, and great credit is due to all especially Norman M. Paull, who had the entire plan to carry out. The latter wishes to express his appreciation of the work of the committee, the assistance given by the newspaper and the people who attended.

The presence of Mr. Hobart at the ball brings up an interesting incident.

"I think Fairhaven is the place for a big factory and all our machinery ought to be concentrated there so we can get the benefit of local locality in our business."

Above statement was made by Mr. Henry Hobart, President of the Atlas Tack Corp. in 1893.

Mr. Hobart was always ready to acknowledge a good point even when his acknowledgement was against his personal interest; it was in that spirit that he made the above remark.

The question of concentration has been under consideration and the fact that coal could be delivered in Fairhaven \$1 a ton cheaper than in Whitman, and that the saving on that item would be some \$10 per. day had extorted from him the above quoted statement.

Mr. Hobart had been eminently successful in his business career of more than 50 years and was regarded as a long headed, shrewd business man; yet even he could not have foreseen what we have here today the fulfillment of his prediction but it is gratifying to recall this statement.

The Fairhaven Star

SATURDAY MAY 17, 1892

TELEPHONE 629-23.

THE Star presents to its readers in this issue a description of the new Atlas Tack plant together with a history of nail and tack making in this town. The special articles are to be given at this time since our citizens are so deeply interested in the concentration of the business of the Atlas company here, and we all so greatly appreciate the spirit that has prompted the efforts that are being made to increase the business of the town.

It is true that we are now enjoying prosperity as a residential suburb of the growing city of New Bedford and that our beautiful location at the mouth of the Acushnet attracts numbers here both for summer and permanent residence, but we should not rest satisfied with this. Those industries should be fostered and encouraged that bring to us good citizens and the opportunity of employment at home at fair wages.

In the past the tack works has fulfilled the mission of helping the town to recover from the blow given by the decadence of the whalingery, and now, with its new plant and facilities for doing work it will undoubtedly prove of vast benefit to the community, and a more sure dependence for livelihood to the wage earners who find employment within its walls.

NEW ATLAS TACK MILL.—Three hundred of the rapid "Atlas" tack machines are in operation at the new mill and more are being erected. Other machinery is being placed in position as rapidly as possible.

Two forges in the blacksmith shop were placed in commission this week by Hermon W. Gifford, one of the blacksmiths employed by the company.

Work of putting up the shafting and pulleys is progressing.

Everything in the power house is in running order and the pipes which will

connect the cooling tower with the power house are being placed in position.

Mr. Wilson of the Westinghouse, Church, Kerr Co. is putting the Holley return system in operation—a method of returning drips to the boiler.

The ledge which has delayed the laying of the water pipe around the building, is all removed and the pipe will be laid at once.

EARLY NAIL MAKING.

They Were Hammered Out By the Sturdy Arm of the Blacksmith.

In the early days of Fairhaven's history nails were made by hand, being hammered out by the sturdy arm of the blacksmith. The vessels and whale boats built along the water front required nails, and quantities of these were made in Fairhaven by John and Philip Noland, who had a shop in the eastern part of the village. Boat nails that now sell for 8 cents a pound then brought 25 cents or thereabout.

Previous to 1812 a Mr. Allen formerly made cut nails in a shop near the shore just north of the boat shop of Joshua Delano on Fort street. The plate was fed into the machine without turning it over, and then the heads were put on by hand. A wind mill supplied the power to drive the machine. This machine was not invented in Fairhaven so probably it was used in other places, and was a marked improvement over the hand process.

Nails were made in England and even in those days 80,000 men, women and children were employed in Birmingham, but the inventive genius of Americans gradually brought about a change to the machine made goods. Jesse Reed of Bridgewater invented a nail machine which was in use in this section, and tacks were made by the Blanchard machine. These were a great step in the manufacture of tacks and nails, and like the cotton gin and reaping machine changed the condition of the industry for which they were designed.

A hundred years ago houses were built without cut nails. There are several standing in Fairhaven today that were built in this manner.

When the American Nail Machine company was started in Fairhaven the Nail machine invented by Hoard & Wiggins of Wareham was used, but it did not prove so great an improvement over the Reed machine as was expected, and more attention was given to tack making.

The making of large spikes and heavy nails for ships was a very important part of the blacksmith's business during the whaling days. Some were imported but the shipyards were supplied by the local blacksmith shops. Copper nails were cast by the brass foundries. They were principally of two kinds, the square ones for nailing on sheathing and smaller round ones for fastening the copper to the bottom of the ships.

BANISHED TACKERS POKE TACKS IN ATLAS BALLOON

In a remarkable signed statement given to the Times yesterday by the leaders of the striking Fairhaven tackmakers, H. H. Rogers, the owner of the Atlas works was attacked as well as his agent, President George W. Weymouth.

The entire secret dealings between the management and the men is laid bare for the first time, and the inner workings of the great factory revealed for the interest of outsiders.

Ever since the starting of the new factory, the public has known that there has been trouble between the workmen and officials of the company. Just what that trouble was neither side has been before willing to say.

All which has hitherto been held back is now made known.

Not only do the tackmakers stick to the claims which they have before made, but they have carried the war into the camp of the enemy.

They demand the discharge of President Weymouth, Mr. Rogers' close friend.

They even attack Mr. Rogers himself, and declare that all his millions shall not be sufficient to start the factory, which his agent has closed, until their demands are granted.

The tackmakers in Fairhaven number but a little more than 30, and so skilled is the labor required, and so strong is their union, that they have been able to virtually close the great factory, in the face of Mr. Rogers' threats, and despite the utmost efforts of one of the richest and most powerful men in the world, to keep it running.

Wednesday the girls in the packing departments were laid off. Little by little the tackmakers are drawing their net close, and are carrying into effect their assertion that they could shut the factory as absolutely as though it had been closed by martial law, and a cordon of soldiers stood on guard with fixed bayonets to prevent an entrance.

Four tackmakers alone are now working in the big factory, and it is claimed that they are not skilled workmen.

Meanwhile the new factory in Taunton is taking in orders and men are going from Fairhaven to fill them.

Mr. Rogers, master of millions, and the indirect employer of thousands of men, the man who has fought and beaten men backed by millions, faces defeat for the first time in his life before the invincible battle line of 30 skilled mechanics.

Written for the Times by

A. E. LINCOLN, G. EARNEST BRIGGS, E. E. BENTEN AND C. M. WILLIAMS.

Most of the people living within a radius of 50 miles of Fairhaven generally know that the tackmakers were very much opposed to adopting the "day and night" system so persistently urged by Manager Weymouth one year ago last July. But they do not know the reasons which finally prevailed with them to accept this demoralizing system.

One of the greatest influences was the statement repeatedly made to us that the great benefactor of Fairhaven, H. H. Rogers, had originated the idea, and would never rest contentedly until it had been tried. It was his scheme to see his immense and very expensive new plant running night and day unceasingly, pouring out such a flood of tacks and small nails that the

whole world would be compelled to buy only Atlas goods. By this method the taxes, insurance, interest on plant, salaries to a great extent, would not be increased, but the produce would be doubled, making the cost of manufacturing so extremely low that men doing business with only moderate capital would be driven from the market wholly, and consequently, machinery belonging to them would become useless except for scrap, and buildings would remain idle to pay taxes on and to decay.

Knew Not Whether to Blame Weymouth or Rogers.

The tackmakers never believed such

results could be attained, because they knew the scheme was not practical from a mechanical point of view, and various other good reasons which is not necessary to enter into now. Such arguments, however, were brought to bear upon Mr. Weymouth, who from time to time seemed to be in doubt as to who was the originator of this great scheme, H. H. Rogers or George W. Weymouth.

Arguments which we considered sound were presented to him with no avail. At one time the question was asked, "How do we accumulate a big stock of manufactured goods how will it effect us? Can you run steadily with the produce unsold?" The answer was pleasantly given, that was no concern of ours. All that business was figured out, and in case, from any cause, goods should accumulate to a great extent, he would build storehouses to put them in. Mr. Weymouth called his tackmakers together several times and in order to gain their consent made many promises to them all in a body.

Promises Made by President Weymouth Given to Public.

These promises we propose to give the public in order that they may understand fully the manner of man who now poses as a foe, not only to organized labor, but unorganized labor as well.

He promised:

First, "I will never reduce your wages."

Second, "You shall have steady work through good times and poor, through thick and thin, while tackmakers in other localities may be idle, you will be steadily employed."

Third, "You may hire your own night men, make your own bargains with them, and whatever arrangements you make with them I will approve and guarantee."

Fourth, "I have been informed that in requiring you to cut out small orders you sustain a loss of wages, and the company a loss of product. I am making arrangements now so I can promise you shall not be called upon to do so any more."

Fifth, "The factory shall be so equipped with electric lights of all kinds, that it shall be just as light at night as it is by day."

Sixth, "I will guarantee you men against loss. I want you to make good wages. If any man sustains loss let him come to me, and I will make his loss good."

Seventh, "I will guarantee you shall not lose your jobs, and no reduction in wages will ever be made. If I cannot make the business pay I will resign."

Mr. Weymouth was unwilling to Put Agreement in Writing.

He was asked if he was willing to put his agreements in writing, which he declined, saying, "I do not wish to do that. I never have given writings. I don't consider it necessary. I never gave any to Mr. Rogers nor did he ever give me any. I have told Mr. Rogers and Mr. Broughton what I have promised you, and they both approve, and desire the men to make all the money they can. I have here present three of my superintendents as witnesses, and I think you ought to be satisfied with that and accept the terms I offer."

The men accepted and promised to do all in their power to make it successful.

As soon as possible the men made arrangements to commence the system. We tried first to secure tackmakers by letter, failing to get as many as we desired, we then advertised in the "Boston Globe," and finally had the plant running on the new system.

All through the few months that this plan lasted the men were under a great nervous strain, but as a whole, did all in their power to make it successful if possible. After a few months of trial it proved to be a failure and was abandoned.

Towards the latter part of the year, Mr. Weymouth began to break his promises, and from that period up to September 1st, 1903, he has broken every promise he made; to wit—Promise No. 1, "I will never reduce your wages."

He caused a reduction in speed on several hundred machines, making in many cases a reduction in wages. In several instances he took away percentages formerly allowed on special goods and finally, September 1st, reduced the cutting list about 34 per cent.

Promises No. 2 and 3. "You shall have steady employment, etc." About the middle of December, 1902, he closed the factory up and pasted a notice saying that operations would be resumed January 1, 1903, after stock taking. Orders had been previously given to discharge the night men permanently, but no compensation was offered them for their loss in moving here, on a guarantee of steady work, some of them had hardly got settled before they received their discharge.

Men Hired, Then Discharged Without a Day's Notice.

Some of the day tackmakers offered to divide their jobs with the men they had hired, until they could find positions elsewhere, and one tackmaker offered to store his night man's goods in his house, and board his family free, while he could secure employment.

After closing the mill for nearly or quite three weeks, operations were resumed on a day basis, only a few men were called in, and from December 1, or thereabouts, until February or March, the larger portion of our men were idle, walking the streets, with coal \$14 a ton, and house rents high.

Promise No. 4. "You will not be required to cut small orders." There never was the slightest difference that we were able to see in this respect.

Promise No. 5. "The factory shall be so equipped with electric light that it shall be just as light as day."

In answer to this promise we declare that at no time was the light sufficient at night so a man could grind and operate machines nights, and let them lie idle during the day, therefore the work was obliged to be done almost wholly days.

Promise No. 6. "I will guarantee you against loss, etc."

One of our men finding he had sustained a loss by the new system saw Mr. Weymouth, and asked him to "make good" as agreed upon. He was told to call again, which he did and received \$25, in money, and also his discharge at the same time.

As none of the other men cared to have their losses adjusted in that way, no more complaints were entered.

Promise No. 7. "I will guarantee you shall not lose your jobs, and no reduction in wages."

It is not necessary to say anything about this promise when the public is well aware that he locked out September 1, 1903, about 30 tackmakers with whom he made the above promises. In addition to this he made promises to some of the night men, and individual tackmakers which from time to time he broke without making any explanation.

The tackmakers who came here to work nights have not forgotten him, nor could one of them be induced to work for him at any price or under any promises he might make.

This is a true statement of facts.

(Signed) A. E. LINCOLN,
G. EARNEST BRIGGS,
E. E. BENTEN,
C. M. WILLIAMS.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Benefit association of the Atlas Tack Co. held its annual meeting in Atlas Hall Jan. 7. The secretary recently received a communication from the secretary of the commonwealth asking a series of questions to which the following answers were returned:

| | |
|---|-----------------|
| Amount received in 1906 | \$790.75 |
| Paid in Sick Benefits | 396.39 |
| Other expenses | 28.00 |
| Full rate assessments 50 cts. per month | |
| Half rate assessments 25 cts. per month | |
| Full rate benefit | \$6.00 per week |
| Half rate benefit | \$3.00 per week |

The officers are:

President—N. J. Crossman.

Treasurer—J. T. Rockett.

Secretary—E. K. Dean.

There are eight directors.

The above is considered a very creditable showing when it is understood that the association is carried on entirely by the employes of the company without assistance.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

New Bedford, July 17, 1911.

To the Editor of the Fairhaven Star:

Dear Sir:

You will oblige us very much by publishing the enclosed resolutions.

Yours very truly,

C. A. Blanchett,

103 Ruth Avenue.

The South End Socialist Party has this evening considered the Press report which has not been denied that fifteen machinists of the Atlas Tack Co. have been discharged, because they refused to work on account of the excessive heat. They unanimously register an indignant protest against such inhuman treatment of those men by the management of that company. We also express our admiration for the manly attitude they have exhibited on that occasion by refusing to endanger their precious lives upon which their dear ones at home wholly depend. We further declare that though we regard this incident as revoltingly unjust and a plain exhibition of ingratitude for the men from whom have been extracted dividends for the stockholders for many years, we are not essentially bitter against the manager himself, his position is synonymous to that of the slave drivers of the Southern slavery days, he must produce profits or lose his job, and his social standing and in order to do that he must sometimes though personally he may be just and kind, he is simply the product of circumstances created by the capitalist system in its mad rush for profits and judging from the small socialist vote in Fairhaven we realize that the machinists themselves may be just as much to blame as the manager since they are supporting with their votes the old political parties which stand for the Atlas Tack Co. being owned by a few men, unfortunately the machinists are getting precisely what they voted for. When they as well as other workers will have got whipped into realizing that the private ownership of the means of life is the only cause of this class struggle of man beat man, they will then vote for the socialist party which states that the workers through their government must and will own the means of their own lives enabling them not only to become their own bosses but as owners they will receive all they produce, in other words they will get all that they do now as wages in addition to what the owners receive now as profits, they will then well afford to take a day or a week off when it is too hot to work, and not lose their jobs.

We move that the resolutions be handed over to C. A. Blanchett secretary of the Bristol County Federation of the Socialist party, to be copied by him and sent to the Press with a request for their publication.

The South End Branch of the Socialist Party.

ATLAS TACK PLANT.

Work Progressing at Fairhaven —How the Plant Will Ap- pear When Completed.

(Taunton Gazette.)

When Andrew Carnegie has been to Homestead, Pa., and to Edinburgh, Scotland, the former his adopted town and the latter his native heath; what Hezekiah Conant of the immense J. & P. Coats thread works has been to Pawtucket, R. I., and to Dudley, Mass., the former his adopted town and the latter his native heath; all this and truly in comparative degree more so can be said of Henry Huttleston Rogers and the town of Fairhaven, Mass., his home. Mr. Rogers needs no eulogy from tongue or pen. He is a thorough business man, kind hearted, generous natured and public spirited. To say nothing of his benefactions to other communities, while never has an individual been turned empty-handed from his door, he has given to the town of Fairhaven its public library structure, town hall and postoffice building, water works plant, while to the \$3000 appropriated by the town annually for its highways, he adds 10 times that sum—at least \$25,000—thus keeping 75 men employed almost the year round. Scarcely three months ago he handed over to the local lodge the keys of the new Masonic temple on Main street, corner of Centre, dedicated to Past Grand Master Taber, and his latest act of generosity is a memorial church with parish house, etc., corner of Green and Centre streets.

There are nearly 200 men employed in pushing work on the new tack factory. Activity was evident on every side and thus has it been since the first spade was turned in the four acre plot just a month ago when the contractors, B. F. Smith & Co., of Pawtucket, R. I., started with 20 men, which force now numbers nearly 10 fold. The location is certainly most desirable for not only is it easy of access from the highways, but it is also on the very edge of the New Bedford and Provincetown branch of the N. Y., N. H. & H. R. R. Spur tracks will be run into the yard and there will also be direct connection with the company's own wharf some little distance west, thus facilitating the receipt or shipment of cargoes by water as well as rail.

The foundation for both the power house walls and chimney are completed and now the brick work will begin to loom up. The power house which will be located south of the main building will be one story high, 44x52 feet with L 16x22 feet the former to have a basement. There will also be three engines with a total of 1000 horse power. The engine room will be in the west end of the boiler room in the east end. The foundation for the chimney or stack is of Portland cement and crushed stone 30 feet in diameter and "as solid as the proverbial rock." The

circular chimney will be 18 feet in diameter at the base, 13 feet at the top and 180 feet high. A "climax" stone crusher right on the ground and with a capacity of 100 tons a day is doing great work. All the boulders dug out of the site have been crushed, but the major quantity of stone comes from Fort Phoenix ledge.

Excavating for the walls and piers of the main building is progressing rapidly and within 10 days work on the solid foundations will be in order. The grading for the spur tracks is also practically completed but precedence in construction will, of course, be given the buildings proper. The main building will be 622 by 227 feet, the dimensions of its entire extent of one story but 46 feet of the west end will be two stories high to accommodate the offices. The saw-tooth style prevails in the main building and with skylights and improved system of ventilation will make it doubly cheerful and healthful. There will be three rooms on the granolithic first floor of the office from which the massive vault will extend to the second story. On the second floor will be the billing and selling departments, lockers and toilet and shipping room on the north side next to the railroad track. To make the office more ornate the trimmings will be of granite and over the main entrance will be the suggestive letters and figures "Atlas Tack Company, 1901."

The architects are Lockwood, Green & Co. of Boston. Mr. Thayer, also of Boston, is their representative engineer supervising the execution of the plans. Mr. Wheeler is superintendent and Mr. Palmer foreman. The plans and specifications call for completion and possible occupation of the new plant at Fairhaven by the middle of November next.

ATLAS TACK ATTACHED.

An attachment of \$30,000 in an action of contract has been filed against the property of the Atlas Tack company by the Benjamin F. Smith company of Pawtucket, R. I.

The B. F. Smith Co. had the contract for the erection of the Atlas Tack company's new plant in Fairhaven, and Mr. Smith stated that the attachment was for the purpose of recovering a balance which he claims is still due under the contract. Further than that Mr. Smith said he did not care to discuss the case, as he had placed the matter entirely in the hands of his attorney.

CORPORATION RETURN.

| | | | |
|---|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Atlas Tack Co., Fairhaven. H. H. Rogers, treasurer. | | | |
| Real est. | \$420,759 | Capital, | 1,000,000 |
| Mchys, | 362,286 | Accts | |
| Cash & dts | | pay, | 127,005 |
| re | 349,487 | Surplus, | 70,000 |
| Mfrs & | | Profit & | |
| merch. | 332,101 | loss, | 371,506 |
| Merch, | 1,105 | | |
| Patnts, good | | | |
| will & trade | | | |
| marks, | 40,000 | | |
| Unexpired ins | | | |
| & taxes, | 2,473 | | |

Total. \$1,568,511 Total, \$1,568,511

A rival corporation to the Atlas Tack company it is expected will soon be started in Taunton with Frank O. Lincoln, purchasing agent of the Atlas company, at its head, and backed by the Mt. Hope Iron company of Somerset.

Mr. Lincoln was discharged by President Weymouth from the position which he has held about eight years, on the grounds that the purchasing agent was not "loyal" to the company.

Mr. Lincoln's "disloyalty" in this instance is understood to refer to the fact that he had on several occasions criticised the methods employed by the president, especially with regard to the contemplated cut-down in various departments.

Now, backed by the wealthy Mt. Hope Iron company, Mr. Lincoln proposes to organize a rival organization, for the profit which he believes that there is in the business, and incidentally, to revenge himself upon Mr. Weymouth.

The plant which the Mt. Hope Iron company, through Mr. Lincoln, contemplates taking over, is the Albert Field works in Taunton. This plant is to be sold to satisfy the bondholders Tuesday, and as it is the best equipped of any now on the market, it is the one desired to refit to rival the Atlas works.

By the advertised sale of the Albert Field plant, the plants of the Taunton Tack company, the American Tack company of Fairhaven, and the Loring & Parks company's works at Duxbury and Plymouth, a queer state of affairs has been revealed in connection with the Atlas works, and one which it is believed will materially aid the establishment of a new plant.

None of the tack companies which consolidated with the Atlas company received a monetary compensation, with the exception of the Albert Field company. The others were content to receive their share in stock of the new corporation for which so much was hoped.

The proprietors of the Albert Field tack works, however, were convinced that they need fear no competition, and turned down the offers of Rogers' men. Not until they received \$350,000 in cash would the Field company sell.

Of this, \$50,000 was paid direct by the Atlas company, and the remainder was raised by bonds, covered by first mortgages on all the plants which were turned over to the Atlas company.

That was a little more than ten years ago. James Richard Carter, William A. Rust and Seth L. Cushman were appointed trustees of the estates for the bondholders, and they have from time to time disposed of machinery and stock to the Atlas company.

The bonds bore interest at six per cent, and now comes the news that for the last two years this interest has not been paid by the Atlas Company, and to protect themselves the bondholders have been obliged to sell the property on which they held a mortgage.

H. H. ROGERS HAS A STRIKE OF TACKMAKERS ON HIS HANDS

Employees in Fairhaven Factory of Standard Oil Magnate Were Turned Down When They Demanded Higher Wages

Fairhaven, Sept. 23.—Have you visited Fairhaven? Some have not, though loyal natives of this part of the world think superciliously of those unacquainted with the Millicent Memorial Library and other municipal jewels.

Fairhaven lingered long in blissful quiet, like that of the birthplace of Simeon Ford, who remembers early death was disgraceful there, and so rare that when a man under 90 passed away his door was decorated with white crape and they carved a little lamb on his tombstone. Its forefathers went to sea in whalers from New Bedford, just across the Acushnet River, fished along the salty shore, and took tribute from the soil.

But that was before the electric car and summer boarder made it worldly wise and H. H. Rogers, the Standard Oil millionaire, came back to the place of his birth to be the most benevolent sort of a big brother.

Like Jack London, who went forth, thumping his bare chest, to throttle the "blonde beast" of fortune, Mr. Rogers tackled fate at an early age. But he spent no years in scouring the Klondike and Caribbers, or in "hitting" the western trail. He tracked the dollar with rare sagacity and eventually took to his present occupation of turning oil into money.

Then Fairhaven learned how he loved his birthplace. The social whirl at Newport and Bar Harbor, a villa on the Riviera, the Continental grand parade, social occupations to which the new millionaire usually turns as a young goat turns to lettuce, had no charms for him.

He came home to understudy the sun with brilliant success. His money rained upon the town. The Rogers School, a large and handsome red brick structure, an ornate library, liberally endowed, a manual training school and a Masonic block, for the local lodge, are costly evidences of his civic pride, which led him to accept office as superintendent of streets several years ago.

Supt. Rogers does not earn his allowance of \$3 a day by personal supervision of work, but his efficiency is indisputable. The roads and walks he builds cost three times the few thousands annually appropriated for such work, yet no deficit confronts the town. He pays for the privilege of having what he wants.

Now he is spending many thousands to change a 30-acre pond into a public park, and a stately church of gray stone will be his gift to the Fairhaven Unitarians, with a beautiful parish house and parsonage. Few churches in New England can rival such housing.

Besides material advantages, he has given Fairhavenites brilliant society.

Marion, further up Buzzards Bay, is very proud of R. H. Davis, but people here love to tell of the great speaker, Reed, who will always be "Tom" to those he took to heart, and Mark Twain. They often came on Mr. Rogers' yacht, the Kanawha, as Twain does now.

In the village they tell tales of the famous humorist. One, illustrating his absentmindedness, has not reached the steenth edition. As the story goes, he was once here with Mrs. Twain, who strove heroically to keep him properly attired. Yet he was detected, one day, returning from a social call, sans coat, sans hat, necktieless. The upshot of remonstrance was in a box his late hostess received soon after. It held a black silk bow and the following note: "Dear Mrs. S.— Here is a necktie. I think I was at your house about half an hour. Keep it that long and then return. Please don't forget, for I have no other."

Since Mr. Rogers has done so much for the town, it is safe to assume that none would dispute if he chose to appropriate, in a municipal sense, Gilbertian lines:—

Oh, I am the cook and the captain bold
And the mate of the Nancy brig;
And the bosun tight and the midshipmite
And the crew of the captain's gig.

Yet, despite his local role of Santa Claus, he is now, ex-employees of the Atlas Tack Co. claim, indirectly an oppressor of local labor, though they are not disposed to lay much blame on his shoulders for what they deem a sin of omission.

A few years ago the Atlas Co., by far the largest tack concern in the world, came under the control of Mr. Rogers,

who consolidated factories at Taunton and elsewhere and brought their business to Fairhaven, another way of helping his native town. There is a magnificent plant, employing nearly 500 men in making tacks, eyelets, rivets, some sorts of nails, etc., and disbursing hundreds of thousands annually.

The tackmaking department alone employed some 30 men, about 10 p.c., it appears, of all the tacks in this country. Theirs is skilled work, requiring long apprenticeship, and their wages are high for mechanics.

As a matter of fact the Atlas Tack Co. is the only corporation in which Mr. Rogers is interested which is not conducted for the purpose of making money. The company, before the Taunton establishment was moved to Fairhaven, was the chief industry of the town and gave employment to a great many of the people. It was in order that the industry be not abandoned that Mr. Rogers undertook the proprietorship of the concern.

It is a well known fact here that the plant is being operated at a loss to the owner, but he has continued its operation as a matter of civic

pride and for the public welfare rather than for personal gain.

Their issue with the Atlas Co. began Sept. 1, when a new rate card which meant, the men say, an average reduction of more than 20 p.c. in their earning capacity, was offered. They declined to accept it and offered to work two weeks' notice under the old schedule. Their offer was declined; they left and are still out. The management regards it as a strike, but the tackers call it a lockout.

In the equity of the matter is an issue of veracity. Pres. Weymouth, at one time a Massachusetts congressman, says there is no money in the tack business now, that the wage scale was shaved to enable the company to break even, not to make money. He claims that before the reduction was made his company was paying considerably more than competitors for several items of labor.

On the other hand, the rebellious tackers say that they got, on the average, about 5 p.c. less than tackers elsewhere. Just what they did receive is not clear to outsiders, but wages appear to have ranged from \$18 to about \$30 a week, in some cases.

Ordinarily such a strike would have only local significance. But this trouble is said to be more than local, to involve, in fact, the tack industry of the entire country. Other companies and other tackers' unions are pictured as alert for the move which may induce widespread disturbance. The strikers claim that the reduction they suffered checked other companies in plans to raise price rates.

The outcome seems doubtful, with both sides confident. At the factory, the tacking department is running and has been, it is said, without interruption through apprentices and men brought in. The management sticks stiffly to its contention that the "episode" is closed. A representative of the American Federation of Labor, sent by Pres. Gompers, was turned back with a statement that there was no question to arbitrate.

In a little room on a village street the tackers meet and prophesy that the burden of tack manufacture with available labor will be too much for Atlas. "Their tacks are costing them \$1 a pound," a union man remarked, "and they can't afford to replenish stock at that ratio. If they don't keep up the stock, they lose the business." Then he darkly hinted that, if necessary, the American Federation of Labor might intervene and bar products of the Atlas factory from union shops.

The workers profess to believe that a direct appeal to Mr. Rogers, if he could be reached by them, would bring what they desire. "A man who gives millions to his town wouldn't strip his workmen of a few thousands," one said. But they hardly expect to break through his rule of giving his managers free rein.

Naturally enough the village is inclined to sympathize with the tackers. Their cause is discussed as one of prime importance.

Meanwhile, the factory wheels are turning.

Aug.

1903

TACK MAKERS GO OUT.

of Machines Idle in Atlas Tack Plant.

Thirty Men and Sixty Feeder Boys Affected.

Offer to Work Out Two Weeks' Notice Under Old Wage Schedule.

All of the tack makers—30 in number, and the 60 boys employed as feeders in the employ of the Atlas Tack company of Fairhaven, have left their machines and today practically the entire tack making department is idle. This means the stopping of the 450 tack making machines and should the tie-up continue it will affect between two and three hundred people, including the tack finishing and packing departments and, in fact, all of that part of the plant devoted to the manufacture of tacks.

The decision to go out was reached at a meeting of the Tack Makers' union last evening, and President George W. Weymouth was notified. The men offered to return to work out their two weeks' notice on the old wage basis, but no word has been received from Mr. Weymouth. There has been considerable talk about the men giving two weeks' notice, and rather than have their position misunderstood and give the management an opportunity to say the men had quit without notice the men went to the factory this morning prepared to work out the two weeks' notice under the old wage scale. Mr. Weymouth, they found, had gone to Boston and had left no word in reply to the letter sent him the night before, and as there was no one in authority who could reply to the men they went out. To Superintendent N. J. Crossman the men renewed their offer to return to work out their notice at any time word was received from the management.

At the office of the company it was learned that President Weymouth went to Boston this morning. It was stated that Tuesday was the usual day for Mr. Weymouth to go to Boston and his absence today had no significance in relation to the tack makers going out. There was nothing to give out until Mr. Weymouth's return, it was said.

The direct cause of the tack makers' decision to go out was the posting of a new wage schedule yesterday, but trouble has been brewing for a long time, and for three years past the men say they have succeeded in holding on a threatened reduction in the wages of the tackers. The first direct notification of the intention of the tack company came on the last day of Old Home Week in July, when the men were told a cut might be expected. Since that time, there have been conferences, but with no amicable result, as is seen in the recent developments.

All of the officials of the union have avoided all mention of the union in dealing with the company and say that Mr. Weymouth only recently admitted that he had never heard the tack makers had a union. The same position was taken in the future and the union will not appear in the dealings with the company. All of the tackers are members of the union, however, and they include all of the skilled mechanics in the tack making department. The tackers

ment in regard to their position. Charles A. Lawrence, the president, in a statement yesterday, said: "We hope for an amicable settlement of the matter very soon. According to the figures that some of the men have made the cut in wages will amount to at least 20 per cent of the gross earnings, and it will run up to 34 per cent of the net earnings, varying, of course, on some grades of work. As we figure it the extra machines which we would be given to run would not make up for more than one third of the cut. Then

the tackers from 38 to nearly 40 per cent. The reduction is made on the gross earnings, and does not provide for any reduction in the wages of the feeder boys, who are paid by the tackers out of their own wages."

President Weymouth said yesterday that the change in the price of cutting tacks is one step in the effort of the management to operate the factory so that it will make both ends meet. He stated that the new proposition to the men requires that they operate more machines, and this, he said, would offset the reduction in the price paid for cutting. In other words, the president of the company indicated that the weekly wage of the tack maker would not be decreased any great amount by the new schedule.

In relation to the statement from which comes the inference that the company is losing money, the men say the cutting of their wages will not effect this in the least, and that the tackers might receive no pay whatever and the company would still be doing a losing business. The reason that the company is losing money, the men say, is not on account of the money spent in the manufacture of tacks, but is due to the competition in the market, which could be more successfully met if different methods were pursued than have been in vogue with the present management. There is no intended reflection on any official, but the tack workers have been following the changing conditions of the trade and claim to know something of the circumstances surrounding the manufacture and disposal of the product. Other plants, they say, have been doing everything possible to boycott the Fairhaven company, and have themselves been selling tacks at a loss. They further said that these other companies are doing this without cutting the wages of the help.

In regard to the industry, President Weymouth said: "As every one knows who knows anything about the tack business, there is no money in it. We have tried to make an agreement with our tack makers by revising the cutting price and giving them more machines to run to offset the difference in price.

"All we are asking is to get out whole. We do not make the change of pay in order to make money. I had a talk with the tack makers regarding the matter, and I told them that they are making more money than the superintendent or any heads of departments. We began by cutting our own salaries, and then we went through the factory cutting nearly all except those whose pay was small. They all accepted it gracefully.

"We have considered the matter carefully, and I expected that possibly the tack makers would leave. In other places, cutters are running more machines than the men in the Atlas plant have been operating, and we believe it is possible for them to take charge of more machines and do good work. We have the machines lying idle now already to put in operation."

All the men admit the truth of Mr. Weymouth's words in regard to losing money, but as before stated they do not consider he is taking the right remedy toward the company on a paying basis. They say they wish to avoid all trouble possible and are looking for an amicable agreement yet. One of them said this morning: "We should like to have our case laid before Mr. Rogers, and I

do not think there is one among us who would be afraid of his deciding against us."

There is a friendly feeling among the men for Mr. Rogers, who is the greatest factor in the company, for they appreciate that he has spent a large amount of money building the factory in Fairhaven. Many of them who did not like the idea of going to Fairhaven when

the time came for them to move from other towns, now like the place and they say that they would prefer to remain than to change their homes again.

The Atlas Tack company employs 400 people, and 30 of them are tack makers. Of this number about 15 are Fairhaven men who worked in the Fort street factory. The remainder came from the shops at Taunton and other factories that were discarded when the plant of the company was consolidated under one roof in Fairhaven a year ago last May. The tack makers are skilled workmen, many are expert machinists, and it is said that the Atlas Tack company's force of cutters includes the cleverest men in this country in their trade. In former years tack makers earned from \$6 to \$8 a day, and sometimes their pay has been as high as \$10 a day on some grades of work. They are mostly middle aged men, some of whom have operated tack machines for many years. Their wages at present vary from \$4 to \$6 a day, but from this they pay the wages of their feed boys.

From an advertisement which appeared late yesterday, the inference is that the company anticipated that the men would go out today.

1903 UNION MEN BARRED.

Atlas Tack Company in Fairhaven Will Employ No More, the Manager Declares.

FAIRHAVEN, Sept 2.—The Atlas tack company hired a few new hands today to take the places of the tack makers who left their jobs Monday on account of the proposed cut in wages, and some of the machines have been running. Otherwise the situation remains the same.

The anticipated conference between manager Weymouth and the tackers did not take place today, and the manager says the incident is closed. He says:

"The men will not be taken back. We are filling their places as rapidly as we can, and do not anticipate trouble in finding tackers. In the future we will run on day work instead of piece work. No more union men will be employed."

The secretary of the tackers union thinks there will be a settlement soon. The tackers hold the same view.

1903

THIRTY MEN WALK OUT.

Tackers Employed by the Atlas Company Refused to Accept Revised Method of Paying.

NEW BEDFORD, Aug 31.—The tackers employed by the Atlas tack company claim that they have been locked out. They say that manager G. W. Weymouth has held frequent conferences with them in the past three weeks relative to a new schedule, and this morning he met them again.

His proposition was that they accept a new method of making tacks by taking an increased number of machines and working under a revised schedule. The tackers say that the revision is equivalent to a cut in wages of from 20 to 30 percent. They are at present earning from \$20 to \$30 per week, according to the kind of work they are turning out.

The tackers declined the proposition and immediately gave manager Weymouth two weeks' notice. This afternoon the tackers found a notice posted when they returned to work to the effect that the new schedule would take effect Sept 1. When the whistle blew tonight 30 men walked from the factory with their kits and the probability is that the tack making department at least will not start up tomorrow unless some new feature develops.

Manager Weymouth makes the following statement:

"I proposed to have the price of cutting tacks revised, but would give them more machines to run. It is not a cut in the cutting price, as the cut is offset by the increased number of machines. I also proposed to have the feeder boys work by the piece. In answer to my proposition the men gave two weeks' notice, and hereafter the work will be done by the day, as some of the large manufactories have been doing for some time.

"The new method I proposed was an absolute necessity and might get the company out whole financially.

"The revision in other departments was accepted gracefully, and the employees acknowledged that it was necessary for the good of the company that the revision should be made.

"I began the cut with my own salary. I do not anticipate any difficulty in filling the places of the tackers who have quit. I already have enough applications to fill most of the vacancies."

The Atlas tack factory is owned by H. H. Rogers, the Standard oil magnate.

"EVEN STAR"

4-16-92

A new tack machine recently invented by Supt. E. G. Paull of the Atlas Tack Co. is now running at the Tack Works and nineteen others are being built. It is called "The Atlas" and is much simpler and faster than the old style machine. The latter turns out but 250 tacks a minute, while the new one has a capacity of 400 and is run by one man instead of by two. The object in inventing the new machine was to cheapen the cost of tacks to both maker and consumer and it is evident that this object has been attained.

10/7/37

Atlas Plant to Remain Here

Company Acquires Another Large Plant In Rome, N. Y.

Announcement was made yesterday by President Roger D. Edwards of the Atlas Tack Corp. that the organization has purchased the rivet division of the Revere Copper and Brass Co., located at Rome, N. Y. The machinery so acquired, he said, combined with that here will make Atlas one of the world's largest producers of rivets.

In a totally different tone than the recent announcement of acquisition of a Waterbury plant by Atlas, Mr. Edwards said that it is impractical to move this machinery to Fairhaven, because a very large saving can be effected on both incoming and outgoing freight by locating in the mid-West.

The combined operating unit, he said, is to be located at a point close to the raw material and consumer markets, 90 percent of both being in the Middle West.

The announcement concluded: "If the company wishes to retain the business on this product it must remain on a competitive basis with other manufacturers, all of whom are located in the Central West".

Atlas Tack Offers Work to Jobless

Will Endeavor to Place Those "Earnestly Desirous Of Honest Employment"

Roger D. Edwards, president of the Atlas Tack Corp., in a recent letter to the welfare board, emphasized the willingness of the corporation to assist in reducing public relief expenditures in the town through offers of employment to worthy persons.

Mr. Edwards wrote:

"We are pleased at this time to confirm in writing serious offers which have been made in the past to officials of the town of Fairhaven to the effect that the corporation stands ready and willing at all times to assist in the matter of reducing welfare and WPA expenditures through offer of employment to worthy individuals who are sincere in their desire to work for a living.

"We are now employing more than 700 people, many of whom are not residents of Fairhaven. It has always been our hope that, if you will accept the offer of cooperation, whereby this corporation and your welfare board can work together in a sincere manner, much can be done to alleviate welfare and WPA costs.

"We do expect to make a full and complete investigation of each WPA or welfare recipient whose name is proposed, to determine whether or not he is earnestly desirous of honest employment, and will further satisfy ourselves that through this offer we shall not be made a political dumping ground as a result of the patronage and spoils system now so popular in this country.

"We are honestly doubtful that there is any incentive for an individual whose morale has been ruined by the WPA and welfare dole to work five days a week at a steady job, when he can work only three days a week and have two days vacation, and earn enough to exist—plus whatever other donations the government might hand out from time to time.

"We are ready to receive your list of applicants for our investigation at any time, or will entertain any practical and constructive suggestions which you may have to offer."

ORIGINAL EMPLOYES.

List of the First Tackers to Come to Fairhaven.

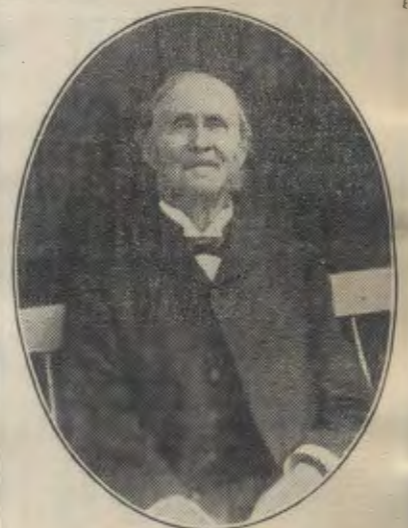
The following is a list of Tack Makers and Nailers who were employed at the tack works when started in 1865:

Wm. Cassell, Taunton; J. H. Garry, Weymouth; L. C. Guiney, Whitman; E. S. Bird, Bridgewater; Cyrus Bryant, Weymouth; E. H. Hayden, Bridgewater; Elbridge Bryant, Weymouth; J. N. Smith, Weymouth; Elwin S. Owell, Somerset; W. K. Raymond, Somerset.

OLDEST LIVING TACKER.

Bradford Bowen is 91 Years Old and Remembers When Tacks were Made by Hand.

Bradford Bowen, the oldest living tacker who attended the dedicatory ball in the new Atlas Tack mill on Thursday evening, May 10th, was born in Dighton in September, 1811. His early life was spent in the neighborhood of Dighton. When 12 or 13 years of age he entered the employ of Albert Fields who carried on the tack business in a small way. Mr. Field would drive to Boston to get the plate which was made into tacks by hand and packed in papers by Mrs. Field. Mr. Field afterwards secured four machines which was probably one of the beginnings of Fairhaven's great industry. Mr. Bowen afterwards in Norton and continued at the business up to 20 years ago.



BRADFORD BOWEN.

He is 91 Years of Age and the Oldest Living Tacker.

Mr. Bowen has been married twice and now resides in Melrose. He has one son, aged 19 years, by the second marriage. Mrs. John McCollough is a niece of Mr. Bowen.

While here Mr. Bowen met the son and grandson of a former fellow workman, both of whom are employed by the Atlas Tack Co. Mr. Bowen came from Melrose to attend the ball and he said afterwards: "I've had the nicest time I ever had." "Do you intend to dance?" he was asked. "No," he answered, "I don't think I care to take the ladies from the gentlemen, tonight."

He says, when he is asked concerning his age: "I am 91; but it grew on me. I can't help it."

The amiable old gentleman has a remarkable memory for one of his years.

RAPID "ATLAS" MACHINES.

Invention of Fairhaven Men and Cut 360 Tacks a Minute.

The Central Mfg. Co. was dissolved in 1886. During the four years of its operation more tack manufacturers had started in business than the number in the whole country when the Central was organized.

With more than 75 manufacturers in the country it was apparent tacks would be sold cheap and it therefore became necessary to produce them cheap.

The time had arrived for an improved machine to make tacks cheaper than they had been made.

The manager of the American Tack Co. had long contemplated the construction of an improved machine and Messrs. Hathaway and Paull had given their minds to the study of it for several years and all the details as well as the fundamental principles of improvement had been carefully and thoroughly considered and decided. Mr. Paull built the patterns and Mr. Hathaway constructed the first machine which, in its operations, exceeded expectations.

To cut, carry, gripe, head and clear 360 tacks a minute was more rapid than the eye could follow or the mind comprehend, but the advantage of the improved machine consisted not only in its rapidity but in the long time it would run after being adjusted by the operator. One of the tackers remarked "it will stay where you put it." The machine was built for that purpose and enabled the tacker to run many more of them than had been run of the old machines.

James N. Gifford started and ran 20 of them, making 3,000,000 tacks a day.

1,200,000 on the old machine was deemed a large day's work.

Ease of adjustment, rapidity of running and the long time the machine would do its work were its essential qualities consigning the old machines to the scrap heap or those who run them on the old plan to inevitable bankruptcy.

Four hundred and fifty of the patented machines will be installed in the new mill corresponding with the other machinery which is all of the latest patterns and the best machinery in the country.

PRESENTATION TO ATLAS CO.

Corporation Recipient of a Hand- some Flag and Pole from Fair- haven Business Association.

An occurrence worthy of note in the career of the Atlas Tack Co. was the Patriot's Day celebration, when a procession of 300 or more members of the Business Association, town officials and citizens each wearing a small flag in their buttonholes, and headed by Blackwelle's Band and the New Bedford Veteran Firemen's fifes and drum corps, marched from the Town hall to the new mill of the Atlas Tack Co. where a flag and pole was presented to the company by the Business association and the banner raised with appropriate speeches and music and the cheers of the several hundred people on the grounds. It was one of the most successful and enthusiastic demonstrations that Fairhaven ever had.

James L. Gillingham president of the Business Association, presided at the flag raising, and Job C. Tripp, made the presentation speech. Hon. George W. Weymouth, President and manager of the Atlas Tack Co. accepted the gift in behalf of the company.

Everybody was interested on the occasion and the turnout was very large. The oldest citizen to march was Arnold G. Tripp who is 84 years of age.

County Commissioner John I. Bryant was marshal of the parade and his aids were William H. Dunham, James F. Tripp, John S. Brand and A. W. Kelley. The flag was raised by William H. Hoeg, jr. first vice president of the Business association, and Elbridge G. Morton, a veteran of the civil war. The tackers employed by the company turned out in a body.

The directors of the Association of which John S. Brand is chairman, had charge of the affair.

Included among those who were present were prominent attaches of the Atlas Tack Co. from Taunton and elsewhere.

DOS SANTOS ASSAULTED; HIS SKULL FRACTURED

Joseph Nicoli Held Pending an Investigation

Siend dos Santos, who lives at 201 Coggeshall street, New Bedford, and has been employed in the Atlas Tack works, was found at his home Tuesday night by Patrolman Charles E. Allen, suffering from a fractured skull, and as a result of his report to Captain Jones at police headquarters, Joseph Nicoli, an Italian employed at the tack works, was arrested later by Constable Shooks, charged with assault on Santos.

Tuesday morning, while at work, the men became involved in an argument that was the climax of a series of unpleasant episodes, and an iron bar was thrown around in the fray. Santos, it is alleged, was injured by the bar thrown by Nicoli, and there were grave doubts as to his surviving the injury.

Patrolman Allen reported that Dr. Thompson had attended the workman, and when Captain Jones consulted him, he learned that the physician considered that the man's skull was fractured and that the case was a doubtful one.

Dr. Thompson was called to the Tack company office, where he treated the man, and afterwards he was taken home.

Then Captain Jones notified Constable Shooks and Barney, who located Nicoli and arrested him on a charge of assault, and Wednesday the court was asked to hold him pending further developments and an investigation of the case.

Arraigned, Wednesday, Nicoli pleaded not guilty and the case was continued until Oct. 2, he being held in \$2,000 bonds.

Atlas Tack Corp. Buys Steel Mill

In the first move of its kind to beat the steel shortage, the Atlas Tack Corp. of this town has joined with 24 other manufacturers throughout the country and has purchased an ingot producing steel mill at Phoenixville, Pa., for approximately \$4,000,000, it was announced today by Arnold H. Maremont, the group's president, who originated the idea and organized the syndicate. Maremont is executive vice president of Maremont Automotive Products, Inc., of Chicago, Ill.

The purchase was made in order to supply ingots for a sheet mill at Apollo, Pa., which the syndicate bought when it was organized last December. The new acquisition completes a program for meeting the manufacturers' steel needs.

The mill, with a capacity of 30,000 tons of ingots a month, is the Phoenix Iron Co., purchased by the Phoenix-Apollo Steel Co., comprising a group of manufacturers from Massachusetts to California, whose products range from kitchen stoves to lawn mowers and from furniture to advertising signs.

Maremont said the mill will begin operation under the new owners September 15.

Besides the Atlas Tack Corp., other members of the syndicate are Maremont Automotive Products, Inc., Chicago; Steel Materials Corp., New York, N. Y.; Prentiss-Wabers Products Co., Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.; Western Stove Co., Inc., Culver City, Calif.; Mitchell Manufacturing Co., Chicago; Advertising Metal Display Co., Chicago; Proctor & Schwartz, Inc., Philadelphia, Pa.; Accurate Performing Co., Chicago.

Pan American Trade Development Corp., New York; Kroehler Manufacturing Co., Naperville, Ill.; Chicago Curtain Stretcher Co., Chicago; Welbilt Stove Co., Inc., Massapequa, N. Y.; Electro Manufacturing Corp., Chicago; The A P Parts Corp., Toledo, O.; B & R Iron & Metal Co., Inc., Syracuse, N. Y.; Keystone Steel Products Corp., Brooklyn, N. Y.

Standard Pressed Steel Co., Chicago; Oakland Sheet Metal Supply Co., Oakland, Calif.; Gibson Refrigerator Co., Greenville, Mich.; Polaron Products, Inc., New Rochelle, N. Y.; Crescent Tool & Die Co., Chicago; Webster-Chicago Corp., Chicago; Pioneer Gen-El-Motor Corp., Chicago, and Grand Sheet Metal Works, Chicago.

Feb. 17, 1984

Atlas lagoon fence will get safety check

2-7-84

FAIRHAVEN — Town Building Commissioner Timothy Allison says he hopes to have a board of survey examine the Atlas Tack Corp. industrial-waste lagoon next week to determine whether fencing around it is inadequate.

The commissioner also is asking the Board of Health to hold a hearing on whether a safety hazard exists and if so, whether the board should order corrective action.

Allison said the survey party will consist of himself, acting fire chief Richard H. Carpenter, Arthur Thompson of Marion, a civil engineer, and a fourth party expected to be selected today. Allison said the survey group probably will examine the lagoon next Thursday or Friday.

Town officials for several months have sought to have the company provide more secure fencing around its industrial-waste lagoon. The company, however, has said existing fencing is adequate.

In December, Allison informed selectmen that, after inspecting the site, he considered fencing to be inadequate. It was missing or broken in spots and lacked the proper height and rigidity, he said.

Allison said town counsel has checked to determine whether the company was under an existing court order to keep the fence in proper repair, but could find none.

Allison said the town could go to court if the survey board or the Board of Health determines there is a problem and the company does nothing to correct it.

Tests have shown the Atlas Tack lagoon contains a number of industrial residues, including cyanide. Atlas Tack officials, however, have stated that cyanide has not been used in decades and that nothing has been dumped in the lagoon for years.

The state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering has been negotiating with the firm for more than a year on a plan to clean up the lagoon. In October, the state turned the matter over to the attorney general's office.

Fairhaven firm to build new fence around lagoon

By Jack Stewardson

S STANDARD-TIMES STAFF WRITER

FAIRHAVEN — The Atlas Tack Corp. has informed the town that it will accede to town demands that it put up a new security fence around the company's industrial waste lagoon.

The company has signed a contract to install an 8-foot fence around the pond and work will begin on the project around Thursday, according to Roland T. Levesque, controller for the firm.

Levesque informed the town through a letter to the Board of Health, which was introduced at last night's selectmen's meeting.

Town officials for several months have been trying to get the company to erect a new fence around its lagoon but the company had said it considered the existing fence adequate.

In March, after a town board of survey concluded that the existing fence, which was partially down and in poor repair, was not a "deterrent for keeping anyone out of the pond," selectmen asked the Board of Health to hold a hearing to determine whether the fence posed a health nuisance.

Edward J. Mee, chairman of the board, last night forwarded selectmen a copy of a letter he had sent to

Town Counsel Thomas P. Crotty suggesting that the hearing would not be needed because the company was taking steps to put up a new fence.

Mee said the Board of Health will conduct periodic site inspections after Thursday to see that Atlas is following through on the new fence.

"This is very good," said Selectmen Walter Silveira. "We've been waiting for this for a long time."

The Atlas Tack Corp. used the industrial lagoon for many years to hold industrial wastes. Tests showed the lagoon contains residues of industrial chemicals, including cyanide. Company officials have said cyanide hasn't been used in more

than a decade and it has been years since anything has been dumped into the lagoon.

Selectmen were concerned that the existing fencing would not prevent youths from getting into the lagoon. In 1947 two youths fell through ice on the pond and one drowned.

Selectmen last night also asked new town Building Commissioner Thomas Marnik to inspection the former recreation hall at Atlas Tack to determine whether it should be demolished. Town Fire Chief Donald R. Bernard had previously expressed concern that the building is unsafe and said it should be torn down.

By Jack Stewardson

S STANDARD-TIMES STAFF WRITER

FAIRHAVEN — The Atlas Tack Corp. has produced a plan, several weeks behind schedule, for cleaning up its industrial waste lagoon by pushing the existing chemical sludge out with a wall of dirt.

"We haven't reviewed it but we will be doing so over the next week or two," said Richard Packard, a spokesman in the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering's regional office in Lakeville. Packard said approval of the plan would not be considered until it is fully reviewed.

The DEQE official said the proposal, developed for Atlas Tack by Goldberg-Zoino Associates of Newton, was submitted to the DEQE offices last week, several weeks behind a timetable set up this summer under a consent agreement between the company and the state attorney general's office.

Atlas was expected to file the report by mid-August and have the chemical wastes removed from the lagoon by Sept. 7, although assistant attorney general Raymond Dougan last month said the state was prepared to allow a little leeway in complying with the timetable.

Dougan said yesterday that if the DEQE approves the plan the state expects the work "will begin shortly thereafter."

"They are already behind their timetable," Dougan noted. "From my point of view I would want them to move expeditiously."

The company's lagoon, used for several years as a settling pond for its industrial chemicals — including cyanide formerly used when the firm manufactured tacks, nails and hardware — hasn't been used in many years. But town officials for several years have tried to get the company to clean it out. The state joined that push recently.

Packard said an estimated 1,300 cubic yards of sludge would have to be removed.

Under the consent agreement with the state the company could leave

the excavated waste on site while it dries but would have to have it trucked to a landfill licensed to handle industrial wastes by next June. Packard said drying would bring the volume of waste down to about 700 cubic yards.

"The material in the lagoon is not a solid or a liquid," he said, describing it as having a gelatinous consistency.

"They propose to add some clean soil at one end of the lagoon and push the (sludge) to the other end" where it will be recovered, Packard said. "The end result will be that the lagoon will be filled and capped."

Packard said tests would be made during the process to make sure all the sludge is removed.

Efforts yesterday to reach Richard Secor, vice president of Atlas Tack, were unsuccessful. But an attorney representing the firm, Patrick Butler of Hyannis, said the company expects to begin removal of the sludge within days if the DEQE is satisfied with the plan.

Boy Is Drowned, Another Saved, in Tragedy Here

1/30/47

A high mass of requiem was sung Monday morning at St. Joseph's Church for Robert A. Sylvia, 10, son of Mr. and Mrs. Antone Sylvia of 85 Union street, who drowned last Thursday when he broke through the ice in a pool behind the Atlas Tack Corp. plant.

Leo Meekin, 12, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Meekin of 82 Union street, nearly lost his life in an attempt to save the Sylvia boy, and was only rescued through the most intense efforts on the part of police, firemen and neighbors.

Accounts of what went on during the tragedy and rescue are conflicting, owing to the speed at which rescue workers were laboring and the excitement prevailing at the time, but what took place according to the best accounts available from witnesses, is that the Sylvia boy was rolling a barrel on the ice of the pond, which receives acid waste from the plant and broke through the thin ice near the center of the pool.

The Meekin boy immediately tried to crawl to the other lad who was floundering in the water, in an attempt to pull him back onto the ice, but the ice broke under his weight and he also was thrown into the icy water.

Seeing that no means of rescue was available, James Kenney, 9, son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Kenney of 83 Union street, ran to a nearby house and notified the police department of the accident. Patrolmen Albert Foster and Alfred Raphael were notified by radio, and sped to the scene in a police car.

Arriving at the pond, the officers leaped into the frigid water and attempted to reach the struggling boys by walking or swimming, but found they could not swim through the ice and were unable to walk on the bottom because of its thick coating of slime and the junk that had been thrown into it. Police Chief Norman D. Shurtleff shortly arrived on the scene and, finding the efforts of the policemen to reach the boys unavailing despite their almost superhuman efforts, radioed the police station for help from the fire department.

Meanwhile John and Ernest Almeida of Hitch street obtained a rope and attempted to toss it to the boys, but it was too short to reach them. Noting that the Sylvia boy's struggles to keep afloat were becoming weaker, the policemen and assisting neighbors redoubled their efforts, but to no avail, as he was soon seen to sink under the water, at just about the moment that Fire Chief Edward G. Spooner, in his car, and Fire Captain Frank Rogers and Fireman William Odiotne, with fire apparatus, reached the scene.

Chief Spooner seized a coil of rope that was in his car and threw it toward the Meekin lad and, by a fortunate chance, its end fell just within the grasp of the boy, who took a firm grip and was drawn toward shore by the Almeida brothers and an unidentified bystander. As the boy neared the shore, Officers Foster and Raphael waded out into the pond and carried him ashore.

Officer Foster carried him to the police car and drove him home, while Officer Raphael tied the rope around his waist and made another attempt to reach the center of the pond and find the lad who had gone down. He was forced to give up after he found that there was no way of forcing himself through the muck and junk on the bottom.

The extension ladder and fire apparatus was then run out on the ice, but the rotten ice, weakened by warm weather and the acid content of the pool, would not support a man's weight and the attempt had to be abandoned.

A boat was obtained from Edgar Macomber, and Albert Kenney and School Committeeman John Rogers, a fireman, grappled with a hook for the Sylvia boy. When this attempt failed, a grappling iron was used by Patrolmen John Hennessy and Sydney Warburton from the boat, and the lad's body was brought ashore before 7 o'clock.

Patrolman Leo Isabelle had brought the respirator to the scene, and it was used in a vain attempt to revive the boy until Dr. William

Rosen, medical examiner, pronounced life extinct.

Many local residents whose names could not be learned assisted the policemen and firemen in the rescue and recovery of the body.

Leo Meekin was confined to his bed, suffering from exposure, exhaustion and a throat congestion, for several days. Officers Raphael and Foster were able to go about their duties after a day, but suffered severely from exposure and shock and one man is receiving treatment for a skin ailment believed caused by the chemicals in the water, Chief Shurtleff said.

The selectmen sent letters of commendation to Officers Foster and Raphael, and Chairman Walter Silveira expressed the board's appreciation for the services rendered by the police and fire departments and assisting citizens.

Chief Shurtleff officially commended the officers for their efforts, at the risk of their lives and health, and also sent a letter to the fire department thanking it for the work of its members and the equipment sent to the scene.

Chief Shurtleff presented a report to the selectmen Monday in which he stated that an investigation after the tragedy showed that the muck on the bottom of the pond was 18 inches or more thick and filled with junk of all kinds.

Selectman Charles W. Knowlton recalled that the pool had been built by the plant as a receptacle for acid waste from its electroplating operations to avoid discharging it into the nearby creek some years ago.

Chief Shurtleff said that he had found no signs warning of the pond's acid content, and no fence around that part of the property. He recommended strongly that the pool should be entirely surrounded by a high wire fence, with the gate kept locked, and that warning signs be placed, to prevent further accidents to persons or livestock.

He said that the uniforms of Officers Foster and Raphael were completely ruined by the acid in the water, as were their shoes, billfolds, watches and other personal articles. Other policemen and persons assisting in the rescue and recovery of the body suffered destruction of articles of clothing, particularly shoes and gloves, he reported.

ATLAS TACK
-DROWNING-

(over)

- Continued -

The police chief said that he had been approached by several persons who wished to contribute or to solicit funds to reimburse the officers for their losses, but he felt that this was the responsibility of the town, since the men's action was in line of duty. He pointed out that a recent law makes such losses by officers a public responsibility.

The selectmen agreed that it was proper that the town should make good the losses suffered by the policemen in the rescue.

There was a discussion at some length of rescue equipment, and it was decided that the town will obtain a skiff and oars, either to be placed on a trailer so that it can be drawn to the shore or a pond behind a police car, or to be kept at the central fire station where it can be tossed on the back of a piece of fire apparatus to be driven to the scene of an emergency.

The police chief said that the use of several boats had been offered his department, but none of these were on wheels so that they could be rapidly taken to the place where they might be needed.

The board felt that each police car should be equipped with a long rope and a life preserver for use in emergencies similar to the recent tragedy.

The selectmen decided to ask a representative of the Atlas Tack Corp. to discuss the matter of the safety of the pond with them next Monday night.

Safety Measures Subject of Study

2/6/47

James H. McCarthy, treasurer of the Atlas Tack Corp., conferred with the selectmen Monday night on the matter of safety at the pool on the plant dump which receives chemical residues from the plant, and in which Robert Sylvia was drowned and another boy who went to his aid, Leo Meekin, narrowly escaped drowning two weeks ago.

Police Chief Norman D. Shurtleff, present at the conference, recommended that warning signs be placed at the pond and that a wire fence be placed around it to keep out children and animals.

Mr. McCarthy said that signs had been placed in the past, but had been stolen as fast as erected. He said that the firm was completing arrangements to have a strong wire fence, topped with three strands of barbed wire, placed around the pond. It will take three or four months to have this placed, however, as the contractor must wait for materials, he added.

The police head said that he and his men would have authority to order persons away from the pond if "no trespassing" signs were placed on the property, and Mr. McCarthy said that this would be attended to. Mr. McCarthy added that he hopes to have the entire dumping area fenced as soon as fencing can be obtained, to keep out children and to protect the plant from trespassers.

Discussion brought out the fact that the pond was dug a few years ago to allow chemical residues to settle, to halt pollution of nearby tidal waters. Mr. McCarthy said he was advised that sulphuric acid

residues, containing iron salts, from the pickling vats flow into the pool, where they meet alkaline residues from other plant operations, the resulting mixture being nearly neutral. The alkalies precipitate the iron, which settles to the bottom and is removed periodically, he said.

Mr. McCarthy presented a report from his plant chemists showing that on the day following the tragedy, when the water in the vat had been lowered about two feet during rescue operations, an analysis of the fluid showed an acidity of less than 2 per cent.

The plant head expressed a willingness to cooperate in any way possible with safety measures requested by town authorities, and was thanked for his attendance by the board.

Atlas Tack begins cleaning up chemical sludge

2/2/1985

By Jack Stewardson
STANDARD-TIMES STAFF WRITER

FAIRHAVEN — The Atlas Tack Corp. this week began a long-delayed clean-up of its industrial waste lagoon, a spokesman in the state attorney general's office confirmed.

Assistant Attorney General Raymond Dougan said the company had a contractor on site this week and began to clean out the chemical sludge on Thursday. If no problems develop, the work could be completed in about four or five working days, Dougan said.

Atlas Tack has been under a con-

sent order from Suffolk Superior Court to clean out the lagoon.

The company was originally supposed to have the lagoon cleaned out by last September. When clean-up action had not begun for several months beyond the timetable, the attorney general's office warned that Atlas Tack could face civil penalties of up to \$1,000 a day if it continued to delay work beyond the first of the year.

Dougan said the state could still impose penalties if work continues to lag behind what is expected, unless there are unforeseen delays.

Dougan said Atlas has hired Sherman Briggs Associates of Marion and Fairhaven to clean out the lagoon, which years ago was used as a holding area for industrial chemicals, including cyanide.

Richard Secor, vice president of Atlas Tack, was unavailable for comment yesterday.

According to plans submitted by Atlas last fall, the company planned to remove 1,300 cubic yards of sludge from the lagoon by adding clean soil to one end and pushing the chemical sludge, which has a consistency of gelatin, to the other end

where it could be removed. The lagoon would eventually be filled in and capped.

The company would be allowed to leave the fill on site in a secure location until it has dried, but it must be trucked away by next June to a licensed landfill, according to the court agreement.

Dougan said the initial efforts to clean out the lagoon were hampered somewhat by ice but added that work was continuing. Dougan said the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering has been monitoring the work.

Health Board blasts Atlas Tack for tainted water, unused fence

By Jack Stewardson
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Atlas Tack Corp., attacked by neighbors last week for its plans to convert its mill complex to apartments, came under fire Monday night from the Board of Health.

In a letter to selectmen after an inspection Friday of the company's industrial waste lagoon, the Board of Health reported it found blue water, probably caused by copper sulfate, where the acid pond is drying out and found a fence, meant to secure the area, rolled up and not in use, "making the area vulnerable to the public, and especially attractive to young children."

According to Chairman George Walmsley, the Board of Health has contacted the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering and Raymond Dougan, an assistant attorney general, to see that corrective action is taken. Walmsley said the state is aware of

the condition of the site and if nothing is done soon, he has been advised that the state will step in and use Superfund money to complete the job.

Selectmen on Monday also decided to correspond with the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering and area legislators to seek completion of the project.

Under a consent agreement negotiated with the state last year, Atlas Tack was supposed to excavate industrial chemicals from its lagoon by last September, but the work didn't get under way until February. The chemical sludge removed from the lagoon has been stored on the site while it dries, but the company is supposed to transfer it to a secured landfill by summer.

Residents argued last week that the company's track record makes it a poor candidate as an apartment developer.

LETTERS

Knew the Tack

To the editor:

Some 1500 miles from the blue lagoon behind the Atlas Tack and not a taxpayer, I have little purchase here. But indulge an old man in his prattle.

I understand there's contemporary reason enough that those who know the company have little love for it.

I knew the Tack in better times, when it was a powerful engine in the economy of the town. The place throbbed around the clock, movement in and out of the buildings constant. I spent years on lower Church Street trying to sleep to the thrust and thrum — the swish — of the machinery, inviting destruction to the plant then as some do now.

But it sustained the family. My grandfather went to work at the Tack when it was on Fort Street. My grandmother on East Allen boarded workers. My mother was a pieceworker there in World War I and again in World War II. As an apprentice there, my uncle commenced a successful career as machinist.

All of which means nothing to people daily confronted by the eyesore those magnificent industrial buildings have become and mindful of whatever deceits changing managements are charged with.

I was home recently and walked around the plant, along the path by the lagoon and back by the dilapidated recreation building, once so sparkling, fronted by an immaculate lawn on which workers played croquet during the noon hour. Everywhere windows broken, warped plywood barriers swinging from single nails, weeds. And stillness. In the middle of the week. No sound. Amazing. However could it have happened so swiftly? Whatever happened to tacks? What went wrong?

No doubt many in Fairhaven have tales of rascality as explanation.

What will happen to the Atlas Tack? I understand from The AD-VOCATE that a developer would turn it into apartments and that some citizens would turn it into rubble. (If

the latter proves the choice, bear in mind Houston will pay more for the bricks than the plant originally cost — and likely accept air freight charges.)

The blue lagoon — and it is a deadly, dense blue spreading its stain up the banks — will surely go and the salt marsh out there may start the work of reclamation. There is land there between Harbor View and Sconicut (have I forgotten the spelling?) Neck that, left as salt marsh, would be another of Fairhaven's treasures, one that money cannot buy but that money can destroy.

It may be, it just could be, that the buildings of the Atlas Tack will be made sound again, those magnificent window bays (they don't build them like that any more) catching the sun at all times of the day for the pleasure of the hundreds in the condos, apartments, whatever — taxpayers all?

It's a lovely town, Fairhaven, and the people there keep it well. Those of us who come rarely to enjoy the town can only pay our respects to those who keep it so. It's a realization that gives some hope for the Tack. Reflection may indicate that Fairhaven can take from those buildings benefits beyond those that would come from a small subdivision of tract houses.

Paul Fisher
1501 W. Blvd. Ct.
Columbia, Mo. 65201

SEE FISHER, PAUL

JULY 1, 1937

Pages of History Reveal Many Vicissitudes of Atlas Tack

7/1/37

The making of tacks and nails in Fairhaven had its beginning in the advent of the American Nail Machine, organized in Boston, which moved to Fairhaven in 1865, and located in the Rodman buildings in Fort Street. Because of the competition of the West, the directors decided to forego manufacturing cut nails, and turned their entire attention to the making of tacks and small nails.

The policy of the company was concentration, and so, a small concern at Sandwich was purchased, and the machinery moved to Fairhaven. Next, the leather head carpet tack business and machinery were bought of M. M. Rhodes and Sons of Taunton. The next step was the purchase of the business and trademarks of William S. Guerineau of New York. The company shortly bought out many other small concerns thus completing its system of expansion.

May 1, 1867, the American Nail Machine Company, with its various acquisitions, was reorganized as the American Tack Co. with Charles E. Brigham as president, and J. A. Beauvais treasurer. In 1870, the three story addition was built and in 1882, a stone building was completed. This was later known as Mill No. 4 of the Atlas Tack Corp. and is now occupied by Pierce & Kilburn Co.

Starting without trade or prestige, the business was gradually built up until it ranked third in the country, and its products were known wherever tacks were used.

Consolidated 1891

In 1891, a plan for consolidation of Dunbar, Hobart & Co., The American Tack Co., The Taunton Tack Co. and Loring & Parks Co., was put forward. It seemed an auspicious time for consolidation. Business throughout the country was good, and the officials of the company were sanguine of success. The tack manufacturers had always recognized the benefits of cooperation in order to allow them to secure such

prices for their products to allow them to pay good wages, and to make a fair profit for themselves. Methods of doing business were rapidly changing. The telephone and other means of ready communication put the buyers in close touch with the producers. This made competition very easy and reliance on trade very uncertain. Therefore, the method of doing business had to be changed to conform with the changing conditions.

It became apparent that these changed conditions must be met by a consolidation of interests in which it would be easy for the individual to promote the interests of his associates, formerly his competitors, and thus promote his own. The promoters of the Atlas Tack Corp. intended at the time to include every tack manufacturer in the country, but further changes defeated this move.

Foreign Competition

It required a year to get the consolidation in working order, during which time the company was doing a good business, and making a fair profit. Officials then made the mistake of spending money too lavishly, and a change in the fiscal policy of the government nearly wrecked the new consolidation. A new tariff, which failed to place any barrier on German tacks made with cheap materials by cheap labor, was passed in Washington. A fierce competition resulted with Germany, and the consolidation broke up. Final disintegration came when the Am-

erican producers cut prices below cost to compete with the German manufacture. The consolidation went into receivership. The company continued to lose money, became heavily mortgaged, and was finally purchased at public auction by H. H. Rogers, the great benefactor of Fairhaven. A modern plant was built at Fairhaven. All modern machinery was bought to replace the old.

In 1903, the entire properties of the Atlas Tack Co. (with the exception of the new building) were sold.

Sold By Rogers Family 1920

The company was owned by the Rogers family until 1920, when it was sold to Boston bankers, who, in turn, placed the stock upon the

market. It is now incorporated under the laws of the State of New York.

During its life history, the Atlas Tack Co. has acquired 18 concerns located in various parts of the country, bringing all of the machinery, assets, and patents to Fairhaven.

The plant and its property comprise 13½ acres and is engaged in the manufacture of tacks for all purposes, small nails, rivets, bars, shoe eyelets, hooks, tufting buttons, clothing buttons, bottle crowns, finishing washers, furniture nails and glides, staples and a wide variety of miscellaneous items finding their way into 30 classifications of industry, consumed in this country and in many foreign countries.

ATLAS TACK
SUNDAY S.T. NB
6/30/1991

□
A Fairhaven woman is hoping to form a community group to keep informed on the Atlas Tack superfund site.

Patti Estrella of 86 Church St. says anyone interested in joining an Atlas Tack Awareness Group can call her at 990-0900.

The awareness group will monitor testing and clean-up at the Atlas Tack site and explore how the neighborhood or community may obtain a technical assistance grant to help review studies being undertaken at the Pleasant Street site. The EPA is conducting soil and water samples around the site to determine the extent of contamination from toxic chemicals.

A general information meeting is planned for 6 p.m. Monday, July 8,

Toxic waste

THE ADVOGATE, 5/28/95

HHR's legacy gone bust

By Lori Rebello

Staff writer

Atlas Tack has seen better days. At least, that is the consensus of the town of Fairhaven.

"It's a potential fire hazard, a death trap," Town Counsel Thomas Crotty said when describing the building. "(Firefighters) basically have to stay outside to fight a fire" since the building is in constant danger of collapsing.

The fire department first discovered the poor condition of the building when the sprinkler and alarm systems continuously failed. The heat in the building was shut off in the early 1980s when it was abandoned, causing the pipes to crack and the building to further deteriorate.

"Parts of the building are in full bloom," Crotty said. "It looks like a rainforest. Ferns and plants are growing inside."

For those very reasons, the town has decided to look into demolishing the century-old structure. But the prevailing question is, "Who's going to pay for it?"

"The town doesn't have the money to tear it

Please turn to page 9



File photo

Crumbling down — The former Atlas Tack manufacturing plant has deteriorated badly due to the ravages of time and nature.

Continued from page 1

down," Crotty said, and added that putting a lien on the property for the cost of demolition would not be worthwhile, since the property probably could not be sold for the lien amount.

The owner of Atlas Tack, Great Northern Industries of Boston, also says it does not have the money to pay for it.

"If we took the property to enforce the lien, we become the owner of a hazardous waste site," Crotty said. The Atlas Tack site was placed on the EPA's National Priorities List in 1990 after 83 years of use as a tack, nail, rivet and bolt manufacturer.

State Rep. William Straus, D-Mattapoisett, has been working with the town and state and federal environmental officials to ensure that the town will not be

“We don't want to spend the next 15 years waiting to tear the building down, (but) the town clearly has the right to have it demolished.”

Tom Crotty
town counsel

liable for the hazardous waste at the site if it decides to take over the property.

"We want to make sure that everyone up to, if not Bill (Clinton), signs off on it," Crotty said.

Currently, Liberty Mutual Insurance Company is covering some parts of the site under a pollution

claim; however, the building itself is not insured.

"What that means is it gives us a little bit more leverage in knowing it will eventually get cleaned up," Crotty said.

But the town does not want to wait forever.

"We don't want to spend the next 15 years waiting to tear the building down," he said, "(but) the town clearly has the right to have it demolished."

The EPA, which has ultimate jurisdiction over Atlas Tack, is satisfied that the building can be torn down safely with respect to hazardous waste by containing the four major hot spot areas.

An updated EPA report on the status of the site is due by the end of this week and a public meeting on the findings will be scheduled for the end of June.

Standard Times

Arsenic identified in Atlas bottle

Fire chief wants residents protected

By CYNTHIA GOMEZ
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN

Feb 12, 77

Fire Chief Timothy P. Francis asked the Board of Selectmen during Monday night's meeting if anything can be done so that hazardous materials like the bottle of arsenic found by a Fairhaven High School student a couple of weeks ago are removed from the Atlas Tack site.

"Children have no business going there, but kids will be kids," he said. "I think all those bottles should be removed."

The student said he brought the bottle in to school because he thought it would be an interesting project for his science class to figure out what materials it contained.

Mr. Francis said when he brought up the issue to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which oversees the Superfund site cleanup, they put the responsibility for action on the town.

Atlas Tack was identified by the EPA as a Superfund site, but the cleanup process has been slow. Some parts of the structure, Chief Francis said, have collapsed and pose an immediate danger to any youngster who happens to wander into the building.

"We have a right to protect our young people," said Selectman Winfred A. Eckenreiter, echoing the sentiments of everyone on the board. "For that child to bring out a bottle with chemicals like that is dangerous to everyone in town."

The board voted to have town counsel pursue the matter to see if anything can be done to remove any containers that might have residues of hazardous chemicals such as the arsenic

found by the student.

In other business, the board also voted to ask Recreation Center Director Renee Tavares to come before them to discuss the center's hours of operation.

The decision came after Mr. Eckenreiter expressed concern that the center is sometimes empty during the week, but when children are out of school during the weekend, it is often closed.

Selectman Brian K. Bowcock, though, said it's a matter of what would make the center more money. The center is rented out on many Sundays to private individuals for birthday parties and the like.

Mr. Eckenreiter postponed his motion to open the facility for more hours during weekend days until "any day this board is ready to take it up."

Slushy streets and the falling snow turned what was supposed to be a packed meeting into one that lasted less than an hour for the board.

Department of Public Works Superintendent Robert Carey, who was supposed to present his budget proposal for the coming fiscal year, canceled due to the weather. Police Chief Gary F. Souza canceled his appointment with the board due to personal reasons. He was slated to discuss the appointment of retired officials and sergeant promotions.

That left only a transfer of license at the Acushnet River Safe Boating Club and closed-door contract negotiations with Chief Francis.

Standard Times

S-T 1/29/03

Atlas Tack clears class

EPA picks up bottle brought in from Superfund site



NAOMI K. PAPPAS/Standard-Times special

By JOHN DOHERTY
Standard-Times staff writer

The Fire Department and the Environmental Protection Agency were called out after a Fairhaven High School student brought in a bottle from the polluted Superfund site at the old Atlas Tack property.

The student told his science teacher he hoped the class could analyze what was in the bottle as a science experiment.

The science teacher called the Fire Department, which cleared the classroom and removed the bottle.

FAIRHAVEN

The regional Environmental Protection Agency office picked up the bottle, according to fire officials, and will analyze it. They will determine what, if anything, needs to be done to counter possible contamination from the bottle.

Fire Department officials described the bottle as being a sealed, dark glass pharmacy-style bottle.

It was unclear what the unlabeled bottle contained.

The 22-acre Atlas Tack property, off Pleasant Street, is considered one of the area's most polluted abandoned industrial sites and was designated a federal Superfund site in 1996.

The property was scheduled for a \$13 million federal cleanup this year. But funding was cut to zero late last year.

Atlas Tack, which manufactured nails, closed in 1985.

Signs posted on the door of the former Atlas Tack factory clearly state hazardous material is contained within the buildings.

1/29/2003

Standard Times

S-T 7-26-03

EPA, state to get refunded for Atlas Tack work

FAIRHAVEN — Hathaway-Braleley Wharf Co. Inc. has agreed to reimburse the Environmental Protection Agency and Massachusetts for actions at the Atlas Tack Superfund site.

According to a press release from the EPA, the agency lodged a consent decree with U.S. District Court earlier this month seeking reimbursement of its costs at the Fairhaven site.

Hathaway-Braleley Wharf Co. Inc. agreed to pay the EPA \$501,575 and the state \$51,125.

The consent decree also notes: ■ Hathaway-Braleley agrees to grant EPA and the state access to the property to conduct a remedial design and remedial action.

■ Hathaway-Braleley allows EPA to place an environmental easement limiting the permissible uses of the property.

■ Hathaway-Braleley agrees to place a conservation easement on the property.

■ Hathaway-Braleley agrees to pay \$4,990 to the Department of Interior and \$510 to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in damage assessment costs.

"This is a sign of progress at the Atlas Tack Superfund site, and it is also important that we are continuing to take enforcement steps in order to recoup the costs of the cleanup from the responsible parties," said EPA regional administrator Robert Varney in a press release.

According to that release, nationally, 70 percent of cleanup costs at Superfund sites are paid for by the responsible parties.

Just last week the Bush administration snubbed Atlas Tack

"This is a sign of progress at the Atlas Tack Superfund site, and it is also important that we are continuing to take enforcement steps in order to recoup the costs of the cleanup from the responsible parties."

ROBERT VARNEY, EPA regional administrator

when it was announced funding for the cleanup of the site was delayed.

The site is one of 10 in the United States where funding was delayed.

The cleanup of Atlas Tack was due to begin next year. It is contaminated with cyanide, solvents and heavy metals and has been designated a Superfund cleanup site since 1990.

A remedial investigation-feasibility study was completed in 1998. In 2000, the EPA removed asbestos from the dilapidated portions of the buildings to reduce a potential public health risk.

The Environmental Protection Agency last week said there was not enough money to begin all the projects since the Bush administration added another 10 sites to the list.

Officials said if the Hathaway-Braleley settlement is approved by the court after the 30-day comment period it will provide for some partial reimbursement of the costs incurred by the EPA for investigation, pre-design work and cleanup work when it is done.

According to Alice Kaufman, a spokesperson for the EPA Community Affairs office, the lump sum payment resolves Hathaway-Braleley's liability for past and future costs.

She said that Hathaway-Braleley owned one of the operations on the site and was therefore liable for some of the cleanup.

Atlas Tack is at 83 Pleasant St. in a commercial-residential area, and the Fairhaven bicycle path winds its way along the border of the site.

It was built in 1901 and manu-

factured cut and wire tacks, steel nails and other items until 1985.

Officials said wastes containing cyanide and heavy metals were discharged into an unlined acid neutralizing pond approximately 200 feet east of the manufacturing plant and adjacent to a saltwater tidal marsh in the Buzards Bay estuary.

According to the press release, the process wastes containing acids, metals such as copper and nickel and solvents were discharged into drains in the floor of the main building.

Some of those chemicals permeated the floors and timbers and have migrated to adjacent soils and groundwater.

Other contaminated areas at the site include a filled wetland, a former dump and other chemical spills.

7/26/2003

FAIRHAVEN

S-T 5-23-04

The head of the federal EPA joined Rep. Barney Frank and Sen. Edward Kennedy on a brief visit to the Atlas Tack property on Pleasant Street Friday.

The pair of congressional leaders announced \$1.8 million in new

Standard Times
5/23/2004

FAIRHAVEN

S-T 5-23-04

The head of the federal EPA joined Rep. Barney Frank and Sen. Edward Kennedy on a brief visit to the Atlas Tack property on Pleasant Street Friday.

The pair of congressional leaders announced \$1.8 million in new EPA funding to remove the building on the 13-acre property. A federally designated Superfund cleanup site since 1983, little work has been done on the property, where it is expected to cost \$20 million to remove contamination from ground soil.

Standard Times
5/23/2004

103/17

Standard Times

S-T 7-2-04

EPA starts moving on Atlas Tack

By JOHN DOHERTY

Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Lawyers for the long-defunct Atlas Tack began taking statements from former employees this week as part of their federal lawsuit against Fairhaven and the federal government.

The depositions, which have been taking place at Town Hall, come as the federal Environmental Protection Agency met with neighbors to finalize demolition plans for the empty mill after 21 years.

The EPA hopes to begin demolishing the three-story building in the middle of the 13-acre Pleasant Street property in August, with the chimney, boiler buildings and several outbuildings to be torn down by December.

Coupled with the depositions at Town Hall in recent weeks, the public hearings on the EPA's plans represent new activity in the long-running effort to clean up the pollutants in the ground that earned Atlas Tack a Superfund designation in 1990.

The EPA received word from Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and Rep. Barney Frank three weeks ago that about \$2 million will be available to start the cleanup.

That represents about 10 per-

FAIRHAVEN

cent of the total estimated cost, but is the first money to flow to Atlas Tack cleanup since 1990.

EPA will try to recoup the expected \$18.6 million from Atlas Tack's former corporate holding company, Great Northern Industries, and from Leonard Lewis as the parties responsible for the pollution.

In 2001, Atlas Tack sued back.

In its federal lawsuit, the company's lawyers say that some of the pollutants — cyanide, benzene and PCBs among them — on the property are there due to the town's fault.

In the 1920s Fairhaven operated a dump there, and owns adjacent property where other industrial businesses once stood, and they might have leaked pollutants onto the Atlas Tack site.

Atlas Tack also sued the Army Corps of Engineers, claiming that the construction of the hurricane barrier in New Bedford Harbor has caused pollutants from elsewhere to wash up at Atlas Tack, now blamed for dumping the chemicals.

Atlas Tack once employed about 500 people and was the world's largest producer of tacks.

7/2/2004

Standard Times

S-T 10-22-04

Atlas Tack demolition stalls again

By JOHN DOHERTY

Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — The old Atlas Tack property, which federal officials promised would be demolished by year's end, will remain in limbo, perhaps for years, as cases inch their way through court.

Selectmen met with town attorney Tom Crotty this week for an update on the Atlas Tack situation.

In the next week or 10 days, the federal lawsuit against the Atlas Tack company filed by the Environmental Protection Agency will go to trial in U.S. District Court in Boston.

That puts the lawsuit against the town filed by Atlas Tack on track for an April trial.

The EPA suit hopes to cut through the layers of corporate ownership of the 20-acre parcel off Pleasant Street and get a Boston businessman, Leonard Lewis, to pay for some if not all of the estimated \$20 million cleanup of the polluted property.

Atlas Tack has sued the town and the Army Corps of Engineers, claiming that some of the pollution was caused by drainage creat-

FAIRHAVEN

ed by the town and the Army Corps' nearby sluice gates.

Regardless of the outcome of the cases, appeals are expected on the losing side.

"If the court ever rules in (Atlas Tack's) favor, it would make every city and town in Massachusetts a polluter," said Jeffrey W. Osuch, Fairhaven's executive secretary.

Federal officials, including Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, announced with much fanfare in May that \$2 million in federal money had been released to tear down the three-story main building and several out-buildings.

Demolition was expected by the end of 2004, marking the first major work on the property since it was designated a Superfund cleanup site in 1990.

Almost immediately, Atlas Tack filed motions to block the demolition; the buildings themselves would be evidence in the coming civil trials, the company said.

Standard Times

FAIRHAVEN S-T 10/24/04

The federal lawsuit against Atlas Tack begins next week, and town officials will be watching closely.

The federal Environmental Protection Agency is suing the company that owns the 20-acre polluted factory site in town, looking to get its owner to pay at least part of the estimated \$20 million cleanup.

Atlas Tack, in turn, has sued the town of Fairhaven and the Army Corps of Engineers, saying at least some of the cleanup costs are their responsibility.

Standard Times



PETER PEREIRA/The Standard-Times

Betsy Souza, front, who lives next to the Atlas Tack Corp.'s property in Fairhaven, yesterday speaks to Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, right, Michael Leavitt, second from right, the head of the federal Environmental Protection Agency, and Rep. Barney Frank, third from right.

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By DAVID
Standard-Times

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5/22/2004

Atlas Tack: \$2 million slated for property cleanup

CONTINUED FROM A1

of the Atlas property, Rep. Barney Frank said. Sen. Kennedy began talks with Mr. Leavitt while the Bush Administration was seeking Congressional approval of Mr. Leavitt's appointment as the next the EPA administrator, Rep. Frank said.

"He needed to be confirmed and Sen. Kennedy applied some pressure during the confirmation process for him to come visit New Bedford," Rep. Frank said. "Once he gets here and is shown the site, it's hard for him to say, 'Well, this is awful. Sorry we can't help you out.'"

News that cleanup of the Atlas Tack site will finally begin was celebrated by Fairhaven officials and residents. But they were quick to point out that the EPA's \$1.8 million commitment represents just the first step in an environmental cleanup expected to take years.

"We got about one-tenth of the money we need to finish the job today," Fairhaven Executive Secretary Jeffrey W. Osuch said. "It's a start. It will go a long way towards cleaning up a site that's been an eyesore and a public safety issue for the neighborhood."

Atlas Tack's defunct facility at 83 Pleasant St. was built in 1901 and manufactured tacks, nails, rivets, eyelets and bolts until 1985. In its heyday in the 1930s, the factory was the largest producer of tacks in the world and employed 500 workers, accord-

ing to Atlas Tack officials.

As a result of decades of manufacturing there, the site is contaminated with cyanide, polychlorinated biphenyls — commonly called PCBs — and heavy metals such as copper and nickel, EPA officials said. The industrial wastes were discharged into a pond approximately 200 feet east of the manufacturing plant and adjacent to a saltwater tidal marsh in the Buzzards Bay estuary. Evidence of metals and cyanide has been found in the nearby Boys Creek marsh, environmentalists say.

Neighborhood activists and elected officials in Fairhaven and Washington, D.C., have lobbied for more than a decade to have the property cleaned up. The site is set in a residential neighborhood, the Rogers School is next door and a bike path runs along the property. Children frequently play inside the site and recently set up a skateboard ramp inside the Superfund site, neighboring residents say.

Concern that the Atlas Tack property could cause a major public health disaster peaked last year, after a Fairhaven High School student who had breached the property brought a bottle he found on the site to school. The bottle was determined by EPA scientists to contain arsenic.

EPA has already spent about \$6 million at Atlas Tack for site studies and development of the

long-term cleanup plan. Removal of hazardous asbestos from inside the buildings occurred in 2000.

The EPA's \$18 million cleanup plan for the site calls for a three-phase approach that includes tearing down the building, excavating and disposing of contaminated soils and excavating and restoring marsh soils and creek-bed sediments on the property.

But funding for the work was delayed last year, when the Atlas Tack cleanup project was snubbed by the EPA, even as the Bush administration added 10 new sites to the list of big-money Superfund projects.

Also last year, the EPA filed a lawsuit against Atlas Tack and its president, M. Leonard Lewis, seeking to recover the government's past and future costs for cleanup of the closed Fairhaven plant. The trial is expected to begin in September at U.S. District Court in Boston.

The suit came after five years of discussions between the EPA and Atlas Tack, which initially proposed spending less than \$1 million to cap the site.

Prior to announcing the \$1.8 million to start cleaning up the site, Mr. Leavitt visited the Atlas Tack property yesterday afternoon with Sen. Kennedy, Rep. Frank and New Bedford Mayor Frederick M. Kalisz Jr.

Sen. Kennedy compared the public health risk posed by the property to the cancer outbreak

caused by contaminants from a leather tanning factory in Woburn documented in the book and movie, "A Civil Action."

"We've got the same kind of situation here. The site is a real public health challenge," Sen. Kennedy said standing on the bike path, the Atlas Tack factory visible beyond a chain link fence. "Getting the building down is the first priority."

"As long as it's up, you're not going to keep people out of here," Rep. Frank said.

But lawyers for Atlas Tack, who attended the press conference after reading in The Standard-Times it would occur, said the property's contamination has been vastly overstated by the EPA and characterized the visit by Sen. Kennedy and Rep. Frank as "Democratic grandstanding."

"We just don't feel the science done on the site supports the Draconian measures that will occur to remediate the site if the EPA has its way," said Harris Weiner, an attorney for Atlas Tack.

Atlas Tack has proposed its own cleanup of the property that calls for capping four acres on the property where waste once drained into the lagoon and cleaning up the heavy metals and cyanide in the buildings and surrounding land. The cleanup would take about two years and cost about \$2 million, Mr. Weiner said.

One local official said the Atlas cleanup plan is inadequate.



Government officials go over some aerial photos of the Atlas Tack Corp. property in Fairhaven yesterday.

PETER PEREIRA
The Standard-Times

"There isn't anyone in town who wants the stuff covered up. They want it removed," Fairhaven Selectman Winfred Eckenreiter said. "Atlas wants to cap it and sell it off to a developer and walk away. They want to walk away with some money from the site, and that's not going to happen."

Feb. 18, 1943

Fairhaven Firm Named in Suit

Steel Company Files Atlas Tack Litigation

Special to The Standard-Times

BOSTON, April 16 — Phoenix-Apollo Steel Company, a Delaware corporation, filed a civil suit in Federal Court yesterday, seeking a judgment of \$141,429.44 from the Atlas Tack Corporation of Fairhaven.

According to the complaint, Phoenix-Apollo Steel and Atlas Tack entered into a written contract Nov. 17, 1948 whereby Atlas Tack was to purchase 10 percent of all the steel produced by the plaintiff in the period from Jan. 1, 1949 to June 30, 1949.

Payment was to be made within seven days of the receipt of invoices, according to the papers.

Plaintiff alleges that more than seven days have elapsed since invoices were delivered but that no payment has been received.

In addition to the \$141,429.44, plaintiff seeks interest and costs. The steel was shipped direct from Apollo, Pa., to Fairhaven.

Officials of the Fairhaven plant could not be reached yesterday for comment on the suit.

Attachment Entered Against Atlas Tack

An attachment citing \$165,000 owed under a contract for goods sold and delivered has been entered against the Atlas Tack Corporation of Fairhaven by the Phoenix Apollo Steel Company of Delaware, records of the Registry of Deeds here disclosed today.

Harold R. Sullivan, deputy U. S. marshal, today served papers on the Fairhaven Corporation on orders of the U. S. District Court of Massachusetts where the action was filed by the Delaware firm. The defendant corporation is identified as a New York firm with principal place of business in Fairhaven.

Tackmakers Deny They're on Strike

State They Are Unable To Work With Feeder Boys Out

“Reports that labor troubles at the Atlas Tack Corp. plant here involve the International Tackmakers' Association were denied this morning by representatives of the union, who declared that they are out of work as a result of a controversy between the feeder boys and the management.

Charles R. Driscoll, chairman of the shop committee, and William Clynes, representing the tackmakers' union, called at The Star office to state that the tackmaker's cannot work without men to feed the machines.

“We wish to make it clear to the public that the tackmakers are in no way involved in this dispute,” said Mr. Driscoll.

FROM THE STAR OF DECEMBER 19, 1940

The Atlas Tack Corp. has acquired another plant in Henderson, Ky., and will transfer part of its operations there in the near future, Roger D. Edwards, president, announced this week.

In his announcement, Mr. Edwards said that up to half of the operations now performed at the local plant might be transferred to the Kentucky factory, which was previously operated by the H. J. Heinz Co. He declared that the transfer is occasioned by “economic necessity and to be nearer the sources of supply and demand.

Edwards to Leave Atlas Tack Corp.

Will Give Full Time to Government Post For Duration

2-18-43

Roger D. Edwards, president and general manager of the Atlas Tack Corp. here, will not be a candidate for re-election as an officer of the corporation at the annual meeting in New York March 17, as he expects to give his full time services to the government, he has announced to his employees.

Mr. Edwards took over the presidency of the company eight years ago and was a former president of the Stimson Corp. of Louisville, Ky. He was head of the Louisville Acceptance Corp. at one time and was connected with the Ryan Car Co. of Chicago.

At the request of the War Department the board of directors granted Mr. Edwards a leave of absence last November on a temporary basis, but he stated he found it impossible to do more than one job at a time and do it well. His written message to his employees concluded that it was not to be construed in terms of a good-bye or farewell, “because after the present emergency is over it is probable that I will be back again,” he announced.

His message included a statement that the company is in sound financial condition, “having \$23 of net current assets for each \$1 of net current liabilities. . . adequate working capital. . . and no long-term obligations.” It records “a satisfactory profit and volume of business” in the company's regular

1810

ALERT AND READY

1961

for the

PROGRESSIVE OPPORTUNITIES OF THE '60s

ATLAS TACK CORPORATION

Fairhaven, Mass.

Manufacturers of

**Tacks, Rivets and Burrs, Wire Nails, Furniture Nails, Upholsterers Nails,
Staples, Eyelets, Shoe Hooks, Glides**

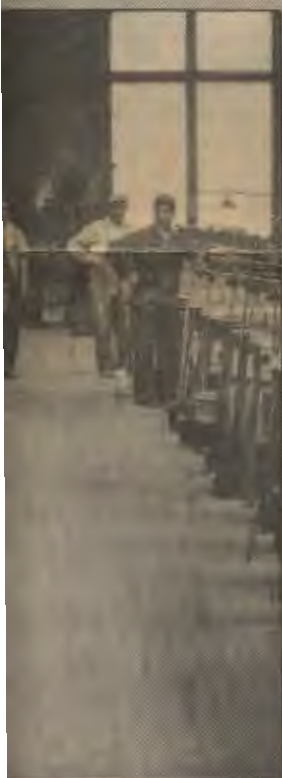


SPYGLASS

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ny is gone now, but
s a prosperous and
Fairhaven. These two
a century, show men
et plant.

ED BY JOHN H. ACKERMAN
standard-Times feature writer



SPYGLASS

Atlas Tack's glory days

The Atlas Tack Company is gone now, but time was when it was a prosperous and flourishing industry in Fairhaven. These two photographs, dating back half a century, show men at work inside the now-defunct plant.

— COMPILED BY JOHN H. ACKERMAN
Standard-Times feature writer



(2/3) 1991

Atlas Tack neighbors push for more control in cleanup

By Jack Stewardson

Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Neighbors of Atlas Tack called Monday for tighter security at the plant's Superfund site and want the town involved in any future cleanup.

"We want them to be aware of what is going on," said Patti Estrella, a co-chairman of Concerned Citizens of Fairhaven, which was formed to monitor soil and water tests being conducted by the the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"A lot of our concerns aren't at the town level, but I think they can help us to address them," said Patricia Pelczar, the other co-chairman.

The group met with selectmen and representatives of various town departments to discuss a variety of concerns about the Superfund site, including additional fences, security after midnight, potential fire hazards, loss of property values in the surrounding neighborhood, posting of closed shellfishing areas, and several questions concerning ongoing studies at the site.

The Atlas Tack site was added to the EPA's Superfund list as a priority cleanup area in February 1990, and the EPA began extensive soil and ground-water sampling this spring to determine the extent of toxic contamination.

From 1902-85, the company manufactured wire tacks, steel nails and similar items and discharged acids, solvents and heavy metals in a lagoon in back of the complex. Although the state had the lagoon excavated and contaminated soils were taken out of state for disposal,

follow-up studies got under way this spring to determine if there has been any ground water or soil contamination in the surrounding area.

The results of the current studies are not expected until June 1992, when the EPA will begin formulating a cleanup strategy for the site.

Neighbors urged the town to push to have the owners of Atlas Tack extend evening security at the plant; they fear that vandals could get in and start fires. Several also expressed the fear that a fire at the plant would require evacuation of surrounding homes.

They also pointed to a recent case in which Atlas Tack was removing old equipment from the plant to sell as scrap metal. The work was stopped after residents made several calls to local, state and federal officials.

Several area residents also complained that the plant's Superfund status has reduced surrounding property values and made their homes virtually unmarketable. They called upon the town to take appropriate measures to reduce property valuations to compensate.

Assessor Jeanne C. Reedy said values are adjusted according to market conditions, but she cannot arbitrarily change valuations.

Although no one from the EPA attended, Paul Craffey from the

state Department of Environmental Protection said he would attempt to get answers for the group on their questions on Superfund tests.

Neighbors of the plant were unanimous on one issue: When asked what long-term use they want to see for the site once it has been cleaned, they replied it would be premature to consider such issues now.

"That is something that should be put on the back burner and be forgotten until the site is cleaned up," Ms. Pelczar said.

Henry Huttleston Rogers' other gift

By Cindy Kelly
Staff writer

Many people think of Atlas Tack as a Superfund site, but others, the more historically minded, also see it as one of Henry Huttleston Rogers' many gifts to the town.

The late Standard Oil millionaire Henry Huttleston Rogers created Atlas Tack after consolidating other factories.

The purpose was to provide employment for the people of Fairhaven.

During its heyday, the company employed 500 people making tacks, eyelets, rivets and nails. According to the *Taunton Gazette*, the company began around 1902 with only 20 men at the four-acre plot.

Rogers' generosity was well noted in the press at the time.

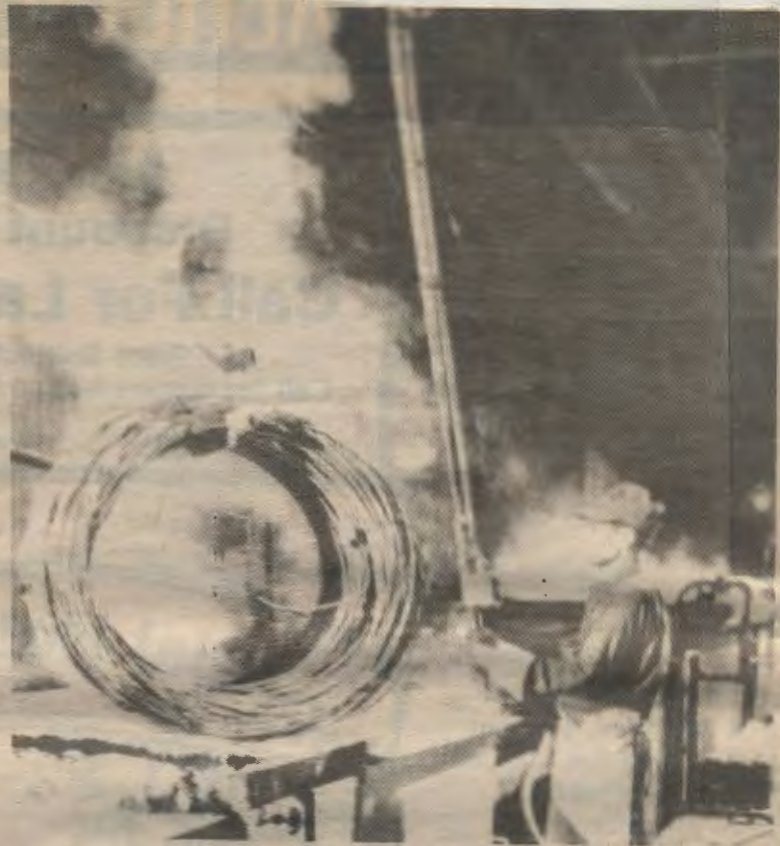
"It is a matter well known here that the plant is being operated at a loss to the owner, but he has continued the operation as a matter of civic pride and for the public welfare rather than for personal gain," an old clipping proclaimed.

The workers were not eternally grateful, though. Headlines blazoned across the pages of the former *Fairhaven Star* announced that H.H. Rogers had a strike of tack makers on his hands. Factory employees were turned down when they demanded higher wages. The rebellious tackers said their wages were less than tackers elsewhere. Wages apparently ranged from \$18 to about \$30 a week in some cases.

Ordinarily the strike would hold only local significance, but

He eventually accepted the office of superintendent of streets, according to another old newspaper clipping.

"Supt. Rogers does not earn his allowance of \$3 a day by personal supervision of work, but his efficiency is indisputable.



Staff photo/Cindy Kelly

Cleaning the coil — In 1953, Manuel Medeiros is pictured operating a hoist after the coil was immersed for cleaning in a lime tank filled with an acid solution at the Atlas Tack Corp.

during the early 1900s tackers around the country were put on notice about the Fairhaven strike.

"The workers profess to believe that a direct appeal to Mr. Rogers, if he could be reached by them, would bring what they desire. 'A man who gives millions to his town wouldn't strip his workmen of a few thousands,' one said. But they hardly

expect to break through his rule of giving his managers free rein. Naturally enough, the village is inclined to sympathize with the tackers. Their cause is discussed as one of prime importance," according to a Sept. 23, 1902, story.

Trouble with the workers didn't stop Rogers from giving \$3,000 annually for town roads during the early 1900s.

The roads and walks he builds cost three times the few thousands annually appropriated for such work, yet no deficit confront the town. He pays for the privilege of having what he wants," the newspaper proclaimed.

STANDARD-TIMES, N.B.
11/27/1991



Staff photo/Cindy Kelly

Working at Atlas Tack —A woman is pictured in 1948 working machinery to produce tacks. The plant now sits empty and was placed on the Environmental Protection Agency Superfund List for hazardous waste sites 21 months ago.

Letter On Atlas Tack

Editors note. Mr Channing Hayward would like to share this letter with the readers of the Free Press. It is from Paul Craffey, DEP Project Manager responds to questions posed by Mr. Channing Hayward concerning the Atlas Tack Superfund site.

Dear Mr. Hayward:

This letter is the DEP's response to a letter (see attached) given to me on December 2, 1991. The Department's response to your concerns is presented below.

1. What are the results, analysis, and conclusions of the eight weeks of tests performed by the EPA at the Atlas Tack Corporation 83 Pleasant St., Fairhaven, MA?

Response: The PEP has asked the EPA about the schedule for the release of the results from the testing at the Atlas Tack Superfund Site. The EPA has decided to present the results in the Remedial Investigation (RI). The RI is scheduled to be completed by December of 1992. The EPA has planned additional sampling to be included as part of the RI.

2. Do the tests show danger from hazardous Chemicals to the neighboring residents and to the Rogers School playground adjacent to the Atlas Tack?

Response: The EPA has planned sampling of residential wells in the surrounding area, which does not include the Rogers School playground. The PEP had done previous testing of soil from the Rogers School yard in 1983, and testing of a private well at 80 Fairfield Lane in 1983. The results of the sampling indicated no contamination at the Rogers School yard and the well sampled met the Drinking Water Standards for metals and cyanide. The EPA had previously indicated at a meeting with the local public that the EPA would inform the public if any of the results from the sampling indicated an immediate threat.

3. Disposal materials from the Atlas Tack were connected and discharged into the down line of Fairhavens sewage disposal system located on David M. Drown Blvd.

What are or were the nature of these materials? Sewage? Wastewater?

Response: Before 1978, Atlas Tack Corp. discharged industrial wastewater into a lagoon next to the marsh area in the back of the site property. From 1978 until Atlas stopped operations in 1985, the industrial and sewer wastewaters were pretreated before being discharged into New Bedford Harbor. The wastewater discharge limits for the Atlas Tack Plant were: Total Suspended Solids

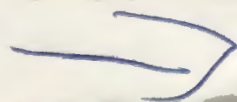
0.92 lb/day (SO mg/l); Copper Total 0.028 lb/day (1.5 mg/l); Tin Total 0.037 lb/day (2.0 mg/l); and pH >6.0 to <9.5. The flow of the plant was 2200 gallon/day. The sludges produced by the pretreatment were disposed off site.

4. Atlas Tack at one time had hundreds of employees working for them. Where is the location and what is the present status of their septic system? Does it constitute a contamination problem for the area?

Response: Since 1978 and until 1985, Atlas Tack Corp. pretreated and discharged their employee sewerage in to New Bedford Harbor. The Atlas Tack Corp. had a septic tank located directly behind the main building. The discharge from the septic tank went into a leaching system near the marsh area in the back of the site. The EPA has included in their investigation the septic tank as a location to be sampled. The results should be presented with the completed RI.

5. Are any of the remaining structures at the Atlas Tack Corporation suitable for use? Apartments? Business complexes? Does the existing contamination from hazardous materials negate its future development? Should the existing structures be torn down and the land leveled for safety reasons?

Response: The suitability of the use of any of the Atlas Tack structures would depend on several factors, some of which include: 1. the presence and extent of contamination in and under the buildings; 2. the amount of remediation required for each building; 3. the condition of the buildings after the site has been remediated; and 4. the willingness



of the owner to restore any of the buildings after the remediation. What is to happen to the buildings at the site at this time is just speculation. If there is any need of demolishing the structure for the purpose of detailed investigation and remediation, it will be identified in the remedial plan.

6. A fire with chemicals is a constant concern regarding the Atlas Tack Corporation as the building structures are mostly abandoned. A drowning also occurred in 1947 in the now filled in acid pond. Health concerns for the neighboring community because of the site buildup of hazardous materials is also important.

Response: The fire potential is a concern of the Fairhaven Fire Dept. and the DEP. The fire sprinkler system in the building is checked twice per week. The PEP and the Atlas Tack Corp. had removed the Hazardous Wastes from the main building and oil from the underground storage tank next to the power house in 1985; and Hazardous Waste from a dumpster in 1987. The EPA is still completing the RI to determine the nature and extent of contamination in the building. The DEP has concerns about any potential the contamination in the building, but the PEP's greater concern is the potential fire threat regardless of the contamination in the building. The threat of contamination released at the site as the result of a fire would be minimal compared to the danger of a fire from buildings at the site. The PEP understands that the Fairhaven Fire Department is well aware of the situation. Also, the DEP did an emergency response action to remove the sludge from the lagoon at the site in 1985.

Very truly yours,
Paul Craffey

Fairhaven clear of Atlas Tack liability, counsel says

By Jack Stewardson
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Town Counsel Thomas P. Crotty told selectmen he doesn't believe the town would be responsible for sharing cleanup costs with Atlas Tack Corp. at its former plant site.

The town counsel, meeting Monday with selectmen, advised the town he does not believe it would have any joint liability for hazardous-waste cleanup costs. He researched federal hazardous-substance site laws and discussed the situation with Executive Secretary Jeffrey W. Ousch, he said.

Last month the Atlas Tack Corp. sent the town a notice that it considers the municipality jointly responsible for any federally mandated cleanup costs at the vacant Pleasant Street complex.

company, which closed the plant in 1985, for many years used a lagoon in the rear of its property as a settling pond for such chemicals as cyanide and heavy metals, which it used in its manufacturing process.

The lagoon was excavated and covered and numerous chemical drums were also removed from the plant, but the EPA has been conducting groundwater and soil tests to determine whether chemical contamination has leached into surrounding areas.

"A local government may be liable ... to contribute to the cost of cleanup if it is responsible for the occurrence of hazardous substances at the site at which the EPA is requiring response," Mr. Crotty wrote.

"However, none of the situations to which Atlas Tack refers in its April 27, 1992 letter would result in the town being a responsive

In a notice to the town, Michael J. O'Neill, attorney for the Atlas Tack, suggested the town could be jointly responsible for cleanup costs because it once operated a dump on property adjacent and north of the vacant plant, close to the plant's former industrial lagoon. Property north of the plant was also once used by the town's Public Works Department.

Mr. O'Neill also argued the town allowed property immediately to the south of Atlas Tack to be used as a private dump and that storm run off from nearby street drains run onto the Atlas property.

Atlas Tack, which dates back to the days of Henry Huttleston Rogers, was added to the federal Environmental Protection Agency's hazardous-waste superfund list in 1990. The

party ... for the occurrence of cyanide and heavy metals at the Atlas Tack site."

While other hazardous substances could exist at the site, he said he was not aware of any EPA response to such substances, or any responsibility on the part of the town for the presence of any substance on the site.

Next Monday at 7:30 p.m. the EPA will hold a public meeting at Town Hall to discuss the status of its studies at the Atlas Tack site.

Mr. Crotty met with selectmen Monday to discuss several legal issues, particularly in light of a town meeting vote earlier this month to trim town legal expenses by \$35,000, leaving just \$50,000 for the coming fiscal year. Selectmen have sought to tighten on legal referrals.

"We're already feeling a little bit pressurized on whether to refer these things to town counsel," said Selectmen Chairman Patrick J. Mullen. "I think these are matters we have to assign to an attorney.

The board asked Mr. Crotty to review two police notices calling for arbitration on grievances dealing with vacation time and longevity payments and a third by the American Federal of State, County and Municipal Employees, which is contesting the appointment of a part-time assistant town clerk.

They are the first grievances to head for arbitration in recent years and Selectman John T. Haaland said he hoped town unions would not attempt to force grievances to arbitration because the town is tight on legal funds. "I don't want the town to be taken advantage of."

ATLAS TACK

SUNDAY STANDARD-TIMES, N.B.
July 5, 1992

EPA sets briefing on Atlas Tack cleanup grants

By Jack Stewardson
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Environmental Protection Agency officials plan to brief Atlas Tack Corp. neighbors on Tuesday on obtaining \$50,000 in grants to help interpret cleanup studies and proposals.

"We will outline the process they have to go through," said Michael McGagh, technical assistant grant manager for the EPA's regional office in Boston. "We've already had interest down there."

The TAG program, established under 1986 legislation, enables community groups to hire technical advisers to interpret and comment on site findings and proposed cleanup actions at Superfund sites.

The public meeting will be held Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. at the auditorium at Hastings High Middle School.

The Concerned Citizens of Fairhaven, a neighborhood group formed by residents surrounding the Atlas Tack site, have already expressed interest in applying for grant funds.

According to Mr. McGagh, grants can be used to hire professional consultants or doctors to assist citizen groups in understanding issues such as chemistry, toxicology, epidemiology, hydrology or hydrogeology, soil science, site run-off, atmospheric factors, or engineering.

He said community groups have a fairly free hand in deciding on the expertise they want to hire, but grants cannot be used to pay for political activities or to sue the government. The local group must provide 20 percent of the total cost of technical assis-

tance through cash or in-kind services.

In some cases a coalition of groups interested in an Superfund site may share in a grant, but there can be only one grant per site.

The Atlas Tack Corp. Superfund site occupies about 12 acres at 83 Pleasant St. and was placed on the EPA's Superfund list in February, 1990. Wire tacks, steel nails, rivets and bolts were made between 1902 and 1985.

Manufacturing processes included acid washing, electroplating, enameling and painting, and wastes generated in the process included acids, solvents and heavy metals, which were discharged into floor drains leading to an unlined on-site lagoon.

The lagoon, located about 200 feet east of the manufacturing complex, was closed and fenced in during 1985, and the state Department of Environmental Protection removed sludge and contaminated soil from the lagoon, and waste materials in drums from the plant.

Inspections by EPA and the state Department of Environmental Protection have found contamination in the marsh and surface water south of the lagoon, and in on-site groundwater.

The EPA has been conducting groundwater and soil tests at the site. Samples were initially taken last summer and the EPA is awaiting results of follow-up samples taken this spring, which should be available in the fall.

Once the sampling program has been completed, the EPA plans to explore the feasibility of different cleanup options on the site and select a cleanup option by the fall of 1993.

Atlas Tack pledges to repair alarms

By Jack Stewardson
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Atlas Tack Corp. has told the town it will take immediate steps to repair its fire alarm system, which was struck by lightning last month.

M. Leonard Lewis, president of Atlas Tack Corp., wrote to Fire Chief Donald R. Bernard last week, saying that the company is arranging repairs of the fire box system.

According to Chief Bernard, firefighters responding to an alarm at the vacant Pleasant Street plant on July 14 discovered that the lightning had activated the alarm system. He said that in addition to damaging the master alarm box, the lightning also caused problems in the plant's internal fire alarm system.

Although the town fixed the master box, Chief Bernard complained in a letter to Mr. Lewis on July 28 that the company had not repaired the internal alarms, despite repeated inquiries through Harold Perry, the on-site representative of the company.

"We are gravely concerned about the fact that the facility is being allowed to go unprotected as outlined in a previous court order," Chief Bernard wrote.

Mr. Lewis disputed the charge that the company has been slow to respond, saying that Mr. Bernard's July 28 letter was the first direct communication he had received from the town about the problem.

"Atlas Tack Corporation has been much more responsible and has done much more to clean up the premises than have the owners of many other comparable premises," he wrote.

Atlas Tack was placed on the Environmental Protection Agency's hazardous waste Superfund list in 1990. The federal agency has been studying the impact of heavy metals and toxic materials, once used to manufacture tacks, nails and other items, on the soil and groundwater.

SPYGLASS



Atlas Tack: once fruitful in Fairhaven

The once flourishing Atlas Tack Company of Fairhaven is an empty shell today. It was established by Henry Huttleston Rogers, a Fairhaven native and benefactor, who gave the town the high school, the Unitarian Memorial Church, the Millicent Library, the Town Hall, the Rogers School and many other gifts.

The company was designed to provide jobs for town residents. As the old picture from The Standard-Times library shows, it was once a busy and productive plant.

Today, the victim of changing industrial patterns and the economy, it is only a monument to a once-fruitful past, as staff photographer Ron Rolo's picture shows.

— BY JOHN H. ACKERMAN
Standard-Times feature writer



Town wants Atlas Tack fire alarms working again

"Acting fire chief: It should be leveled

S.T. 5/11/93

By Jack Stewardson
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — The Board of Fire Engineers wants town counsel Thomas P. Crotty to compel Atlas Tack Corp. to get its fire alarms working.

After meeting Monday with Acting Fire Chief David Crowley to discuss safety conditions at the vacant Pleasant Street plant, the board said Mr. Crotty should go back to court if necessary.

Mr. Crowley said that although the sprinklers work, the fire alarms have not worked for about a year.

"The problem is you could have a fire start out in back and no one would see it," he said.

"I think it is crucial to the neighborhood that the alarm system works," said Selectman Patrick J. Mullen. The Board of Selectmen are the fire engineers.

At the suggestion of Selectmen Chairman Ruth J. Galary, letters will be sent to Sen. Mark Montigny and Rep. William M. Straus to see if they can do anything to get Atlas Tack demolished.

The plant, owned by Great Northern Industries, is a hazardous waste Superfund site and has been closed since 1985. According to Chief Crowley, its condition has deteriorated.

"What I would like to see is for them to tear the building down," he said.

He said he would not feel safe sending firefighters inside to fight a blaze.

Although the town wants Atlas Tack demolished, it would be unlikely because the Environmental Protection Agency does not want to disturb the site before it is cleaned up.



Standard-Times library photo

Hazardous site

ST. 5/11/93

Atlas Tack, owned by Great Northern Industries, is a hazardous waste Superfund site and has been closed since 1985.

Atlas Tack results due soon

EPA expects to announce Superfund test findings in May

By Carol Lee Costa-Crowell
Standard-Times staff writer

FAIRHAVEN — Patti Estrella and her neighbors have been waiting for answers for three years.

After meeting with state and local officials last week, they found the answers concerning the cleanup at the former Atlas Tack Corp. site may be another month away.

Paul Craffley, the federal Environmental Protection Agency site manager, told the 50 residents the results of the investigation of the site wouldn't be made known until May 5.

He said a citizen/government group should be formed to monitor the cleanup.

The 12-acre site at 83 Pleasant St. is owned by Great Northern Industries. Atlas Tack manufactured tacks, nails, rivets and bolts until 1985.

The company produced contaminated wastes that were discharged into an on-site lagoon. The pollution later spread to marshlands, surface water and groundwater.

The site was placed on the EPA's hazardous waste Superfund list for priority cleanup in February 1990, but progress has been slow.

"We really went to the meeting wanting some answers about the soil and water tests taken almost three years ago," said Ms. Estrella, a member of the Concerned Citizens of Fairhaven group.

"As result, we should know the amount of contamination, the nature of the contamination and how it affects us."

Mr. Craffley said a feasibility study that will list the options for the cleanup is should be released within six to nine months.

"It was good to see such a turnout and some new faces," Ms. Estrella said. "One of the questions we had of our town officials was regarding tax abatements. We feel as a neighborhood we should all get the same tax abatement. Right now we have to apply individually. Some of us get an abatement, others don't."

Selectmen John Haaland and John

Roderiques said the abatements are handled through the assessor's department and not their board.

"We couldn't sell our properties if we wanted to," Ms. Estrella said. "If we could go as a group and all get the same abatement it would help us some."

She and her neighbors will meet Tuesday at 7 p.m. at the fire station to discuss plans and set up sub-committees to deal with state officials.

She was appointed to the committee that will work with town, state and federal officials.

"I can see the test wells from my house. I'm right next door to the site. Obviously we are concerned about our water, our property and the contamination. And we want to work together on this," she said.

Once the town's largest employer, Atlas Tack operated for about 83 years. When the plant closed, an industrial-waste lagoon — containing cyanide, metals, acids and oils — had to be excavated and covered.

Barrels of industrial chemicals also were removed from the plant.

Atlas Tack
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Atlas Tack continued

people in the dark. In fact, it was the opposite," he said.

Daniel Coughlin, chief of the MA Superfund Section, reminded them they will have more chances to comment on the feasibility study before the EPA's ROD (Record of Decision) is written, hopefully by the fall of next year.

Diana Cobbold of Sea Change added her board would like to make comments on the memo and a presentation to the town on December 15 at a scheduled selectmen's meeting.

Selectman Hamilton asked the EPA officials if the soil along the northern edge of the Atlas Tack property has been tested for contamination, as the bicycle path is proposed for that location.

concerns, bike path users rank fourth behind the residents, businesses and school children in the area.

"Those are bigger issues for me," Mr. Craffey said, stressing they will take as many precautions as possible to protect those living or working in the neighborhood.

Selectman Bryan Wood asked him if the EPA controls the site.

Apparently, Atlas Tack still maintains control over what happens on the property, answered Mr. Craffey. The owners applied for a town permit for pest control and may be trying for a building repair permit as per a court order deadline of December 3. They are required to seal the roof, bring the sprinkler system into compliance and increase building security.

"We want to get the best cleanup for the amount we have to spend, but obviously we don't have an infinite amount of money," said Project Manager Paul Craffey. "First and foremost it has to be protected for human health and the environment."

"No," Mr. Craffey replied, "but it's not suspected there is any contamination there. We've tested downward and upward of the creek and at the school and in front of the property, and there isn't any problem for human health."

He said most of what they expect to find in the area has been generated from off-site sources, such as the historical use of DDT in marshlands in the 1960s and copper from septic systems.

Also, he said, the path has been dug up at least once when the sewer lines were installed. The bike path layout lies just outside of the Atlas Tack site boundary.

"With pavement on top it will probably limit the source," Mr. Craffey said. "What you have now is a dry dirt path that kicks up dust."

He said the route poses no risk to humans, but suggested the town sample the soil if it is causing concern. Mr. Coughlin invited them to call the EPA for technical assistance.

Of the EPA's four largest health

Atlas Tack representatives refused to comment on the issue.

Meanwhile, the EPA has begun to seek information from Atlas Tack regarding site ownership, waste disposal practices and a number of other questions.

Once the ROD is accepted by the EPA, the agency will enter negotiations with Atlas Tack Corp. and Great Northern Industries to pay for the cleanup. If the responsible parties refuse to pay for the remediation, the EPA will then seek Superfund money to complete it and pursue reimbursement in court.

"We're not trying to drag this out," Mr. Coughlin stressed. "It would be nice (to have it completed) before the year 2000, but we don't promise it. It depends on the significance of the area."

Copies of the assessment memo are available for review in the Fairhaven Town Hall and the Millicent Library. The deadline for public comment is Wednesday, November 26.

Clean up of Atlas Tack still pending

By Lori Rebello
Staff writer

A recent Atlas Tack hearing in Fairhaven shed some light on the more serious concerns surrounding the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Superfund site, namely what the danger is to nearby residents and who will pay for the cleanup.

"What about the residents on the east side of Atlas Tack (beyond Little Egypt Road)?" Patricia Pelczar asked EPA officials. "How will it affect them?"

"For the most part, the site has been shut down for 10 years. The contamination is probably pretty much contained inside the hurricane barrier," said Paul Craffey, EPA project manager. The hurricane barrier extends to the south of Atlas Tack and crosses Boys Creek adjacent to the Church Street dump.

"The contamination is not necessarily just coming from the site but also coming from other locations (upstream). Migration is probably minimal at this point," he said.

During the public hearing, Craffey explained the results of the remedial investigation and Laurie Pavlos, EPA contractor, discussed a recent risk assessment of the site.

The areas with the highest concentrations of contaminants are the manufacturing building, soils to the north, east and southeast of the building, the fill area, the Church Street dump and sediments near the former lagoon and in Boys Creek.

Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), metals and cyanides are among the worst contaminants.

"We're trying to make sure that we don't underestimate the risks," Pavlos said. She went on to explain the basic questions asked in risk assessments: Who is at risk, how great is the risk and what are the foreseeable health impacts caused by the site?



Staff photo/Lori Rebello

The Atlas Tack Superfund Site will remain as is until federal grant money comes through to pay for the clean up.

"We are very conservative (in our estimates) so we can be protective of people living in the area," she said. EPA objectives for acceptable exposure doses are based on American Cancer Association figures. According to EPA estimates, trespassers, future residents and the neighboring ecology run the highest risk if exposed over a long period of time.

"The risks can be easily avoided by not going on the site, not going on the Church Street dump and not collecting and eating shellfish from the Boys Creek area," Pavlos advised. "We look at the health of the entire ecosystem."

Another pointed question is who will pay for the remediation.

"Are you still operating off EPA money or is the responsible party paying?" Coalition for Buzzards Bay representative and local resident Mark Rasmussen wanted to know.

EPA Massachusetts Superfund Chief Paula Fitzsimmons said, under the Superfund law, the money can either come from a federal trust fund or from a private party (usually the responsible party).

During the late 1980s, the owner of Atlas Tack, Great Northern Industries, hired an engineer to perform a site assessment and investigation under the order of the state Department of Environmental Protection.

"They never completed the (investigation) as far as the state was concerned," Craffey said. The state Department of Public Health completed an Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry report (ATSDR) at around the same time, but no further environmental work occurred until the most recent remedial investigation and risk assessment were done.

Some removal of debris and equipment was completed in the meantime; however, Craffey pointed out, "They didn't inform anybody. They could have handled it better if they wanted to."

"The EPA seeks to recover the cost for remediation most of the time," Fitzsimmons said.

Attorney Louis N. Massery of the law firm Massery, Gillis and Guiney of Boston, spoke on behalf of his client, Great Northern Industries.

"Atlas Tack was never asked to do a remedial investigation," he

said, adding that the EPA never approached the company to do further environmental work. "It simply isn't what happened. We did not refuse to perform work."

"Are you saying that the Atlas Tack people are upset because they didn't have a chance to clean it up?" local resident Garnett Powers asked.

"The issue here is about when that could have been completed," Massery replied. He went on to say that the original data for the remedial investigation were collected in 1992.

Pelczar wanted to know what the changes have been since 1992 and how they would affect the 1995 report results, and consequently, the people who live nearby.

(Cont'd →)

ATLAS TACK

(cont'd - 7/20/1997)

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Pavlos and Fitzsimmons said the raw data have not changed much since 1992, but rather the methods used to calculate risks have been adjusted and refined. They said the changes were accounted for in the second half of the 1995 remedial investigation.

While the protection of local marine wildlife and potential tidal wash-outs during hurricanes were also discussed, Craffey reminded the public that no actual cleanup can begin until federal funding arrives.

The EPA encourages the public to attend the upcoming meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 15, at 6:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Town Hall, where they plan to form a citizens/government group to keep dialogue open on the Atlas Tack site.

EPA gets proactive with Atlas Tack

By LORI REBELLO
Editor

FAIRHAVEN - In a good faith effort, EPA officials gave townspeople an early look at the technological choices for cleaning up Atlas Tack.

The public hearing held last week came on the heels of a letter sent by selectmen demanding the Superfund agency force the Atlas Tack owners to clean up the site or use federal funds to do the same and remove all hazardous materials from the property.

"This gives you an idea what the alternatives are," said Remedial Project Manager Paul Craffey of the EPA. About three dozen people attended the meeting, including Selectman Bryan Wood and Selectman Robert Hamilton.

"We wanted to give you as much time as possible to think about the alternatives," Mr. Craffey continued. "This is not normally done, releasing a draft of a document."

He said public comment on the draft will be accepted until November

26, at which time Mr. Craffey must finalize the report.

"We want to know what's missing," he said, noting citizens' preferences will be considered when the feasibility study of the site is complete in the spring of 1998.

Consultant Roy F. Weston Inc. prepared the EPA assessment, which looks at the feasibility of a number of cleanup options. Arthur Cunningham, an engineer for Weston, explained their findings.

Basically, they divided the target site into three distinct areas: the buildings; the old lagoon, former Church Street Dump and Boys Creek; and the marsh area down near the edge of Buzzards Bay.

They anticipate about 600 cubic yards (or 40 roll-offs) of material may need to be removed from the buildings, while some 28,000 cubic yards await excavation in the outside areas.

In one possible scenario, a single contractor could handle all three areas, separating the metals from the soil and disposing them off site and treating some on site. Any PCBs would need to be taken to an off-site disposal facility.

Another possibility is the contractor may remove all wastes and move them off site. A third choice involves capping over areas where metals and PCBs lie, which would protect the local wildlife. Rainwater and groundwater would remain a problem.

Lastly, the EPA must include the option of no action as required under the federal law. However, Mr. Craffey noted this is not a viable choice.

As for the dilapidated buildings, Mr. Cunningham said they may either take no action or, once the buildings are structurally safe, have crews remove the hazardous materials to an off-site facility.

The EPA next will compare the options with nine standard criteria to decide the best balance of short-term versus long-term risks for the workers and the neighbors.

"We want to get the best cleanup for the amount we have to spend, but obviously we don't have an infinite amount of money," said Mr. Craffey. "First and foremost it has to be protected for human health and the environment."

Resident Patricia Pelczar said she would rather have had a chance to review the document before coming to the hearing.

"You just covered an awful lot of information very meekly," she remarked. "These are serious questions and we need serious answers.... I don't think it's fair."

Mr. Craffey explained they made a total of 21 copies to distribute to selectmen, the Millicent Library, Atlas Tack attorneys who were present, Sea Change Inc. trustees and two copies for the public. He said the document itself will change by November 26.

"It wasn't my intent to keep

ST- 4/4/03

ATLAS TACK

ST 4-4-03



PETER PEREIRA/The Standard-Times

EPA remedial project manager Elaine Stanley is seen conducting a fence inspection inside the Atlas Tack plant in Fairhaven. The EPA found repairs were still needed to the fence, which a high school student was able to sneak through in January.

FAIRHAVEN

Atlas tack property yesterday, stepping over debris as they inspected fence around the old building that was supposed to be — but still wasn't — repaired.

The town put pressure on the Environmental Protection Agency to pursue the matter after a high school student used a hole in the fence to enter the property in January.

The teen retrieved a bottle filled with arsenic from the Superfund site, and unaware that he'd picked up a deadly poison, brought it to school to analyze in science class.

"We're trying to do as much as we can to prevent something like that from occurring again," said Remedial Project Manager Elaine Stanley yesterday from behind the building's rusted fence.

But months after the EPA initially ordered Atlas Tack President Leonard Lewis to have the breaches repaired, many of them still remain.

"Some of the breaches are still big enough to get through," she said.

Atlas Tack was identified by the EPA as a Superfund site, but the cleanup process



has been slow. Some parts of the structure, Fire Chief Timothy P. Francis said, have collapsed and pose an immediate danger to any youngster who happens to wander into the building.

And because of the large holes in the fence, that's not a difficult task.

Ms. Stanley visited the site in February to see what progress had been made in repairing and securing the fence, as well as former plating and pickling areas. Although a snowstorm had buried the entire area just days before the in-

spection, the corporation still had seven working days to make the necessary repairs.

At that time, Ms. Stanley observed no repairs made to the fencing.

The EPA letter to Mr. Lewis, dated March 27, stated, "The EPA will take immediate steps to address these threats as it deems appropriate."

Yesterday though, Ms. Stanley said she wasn't sure a fine or any other punitive action was in order just yet.

Atlas Tack

July 2006



Atlas Tack Corp. Superfund Site: Phase II Cleanup Activities Begin

First Three Weeks of July

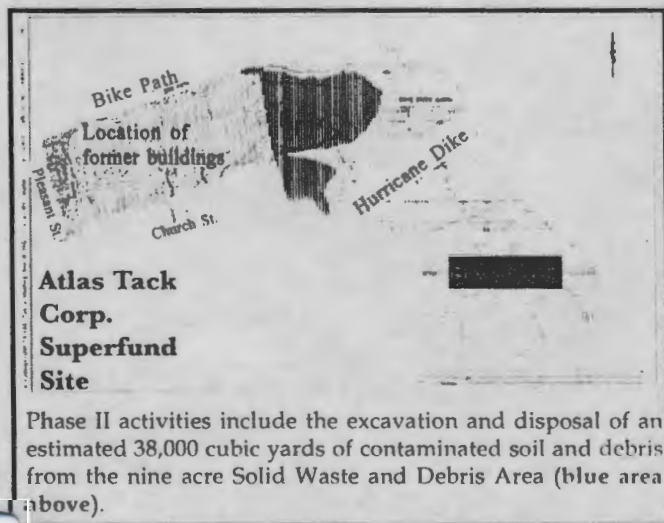
For most of July, work will be underway preparing the site for excavation and disposal activities. Before excavation begins, neighbors will see:

- On-site roads constructed;
- Barrier along east & south excavation limits constructed;
- Soil processing & storage handling area constructed;
- Air monitoring stations posted & activated;
- Groundwater sampling initiated;
- Truck access from Adams Street across bike path into site created.

End of July

By the end of July, neighbors will see:

- Excavation;
- Soil & debris segregation & sampling;
- Trucks hauling debris and contaminated soil off-site.



Save the Date

Wednesday, August 16th

7 pm Meet along the bike path at Tripp St., for an information update. In case of bad weather, meet in Fairhaven Town Hall.

Truck Routes

As discussed at the May public meeting, the high volume of trucks requires creating an additional access road at the bottom of Adams Street. The hauling trucks will enter the site via Adams Street and exit to Tripp Street, proceed to Washington Street, and then to Route 6 East, before connecting to Route 240. The trucks will be hosed down to make sure they are clean before being allowed to leave the site. The water used to clean the trucks will be captured and put into a tank. It then will be tested and if clean, used again. Local roads will be inspected daily to ensure that they remain free from any debris from the site and will be cleaned as needed. As was the case last summer, each time a truck crosses over the bike path, personnel will be on hand to stop trucks while pedestrian and bike traffic passes. They also will ensure the truck crossings stay clean. Site operations are between 7 am and 5 pm Monday through Friday.

For More Information:

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As in the past, weekly air monitoring results will be posted in Fairhaven Town Hall and on-line at www.epa.gov/region1/superfund/sites/atlas