

World Invited to Attend Shoe Factory Opening

Friday, June 6 is Brown Shoe Factory Opening Day; Thousands are Expected

Officials of Brown Shoe Company Will Be Here to Throw Open to Public for Its Inspection, the Most Modern Plant That it Operates. History of the Company. Interesting Data on Sullivan Big Industrial Plant.

The people of this community are interested in The Brown Shoe Company. They want to get better acquainted with the business men who conduct the affairs of that big organization.

With this idea in mind The Progress has secured through the courtesy of Mr. White, the advertising manager of the company, a big cut of the factory and also pictures of the officials of the company.

Together with this material Mr. White has kindly furnished a brief history of the Brown Shoe Company, its antecedents and its gradual development to its present position of supremacy in its particular line of manufacture.

This history will doubtless prove interesting to Progress readers and we present it herewith:



JOHN A. BUSH
President

A SHORT HISTORY OF BROWN SHOE COMPANY

A half century ago there was born in a small two-story building in St. Louis a business which was destined to play an important part in making that city a shoe manufacturing center. It was a company with a capital of \$12,000, five skilled workers, limited territory and annual sales of but \$110,000.

Today, the Brown Shoe Company—for that is the present name of the organization—ranks today as the third largest shoe manufacturer in the coun-

try with annual sales of nearly \$37,000,000, assets of more than \$20,000,000 and a payroll of approximately 9,500 employes. Its fifteen shoe manufacturing plants are capable of producing 70,000 pairs of shoes daily. This capacity will be increased to 75,000 pairs daily by the opening of the Sullivan Plant. In addition, the company operates two tanneries and two jobbing houses.

A conception of the size of the business may be had from the fact that a factory schedule of 70,000 pairs a day, or 130 pairs a minute, requires the skins and hides of 17,500 animals. These shoes, set one behind the other, heel to toe, would make a line eighteen miles in length.

The company had its inception in 1879 as Bryan, Brown and company, being succeeded three years later by the Bryan-Brown Shoe Company a corporation with a capitalization of \$60,000. This change was made in order to give valued employes an opportunity to share in the business. A jobbing line of eastern-made goods was added about that time. By 1885 the annual sales had reached a half million dollars.

The name was changed to the Brown-Desnoyer Shoe Company in 1885, when Mr. Bryan retired from the business due to illness. The capitalization was increased to 150,000, but business developed so rapidly that the capital stock was doubled shortly thereafter and the plant moved to larger quarters. In 1893 when shipments amounted to \$1,750,000, there was another change in the name, this time to the Brown Shoe Company.

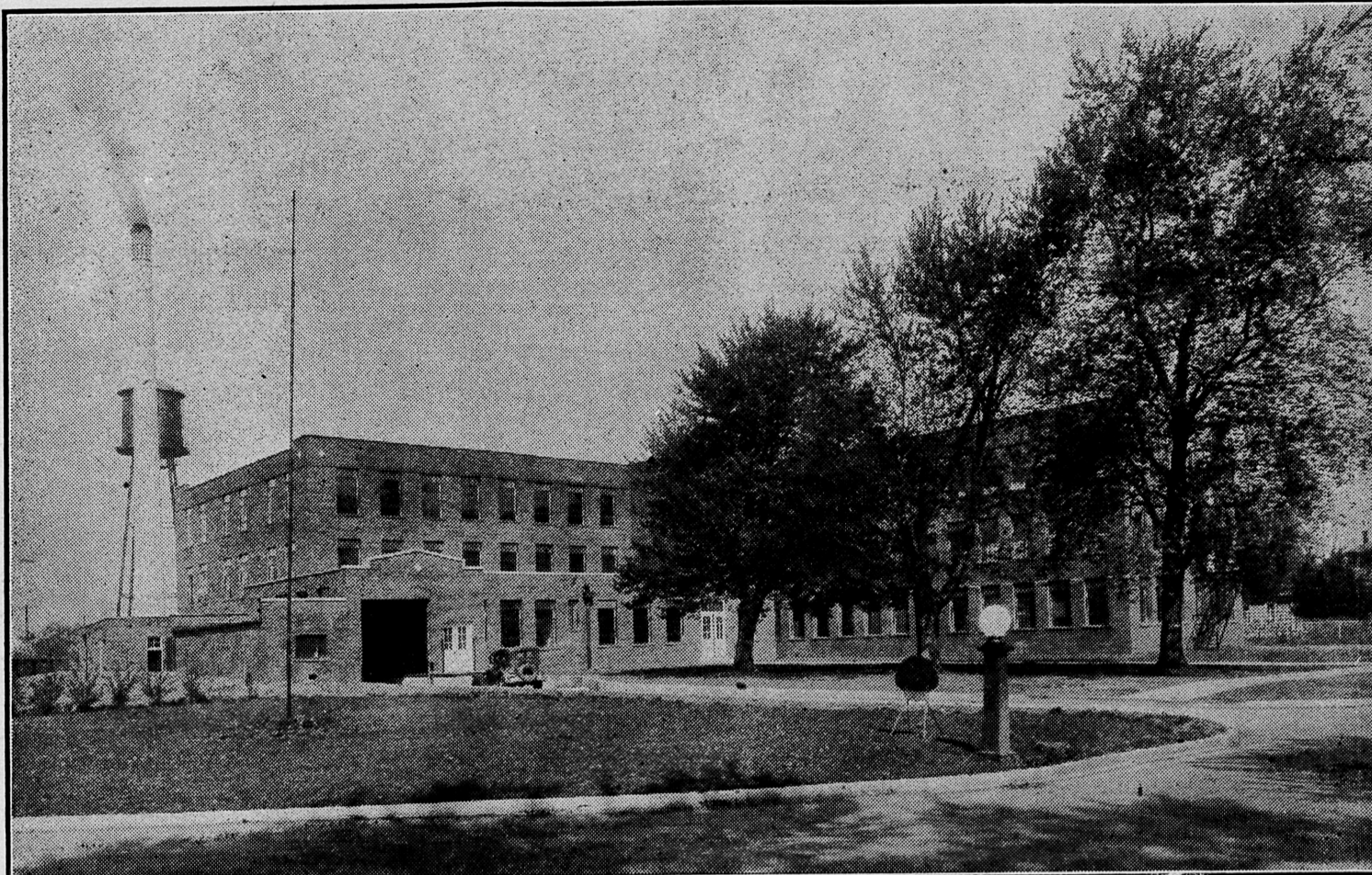
From then on the business grew by leaps and bounds, necessitating further increases in capitalization and the opening of more factories. In the latter part of 1912 the company was reorganized but it continued to do business under the name of Brown Shoe Company, Inc.

During this half century of progress, there have been but two men at the helm. George Warren Brown was president from the time of its organization until 1915, when he resigned to become chairman of the board, a position which he held until his death in 1921. John A. Bush, who joined the company in 1896 at the age of 14, was elected president in 1915. He still retains that position. All of the officers, excepting one, have been with the company and its predecessors more than twenty-five years and all of them have been in the shoe business all their lives.

The officers of the company are:

- J. A. Bush—President
- E. R. McCarthy, T. F. James—Vice Presidents.
- W. E. Tarlton—Secretary
- H. S. Hutchins—Treasurer.

Brown Shoe Company is today under aggressive businesslike administration of these business shoemen and the



future holds even brighter prospects than ever before.

The sales of the company are effected through wholly owned selling organizations, the Brown Shoe Company, the Central Shoe Company, Capitol Shoemakers, Inc., Blue Ribbon Shoemakers, Inc., Mound City Shoe Company and the United Shoe Manufacturing Company.

Factory Building and Equipment Fills Present-Day Requirements

Sullivan Factory

Many people of this community will work in the big new factory. Thousands of pairs of shoes will soon be turned out here each working day.

On the day of opening, Friday, June 6th, the people are invited and urged to come to the factory. They will be shown through all of its departments. They will see what a modern industrial plant looks like. They will see the most modern of the fifteen plants that the Brown Shoe Company operates. In the Sullivan plant are embodied all of those improvements which experience with other plants have shown to be desirable.

The following outline touches on facts and figures entering into the construction of this plant and of its equipment:

LOCATION—

In City block bounded on the East side by Hamilton Street, on the North side by Water Street, on the West side by Graham Street, and on the South side by Illinois Central Railroad.

SIZE OF BUILDINGS—

- Main Building:** 251 ft. x 44 ft. 8 in., 3 stories high, 33,636 Sq. Ft. floor space.
- Stem,** 96 ft. x 64 ft. 6 in., 3 stories high 18,576 Sq. Ft. of floor space.
- Office & Commissary:** 73 ft. 9 in. x 27 ft. 1 in., 1 story, 1,998 Sq. ft. of floor space.
- Garage:** 36 ft. 2 in. x 21 ft. 9 in., 1 story high, 786 Sq. ft. of floor space.
- Cement House:** 36 ft. 2 in. x 11 ft. 1 in., 1 story high, 4Q1 Sq. ft.
- Power House:** 65 ft. x 50 ft., 1 story, 3,250 Sq. ft. of floor space.
- Total Floor Space—**58,647 Sq. Ft.

WINDOWS—

There are 308 window openings in building measuring 7 ft. 8 3/4 in by 4 ft. 2 3/8 in. or a total of 11,209 Sq. Ft. of open lighting. Windows are of the latest Steel type sash with center swing and also top ventilators and consist of a total of 6,160 lights of glass.

LIGHTING SYSTEM—

Lights for general illumination are placed near the ceiling and are of the proper size and spacing to give the maximum efficiency. All ceiling lights are covered with the latest industrial type porcelain lined reflectors.

Lights for individual machines are of the proper size and are adjustable so as to give operator maximum light at the proper point.

PAINTING—

Entire factory interior is painted with white oil paint, having an egg shell finish, giving a maximum light reflection and at the same time eliminating all glare of lights.



T. F. JAMES
Vice President



E. R. McCARTHY
Vice President

FIRE PROTECTION—

(Sprinkler System)—Building equipped with wet pipe system of Automatic Sprinklers consisting of 804 sprinkler heads and supplied with water from an 8 in. city water main and from a 40,000 gallon sprinkler tank measures 19 ft. 6 in. in diameter, 19 ft. 4 in. deep, and sits on a tower 80 ft. high.

(Fire Extinguishers)—Building is also equipped with fire extinguishers of size and type approved by Underwriters and are located in convenient places throughout buildings.

(Fire Escapes)—There are three fire escapes on building, approved by Fire Marshall of the State of Illinois, one at each end of main building and one at side of stem. Doors leading to fire escapes are equipped with panic locks and opening outward.

ELEVATOR—

(Capacity)—Elevator has a net lifting capacity of 3000 lbs. and travels from first to third floor, a distance of 25 feet, at a speed of 100 ft. per minute. Car is operated by means of push buttons.

(Elevator Gates)—Elevator shaft is equipped with 3 manually operated safety gates which are fitted with combination electric and mechanical interlocks which will prevent the operation of the car if any of the gates are left open and will prevent the opening of any gate unless the car is at the floor.

LOADING & UNLOADING

Supplies and equipment can be delivered to factory either by truck or by freight cars. Supplies delivered by truck can be unloaded in the garage on a platform which is the same height as bed of truck. From there supplies can be taken either into the commissary, into main building, or can be placed in the cement house going thru a door leading onto the unloading platform for the freight cars which is a continuation of the garage platform.

Supplies delivered by freight come in on our siding and are unloaded on platform directly connected with garage platform. Coal for boiler room is delivered in flat bottom freight cars and can be unloaded directly from car into coal bunkers.



W. E. TARTLTON
Secretary



WALTER EKINS
General Factory Supt.

is possible to maintain a very uniform temperature throughout the building.

(Boiler)—Steam for the above units is supplied by a 72 inch by 20 inch horizontal return Tubular boiler of 165 H. P. capacity, built in accordance with A.S.M.E boiler code for use in Illinois.

(Chimney)—Chimney for boiler is made of reinforced concrete and is guaranteed to withstand a wind pressure produced by a wind with a velocity of 100 miles per hour. This chimney is 145 ft. 2 in. high from base of foundation, is 8 ft. 10 1/2 in. in diameter at base of shaft and 5 ft. 4 in. at top, both being outside dimensions.

POWER PLANT—

Electric current is generated by a 187 K.V.A. 40 degree, 3 phase, 60 cycle, 240 volt generator direct connected to a 18x21 Uniflow Engine 240 I.H.P. to operate at 160 lbs. steam pressure. Steam for operating this generator is supplied by boiler described above.

DRINKING WATER—

Building is equipped with drinking fountains on all floors, located so as to be convenient to all the employees. Water is constantly circulated to these fountains first passing thru a refrigerator machine where it is cooled to the proper temperature. This machine has a capacity of approximately 6 ton refrigeration which insures cool water at all times.

TIME RECORDING SYSTEM—

Factory is equipped with metal case, fully automatic, electric time recorders located on each floor and are all controlled by a spring driven magnet wound master clock which insures the same time throughout factory.

The city of Sullivan joins with the Brown Shoe Company in inviting everybody to come to Sullivan, Friday, June 6th to attend the opening of the big factory.

The program committee of which Carl R. Hill is chairman has arranged a program which appears on page 1 of this issue.

The merchants have arranged special sales events for the day.

Farmers are pretty well caught up with their work and can well afford to take the afternoon off; if you can't come in the afternoon, come at night.

We have printed a hundred extra copies of this week's Progress. If you want to have one sent to a friend or relative place your order early, or the supply may be exhausted.

The community feels especially grateful to the non-residents who subscribed to the shoe factory fund. They may not be able to be present to join in the celebration of the opening. The operation of the factory here, in some cases, cannot mean any material gain to these subscribers. The very fact that they have given of their money to bring this factory to Sullivan shows that they have the best interests of this community at heart. Sullivan will always owe them a big debt of gratitude. We wish they could be here with us and see the magnificent factory that their subscriptions have helped to build.

Many people found employment while the factory building was in course of construction. Much of the fund of \$125,000 which this community subscribed has been paid to local contractors and workmen.

To the Officers, Superintendents and Employes of

THE BROWN SHOE COMPANY

We Extend a Word of Hearty

WELCOME

WE are glad to have you here in Sullivan. The opening of your factory -- our factory -- is an event to which we have long looked forward with pleasant anticipation.

The establishment of this factory here has long been a desire of this community; we have exerted toward the realization of this desire our very best efforts. We are as proud, perhaps more so, of this factory than you folks are.

Our relations so far have been pleasant: we assure you that we will put forth our best endeavor to keep them so. We know that through co-operation, a better day awaits Sullivan.

We welcome you to Sullivan. We hope that as time goes by, our most cherished hopes for the development of the factory and for the prosperity of our city will be fully realized.

THE CITY OF SULLIVAN
 BUTLER & BUTLER
 FIRST NATIONAL BANK
 McLAUGHLIN BOND AND
 MORTGAGE CO.
 MAMMOTH SHOE & CLOTHING
 CO.
 G. S. THOMPSON
 VANKLED BEAUTY SHOP
 DUNSCOMB DRY GOODS CO.
 DICKERSON & CO.
 SHASTEEN BROS. MEAT
 MARKET
 GEORGE A. RONEY
 COY CENTRAL SHOE STORE
 L. T. HAGERMAN & CO.
 O. J. GAUGER & CO.
 W. E. MARTIN
 ILLINOIS CENTRAL TELE-
 PHONE CO.—A. C. Hawley.
 C. A. CORBIN
 HOME TOWN BAKERY

Sullivan POSTAL EMPLOYES
 F. J. THOMPSON
 T. P. FINLEY
 CAPITOL CHEVROLET SALES
 MOULTRIE CO. HATCHERY
 H. H. HAWKINS & SON
 MATT DEDMAN
 M. A. GIFFORD
 FRANK McPHEETERS
 J. M. CUMMINS & SON
 TIRE & BATTERY STATION
 SHIREY & HANKLA
 WAGGONER CAFE
 W. R. ROBINSON
 GROTE MOTOR SALES
 W. H. WALKER
 DAVIS OIL COMPANY
 FIREPROOF GARAGE
 WADE ROBERTSON,
 Shoe Repairing
 MERCHANTS & FARMERS
 STATE BANK, Sullivan, Ill.

COMMUNITY GROCERY &
 MEAT MARKET
 COCHRAN, SENTEL &
 COCHRAN
 F. C. NEWBOULD
 MOULTRIE COUNTY
 ABSTRACT CO.
 BUXTON BONNET SHOPPE
 A. H. MILLER CO., Insurance
 STAR ART STUDIO
 SULLIVAN GRAIN CO., Inc.
 THE CHOCOLATE SHOP
 L. C. LOVELESS
 THE SULLIVAN PROGRESS
 SAM B. HALL
 J. H. ALUMBAUGH Grocery
 "ROSS" THE JEWELER
 McMULLIN FUNERAL HOME
 NATIONAL INN
 CARL A. DICK, Insurance
 SULLIVAN GREENHOUSES
 DAVID HARDWARE

SULLIVAN CONCRETE WKS.
 BENSON CAFE
 SULLIVAN DRY CLEANERS
 J. R. PIFER
 O. F. DONER, Implements
 SULLIVAN ARMORY
 A. R. POLAND
 E. M. HAGERMAN, Contractor
 CITY BOOK STORE
 MOULTRIE COUNTY NEWS
 YATES BARBER SHOP
 GRAND THEATRE
 JOHN E. JENNINGS, Attorney
 C. R. PATTERSON, Attorney
 ALEXANDER LUMBER CO.
 SULLIVAN DAIRY
 J. L. McLAUGHLIN, Attorney
 FRANCIS PURVIS, Attorney
 HARRIS BROS., Decorators.
 R. B. FOSTER, Attorney
 HAGERMAN & HARSHMAN
 CITY ELECTRIC DEPT.

