

1st March, 1963.

The Forest of Dean Newspapers Ltd. Report.

1. The £1,100,000, not £700,000, development will be completed in eighteen months.
2. The new plant will be in operation as follows:

Phase I	July, 1963
Phase II	January, 1964
Phase III	July, 1964
3. The "machine" is a Rank Xerox Office Copier. We expect to engage another one hundred and fifty during the next twelve months, but it is expected that the numbers will continue to rise for several years.
4. We shall draw as many as possible from the Forest, but we feel that it will be necessary to recruit certain skilled personnel from other areas.
5. We shall increase our training facilities by over three hundred percent; this will cover optical craft, technical and management training.
6. See answer to 5.
7. We do anticipate that the local authority will be able to help us with regard to housing.
8. Lack of houses for skilled workers has presented problems in the past. It is a pity that the local authority have not been able to provide as much help as we would like, but we look to the future with optimism.
9. The success of the present expansion will undoubtedly determine the future.
10. This machine was designed by the Xerox Corporation of America.
11. No comment.
12. Not really.
13. No comment.
14. Messrs. W.F. Giles and Sons Ltd., of Cinderford have been successful in obtaining the contract for Phase I and II of our expansion. Messrs. Todds of Gloucester are carrying out the site work and the architects for the whole scheme are Messrs. Gordon Payne and Preece of Gloucester.
15. This development will mean that some hundreds of thousands of pounds worth of work will be carried out by local firms, not only with regard to the construction and building work, but also with regard to manufacture of tools, etc. During this current week we have been able to pass some orders to local concerns.
16. We believe that this is the largest single unit.
17. Prefer not to answer.
18. This development is part of the Rank overall plan of diversification. In addition, I should point out that there is a tremendous world-wide demand for these Rank Xerox Office Copiers, and apart from the development being

18. cont'd:

- undertaken at Mitcheldean to cater for the manufacture, we are considerably expanding our marketing and servicing facilities in the U.K. and many other countries.
19. No, but its rate of growth has been meteoric. Do you know that in America they produced 2,000,000,000 copies on these type of machines during 1962!
20. We are already exporting approximately fifty percent of our output and we confidently believe that this figure will increase quite considerably.
21. The machine is not really in the development stage, in actual fact we have been producing at Mitcheldean for the past two years.
22. Yes, we are sure that the machine can be improved. Large sums are being spent on the long term development and application of xerographic principles of reproduction.
- 23/ 24. This is not anticipated. We are, in fact, also expanding our production facilities for the 16 m/m. Sound Projectors.
25. We do not envisage any major difficulties with regard to development, but better transport facilities would be of considerable help. It is very difficult indeed to get our employees to and from the factory; the congestion in the narrow roads around and in Mitcheldean is not too good, and the constant concern of the Company.
26. No.
27. Yes.
28. Push-button copying for the office - on ordinary paper and without the use of liquids or exposure settings - is given by the Rank Xerox 914 office copier.

Working by automatic xerography (dry, electrical photography) the 914 copier produces six permanent, black-on-white, high-quality copies a minute. The machine reproduces from all colours.

The operator simply lays the document or book in position on the copier, dials the number of copies wanted - and presses the "PRINT" button. The machine automatically makes the ordered number of copies, stacks them in the delivery tray and switches itself off.

29. We would still like you to use 'The Rank Organisation, Cine and Photographic Division'.

F. Wickstead.
Chief Executive.

FW/MRM.

Dean Forest Guardian

The Lydney Observer

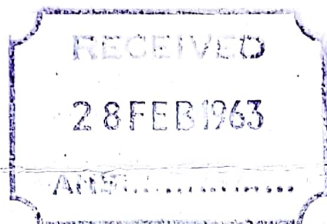
Dean Forest Mercury

The Forest of Dean Newspapers Ltd.

Observer Office, Lydney, Glos.

LYDNEY 263

London Office: 134 Fleet Street, London, E.C.4 · FLEet St. 3913 and 2665



February 27, 1963.

Mr. F. Wickstead,
The Rank Organisation,
Cine and Photographic Division,
Mitcheldean,
Gloucestershire.

Dear Mr. Wickstead,

Further to our meeting of this morning, a few points on which I would like you to comment are listed on the attached sheet.

Yours faithfully,

FOREST OF DEAN NEWSPAPERS LIMITED.

Forest of Dean Newspapers Limited.

1. Over what period will the ^{1100.000} £700,000 plan be phased? ^{18 months.}
(I believe you mentioned five years in our discussion).
2. When do you hope to have the new plant ⁱⁿ fully operation? ^{Start 1st June 63}
3. What will be the approximate number of personnel when you are in full production of the machine? ¹⁰⁰⁰⁻¹²⁰⁰
4. About how many of the personnel will be drawn from the Forest. ^{As many as possible but with some experienced people}
5. Many of the Forest personnel will of course be untrained for their work at Ranks. What training schemes have you in mind? ^{Apprenticeship scheme over 3 years, 300 to 400, 1st. cert. train.}
6. If, as I believe you suspect, there may be difficulty in recruiting the necessary labour force, now do you hope to overcome the problem? ^{See 5}
7. You mentioned that there will be some difficulty in housing personnel coming into the district. How far have you got in solving the problem? ^{Not far yet, but we are looking at it.}
8. Has co-operation from the local council in this respect (housing) left anything to be desired? ^{Yes if we could get more houses built.}
9. Are you able to comment on the prospects for future development at Ranks when the £700,000 plan has been completed? ^{Yes, we are looking at it.}
10. Who designed the machine which has been so successful and has brought about this plan? ^{XEROX Corp. America}
11. To what extent have you at Mitcheldean been responsible for development of the machine? ^{Do not wish to comment}
12. Is the reorganisation that is just about to commence directly associated with the decision to transfer some staff to London? ^{No}
13. Would you care to comment a little further on the proposed transfer?
14. Who is the main contractor for the extension work? ^{Phase 1-2, W. G. G. & Co.}
15. Are you able to say how much of the work, in terms of cash, will be allocated to local firms? ^{Some thousands at first, then more.}
16. When the plan is completed, how will the factory at Mitcheldean compare in size and employees with other Rank factories? ^{Will be similar in size.}
17. Are other Rank factories making the machine?
18. Is this development part of an overall plan throughout the organisation? ^{Yes, it is a long-term plan.}
19. Will the machine mean the end of copying methods currently in use? ^{No, but it will reduce the need for copying.}
20. Please comment on export and (if any) foreign competition.

50% as we have a country this far with increase considerable

Continued....

WE HAVE BEEN
IN NEGOTIATION
FOR THE PAST

- Still use
Rinko only

J. A. Brady,