

Window Frames Of Aluminum

In COLOR

BY CLARK SQUIRE

THROUGH SEATTLE-MADE aluminum windows inquisitive eyes in many parts of the country are gazing these days.

Out at Ballard the company which pioneered use of aluminum frames on the Pacific Coast is turning out from 600 to 800 windows daily, many in attractive colors. This is Fentron Industries, Inc., a Seattle-owned firm with headquarters at 2801 Market St. and branches in Denver, San Francisco, Hollywood, New York, Oklahoma City, Hawaii and Canada.

As with automobiles and telephone sets, there has been a decided swing to color in this field. About one fifth of the aluminum-window output is in color—gold, bronze, blue, gray and black—mostly for commercial buildings.

"Color is coming into the residential field as soon as the process becomes a little more simplified," said William Schiessl, company president. "A new development in electro-color work in our plant is most interesting."

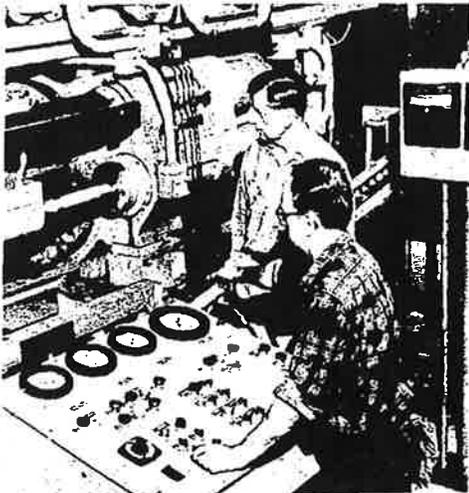
An extrusion press, costing \$250,000, was installed recently. Fentron now is the only window manufacturer on the Pacific Coast having extrusion equipment, according to H. D. Van Eaton, vice president. Aluminum billets used for the extruded shapes are made by aluminum companies in the state.

This business, with a \$2,000,000 yearly payroll, was built by William Schiessl and his brother Herbert, with their brother-in-law, Eric J. Miller. In the late '20's the Schiessl boys emigrated from Germany and took jobs in a San Francisco steel plant.

They came to Seattle in 1932 to work for a steel window-frame manufacturer, who, due to lack of business, closed his doors. For \$5,000 they bought the plant in 1933, using \$500 they had saved and borrowing the rest. The first big order was for windows for a state building. In five years their annual payroll reached \$60,000.

"Today Fentron's finished window products go to all parts of the country," Van Eaton said. "In fact, 61 per cent of our total production is destined for markets outside Washington."

Times Photos by Josef Scaylea



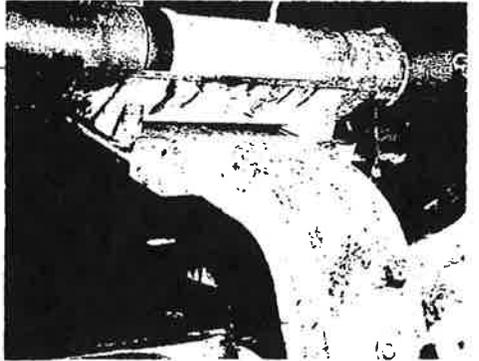
William Schiessl, left, watched as Bill Rillo operated the furnace and extrusion-press controls.



Jewell Welsch looked through one of the many types of aluminum frame made by Fentron.



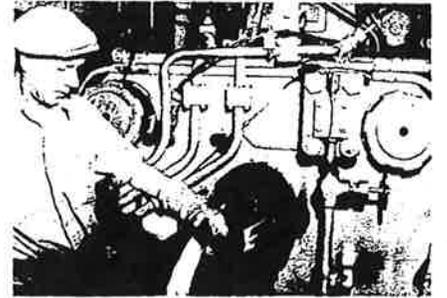
Dick Nerheim placed a 70-pound aluminum billet upon a conveyor to an induction-heat furnace, which heated it to 800 degrees in 72 seconds.



Forced through a die by the 1,400-ton press ram, billets were shaped into frame bars.

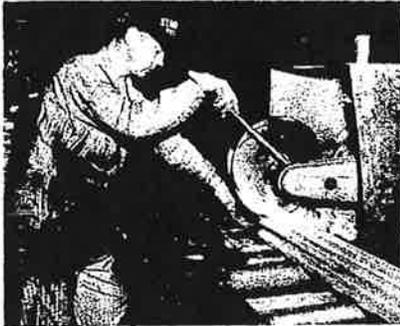


With chain hoist, Mitch Aslanian, plant superintendent lifted a die, one of 80.



Vaughn Richardson, with big mitts, guided bars as they came limply from the press.

With two stretching machines, Joe Powell and Bob Benton (in rear) made curled frame bars arrow-straight.

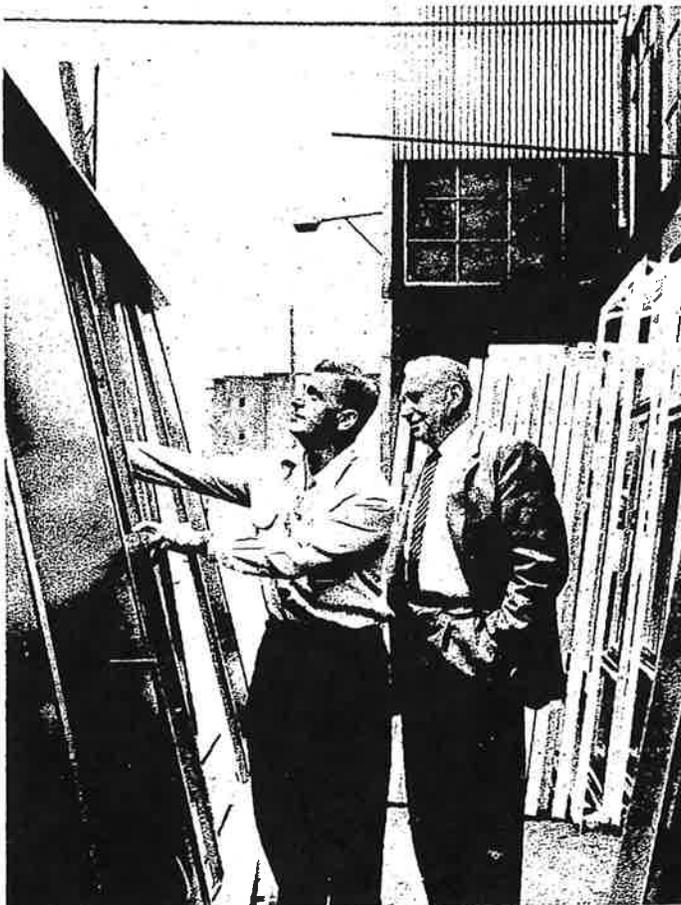


Donald Mackay, sawyer, cut the aluminum strips into specified lengths.

Windows CONTINUED



After the lengths of window-framing had been mitered, Robert Gamber welded joints, his electric machine sputtering sparks and smoke.



Herbert Schiessl, left, and Eric Miller checked some window wall (like that planned for the City Light Building) going to a Cleveland school.

Speedy Reconversion From Bomb Production

THROUGH ENTERPRISE and aggressiveness, the Schiessls won a \$650,000 incendiary-bomb contract in 1941 and established a plant at Bellingham.

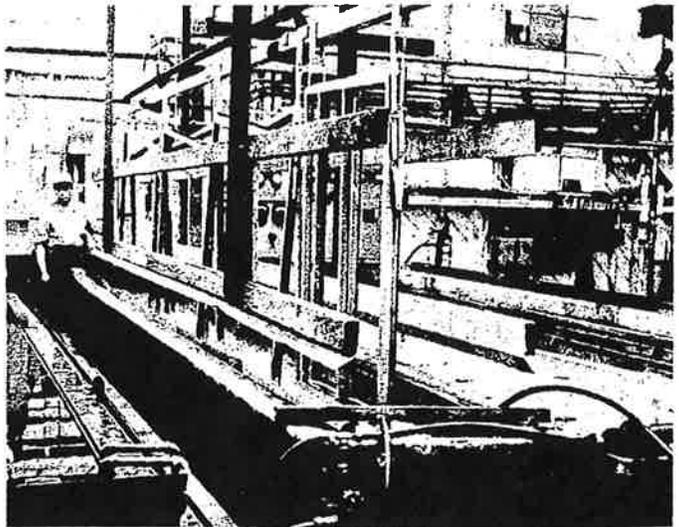
On V-J Day they began reconversion to window-frame production immediately, getting a jump on competitors.

Ten years ago 90 per cent of the

window-frame output was of steel and 10 per cent was of aluminum. Now the percentage is reversed.

The company moved nine years ago from 1401 Garfield St.

Besides window frames, Fentron has several other products, including curtain wall, window wall and steel service stations for oil companies.



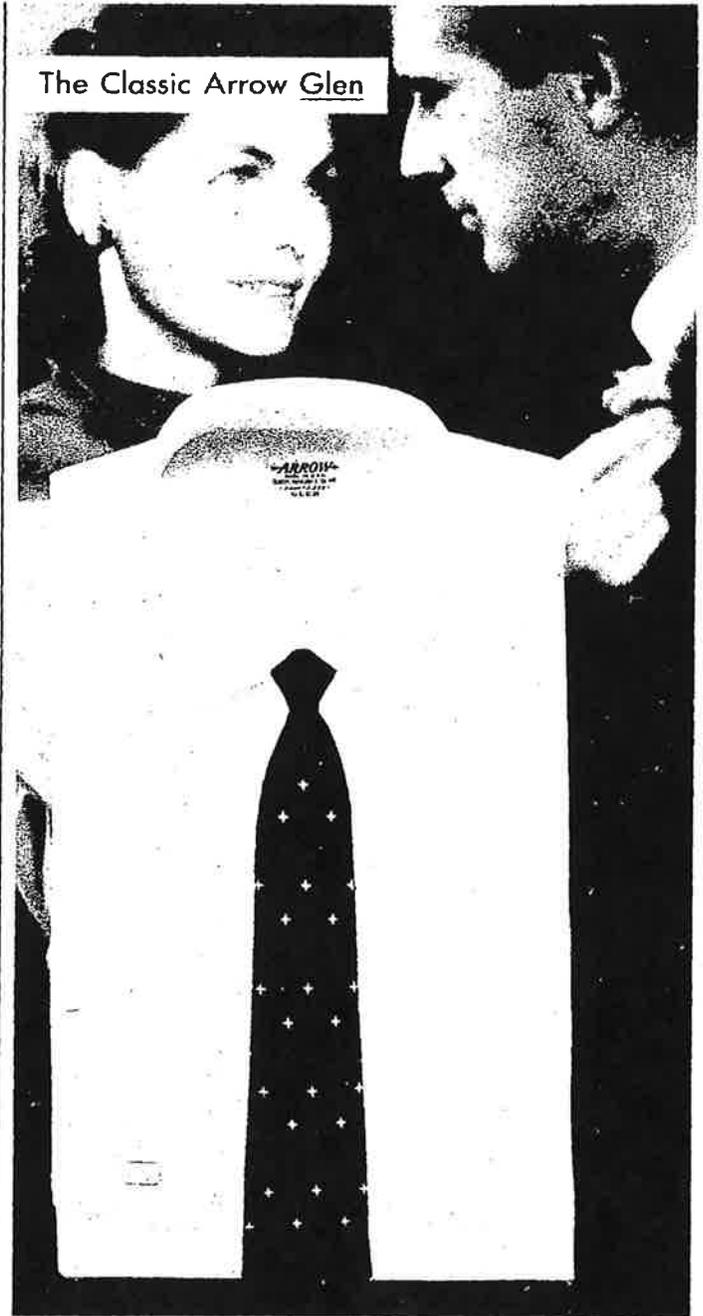
In electro-coloring, Carl Deardorff lowered a frame in bubbling sulphuric acid. The time varies from an hour for gray to two hours for blue.



H. D. Van Eaton looked over a shipment for Salt Lake City as Cliff Wood, with lift truck, loaded frames on one of Fentron's trailers.



Richard Giger, left, design engineer, and John Pirak, chief engineer, inserted a cover plate in slots on a section of curtain-wall mullion used primarily for multistory buildings. This six-part mullion was designed recently by the Fentron company's engineering department.



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Arrow Glen \$4.00; All-rayon tie, \$1.50.

A tip for trip or town wear . . . you're always correct in an Arrow *Glen*. Its soft, medium-spread collar looks trim with any suit—all day long. Tailored of soft, long-wearing broadcloth, the *Glen* features the new Arrow LINK CUFF,* which combines the look of French cuffs with the convenience of regular cuffs. "Sanforized"—labeled. Also available in boys' sizes.



The Arrow Link Cuff has only two buttonholes . . . links slip in easily.

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ARROW — first in fashion

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