

Congratulations to
the Class of 1950



Root Manufacturing Co.

BAXTER SPRINGS, KANSAS

victimized the population after the railroad company extended its lines. Baxter Springs no longer was a principal cattle trail city.

The colorful cattle days had ended, but then came the mining boom.

A Baxterite, O. M. Youse, struck rich ore near the Oklahoma (Indian Territory) community of Sunnyside while drilling a water well for A. W. Abrams. The latter, transplanted from New York, like Youse spent many years encouraging the development of the district, which includes corners of Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma.

Since the turn of the century, Baxter has been the home of many wealthy mine operators and royalty holders.

No less than three banks today are thriving in the city of 6,000 people. Baxter has her share of theaters, trucking and contracting firms, churches, schools, stores, industries and civic institutions.

Besides mining, her chief industries are the Root Manufacturing Co., Inc., Lerner Brothers, clothing manufacturers, and the McCartney plant which produces tools used in woodworking.

The largest of this trio is the Root company, founded only six years ago by A. J. Root, Sr., of Quapaw. His plant originally produced caps for armor piercing ammunition. Today, expanded to more than a quarter of a city block and including two floor levels, the factory produces power lawn mowers, cultitiller hoes, vegetable slicers, corn stick pans and bacon and egg grills.

The industry's masterminds are Root and his sons, Art, Bob and George. All but George, a Baxterite, live in Quapaw. But the elder Root, known by everyone as "Pop," is not an Oklahoman for long. He and Mrs. Root are supervising the building of a large brick home overlooking Spring river in Baxter Springs' wooded southeast section.

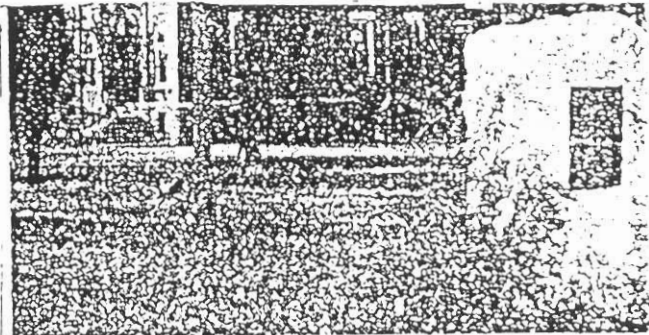
Some 60 men and women are on the Root corporation's payroll during the fall and winter months. The force is expanded to almost double that size in summertime. Garden tools, mowers and kitchen goods are distributed throughout the United States after rolling from the Root plant's assembly lines.

Miami News

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Root
Company



LIBRARY STONE—Leroy Armstrong, 14, reads the inscription on the Johnston library grounds in Baxter Springs. The stone was erected to the memory of Gen. James G. F. Johnston, a Civil war detachment was slaughtered by a guerrilla band. Armstrong is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Armstrong, 1st street. The library is in the background.