

<b>Title:</b>	North American Cyanamid Fonds, 1946-1985 (non-inclusive)		
<b>Creator:</b>	Ontario Editorial Bureau		
<b>Dates of Material:</b>	1946-1985 (non-inclusive)	<b>Record Group Number:</b>	RG 75-74
<b>Summary of Contents:</b>	<p><b>Correspondence and Press Releases – also included in these files are dates of births and deaths relating to company employees, 1951-1959</b></p> <p>1.1 The Cyanamid Employee Recreation Centre was officially opened by Mayor Ernest Hawkins and representatives of the Cyanamid Company. Walter G. McBurney was appointed as works manager of the Niagara Falls plant. A series of Cyanamid Reports to the Community are within this file, (Jan.-Apr.) 1951</p> <p>1.2 An expansion of facilities of North American Cyanamid Limited for the production of basic chemicals was announced by A.O. Williams, Vice-President. F.W. Washburn was elected president of North American Cyanamid, (May-Dec.) 1951</p> <p>1.3 Included is a public relations presentation to the North American Cyanamid. The appointment of William Engs as Manager of Operations for North American Cyanamid was announced. Otto A. Greiner was appointed as director of the Department of Employee and Community Relations. Included is a proposed program for the official starting of no.5 furnace (the continent's most modern calcium carbide furnace). General information on the company is included, (Jan.-Aug.) 1952</p> <p>1.4 Contains a human interest story of "Half-a-Buck", a fawn who was born and abandoned near the Welland Works division. Staff cared for him until he was old enough to be set free. Information on William MacDougall Hogg, the assistant field project engineer at Sir Adam Beck- Niagara No.2. Much of the correspondence deals with safety records. Walter G. McBurney was appointed technical director of North American Cyanamid while Thomas P. Turchan became plant manager, (Sept.-Dec.) 1952</p> <p>1.5 Much of the correspondence deals with fire safety and job safety. A fashion show was held which featured fabrics treated with Cyanamid chemical finishes. A new laboratory designed to improve processes and develop new products was opened. (Jan.-May) 1953</p> <p>1.6 Fabric finishes such as Superset, Permel Plus, Lanaset and Pyroset are discussed. There is a press release entitled "Red-Led Union Hits New Field". The release discusses the invasion of the chemical industry by the country's leading Communist-controlled union. Much of the correspondence is written to the employees regarding the strike. The U.E. (United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America) shut down the</p>		

manufacturing operations at the Niagara Plant of North American Cyanamid. Included is information on U.E. personnel, (June-Aug.) 1953

1.7 Thiourea (a chemical in liquid dip silver cleaning solutions) went into production at the Welland plant, (Sept.-Dec.) 1953

1.8 Malathion (a low toxic effect insecticide) is available to Canadian farmers. A list of service emblem recipients is in this file. More information on Thiourea is included, (Jan.-Apr.), 1954

1.9 The week of May 17<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> is designated as Chemical Progress week in North America. T.P. Turchan, Niagara Plant Manager of North American Cyanamid since 1952 was appointed as Manager of Manufacturing for the Agricultural Chemicals Division of the American Cyanamid Company. Much of the correspondence deals with workplace safety and fire safety. Cyanamid salutes the City of Niagara Falls on its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Improvements in wage and fringe benefits are among the features of the first contract signed by the Ingersoll Quarry of North American Cyanamid Limited and Local No. 564 International Chemical Workers Union, (May-Aug.) 1954

1.10 Included are *Cyanamid Reports to the Community* and a biographical sketch of Mr. C.G. MacDonald, Director of Employee and Community Relations of North American Cyanamid. On November 16<sup>th</sup>, 80 pounds of picrate were exploded at Niagara-on-the-Lake Military Ranges by North American Cyanamid. The Welland plant was built during World War II primarily to produce picrate for the allied nations. Also included is a *Proposed Reorganization of North American Cyanamid* whereby the Canadian company would be dissolved or wound-up and the facilities would be a division of the American parent, with operations under complete control from New York, (Sept.-Dec.), 1954

1.11 A subsidiary Cyanamid plant was to be opened in South Africa to produce calcium cyanamide. A collective bargaining agreement was negotiated by representatives of the Niagara Falls plant and the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 536, (Jan.-Apr.), 1955

1.12 Nitrogen solutions which were never produced before in Canada were put into production at the Welland plant. This product was produced to put new life into dying soils and help boost the country's agricultural production. Ammonia, ammonium nitrate, calcium carbide, calcium cyanamide, nitric acid and sulphuric acid are produced at Cyanamid's two large plants in Niagara Falls, Ontario. Limestone is produced by the company's quarry at Ingersoll, Ontario. American Cyanamid Company and Formica Company announced that Cyanamid would acquire the business and assets of the Formica Company, (May-Dec.), 1955

1.13 A major modernization project was planned for the Ingersoll limestone quarry. Manufacturing capacity for 2 major products was to be increased at the Welland Plant. The 2 products are Amanol nitrogen solutions used as agricultural fertilizers and anhydrous ammonia which is used in both agriculture and industry. J.A. Schmidlein, a chemical engineer with the American Cyanamid Company was named Assistant Plant Manager of the North American Niagara plant. An announcement to produce Xanthate for the mining industry was announced. Also included was a progress report to the community entitled *Progress through Chemistry*, (Jan.-June), 1956

1.14 Includes a talk by G.L. Berry to the Stamford Township Council and officials at the Welland plant. Cyanamid decided to build a plant in Florida to produce an acrylic textile fiber called Creslan. Mr. S. Richards of Niagara Falls received 2<sup>nd</sup> degree burns when a large chemical process tank boiled over. A temporary shut-down of no. 5 carbide furnace at the Niagara plant resulted in the layoff of about 50 employees. Included is the *NACL Public Relations Project Recommended for Cyanamid's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year*. This was written by David Talbot. Cyanamid announced an expansion program for its Beachville Quarry in Ingersoll, (July-Dec.), 1956

1.15 Included is *The Lederle Story* about the Lederle Laboratories Division of the American Cyanamid Company. North American Cyanamid held a casualty simulation exercise for Civil Defence training. Remarks by Frank S. Washburn, President of North American Cyanamid are included. The Ontario Labour Relations Board ordered a vote at the North American Cyanamid, Niagara Plant between their union and the International Chemical Workers Union. Members rejected the company offer. Invitation lists to the dedication of the 50 year plaque are in this file. James B. Sheldon was appointed General Manager of the first Urea plant. Includes 2 b&w photos of the planned N.A.C.L. Urea Plant at Hamilton Harbour, (Jan.-Apr.), 1957

1.16 A tank containing weak sulphuric acid sprung a leak, spilling several gallons on the ground. No one was hurt and damage was not significant at the Welland plant. North American Cyanamid announced that it would sponsor a lifeguard training course in connection with its pool. A new 2 year contract was signed with Local 536 United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America. A paper entitled *Careers in Cyanamid* is included. Frederick L. McDonald was appointed manager of the Niagara plant. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Cyanamid was celebrated over a period of 5 days, (May-Dec.), 1957

1.17 Dr. L.P. Moore, the new president of North American Cyanamid announced that Joseph A. Schmidlein had become manager of the plant and the position of assistant manager at the Welland plant was being filled by Harold B. Hartsveldt. The name of North American Cyanamid was changed to Cyanamid of Canada Ltd. and announced that it would establish

	<p>its headquarters in Montreal. An unlawful strike took place at the Ingersoll Quarry, (Jan.-May), 1958</p> <p>1.18 Cyanamid of Canada acquired the Canadian business and assets of the Panelyte division of St. Regis Paper Company, Canada, (June-Dec.), 1958</p> <p>1.19 Correspondence, 1959</p> <p><b>Clippings, 1951, 1953, 1958, 1985</b></p> <p>1.20 Clippings regarding: pollution, community open house, the Cyanamid pool, the Ingersoll Quarry, the recreation committee and Cyanamid's first strike, 1951, 1953, 1958, 1985</p> <p><b>Publications, 1946-1964 (non-inclusive)</b></p> <p>1.21 <i>Cyanamid News</i>, 1946, 1956-1957, 1964</p> <p>1.22 Agreement between the General Plant Committee (Employees' Association) of North American Cyanamid Limited and North American Cyanamid Limited Niagara Falls Plant and <i>Newsbits</i> (pamphlets and flyers issued by the Cyanamid Employees' Association, Local 505, UE), 1949-1951</p> <p>1.23 Includes a pamphlet about the Niagara Falls Plant Recreation Centre, <i>Calcium Cyanamide: A Staff- Industry Collaborative Report</i>, <i>American Cyanamid: What it is and What it Does</i>, <i>Handbook for Reporters of Cyanamid News</i> and <i>Lederle in Canada</i>, 1951-1952, 1957, n.d.</p>
<p><b>Physical Description / Condition:</b></p>	<p>30 cm, (3/4 box) containing correspondence, clippings, publications and 2 b&amp;w photos.</p>
<p><b>Administrative/ Biographical Sketch</b></p>	<p>The North American Cyanamid Company was established in Niagara Falls, Ontario in 1907. In 1909, the company had less than 150 employees. The initial investment was \$300,000. In 1952, there were 2,700 employees and the replacement value was \$75,000,000.</p> <p>From 1909 to 1940, the company produced fertilizer. British blockade in the first world war cut off the European supply of crude sodium cyanide, used in refining gold ore. The company developed Aero brand cyanide for the U.S. and Canadian mining industry.</p>

	<p>During World War II a large proportion of the calcium cyanamide produced at the Niagara plant was utilized at the Welland plant as raw material for picrate production. Since World War II, the uses for Cyanamid products were greatly expanded. The Niagara plant made plastics including tableware. The plant was also involved with the manufacture of furnishings, clothing, electric insulation and many of the new drugs.</p> <p>To supply chemicals for the nation's defence program, the company installed No.5 furnace which played a large role in the defence program for Canada and the United Nations. Calcium cyanamide is the intermediate chemical required for molding compound, resins and adhesives essential to the plastics industry, especially the manufacture of aircraft and other military supplies and equipment. Cyanamid played a part in the refinement of mineral products, the pulping process, finishes for automobiles, appliances, adhesives, and crease resistance for the textile industry.</p> <p>The company operated a large swimming pool and park area in Niagara Falls for the benefit of the general public as well as employees and their families. The pool closed its doors on Labour Day in 1971. Cyanamid built a recreation centre for employees which even featured a bowling alley. A medical centre was also on site.</p> <p>The Welland plant built the largest geodesic dome in Canada as part of their environmental control program to enclose their four million gallon storage pond. The pond was part of their innovative nitrogen containment system.</p> <p>Drums containing industrial waste were unearthed on Niagara Cyanamid land in 1984. Cyanamid was fined for improper disposal of toxic waste. The Niagara Falls Cyanamid plant closed in 1992.</p> <p>A chemical division of Cyanamid formed its own company, Cytec. They made water treatment chemicals, mining chemicals and coating chemicals.</p>
<b>Location:</b>	Brock University Archives
<b>Source Information:</b>	This collection is part of the Ontario Editorial Bureau fonds, donated by Lou Cahill in November 1997.

<p><b>Subject Headings:</b></p> <p><b>Added Entries:</b></p>	<p>Cahill, Louis  Ontario Editorial Bureau  American Cyanamid Company.  Cyanamid Canada Inc.  Chemical industry zOntario</p>		
<p><b>Related material</b></p>	<p>In Special Collections and Archives:</p> <p><i>Cyanamid of Canada today</i> – Call no. FC 3160.123 N67 C92 1967</p> <p><i>Meet Cyanamid</i> – Call no. FC 3160.123 N67 M43 1947</p> <p><i>This is Cyanamid of Canada.</i> – Call no. FC 3160.123 N67 T54 1963</p>		
<p><b>Described by:</b></p>	<p>Anne Adams</p>	<p><b>Date:</b></p>	<p>Aug.11, 2016</p>