Pullen Pot Plant
Now In Production

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Iberian City Editor

Lights burn through the night and trucks and rail cars load New Iberia's long awaited production of Pullen Planter Pots.

M. E. Sandell, vice-president and general manager, made the announcement and said things are looking brighter all the time. Final adjustment of machinery to turn out high quality pots have been completed and a backlog of orders are being filled, he said.

The company's major stock shares were purchased by the Beloit Company late last summer after months of negotiations. The firm also entered into a management contract for the Admiral Doyle based plant.

The pot, made out of a patented process, utilizes bagasse fiber and pith and claims exceptionally desirable qualities for a planter pot. The new management has worked hard to perect a rigid quality control to insure product uniformity and reliability. Proud of its present product, the company continues a program of research and development.

IN ADDITION to the two major continuous process machines built by Beloit Iron Works in Wisconsin, a vast network of processing tanks and plumbing fill a large area working around the clock to fill orders from three national sales organization. In addition to its own trade name, Pullen Pots, the product is also distributed as PLANCO POTS by the American Plant Container Company. The planter pots are being shipped to all parts of the country.

Paul Kurtzueil, director of research and agronomist, is constantly testing the raw material and finished product in a well equipped laboratory. He also supervises the field tests. Here also are developed and tested new chemicals and formula in a long range plan for constant improvement. In the research department is a small

“plant” which pilot tests and makes new pots and products.

PRIMARILY the research is directed into planter pots of various sizes, shapes and composition, all using the basic bagasse-fiber-pith base. After the test pots are made they are tested in hot houses, cold frames and in fields. Various plants are used in the process — tomatoes, pepper, flowers, etc. The pots are tested on several bases—gravel, sand, tar-paper, plastic, board, and others.

It is refreshing to go into the green-houses and see at this cold time of the year fresh blooming flowers and vigorously growing plants. Test are conducted in batches of 25 to 50 plants in the pots under various conditions.

SANDELL said that plans are for a public open house to inspect the full operation of the plant. He said he was not able to specify when this would be but indicated it would not be too long.

Other executives at the plant include Manson Pitcher, administrative assistant; Charles Snyder, manager of manufacturing; David Devine, customers service manager, and J. Garvais Patout, plant engineer.

PULLEN POTS move quickly out of the automatic machines 24 hours a day, seven days a week to meet a backlog of orders. The plant on Admiral Doyle Drive started shipping this week. The men are shown taking the pots from the conveyor as it comes out of the machine and placing them in shipping cartons. Soon this process will also be automatic.