

EDWIN D. DODD REMARKS
O-I HEADQUARTERS GROUNDBREAKING
TUESDAY, MAY 22, 1979

Ladies and gentlemen, our national anthem.

Good morning, everyone. Thank you for joining us. I'm Ed Dodd,
chairman of Owens-Illinois.

I would like to begin our ceremonies by introducing the rector of
Trinity Episcopal Church, the Reverend David B. Earnest, who will give
the invocation.

Thank you, Rev. Earnest.

Now I'd like to introduce the other guests who are with me on the plat-
form. They have made vital contributions to this project. I'd like each
of them to stand and take a bow.

First, the honorable mayor of Toledo, Doug DeGood.

The chairman of the Toledo Development Committee, Paul Block.

The governor of the State of Ohio, James A. Rhodes.

Our congressman, from the Ninth Congressional District, Thomas L. Ashley.

In a few minutes, I will ask each of these individuals to say a few words. Then they will join me in getting the official groundbreaking started.

Before it is over, I hope all of you will join us in breaking ground. We have plenty of shovels, and we're going to need all the help we can get.

With any luck, we may get the basement finished today.

While you are waiting to break ground, we have a number of other things for you to do.

You already have been enjoying the music of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra. We'll have more entertainment from the Symphony in a little while. And later, the University of Toledo Jazz Band will take its place up here on the platform to perform for you.

Refreshments will be available in the tent next to the Symphony. As soon as the formal part of this ceremony is over, that tent will be open for free hot dogs and soft drinks.

In the tent to the left of the refreshment tent is The Glass Show. This is a live show of scientific demonstrations of some of the many things that can be done with glass. As you know, glass is rather important to Owens-Illinois and to Toledo. The show is very entertaining, and I'm sure you'll enjoy it.

In the same tent, you also will find an exhibit of the Owens-Illinois headquarters building. This consists of a scale model and a number of drawings showing how the building will look when it is completed two and one-half years from now.

To show you exactly where the building will stand, we have outlined its perimeter here on the site. The colored markers show the boundaries of the building in the grassy areas behind us. And in the paved areas, the perimeter is shown by painted lines.

I also should mention that the Coast Guard has brought its safety boat downtown today. It will be moored at the foot of Madison Avenue for tours beginning about noon.

I want to thank the Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company for sending the Goodyear blimp Mayflower to be part of our activities.

So, we have quite a few activities going on. But that is only appropriate because this is a big day.

The theme we chose for the occasion is "The Start of Something Big." And it truly is. . .

Because we are not just talking about the new Owens-Illinois headquarters building.

We're talking about the Toledo of the future and our building is a very small part of what it can be. In the final analysis this whole development will reflect no more, and no less than the interest, pride, dedication and willingness to work of this total community.

Today really marks the start of a whole series of projects that will be getting underway in the near future. They include a new public parking garage, a new headquarters building for the Toledo Trust Company, a new city-county-state office building, several major street improvement projects, and a beautiful new public park along the downtown riverfront.

These projects are not only major improvements in themselves. But, more importantly, they help set the stage for future investment and development in our downtown.

I am pleased that you were able to join us here at the Owens-Illinois headquarters site for our groundbreaking ceremony. When you are here, you can really appreciate what a vital asset the Maumee River is to our downtown and to our community. And you can see why we wanted to recognize this in the name of our development site -- SeaGate.

I would like to express my thanks to many, many, people.

We would not be here today if it were not for the many groups and individuals who have given their time and efforts on behalf of downtown revitalization.

We would not be here today if it were not for Mayor DeGood, former Mayor Harry Kessler, and the former and current members of City Council and the city administration. In one city after another, it has been proven time and again that downtown revitalization must be a team effort -- a partnership between the public and private sectors.

By the same token, we would not be here today without the support that Toledo has received from Governor Rhodes, his administration, and the Ohio General Assembly.

And certainly we would not be here today if it were not for the efforts of my good friend and our congressman, Lud Ashley. One of the best things about downtown revitalization in Toledo is that it has given us a chance to bring more of our tax dollars back home from Washington. And Lud Ashley has played a vital role in making this possible.

I also want to say a special word about the employees of Owens-Illinois. Many of them are with us today.

In a very real sense, this new headquarters building will be built for our employees -- and by our employees. We need this building because we have outgrown our existing facilities. And Owens-Illinois could not have grown as it has if we didn't have good people working with us.

And I want to wish all those who will physically construct this building a safe and successful completion of this project. Certainly as they work they will have a beautiful view of the city.

Finally, I would like to express my thanks to the entire community.

I have always felt a keen sense of pride in Owens-Illinois, our employees, and in the community that is our hometown.

We would not be here today if it were not for the wonderful support this community has given to Owens-Illinois, to this project, and to downtown revitalization.

When we talk about revitalizing the downtown, we usually talk in economic terms. We talk about real estate values, tax revenues, jobs, and payrolls.

But there is another benefit that we can derive from downtown development. And it can be very important to Toledo.

I'm talking about the unique role of the downtown as a symbol of the entire community. It presents a highly visible image of our city -- not only to visitors but to us as well.

We know that Toledo is a great place to live. But John Denver and others make a point that we can't ignore. There is room for improvement in our image.

Toledo has many valuable assets. But for some reason it seems to have a reputation that adds up to less than the sum of its parts.

I will mention just a few of our assets. We are located on a beautiful historic lake. We are a major international seaport. We have a

nationally recognized museum of art. Our zoo is one of the best in the country.

We have a fine facility in Toledo Express Airport and have made tremendous gains in recent months in increasing the airline service to Toledo Express.

We have many fine educational institutions in the area, including nearby Bowling Green State University, Owens Technical College, and the Medical College of Ohio. We have an excellent state university here in the University of Toledo -- which, I might add, has a pretty darned good basketball team.

Each of these community assets -- and many more I have not mentioned -- helps to make Toledo a better place to live and to work.

A revitalized downtown can do the same thing.

But it can do something else as well.

A strong and growing downtown would reflect a true image of the strength and growth of our entire community. It would serve as a symbol -- to ourselves and others -- of our many achievements.

The theme of our groundbreaking is "The Start of Something Big."

And it's true. This project can be just the beginning of an exciting future for Toledo.

But there is much more to be done.

Many of us have been working for years to find ways to bring new life to the heart of our city.

We know how hard it has been to get this far.

We know that there will be more challenges in the future.

And we know that none of us -- no group, individual, or organization -- can do it alone.

So let's join together today in breaking ground for this new Owens-Illinois headquarters building. And as we do, let's pledge to keep working together in the same spirit to build a better community for all of us.

Thank you.

At this point in our program, I would like to read from a letter I have received from Senator John Glenn of Ohio.

Senator Glenn writes:

"I would like to join your many friends, colleagues, and fellow Ohioans in expressing my sincere congratulations upon this special day for all of us -- the groundbreaking of the Owens-Illinois World Headquarters today, in Toledo.

Mrs. Glenn and I send our best wishes for a most memorable day to be had by all who are here to witness this special event. I know that all Ohioans take pride in Owens-Illinois' efforts and look forward to the building going up in the near future.

PRODUCTS USED IN THIS BUILDING WERE MANUFACTURED BY
COMPANIES WITH WHOM THE AMERICAN FLINT GLASS WORKERS'
UNION HAS A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RELATIONSHIP.

1. Exterior insulating glass and interior flat glass:
Pittsburgh Plate Glass Corporation
2. Illuminating glass columns on the exterior of building:
Corning Glass Works
3. Lighting panels first floor offices:
Corning Glass Works
4. Conference Room, Library and hallway lighting:
Holophane Company, Inc.
5. First floor, fissured ventilating ceiling system:
Armstrong Cork Company
6. Asphalt tile used in workroom, basement, front stairway and storerooms:
Armstrong Cork Company
7. Roof insulated with two inches of foamglas:
Pittsburgh-Corning Corporation
8. Decorative glass block first floor-hallway and basement wall,
Intaglio #1: Pittsburgh-Corning Corporation
9. Decorative glass - enclosing reception desk - Crescent Glass Block:
Kimble Glass Products, Inc.
10. Basement ceiling:
Owens - Corning
11. Roof fascia insulation:
Pittsburgh-Corning Fiberglas
12. Acoustical soundproofing in central workroom-Geocoustic Units:
Pittsburgh-Corning