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Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 57, 1936 to 1937

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to hold a meeting where some prominent members would be able to discuss and exchange opinions with the Op. Com.

Francis Blossom Francis Blossom

Aug 4 Met my old friend Francis Blossom at the University Club. He is again in excellent health and a very active trustee of Columbia. Told him that altho' my name did not appear among the gifts this was simply due to the fact that I had made my gifts anonymously and intended to do so again this year. A very pleasant meeting with the man, who in 1894 helped me to devise for our coating plant of Nepera Chemical Co. what I believe was the first air-conditioning system used in the U.S.

First air conditioning plant in 1894. I used it for insuring regular temperature and hygrometric conditions in the coating of Velox and other photographic papers. Blossom was then just graduated from Columbia School of Mines and in the service Church, Kerr and Westinghouse Co. He is now a member of Sanderson Porter etc. engineering firm.

Aug 6. Went to Bloomfield, leaving Snug Rock at about 10.30 A.M. over Washington Bridge, using more direct way instead of going thru New York and Hudson Tunnel. Arrived at factory at about one

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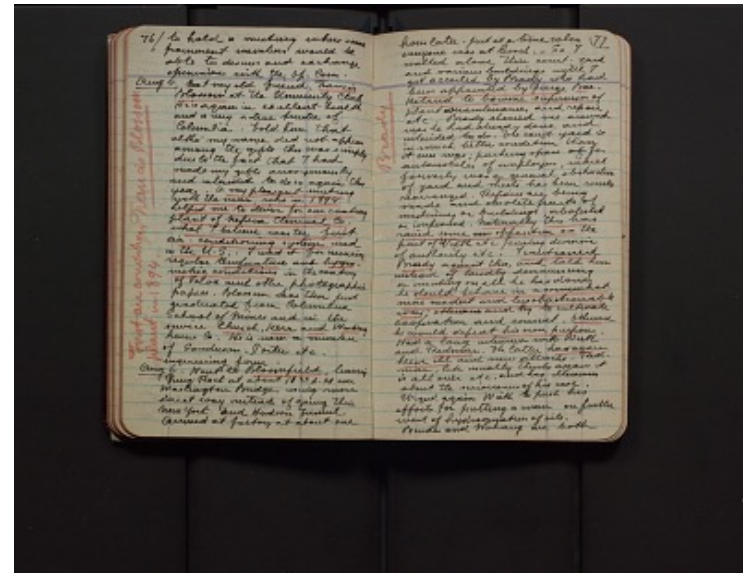
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hour later, just at a time when everyone was at Lunch.

Brady Brady

So I walked alone thru court-yard and various buildings until I got accosted by Brady who had been appointed by George Baekeland to become supervisor of plant maintenance and repair etc. Brady showed me around was he had already done and intended to do. The court yard is in much better condition than it ever was; parking space for automobiles of employees, which formerly was a general obstruction of yard and streets has been wisely rearranged. Repairs are being made and obsolete parts of machinery or buildings abolished or improved. Naturally this has raised some opposition on the part of Wieth etc. fearing division of authority etc. I cautioned Brady against this, and told him instead of loudly denouncing or insisting on all he has done he should behave in a somewhat more modest and less objectionable way; and try to cultivate cooperation and consent. Otherwise he would defeat his own purposes. Had a long interview with Wieth and Redman. The latter has again been ill and new attacks. Redman, like usually thinks again it is all over etc. and has illusions about the seriousness of his case. Urged again Wieth to push his efforts for putting a man on further work of hydragenation of oils.

Bender and Meharg are both



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