

board, no salary, for working in Galle's modest produce business, which was in a small frame building on the corner where Central Texas Bank now stands.

Gilbreath decided to join the Army instead and applied at Fort Sam Houston. There were no openings, but he was offered room and board while he waited for one.

After a week of waiting, he was bored, and he went back to Weimar and took the job with Galle. After seven months he got a job as a timekeeper in a La Grange turkey dressing plant.

In 1939, Gilbreath started his own produce business, driving a four-year-old car and a trailer to buy and sell chickens and eggs.

The bouncing trailer broke a lot of eggs, and Gilbreath soon traded for a pickup, then a bobtail truck. He was \$339 in the red at the end of that year.

In 1940 he bought out Galle, and began to put an idea he had into practice. This business was a two-way street, he said. He would buy the farmers' produce but also sell them feed and supplies.

In 1942 he bought the Weimar gristmill and began to grind his own feed from grain bought from the local farmers.

In 1943 he bought the old Nitschmann building on the corner site where M-G Farm Service Center stands today.

In 1944 he gained possession of the old cotton warehouse on railroad right-of-way and converted it to a feed plant. That's where M-G Feed Co. was until the new one was built.

to get good employees around him. He had a talent for placing the right people in key positions.

In 1956, the business was incorporated, with the employees the only stockholders besides Gilbreath himself.

In 1961, the company went public, issuing 100,000 shares of common stock at \$2.625 a share to the public.

The yield of \$217,000 went for new automatic equipment at the feed mill, equipment for barbecuing chickens at the poultry plant, retiring loans, and for general corporate purposes.

In 1965, Gilbreath sold his controlling interest of common stock to Irvin Kaplan, Alan Gugenheim and associates, and resigned as president of M-G Inc.

Leonard Schoeneberg was elected president, F.R. Carroll chairman of the board, George Kloesel vice president, Harris Ulrich secretary and treasurer. Other directors were John Heger, Alan Gugenheim and R.R. Rowles.

In 1966, M-G Inc. had a record \$9 million in sales.

In 1967, the poultry killery was discontinued. The poultry plant had been losing money each year, kept afloat by the other M-G divisions. The plant's kitchen continued to make turkey roll, turkey sausage and other foods.



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