The National Mower Company was founded in 1919 by my grandfather, R. S. Kinkead, Sr., in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The first product he built was a gasoline powered 25" mower. The first mowers were equipped with a two cylinder, two cycle engine which was also manufactured by National Mower Company. The engines proved to be too costly so the mowers were equipped with a Maytag gasoline engine.

Around 1921 R. S. Kinkead and Mr. W. W. Brewer of Somerset Country Club got together to improve friction drive gang mowers. Mr. Brewer wanted gears to last longer in his gang mowers. R. S. Kinkead proposed to use cut steel gears instead of the powdered metal gears which were being used. National also started to use Timken Roller Bearings for the reels at this time. A single 30" friction driven gang mower cost $95.00 in 1921.

Presently we manufacture a 68" Triplex, 84" Triplex, 5 Gang PTO driven mower and a new 30" Front-throw walking power mower. National to this day enjoys a reputation of building one of the toughest reel and bed knives in the industry. We are presently located at 700 Raymond Avenue in St. Paul. I invite any superintendents in the area to please call and come and see our factory if they have the time.

I am a third generation Kinkead at National Mower Company. R. S. Kinkead who founded the company is 98 years old and still comes to the office five days a week. I attended St. Thomas Academy and St. Thomas College. My employment started in 1969, part time, at National. My wife, Kathy, and I live in the Highland Park area of St. Paul. We have three daughters ranging from one year to seven years old.