

# News of the Month . . .

## Construction Begins at Calumet's $\text{NH}_3$ Plant in Indiana

Construction started at Hammond, Ind., last month on Calumet Nitrogen Products Co.'s ammonia plant. The first in Indiana and the largest in U. S. to use refinery by-products as a source of hydrogen, the ammonia plant will be in operation next May, it is expected.

The plant will produce 300 tons of anhydrous a day. Construction is being handled by Fluor Corp.

Hydrogen will come by pipeline from high-octane units at refineries of Sinclair at East Chicago and Indiana Standard at Whiting. Standard will operate the plant for Calumet Nitrogen, a new company owned by Sinclair and Standard. The two companies will each sell the output independently to industry and agriculture. Facilities will include seven refrigerated storage spheres of 19,000-tons capacity. A 20-spot rail tank car loading rack and a two-spot tank truck rack will be provided, plus storage facilities for about 200 railroad tank cars in preparation for the peak seasons.

## Brea Completes Liquid Ammonium Phosphate Plant

Brea Chemicals completed its second liquid phosphate plant recently. A 210,000-gallon plant, located at Fresno, Calif., it supplements the earlier ammonium phosphate solution plant at Brea. The company plans to have several of these plants in California.

## New Sulfuric Plant for Northern Chemical Industries

Northern Chemical Industries has placed a contract with Leonard Construction Co. of Chicago for its second Monsanto-type contact sulfuric acid plant. J. E. Totman, president, stated the plant will have a rated capacity of 100 tons per day of 100% sulfuric acid. Combined with its present plant, NCI will have a total rated daily capacity of 170 tons, with actual up to 220 tons. Tank storage will be increased to 4000 tons. This added acid capacity is necessary to provide for NCI's increased chemical business which includes superphosphate and ammonium sulfate for domestic and export agricultural needs.

The plant will adjoin the present unit built in 1943 at Kidders Point, Searsport, Me. Completion is scheduled for Jan. 1, 1956, preceding by about 60 days NCI's completion date for its 125-ton-per-day anhydrous ammonia and nitric acid facilities now being constructed by Girdler.



University agronomists and company officials inspect ground breaking for Calumet Nitrogen's new ammonia plant going up at Hammond, Ind. Pictured are: Roger H. Bray, University of Illinois agronomist; E. W. Griscom, vice president, and J. H. Forrester, president, Calumet Nitrogen; Mayor Vernon Anderson of Hammond; and A. R. Bertrand, Purdue University agronomist

## Dow's Saran Wrap Plant Now in Full Production

Saran film runs through winding machines in Dow's new Saran Wrap plant at Midland, Mich. The new plant went into full-scale production early this month. Introduced nationally in October 1953, Saran Wrap sales are said to be now over 3 million rolls a month



Cost of the new acid facilities will increase NCI's investment in its chemical center at Searsport by some \$650,000, bringing to a total of \$10 million the company's investment in new facilities during the 1955-56 period.

### Grace Forms New Division to Study Expansion in Chemicals

W. R. Grace & Co. has set up a new division to handle its anticipated expansion in the chemical field. The new division, Grace Chemical Research & Development Co. Division, will be headed by William P. Gage, formerly president of Grace Chemical Co.

William J. Haude, formerly vice president in charge of marketing for Grace Chemical, will take over management of the company as vice president and general manager. John G. Carriere will be vice president and plant manager. The company is moving its headquarters from New York to Memphis.

The new division of Grace will be responsible for many chemical projects now in the study and planning stages. Among these, the announcement stated, are production of titanium metal, acetylene derivatives, and organic intermediates. New urea derivatives were also mentioned as possibilities. Urea is one of the products of Grace's nitrogen plant near Memphis.

### Hazleton Completes New Lab for Safety Evaluation of Chemicals

Hazleton Laboratories, Falls Church, Va., has announced completion of a new building, which adds over 8000 square feet to its facilities for biological evaluation of the safety of chemicals, drugs, and cosmetics.

The new building provides room for some 3000 albino rats used in chronic feeding tests. Radiant heating is installed in the floor of the new building, and intricate temperature controls permit regulation of temperature to within 0.5°, except during the extreme heat of summer.

### Chemical Enterprises Acquires New Outlets

Another stride in its expansion program has been taken by Chemical Enterprises, Inc. On May 6, the Radco fertilizer companies of southwestern Iowa, consisting of Radco Fertilizer Co., Inc., Radco-Eastern Division, and Radco-Creston Division, were merged with Chemical Enterprises, it was announced jointly by Daniel B. Curll, Jr., president of Chemical Enterprises and Carl Reid, Don Allison and Homer Dudley of Radco. The move provides Chemical Enterprises with a chain of 10 ammonia stations in the rich corn area along the Iowa-Missouri border.

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## News of the Month

The present management of Radco will remain unchanged. Two additional members have been elected to the Radco board, Daniel B. Curll, Jr., of Chemical Enterprises and Tully W. Talbot, president of Chemco, a subsidiary of Chemical Enterprises serving west central Iowa.

The addition of Radco by Chemical Enterprises subsidiaries provides the company with a greatly strengthened position in western Iowa. Radco is also active in solid fertilizers and adds, thereby, further diversification to Chemical Enterprises' product line in that area.

### BUSINESS AND FINANCE

#### Olin Mathieson's Earnings Up 10% in 1st Quarter

Domestic and Canadian sales of Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp. for the first quarter, ending March 31, were \$121,175,381—9.7% above those of last year. Earnings were \$8,007,911, compared with \$7,581,976 in the same quarter of last year, it was reported.

Earnings per common share for the quarter were 71 cents, compared with 69 cents for the same period last year.

In addition, foreign sales were \$9,322,265 on which the company earned \$684,953 or 6 cents per share.

#### Michigan Chemical Reports \$33,200 Profit in 1st Quarter

Michigan Chemical Corp. reported a net income of \$33,200 for the three months ended March 31, compared with a loss of \$209,100 before tax carry-back of \$43,400 in the similar quarter of 1954. This represents a profit of 6 cents a share against a loss of 30 cents after carry-back, in the 1954 period.

Sales were \$1,588,628 for the first quarter of 1955 against \$948,825 in the 1954 period.

Theodore Marvin, president, said 1955 sales of insecticides have been good but that prices have "remained unsatisfactory."

#### Atlas Powder Reports Higher 1st Quarter Sales, Earnings

Atlas Powder's net earnings after taxes for the first quarter of 1955 were \$741,833, or 13% above the \$657,533 earned in the same period last year. Ralph K. Gottshall, president, reported to stockholders.

After preferred dividends, the 1955 earnings were equal to \$1.13 a common share. 1954's first quarter earnings were equal to \$1.08 per share.

Sales and operating revenues for the first three months of 1955 totaled \$14,714,045, 2% higher than the \$14,481,114 reported for the same period of 1954.

#### Stauffer 1st Quarter Earnings Up 19 Cents a Share

First quarter earnings of \$1,579,454, or 67 cents per share, are reported by Stauffer Chemical Co. Comparable 1954 figures were \$1,124,279, or 48 cents. First quarter 1955 net sales at \$22,146,779 were 23% above those for the corresponding period last year.

#### CSC Sales, Earnings up Slightly

Commercial Solvents Corp. reported consolidated net earnings of \$814,186 for the quarter ended March 31, equal to 31 cents per share of common stock. Sales for the quarter were \$12,946,209. Sales for same period in 1954 were \$11,989,382, with a net income of \$626,634 equivalent to 24 cents per share.

#### Allied Chemical's Sales At Record High

First quarter sales of Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. reached an all-time high of \$149 million compared with \$133 million in the same period in 1954, an increase of 12%. Net income was \$11,708,486, compared with \$10,206,286, last year. Earnings per share were \$1.29, 14 cents more than a year ago.

#### Continental Can's Sales Top \$130 Million

Continental Can Co. has announced earnings equivalent to 84 cents per common share for the quarter ended March 31. Net sales of \$134,492,535 for the quarter were 5.1% higher than for the initial quarter last year when they totaled \$127,980,757. Earnings of \$6,700,384 before income taxes compared with \$5,975,317 earned in the same quarter last year, an increase of 12.1%. After taxes, net earnings were \$3,199,384, compared with \$3,000,317 in 1954.

#### American Potash Earnings Improve Substantially

Sales and earnings of American Potash & Chemical Corp. in the first quarter of 1955 were substantially higher than in the comparable period a year ago. Net sales were \$6,751,000, compared with \$5,923,000 in 1954, and net income was

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