

# News of the Month . . .

## INDUSTRY

### Construction to Start in Fall on U. S. Steel's $\text{NH}_3$ Plant

Heavy construction is expected to start on the anhydrous ammonia plant this fall at the Geneva works of U. S. Steel's Columbia-Geneva Steel Division, it is announced by the Blaw-Knox Co., the firm which is designing and will build the plant.

Engineering work is in progress for the plant near Provo, Utah. Ground has been cleared, foundation tests for footings have been completed, and the site is being prepared for the start of construction.

This will be the first United States installation in a major steel plant using raw coke oven gas as the source of hydrogen for ammonia synthesis. It is expected to start a new trend in coal chemicals recovery.

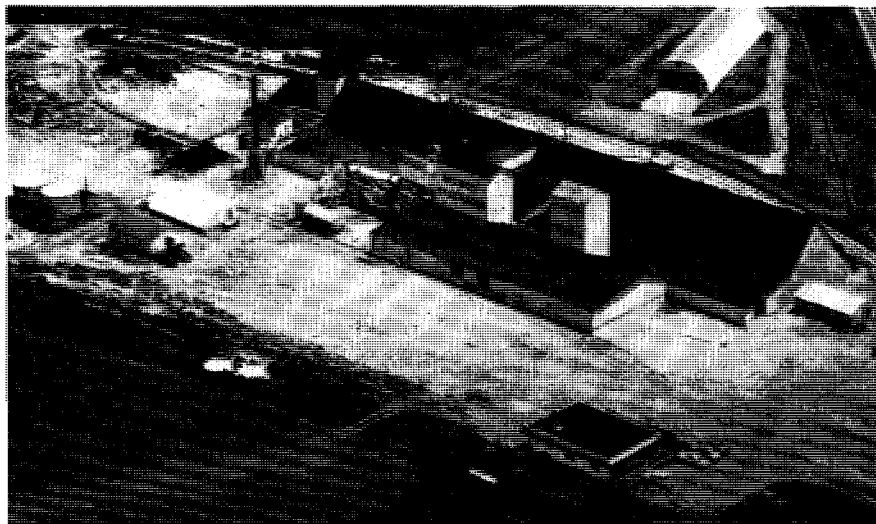
The project will include:

A 200-ton-per-day anhydrous ammonia plant, using the Blaw-Knox-Linde low-temperature separation process to recover hydrogen from the coke oven gas and to extract high purity nitrogen from the air; and using the Blaw-Knox-Montecatini process for ammonia synthesis.

A nitric acid plant based on the oxidation of ammonia.

### Oklahoma City Firm Buys Fertilizer Plant

Nichols Fertilizer & Chemical Co., a newly formed Oklahoma City firm, has recently announced the purchase of the Oklahoma Fertilizer & Chemical Co. The purchase price was approximately \$750,000. Oklahoma Fertilizer & Chemical has an annual capacity of more than 50,000 tons and has been serving Oklahoma, the Texas Panhandle, Nebraska, and Kansas with both bulk and bagged fertilizer. Officers of Nichols Fertilizer are: Earl Nichols, president, Russell L. Pierson, vice president, and W. Frederick Nicols, secretary-treasurer. Lester E. Cox was head of Oklahoma Fertilizer & Chemical



A fertilizer-grade ammonium nitrate plant, using the prilling process, producing both solid and solution forms of the product.

The necessary complement of auxiliaries, including an administration building, a general service building, compressor building, utilities, warehouses, and handling, bagging, storage, and shipping facilities.

### Shell Chemical to Revise Ammonium Sulfate Sales

Shell Chemical Corp. will sell ammonium sulfate directly to local fertilizer mixers throughout the Western States, according to an announcement of G. R. Monkhouse, vice president of the ammonia division. The new arrangement will go into effect on Sept. 15.

Previously the fertilizer had been distributed for Shell, under Shell's brand, by the Nitrogen Division of Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. and Producer Sales Corp. of San Francisco. Monkhouse said that changing conditions necessitated the new system.

### U. S. Potash to Expand Carlsbad Mining Facilities

Directors of the U. S. Potash Co. have approved the expenditure of approxi-

mately \$3 million to increase the output of its mine near Carlsbad, N. M., and to expand its refining facilities to provide about 20% additional productive capacity. This expansion program should be completed by the 1956-57 sales year.

The company has also announced that it has secured the reservation of a tract of land in Saskatchewan for the exploration of potash.

### Int'l Minerals Division Announces Name Change

The Amino Products Division of International Minerals & Chemical has recently changed its name to Ac'cent-International. In announcing the change, J. R. T. Bishop, division vice president, stated that since Ac'cent is accepted internationally as IM&C's brand of monosodium glutamate, "it is only logical that it be properly identified to the consumer as well as within the corporation structure."

Ac'cent is processed in San Jose, Calif., and is now available to consumers in groceries. It is also used in restaurants, hotels, and institutions, and as a formula ingredient in canned and frozen foods.

### Marketing Consultant Service Offered by Pickett-Anthes

A complete marketing consultant service for manufacturers and distributors of consumer goods, particularly those sold to the farm trade or through retail stores, is announced by Pickett-Anthes, Inc., Toledo, Ohio.

Officers of the new firm are: E. H. Kieser, president; L. C. Anthes, vice president and treasurer; and Marshall Pickett, vice president and secretary. All of the officers were formerly associated with Kasco Mills, Inc., manufacturers of farm feeds and dog food, and recently sold to Corn Products Sales Co.

## RESEARCH

### Zonolite Grants Aid to Research in Crop Protection

Grants-in-aid totaling \$5850 to further crop protection research at four agricultural colleges are announced by Zonolite Co.

They involve five one-year grants, distributed among Iowa State College, North Carolina State College, Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and Texas A & M. All are for projects using vermiculite as a carrier for fumigants, insecticides, or fungicides.

J. H. Lilly, department of zoology and