

News of the Month . . .

INDUSTRY

Shell to Expand Modesto Lab, Move Personnel from Denver

Shell Development has announced it will expand its agricultural research center at Modesto, Calif. To cost about \$1 million, the expansion will permit transfer of 50 scientists from its Denver facilities and other locations. Six major new laboratories and office buildings will be added to the present buildings in Modesto.

Scheduled for completion in 1957, the expanded facilities will be staffed by over 100 people. Shell expects the laboratory to be the outstanding agricultural research center in the western U. S.

Biological research at the center will be under the direction of Roy Hansberry, present manager of the Modesto laboratory. K. E. Marple, manager of the Denver laboratory, will head the chemical research group. A smaller group for research on product application will be under E. F. Feichtmeir. S. H. McAllister, director of Shell Development's agricultural research division, will head the research effort.

Soil Builders Corp. Merges with Aluminum & Chemical

Soil Builders International Corp., manufacturer of a soil conditioner product and a crab grass killer, has acquired the name and assets of Aluminum & Chemical Corp., Newark, Ark. Amount of money involved was not disclosed. The merged company will continue under the Soil Builders name. Victor Muscat, president of Aluminum & Chemical, will be president and board chairman of the company. Aluminum & Chemical manufactures foam rubber and aluminum products. Purpose of the merger was diversification, the company said.

No Lost-Time Accidents for American Agricultural Plants

Nine plants of the American Agricultural Chemical Co. have reported no lost-time injuries for the past year. They are at: Henderson, N. C.; Spartanburg and Columbia, S. C.; Pierce, Fla.; Chambly, Que.; Three Rivers, N. Y.; Norfolk, Va.; and Cleveland and Cairo, Ohio.

The Henderson and Spartanburg plants have now completed three suc-

cessive years without a lost-time accident, and the Pierce and Chambly plants have two-year records.

Costs of BHC Manufacture

At current prices for benzene hexachloride a plant capable of producing 5 tons per 24-hour day of 25% gamma isomer can return before taxes about 13% per year on the original investment. This is the conclusion reached by Walter L. Hardy of Foster D. Snell in an article in the October issue of *Industrial & Engineering Chemistry*. The article presents figures on raw materials and other costs involved and arrives at \$64.46 as the profit per ton.

Olin Mathieson's Houston Office Moved

New offices for the southwestern district of the plant food division of Olin Mathieson have been established

at 4520 Clinton Drive, Houston 20, Tex. The district offices formerly were in the Gulf Building in downtown Houston.

The new offices connect with the Southern Warehouse, a shipping facility for Ammo-Phos fertilizers.

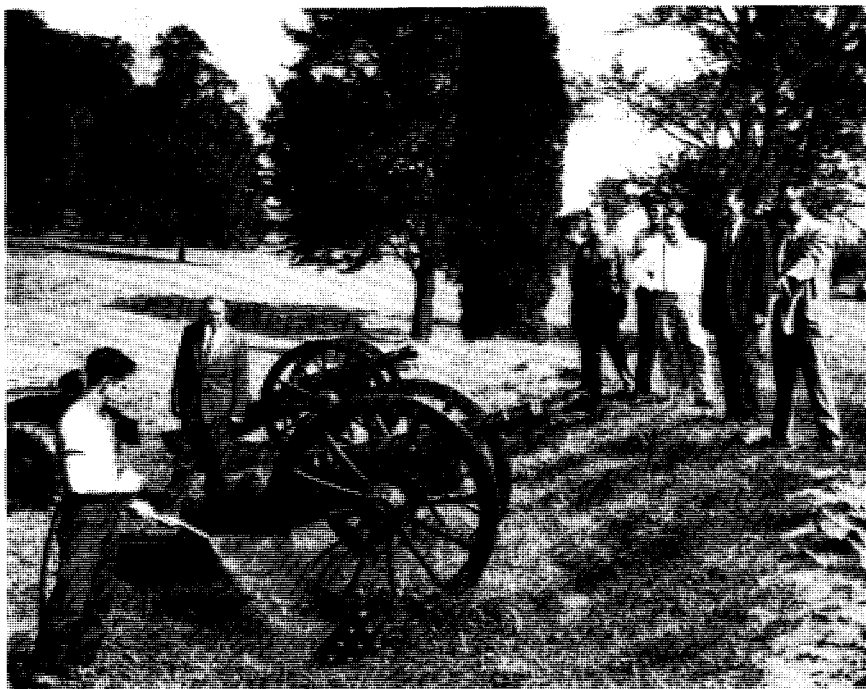
Nitric Acid Concentrator for Lion Oil Plant in Arkansas

Construction has started on a nitric acid concentrator at the El Dorado, Ark., plant of the Lion Oil Division of Monsanto. The concentrator, expected to be complete next March, will concentrate the 58% nitric acid being manufactured there to 95% strength, turning out 40 tons a day. The concentrated acid will be used at another Monsanto plant. Blending facilities to permit production of 68% nitric are also being built.

Construction contractor and designer is Chemical & Industrial Con-

Chemical Battle against Poison Ivy at Valley Forge

Preparing for next year's national Boy Scout jamboree at Valley Forge, the Pennsylvania Department of Forests and Waters is spraying the park with Weedazole, an amino triazole formulation by American Chemical Paint, to clear the area of a heavy infestation of poison ivy. Asplundh Tree Expert Co. of Jenkintown, Pa., is doing the spraying. About 700 of the park's 2030 acres are infested. The chemical is expected to leave the park's landscaping undamaged. In 1950, last time the jamboree was held at Valley Forge, several serious cases of poison ivy developed among the scouts, who explore every inch of the park in contrast to the average pilgrim. Inspecting the spraying operation closely is Robert H. Beatty, ACP's agricultural research director



struction Co., a subsidiary of Chemical & Industrial Corp.

Solutions Plant In Missouri

Lafayette Farm Supply, Lexington, Mo., has started operation of a new fertilizer solutions plant engineered by Ellsworth Equipment & Engineering Co., Indianapolis, Ind. The installation has a capacity of 15 tons per hour, and includes an automatic mixing system and anhydrous ammonia converter.

Arizona Pesticide Plant Opened by Stauffer

An agricultural chemical plant has been opened by Stauffer at Phoenix, Ariz. The new plant was set up primarily to service the rapidly growing farm areas of Arizona, the company said. Until now, the Arizona market has been supplied from Stauffer's Los Angeles plant.

Patent Issued on Vapam

Stauffer Chemical scientists have been granted a patent on a method of temporarily sterilizing soil with Vapam. The patent was assigned to Stauffer. Other Vapam patents are pending.

Nutronite New Name for Smith-Rowland Tankage

Smith-Rowland announces that the name of its nitrogenous tankage has been changed from Smirow to Nutronite. The tankage is used directly for nitrogen fertilizer or incorporated in mixed fertilizer.

Nitrogen Division Opens Raleigh Sales Office

The Nitrogen Division of Allied Chemical & Dye has announced opening of a district sales office in Raleigh, N. C. John R. Ritter, direct application materials sales manager for North Carolina, will direct the office, which is located in the Capital Club Bldg.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Glidden Sales Up; Figures for Divisions Released

Glidden Co.'s sales for the year ended Aug. 31 totaled \$226,290,387, and its net profits were \$8,146,737. In 1955, when Glidden switched from the Oct. 31 date for closing its year to Aug. 31, its 10-month sales total was \$180,524,822 and profits were \$7,112,567.

For the first time, Glidden released to stockholders the sales figures of its operating divisions. Highest total was the \$88.9 million in sales by its Durkee Famous Foods Division. Next was the \$74.9 million from its paint division. The chemurgy division accounted for \$35.8 million; the chemicals-pigments-metals division, for \$18.4 million; and the Southern chemical division, for \$8.1 million.

Crop Duster Offers Stock to Public

Branstetter Flying Service, Inc., it is reported, has been reorganized into a new corporation, Crop Care, Inc., which is offering 150,000 shares of stock to the public. Principal broker for the issue is Financial Investors, Inc., of Sacramento, Calif. The money is to be used for buying out other crop dusting firms and purchasing new equipment.

Olin Mathieson Sales Up 12% in 3rd Quarter

Sales of Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation in the third quarter of 1956 totaled \$155,491,766, compared with \$138,340,735 in the same period last year, it is announced. This is a gain of 12%.

Net income totaled \$14,299,715 and was equal to \$1.08 a share on common stock outstanding, compared with a net of \$12,514,568, equal to \$1.00 a share, in the like 1955 period.

For nine months ending Sept. 30, 1956, the corporation's sales in the U. S. and Canada totaled \$455,542,174, compared with \$409,141,699 in the like 1955 period, an increase of 11.3%.

Total net income in this period amounted to \$35,903,232 or \$2.71 a share, compared with \$32,456,307 or \$2.60 per share.

V-C Reports \$12,000 Profit

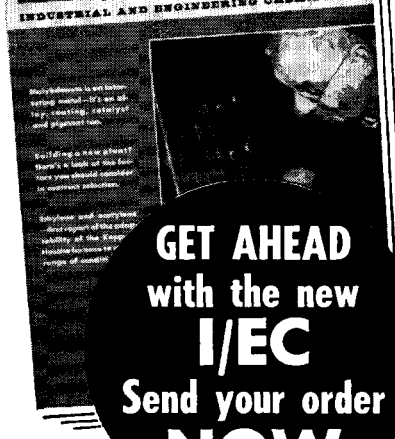
Virginia-Carolina Chemical reports unaudited net income of \$12,744 for the quarter ended Sept. 30. For the same quarter of the previous year, there was a loss of \$104,739. Sales for the 1956 quarter were \$10,123,083, compared with \$9,667,009 in the 1955 quarter.

Atlas Powder 9 Months' Net Gains 26% on Sales Rise of 8%

Atlas Powder's net earnings in the first nine months of 1956 were \$3,294,608, or \$4.40 a common share, Ralph K. Gottshall, president, reported. This was a 26% gain over the \$2,616,193, or \$3.43 a common

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