

Business Newsletter . . .

NEW FACILITIES AND OFFICES

Davison has added \$1.5 million worth of plant at Bartow, Fla., to make run-of-pile triple super as well as granulated triple. The powder form is expected to interest processors requiring a product with a high rate of ammoniation, and it is said to be well suited for granulation into complete fertilizers. To obtain the product, Davison evaporates phosphoric acid to 54% P₂O₅ instead of the 39% acid used for its granulated triple. New facilities do not raise over-all production capacity of the plant, originally rated at 200,000 tons yearly but "considerably exceeded" in operation.

Guanos y Fertilizantes de Mexico, S. A., will build a 150-metric-ton-per-day triple super plant, the first in Mexico. Dorr-Oliver will put up the plant, which is to use the Dorrco granular fertilizer and phosphoric acid processes. Located near Coatzacoalcos, Veracruz, it will use phosphate rock imported from Florida.

International Minerals has started operation of a new mineralogical laboratory at its research station in Mulberry, Fla. It will permit full-range mineral investigation, from studying composition of new-found ores to checking out the economic soundness of mining and marketing them, IMC says.

Stauffer's northeast region staff of the agricultural chemicals division has moved from main offices at 380 Madison Ave. to 1 E. 47th St. in New York to make room for present and anticipated staff.

Early this month Wilson & Geo. Meyer dedicates its new offices, warehouse, and bulk storage facility in Los Angeles. The \$500,000 building doubles the space it has been using for the past seven years. Company has moved its Seattle office to 318 Queen Ave. for more room.

NEW MARKETING PLANS

Diamond Alkali is expanding its long-term sales and technical service program in pesticides to strengthen its competitive position. James O. King, who headed Diamond's recently completed trademark design and package modernization program, takes over Diamond's new pesticide program as manager of agricultural chemical sales. Pesticides involved are: 2,4-D and 2,4,5-T and their formulations, BHC, DDT, lindane, miticide, HCB, and grain fumigants.

McLaughlin Gormley King will launch a publicity campaign for its MGK Repellent 11 as a spray for dairy and beef cattle. It is aiming for market vacated by sprays of methoxychlor which were recently banned for use on dairy cattle. Campaign is expected to reach peak in April and May. Among points it will stress are results obtained at Oklahoma State University, where MGK repellent increased effectiveness of pyrethrum-based sprays by three to five times.

Greene Trading Co. is no longer U.S. sales agent for African pyrethrum. H. Alvin Smith will become a special representative for the African growers here. Smith was associated with pyrethrum when he was president of John Powell & Co. before it merged with Olin Mathieson. Greene Trading will service all contracts in existence March 10, 1958. Smith emphasizes his assignment is an advisory one and that he has no intention of participating in functions carried out by Greene Trading. Smith has asked American customers for suggestions on how to improve service from and contacts with African producers. New extraction plants in Kenya and the Belgian Congo will permit shipment of pyrethrum extracts in solution instead of baled dried flowers.

Business Newsletter . . .

Wasatch Chemical, Salt Lake City, is the first mixer-distributor appointed to handle Morea liquid livestock feed supplement by U. S. Industrial Chemicals. Wasatch will blend Morea premix concentrate with molasses and sell the finished product to dealers and farmers. (For more on Morea, see page 261.)

Purex Corp. will distribute bat guano in small packages for home gardeners through supermarkets and chain stores. It has agreement with New Pacific Coal & Oils Ltd., which mines bat guano from limestone caves in the Grand Canyon of the Colorado.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR HERBICIDES

About a fourth of the 96 million acres of western range land infested with sage brush could be sprayed with a herbicide such as 2,4-D and bring a saving of more than \$40 million a year, calculates Dayton L. Klingman of USDA's Agricultural Research Service. In addition, he figures, sand sagebrush control, in adaptable areas, could net \$16.5 million annually; mesquite control could net \$10.5 million; and larkspur, sagebrush, and rabbit-brush control another \$3.3 million. Savings are predicated on a \$10-a-ton value for forage, and prorating spray cost over 10 years.

Foreign weed invasion of western range lands should be checked before infestations become widespread, urges Robert H. Haas of USDA's Agricultural Research Service. He cites halogeton and goatweed, both poisonous, and Mediterranean sage. Halogeton, a native of Russia, is a relative newcomer. The other two are from Europe. All arrived by unknown means. Control methods suggested: range revegetation, herbicides, and hand hoeing for extreme cases.

FDA AND USDA RULINGS

Food and Drug has set 100 p.p.m. as the residue tolerance for captan on some 80 crops. This means captan can be used at any time during growing period and as post-harvest treatment.

FDA has cleared amino triazole for use as a preplant treatment to control Canada thistle in corn fields. Ten days to two weeks should elapse between treatment and planting.

Lilly's Hygromix is now cleared for feeding continuously to all ages of swine, including breeding stock, for control of intestinal round worms, nodular worms, and whipworm. At Purdue, pigs fed Hygromix throughout the 103-day growing period gained about 9% faster than controls and needed 5% less feed per pound of gain.

Roberts Chemicals, Inc., has registered Herbisan 5, a formulation of bis-ethyl xanthogen, for pre-emergent weed control on onions. With radioactive tracer techniques, Ruble Langston of Purdue found no residue of the herbicide in onions when used as a pre-emergent treatment.

Hercules has approval for use of its Delnav as a miticide on cotton, certain ornamentals, and nonbearing citrus. Company says Delnav has not shown any phytotoxicity on plants tested so far.

USDA has accepted Carbide's label for Mylone as a soil fumigant for certain vegetable seed beds. Until now, seed bed use was experimental only. Company's Sevin is now approved for experimental use on apples.

FDA has ruled that no residues of malathion are acceptable in milk, following its similar turn down of methoxychlor a month before.

NEW THINGS FOR ALLIED

Allied Chemical & Dye Corp. has decided to whittle down its name to Allied Chemical Corp., if stockholders approve. If they do, change goes into effect May 1. Said Glen B. Miller, president, the ". . . new name will more clearly reflect the broad nature of the company's position in the chemical industry and will not single out a particular division or field of activity." This was borne out in Allied's annual report, which for the first time listed a percentage breakdown of its product sales. Synthetic organics, including dyes and coal-tar intermediates, accounted for only 18% of its total sales of about \$683 million. Ammonia and other nitrogen products sales were about 10% of the total in 1957. Insecticides and laboratory and reagent chemicals all together represented about 4% of the sales pie.

MORE TIME GRANTED ON FREIGHT RATE ARGUMENTS

Fertilizer manufacturers who intend to oppose increased freight rates before the Interstate Commerce Commission have until June 9. Deadline for filing statements in rebuttal of evidence previously submitted has been postponed to July 12. Those who support railroads' petition for increased rates must have their statements in by April 21. Cross-examinations on the verified statements are to be held on May 19, July 7, and Aug. 4.

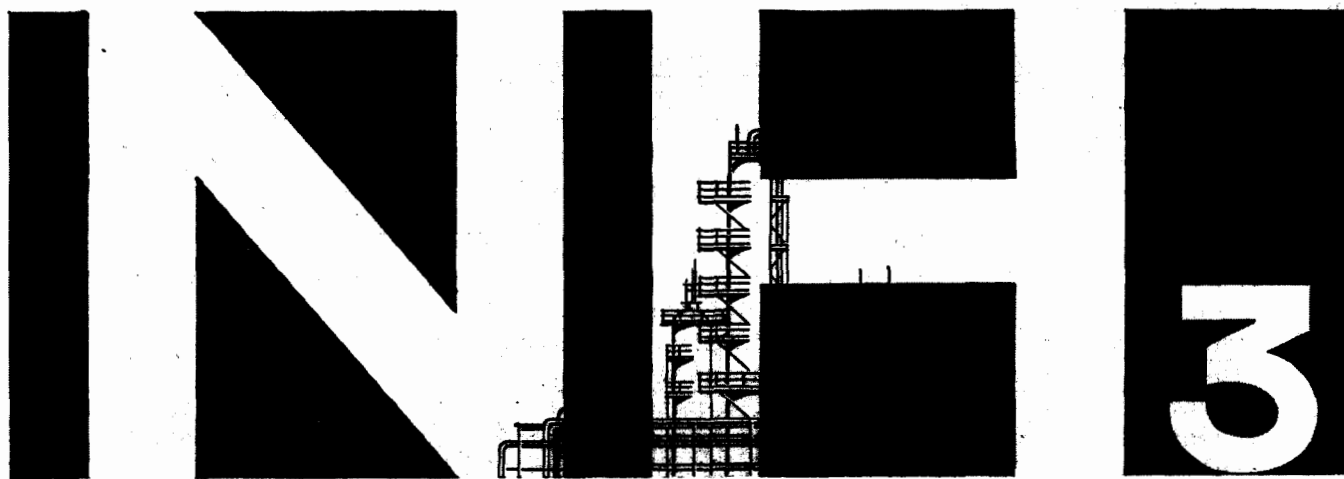
THE MEETING CIRCUIT

The American Chemical Society opens its meeting in San Francisco on April 13. The Division of Agricultural and Food Chemistry has a week-long program of 77 papers, but the Division of Fertilizer and Soil Chemistry, in accord with its long established practice, will not meet this spring. Two symposia at the Ag and Food meetings: one on food additives, the other on Herman Frasch Foundation projects. The food additive symposium, on Wednesday, will spotlight use of additives in dairy products. The Pesticides Subdivision opens its share of the program on Thursday morning with a discussion by Calspray scientists of Phaltan, a new fungicide. Martin J. Diamond of Calspray has scheduled a paper on a new class of pesticides derived from iminyl phosphates. Shell Chemical scientists will be talking about a nitrogen analog of aldrin that has insecticidal properties. Another new insecticide, on which three papers are to be given by Niagara Chemical scientists, is Tedion.

Spotlight

- New mines, imports may supersaturate potash market, but producers are hopeful (page 257).
- Phosphate rock processors are taking the first steps toward recovering fluorine. If it should become economic on a large scale, phosphate fertilizer could be relegated to by-product status (page 258).
- Ethyl alcohol in feeds promotes most effective use of urea and other feed ingredients by ruminants (page 261).
- Vertical integration, another name for contract farming, is arousing attention of livestock industry. If it catches on, chemical industry may have to change marketing and research practices (page 263).

A
vast new source of
nitrogen solutions
and agricultural



TEXACO'S LOCKPORT (ILL.) AMMONIA PLANT

If you use anhydrous ammonia, aqua ammonia or nitrogen solutions, here are some of the important advantages you get when you order from Texaco-Lockport:

CONVENIENCE—you get faster and better service, because the new ammonia plant is conveniently located in the heart of the farm belt. It is accessible to major rail, water and truck routes.

MAXIMUM PURITY PROTECTION—you get a pure, uniform product from the brand new process equipment. All-new handling equipment protects the purity all the way to your door.

FAST DELIVERY, ANYTIME—Ample storage facilities

assure you of a constant supply, even during peak season. The brand new transport fleet makes deliveries according to your own schedule.

For fast, reliable service, call or write The Texas Company, *Petrochemical Sales Division*, 332 South Michigan Avenue, Chicago 4, Illinois, or 135 East 42nd Street, New York 17, New York.



TEXACO
PETROCHEMICALS

Research Newsletter . . .

PROGRESS REPORT ON PINK BOLLWORM

Union Carbide's Sevin looks like another chemical answer to the pink bollworm, say entomologists at USDA's Pink Bollworm Research Laboratory, Brownsville, Tex. It gave "outstanding control" of both pink bollworm and boll weevil in Texas and Mexico field tests last year, will get large-scale tests this year. DDT and Guthion are now recommended. Other weapons being tested at Brownsville are five other chemicals, several bacteria and fungi, and a nematode. Meanwhile, laboratory has given up attempts to colonize insect enemies of the pink bollworm. Also disappointing is search for attractants and repellents. Mass rearing of pink bollworms for research is a little closer now that a cotton-free synthetic diet for them has been perfected.

PHOSPHORIC ACID FOLIAR SPRAY FOR PEAS

A foliage spray of phosphoric acid has given high yields of peas without plant injury on unfertilized plots at U. of Wisconsin. The spray used by researchers James C. Bartz and K. C. Berger contained 0.1 to 0.25% phosphoric acid. They say such a spray, applied at blossoming time, can include insecticides. But they recommend soil application of solid phosphates as preferred fertilizing method. Tests with radioactive phosphorus fertilizers led them to conclude that most critical period for phosphorus nutrition of peas is immediately following blossoming. Phosphorus deficiency reduces number of pods per plant, not number of peas per pod.

ANIMAL DISEASE CONTROL

Piperazine and Dow's ET-57 give complete cure of filarial dermatosis of sheep. This rare skin malady, also called elaeophoriosis or "sore head," infects sheep on summer ranges above 6000 feet in the western U. S. and Canada. Although only about 1% of domestic sheep are now infected, indications are that worm parasite-caused disease is spreading. Injection of ET-57 directly into the rumen or adding piperazine to sheep's drinking water for three days can cure it, reports USDA.

Vaccine for rinderpest, a disease usually fatal to cattle and sheep, has been developed by the Army's Biological Warfare Laboratories and USDA investigators. U.S. herds are highly susceptible to this disease, which has been kept out of U. S. only by rigid quarantine.



- Bioassay for pesticide residue determination offers opportunity to determine toxic metabolites that could be skipped over in chemical assay (page 274).
- Methoxychlor turns up in minute amounts in milk from cows sprayed with it, but concentration diminishes rapidly (page 281).
- Mercurial distribution in liquid seed treatment process is governed by mixing process used and vapor action of the fungicide (page 283).
- Superphosphoric acid (containing 76% P₂O₅) can be produced from phosphorus in plant used for ordinary furnace acid (page 298).