

Walteria Plant Meets Demand for Diatomite

Back in 1929 the people of Walteria, then largely an agricultural community, learned that a large industrial plant was to be located nearby to process the "chalk-rock" in the Palos Verdes Hills.

In April, 1930, the Dicalite plant, located at the south end of Madison Ave., was completed and the first carload of diatomaceous earth material was shipped that month. The new plant was built and operated by The Dicalite Co. and at the time was the second largest plant of its kind in the United States.

Today, 42 years later, it is still one of the nation's major diatomite plants. Great Lakes Carbon Corp. purchased The Dicalite Co. in 1944 and the plant has since been operated by the Dicalite Division of the corporation. Expansion and improvements in processing have approximately doubled the original production capacity. A large research and control laboratory is also located here.

A Modern Name
Diatomite (the shorter and more modern name for diatomaceous earth) materials are little known to the general public but they are very important in many industrial processes. As an aid in filtering they are almost indispensable in production of sugar, beer, wine and many

other foods, as well as penicillin, streptomycin and other pharmaceuticals.

As insulating materials they save a vast amount of fuel by reducing heat loss from the walls of furnaces, kilns, boilers, ovens, piping, etc. Dicalite materials are also widely used as fillers in paper products such as writing and printing paper, tissue, cardboard boxes and milk cartons; as extender and flattening pigments in paints, varnishes, enamels and lacquers; and as conditioning or anti-caking agents in chemical fertilizers.

Hundreds of Uses
These are only a few of the hundreds of ways that Dicalite materials are used in industrial plants to make many of the things we eat, use or come in contact with in our daily lives.

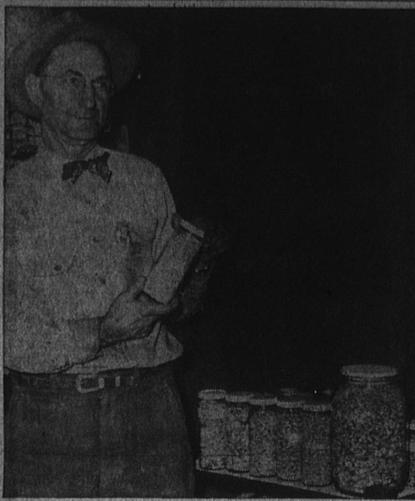
Besides this plant, the Dicalite Division of Great Lakes Car-

bon Corp. operates another in California and one each in Oregon and Nevada, and is one of the world's major producers of diatomite materials.

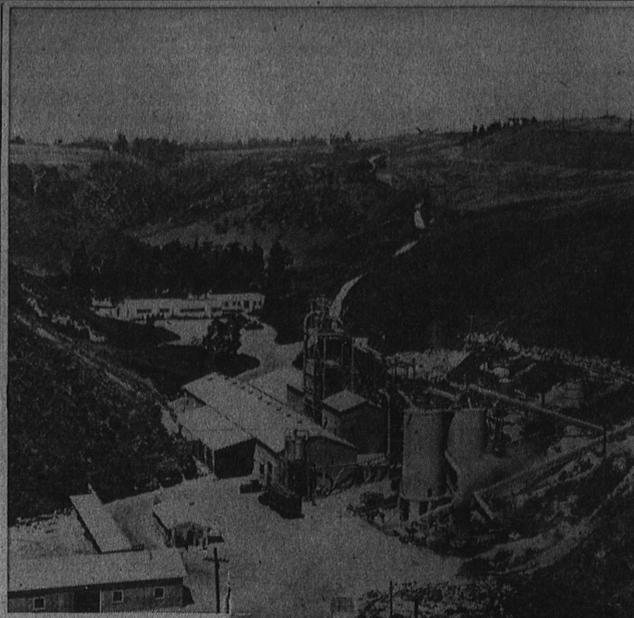
Dicalite products from the Walteria plant are shipped to all parts of the United States and to many foreign countries as well.

Verburg Dairy Now Has Two Locations

With a registered herd of Holstein-Guernsey cows, and gold, silver and bronze medals from the Los Angeles County Fair to prove the quality, Verburg's Dairy is now equipped with two locations to serve its customers.

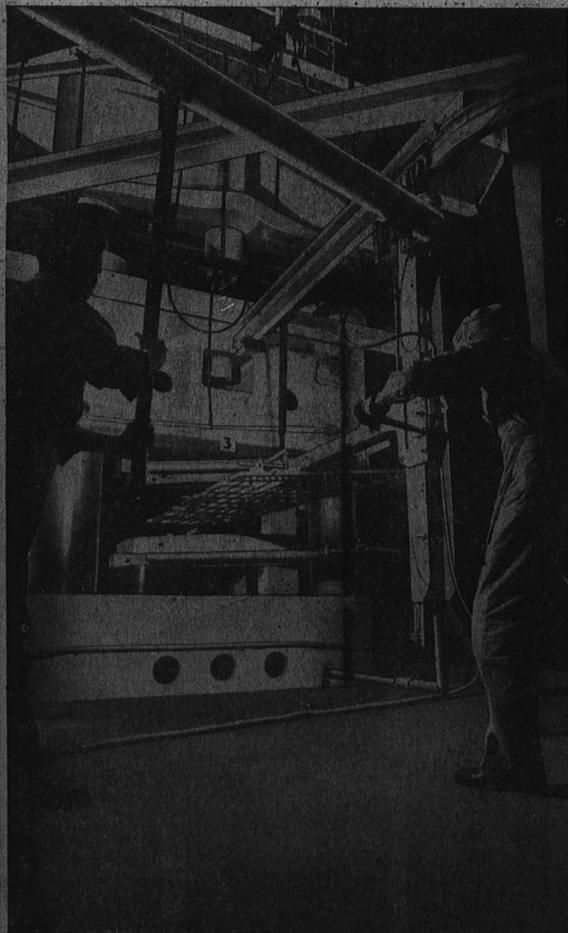


GRAVEL EXPERT . . . A member of the R. E. Ball staff displays containers of the various types of gravel which is mined and marketed by the firm from its headquarters at 24620 Hawthorne Ave. The company supplies various types of gravel taken from the Palos Verdes Hills to users all over the world. It is used as filter gravel for oil and water well drilling and for water softeners.

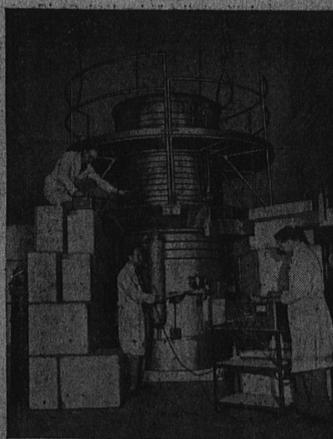


AIR NEWS FROM NORTH AMERICAN

Another picture report of progress at North American Aviation on the vital job of strengthening your security in the skies



STEEL-ALUMINUM SANDWICH—This huge steel press exerts 14 million pounds pressure to speed forming of aluminum airplane wings in new "die-quenching" process developed at North American. With forming time cut from 24 man-hours to 8 minutes, hundreds of thousands of taxpayers' dollars are saved in production of planes for Air Force and Navy. This ingenuity is typical of North American's continuing efforts to build today's complex airplanes faster and at less cost.



THREE BILLION FISSIONS A SECOND—North American designed and built this experimental nuclear reactor that does an important job as a laboratory tool, pointing the way to bigger reactors for new sources of power and further atomic research. North American research is aimed at two targets: Greater knowledge that gives better living to all, and safeguarding your future security.



NO SPARE PARTS TO SPARE—After Korea, spare parts for North American planes were desperately needed by the Armed Forces. Among those who helped speed delivery were North American's suppliers—a group of more than 5000 businesses who supply North American with goods and services at the rate of \$18 million worth a month. 80% of these suppliers are small businesses.



THE NAVY'S FLASHING FURY—Message from the Bureau of Aeronautics: "The performance of North American Aviation in accomplishing the carrier suitability demonstrations of the XFJ-2 at Inyokern and Patuxent River so expeditiously and successfully is considered commendable. This is especially true in view of the fact that this is the first time any contractor has attempted such a demonstration. Well done!" Credit for this goes to the technical skill and able craftsmanship of the 46,000 employees on the North American Aviation team and the Navy personnel involved in these operations.

Story of American: From Slag to Wool

By WINTHROP BOWLES

From the slag tailings left over from the manufacture of 20 Mule Team Borax comes the basic materials which, when processed by the Torrance plant of the American Rock Wool Corp., winds up as mineral wool—the basic step in home and plant insulation.

And the bulk of production of the Torrance plant is sold in the Los Angeles area, although the local division is set up to service the West Coast.

The story of mineral wool in Torrance dates back some years to Coast Insulating Corp., whose plant was acquired in 1944 by American Coast, which was producing granulated wool, white wool rolls, and white batts.

Then, one building took care of the processing, selling, and office staffs. Immediately after the purchase of the concern by American, a second plant was erected. During the following year, office buildings went up, and in 1948 the old plant was dismantled.

Today the sprawling facilities on Arlington Ave. across from Columbia Steel contain four batt lines, and various supplemental buildings to the main operation of combining minerals with chemicals to produce mineral wool. Space is also available, and utilized, for a large mineral stockpile.

Bulldozer Used
Preliminary mixing of the materials which go to make up mineral wool is done by a bulldozer, a tractor loader, and three standard dump trucks. Machinery is used because the basic minerals are received from the borax company in a state resembling wet earth, and are as hard to handle.

From the mixing pile, the

blended minerals move to a reverberatory furnace by overhead crane. The furnace is fed by hand, and under intense, reflected heat, bakes the wet minerals into the finished product.

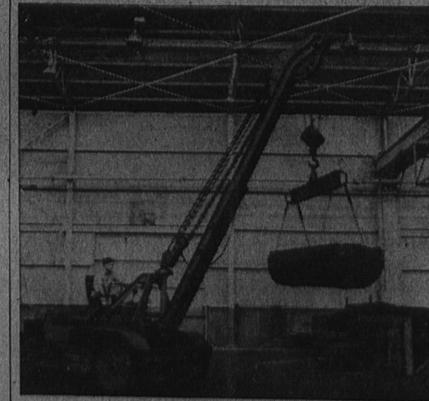
Steam generated by the waste heat boilers through which exhaust gases pass is piped back for use in the manufacturing process. Natural gas, plus burning oils, is used as fuel.

In March, 1950, an addition in the shape of a resin manufacturing plant was erected, to produce all much of the sticky product as required by the Torrance plant.

From the mineral wool a wide range of products, including loose granulated house batts and industrial felt, is manufactured. Other products are white wool rolls, resilient sheets, duct wrapping, and insulating and acoustical quilts.

The normal operating force consists of 110 plant and about 15 supervisory and administrative personnel. In charge of the overall supervision of the concern is John A. Ebbinhouse, 4005 Via Solano, Palos Verdes Estates, who joined American as a production employee at Wash, Ill., in 1938.

First manager was W. T. Tilton, now vice president in charge of manufacturing for American.



CONDUIT HANDLING . . . Preparing to load a sling of conduit which has been manufactured at the Torrance plant of the National Electric Products Corp. is a worker who handles the tractor-crane in the plant. National Electric is one of the nation's largest manufacturers of electrical conduit and allied material.

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