State Industry Advised How To Land War Jobs

"Write letters, send telegrams and use the telephone, but don't go to Washington if you want to procure war contracts. You can accomplish more here at home and help alleviate some of the confusion if you let the capitol handle your problems."

This is the advice of Cmdr. P. F. Ashler, chief of the small business office, munitions board, Department of Defense, as a group of Oklahoma industrialists, manufacturers and processors recently met with the federal government to obtain military contracts.

Helping Ashler do this were four other government officials including Harry E. Blythe, advisor to the chairman of the munitions board on small business; Jess Larson, chief of the General Services Administration; Walter J. O'Donnell, of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation; Jess L. C. Williams, director of the Small Business Administration; and Kenneth James of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

O'Donnell cautioned that Oklahoma's small business man should consider all angles carefully before deciding to try to convert his peacetime plant into a war goods-producing project.

Progress Being Made At Elk City Refinery

Construction work on Shell Oil Co.'s huge gasoline plant south of Elk City, considered one of the outstanding industrial projects in the Greater Mid-Continent area, is approximately 29 per cent complete, company officials have announced.

Approximately 100 million cubic feet of gas daily can be handled when the plant is in operation. Work is expected to be completed about December 1.

TRIBUTE PLANNED FOR WILL ROGERS

"Riding Into Sunset," a lifesize statue of Will Rogers astride his favorite horse, "Soapsuds," will be unveiled and dedicated November 4 in Claremore, at the observance of his 71st birthdate.

More than 30,000 persons are expected to attend the ceremony. Numerous friends of the late humorist and other famous people have been invited to the observance.

The statue is a cast of the original done by Electra Waggoner New York sculptress, in 1942. The original is owned by Amon G. Carter, owner and publisher of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, who donated the cast to the Will Rogers' memorial.

State Income Gains Third Straight Year

For the third consecutive year, in 1949 Oklahoma income was above the $2 billion dollar level, according to the September issue of "The Oklahoma Bulletin."

The bulletin, published by the Bureau of Business Research, University of Oklahoma, stated the actual figure was about equal to the all-time peak reached in 1948.

It pointed out that during the past decade the income of Oklahoma almost tripled, with the result that per capita income in the state rose from $340 to $1,068 during the ten-year period.

Aircraft Company Is Studying Site In Shawnee Area

The industrial light is shining even brighter at Shawnee. A California aircraft firm is giving serious consideration to the idea of establishing a branch division in this business-minded town.

The firm, which manufactures helicopters and airplane parts, has already requested that the city install toilet facilities, electrical power lines and repair a road leading to one of the city airport hangars which it proposes to rent if the city will grant options to the building and perform the necessary repairs.

Considering this hangar which the city has already made available, the company wants a lease beginning February 1 with the option of extending it for two three-year periods.

This firm, like many others, has considered Shawnee first because of the complete cooperation it has received from the city officials, Chamber of Commerce and local business men.

Airplane Parts Firm Selects Miami Site

An airplane parts factory is the newest industry to be added to the business list of Miami, Oklahoma, it was announced recently by Elmer Isern, president of that community's chamber of commerce.

Isern said the plant will be in operation within 30 days.

C. J. Dickson of Tulsa, president of the concern which will be known as the Miami Manufacturing Co., said between 25 and 50 machinists and tool operators will be hired next month. More personnel will be added later.

The firm, with machinery valued at more than $80,000, will handle prime government contracts. This would indicate possible later expansion.

The company, a subsidiary of the Machine Products Co. of Tulsa and Wichita, Kans., has taken over a hangar and flight building at Miami municipal airport.
Plan For Water Use of Canadian Tentatively Set

A tentative basis for a compact for Oklahoma, New Mexico and Texas regarding equitable use of water of the South Canadian river was accepted by the Canadian River Compact commission in October at a meeting of the group at Lake Murray state park.

Clarence Burch, Oklahoma member of the commission, said engineers of the three states will report fully on the inter-state distribution plan by December 15 before official action is taken by the group.

Burch said the program is expected to be completed in time for submission to the legislatures of the three states.

The tentative plan was signed by Berkley Johnson, federal representative and chairman of Santa Fe, N. M.; John H. Bliss, New Mexico commissioner, Santa Fe; E. V. Spence, Texas commissioner, Austin, and Burch.

History of Progress Depicted By Indians

As 100 years of history unfolded before their eyes, some 7,000 persons saw the colorful, outdoor pageant presented in October by the Goodland Indian orphanage near Hugo.

Celebrating a century of continuous service, the pageant portrayed the story of how Goodland developed from a one-room log cabin school, opened by a pioneer missionary's wife, to the modern orphanage it is today.

Many of the orphans and Indian families taking part in the pageant were descendents of the early day pioneers.

Goodland, the oldest Protestant Indian orphanage in the United States, was aided in presenting the pageant by the Goodland chorus, Hugo high school band, Boy Scouts, Cub Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, Bluebirds, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Lions club, Rotary, Roundup club, American Legion Auxiliary, women's clubs, Frisco Women's clubs and other local citizens.

O.G. & E. Looks To Future With Huge New Expansion

The Oklahoma Gas and Electric Co. would not have been interested in its Mustang expansion program had it not had faith in future progress and development of Oklahoma.

The company's new $16,000,000 power-packed plant, located on a 160-acre tract, is another milestone in electrical pioneering.

When completed it will have a 100,000-kilowatt capacity from two gigantic turbo-generator units. Two boilers each produce 475,000 pounds of steam per hour. There are two water cooling towers with capacity of 1,000,000 gallons each. The coal storage yard is of 100,000-ton capacity. The main building ranges up to 10 stories and is flanked by two 250-foot concrete smokestacks.

Its fuel supply is natural gas from the Edmond field. Coal will be used as auxiliary fuel. A water supply of approximately 2,000,000 gallons a day will come from wells, the North Canadian river and Lake Overholser.

The station, being completed at a time when domestic and industrial economy has reached boom proportions, will be capable of producing about 750,000,000 kilowatt hours annually, or almost three-fourths as many kilowatt hours as were used by all of O. G. & E.'s customers in 1949.

The new station is being hailed as a vital link in Oklahoma's preparation for both peacetime and emergency periods.

Donald S. Kennedy, company president, had this to say: "The building of Mustang is a culmination of the fulfillment of our obligation always to have plenty of dependable power available to service every industrial, commercial, domestic and farm requirement."

Large Firm Acquires Oklahoma Products

Made in Oklahoma merchandise, valued at nearly $3,000,000 has been purchased and distributed over the nation by Sears, Roebuck and Co. during the past year, G. W. Thompson manager of the company's Tulsa store, has announced.

He said much of the merchandise was made in eastern Oklahoma. The store now is conducting a "Southern Industrialization sale" in which made in Oklahoma items are being featured.
State’s Forestry Division Preparing For Plantings

The division of forestry of the state planning board, reports that approximately two million trees and shrubs will be available for distribution to farmers and timber land owners during the approaching planting season.

This number will include sixteen different species to be used for windbreaks, reforestation, wildlife and post lots.

With the nearness of planting season, which extends from December into April, interested persons from all parts of the state are applying for trees in great numbers. Besides the timber growers and farmers, other groups have shown an interest in the upswing of reforestation in Oklahoma. At the top are sportsmen groups and those industries that depend completely on the lumber supply in the state.

Source of stock for these plantings is the forestry division nursery, located 6 miles southwest of Norman. The nursery personnel is now busy collecting tree seeds which will be planted this fall and next spring to produce seedlings for distribution next year.

Other recent projects undertaken by this division include the showing of exhibits at several county fairs. Among those visited were Grady, McCurtain, Choctaw and Delaware counties and the Muskogee free fair.

Added to the Forestry Division’s improvement program is the building of two new fire towers: one in southeast Cherokee county and the other in southeast Adair county. This will give the northeast part of the state six fire towers to protect this expansive hardwood area.

In southeast Oklahoma there are ten towers in operation, bringing to 16 the total number of fire towers for the forest fire detection in that section of the state.

New Muskogee Branch

The Holland Furnace Company has re-established a sub-branch office in Muskogee, with W. W. Smith as resident engineer. The branch had been discontinued prior to the war because of governmental priorities on steel and other materials. The Muskogee sub-branch will be a direct factory branch.

Rush Springs Gets Dog Food Company

Dog food, ranging from a 10-cent package up to top quality products, is now being processed by the Pets Meat Packing Co., a new industry for Rush Springs, in Grady county.

The company recently moved to Rush Springs from Lawton. Arthur Harris is owner and manager. He opened the plant about a month ago after operating a similar industry in Lawton for the past four years.

Twelve persons are employed by the company. Approximately 100 cases, or 4,800 cans, of dog food are turned out daily.

Bristow Group Hears Advice on Industry

“What a town needs for growth is work which employs heads of families.”

Bristow civic leaders were told this recently by Dr. Randall T. Klemme, director of the agricultural-industrial development service of Oklahoma A. & M. College. Dr. Klemme and his associates have just completed a year’s development study of Bristow and its surrounding area.

“Bristow is in that part of the state which has some of the greatest potentialities for growth,” he told the group. “In general,” he added, “the Bristow area needs to shift its emphasis from row crops to livestock and legumes in the next few years, and if this is done, the area could easily support a full time milk processing plant.”

Utilty to Spend $800,000 for New Service Facilities

The Oklahoma Natural Gas Co. in Oklahoma City, has announced plans for construction of a new $800,000 service building to serve all of western Oklahoma. It will be located at Northwest 50 and Santa Fe of the capital city.

The site, 500 by 1,000 feet, was acquired from the Oklahoma Industries, Inc. The new construction proper will provide 60,000 square feet.

The new building will house all plant facilities, including a border station that handles gas from a number of pipelines, a warehouse, garage, shop, meter shop, office, pipe cleaning and other facilities.

In addition, there will be a loading dock, a large pipe storage yard, railway spur and a fenced automobile parking area.

Platt National Park Has Visitor Increase

There was a five per cent increase over last year in the number of persons visiting Platt national park near Sulphur, T. C. Miller, park superintendent, has announced.

He said that 1,165,043 persons visited the park for the travel year ending September 30, despite adverse weather conditions this summer. Last year Platt ranked third among national parks in travel figures.

During the travel year just ended, Miller said 31,008 persons camped in the park. The number of cars driven into the area increased 15.28 per cent over the previous year to 320,001 cars.

Tulsa—Phil Thomas, Tulsa, has invented a fishing boat that can be hauled in his car’s trunk compartment. It is an 11-foot boat easily divisible into four sections. Each of the three box-like sections and the pointed bow are seaworthy. It’s an easy job to detach half the boat and leave for a second good fishing spot.
O. C. Expands Industrial Sites

Availability of good sites for industrial expansion is paying off in Oklahoma City.

Immediately after the end of World War II, Oklahoma City set about developing restricted industrial districts, protected from the encroachment of undesirable residential and commercial development.

The first venture was the establishment of the Santa Fe industrial district which has 160 acres of property with streets and utilities. To date, there have been eight major industries located in the area. The latest is the 50,000 square foot distribution warehouse of the National Biscuit Co.

Another sector is the 90-acre district owned by Oklahoma City's industrial foundation, Oklahoma Industries, Inc. In this area T. G. & Y. Stores completed early this year a 75,000 square foot office building and warehouse; the Macklanburg-Duncan Co. is now completing a new 150,000 square foot building; Kimray, Inc., manufacturers of valves and controls, recently purchased a factory building from the foundation.

King Juices, Inc. of Memphis, a fruit processing plant is in the final states of construction, and the Fluid Power Corp., manufacturer and distributors of fluid power transmission units, has purchased a site. Several other prospects are now being negotiated, and more announcements are expected before the end of the year.

The Katy industrial area on the east side of Oklahoma City is becoming attractive industrially. Two manufacturing plants already have been completed in the district. They are the California Spray Chemical Corp. of California, and the Oklahoma Waste Materials Co., formerly of Dallas. Plans are being worked out for a large commercial warehouse in excess of 150,000 square feet.

The Frisco Railway Co. started its industrial district on South May avenue about a year ago. At the present time, four industries have located there. The latest is the Lawrence Paper Co., of Lawrence, Kansas. This plant will have 20,000 square feet and will fabricate corrugated boxes.

Total acreage of the four controlled industrial districts approximates 400 acres, and if development continues at the present rate, all the available property will be in use within the next three to five years. Plans already are underway by the railroad companies and Oklahoma Industries, Inc. to acquire additional areas to be developed along the same lines.

Oklahoma City officials consider the development of these industries as one of the major steps in the community's industrial program.

Cherokee County May Get Strawberry Plant

Plans are materializing in Tahlequah for the establishment of a processing plant to handle strawberries grown in Cherokee county.

Interested in the project is the Stilwell Canning Co. Ed Mutzig, president of the Tahlequah chamber of commerce, has announced the Stilwell company became definitely interested after conferring with 75 Cherokee county strawberry growers and Tahlequah business men.

At the meeting of the group it was estimated that between 500 and 600 acres of strawberries are being grown in the county.

Paint Store Opened

Oklahoma City's Capitol Hill district gained another new business recently when the Harry Crites Paint and Wallpaper Company opened its doors at 701 SW 29. Crites formerly operated a paint store in Thomas, Oklahoma, where he was active in civic affairs.

OKLAHOMA IS STILL CONSIDERED FOR LARGE ALUMINUM COMPANY

Oklahoma has not been counted out as a location site for a large aluminum production plant in the Grand River dam area. Officials of Apex Smelting Co., Chicago, have announced in Tulsa.

The officials have been meeting the past few days with four state utility company representatives in connection with studies of operating costs in the Grand Lake sector.

"Oklahoma has never been out of the picture," D. L. Colwell, member of the company's negotiating committee, declared when asked if Oklahoma still was being considered for the plant.

The multi-million dollar aluminum producing plant was reported lost to Oklahoma several weeks ago and would be located in Arkansas. No definite decision, however, was made and will not be for several days, it was pointed out.

The Apex company now produces secondary aluminum with plants in Chicago and Cleveland.

Nonfarm Industries Employment Climbs

A gain of 3,900 in Oklahoma's employment in nonfarm industries during August as compared to the previous month has been reported by the employment security commission. The state's nonfarm payroll rolls were raised during the period to 467,600, an increase of 7,400 over the figure last year. Wages also were generally higher during August, the commission reported.
GETTING THE JOB DONE
With each issue of RESOURCEFUL OKLAHOMA we will present in this space a map, chart, table or other data which we believe will help you in your work.

PER CAPITA INCOME PAYMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS, 1949

UNITED STATES $1,330

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, OFFICE OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS
50-243
Future of State Progress Hinges On Water Study

Oklahoma state agencies are neck deep in the problem of planning the best use of the state's soil and water resources for the next five to ten decades.

Oklahoma has been asked to state her needs for the proper development of these vital resources before a committee set up by Congress last June. This group, known as the Arkansas-White-Red Basins Inter-Agency Committee, is made up of federal agencies and the governors of Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, New Mexico, Colorado, Missouri, Arkansas, and Louisiana.

Two series of meetings are now in progress—one consists of public hearings to enable private citizens to air their views on the future development of soil and water, and the other is a series of technical discussions to determine engineering data needed for intelligent planning.

Engineering discussions take up such matters as the amount of water now being used by towns and industries, the amount to be found in flowing streams or underground, and—perhaps most important of all—how much water will be needed in the future and where it is to be found.

Underlying the whole Inter-Agency Committee program is the dramatic fact that water is one of the natural resources without which man cannot live. Furthermore, the natural increase of population and expansion of industry means that present water supplies are already insufficient. Only through careful planning can the best use be made of available water.

Gov. Roy J. Turner has appointed a state committee to work out Oklahoma's soil and water development program for presentation to the Inter-Agency Committee. The state group, headed by Chairman Clarence Burch, is composed of heads of state agencies. These include the state soil conservation board, corporation commission, department of education, state board of agriculture, department of health, department of vocational education, and the Grand River Dam Authority.

This state committee is now in the process of formulating a statement which will be presented to the Inter-Agency Committee, and which will inform the Committee of what Oklahoma needs in the way of future soil and water development.

Johnson Oil Company Undergoing Expansion

Johnson Oil Refining Co., Cleveland, has begun construction work on a new refining process for the manufacture of high octane gasoline from straight run gasoline taken from crude oil.

Company officials said the plant will have a capacity of 1,840 barrels a day when completed, and will cost an estimated $750,000.

The new refinery process is a development of the Universal Oil Products Co., and is particularly designed to improve the quality of gasoline. It is the result of more than 10 years of research and experimenting.

Cannery Is Considered For Choctaw County

Civic leaders in Hugo and within Choctaw county are expected to announce soon their decision on whether or not they will finance a cannery for the area.

The proposed plant would employ an estimated 40 to 120 workers daily, and would provide a market for products grown in Choctaw county.

The factory would be located in Hugo. Estimated income from the plant of producing farmers is $500,000 yearly. Warren Whitsen, who owns similar plants in Denon and Sulphur Springs, Texas, is reported interested in operating the proposed Hugo establishment.

Increase Is Reported In Oklahoma Sorghum

Sorghum production in Oklahoma showed a 4,000,000-bushel increase over the output last year, according to federal government reports. The state crop is estimated by the agriculture department at 14,688,000 bushels compared with 10,262,000 last year.
Sequoyah Is Name Selected For Park

It's "Sequoyah State Park" from now on.

That was the decision of the Oklahoma Planning and Resources board during its last monthly meeting at the statehouse, fixing an official name to the park area created by the construction of Fort Gibson dam located about five miles north and east of the historic town of Fort Gibson.

The board also started plans to acquire property around two other lakes: Wister, in LeFlore county, and Tenkiller, in Sequoyah county, for recreation purposes and probable state parks.

The new Sequoyah park, formerly known as the Fourteen Mile Creek area, is comprised of 3,500 acres lying on a peninsula extending into the Fort Gibson lake just north of the recently completed dam and about midway between Wagoner and Tahlequah. It extends into a 51,000-acre clear-water lake.

The Sequoyah name was agreed upon because the park lies in the heart of the old Cherokee Indian nation. Sequoyah was a famous Cherokee Indian leader.

Clarence Burch, board chairman, was authorized to initiate negotiations with the Corps of Army Engineers regarding acquisition of a reasonable amount of land around the Wister and Tenkiller reservoirs. Both lie in one of Oklahoma's most scenic regions.

Largest Pecan In Kiowa Area Is 112 feet High

Located in the bottom-land of the North Fork of Red River is one of the largest trees of its kind in the southwest. It is a giant pecan tree owned by Cleburn Brown, a farmer residing in southern Kiowa county.

The tree is the largest known pecan tree in Oklahoma. This big specimen is located on property 10 miles west of Mountain Park, and measures 66.1 inches in diameter at 4½ feet above the ground. It stands 112 feet tall.

Tulsa Company Gets Bomber Parts Award

Contract to manufacture sub-assemblies for the huge B-36 bomber — largest in the world — has been awarded Tulsa's Spartan Aircraft Co.

E. H. Gubser, Spartan vice-president, said the contract for B-36 parts was signed with Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., whose Fort Worth plant is turning out the bomber.

Spartan will manufacture engine mounts and turret doors for the bomber. At the same time, the company plans to increase production on its four models of house trailers to meet a war-created demand for portable and emergency housing.

A thousand persons are employed at the plant.

TONKAWA INDUSTRY AIDED BY FOUNDRY

Two years ago E. M. Wetmore suggested to Cliff Salsbury that he move his Dewey foundry to Tonkawa. Salsbury, of Bartlesville, recently sold his interest in the Dewey foundry and announced opening of a new foundry in Tonkawa.

The new concern will manufacture grey iron, aluminum, brass and bronze castings. The foundry will employ 25 to 30 men at the start, with possibility that up to 100 men will be hired when capacity operation is reached.

Growth of the tree appears to have been very little, if any, during the past 25 years, although it apparently is maintaining its vigor.

Borings, for example, will show an increase of about one inch of new wood in the last 15 years, although outer bark deterioration may mean an over-all decrease in diameter.

Wild bees have two hives in the tree, both of which are active. Brown has two other large pecan trees within a few rods of the big tree. These each measure about four feet in diameter and 100 feet tall.

Tallness of the big tree may be judged somewhat by the man standing below in the accompanying photograph to this article.