Shawnee Selected As Site For New State Industry

Progressiveness has paid dividends again for Shawnee in the form of another new industry that eventually will have a normal payroll of $50,000 to $75,000 annually.

City officials have officially announced that the Thomas Industries of Wenonah, N. J., is moving its operations to Shawnee and plans to be in production by May 1 in a new plant building.

Jim P. Thomas, owner, was in Shawnee recently and completed negotiations with Elmer Kenison, secretary, Shawnee chamber of commerce and other city officials.

The firm manufactures scientific instruments, model supplies, special tools and dies. It is the only manufacturer of the Spitz planetarium, a device that projects images of stars, the sun, moon and planets in a classroom or museum for study.

In model equipment, the company makes locomotives, airplane gas tanks and other items.

Thomas said the planetarium was invented by Armand Spitz, director of education at Franklin Institute, Philadelphia. It has been in production about 20 years.

This isn't the first time Shawnee has hit the jackpot of big industry. A little more than a year ago the million dollar factory of Sylvania Electric Product, Inc., manufacturer of radio and television tubes, located there after the company became impressed with the city's unity in purpose and genuine civic pride.

Shawnee's success in getting herself into a position to attract out-of-state industry has grown into a subject of statewide comment. Industrial leaders generally feel there is no more potent influence exerted to attract industry than the force of community preparation for expansion.

Sunray Oil Builds New Office-Garage Building

Sunray Oil Corp. has announced plans for the immediate construction of a new garage-office building in Tulsa. Needed to house the expanding operations of the company, the building will include a stock room, printing department, files section, production department and laboratory.

State Processed Resources Cited Need of State

Steps must be taken immediately by southwestern states to preserve their natural gas reserves for industrial development, Gov. Johnston Murray told representatives of Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas recently at a tri-state meeting at Lake Murray.

The governor repeatedly expressed his feeling that the raw products and materials of the southwest should be processed and manufactured in the southwest.

He said: "Did you know that for every $100 worth of cowhides we produce in Oklahoma we pay $750 for leather? And did you know that for every $50 worth of our grain, we pay back $250 for breakfast foods and some of the stuff we had served us this morning. These conditions should be changed so that we may turn to the people of our state the new wealth that is created by processing and manufacturing."

Gov. Murray outlined advantages Oklahoma and the southwest have attractive to industry.

"We have a tremendous wealth of natural resources and raw materials of all kinds," he stated. "We have a climate that is conducive to both industry and to general living. We have available water for all purposes over most of Oklahoma. We have almost unlimited fuels and since World War II, we have built up one of the finest skilled and trained labor markets in the United States."

Our Cover

Grand Lake in northeastern Oklahoma is one of the leading show spots in the state. It has wonderful boating, a multitude of resorts, good fishing and all-round play activity. This month's cover picture shows one of the lake's chief attractions, the "Cherokee Queen," a large excursion boat, starting for a cruise.
Tama Pottery Plant Expanding

The Tate families in Perry turn out very fine pottery and, in addition—and perhaps first in order—they are bubbling over with the spirit of Oklahoma.

Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Tate, and Leonard's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Tate, owners of Tamac, Inc., in Perry, are such enthusiastic boosters of Oklahoma as a place to live and do business that a discourse on fishing or industrial possibilities in the state goes right along or perhaps precedes their sales technique on ceramics.

Tamac, Inc. was organized in 1946 in the cramped quarters of a made-over two-car garage in the rear of the elder Tate's home. From then until now it has had pleasant growing pains.

As it is now, since its first expansion in 1948, the factory is located on a 300-foot fronting on U. S. Highway 64-77, just south of Perry. The business is housed in a 40x120-foot building.

Tamac has got to expand again. Market demand for its pottery products cannot be met with present facilities. During the past three weeks the company turned down more business than it had the first six months of 1950.

The Tates are in the process of expanding so that production can be doubled. There are 18 employees at present, but seven more are expected to be added by mid-summer.

Tamac is operated on an assembly line basis with three modern kilns and a plant full of the latest equipment for turning out quality pottery. By the Tamac method it requires seven days to turn out a finished product. The Tates originate their designs, prepare their own clays and make their own colors.

Specialties are buffet services and regular dinnerware in two colors, avocado and frosty pine, and floralware in frosty pine.

Unusual designs of all Tamac's pottery is credited for the consistently thriving success of the business. Young Mrs. Tate, a New Englander by birth but who has all the friendly and charming attributes of a native Oklahoman, does all the designing for the variety of products.

The elder Tate, who actually is a fisherman at heart and sincerely believes Oklahoma is abundantly blessed with enough scenic and recreational areas to be recognized nationally, makes all the molds used by the industry. He estimates he has turned out about 600 different types. Young Tate is the company's president and his mother is the retail store manager.

A well-organized marketing system has been established in the state. More than 200 Oklahoma retailers are handling the pottery, and wholesalers are ready to enter the picture. A program for a national market is underway.

A number of national magazines has given recognition to the Tamac products.

New O. C. Plant Making Fatigues

A new Oklahoma City clothing factory is now working on its first contract making fatigue overalls for the army quartermaster corps. Walter E. Allen, who operated a similar plant during the war, is owner of the establishment.

He values the new building, which was constructed for him by Oklahoma Industries, Inc., at $110,000. He said he has 100 sewing machines and other equipment valued at about $40,000. With employment expected to reach 200 persons, Allen expects a plant production of about 1,600 suits of fatigues a day.

The familiar fatigue overalls are made of herringbone twill. The cloth is furnished by the government. Allen's factory will cut the material, sew and trim it. It is called a "cut-and-make-and-trim" operation. Following the emergency, the factory will be put into civilian production, Allen said.
Automobile Windows Made From Fine Oklahoma Sand

Oklahoma has under its lush green pastures a sand indispensable to the motoring world. The same sand that bears oil at very great depths is, near the earth's surface, the source of the clearest of all automobile windows.

One million, five hundred thousand of the 7,000,000 automobiles that rolled off American assembly lines in 1950 contained Oklahoma-made glass of sand found at Roff, Oklahoma. The sands of Roff are light buff to deep brown and from greenish tints to cobalt blue. But when they emerge from the intricate washing machines, they are white as snow.

Source of the silica sand is the silica beds covering 400 square miles and ranging from 150 to 400 feet thick. They are sedimentary deposits formed in an Ordovician sea that covered parts of Oklahoma millions of years ago. Wild rivers rushed out of the northern waste carrying loose sands into huge basins. Later, when the sea disappeared, decaying vegetation of more millions of years covered the sand deposits. In this particular area, the overburden is comparatively thin, averaging about 10 feet.

The Mid-Continent Glass Sand Co. was organized and opened the first pit at Roff in 1913. Now, after 37 years of uninterrupted operation, the company is one of Oklahoma's important industries. Mid-Continent ships sand to various types of industries besides glass makers. The sand is used by foundries, smelters, chemical and paper plants throughout the country.

In the working process, the towering banks of multi-colored sand are attacked by water with a hydraulic gun. Carried to the washing plant, the brown, blue and green sands are then washed and come out a pure white. It is then heated to 2,000 degrees and cooled.

Analysis made by the Oklahoma Geological Survey show this sand to be 99.85 percent silicon dioxide. That comes close to being the highest grade sand ever found anywhere.

The sudden prominence of this small Oklahoma town did not "just happen." Its rise was traditionally American: The Oklahoma Geological Survey's timely discovery of glass sand deposits; the organization of the Mid-Continent Glass Sand Co.; and the selection of Henryetta as the site for its western plant by Pittsburgh Glass, all had a part. State service plus individual enterprise plus corporation expansion is the combination that actually gave us this highly important industry.

Small Chili Industry Draws Large Profits

One of the many interesting small industries in Oklahoma is the Famous Chili Co., Bristow, operated by Mr. and Mrs. Korkames. Chili-making last year grossed the couple $250,000 during a six-month period.

From three large high-pressure cookers, approximately 4,000 pounds of chili is cooked, distributed and sold each week to area grocers. All of the Korkames customers are within a 100-mile radius of Bristow.

Future Poultry Gain To Hit Million Mark

The poultry industry should bring in more than a million dollars for Choctaw county by 1953, according to W. D. Wyatt, Jr., secretary-manager of the Choctaw County Chamber of Commerce.

He said the rapid expansion taking place in poultry production in the area, which now grosses $125,000 annually, should exceed the million dollar mark in a short period. Commercial poultry production is growing rapidly in the Hugo sector, he added.
Monument Plant
In Muskogee Is
Largest In Area

Not too many years ago the art
of monument-making had progressed
little beyond the methods used in
the days of the stone-age cave man.
Today the mechanical age has raised
the monument business to the
speeded tempo of other up-to-date
industries.

Typical of the modern monument
concern is the Muskogee Marble and
Granite Works, the largest retail
business of its kind under a single
roof in Oklahoma and second largest
monument distributor in the state.
Established in Muskogee in 1912,
the business is now a corporation
headed by Max Alfred Kelly, presi­
dent.

Kelly spends only a few hours a
week in his office, the remainder
overseeing the work. A former sales­
man, Kelly took over the business
January 6, 1946 and learned it from
the ground up. This was done on
the suggestion of his aunt, Minna
Ladtkow, who had been employed
by the company nearly eight years.
She is now secretary of the corpora­
tion and Kelly’s mother, Martha
Kelly, is vice-president.

Receiving a payroll of $30,000 in
1950, the firm’s 14 employes work
on a mass production basis. Each
year, they use nearly 250,000 pounds
of stone which is finished, cut and
lettered by the factory. Their many
types of monuments range from
slant markers to giant mausoleums.

Pickle Company Plans
New Processing Mark

The Calvin Pickle Co. in Hughes
county has lifted its sights this year
and plans to handle 300 acres of
cucumbers in its pickle processing
plant. Weldon Hundley, co-owner,
said the company processed cucum­
berson from 100 acres last year. He
said there is a national shortage of
pickles, making this year’s market
especially good. The company can
handle an estimated 20,800 bushels
this year.

Sylvania Is Satisfied With
Factory Site In Shawnee

SEALED IN GLASS—Shown above are employes of Sylvania Electric
Products, Inc. as they vacuum-seal finished radio tubes in glass. The Shawnee
plant manufactures receiving tubes for radio and TV radio sets. With 282
persons currently employed, the plant will reach a personnel peak of about
500 by August 1.

"We selected Oklahoma after in­
vestigations in several southwestern
states. We liked the spirit of Okla­
ahoma. We were impressed by the
activities of the Shawnee chamber
of commerce and the citizens and
business men of Shawnee. Now that
we are there, we are glad we came
and we are ready to help bring more
industry to Oklahoma."

This statement was made recently
by C. W. Hosterman, plant manager
of Sylvania Electric Products, Inc.,
at a meeting of the Eastern Okla­
ahoma Industrial Clinic held in We­
woka, as to the story “Why Syl­
vania Came to Oklahoma.”

Sylvania, manufacturer of radio
tubes, is a million-dollar plant that
began operation in Shawnee less
than a year ago.

Hosterman outlined to the clinic
the factors that influenced his com­
pany to select Oklahoma and Shaw­
nee. They were:

Oklahoma enthusiasm; transporta­
tion facilities—highways, railroads
and airlines; experience of other in­
dustries in the community; taxes and
efficiency and honesty of govern­
ment; safety and sanitation; police
and fire protection; health conditions
and hospital facilities; housing; peo­
ple—calibre, record, education; edu­
cational, social and recreational fa­
cilities; churches; stores—shopping
facilities; library; hotel facilities and
local spirit.

"These are the factors," Hoster­
man said, “which industry considers
when it is looking for plant locations
and expansion."

He recommended that in striving
for industrial development Okla­
homa concentrate on industries that
can use and refine Oklahoma raw
materials, and “maintain and pro­
mote higher social, moral and politi­
cal standards.”

Enid Chemical Supply Company
Puts New Buildings in Operation

Two new buildings of the expand­
ing Southwest Chemical Supply Co.
of Enid are now in operation.
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 IN OKLAHOMA,
BY NUMERICAL ORDER

1949

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<th>County</th>
<th>Per Capita Income</th>
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<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
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<td>Latimer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cherokee</td>
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SOURCE: Bureau of Business Research, University of Oklahoma
Porcelain Firm In Sand Springs Serves Big Area

From a business without a customer, the Southwestern Porcelain Steel Co. in Sand Springs has grown in the space of four years to be one of the busiest plants in the Tulsa area.

Telephone pay station signs for New York City, dealer signs for an Ohio machinery manufacturer, 20,000 street markers for Oklahoma City, steel for a service station and bus station signs for a transcontinental bus line . . . Such are the items stacked in the plant awaiting porcelaining. Many of the largest manufacturers, oil companies and bottling concerns are its customers.

The factory has expanded from a 12,000-square-foot floor space to 25,000 square feet. Sixty-three persons are on the payroll.

GRDA Will Inaugurate Advertising Program

A new national advertising program designed to bring additional new industries to Oklahoma has been started by the Grand River Dam authority. It sets up a $5,250 schedule beginning in April magazine issues.

Such a program in 1950 is considered largely responsible for the location of two $4,000,000 plants near GRDA’s Chouteau steam-electric station, those of the National Gypsum Co. and the Coronado Manufacturing Co. Both are now under construction.

Electric Co-operative Payroll Shows Past Ten-Year Increase

The annual payroll of the Northeast Oklahoma Electric co-operative has jumped from $13,929.91 in 1940 to $148,328.58 in 1950. The second largest REA co-op in the state, it supplies electricity to more than 5,800 families in the Vinita area. The organization is expected to be larger by next fall when a new 371-mile power line is added.

Oklahoma Gas Reserves Being Stored Underground

Storing 50 billion feet of gas 3,250 feet below the earth’s surface into the same rock formations that produced an equal amount of the precious fuel in 28 years is being undertaken by the Oklahoma Natural Gas Co. in a 1,900-acre area four and one-half miles south of Depew in Creek county.

R. W. Kubista, the company’s chief engineer, explained that eight "input" wells, drilled to a depth of 3,250 feet and entering the Dutcher sand, will be used to channel gas obtained at various points in Oklahoma to the rock formations that originally held 50 billion cubic feet of the fuel.

It was pointed out that power to force the gas into the earth will be furnished by a four-unit, 4,400-horsepower pressure station, and that the same units will be used to bring the gas back to the earth’s surface and force it into transmission lines as the need arises.

Kubista said the storage project has a two-fold purpose. One is to store gas against future needs and the other will enable ONG to handle peak loads of gas available in summer months when little gas is consumed.

At the present rate of 45 cents a thousand cubic feet, the 50 billion cubic feet will have a retail value of $22,500,000.

Gas stored at Depew will come from the West Edmond field and fields near Enid and Crescent. Approximately 85 per cent of the fuel is known as "residue" gas and is produced by gasoline plants.

The project is expected to be completed this summer when the last of the eight input wells is completed. The pressure station is being constructed by the Gasoline Plants Construction Corp.

Comfort of Cafe Patrons Leads To New Factory

Two enterprising Oklahoma brothers have parlayed the personal comfort of restaurant customers into a profitable business. Fred and Lee Lamb, owners of the Lamb Cabinet Shop of Muskogee, manufacture every variety of restaurant and cafe fixtures.

In 1945 the two men assumed management from their father who organized the firm in 1936. They realized that although the state was rich in fine lumber, most restaurant fixtures were being made in the east. Seizing the opening, the Lambs had very little difficulty finding a market in Oklahoma for their top quality work.

Using the native hard wood from the Eufaula and Fort Gibson areas, the booth frames are built. On these go a non-sag spring, which is in turn covered with an insulating material. The booth is then covered with a layer of felt followed by a plastic upholstering material. In the case of tables, the plywood tops are covered with a high-pressure cigaretteproof plastic.

The finest examples of their work are reported to be found in the student union buildings at Oklahoma A. & M. and the University of Oklahoma.

A $60,000 business, the Lamb Cabinet Shop hires six full-time employees within the shop and one salesman. Average daily output is comparable to eight restaurant booths. Yearly payroll amounts to nearly $15,000.

Sallisaw Area To Get Veneer Mill Factory

Arrangements have been completed by Bates Furlow of Sallisaw, and John Armstrong, Okemah, for establishment of a veneer mill in Vian. They are moving a saw mill to Vian from New Mexico and a veneering mill from Springfield, Mo. The new industry will employ about 25 men in the mill and that many in the field to cut and haul timber.
Durant Factory Gives Boost To State Economy

The Durant Box Factory, sprawling over 20 acres of land a mile north of Durant, is making considerable contribution to the industrial economy of southeastern Oklahoma.

People around Durant like to call the company an all-Oklahoma team that’s working for the betterment of Durant and the southeastern part of the state. The policy of the company is to hire Oklahomans exclusively. In an effort to keep money in that area, the factory purchases all its timber within a 100-mile radius of Durant.

The factory provides egg cases for three of the nation’s leading meat packing companies—Wilson & Co., Cudahy, and Swift & Co. A large shipment of egg crates is being filled for export overseas on an army order. In fact, all the egg crates now being made are for defense orders.

The factory produces 2,500 crates daily.

Management of the enterprise include Earl Haggard, general manager; Charles Haggard, founder, and David Blewett, production and sales manager. The business was established in 1929.

The factory has 53 employees who draw an annual payroll of $96,000.

Only type of timber being used at present is cottonwood, considered a hardwood and grown in river bottomland. It is considered the fastest growing species of its kind. The plant is processing about 30,000 feet of lumber a week and the veneer mill is turning out approximately 20,000 feet of timber on the lathe.

IT WON'T BE LONG NOW—Scenes like the one shown above will be the general rule before many days go by. This picture was snapped at the Burn’s Run resort area at Lake Texoma, a lake that attracted more than 4,000,000 visitors last year. Thousands of vacationists enjoy this sand beach, considered the broadest in the state. It is, of course, only one of the many that can be found along the shoreline of this great inland sea.

Building From Ocean Is First For World

A one-story office building, just completed by Dowell Inc. of Tulsa, is the first of its kind in the world. It was taken from the ocean.

Cement used to cover the exterior walls and floors was manufactured as a by-product of sea water. It is called Oxyment by the Dow Chemical Co. The new product is magnesium oxychloride cement—a combination of magnesium chloride and plastic oxychloride. It is prepared much like ordinary cement, with sand and water being added to it.

Eufaula May Be Site Of Costly New Dam

The fifth largest dam in the United States may be constructed near Eufaula. Reports out of Washington are that the U. S. corps of engineers have agreed to build the single Eufaula reservoir instead of carrying out a proposed two-dam project.

The project would involve an estimated expenditure of $130,000,000 which has not yet been appropriated by congress. Sponsors of the plan envision a lake the size of Lake Texoma.