Sale of Travel Stamps To Be Pushed In June

The Planning and Resources Board's travel stamp plan got a shot in the arm this month when Governor Murray officially designated June as "Oklahoma Travel Stamp Month."

The board plans to climax the first phase of the stamp program by selling and putting in circulation at least five million more stamps by the end of June, according to Morton Harrison, board chairman and originator of the plan.

Ultimate goal is to influence more out-of-state people to spend their vacations in Oklahoma and to prevail upon state citizens to see Oklahoma first.

The travel album and pictorial stamps are interrelated. The album is a 68-page booklet of historical, educational and recreational points of interest in Oklahoma. There is no charge for it when stamps are purchased.

The board printed ten million travel stamps. Fifty stamps comprise a sheet, each stamp bearing a picture of an outstanding attraction. Each sheet sells for 50 cents. Revenue from stamp sales will be used to produce other advertising materials.

Private enterprises have joined the board's promotion by purchasing and distributing stamps, Harrison said. He stated that three major oil companies have bought stamps for resale at their service stations. A discount is allowed retail outlets if stamps are purchased for resale.

Twenty chambers of commerce have bought bulk quantities, he added, as well as a number of hotels, restaurants, civic clubs and other businesses.

Business enterprises are being urged by the board's personnel to obtain stamps at the state office or from local sources for use on outgoing mail or for resale, while individuals are being contacted to acquire them for study in connection with the travel albums.

Tulsan Invents Electric Eraser

A typewriter eraser that operates off the motor of an electric typewriter has been invented by a Tulsa secretary, Mrs. George P. Alden.

Mrs. Alden has patented the device, and is negotiating with a typewriter firm that has indicated it is interested in it.

She got the idea for an electric typewriter eraser, Mrs. Alden said, by watching a draftsman's electric eraser operate. The idea of powering it from the typewriter motor was her own.

Power is transmitted through a clutch attachment at the end of the typewriter master drive shaft. A receptacle for the eraser housing is provided on the exterior of the typewriter. Taking the eraser from the receptacle engages a clutch which rotates the eraser by means of a flexible cable. Replacing the eraser disengages the clutch.

Petroleum Specialty Offices To Tulsa

The Petroleum Specialty Company, manufacturers of the Crall spiral paraffin scraper and the Morrison Whirlwind starter for gas engines, has moved its general offices from Pampa, Texas, to Tulsa.

One of the company's seven manufacturing plants is located in Oklahoma City.

Tulsa was selected for the general office location, President E. A. Hickman said, because it is the center of the American petroleum industry, and all the company's sales offices and manufacturing plants are readily accessible through the city's excellent transportation outlets.

The firm's major product is the plastic-coated scraper rod. It is corrosion-proof, and paraffin will not adhere to it.

The company was organized six years ago by three native Oklahomans.

Oklahoma has approximately 200 lakes larger than ten acres in area.

Industry Head Asks Return Of Questionnaires

Prompt return of industrial building and industrial site questionnaires sent to Chamber of Commerce executives all over Oklahoma is being urged by Czar Langston, head of the Division of State and Industrial Planning of the Planning and Resources Board.

Langston's division is making the survey so the information will be immediately available when requested by firms seeking Oklahoma locations. Questionnaires were mailed April 2.

The questionnaires are designed to get complete information on size, arrangement and available facilities of all state industrial buildings not now in use, the character of available industrial sites and facilities available there, and of transportation available.

Those already returned indicate the state has plenty of room for new industries, Langston said.

Before the survey was made, it was necessary to query each state Chamber of Commerce whenever an inquiry was received from a concern considering Oklahoma as an industrial location. When data on the questionnaires is compiled, the industrial division can supply information on suitable industrial locations without delay.

Our Cover

Quartz Mountain State Park is a popular vacation spot for Oklahomans and Texans alike. Our cover picture, a view of 6,000-acre Lake Altus, set among the rugged granite mountains, was taken by Kazimir Petrauskas, Planning Board photographer.

Gross wages and salaries paid to employees in the state's mining industry for 1949, before any deductions for social insurance, were $133,800,000.
Tulsa Launches Business Study

A research project designed to make available complete information on Tulsa's business life has been launched by the Chamber of Commerce. Work is being done by volunteers who are experts in their fields.

Projects in fourteen separate fields are being conducted to give an overall picture of the city which is expected to be of value to Tulsa businesses, social services and city and county government.

The different projects are agriculture; population and census tracts; markets; labor; finance and insurance; government, legislation and taxes; resources; transportation; health, recreation and climate construction and housing; wholesale trade; retail trade; manufacturing; and the petroleum industry.

Chinchilla Industry Gets Start In State

Chinchillas — tiny animals with pelts worth $50 or more—are being raised successfully by F. W. Johnson, Tulsa, at his Sooner State Chinchilla Ranch. Johnson predicts chinchilla-raising could become a large and profitable Oklahoma industry.

Though the chinchilla weighs only 16 to 26 ounces when full grown, a top grade animal sells for from $1,250 to $1,500.

Johnson purchased five pairs of top-quality chinchillas last July at Salt Lake City, and now has approximately 40 top grade animals. He raises them in his garage.

They usually breed twice a year, have from one to five babies per litter, and live for ten to sixteen years.

Two and one-half glasses of water are needed to make smokeless powder for one 30 caliber bullet. An armored division can shoot off 600 tons of ammunition a day. The water needed to make the powder used would supply a city of 50,000 people for one day.

LARGEST COCOANUT PROCESSING PLANT in the Southwest is just one small phase of Griffin Grocery Company operations. Women in the picture above are packaging cocoanut which was processed at the company's Muskogee plant.

Manufacturing Groceries Is Big State Industry

To most Oklahomans, Griffin Grocery Company is a familiar name on their grocers' shelves; few of them realize the importance of its contribution to the economic life of eastern Oklahoma and the Southwest.

Griffin's paid farmers in and around Muskogee $303,300 last year for corn, spinach and green beans. In an average season the company employs over 500 people, and has an annual payroll of over $1,400,000.

In addition, it claims the distinction of being the first canning plant in the Arkansas river valley.

The Griffin processing plant at Muskogee was one of the leading factors in getting the eastern Oklahoma river bottom area away from the one-crop system. Growers soon discovered they could get two or three times as much revenue per acre from spinach and green beans as from cotton.

To back up its motto, "When it's Griffin's, it's good," the company has field superintendents to inspect the crops it buys and tell the growers when to harvest. Then the vegetables are rushed into the can in the shortest time possible.

Though products are marketed over a five-state area, all processing is done in Oklahoma. The one exception to this is peanut butter, which is made at Denison, Texas, from Oklahoma and Texas peanuts.

Most of the company's operations are carried on at Muskogee. Here workers roast and pack Griffin's coffee, process cocoanut, grind, blend and pack spices, make salad dressing, preserves, candy, jelly and waffle syrup, and can spinach, green beans, English peas, corn, greens and other fresh vegetables.

When the season for fresh vegetables is over, Griffin's goes to work on dry pack vegetables, such as pork and beans, blackeyed peas and bacon, hominy, limas, Mexican beans, red kidney beans and brown beans.

(See GROCERIES—Pg. 6)
Early Portraitists Are Featured At Gilcrease

This portrait of John Rowe, noted Boston diarist, painted by Robert Feke is one of the rare early paintings featured in the newly-arranged gallery at Gilcrease Museum. Considered by many authorities the first American portraitist of real merit, Feke worked from 1741 to 1748.

Emphasis on Oklahoma's rapid industrial development, agriculture, mineral wealth and colorful history has caused many people to overlook her cultural advantages.

Opening of a newly-arranged gallery at Gilcrease Museum, Tulsa, which features portraits by early American artists whose work is found only in a few outstanding museums in this country this month brought this aspect of the state to the fore.

Paintings in the gallery encompass the history of art in this country, ranging from the work of the earliest American portrait painters to such artists as Homer, Sargent and Whistler.

Among the rarest and most important are portraits by three pioneers in American art.

One of these is a portrait of John Cotton painted by John Smibert, Scottish-born artist who came to America in 1728. The Gilcrease portrait is recognized as one of his best.

Work of Robert Feke, first American-born artist to gain distinction as a portraitist, is represented by his picture of John Rowe, Boston diarist. Feke worked from 1741 to 1748.

Third of the early portraits is James Bogle's portrait of John C. Calhoun, painted from life in 1847.

The gallery also includes work of James McNeill Whistler, John Singer Sargent, John Singleton Copley, Winslow Homer, Thomas Sully and John Vanderlyn.

Also included is sculpture by such artists as Clark Mills, Daniel French and Augustus Saint-Gaudens.

Presentation of the newly-arranged gallery to the public commemorated the third anniversary of the reopening of the museum in 1949. It had been closed for two years before that time to be rebuilt and enlarged.

Long recognized as one of the most important Indian museums in the world, Gilcrease features an important display of pre-Columbian material from Central and South America. Sculpture and other artifacts of ancient Indian civilizations found there are among the world's finest.

A vast collection of Americana accumulated by Thomas Gilcrease, the museum's founder, during the past 40 years was the first phase of the museum.

The Gilcrease galleries are open to the public without charge from 1:30 to 4:30 every afternoon except Saturday.

State Industry Grows Rapidly, Survey Reveals

Industrial expansion in Oklahoma since 1945 is so much greater than at first thought that completion date for a state-wide industry study has been moved from May 15 to June 1, Czar Langston, head of the industrial division, has revealed.

One of the four reports in the industrial study will give name, location, type of products and number of employees of all new industries in the state. It is believed determining the sort of industries thriving in certain areas will encourage similar industries to locate there.

While figures on industrial expansion are not yet available, Langston said it is already apparent that it will amount to millions of dollars more than participating agencies thought when the survey was started.

Oil Finding Center Moving To Tulsa

Sinclair's general oil finding center is going to be moved to Tulsa, according to P. C. Spencer, president of Sinclair Oil Corp. and Sinclair Refining Co.

A new office building is to be built in Tulsa, and more employees added as the search for oil, now costing over $75,000,000 a year, is enlarged.

Moving Sinclair's oil finding center to Tulsa is a step in moving the oil-seek ing capital of the world from New York to Tulsa, where it belongs, Spencer pointed out.

Expansion program planned for Sinclair includes a large laboratory and research program in Tulsa, Spencer said.

Of 2,700 industrial plants answering a recent nation-wide questionnaire, 209 replied that they were using more than one million gallons per day.

Osage Art Exhibit Held At State Park

"Osage Art Day," held April 27 at the Community Center at Osage Hills State Park, proved so successful plans are being made to make it an annual affair.

Sponsored jointly by Park Super­intendent T r u m a n Mullins and members of the Bartlesville Art Association, the exhibit of paintings of the Osage country drew more than a thousand visitors.

Survey Reveals

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Only Producer Of Rare Metal Is In Oklahoma

The only plant in the world where germanium, rare metal used in the field of electronics, is produced is located in Oklahoma. Process for extracting the tiny quantities of germanium from tons of ore rock was developed during World War II at the Eagle-Picher Mining Company's Henryetta plant.

Germanium is valuable in the electronics industry because it is a semi-conductor. Its ability to carry current can be changed, thus controlling the current flowing through it. It has 42,000 times the resistance of copper, but far less than glass or mica.

Twelve hundred tons, or twenty freight car loads of zinc ore rock are required to get one pound of germanium. Except for the zinc and cadmium also extracted from the ore, the process of extracting germanium would probably be too expensive.

Present output has been unofficially estimated at from 1000 to 2000 pounds a year. A rapid increase in demand, perhaps as much as 15,000 pounds annually is predicted. Other companies are expected to enter the field in response to this demand. Right now, the price of germanium is $342 a pound.

Development of the process for extracting germanium from zinc ore rock is credited largely to F. G. McCutcheon, superintendent of the Henryetta plant, and H. R. Harner, of Eagle-Picher's research laboratory at Joplin, Mo.

Presence of germanium in the Henryetta zinc ore was first discovered in the 1920's, when an attempt was made to purify it by electrolysis. It was by trying to get rid of germanium that McCutcheon gained knowledge valuable to him when the government needed germanium to use for research in electronics during the war.

Oklahoma-Made Trailers Used In World's Mines

A OKLAHOMA PRODUCT used in mines throughout the world is the truck and tractor trailer manufactured by the Landis Steel Construction Company at Picher. Each unit is engineered for the job it is to perform to give top performance at low operating cost.

Armed with the belief Oklahoma would continue to grow and his business could grow with the state, the late J. E. (Jack) Landis founded the Landis Steel Construction Company in 1917 at Picher—center of the rich Tri-State lead and zinc area.

Today, Landis truck and tractor trailers are being used in mines and quarries throughout the United States and many foreign countries.

Under Landis’ guidance, the company became one of the outstanding businesses of its kind in the United States, and began expanding into other fields of steel fabrication. Landis was one of the first companies in the field to install electric welding to increase the durability and performance of its trailers.

In April, 1926, the plant was destroyed by fire and a group of all steel fire-proof buildings were erected on the original site. Newer and better machinery was added and the business became still more diversified.

When the business was incorporated in 1935 as the Landis Steel Company, Mr. Landis became president and general manager and his son, Miles B. Landis, became secretary-treasurer. The latter took over direct supervision of the plant the next year, when his father died.

When hauling rock and chat by trucks became a standard practice in the mining fields, the Landis Steel Company started building trailers. But the Landis organization, instead of sacrificing the quality of its work by standardizing production methods, began fabricating trailers to the needs of individual companies.

As Miles B. Landis, president of the company, explains, "By engineering each trailer to the specific needs of a job, Landis trailers are able to give top performance with lower operating and maintenance costs." All, however, have certain features in common; all are electrically welded and hydraulically operated with guaranteed, safe connections.

Landis trailers have been so wide-
City Water Study Made

Information on water supplies in 364 Oklahoma towns is included in a report published by the Water Resources Division of the Planning and Resources Board, in cooperation with the U. S. Geological Survey.

The report, first of its kind ever to be published by the organization, gives information on the quantity and quality of water used in each of the towns. It was prepared, officials explained, because the water situation is becoming increasingly critical.

It is also expected to be helpful to industries seeking Oklahoma locations, though information given is only on water used, rather than water available.

Information given on each city includes population; population served by the city water system, source of information, ownership of water supply, source of supply, pumpage, treatment and distribution storage.

Copies of the booklet, entitled “Public Water Supplies in Oklahoma,” have been distributed to all Oklahoma's state colleges.

State Plant Gets $80,000 Contract

An $80,000 defense sub-contract to manufacture parts for B-47 jet bombers has been awarded the Medical Instrument and Equipment Company at Stillwater.

New production will start as soon as necessary retooling is finished, according to Mahlon Robertson, owner of the plant.

Payroll of the plant will be increased from six skilled workmen to sixteen, Robertson said.

TRAILERS...

(Continued from Page 5)

... are accepted in rock and chat hauling that, to a certain extent, they are replacing standard dump trucks.

The company has specialized equipment to manufacture elevator cups, steel spouting, jigs, tram and ground cars, as well as all types of structural steel work.

GROCERIES...

(Continued from Page 3)

Buildings housing processing equipment, warehouses and office space cover a block and a half in Muskogee. In addition, the company this year purchased and reopened a canning plant at Stigler where spinach, greens, and green beans are processed.

A quarter of a million dollars has been spent in the past three years in modernizing the plants.

Company officials estimate at least 200 growers sell vegetables to Griffin’s. They live in an area from Bixby on the northwest to Fort Smith on the southeast, from Springdale on the northeast to Antlers on the southwest.

Founded by brothers, J. T. and Charlie Griffin, as a wholesale grocery firm in 1908, the company started manufacturing its own wholesale groceries in 1924.

Officers of the company are John T. Griffin, president; Bryan Cole and James C. Leake, vice presidents; Bryan Mathes, secretary-treasurer; and J. B. Davis, sales manager.

A visitor at Roman Nose State Park tries his luck in Boecher Lake, which was recently completed and stocked with trout. Dedication for the new lake was held Sunday, May 4.
Co-operative efforts of two Oklahoma oil companies to avert pollution of a stream when an asphalt blending tank exploded have been reported by the Pollution department of the Division of Water Resources.

The explosion occurred the night of April 22 at the Kerr-McGee Industries plant south of Duncan. One hundred fifty barrels of crude oil were released into Cow Creek, a stream that runs through the edge of the town of Waurika and into the Red River.

Both Kerr-McGee and Sunray Oil Corporation, a competing company, sent workmen to the scene immediately to keep the oil from flowing downstream.

Crews of from six to twelve men worked for three days, constructing plank baffles ahead of the oil scum, then soaking up the oil in hay and straw to be burned on the creek banks.

The Pollution department said that reports from Cliff Wise, Kerr-McGee superintendent, and R. L. Johnson, Sunray superintendent, indicated the two companies voluntarily spent over $2,500 in cleaning up the oil-spattered creek.

Mattress Company Is Perry Industry

A new industry at Perry is the Perry Mattress Company, specializing in box spring, innerspring and Hollywood beds, renovating and new mattresses of any size.

The new plant is owned by Robert Neese, who was formerly co-owner of the Seminole Mattress Company.

In the ten years from 1939 to 1949, there was a 36 percent increase in water use per industrial plant in the United States.

Colorful Festival Is Held At Prague

The second annual Kolache festival, one of the most colorful celebrations held in Oklahoma, was observed May 18-19-20 at Prague.

Citizens of Prague, a Czech settlement now thoroughly Americanized, put on their native costumes, revived their Czech folk dances, and held a street dance to Bohemian music.

A pageant entitled "Contrast," picturing differences in life in America and Czechoslovakia, opened the festival.

A queen was crowned on the last night by Dr. Edward Taborsky, former secretary to the late Edward Benes, last president of Czechoslovakia.

Old Indian Agency Will Be Restored

Another of Oklahoma's historic landmarks, the old Indian Agency building in Muskogee, is going to be restored as a tourist attraction.

The building, which stands on Honor Heights hill in Muskogee, will be restored to its original exterior appearance by the Veterans Administration.

Affairs of the Five Civilized Tribes were administered from this building before statehood.

Fifth Festival Held At "Berry Capital"

Fifth annual strawberry festival was held May 24 at Stilwell, the "Strawberry Capital of the World."

Begun in 1948, the festival has grown each year.

Festivities this year included a parade, crowning of a strawberry queen, programs by guest artists, and a rodeo. Free strawberries and ice cream were served to festival visitors.

Northeastern Oklahoma leads the world in production of lead and zinc.

Steel Company Is New Industry In Tulsa Area

One of the larger additions to Oklahoma industry during the past year is the Southwest Steel Corporation, at Tulsa.

Purchased from the Southwestern Engineering Company, the new plant went into production June 1, 1951. Its products are sold all over the United States, and plans are already being made by the owners, M. J. McNulty, Jr., Joe McNulty and Connelly Sanders, to build a larger shop at a new location.

Products of the company include refinery heaters, hot water storage tanks, ladders, platforms, railings, and such ornamental iron work as porch columns and railings. Their annual value is estimated at $600,000.

Plant equipment includes drill presses, punches, plate rolls, welding machines and angle rolls. It is capable of doing all types of light steel fabrication.

The company occupies 5000 square feet of floor space, and has 24 employees and a monthly payroll of $6,000.

President of the corporation is M. J. McNulty, Jr., Connelly Sanders, secretary-treasurer of the corporation, acts as general manager.

McNulty’s past experience includes real estate, oil production, paving, bridge construction work, and transportation of commercial refrigeration and air conditioning equipment.

Saunders is also a native Oklahoman, with wide experience in the business field and in oil production.

Cherokee County Has Berry Festival

Cherokee county celebrated the strawberry crop that may bring in $250,000 this year at its fourth annual strawberry festival May 14.

The county now has about 650 acres in strawberries, according to Elmer Davis, Chamber of Commerce secretary.
First Rubber Plant Expanding

A recent expansion at the H. B. Egan Manufacturing Company, for many years Oklahoma's only rubber plant, has increased floor space at its Muskogee plant by 25 per cent.

An additional 5400 square feet of factory space and 720 square feet of office space has been added to relieve congestion in the fast-growing plant.

Complete line of jobber repair materials manufactured by the firm is sold all over the world. Products carry the well-known "Camel" brand name, and include tire and tube repair materials, a full line of cement, friction tape, vulcanized patches, cold patches, repair kits, and a pre-cured tire patch to be cemented in, rather than vulcanized.

The company was organized in 1923 as an assembly plant, buying bulk materials from the major rubber companies. C. E. Chacey, who had 15 years experience with a large rubber company, became factory manager in 1941, and rubber processing was started. The Egan company now starts at the very beginning, with crude rubber imported from the Malay peninsula. Even the machinery used was developed in its own machine shop.

Workers were all local people, trained in the highly technical rubber processing work under Chacey's supervision. The company now has about 80 employees.

The Egan company and the Goodrich plant at Miami are Oklahoma's only rubber plants. Small rubber plants tend to cluster around large ones, Chacey explained, because their founders usually get their experience with the large companies, and because a supply of skilled labor will be available in the area.

Different formulas are used in manufacturing rubber to be used for different purposes. Seventy-five different chemicals are mixed with rubber to make the plant's various products, Chacey said.

Raw rubber, cut in chunks for easy weighing, is mixed with other ingredients according to an exact formula. The mixture is then fed into a two-roll rubber mill which masticates it for thirty minutes, dispersing all ingredients uniformly. Then the rubber is rolled out to the desired thickness and width on calender rolls.

In another section of the plant, machines are cutting metal strips and stamping circles from them to make the Camel patch pans, and other machines are preparing the fireboard to go in the pans. Pan, rubber patch and fireboard are joined together, sealed in cellophane and put in a moisture-resistant carton. Patches for the armed forces are sealed in metal foil to be completely moisture-proof in any climate, under any conditions.

H. B. Egan, founder of the company, is president, and J. A. Egan is secretary-treasurer and general manager.

PRECURED TIRE PATCHES, to be cemented in the tire, rather than vulcanized are being inspected and packaged by a worker at the Egan Manufacturing Company in Muskogee. The company processes its own crude rubber, and produces a complete line of tire and tube repair materials.