Expanded Poultry Plant Is One Of Most Modern

Keeping pace with the increased commercial broiler business in the United States, Swift & Company has converted its Muskogee full line dairy and poultry plant to strictly a poultry dressing plant, according to J. P. Lortscher, manager.

"Although the expansion program required only one new structure, which is used as an office building, the plant reconditioning gives Muskogee one of the most modern poultry dressing and eviscerating plants in the country," Lortscher said.

In order to support increased broiler production, the company also has increased the capacity of its Muskogee hatchery, and has added a turkey poult hatchery on property under lease to the company.

Converting the existing plant building into a broiler dressing plant required two continuous dressing lines that run from the fourth floor of the building to the first floor and back again to the fourth floor feeding station. Ordinarily this operation is carried out in a one-floor building with the dressing room conveyor delivering birds from a first floor feeding station.

However, in order to retain this expanded business in Muskogee, it was decided to make use of the existing building which requires an entirely different type of layout. Poultry are elevated by an outside system which lifts the delivery coops from the receiving dock to third and fourth floor feeding stations. Here the poultry is transferred to batteries where they are retained until time for dressing.

Poultry ready for dressing are loaded on the conveyor chain from the feeding batteries at either the fourth or third floor levels. Dressing operations are carried out along two parallel lines on the second floor. Similar work is done at each station along the two lines.

Eviscerating, packing and icing are done on the first floor and the twin conveyors then return directly to the fourth floor starting point.

Most birds are now received from western Arkansas growers, although expansion of the commercial broiler business in Oklahoma indicates that this will become one of the principal farm crops in the Muskogee area.

"Since 1946, broiler production in Oklahoma has increased 673 percent, according to U.S. Department of Agriculture figures. We have had to increase our hatchery program in Muskogee nearly 400% during the last three years in order to take care of anticipated demands," Lortscher said.

Besides the chick hatchery, the new turkey poult hatchery has facilities to produce over 80,000 head of pouls.

It is expected that the plant will have a normal employment of 300 employees.

Bristow Electric Plant Expanding

Increased demand for electric service in the Bristow area has led to a $140,000 expansion program at the electric plant there, an Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company official has announced.

One of the major factors in the plant was the Wilcox refinery development.

The expansion program should be completed early in 1953.

CABLE MAKES LAKE SAFER

A 1,600-foot steel cable to keep boats away from the churning waters released from the dam is being installed at Fort Gibson Lake to help prevent deaths from drowning.

The cable, supported by 16 buoys, is about 600 feet from the face of the dam. The U. S. Corps of Engineers is installing it.

Certain-Teed To Begin Producing At Pryor Plant

As hard-to-get equipment was delivered and put in place, the Certain-Teed Products Corp. paper mill at Pryor was preparing to swing into production early in August.

The plant, which will give employment to sixty people in the Pryor area, will produce liner paper for Certain-Teed's gypsum wallboard, using scrap paper as raw material.

One of a colony of nationally-known industries clustering around the old Oklahoma Ordnance Works plant which was in operation during World War II, the mill is obtaining process steam, electric power and other utilities from the Grand River Dam Authority, located nearby.

It is the second large paper mill to be established in the area. National Gypsum's plant went into production about the first of the year.

Certain-Teed's plant has been completed for some time, but slow delivery of equipment has delayed production.

The wholly-owned subsidiary started out under the name of Coronado Products Corp., but company officials have announced that title is being dropped in favor of the Certain-Teed label.

Our Cover

Cool, clear water for fishing or a swim, surrounded by grotesque granite formations that invite exploration, greets the visitor to Devil's Den Park, near Tishomingo. Typical of the park's beauty is this picture of Pennington Creek, taken by Kazimir Petrosauskas, Planning Board photographer.

Highest point of elevation in Oklahoma is the Black Mesa area in the Panhandle. It is 4,978 feet above sea level.
Importance Of Water Is Emphasized By Report

Everyone no doubt will agree that water—as such—is a pretty important resource.

The value of such a vital necessity cannot be measured by ordinary means, but its use for domestic, irrigation and farm purposes as well as its municipal and industrial uses should be a matter of first consideration for the state.

If one cares to take time to think about this resource for a little, the following study made by the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board, division of water resources, should be interesting.

"One acre-foot of water covers an acre of land to a depth of 12 inches and compresses 43,560 cubic feet or 325,850 gallons. It will supply sufficient domestic water for one year for five people in a household, 22 cattle, two houses, six hogs and 100 chickens.

"The productive value of one acre-foot of water, if used for irrigation, is worth $27; if used for city homes and industries, $54; or, if used for hydro-electric power, 50 cents.

"Precipitation is the sum of the rainfall, sleet, hail and snow, expressed as inches of water. The average annual precipitation over the state is 32.66 inches. The distribution of the average annual precipitation is uneven, ranging from less than 16 inches in the panhandle to more than 56 inches in the eastern part of the state.

"Forty per cent of the area of Oklahoma receives less than 30 inches of rainfall needed for agriculture without the aid of irrigation. Another 34 per cent receives between 30 and 40 inches, which is less than an annual supply for normal agriculture.

"A reliable and adequate supply of domestic water is absolutely essential to every one of the more than 639,948 persons living on farms in Oklahoma. Many of these people are dependent upon underground water pumped from the ground either by hand, windmills or electric pumps; others may use surface water for some purposes. To those people the purity and adequacy of the ground water supply and that of the small streams is of utmost importance.

"Farmers in the areas of light rainfall supplement or depend entirely on irrigation water or local storage for a domestic supply and for stock water.

"More than 523,118 persons living in suburban areas but not on farms also are dependent upon much the same sources of water as are the farmers.

"The annual rainfall for Oklahoma over a 50-year period is estimated to be 121,640,000 acre feet.

"The total annual addition to Oklahoma water minus the total annual outflow indicates a residual amount of 102,534,000 acre feet taken up by infiltration, evaporation, impoundments and various uses.

Curator Is Named For Park Museum

A museum, unique in that it will present geology at the layman's level, is being installed at Tucker Tower, native stone building overlooking the lake at Lake Murray State Park.

Allen Graffham, Purcell, geology graduate of the University of Nebraska with six years of museum experience, has been named curator.

Though it will be slanted mainly toward geology, the museum will be rounded out with archeological displays. It will feature a geological history of the nearby Arbuckle Mountains, long popular with students of the subject, and will also show in sequence the culture of the south-central Oklahoma area.

CEREMONY OPENS SH 3

Guymon observed the official opening of State Highway Three with a gala celebration July 21.

Activities included a barbecue, dedication ceremonies, and a beauty contest. Candidates for the title "Queen of Highway Three" were chosen from towns along the new route, from Broken Bow, Okla., to Denver, Colo. Each candidate cut a ribbon representing her town.

FIRST BOY SCOUT TROOP in America, organized at Pawhuska in 1909, is commemorated by a memorial on the city's main street, shown in the picture above. The troop was organized by Rev. John F. Mitchell, Episcopal minister who had become interested in the movement at his home in England. Though Pawhuska then had a population of only 1,500 and Indians in native dress and cowboys with spurs jangling were a common sight, activities of the first troop were little different from those of Scouts today.
Grand Valley Site Of Huge Plant

Deere Planning Chemical Plant In Pryor Area

Oklahoma's industrial hotspot, the Grand River Dam area, is going to be the site of another large plant built by a nationally-known concern. Officials of the John Deere Implement Company have announced they are going to build a $20 million plant there to produce chemicals used in fertilizers.

According to L. A. Roland, company vice president who is in line to manage the new plant, it should be in production by January, 1954. It will have a daily capacity of 180 tons, and will employ about 200 people, most of them highly trained personnel.

Complete fertilizers will not be manufactured at the Pryor plant; rather, the chemicals produced there will be sold to fertilizer makers.

Principal products will be ammonia, urea and urea ammonia solutions. All three of these phases of ammonia refinement are used to restore nitrogen to the soil. Wide range of uses of ammonia products gives the plant an almost unlimited scope of research, Roland said.

Facilities will include a research lab for developing improved fertilizers. Research in this field, Roland pointed out, is in line with the company's policy of helping farmers in every way possible, and thus helping maintain a market for farm machinery.

New plant will be located southeast of Pryor and north of the old Oklahoma Ordnance Works. The 320 acres on which the company has an option will not all be covered with buildings, Roland said, but the large area was taken so the plant can be expanded if it proves a success. Construction of the office building, warehouses and laboratories planned for the site probably will not be started until fall.

The Deere company is the third to locate a large plant in the Grand Valley area in the past few months. Two multi-million-dollar paper plants, National Gypsum and Certain-Teed, went into production this year. In addition, Midwest Carbide Corp. of Keokuk, Iowa, is considering the area as a site for a new plant.

Will Rogers Highway Title Given US 66

Dedication of US Highway 66 as the Will Rogers Highway was an occasion for celebration in Claremore this month.

Will Rogers Jr., who played the part of his father in “The Will Rogers Story,” was on hand for the dedication, and for the world premiere of the film in Claremore July 9.

A plaque where US 66 crosses Claremore’s Main Street declares the highway's new title, and similar plaques were erected every place the highway crossed a state line. A 20-car caravan staged the eight-state dedication program.
Paper Heralds
Dawn Of New
Industrial Day

Describing northeastern Oklahoma as a land with "everything," the Tulsa World editorially heralded the $20 million John Deere plant to be constructed near Pryor as a step forward in the formation of a great industrial center.

The editorial had this to say, in part, about the area's industrial awakening:

"Primary consideration in locating an industry of national importance are power, water, eligible land, transportation. These elements converge on this favored 'settlement'. The Grand River is at hand; power comes from a dam up the river; a big gas line is projected; railroads and highways are convenient; a large tract is wide open for industrial purposes. Probably no other part of the country has or has ever had more advantages than this Mayes county section.

"The State is in the midst of a campaign to draw industry or to build up industries. So far, the locations in the northeastern area have generally been of the larger sort, but that is a help rather than hindrance to the starting of smaller industries. Most big concerns have grown up from small beginnings. The economic situation of today calls for big plants, and, they, almost automatically, encourage smaller installations. All these industries require raw materials or supplies of various sorts. We have them.

"Northeastern Oklahoma has, in the vernacular, everything. There is plenty of room for business and people; the land is naturally good and the climate generally pleasant; there is more good water than in all except rather few United States areas. The labor supply is handy and reliable. The State and counties are working almost feverishly to get roads adequate for the oncoming industrial era.

"Northeastern Oklahoma is looking for industries and it has all the essential attractions."

Okmulgee Firm Creates
Unusual Glass Products

Glassware in unusual patterns found nowhere else in the world is designed and produced by a secret process at Dick Talbett Enterprises, a new plant now getting underway in Okmulgee.

Under the trade name "Ancient Glass," the firm's product is marketed through gift shops all over the country. In addition to decorative glassware in square, round and rectangular shapes, Dick Talbett Enterprises produces glass cigarette boxes, jewel boxes, lamps, place mats and end tables with Ancient Glass tops and insets. There is also a wide variety of custom work, including a wall Ancient Glass for a room in a California home.

Owners of the company, Dick Talbett and John Shaw, had five years experience in the business before coming to Okmulgee from California last July. They chose Okmulgee for their plant site, they explain, because it is centrally located for coast-to-coast distribution of their products, and because the many glass plants close at hand provide them with their raw material.

All designs used by Dick Talbett Enterprises are originals, created by Talbett himself.

Glass is purchased locally, and bent to shape in a 76-foot lehr. Talbett and Shaw built the contraption themselves from $60 worth of scrap materials, after getting a minimum quotation of $60,000 for having it done.

Other equipment in the plant includes two ovens for baking on colors, and a grinding machine for finishing the edges.

Sheets of glass are placed over stainless steel or ceramic molds and put on a conveyor belt at one end of the lehr. (Talbett makes the ceramic molds himself.) Tempera-
COMING INTO ITS OWN as a recreation area is Hulah Lake, a $11,000,000 reservoir project twenty-six miles northeast of Pawhuska, in Osage county. Pictured above is a recent aerial view of the lake, its nearly mile-long dam and its headquarters building. Finished in February of 1951, the lake is 3200 acres in size, has 32 miles of shoreline, and offers picnicking, camping, boating, fishing, water sports and general sightseeing. There is a full time concession house operating. Glen R. West, resident engineer for the U.S. corps of engineers, and his crew of seven keep busy building access roads, clearing timber, adding to picnic and camping accommodations, and on general maintenance.

Oil Company Opens New Tulsa Office

Union Oil Co. has opened a division office at 832 S. Detroit, Tulsa, as part of an expanded exploration program in Oklahoma, Kansas and northern Texas.

A native Oklahoman, L. E. Pitts Jr., has been named manager of exploration for the area. His staff will include landmen, geologists and geophysicists.

Expansion Program Will Effect State

More loop pipe line and additional compressor capacity in Oklahoma will be included in a $38,690,000 expansion program recently authorized for the Northern Natural Gas Co. of Omaha, Neb.

Increased facilities in Texas, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska and Minnesota would also be included in the expansion program.

State Grocery Company Grows With Oklahoma

Foresight and belief in the future of Oklahoma paid off in a big way for one of the state's leading manufacturers and distributors of wholesale groceries.

Established in Indian Territory in 1901, the Hale-Halsell company has grown up with the state. Spices, coffee and peanut butter from the McAlester plant, plus the carefully graded groceries distributed under the Hale-Halsell name, are carried in the company's own 59-unit fleet of trucks over a four-state area. Its six houses give employment to 173 people.

Founder of the Hale-Halsell company was Tom Hale, a young man who realized Indian Territory was due for a remarkable development. He was financed by Hugh Halsell, a Texas cotton man.

When Hale opened his first wholesale grocery house at Durant, Indian Territory merchants got most of their groceries from Texas, in spite of difficulties encountered in fording or ferrying them across the Red River. Coal mining was increasing the demand for food at that time, and the oil boom which came later proved Hale had been right when he predicted Indian Territory was going places.

First branch house was established in Coalgate, later relocated at Ada. Other houses established were McAlester, 1904; Muskogee, 1908; Tulsa, 1912; and Hugo, 1920. Because of rapid growth of business in the Tulsa area, a large, modern warehouse was built there in 1930.

Glass . . .

(Continued from Page 5) Glass . . .

ture in the 20-foot fire box reaches, 1250° F., melting the glass to the shape of the mold. When the shaped glass leaves the lehr, another conveyor belt takes it to be decorated.

Applying the design is a secret process, which they developed themselves. Each piece is hand made, and has a unique pattern. Colors are applied to the back side, and protected by a new baked-on coating resistant to acids, alkali, moisture and solvents.

Ancient Glass may be had in golden Ancient Mirror or jet Black Vitreous. In the former, mottled gold and brown-bronze veining mingle on a background of opalescent silver. In the latter, delicate metallic green veins form a lacy pattern on a crisp jet-black background.

In addition to Talbott and Shaw, the plant employs D. N. Skinner, a native Oklahoman with years of experience in the glass business, and two girls.
Dry Weather Shows Need For City Water Planning

The need for prompt, far-sighted planning for municipal water supplies was emphasized during July when several Oklahoma towns ran out of water during hot, dry weather.

But while Chickasha, Pauls Valley and Norman were carefully hoarding water supplies for emergency uses, towns like Cushing, Stillwater and Claremore were "singing in the showers," as one news reporter put it. At Claremore Mayor Jim Hammet urged residents to use all the water they wanted since their water system, installed after the town voted a bond issue, was able to assure the town an adequate, safe supply.

Stillwater has recently installed additions to the water distribution system that took care of their water needs, and Cushing was enjoying two million gallons a day from their recently enlarged 800-acre lake.

Many of the towns reporting water shortages were in the western and southwestern sections of the state, but Altus is winding up a $365,000 expansion program on their city distribution system that will adequately take care of their water needs. Altus' water comes from a plentiful supply stored in the Lugert-Altus reservoir, a Bureau of Reclamation project that also irrigates some 50,000 acres of Jackson county farmland.

Ira Husky, director of the division of water resources of the Oklahoma Planning and Resources Board, pointed out that both surface and underground water sources were failing because of the increased demand. Norman, for example, found that the water level in the city wells had dropped dangerously after that city pumped five million gallons a day from wells that can safely produce only three million. Water wells at Pauls Valley began to fail and pumps were installed in Rush Creek to tide the city over the crisis.

Chickasha and Anadarko were in trouble because the flow of the Washita river fell to the danger point. Husky said that the state had already approved plans by the Bureau of Reclamation to construct a 30 billion gallon reservoir on Pond Creek near Anadarko to supply Anadarko and Chickasha with water. The project, however, has not yet been approved by Congress. If the dam is built the towns will be able to buy water for about eleven cents per thousand gallons, Husky said.

The Division of Water Resources is directed by state law to aid Oklahoma communities in planning water supplies upon request of the local people, Husky said. Although the state office can assist in planning and make preliminary surveys, it leaves detailed engineering and drawing of plans to private engineering firms.

Record Wheat Crop In State

A near-record wheat crop which is bringing $200 million to Oklahoma is giving business in the state a boost. Increases in sales of farm machinery and home appliances have already been noted.

This year's crop is estimated between 100 million and 105 million bushels. All-time record was 103,788,000 bushels in 1947. Average yield per acre this year was about 17 bushels.

STATE DISPLAY AT JC MEET

A $1,700 display depicting the state's resources represented Oklahoma at the national Junior Chamber of Commerce convention at Dallas in June.

Oklahoma's 38 delegates led the national parade, then entertained the 3,000 Jaycee members who attended the convention at a party.

Fishing Easy At Texoma

Fishermen visiting Lake Texoma State Park, located between Madill and Durant in southern Oklahoma, are finding something new in the way of fishing accommodations. Bob Johnson, Tishomingo, who is quite a fisherman in his own right, has really constructed modern conveniences for the thousands of anglers who come to the area. His circular fishing barge, as shown above, is located in a cove just north of the west end of the Roosevelt bridge. The barge, for which a patent is pending, is 116 feet in diameter, provides chairs, rails and shade for his customers. He has baited the circular area to make fish more plentiful.
Indian Show To Feature Jemez, Navajo Visitors

A pageant entitled “The Thunder Bird,” based on Indian brave going to war, will be the high spot this year of the American Indian Exposition at Anadarko, to be presented August 18 through 23.

The show, managed and presented entirely by Indians, will feature authentic Indian dances by the descendants of famous Indian chiefs and warriors. A special feature this year will be the Jemez Indians of New Mexico, who will bring at least eight performers, including a four-year-old Eagle Dancer described by Robert Goombi, president of the Exposition, as “a show within a show.” Another attraction will be the Navajos from Granada, Arizona, who will bring a group of eight. Included will be two sand painters, who make colorful paintings by using different colored sands.

This exposition, which is incorporated under Oklahoma law, is considered one of the most interesting and exciting shows of its kind in the United States.

In addition to the pageant, which is to be presented nightly, there will be complete programs every afternoon and night in front of the grandstand, including Indian ball games, tribal dances and horse racing.

The Oklahoma Indian State Fair, which accepts exhibits only from people with one-fourth or more Indian blood, is also held each year in connection with the exposition.

Building To Start On New Gas Plant

Construction is getting underway on a new gasoline and petroleum plant near Coyle.

The Central Petroleum Company of Tulsa was incorporated with a capitalization of $100,000 to construct and operate the plant. Incorporators were listed as Carl E. Baird and K. W. Anderson, gasoline plant contractors, and Joseph A. Moran, attorney.

Early Indian Relics Are Found In State

Relics of a pre-Columbian Indian civilization are being uncovered in the Illinois River valley sector which will soon be inundated by water impounded by the Tenkiller Dam.

Digging among the ruins of what was once an Indian village, an archaeological team from Oklahoma University has discovered and assembled skeletons of tribe members, and such artifacts as arrowheads, corn grinders and ornaments. Ruins are estimated to date back at least 500 years.

Work was scheduled to be completed early in August.

PONCA POW-WOW

Annual Ponca Indian Pow-Wow will be held August 28 through September 1 at White Eagle, south of Ponca City.

Date was set by members of the Pow-Wow committee.