Study Reveals Way To Growth

Greatest possibilities for industrial development in Oklahoma lie in the field of petrochemicals, an analysis of Oklahoma’s potentials has revealed. The information was contained in a report prepared by the Blaw-Knox company, at the request of the Planning and Resources Board.

The firm’s findings were presented to a group of state industrial leaders at a meeting in Tulsa December 18.

Fourteen products recommended as having possibilities for further development in Oklahoma were classified as to their importance in the rapidly expanding chemical field. These were acetylene, ethylene, vinyl chloride, chlorine, nitrophosphates, phenol, cyclohexane, zylenes, silicones, ammonia, styrene and polystyrene, glycercine, calcium cyanamide and HCN, and hydrofluoric acid.

Future contracts with Blaw-Knox for further studies on the recommended products are planned, Czar Langston, director of the Planning Board’s industrial division, revealed.

Mining Limestone Is New Operation

Oklahoma limestone is being produced in a new way in Sequoyah County, in order to insure its uniformity so it can be used by chemical concerns.

Instead of quarrying the stone by the usual open pit method, it is being mined from underground chambers. R. C. Williams, president of the Marble Stone Co., explained that in the new type operation a room 50 feet wide, with a 25-foot ceiling, will be opened up, and carried back to any depth that the stone’s analysis remains the same. Lateral rooms can be opened from this large room. The main mine room is expected to get in full operation during January.

Williams said the new methods were made necessary by his contract with Midwest Carbide Corp., which requires that all limestone be of uniform chemical analysis.

Elevation in Oklahoma ranges from approximately 400 feet above sea level in southeastern McCurtain County to 4,978 feet above sea level in the Black Mesa area, in the Panhandle.

First school in Oklahoma was established at Union Mission, in Mayes County.

Animal Industry Growing; Show to be January 16-17

Chinchilla breeding is still one of Oklahoma’s fastest-growing industries, according to J. F. Kimbrough of Norman, president of the state branch of the Chinchilla Association of America.

The Association’s annual show, to be held January 16-17, is expected to attract 150 entries—60 more than last year. The show will be held at Walter E. Allen’s showroom, in Oklahoma City.

Kimbrough estimates there are 250 chinchilla breeders in Oklahoma now, and probably 2500 of the valuable little animals. He owns 100 himself.

Pelts lose their luster as the chinchillas get older.

Chinchillas are improving in quality, Kimbrough says. Even though the little animals brought to the United States in 1923 to save the bread from extinction, this emphasis on improvement, pelts range in price from $25 to $150. These or four will make a collar; four or five will make a muf. Pelts quality and price depend on the animal’s original beauty, and its age.

Permatile Plant Is New Industry

A new industry is making itself known in Sapulpa—permatile, a roofing material made from cement, sand and a water-proofing agent.

Kenneth Marrs, operator of the new plant, says permatile will withstand sun, rain, sleet, snow, ice, acid and gas.

The tiles interlock, making the roofing process quicker, and may be applied without sheathing or under-roofing. They come in red, green, white and gray.

Made by Marrs himself, the permatile is sold through the Sapulpa Brick and Tile Company.

The manufacturing process takes place in roughly six steps. First is the mixing of cement, sand, water-proofing agent, color and water. The wet mixture is then carried to a hopper above the machine which forms the tile, and dropped in. Inside the machine, the cement mixture is moved into a mold. The mold is removed and the still-wet tile is placed on a wooden rack. After several tiles have been formed, the rack is moved into a drying chamber for a few hours. From the drying chamber, the tiles are taken outside to the “seasoning area” where they are stacked for sun-drying.

Our Cover

You don’t have to travel miles to be close to nature in Oklahoma. Jeff Griffin of the Planning Board found the scene on our cover right in Tulsa, late this fall. The park in which the picture was taken is located not far from Utica Square.
State-Made Stone Cutter Revolutionizing Industry

Because an Oklahoma wheat farmer didn't know enough about engineering to realize he was trying to do the impossible, a machine was invented that revolutionized the quarrying industry, and a fast-growing manufacturing concern was born. The farmer, G. B. Entz, is now president of two corporations, Industrial Products, Inc., and Southwest Industries, Inc., which manufacture and distribute his stone cutter.

The main thing that's different about the Entz stone cutter is its cutting jaw, equipped with patented, floating action knife wedges that cut evenly and cleanly, without danger from flying particles.

Light weight is another feature. With its hydraulic trailer (which Entz invented because he needed a way to haul the stone cutter around for demonstrations), it can be pulled by a light truck to the quarry or building site. The chassis on which it is mounted lowers to the ground in two seconds, and the hydraulic cylinder returns it to traveling position in less than 15 seconds. At first experienced quarry men couldn't believe such a light machine would cut anything from softest sandstone to granite and marble, but demonstrations convinced them.

To show what his machine has meant to the stone industry, Entz points out that 15 kinds of Oklahoma stone are used for building now, while only one variety could be cut in strips by older methods. Output has increased all over the country, and more people are building with stone than ever before.

Entz thought at first 30 stone cutters would supply the demand. After two years on the market, there are 57 operating in 16 states, and his Oklahoma City plant is producing two or three stone cutters a month, and is always five or six behind on orders. He completed a new building last April, and keeps three men busy there repairing and reconditioning his machines, and equipping his competitors' products with his special cutting jaw.

The four models Entz now produces range in price from $8500 to $16,500.

Frederick Compress Expansion Underway

Repairs and expansion on the Frederick Compress are being made to enable the firm to handle the southwestern Oklahoma cotton crop more efficiently.

Additional acreage has been purchased, and is being fenced, to provide receiving yards for more cotton. Sprinkler-type fire protection is being provided, and repair work is being done on the plant.

Oklahoma Firm Making Better Seat Covers

A Tulsa manufacturer maintains his automobile seat covers are popular because of fewer seams.

P. E. Moss of Moss Seat Covers, Inc., manufactures Waterfall Constructed cushions, which have no seam along the front edge of the cushion, leaving the seat cover a continuous piece of fabric from the cushion to the floor. The organization pioneered in this feature.

 Owned by P. E. and Dana Moss, the plant is one of the largest and best equipped in the southwest for the manufacture of custom tailored car seat covers and seat covers for auto dealers throughout the mid-west.

The business was organized in 1944 by P. E. and Ellen Moss. In 1946, Ellen was replaced by Dana, and the concern incorporated in 1950.

Moss first went into business for himself on a contract with the air force. However, at the end of the war, the business was left with nothing to manufacture, and Moss turned to seat covers.

The organization dealt primarily with custom tailoring of seat covers and convertible tops during the first year. It has since expanded to making seat covers for auto dealers throughout the mid-west.

Located at 3902 S. Peoria, the plant has undergone two building additions since it was purchased in 1948. Approximately 35 persons are employed in the air-conditioned plant.

Moss moved to Tulsa in 1919 and was employed from then until 1941 as foreman for G. A. Green.

No Forest Fires

Mar Deer Season

Hunters came through the Oklahoma deer hunting season in November with a record of zero forest fires to their credit.

Don Stauffer, head of the forestry division of the state planning board, said despite the increased number of hunters, there were no forest fires during the deer season.

Stauffer said personnel of the division contacted 287 deer camps and discussed fire conditions with the hunters. They also took each name and car tag number so, in case of emergency calls, the hunters could be notified. Stauffer said only one emergency call came in.
Bond Issue To Keep Gilcrease In Home State

Gilcrease Museum, with its collections of American art valued at over $2 million, is at last assured of a permanent home in Oklahoma. A non-profit corporation has been formed to issue self-liquidating bonds to pay off the museum’s obligations of slightly over $2 million, and to provide funds to build a new building for it near the Will Rogers Memorial, at Claremore.

There will be an admission charge to help pay off the bonds, which will probably total $3 million. The location near the Will Rogers museum, which attracts more visitors each year than any other national shrine except the Washington Monument, is expected to increase attendance.

In its new location, it will be known as the Thomas Gilcrease Museum of American History and Art, in honor of the Tulsa oilman who has spent years making the collection. Gilcrease, himself an Osage, has previously housed and maintained his collections in Tulsa.

The 13 trustees listed in the incorporation papers were chosen for their recognized interest in Oklahoma history. They are Governor Murray; N. B. Johnson, Claremore, state supreme court justice and president of the American Indian Congress; Morton R. Harrison, Tulsa, chairman of the State Planning and Resources Board; James B. Hammett, mayor of Claremore; Dr. Noel Kaho, Claremore; J. G. Puterbaugh, McAlester; W. S. Key, Oklahoma City, president of the Oklahoma Historical Society; John Joseph Mathews, Pawhuska author; George E. Failing, Enid; Milt Phillips, Seminole; Cecil Chamberlain, Frederick; H. W. Gibson, Jr., Muskogee; and W. W. Keeler, Bartlesville, chief of the Cherokees. Appointments are for life, with replacements to be made by remaining members.

Way has been cleared for the museum to become state property when the bonds are paid off.

New Folder Ready For Distribution

A new folder entitled “Historical Oklahoma—Museums and Monuments” has been prepared by the Planning and Resources Board’s division of publicity and information, and is ready for distribution.

It includes information on the log cabin home built by Sequoyah, inventor of the Cherokee alphabet, near Sallisaw; the Fort Gibson stockade; and the Murrell home at Park Hill, near Tahlequah. Drawings of these places, now maintained by the Planning Board as historic shrines, illustrate the brochure.

There is also a map of the northeastern Oklahoma sector in which these attractions are located, and a list of other such places to visit in Oklahoma.

Clifton Bros. Inventions Help Printing Industry

Three brothers in Shawnee have come up with three improvements that make the life of a job printer considerably rosier.

Arnold, Lewis and J. L. Clifton, owners and operators of the Shawnee Printing Co., were worried with the technical difficulties in certain types of printing for years. So they set out to correct them.

The result is Keybase, Double Rol-It and improved spacing material.

The development of Keybase was completed in 1951 by Arnold Clifton for use in the brothers’ shop. But other printers saw the material and wanted it, so Keybase boomed into a business in its own right.

STONE CUTTER . . .

(Continued from Page 3)

and can be had to cut stone in lengths up to four feet, or up to six feet. The stone cutter is so simple he can set it up and train an operator in half a day.

Working in wheat fields around his home at Hinton had familiarized Entz with machines. Through his hobby, rock gardens and lily ponds, he learned stone cutters couldn’t supply what architects wanted by methods then used. But when he declared he could build a better stone cutter, no one believed him.

The first year was a constant struggle.

He’d work with his machine at a quarry in Arkansas most of the day, and drive back to Oklahoma City at night to fight strong stone cutting interests that were trying to steal his idea and force him out of business. No one would let him borrow money.

He couldn’t have made it, Entz says, if he hadn’t “got a lot of breaks.” First, he found Croll Machine and Heat Treating Co., in Oklahoma City. The firm, which he says “specializes in fantastic machines,” is still building his stone cutter on a contract basis.

A second stroke of luck came when Entz took his machine to New Orleans to a stone industry convention. It looked like he wasn’t going to find a place to set it up until a taxi driver overheard him talking, and advised him to see the mayor. The cabbie really knew the mayor, and Entz got space for a demonstration right in front of the St. Charles Hotel, where the convention was being held.

Keybase is used in the printing of ledger pages. Formerly, the make-up of a ledger page, with horizontal and vertical lines sometimes meeting and sometimes setting far apart, was extremely difficult. The vertical lines had no support, and where the two lines met, one line had to be broken.

Keybase enables a printer to slide a small copper line into the top of a six point lead, so the copper line forms an unbroken printed line. The Cliftons slit the top of the lead to make a place for the copper line.

This process cuts the time spent on make-up of a ledger page by about three-fourths, J. L. Clifton said. The material isn’t expensive, and is used all the way from one-man shops to Firestone Tire and Rubber Co. and Moore Business forms, one of the world’s largest manufactures of printed forms.

The brothers made their first foreign shipment of Keybase in September, 1953, to Newfoundland.

The second product developed by the three is improved strip material. J. L. pointed out most slugs are porous and brittle, so they break easily. The Cliftons sell a slug that is sturdier, and market it in Oklahoma and the surrounding states.

The latest invention of the Cliftons is Double Rol-It, just completed in 1953. Double Rol-It is a gadget to be attached to a Kluge machine. The gadget does just what the name implies—holds the machine so that the inker is double rolled each time before it touches the paper.

This gives a clearer and darker imprint. J. L. said less expensive machines with the Double Rol-It can put out printed jobs that look as if they came off an $8,000 machine. The new product is distributed all over the nation.

The brothers have put their improvements to good use in their own shop. J. L. said the printing volume of the shop in 1947 was doubled by 1952.
City Library to be Viewed at Openhouse January 10

An openhouse January 10 will mark the formal beginning of the new Oklahoma City library.

The building was completed last summer and occupied while only partly furnished. However, all books and furniture will be in place for the openhouse, Clarence Painne, director, said.

The brightly-lit, five-story building replaces the old Carnegie library, and is located on the same site in downtown Oklahoma City.

Large windows run along the south side of the building, giving a maximum of light for the main floor reading area. Most of the building is lit by flash-type fluorescent fixtures.

The modern structure, of fabricated stone resembling Indiana limestone, has several features designed for comfort and ease in securing and returning books.

A service window is located outside, so books may be checked out and returned without leaving one's car. In front of the building is a drive-up book return where books may be dropped in a container.

Eight locked cubicles and 15 individual carrels are provided in the stacks for persons doing business, technical and professional research. The cubicles have telephones, and coin-operated typewriters are available.

The new building is the second library built in the city during the past three years. The Capitol Hill branch library was completed in 1951. Both buildings were financed by bond issues—one for $500,000 in 1945 and the other for $822,000 in 1950.

The main library, occupying more than 65,000 square feet, was built at approximately $9.50 per square foot. The ceilings are acoustical tile and the floor is covered primarily by rubber tile, although the basement is asphalt tile.

Marble was taken from the old library building and used in the entrance of the main floor and for window stools throughout the building. The library also has a public address system and an auditorium seating 280 persons.

There are almost 118,000 books in the building, and new books are being purchased by bid. However, the city council is studying a new purchase plan.

Grave Of Satank Is Marked At Ft. Sill

Grave of Kiowa Chief Satank, one of the most colorful figures in Oklahoma's early history, has at last been marked. Shot down in 1871, Satank for 82 years was buried in a grave marked "unknown." Satank was taken in custody with Satanta and Big Tree, and was being returned to Texas to stand trial for the Warren Wagon Train Massacre when he attempted to escape and was killed. His grave is located a few feet south of Gate 1, in the Fort Sill cemetery.

Tots' Nighties Are Product Of Atoka Industry

Because a three-year-old Atoka girl couldn't go visiting without a nightgown, a new industry has sprung up in Oklahoma.

The new home industry, Miss Marci Originals, began eight months ago. Little Marci Vail, daughter of Mrs. Norma Sue Vail of Atoka, was going back east on a visit with her mother and grandmother, Mrs. Wink Holland. But Marci had no nightgowns.

Grandmother dreamed up two frilly little numbers that so impressed Marci's hosts, they suggested mama and grandma make some for public distribution.

Now the two women are retailing nightgowns in 11 stores, including two in Oklahoma City, and plan to open new markets in Arkansas and Texas soon.

Two of the gowns were displayed at a recent "Made in Oklahoma" exhibit at the governor's mansion by special request of Mrs. Johnston Murray.

Miss Marci Originals include gowns, robes, "cuddle robes" or receiving blankets, and other items for little girls. The gowns are made of dotted Swiss or knitted batiste, and trimmed with lace and ruffles. Mrs. Vail said each garment had six yards of ruffle at the bottom.

Gowns, made in 15 different styles, come in sizes one through eight. A special for the winter season is a red velveteen gown and sleeveless robe.

Mrs. Vail and Mrs. Holland started work in the kitchen of their home, but Miss Marci Originals have already pushed them into another house, where they work in four rooms. Two other rooms at the front of the house have been converted in "The Carousel," a children's retail toggle shop.

Other items made in Atoka also are sold in The Carousel. They include Mrs. R. L. Haynes' yarn dolls and decorated gloves and Mrs. G. E. Lindley's yarn knit bags. Mrs. W. A. Peak of Ada retails stuffed toys at the shop.

Gypsum Survey Asked

Eldorado businessmen, who list gypsum as their most important natural resource, have asked the geological department of the University of Oklahoma to survey the gypsum area.

The name, "Oklahoma," meaning "Land of the Red People," was suggested for the state by Allen Wright, a governor of the Choctaw Nation.
Tulsan's Kettle Makes Outdoor Cooking Simple

The grandpappy of all charcoal cooking kettles comes from up Tulsa way—and W. S. Alter is the man who perfected it.

Alter began working on a charcoal cooker several years ago because he liked to cook outside, but always burned the meat.

He came up with a cast iron kettle complete with lid and dampers. The kettle became the foundation of a charcoal cooking revolution. The kettles are manufactured in Tulsa, and are sold by jobbers throughout the nation.

Tubes built a holder for the kettle which works like a wheelbarrow and makes it easy to navigate around the yard. The holder is light weight chrome colored metal.

The kettle may be placed in the holder for yard use, in a permanent off-the-ground stand, or it may be placed in a fireplace on its own legs, about two inches high.

A by-product of the cooker is lighter fluid for igniting the charcoal. It is marketed in quart containers, and Alter says it is the only lighter fluid which can be sent through the mails.

Alter points out the secret of the cooker—the reason the meat doesn't burn—is the lid. The cover controls the heat and allows “anyone who can boil water to cook successfully,” Alter says.

After selling several thousand charcoal broilers, Alter contacted several of his buyers and asked for their favorite recipes. Then he tested each recipe and produced a recipe book for cooking in the broiler. The book describes how to cook such items as oysters in the shell and steak marinated in wine, as well as hamburgers which Alter says are “out of this world.”

With the Alter broiler, the host need make only four trips to the cooker, Alter maintains. The first is to light the fire, the second to put on the meat, the third to turn the meat, and the fourth to remove the meat. The rest of the time may be spent with his guests and/or family.

Alter specifies the host is the one who makes the trips, since the man of the family usually turns cook after obtaining a charcoal broiler.

Another feature which delights either host or hostess is that the broiler need not be washed. It sterilizes itself, since the heat reaches 1400 degrees inside. And, because of the cover, insects cannot touch the meat.

The broilers are manufactured in Tulsa, and are sold by jobbers throughout the nation.

Tapes To Tell State History

Visitors to three state memorials soon will be able to learn history in three easy lessons—literally. The memorials will be equipped with Tela-Tales, tape recordings which run automatically.

The Fort Gibson stockade, Sequoyah’s home near Sallisaw and the Murrell home at Park Hill will contain brief histories of the shrine. The history of each was written in the planning and resources board, and an announcer will record the information.

Each memorial will have a tape totaling nine minutes, and is divided into three minute sections. That is, each press of the button causes the tape to run three minutes, and there are three different histories at each memorial.

The Tela-Tales are scheduled to be installed in less than two months. Morton Harrison, chairman of the planning board, said a fourth Tela-Tale may be placed in the Alabaster Caverns in Woodward county.

Harrison first conceived the idea of installing the Tela-Tales after hearing a similar device at the Will Rogers memorial at Claremore. Several of Will Rogers’ best known sayings were recorded in the humorist’s voice, and can be heard at the Claremore memorial.

Only one speaker will be placed at Sequoyah’s home, but the Fort Gibson stockade and Murrell home will have extension speakers, so the history may be heard all over the shrine.

Monstrous Machine Is Rare In Nation

The American Iron and Machine Works of Oklahoma City is working on a huge trepanning machine, the sixth of its kind in the nation.

The company already owns one trepanning machine, 107 feet long and driven by a 150-horsepower motor plus a high-pressure hydraulic system.

The machine, operated by only one man, bores holes through 30-foot bars of steel for the manufacture of drill collars. American Iron’s machine is different from others in that it bores the drill collar bars and leaves a shaft of small diameter within the bore hole.

The boring time is one and one-half hours on a 30-foot section, while a conventional coring machine takes six hours.

The company spent $160,000 on the building of the machine.

Member Drive Is Scheduled By New Group

Plans for a membership drive were laid in December when directors of the newly-organized Oklahoma Water Conservation association met at the state capitol.

Dr. Lloyd E. Church, chairman of the organization from Wilburton, said that meetings will be held in every county of the state during January and February to acquaint local people with the purpose of the association.

The group was formed following a meeting called by Governor Murray in November to work out solutions to water problems in the state. The association will work on such problems as municipal and industrial water supplies, irrigation, flood control, recreation and wildlife.

In order to secure members in the new association, meetings will be held in each county in 11 sections of the state, Dr. Church said. Each of the 11 areas will be under the supervision of a member of the association who will serve as drive chairman in that area. Schedules of individual county meetings will be prepared after the first of January.

Most of the county meetings will be sponsored by local civic and fraternal organizations, the chairman said.

“The response and interest so far are very gratifying,” Church stated, “and there are indications that the association will have an ultimate membership of perhaps four or five thousand."

Following the county meetings, a statewide session will be held in Oklahoma City April 8 to elect a full slate of directors and officers.

Requests For Water Decline

Applications for water rights to the Division of Water Resources showed a drop during the last quarter of 1953.

Water applications for October, November and December totaled 70, while applications for the previous three months totaled 178. The 70 applications represented requests for a total of 193,758 acre-feet of water, the Division records show.

Of this amount, 181,128 acre-feet of water was requested for municipal or industrial uses and 12,630 for irrigation uses.

The municipal figure was higher than usual because of an application from Oklahoma City for 150,000 acre-feet of water from the Illinois River.

Irrigators requested a total of 10,319 acre-
Tree Shipments Up As Season Gets Underway

Approximately one million tree seedlings have been ordered from state nurseries since this year’s shipments were begun December 1, and the planning board’s division of forestry expects to be able to supply a demand for six million during the coming season. This represents an increase of two million over last year, when poor planting conditions limited the number of orders.

Shipments will continue through March, with the forestry division attempting to send the seedlings on the dates requested. Application forms are available from county agents’ offices, Soil Conservation Service district offices, vocational agriculture teachers, and veterans agricultural training teachers. They can also be obtained from the Division of Forestry, State Capitol Building.

Albert Engstrom, assistant director of the forestry division, reports the tree crop at the Norman and Broken Bow nurseries was good in 1953 in spite of the dry summer, and, with fall rains preserving a good year to plant trees, all are expected to be sold. Charge for the seedlings is nominal.

About half the trees produced at the nurseries, Engstrom said, are shortleaf pine, to be used for reforestation in the southeastern part of the state. The rest are Chinese elm, red cedar and mulberry for windbreaks; black locust, catalpa and Osage orange for post lots, and shrubs like lespedeza bicolor and rosa multiflora for wildlife shelter.

Windbreaks are particularly popular in the western part of the state. Recommended planting is two rows of tall and two rows of low-growing trees.

Seedlings for post lots, Engstrom said, go all over the state. Planted 800 to the acre on soil six to ten feet deep, they bring the farmer an income of $35 a year per acre, often on land not located conveniently to put in other crops.

The division of forestry has farm foresters at Chickasaw and Mangum to advise on selection of species and give other information on new plantings.

feet of water from ground-water sources, and only 2,311 acre-feet from subface-water sources.

Requests for water rights were also received from the towns of Geary, Bartlesville, and Beaver.

Canning poultry and meat is just one phase of the O. G. Harp enterprises at Shawnee. The big bird coming out of the vat in the picture above is destined to become boned turkey.

Shawnee Business Grows, Has 400 People on Payroll

O. G. Harp of Shawnee went into business in 1927 with a poultry farm.

He now has 12 corporations, operated with his brother, Pete Harp, and a payroll of some 400 persons. His list of activities includes:

Shelling pecans, making butter and ice cream, powdering and freezing eggs, processing poultry, and operating a cannery and butter storage.

And the list is still growing. C. L. Hamilton, vice president and sales manager of the Shawnee Warehouse, said a new Harp enterprise will be on the market in 1954—pecan pies and frozen meat pies.

The pecan pies are an outgrowth of the new pecan shelling machinery Harp operates. Hamilton said the pecan industry places Harp third largest sheller of native pecans in the nation. The pecans, bought mostly in Oklahoma, are sold throughout the nation.

Two new industries were added to Harp’s activities during 1953—a new canned brand of meat and a catering service.

The canned meat, Circus Town, was bought out of Texas, and includes boned turkey, boned chicken, other chicken and turkey products, and tamales. It is marketed by brokers throughout the nation.

The catering service and the specialty food shop are operated by Mrs. Elizabeth Harris. Mrs. Harris caters anywhere in the state, and has already taken her rare foods to Enid, Seminole, Tulsa, McAlester and Oklahoma City, as well as Shawnee.

The specialty shop boasts foods that "can’t be bought anywhere else," Hamilton said. It includes items such as genuine Russian caviar, rattlesnake meat, crab meat, green turtle meat and smoked oysters.

An older branch of the Harp interests is Green Valley butter and ice cream, made at Harp’s Green Valley farms outside Shawnee.

Harp owns two buildings in Shawnee, the Shawnee warehouse and a poultry house. He also owns the Green Valley farms and 11 branch house buildings in the state, through which poultry, eggs, and other items are purchased.

The Shawnee Warehouse houses the cannery and pecan shelling machinery. At the cannery, beef and gravy are made for the government, and the butter storage also is on government contract. Broilers from Harp’s farm are processed at the poultry house.

First coal mines in Oklahoma were opened at McAlester. Then it was known as Cross Roads.

Salt was the first product manufactured for trade in Oklahoma.
Manufacturing Employment Up, Figures Reveal

The number of manufacturing employees in Oklahoma jumped from 84,000 to 86,600 during the first ten months of 1953, figures indicate.

Czar Langston, head of the industrial division of the state planning and resources board, said another 1,000 workers will be added during early 1954 as plants now under construction are completed.

Langston pointed out industrial competition climbed during the past three or four years—not only between Oklahoma cities, but between most cities in the nation.

"From all indications, industrial expansion will be leveling off during 1954," Langston said, "although this will be a very high level."

"Oklahoma cities and towns must concentrate their utmost efforts if they are to secure their share of new industries," Langston added.

The industrial director said studies show a city's greatest asset in obtaining new industries is its ability to attract new industries according to its leadership and its willingness to provide jobs and money to work continuously on an organized program.

Langston said the fact that determined where an industry was to locate and known to be the "community's leadership and desire to secure payrolls."

Many communities realize this, Langston said, and "active industrial committees have been organized and constructive programs embarked upon."

Other areas are engaged in inventories or surveys, Langston said, that will determine their assets and liabilities.

Langston pointed out the industrial tours in 1952 and 1953 aided those making the tours, since they are in a better position to know what industry wants. Persons making the tours called on industrial leaders and discussed what industry looks for in a plant site.

The industrial development in 1954, Langston said, is largely dependent upon the number of manufacturing employees in Oklahoma and spent four years in the air force in the Pacific.

Talks On Irrigation Underway In State

More than 500 western Oklahomans sat in on a series of four irrigation meetings held in Altus, Fairview, Chickasha, and Guymon in December.

Although the sessions were intended primarily for agricultural advisors, many farmers and others interested in irrigation attended. The series of meetings was arranged by Robert B. Duffin, extension irrigation specialist from Stillwater. A similar series is scheduled for eastern Oklahoma during January with meetings to be held in Norman, Muskogee, and Hugo.

The meetings included talks on water availability, water laws, financing irrigation systems, and problems of water applications and cropping.

congressional action regarding the excess profits tax.

"If this tax is permitted to expire," Langston said, "plants now on the drawing boards are scheduled for construction. If the tax is continued, some construction will be delayed."

Homemade Gun Is Specialty Of Tulsa Man

Modern-day sportsmen prize custom-made rifles and bullets, and B. M. (Barney) Auston of Tulsa is just the man who can please them.

"Nothing exceeds the delight of making a good rifle," Auston says, and he's turned out hundreds of hunting and target rifles prized by sportsmen throughout the country.

His first step in making a precision rifle is drilling a hole through a blank barrel of stock steel. Auston says many of the barrels on rifles sold today are crooked.

The gun action, including trigger and firing mechanism, is usually imported from Europe. The stock is designed by Auston for rough wood blocks to fit the wants of his customers.

When the rifle is finished, Auston tries it out, and "if I make a rifle that won't place 10 shots from 100 yards in a spot that can be overlapped by a dime, I just start all over and remake the rifle."

When Auston was 11, he first started winning prizes for rifle shooting at picnics. He entered matches in various places for several years, firing a "homemade" rifle. Later he began making rifles for other marksmen.

Eight years ago he converted his garage into a workshop, gave up his plumbing business in Tulsa, and began spending his time with rifles. He turns out one rifle in about 10 days.

When he's not making rifles, he's shooting his 20-pound rifle. The National Bench Rest Shooters association recently recognized him as champion in the Mid-Continent region.

Auston says as short as 25 years ago, nobody wanted a "homemade" rifle. "Nowadays," he adds, "Most sportsmen want custom made rifles and hand loaded high velocity bullets."

The grave of Wiley Post, famous Oklahoma aviator who was killed in the same plane crash as Will Rogers, can be seen at Memorial Park, at Edmond.