

## Anaconda Company Builds Oasis in Desert Badlands

BY MICKEY TOPPING  
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Grants, N. M.—(U.P.)—Deep in the heart of New Mexico's desert badlands, the Anaconda Co. has established an oasis of economic success.

The company, which started 80 years ago in the copper mining business, today operates the largest uranium processing mill in the United States.

Tons of hard yellow rock pour into the top-secret installation each day. Barrels of "yellow cake," a finely-ground sand yellowish than gold and more precious than platinum, are turned out.

From a small operation set up four years ago when uranium was first discovered on this barren, desolate desert, broken only by occasional carrot crops and jagged chunks of lava rock, Anaconda has developed one of the most modern plants in the nation.

### Mechanical Operation

The firm employs some 500 persons, a large share of the population still cramping into the uranium boom town of Grants not far from the Anaconda installation. But the operation represents the height of mechanical achievement.

Clanking instruments whirr and roar in three separate plants here. Men, however, are hard to find.

"Sixty years ago we would use a wheelbarrow and the assistant mill superintendent, William Stern. "Today we don't need men except to roam the catwalks and make sure the machinery's in order."

From the time the uranium ore is poured from truck and train into the first of the crushing machines until it comes out in the fine grain so valuable to the United States defense effort, the uranium is untouched by human hands.

Most of the 500 company employees are office workers, keeping books, testing ores, performing the many varied functions of big business.

### All The Comforts

"We had it rough in the beginning," Stern said. "It was a new field, and we made a lot of mistakes. It was strictly trial and error."

But four months ago, Anaconda doubled its operation. It had been serving as the buying agent for the Atomic Energy Commission. Soon its development was so great the company announced it would stop working directly for the AEC and devote its efforts to its own production.

In addition to its plant and comfortable, air-conditioned offices, the company has also built about 100 homes on the premises, called the Anaconda "townsite."

Some of these are apartments to house single girls attracted by good wages and eligible bachelors. Their quarters are more luxurious than college dormitories. Other employees are men with their families.

"It's an ideal place for children of young ages," Stern said. "No traffic, no bad types, none of the problems of city life."

There are clubs and recreation centers, parties and informal meetings. Television aerials surge up out of the sage brush. New cars are as common as jack-rabbits.

## Sweet Home Youth Deer Hunting Victim

Redmond — (U.P.) — Marvin Davis, 15, Sweet Home high school sophomore, died Sunday night in Central Oregon District hospital here from shock and extreme loss of blood from a gunshot wound in the chest suffered while he was deer hunting in the Metolius area.

It was the first reported deer hunting death by gunshot since Oregon's 1956 season opened.

The youth, son of Mr. and Mrs. M. E. Davis of Sweet Home, apparently was shot by his own gun when he tripped while he was about to enter the family car. He was alone at the time, Mr. and Mrs. Davis were hearing the shot and heard Marvin call for help.

He was taken by ambulance to the hospital here and died two hours after his arrival.

Floyd O. Lake, 62, of Boring died of a heart attack yesterday. Lake's death was the 10th reported of natural causes, mostly

## Week End Inventor Develops Faster Sail for Boating

Schenectady, N. Y. — (U.P.) — An engineer, after three years of week-end and vacation experiments, has come up with a rectangular sail on a U-shaped rib which he says is faster and just as maneuverable as the conventional boat sail.

This new type of sail swings up from the bottom and not only reduces the lean of the boat, but makes a forward pulling force that tends to lighten the craft in the water, according to its inventor, Burnice Bedford.

Bedford, a General Electric Co. employee, said that in trial runs of a 12½-foot dinghy, he has pulled away from standard-type dinghies—and kept pace with bigger sailing craft.

Bedford explained the greater speed by the larger sail area, 120 feet compared to 72 on a standard dinghy, and the sail angle that causes the wind to pull his boat instead of pushing it. The sail tends to lift the boat, thus reducing drag and adding speed.

Bedford said it also allows a skipper to "spill" a heavy wind to any desired degree and to jibe safely in a stiff wind that skippers conventional sail would not attempt.

The engineer believes his new design can be applied to any small or medium-sized racing sailboat.

The U-shaped rig pivots off-center from a stubby four-foot mast. Twin uprights, flexible enough to bow slightly under pressure, are 12 feet high. A nine-foot long bottom of the U-frame acts much like the conventional boom.

The rectangular sail is stretched on a slightly bowlegged H-shaped frame, the two aluminum sides of which are linked by an eight-foot long wooden crossbar.

Bedford estimated his sail "probably weighs twice as much as the ordinary tech dinghy rig," and the size and weight of his experimental model is about the most the craft can carry safely.

heart attacks, since the season opened.



**BUILDING COLLAPSE KILLS 10**—Rescue workers (bottom) stand quietly as they listen for possible sounds from trapped men under pile of rubble after this four story building under construction at Jackson, Mich., collapsed. The job superintendent said cranes will have to remove big concrete and steel pieces before shovels can be used to get at the bodies of victims.

## Brother of Pitcher Makes Good Pitch

Memphis, Tenn. — (U.P.) — Father Raymond Crone, brother of Milwaukee Braves pitcher of the same name, made a good pitch himself here.

The 33-year-old Crone, a Franciscan missionary home on leave, was browsing around a junkyard looking for things he could use.

The priest noticed a handy air compressor, cost about \$100. "I sure could use that," he said.

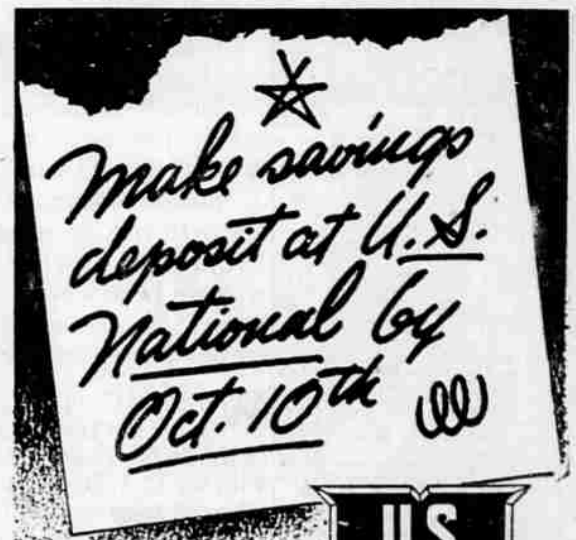
"Where?" said Jack Lazarov, co-owner of a 13-acre combined junkyard and surplus establishment.

Only then, did Lazarov find out that the priest wanted the air compressor for his mission in the Amazon jungles of Brazil. "It's yours free," Lazarov said.

Father Raymond was N. Gordon Crone Jr., until he became a priest, and was given the name "Raymond." His superiors did not know he had a younger brother, Raymond Crone, now 23, a pitcher with the Milwaukee Braves.

London — (U.P.) — Moscow has ordered its East European satellites to make up with Marshal Tito but to avoid his private brand of "independent socialism," according to diplomatic sources.

The average traffic sign can be read at 225 feet by a person with normal vision.



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