CITY GETS BIG CHEMICAL PLANT

Herald and News

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In The Day's News

By FRANK JENKINS

IN this newspaper today you will read that Hercules Power Company of Wilmington, Delaware, has bought a considerable part of the old Ewauna Box Company property, and on the site thus acquired will build a pilot plant TO STUDY THE CHEMISTRY OF WESTERN WOODS.

That may be the most important industrial development in the recent history of the Klamath country. (By "recent," I mean the last decade, or maybe the last decade and a half.) It could be the most important development in our entire history.

* * *

SO far, we have been manufacturing the bulk of our original virgin timber stand into rough lumber. By these methods, we have been getting a rough general average of about ten man-years of employment out of each million feet. A "man-year" is one year of employment for one man. That is to say, in the past, each million feet has provided one year of employment for about ten men.

By the processes of chemical utilization of our timber stand, we can get MORE MAN-YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT out of each million feet.

* * *

THIS is the point:

By getting more man-years of employment out of each million feet of timber harvested, our remaining stand can be made to provide more employment than we got out of our original huge timber resource.

That is why today's announcement can easily be the most important industrial development in our history.

* * *

THERE are some points in connection with today's announcement that need to be thoroughly understood. On of them is the term PILOT PLANT.

In modern industrial research, you first go as far as you can in the laboratory. Laboratory research is small-scale research. It is carried out on a test-tube scale.

When, by the use of laboratory methods, you have developed facts and processes that seem to you to have commercial promise, the first thing you must know (before investing large sums of money) is whether these processes can be carried out profitably on a COMMERCIAL scale.

That is where the pilot plant comes in. A pilot plant is a step midway between the laboratory and the factory. Its purpose is to prove the commercial feasibility of the ideas developed in the laboratory.

* * *

LET'S get down to brass tacks.

Today's announcement is not of immense IMMEDIATE importance. It doesn't mean that men and machines will begin to pour into town tomorrow morning to start a vast construction project. Actual construction of the pilot plant is not expected to get under way before next spring. Over the winter, the equipment it will contain will be manufactured in the

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Alturas Youth Held in Baby Stabbing

Boy Admits Knifing Of Infant

ALTURAS — A 14-year-old youth is held in the Modoc county jail, and his 18-month-old nephew has a 50-50 chance to survive a deep butcher knife wound in the abdomen which authorities here say the boy admittedly inflicted on the child Saturday.

Held is Dale Jennings, a fifth grader in the Alturas schools, and in Alturas General hospital is little Thomas Jess Rightnour, son of Jess Rightnour, construction employe.

Modoc Sheriff Glynne Johnson said the boy admitted stabbing the youngster to Probation Officer Buck Server.

No Charge

No charge has been levied against Dale and it is probable that he will be turned over to juvenile authorities.

Officers first learned of the brutal attack from the mother who found the child missing Saturday while she was washing. It was about 10 o'clock in the morning.

An immediate search was launched but it was not until 10 o'clock Saturday night that the child was found, unconscious and badly bleeding, in a haystack on the Swiff brothers ranch about one-half mile from where the Rightnour family lives at the Brass Rail cabins on the north edge of town.

Found

The baby was found by its distraught father and the manager of the cabins.

Before the infant was found, however, authorities had picked up Dale at Davis Creek, 245 miles from Alturas. He had hitchhiked to that point, he told Deputy Sheriff Joe Hess.

The butcher knife, said to be the weapon which inflicted the abdominal wound, was also found about one mile away. The knife was identified as one owned by the Rightnour family.

Dale had been living with his uncle and aunt, coming to Alturas about five months ago when Rightnour got a job with a highway crew operating between Alturas and Cedarville.

50-50 Chance

Medical authorities said little Thomas has a 50-50 chance to survive the deep knife wound.

The child was lightly clad when found and was given immediate care at the Alturas General hospital. The mother, who was near collapse before her child was located, was also under medical care.

Modoc county authorities said Dale had been in juvenile custody prior to the alleged act on Saturday. When picked up at Davis Creek, the boy denied any knowledge of the stabbing but later gave a statement to the probation officer.

Missing Man's Body Found

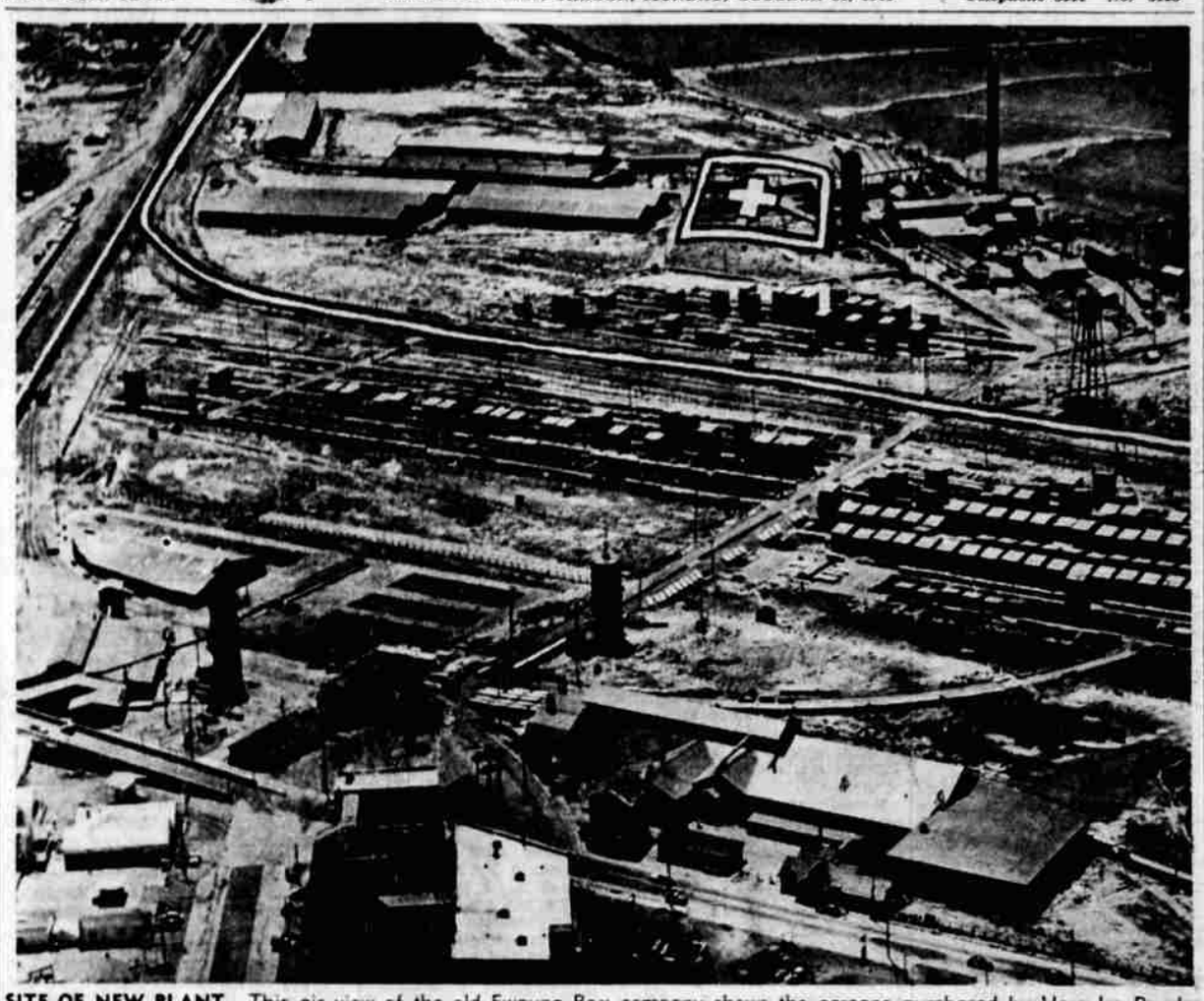
MT. SHASTA-The body of Joseph Nizza, Mt. Shasta Pine Manufacturing company employe who was reported missing three weeks ago, was found late Saturday in the company millpond.

John Nizza advised authorities early in October that his brother was missing but no trace was reported. John Nizza is a Mt. Shasta shoe repair shop operator.

An investigation is being made. The body is at Noble's chapel.

Coffee Prices Up Again

NEW YORK, Oct. 31 (AP)—Coffee prices resumed their upward trend today, with quotations for future deliveries advancing the daily limit or two cents a pound shortly after the market opened.



SITE OF NEW PLANT—This air view of the old Ewauna Box company shows the acreage purchased by Hercules Powder company for the location of a pilot plant to deal with possible commercial manufacture of chemicals from western woods. The line from the top of the picture running down between the lumber piles shows the lakeshore area purchased by Hercules, and the cross shows where the pilot plant itself is to be situated. The Hercules company bought the property from Weyerhaeuser Timber company. Some of the buildings in the picture will be used and other will be torn down.

Weed Man Killed Hunting

Stettinius, Former State Head, Dies

GREENWICH, Conn., Oct. 31 (AP) Edward R. Stettinius Jr., wartime head of lend-lease and U. S. secretary of state when the United Nations came into being, died today at the age of 49.

The white-haired, handsome Stettinius, who at 37 became board

EDWARD STETTINIUS

chairman of the U. S. Steel corporation, was his country's first U. N. delegate. He was named rector of the University of Virginia after leaving the U. N. post in 1946.

Sister

Death came at 7:30 a. m. at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Juan Trippe here. Mrs. Trippe is Stettinius' sister. Her husband is head of Pan-American world airways.

A rich man's son, Stettinius went into government service and shortly became administrator of the $60,000,000,000 (B) lend-lease program that played a major role in the final defeat of Nazi Germany.

Unconscious

The former cabinet member's secretary said members of the household found Stettinius unconscious in bed this morning. He died soon after a physician arrived at the house.

Stettinius had suffered from a heart condition since last spring, his secretary said.

His wife and her mother, Mrs. W. J. Wallace, were with him when he died.

Bethlehem, CIO Steel Agreement Believed Reached

CLEVELAND, Oct. 31 (AP) — A strike-settling agreement between Bethlehem Steel company and Philip Murray's CIO steel workers was reported to have been reached today, granting workers $100 free monthly pensions.

The reported agreement is expected to be consummated by Murray and representatives of the Bethlehem company — second largest steel producer — before a news conference late today.

The reported terms include employe contributions of 2½ cents an hour toward social insurance and hospitalization. That amount would be matched by the company, making a five-cent program.

The new pension plan, persons close to the situation said, would cost the company approximately nine cents an hour per worker.

Recommended

The steel fact-finding board recommended that the industry set up free pensions costing six cents an hour and a social insurance program costing four cents an hour as the basis for negotiating a settlement of the steel dispute. Murray accepted but the industry balked at the non-contributory feature of the proposal.

Bethlehem has had for 25 years a pension plan to which its employes were not required to contribute.

The $100-dollar pensions would be paid to 65-year-old employes with 25 years service. A minimum of $85 a month would be provided for those with 20 years service and $60 for 15-year men, it was reported.

Bethlehem employes 80,000 workers in plants throughout the country.

Monthly the company produces an estimated 1,100,000 tons of ingots and castings, equivalent of 800,000 net tons of steel products.

Bang— Shooting Hours

November 1—
Open: 6:10 a. m.
Close: 3:57 p. m.

Fourth Duck Season Death In Klamath

The Klamath basin's fourth duck hunter fatality since the season opened eight days ago, was reported here late Saturday afternoon with the death of 53-year-old Jack C. Hand, long time Weed resident.

Hand was hunting with his young son, Jack C. Hand Jr., and Bill Hoffman of Mt. Shasta, in the Lower Klamath lake country Saturday. The men had wound up their hunting and were taking equipment from the boat when Hand is said to have picked up his shotgun by the barrel.

Fatal Shot

The gun exploded and Hand received the full blast in the right side. His companions immediately carried him to the car, some 50 feet away, but he either expired at that time or shortly after. The death is attributed to Siskiyou county in California.

Hand was rushed to Merrill by his hunting companions, but Dr. F. E. Trotman said he had been dead a short time.

The body was brought to Ward's here.

Hand has been working since January, 1944, in the cutting department of Long Bell Lumber company at Weed. He leaves his wife, Cecil, and their son Jack.

City Prepares For Halloween Parties, Fun

Klamath Falls citizens were seen in the grocery stores and sweet shops today stocking up on Halloween 'goodies' which will be dealt out tonight as the witches and goblins call in all neighborhoods to play their famous "trick or treat" game.

Merchants report treats of all kinds being sold. Everything from candies, cookies, fruits, and nuts have been purchased for the celebration tonight.

While the children are tricking or being treated around town, they are also invited to various parties to help celebrate the traditional Halloween. The city recreation department is cooperating with PTA's of all schools and with service clubs with plans and necessary materials.

All parties will be held in the respective school gyms. Children are invited to come in costume. The place, the time, and the club assisting the parties are:

Conger—7 to 9 p.m.—Marine Corps league.

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Warning—Leave Fire Hydrants Alone!

City firemen reported two fire hydrants turned on last night by Halloween pranksters. The danger of this is called to the attention of the public, firemen said, because by opening some hydrants pressure on all remaining hydrants in the city is lowered.

Thus the fire departments are under a severe handicap to control or extinguish fire anywhere in the city or suburban area.

The fire department asks the cooperation of the public to make this Halloween a happy one, but also a safe one, and not place the city under any fire hazard.

'Veep' Wins Widow's Hand; Marriage Set

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 31 (AP)—Vice President Alben W. Barkley, who has scored many successes in a long political career, has also proved himself lucky in love.

Mrs. Carleton S. Hadley, the comely young widow whom he courted diligently for nearly four months, announced last night that the two would be married here November 18.

The announcement was made informally in the presence of a few friends and newspapermen in Mrs. Hadley's apartment as the vice president stood by smiling.

Simple

Wedding details were not made public. Friends expected the ceremony would be a simple one and would be performed in one of the local Methodist churches. Both the 71-year-old Kentuckian and his 38-year-old bride-to-be are members of that faith.

The wedding announcement, set for 7 p. m., was delayed nearly 30 minutes while the Veep, as he likes to be called, put through a phone call to President Truman at Washington. The president seemed "pleased and happy" at the news, Barkley reported.

Barkley Yields

The former senator then turned to those present and said chivalrously: "The vice president yields, — shall we say — to the senator from Missouri."

Mrs. Hadley, with eyes sparkling, said simply: "The vice president and I are going to be married on the 18th of November. The plans will be announced later."

Friends then rushed up to congratulate the couple, while photographers' bulbs flashed.

"I certainly deserve to be congratulated," Barkley commented. "I regard myself as greatly honored by the announcement Mrs. Hadley has just made."

Barkley and Mrs. Hadley met last July 8 while she was visiting Mr. and Mrs. Clarke Clifford in Washington. Clifford is a presidential aide. The two were introduced during a cruise down the Potomac.

Mrs. Hadley's husband, who died in 1945 at the age of 42, was general counsel for the Wabash Railroad company. She has two daughters, Jane, 14, and Anne, 17, who is a student at Sophie Newcomb college, New Orleans.

Secretary

She is now employed in a secretarial capacity at the Wabash headquarters here.

Barkley is a widower. His wife, whom he married in 1903, died in 1947 in Washington. There were three children, David M. Barkley, Mrs. Max Truitt and Mrs. Douglas MacArthur II, wife of a nephew of the general.

The nation's No. 2 democrat crossed party lines in his selection of a bride because Mrs. Hadley is — or was — known as a republican. In 1940 she worked at Wendell Wilkie's campaign headquarters here.

Hercules Firm Locating New Industry Here

The Hercules Powder company, a chemical firm with headquarters in Wilmington, Del., has bought a part of the old Ewauna Box property and will construct a pilot plant there to further the study of the chemistry of western woods.

Announcement of the purchase was made jointly today by R. R. Macartney, general manager of Weyerhaeuser Timber company at Klamath Falls, and A. E. Forster, a director of Hercules. Weyerhaeuser bought the sprawling Ewauna plant just a year ago.

The property being taken over by Hercules covers approximately 75 acres, the power house, railroad sidings, water tower, fire lines and a number of small buildings. Negotiations had been underway for four months.

100 Employes

Hercules will take possession of the property this winter but its plant probably will not be put into operation until next summer. The pilot plant is expected to employ around 100 persons, from a third to a half of them skilled technicians from the Hercules organization. As many persons as possible will be employed locally.

In the chemical industry, a pilot plant is a small, more or less experimental plant designed to steer the way for a full-sized manufacturing operation. It will be the first of its type in the west and may point to an eventual mammoth new development in the western lumber industry. The company has been experimenting with western pine for several years to unearth chemical potentialities of pine and its laboratory work has been encouraging enough to warrant a heavy expenditure of money here in the pine country to carry the study further.

Heavy Blow

The discontinuance of lumber operations by Ewauna a year ago struck a heavy blow at the lumber payroll in this area and Weyerhaeuser, rather than dismantling the plant entirely and wiping it off the map, has been particularly interested in getting some sort of operation going there again.

Toward this end Weyerhaeuser representatives have been assisting in its study of western woods and making available to the chemical company equipment and data on operating conditions, economic statistics and the like.

Research

"Hercules has been conducting research on western woods for the past two years at Wilmington," Forster said, "and the research convinced the company that only by operating a larger-sized pilot plant would it be possible to learn answers for many problems the laboratory research had found."

"Western woods contain a number of interesting organic chemicals," Macartney said, "some with potential commercial value. The only way a company can learn whether it can make a chemical economically is to set up a small plant and try it out."

Equipment

Buildings on the Ewauna site which will not be used by Hercules probably will be dismantled and the grounds cleared this winter, and much equipment to be used in the plant will have to be manufactured. Since the planned plant is the only one of its type, Hercules men are having to develop and make their own equipment.

Forster said that, depending on the result of the Klamath Falls pilot plant research, Hercules may require in the future substantial manufacturing facilities here in the west.

Old Ewauna Site Will Hum Again

Ewauna Box company's old plant on S. 6th had been a Klamath Falls institution and a valuable payroll source since 1912 until its sale to Weyerhaeuser Timber company last year, and a new type of operation will open up on the site next summer.

The Ewauna site has been purchased by the Hercules Powder company to be used as a pilot plant for chemical manufacture research.

Founded 1912

C. B. Crisler and Charles McGowan organized Ewauna Box company and built the plant on S. 6th in 1912. A few years later McGowan sold his interest to Claude Daggett and Fred Schallock. In 1917, after a fire, the company built what at the time was the second largest box factory in the United States.

In 1920 the sawmill was built, and it was expanded to three-band size in 1926, with a capacity of 150,000 board feet a shift. In 1928 Ewauna broke production records by sawing 95,000,000 feet of lumber in a year.

Idle

At the time of its sale to Weyerhaeuser, the company was owned principally by the heirs of Schallock, Daggett and Crisler. The plant has been idle since early this year.

UP Officials Move Cars At The Dalles

THE DALLES, Ore., Oct. 31 (AP) Five empty boxcars were on a riverfront dock spur today, waiting loading work to resume in the five-week-old canned pineapple dispute.

Union Pacific railroad officials climbed into a shifting engine cab Saturday to spot the five cars on the track and pull away five loaded cars that Brotherhood trainmen earlier had refused to handle.

A freight train later picked up the cars and hauled them to Portland. There they were transferred to the Southern Pacific and sent southward to San Jose, Calif., canneries.

Warnings

Police were investigating rock-weighted warning notes tossed on the porches of railroad workers last week. The notes said "Hands off the strikes. Stay out of strikebound area. 'You recognize ghost picket line or you won't want us to call on you again."

The reference to a ghost picket line referred to a court order prohibiting CIO longshore picketing. The pineapple was brought here by barge from Hawaii's strike-bound waterfront last month.

Meet the People

IT'S A COMPLICATED business, this job of operating the telephone system but Lyle Steers knows what he's doing even though the general public would be amazed at the maze of wires and gadgets needed for this kind of work.