

# DUPONT WILL BUILD PLANT

## NOW BUILDING LINES & ROADS TO PLANT SITE

Services Will Be Available In The Immediate Future. Officials Quoted

Simultaneously with the announcement by Du Pont that construction of a silicon plant at Buck forest would be started immediately are statements from the local telephone company and the Brevard branch of Duke Power company that work is underway to give power, lights and telephone service in that area in the immediate future.

Paul DuPre, assistant division engineer of the State Highway, also announces today that surveys into the plant site from Highway 276 at Cedar Mountain have been completed, and plans are now being made up in Raleigh.

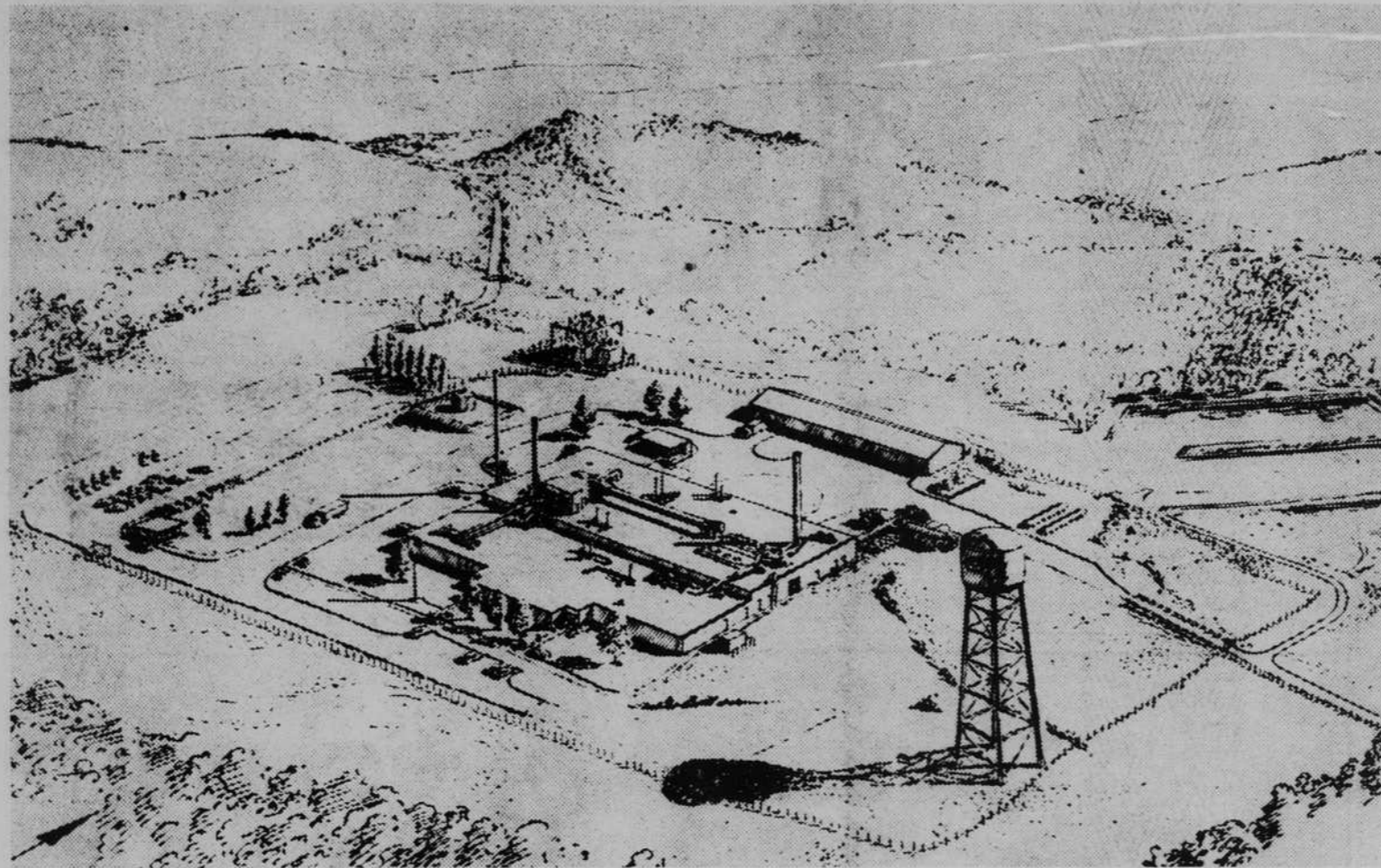
Mr. DuPre said the highway department will probably let the contract in April and the road should be completed by fall.

Duke Power company crews from the Brevard branch are now placing a third conductor out 276 to Cedar Mountain for the increase in capacity that will be needed by the Du Pont plant, Frank Yarbrough, the local manager states.

A three phase line will be constructed from Cedar Mountain to the plant site in Buck Forest, and

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## Drawing Of Multi-Million Dollar DuPont Silicon Plant At Buck Forest



AN ARCHITECT'S CONCEPTION of Du Pont's multi-million dollar silicon plant, at Buck forest, near Cedar Mountain, is pictured above. Construction will be

started immediately, and the plant is expected to be erected in approximately a year. This modern industry is Du Pont's second installation in North Carolina.

## Construction Will Be Started At Once

Over 300 To Be Employed In Erecting Buildings For The Manufacture Of Silicon. Will Let Bids For Sub-Contracts

The Du Pont company, six months after purchasing 10,500 acres of land at Buck forest in Transylvania and Henderson counties, announces today that construction will begin immediately on a multi-million dollar plant for the manufacture of silicon.

This will be the nation's first full-scale plant for the production of hyper-pure silicon, a vital part of many electronic and electrical devices.

The plant is expected to be ready for operation early in 1958, Frederick H. Weismuller, general manager of Du Pont's Pigments department, said in Wilmington today. The new facility, to be operated by the Pigments department, will be known as the Brevard plant.

This will be the Du Pont company's second operation in North Carolina, the other being a large Dacron plant at Kinston.

The 10,500-acre plant site offers protection against airborne contamination from industry or agriculture. Since impurities in silicon are measured in parts per billion, extremely pure air is essential in its manufacture.

Initially, the plant will employ about 200 persons in its operating force, though future plans call for a still larger unit, according to Mr. Weismuller. There will be about 300 persons in the construction force during the peak building period.

## Theft Ring In Town And County Broken Up By Police Department, Five Arrested

Considerable "Loot" Is Captured. All Local "Break-ins" Believed Solved

A theft ring, which has been operating in Brevard and Transylvania county for the past two months, has been broken up by the local police force.

Five youths, facing charges of breaking and entering and larceny, are in the county jail. According to Paul Fisher, chief of police, the group has admitted to robbing several places in the town and county during the latter part of November, December and January.

The first development in the "chain - reaction" investigation came on January 28th, when Chief Fisher discovered a typewriter that had been stolen last month from the Brevard elementary school.

He was told that the machine had been purchased from J. D. An

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LOCAL POLICEMEN have broken up a county-wide theft ring, and Chief Paul Fisher looks on as Baxter Morris, chief engineer at WPNF identifies an expensive tube checker that was stolen from the local radio station. Most of the "loot" that has been stolen in recent "break-ins" in the town and county has been recaptured, and five youths were arrested in connection with the robberies. (Times Staff Photo)

## CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

Thursday, Feb. 7 — Presbyterian and Methodist women's circles meet and WMS of the First Baptist church meets also. Masonic meeting in the temple at 7:30 p. m. Transylvania Humane Society meets at 8 p. m., Gaither's.

Friday, February 8 — Brevard high vs. Canton, Brevard college gym, 7:30 p. m. Ace of Clubs masterpoint game, Gaither's 7:45 p. m. Sunday, February 10 — Attend the church of your choice.

Monday, February 11 — No Rotary club meeting. Transylvania Shrine club, Gaither's, 7 p. m. Brevard Elementary School P-TA, 8 p. m. Archduke Otto to lecture here at Brevard high school, 8:15 p. m.

Tuesday, February 12 — Brevard Little Theatre play, 8 p. m., American Legion building. AAUW meets at 8 p. m. with Mrs. M. G. Pangle.

Wednesday, February 13 — Brevard civic club meeting and dinner, 7 p. m., Masonic temple. Little Theatre play, American legion building, 8:30 p. m.

## Principal Address At Brotherhood Banquet To Be Broadcast Over WPNF

The principal talk of Harold G. Brown, public relations executive of DuPont at the joint meeting of Brevard civic organizations on February 13th, will be broadcast over WPNF on February 13th, beginning at 9:30 o'clock.

Bobby Hoyle, the station manager, urges all listeners of the local radio station to hear this important address, which is being recorded at the banquet in the Masonic

## THIS IS SCOUT WEEK, CHAIRMAN WRITES LETTER

Much Information On Celebration Carried In The Times Today

This being National Boy Scout week, Dr. Earle O. Bryant, chairman of the Transylvania district of the Daniel Boone council of Boy Scouts of America, expresses appreciation to all persons in the town and county who are friends of the Scouting program.

His letter, in its entirety, follows:

"Through the media of the Transylvania Times and radio station WPNF, the Transylvania District Committee wishes to thank all the friends of Scouting in our county who have helped us during the past year with their contributions of time and money.

"Many have worked directly

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## LITTLE THEATRE TO PRESENT PLAY

"Seven Keys To Baldpate" Will Be Given Twice Next Week In Legion Bldg.

"Seven Keys to Baldpate", a melodramatic farce, will be presented here Tuesday and Wednesday nights, February 12 and 13, in the American Legion building, as the second offering of the Brevard Little Theatre for the current season.

The play begins Tuesday evening at 8 p. m., but curtain time has been changed to 8:30 p. m., Wednesday evening due to a combined meeting of men's clubs on that date.

All of the action of the play takes place in Baldpate Inn, with mystery and intrigue said to be predominant in the plot. Robroy Farquhar is again directing with Mrs. Rae Stoneback serving as his assistant for this production.

The cast combines a group that are both old and new faces in Little Theatre. Gene Ladd portrays the role of William Hollowell Magee, Earl Rhodes and Margaret Hampton are cast as Mr. and Mrs. Quimby with Dave Hilley playing

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## DuPont Public Relations Advisor To Speak At Joint Meet Of Civic Groups, 13th



JAMES C. GAITHER, Transylvania's representative in the General Assembly, left Monday for Raleigh, where he attended the first committee meetings of the legislature on Tuesday night. Mr. Gaither is staying at the Sir Walter Raleigh hotel and says he will welcome visits by Transylvanians when they are in the capital city.

Brown To Address Prominent Group Next Wednesday, Masonic Temple

More than 200 persons are expected to attend the joint meeting of the civic clubs of Brevard next Wednesday night, Feb. 13th, when Harold G. Brown, of Wilmington, Delaware, a DuPont public relations advisor, will be the principal speaker.

Sponsored by the Jaycees, the banquet will be attended by members of the Kiwanis, Lions and Rotary clubs, as well as the Brevard and Rosman chambers of commerce.

It will be held in the Masonic temple, beginning at 7:00 o'clock.

A limited number of tickets will be available to the public and they may be secured from John Ford, Jr.

Earl Powell, Jaycee president, will preside, and Ed M. Anderson, newspaper and radio executive, will introduce the speaker.

Mr. Brown, public relations advisor for the Pigments Department of DuPont, under which silicon is manufactured, was in Brevard on Tuesday to release the story to

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## Important Facts About Silicon

Silicon, developed by Du Pont for use in wartime radar equipment is today being used in a fast-growing array of tiny electrical and electronic devices.

Recently, due to increased demand for the hyper-pure product by the electronic industry, the price of silicon was reduced \$30 a pound — from \$350 to \$325 a pound.

Silicon, a semi-conductor, is widely used in transistors, diodes, and rectifiers. Although its cost approaches that of gold, a tiny sliver of the material — worth from five to ten cents — makes up the heart of an electronic device such as a transistor.

Devices making use of silicon are vital in the manufacture of more efficient, more compact communi-

cation equipment — telephone switchboards, radios, and television sets. By using silicon, electric motors with built-in power rectifiers which convert alternating current to direct current can be constructed which give the advantage of direct current without expensive control mechanisms or extra wirings.

Du Pont announced recently that it had developed another grade of silicon, known as "solar-cell" grade selling at \$150 a pound, which will be used in the new "solar batteries" which convert the direct rays of the sun into electrical energy.

Since 1952, according to Frederick H. Weismuller, general manager of the Pigments Department,

Prime construction will be by the Du Pont company, and many sub contracts will be let to the lowest local bidders. Officials of the company explain that as much of the construction force as possible will be locally employed.

The production manager and other supervisory personnel are expected in Brevard in the next week or two, and upon their arrival will make announcements concerning employment, training programs, etc.

The plant is expected to produce about 50,000 pounds of semi-conductor grade silicon annually. This is the material used in the manufacture of such devices as transistors, diodes and power rectifiers.

These devices find wide application in the electronic industry, and are essential in the field of communications, notably radio and television equipment. They are important in telephone switchboards, business computers and many other intricate devices.

Nation's Only Producer The Du Pont company, which pioneered the commercial production of hyper-pure silicon and is the nation's only producer today, does not make electronic devices; it makes only the silicon.

Because of its extreme purity, and the difficulty of purification, the material sells at \$320 a pound. However, a small sliver of the material — worth from five to ten cents — makes up the heart of the new electronic devices.

The Brevard plant will also have an annual capacity of 20,000 pounds of "solar-cell" grade silicon. This grade, introduced about six months ago, selling today at \$150 a pound, was developed by Du Pont for use in the so-called "solar batteries" which convert the direct rays of the sun into electrical energy.

Will Continue Production At present, silicon is produced in a unit at Du Pont's Newport, Del., plant. This unit will continue to produce the material during the period of construction at Brevard and will be used subsequently for research and product development.

The Brevard plant, the first ever designed completely for silicon manufacture, will produce no other products. In line with company policy, the plant has been designed to avoid problems of air and water pollution.

The Du Pont plant site lies on the boundary line between Transylvania and Henderson counties, and is roughly bisected by the Little River. Route 276 approaches the southwestern section of the site, while the Crab Creek road runs parallel to the northernmost

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