

Modern Plant Producing 150 Tons Fertilizer Here Daily

Special Blends Made For Crops-Soils

from P. 1 First Section)

about three stories high. represents an investment of \$50,000. It was learned to-day 20 men are employed. There will be added as production is increased.

Modern fertilizer plant resembles to some degree, a huge oven.

Ingredients are brought to the plant lots. Some of these are hauled direct from the mixing bins, while others are stored for later use. It all depends upon the type fertilizer to be made.

Ingredients are all dry powders, resembling anything but salt, to bran flakes. These are carefully weighed and put into one large bin for the laboratory. Exactly one ton of these have been placed in the hooper. A trap door is opened and the surging materials rush down below, and from there, by an endless belt to the floor of the plant for modern house-wife would have a machine in her kitchen could mix as thoroughly as in this fertilizer plant, there would be no room for a kitchen.

Large machine, driven by a power motor, does not stop when it comes to mixing the mixing machine, the material is transferred from one bin to another, in ton lots, and makes it way to the second floor. There is carted away to the storage bins on the first floor. Oil fertilizer is poured from the walkway on the second floor.

There is sufficient storage space for 3,500 tons. Four of the bins hold about 350 tons each, and the others hold 700 tons each. Then

Dumping Ingredients Into Mixer At Fertilizer Plant



Workmen are shown here pushing carts and wheelbarrows of different materials used in making Plant Food. All materials are dumped into a pit, and from there it is carried by chain buckets to the third floor for mixing and grinding. All materials are carefully weighed and analyzed before going into the mixing machinery. (Photo by Ingram's Studio.)

there are numerous smaller bins for storing raw materials.

After the plant food is put into storage bins it remains there for several weeks in what is known as a "curing process." A chemical reaction sets up, but it cannot be detected with the eye.

Sometimes during the "curing" the plant food becomes as hard as flint rock. When this happens, a few sticks of dynamite carefully placed in the middle of the pile breaks it up for the crushers again. It never hardens in the bag after the "curing" period.

For bagging, the fertilizer is picked up by a motorized shovel, and dumped into a hooper. From there a chain of buckets pick up the material and carry it to a bagging machine. Each machine is

set to weigh out an even 100 pounds, and it empties into an open paper bag. As the bag moves away, it passes through a fast stitching sewing machine, and the top of the bag is sewed close. From there the bag glides down a conveyor belt to the storage department. There it might wait an hour, and even a day, before being loaded on trucks or in cars for shipment to dealers all over Western North Carolina.

Only 100-pound bags will be used by the plant—and this is for two reasons, economy, and ease of handling.

It is surprising enough, that materials used in making plant food is brought in from eight states and at this plant are blended together in proportions as recom-

mended and found most practical for crops and the soils in this area.

Materials come from Georgia, South Carolina, West Virginia, North Carolina, Alabama, Arkansas, and New Mexico.

One thing that impresses the average layman is the dividing walls of the bins, and the bulkheads in the front of the bins.

The dividing walls of each bin are made of 10-inch boards, laid flat to the floor, with a 2-inch opening between each. At first glance it would appear that the plant food would seep through from one bin to the other, but after seeing one side of the wall with 350 tons packed in, and the adjoining bin empty, one realizes there is no such thing as seepage from one bin

to the other.

The front of the bins are an interesting thing to the average visitor. Ordinary inch boards are laid cross-ways, just as lumber is stacked for drying around saw-mills. No nails, or any other method of fastening is used. The bulkheads hold back as much as 750 tons of plant food. When a bin is to be emptied, the bottom boards are pulled out, and the dry material scooped up from the bottom by a mechanized shovel.

Tom Medford, superintendent of the plant, pointed out that the pressure and weight of the plant food from above the planks held them in place. It is quick work to build, and easy to dismantle.

The management invites the public to visit their plant, and see just how the plant food is made. One does not detect any odors until right at the mixing machine. Visitors are shown every phase of the operation, but the exact amount of each material used in the different formulas is a "trade secret." That is, except for the content of the basic elements making up plant food.

All plant food analyses is referred to in figures, such as 3-9-6. Broken down, the first letter denotes the percentage of nitrogen, the second is the percentage of phosphoric acid and the third is the percentage content of potash. In this case it would be just like saying: "This bag contains 3% nitrogen; 9% acid; 6% potash."

Right now the plant is manufacturing six grades, or different types of plant food, such as: 3-9-6, specially for tobacco; 2-12-12; 5-10-5; 4-10-6; 7-7-7; 6-8-6, and the management proposes to make 0-14-14 and 0-9-7. The production of 18% and 20% super phosphate is also carried out.

With shipping scheduled to begin this week, there is a possibility that two shifts will be used daily, of about 20 men each, according to the management.

Mr. Thompson, president, has been in the fertilizer business all his life. He was with the Louisville Fertilizer and Gin Company of Louisville, Ga., before coming here. He is vice president and general manager of the Georgia plant.

Mr. Harwell is an attorney of Kingston, Tenn., and his parents once owned a home at Lake Junaluska, where he spent many summer vacations. Mrs. Thompson is

Machine Automatically Fills Paper Bags With 100 Pounds



Two automatic machines fill the specially made paper bags with an even 100 pounds net of Plant Food. The two men at the right are filling bags, while the third man is operating the sewing machine which sews the tops of the bags. Then the bags go to the conveyor, left, and on to storage, or direct into waiting trucks. Automatic scales are attached to each filling machine to assure accuracy. (Photo by Ingram's Studio.)

secretary of the firm.

Mr. Thompson is handling all sales himself, and in addition to sales, is working with agricultural leaders in determining the best analysis of plant food for use in this area.

A special spur track has been built to the plant, and as many as five cars can be loaded or unloaded at one time from the loading docks of the plant. Facilities have also been built for large and small trucks to load from the other side of the plant. In fact, three transport trucks can load at one time.

The plant is equipped with a hot and cold shower in the men's room. The offices are electrically heated.

All the carts and wheelbarrows used in the plant have rubber tires for easier handling.

Some idea as to the volume of plant food the plant can manufacture can be had from the fact that a solid car load of paper bags were recently unloaded.

WTHS Students Will Attend Band Clinic

Eight Waynesville High School Band students have been selected to play in the All-State Band, Western Division, at Western Carolina Teachers College, March 10 and 11.

They are: Aileen Williams, piccolo; Vivian Watkins, clarinet; Charles Alley, oboe; Kathleen Calhoun, alto clarinet; Dale Ratcliffe, tenor saxophone; Robert Massie, cornet; Betty Noland, French horn; and Jay Dee Stanley, tuba.

Allen Bone, director of the Duke University Band, will direct the band clinic and other directors from the western district will be at the college to conduct sectional rehearsals.

Students will be guests of the college during their two-day stay at Cullowhee and special events

AT HAYWOOD HOSPITAL

Mrs. Kitty Ferguson of Medford Farm is a patient at the Haywood County hospital where she is receiving treatment for a broken leg.

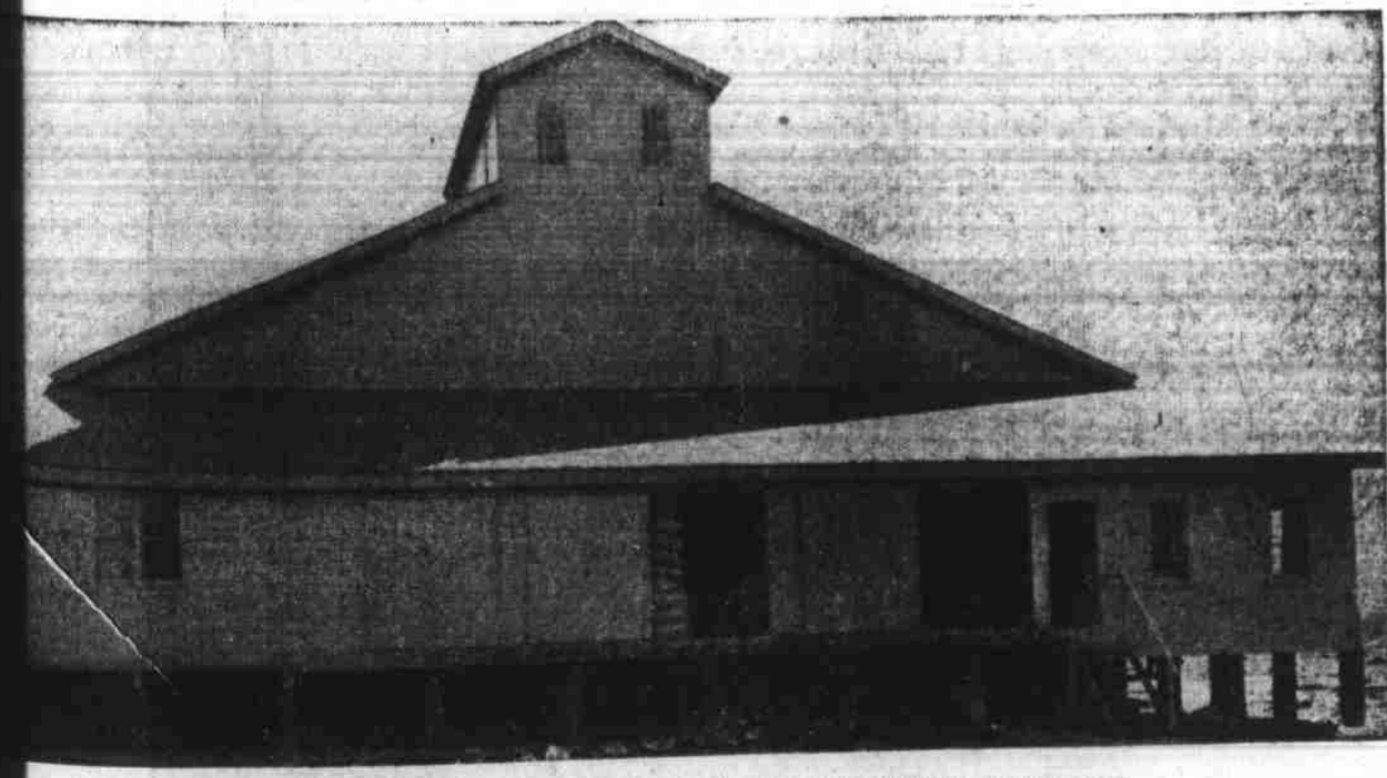
Doyle Roberts of Canton is a patient in the hospital.

Mrs. Rufus Ratcliffe underwent an operation in the hospital this week and is progressing nicely.

have been planned for their entertainment.

FOR SALE
CENTURY
INBOARD
MOTOR BOAT
AT
UNDERWOOD
SINCLAIR SERVICE
WAYNESVILLE, N. C.

Congratulations . . . Smoky Mountains Fertilizer Company



MODERN PLANT OF SMOKY MOUNTAINS FERTILIZER COMPANY

...and Welcome To The Community!

WE ARE HAPPY INDEED, THAT OUR MATERIALS WERE CHOSEN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF YOUR MODERN PLANT —

In the past 24 months we have furnished materials for practically every major construction job in this area. The fact that people keep coming back to us for building supplies is sufficient proof that we sell only the best. Our representatives are continually on the lookout for bargains... bargains that enable us to bring to you the best the market affords, at a price you can afford to pay.

Waywood Builders Supply Co.

"THERE'S A MATERIAL DIFFERENCE"

At The Depot

Phones 82 - 83

Another Modern Industry For Haywood . . .

Wheels of another Haywood Industry are turning—and another product has been added to our diversified list of quality goods made here in Haywood.

We are proud of the Smoky Mountains Fertilizer Company—happy they have built their plant here and have become one of our neighbors.

The plant is providing jobs for Haywood men, and the products will be of vital importance to the farmers of this county. The management of the firm is working closely with our farm leaders and will make just the type plant food most needed in this section.

To Mr. Thompson, and his associates, we are happy you selected Haywood county to build your plant.

•
The
Friendly
Bank
•

THE First National Bank

ORGANIZED 1902

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation Member Federal Reserve System