

WHITE CLIFFS IS TO BE DEVELOPED

1925?
Huge Limestone Deposit Purchased by Two New Corporations.

Special to the Gazette.
Nashville, Oct. 15.—Deeds conferring the large limestone deposits at White Cliffs, near here, to two new corporations have been recorded at Ashdown by the White Cliffs Corporation and the Arkansas Cement Company, both of Delaware, with a combined capital stock of approximately \$10,000,000.

It is reported that the sale of the property and the organization of the two new corporations means the erection, at an early date, of a large cement plant at White Cliffs, together with the resumption of operations of the present limestone plant, and the erection of a still finer lime plant. The property consists of 900 acres of limestone deposits, said to be the largest limestone deposit in the world.

A cement plant once was operated on the property by Dutch Manufacturers, but the fuel and transportation problems made the business unsuccessful. Later a large lime plant was erected by the Krippendorf-Tuttle Company, but costly errors in operation and fuel problems made this unsuccessful. However, it is said, the new corporations are entering the field after very close surveys, and are fully capable of carrying out their intentions.

NEW WHITE CLIFFS PROJECT RECALLS TOWN'S PAST GLORY

Dutch Company Years Ago Built Complete Town and Handsome Homes, Now Ashes—Spent Million.

Nashville, Oct. 17.—(Special).—The possibilities of the reopening of operations at the large lime deposit at White Cliffs now seems assured, upon the recording of deeds at Ashdown Tuesday by the White Cliffs Corporation and the Arkansas Cement Corporation. Both corporations are chartered under the laws of the State of Delaware, with a total capital of \$9,000,000. The deeds convey the title of the property formerly owned by the Krippendorf-Tuttle White Cliffs Products Co. the consideration being \$375,000.

The plan of the new corporation is to first build a large cement plant and run this in connection with the present plant located there. The building of the cement plant will begin at once and will employ at least 500 men. The present plant which is for the manufacture of whitening and asphalt filler will start at once. There are on file orders for hundred of thousands tons of these products, officials of the new company say.

The property conveyed in the deeds consists of 900 acres of the finest limestone deposit in North America, located in Little River county. The first plant at White Cliffs was built in the early nineties, by a company from Holland, and managed by Dutch people, who built a large cement plant on the east bank of Little River. The Kansas City Southern Railroad Co. built a spur from its line to the west bank of the river, and all products from the plant were shipped over this line, but having no bridge across the river a cable was used, together with large buckets in taking the products from the plant across to the railroad.

Built Entire Town.

This Holland company built, in connection with its plant a complete village, for white employes and another for negroes. In the white section of the town were some fine homes, and after the company was forced into bankruptcy, the homes and town remained, fully furnished, even to the silverware in the dining rooms.

Several years after the Holland company went broke, the entire plant was dismantled and sold as junk.

The two tall chimneys, which were the highest in Arkansas at that time, were torn down, and one by one the homes of the officials of the company were burned down, the last one being on the highest point, and with it went all the furniture, which had been imported from Holland.

A few years ago another company was organized to build a plant and operate the lime deposit, this one being the Krippendorf-Tuttle Co. of Cincinnati, Ohio. Mr. Krippendorf who was the president of that Company is a wealthy shoe man and mine owner of Ohio. This company built a large plant for the manufacture of whitening and other products. The buildings were on the same location as the former plant and cost over half a million dollars. Together with the plant, this company built school houses, and homes for the employes, and on the spot where the home of the manager of the Dutch plant stood, Mr. Krippendorf built a large office building which was three stories high and also served as living quarters for the officials of that company. On the first floor of the office building was the heating plant, kitchen and dining room, the upper floors being the offices and living rooms, which were furnished with the finest grade of office furniture.

Lived In Style.

Each official of the company had a room in this building and each room was fully furnished by the company. Colonel Simon Ross, the manager of the plant, had a suite of rooms overlooking the river, consisting of a bed room, living room, sun parlor, and private dining room, and all furnished even to a dumb waiter from the kitchen to his dining room.

Like the Dutch company the Krippendorf company spent money on everything, having a fine collection of saddle horses, bird dogs, large radios, motor boats, and a private motor car.

This company after spending over a million dollars, also was forced to cease operations because of the large overhead expense, and only the watchmen have been on duty at White Cliffs for the past two and half years.

After these two failures by large companies at White Cliffs, the people of this section are now wondering how the new corporations will conduct their venture.

PROSPECTS FOR CEMENT INDUSTRY

Some two years ago representatives of the Missouri Portland Cement Company, together with a staff of experts, spent several days making investigations of the limestone deposits, suitable for manufacture of cement, between Earnhart and Guion, along the White River Railroad. They were here as guests of President Baldwin of the Missouri Pacific who is deeply interested in development of the White river territory, and took care of the party in his official car during their survey. Options were taken on several thousand acres which was later tested by drilling to determine extent of the deposits, while assay tests of the quality were also made. Upon the showings thus obtained, around 2000 acres of the land was bought outright by the company. We are informed that negotiations for about 3000 electrical horse power to be delivered to this property have been made. While nothing has appeared on the surface in the way of development activity, the building of a high voltage electric line in that direction, may have a bearing upon that proposition for the near future.

Work on Monster Plant at White Cliffs to Be

Ark. Democrat
May 29 - 1927

New Industry To Give Work To Many Men

Plant Near Ashdown to Cost Approximately \$1,392,000.

To Make Cement

Process of Manufacture Is Described by Company Officers.

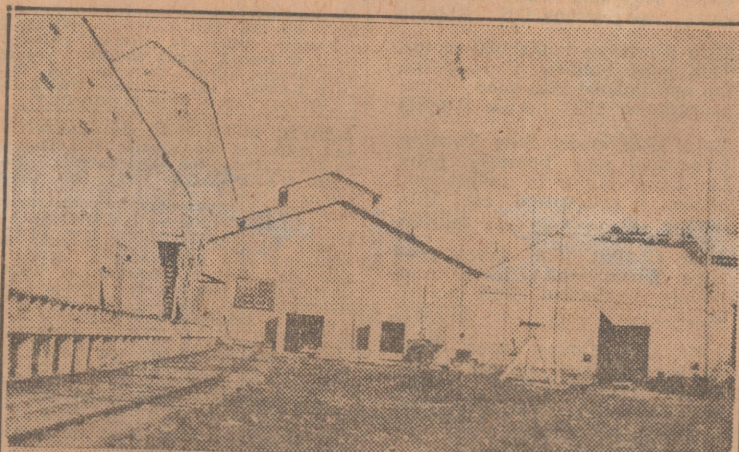
The newest industry in Arkansas' forward march toward a greater development of natural resources was added last week when plans for a \$1,392,000 plant for the making of "Arkansas Portland Cement" were approved by A. B. Banks, president of the Lime Products Company, a concern formed to manufacture cement from the chalk deposits eight miles north of Ashdown. Alfred M. Lund of the Lund Engineering Company is working out the details of the engineering plans so that construction of a modern plant can start within 90 days.

While the chalk deposits have been partially developed by various firms since 1897, chiefly for lime to be used in building purposes, a real program of development had been lacking until last fall, when the properties of the old Lime Products Company, consisting of a plant for the manufacture of lime and "whiting," were acquired by Mr. Banks. The value is approximately \$250,000, and the plant will continue to be operated, along with the new cement manufacturing units.

Huge Plant Planned.

The plant contemplated in the plans of Mr. Lund will be more than a quarter of a mile in length, and

Scenes Near White Cliffs



The present plant of the Lime Products Company is shown in the above picture. It will continue to be operated by Mr. Banks and associates, and a new product, "plastite," discovered and perfected by Alfred M. Lund, prominent engineer of Little Rock, which increases the strength of concrete, will be manufactured there and distributed throughout the United States. The lower picture shows a part of the chalk cliffs, which are said to be the only ones on the continent. Lime for building purposes is now manufactured from these deposits, but there are said to be more than 800 uses for the chalk and by-products.

In itself will involve the expenditure of approximately \$400,000. Probably the most interesting units in the

equipment that will be built are the kilns.

The kilns will be built in the form of a cylinder or drum, 300 feet long,

or approximately the length of a city block. The outer casing will be of steel, and the interior will be lined with the hardest brick obtainable, in order to withstand the terrific heat that it will be subjected to. At one end, slightly lower than the other, will be the furnaces, capable of creating a heat of at least 3,200 degrees Fahrenheit intensity, which is necessary to fuse the chemicals into a slag, which is later ground into the dust called cement.

At the other end are the vats, into which the chalk, after being ground, is mixed with water and chemicals to form a mixture with about the same consistency as soft mud. After a period, this mixture is forced by pumps into the kilns. The terrific heat is forced from the furnaces through the cylindrical kilns, and as the mixture is sprayed it is crystallized into a slag. An idea of the intensity of the heat can be gained when it is remembered that iron ore melts at 1,900 degrees, and the 3,200 degrees heat of the kilns will melt gold and almost every other ore.

When the slag has cooled, it is ground almost to atoms by special crushers, and then is sacked. Then it is ready for the market.

Although Arkansas is now supplied with cement from producers in nearby states, it now has no cement plant. For this reason it is believed that a factory within the state is justified and that conditions at White Cliffs, which is on Little River in Little River county, are favorable for the construction of such a plant planned by Mr. Banks and associates.

"Cement mills must be operated continuously with no shut-downs for holidays or Sundays," Mr. Lund explained. "There are no nuisances created by the manufacture of cement and several mills are located within the heart of large cities without objection on the part of adjoining property owners."

To Give Employment.

"The White Cliffs plant will employ approximately 100 white men who will be recruited to a large extent from labor nearby. A few men will be brought in who have had experience in other cement plants to train local labor. In the clay pits wherever located, it is probable that negro labor will be used but since this

operation is mostly mechanical, the number of employes will be small. The plant, grounds, tracks and other properties required for this operation will cost more than \$1,000,000 and will require 12 months to construct. During the period of construction a large force of imported labor will be used who are special machinists skilled in the installation of equipment to be used. Some of these men will bring their families and thus add to the population of the cities nearby, which include Ashdown and Nashville, about 16 miles away.

"The chalk deposits in Little River and Sevier counties comprise about 900 acres of chalk lands, according to John C. Branner, state geologist. The main deposits are located on a strip of land extending north and south and on the east side of Little River. The central portion rises abruptly from the flood plane of the river forming a marl and chalk wall rising from 75 to 125 feet above the flood plane.

"The value of this chalk for various purposes is hardly appreciated," Mr. Branner said last year after a survey of the property and before Mr. Banks acquired the holdings. "When considered that this chalk is very soft and pure rock and therefore does not require the grinding the more compact limestones do, and further the ease with which it can be burned to lime, its superiority may be seen. The fact that this bed is the only one in the United States greatly increases its value."

FOREMAN CEMENT PLANT BUYS POWER

Gazette 12-17-27
Southwest Gas and Electric
Company to Build Line
to Factory.

Special to the Gazette
Shreveport, La., Dec. 16.—Contract for 4,500 horsepower electrical service between the American Portland Cement Company and the Southwestern Gas and Electric Company of Shreveport for power for the former concern's plant at Foreman, Ark., has been consummated, it was announced by officials of the Southwestern company today. The price to be paid was not disclosed.

As the plant will begin operation with 3,000 barrels of cement daily to be manufactured from a large deposit of silica chalk adjacent to the Foreman plant, engineers estimate that 1,440,000 kilowatt hours will be consumed monthly at the Foreman plant. The power will be sent over a 66,000-volt line from Shreveport to Ashdown, Ark. From Ashdown a line of the same capacity is being extended into Foreman. There is already a transmission line from Foreman to De Queen, which will be changed to carry the heavier load. This same line will be extended from De Queen to the big power plants in Oklahoma, which will take over part of the load in case of an emergency. Owners of the American Portland Cement Company expect to have their plant at Foreman in operation in about a year, as work on it already has begun.

CEMENT PLANT TO HAVE ITS HEADQUARTERS HERE

Gazette 2-4-28
American Company Is Building Massive Plant at Foreman to Cost Approximately \$2,000,000.

General offices for the American Portland Cement Company of Foreman, Little River county, a cement manufacturing plant, is being erected at a cost of about \$2,000,000, which will be completed next fall, will be in the A. O. U. W. building here. W. C. Ribenack, president of the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce, was advised yesterday. Construction of the cement plant was begun last April.

The company will employ between 50 and 60 persons at the plant at Foreman, in addition to a large sales force in Little Rock, and at other points.

The offices of the company here are in charge of Charles E. Oxford Jr., who is occupying the office of John Paul Streepy in the A. O. U. W. building temporarily.

PORTLAND CEMENT PLANT IS OPENED

Dwight H. Blackwood Pulls
Switch at Okay to Start
Machinery.

\$2,500,000 IS INVESTED

New Industry Will Produce 2,000

Barrels of Finished Material Daily

After July 15.

By Hansel C. Batten.

(Staff Correspondent of the Gazette.)

Okay, June 18.—A mammoth industry and a thriving little community are being added to Arkansas' growing family of industries and communities in this spot in southwestern Arkansas that heretofore has been devoted principally to not overly prosperous farming.

Bringing with it an investment of \$2,500,000, the Arkansas Portland Cement Company in August, 1928, purchased 800 acres, 12 miles south and a little west of Nashville, and is building what is to be the first cement plants in Arkansas and one of the largest in the Southwest. In conjunction with it, a town which has been named Okay, after the O. K. Cement manufactured by its sister company, the Oklahoma Portland Cement Company, a fellow subsidiary of the Ideal Portland Cement Company, is being built.

The company chartered a special train for a party of officials of the State Highway Commission and friends from Little Rock to inspect the new plant. The train left the Missouri Pacific station at 8 a. m. today, arriving at Okay at 1:20 p. m.

Plant Is Impressive.

While the trip also was a pleasure jaunt, the sight of the gigantic machines and large buildings which represent so large an investment, impressed everyone.

Limestone, the very attribute of the topography of this spot which placed it at an agricultural disadvantage compared to the rich peach-growing district centering at Nashville, made Okay the site of this great industry. In the 800 acres owned by the company, in which the limestone protrudes from the soil, there is raw material for the manufacture of cement for 100 years, it is said by J. F. Kaufman, superintendent of the plant.

C. Boettcher of Denver, Col., president of the company, building this plant and the Ideal Portland Cement Company, said that the limestone in this section is equal in quality to any in the nation.

Only one element in the manufacture of cement will be obtained from outside the state, Gypsum, the retarder in the process, will be imported from Oklahoma as no supply is available in Arkansas.

Blackwood Pulls Switch.

Some of the machinery, most of which now is ready for operation, was started for the observation of the visitors. Dwight H. Blackwood, chairman of the State Highway Commission, pulled the switch to start the rock crusher. From the limestone which was crushed today, the first barrel of cement will be made when operations start about July 15.

The powdered stone was carried by chain-cup elevators to the large storage room, which has a capacity of 400 barrels per hour. From the storage room, the party was shown the seven "slurry" or agitation tanks, each 20 feet in diameter and 40 feet high. There the limestone will be mixed with gypsum, water and other materials to make the "clinker."

The "clinker" will be cooked in a kiln lying horizontally on steel and concrete columns, which is said to be one of the largest of its kind in the world. Mr. Blackwood also threw the switch to start this gigantic steel tube revolving. It is 300 feet long and 11 feet six inches in diameter. Lined with fireproof brick of high alumina content, it is said to be able to withstand a heat of 2,700 degrees. July 15, when the manufacturing begins, the tube will be started revolving, to continue day and night, as the technical requirements of the industry demand that the kiln be not stopped.

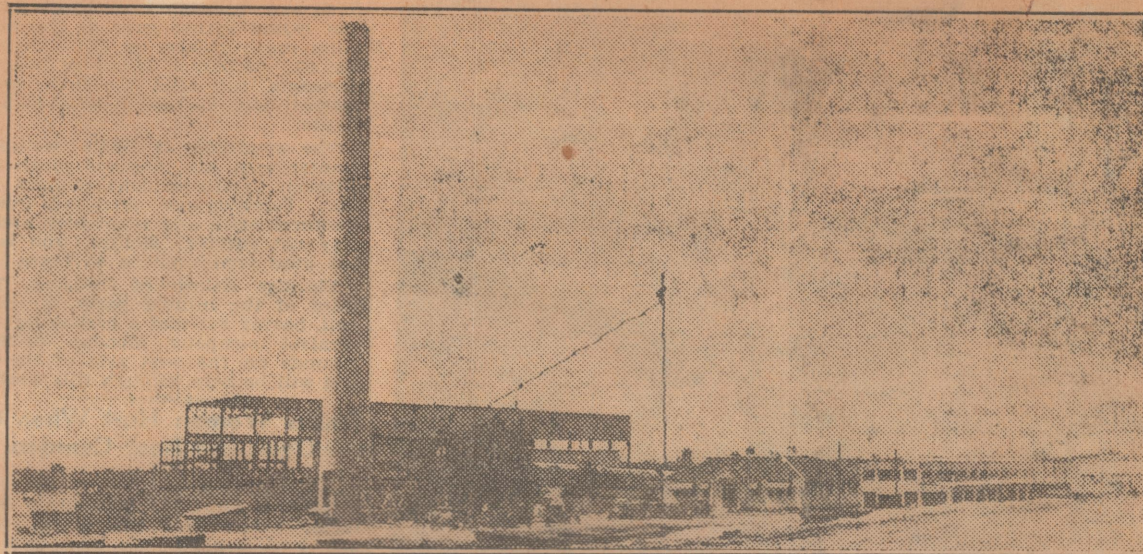
Smokestack 225 Feet High.

At one end of the kiln is a reinforced concrete smokestack, the tallest structure in Howard county, the top standing 225 feet above the ground level. It is 30 feet in diameter at the base and 12 feet at the top.

Twenty silos of reinforced concrete are being constructed to furnish storage for finished concrete. The tanks will be 30 feet in diameter and 95 feet in height.

Two immense revolving grinders, each weighing 190,000 pounds, are among the machines new to Arkansas.

View of Plant of Arkansas Portland Cement Co. Now Being
Completed at Okay, Howard County, at Cost of \$2,500,000



Above is a view of the \$2,500,000 plant of the Arkansas Portland Cement Company now nearing completion at Okay, Howard county. The buildings which house the machinery and kilns are nearly finished, most of the machinery has been installed, and at a ceremony yesterday Dwight H. Blackwood, state highway commissioner, pulled a switch which started some of the machinery in operation.

The company some time ago purchased a majority of the stock in the Gurdon, Nashville and Ashdown railroad, which connects Ashdown and Nashville, and constructed a six-mile industrial spur from Okay Junction to the plant.

Shipping will be over the Missouri Pacific railroad, which intersects with the G. N. and A. at Nashville, and the Frisco and Kansas City Southern, which intersect at Ashdown.

Electric power is furnished by the Southwestern Gas and Electric Company, which has built a line to the plant from its Shreveport (La.) station. The Arkansas Power and Light Company has built an auxiliary line from Waldo to the plant.

Gas for burning the "clinker" will be furnished by the Arkansas Natural Gas Company. A 10-inch main has been laid the 25 miles between the plant and Emmett. The company's contract calls for use of a minimum of \$2,000 worth of gas per month.

2,000-Barrel Capacity.

The plant's capacity will be about 2,000 barrels of cement daily. Three barrels of cement are obtained from a ton of limestone. If certain contracts for which the company is bidding are obtained, another kiln, a replica of the giant one already installed, will be constructed and the output doubled.

About 80 men, recruited from the vicinity, will be employed daily in the two 12-hour shifts when the plant starts manufacturing. Today 324 men were engaged in the construction work. An average of 300 men daily have been employed since construction of buildings was started in January.

The company has erected 25 of the proposed 40 small but sturdy built houses for workmen. The visiting party

was favorably impressed with its inspection of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wadsworth, Okay's first bride and groom.

A large two-story clubhouse has been built for the bachelor workers and to serve as a community center. All the residence buildings are painted white, and the roofs are painted green. Provision has been made for ample yard space and lawns have been started. A boulevard has been constructed in the main street of the settlement and planted with flowers, shrubs and evergreens.

Service on the special train was one of the features of the trip, with D. M. Pinkston, sales manager of the company with headquarters at 802 Wallace building, and C. K. Bothwell, general passenger agent of the Missouri Pacific Lines, as hosts. The dining car, in charge of G. B. Myrick, steward, and E. Thomas of St. Louis, dining car inspector, served three meals.

John Cannon, vice president and general manager of the Missouri Pacific Lines, had his private car attached to the special at Little Rock and was one of the most interested of the visitors at the new plant.

Personnel of Party.

The following state officials made the trip from Little Rock: Lieutenant Governor Lee Cazort; Justin Matthews, state highway commissioner; Dwight Blackwood, chairman of the state Highway Commission; Sam Wilson and Lan Williams, members of the commission; Dona MacCrea, consulting engineer of the Highway Department; W. W. Mitchell, division engineer of the department, and V. A. Kleiber, auditor of the commission.

The following officials of the Arkansas Portland Cement Company made the trip: C. Boettcher of Denver, Col., president of that company and of the Ideal Portland Cement Company; C. D. Nichols of Oklahoma City, vice president of the Arkansas company and of the Oklahoma Portland Cement Company; D. M. Pinkston, sales manager at Little Rock; M. O. Matthews, manager of operations, and Jack Canby, special representative of the company.

The following Missouri Pacific officials visited Okay: John Cannon of St. Louis, vice president and general manager of the railroad; W. E. Brooks of Little Rock, superintendent of the Southern District; W. E. Lamb of Little Rock, Superintendent of the Arkansas Division; E. C. Wills of St. Louis, assistant general manager; C. K. Both-

well of Little Rock, general passenger agent; H. R. Wilson of Little Rock, general freight agent, and J. H. Elmfield of St. Louis, superintendent of wage schedules.

Snow Wilson, president of the Big Rock Stone and Material Company and a stockholder in the Arkansas Portland Cement Company, and J. C. Eakin, recently appointed sales manager of the Big Rock company, also were in the party.

Jim Skillern, general superintendent of the G. N. & A. railroad, and C. E. Ferguson, editor of the Nashville News, joined the party at Nashville.

LOCAL BUSINESS MEN TO VISIT CEMENT FACTORY

Little Rock Delegation Will Attend
Formal Opening of Industry
at Okay. *Gazette* 14/1/29

A special train will carry a delegation of Little Rock business men to Okay tomorrow for the formal opening of the Arkansas Portland Cement Company. The train will return after the ceremonies tomorrow night.

Among the principal speakers will be D. W. Harris, vice president and general manager of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation, Shreveport, and J. R. Munce, official of the same company.

A special pipe was laid to the cement plant by the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation. It will supply the plant with 4,000,000 cubic feet of gas a day, which would be sufficient to supply 60,000 average families—or a city of 300,000 population—with gas.

The plant now being opened is one of three units, the second of which will be under construction this month. It will be among the largest in the South, it is said.

Okay is situated 35 miles north of Texarkana in a region which mineralogists declare has a greater variety of minerals than any other section of the South.

A committee to represent the Little Rock Chamber of Commerce has been appointed to attend the opening and inspect the plant, it was announced yesterday by D. Hodson Lewis, secretary and manager. The committee will be composed of E. E. Bonewits, R. E. Overman and Q. L. Porter. The members will be accompanied by Mr. Lewis and Fred I. Brown, president.

500 SEE OPENING OF CEMENT PLANT

Visitors Inspect Arkansas'
Only Industry of Its Kind
at Okay.

HUGE EXPLOSION STAGED

Setting Off of 20,200 Pounds of Dy-
namite in Limestone Deposit

Is Feature.

Gazette Oct 3
By Hansel C. Batten. 1929
(Staff Correspondent of the Gazette.)
Nashville, Oct. 2.—Arkansas' only

cement manufacturing plant was opened officially today at Okay, Howard county, 15 miles southeast of Nashville, with about 500 persons, most of them from Arkansas—but some from Mississippi, Tennessee, and Louisiana, being entertained by the Arkansas Portland Cement Company at a luncheon and an inspection trip of the \$2,500,000 factory.

A Missouri Pacific special train left Little Rock at 7 a. m. today, bearing 141 Arkansas, Louisiana and Tennessee customers of the company, officials of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation and the railroad, spent three hours at Okay while the party attended the luncheon and inspected the plant.

About 350 men and women from Hope, Texarkana, Malvern, Nashville, Conway, Morrilton and other Arkansas towns; Shreveport and Monroe, La., Jackson, Miss., and Memphis, Tenn. were at the plant when the special arrived, most of them having traveled from their home cities by automobile. Texarkana was represented by a delegation of about 30 business men, who wore lapel ribbons designating the city of their residence.

One of the visitors traveled a part of the way by airplane. John Fletcher, advertising manager at Shreveport, La., for the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation, which furnishes the cement plant with fuel through a pipe line from Emmett, chartered an airplane in Little Rock after narrowly missing the special train and joined the Little Rock party at Hope.

The visitors, some of whom had been guests June 18 at the initial tests of the machinery, when a special train was chartered from Little Rock for members of the state Highway Commission and officials of the cement company, were shown through the large plant, which is said to have the most modern machinery of any similar manufacturing establishment of its kind.

Big Dynamite Blast.

The simultaneous blast of 102 charges of dynamite, 20,200 pounds, in the limestone deposit near the plant was the gala spectacle of the day, immediately following the luncheon, which was served by the Barlow hotel of Hope on the third floor of the large packing building, where the finished cement is stuffed into sacks for shipment.

Paul C. Van Zandt, chief engineer, designer of much of the machinery in use at the plant, who presided at the

the roof of the packing building and the party stood tense awaiting the explosion, which came five minutes later. A 10-foot bank of limestone crumbled from the force of the charge, loosening 100,000 pounds of cretaceous chalk, enough raw material to keep the plant in capacity operation for four months.

One hundred and twenty-five box carloads of finished cement, ordered by firms of four states to signal the opening of the new industry, were on the sidetracks when the party arrived at Okay and part of them moved out while the ceremonies were in progress.

The plant at present, with what is said to be the largest wet process kiln in the world operating day and night, produces about 2,200 barrels of cement daily. D. M. Pinkston, salesmanager of the company, said that another similar kiln, 300 feet long and 11 1-2 feet in diameter, will be installed before January 1, doubling the plant's output. Running night and day, as is necessary in the successful manufacture of cement, the plant now employs about 75 men. The village of Okay was built for employees while the factory was under construction and was named for the O. K. brand of cement which the Ideal Portland Cement Company, of which the Arkansas company is a subsidiary, manufactures. About 40 residence buildings, a clubhouse and community center comprises the village.

Lieutenant Governor Speaks.

Lieut. Gov. Lee Cazort was the principal speaker at the luncheon, extending the greetings of the state to the president of the Ideal Company and its subsidiary, Charles Boettcher of Denver, Col. The lieutenant governor announced that Harvey C. Couch, president of the Arkansas Power and Light Company, has purchased 100,000 barrels of cement from the Okay plant to be used in the construction of Carpenter dam.

Other speakers at the luncheon were D. W. Harris and J. R. Munce of Shreveport, vice presidents of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation; C. McNay of St. Louis, assistant general manager of the Missouri Pacific; J. G. Carlisle of St. Louis, director of industrial development of the Missouri Pacific, and D. O. Oullett of St. Louis, general superintendent of transportation of the Missouri Pacific.

Mr. Boettcher, as president of Arkansas' newest industry, received a rising ovation from the visitors as he entered the luncheon room.

Other officials of the cement company present were: R. J. Morse, vice president and general manager; Chauncey Nichols, vice president; J. F. Kaufman, resident superintendent; O. A. Bayless, chemical engineer; Frank K. Hensley, resident chief chemist; H. C. Abrams, chief clerk, and J. W. Camby, Little Rock; Louis Downs, Fort Smith; E. S. Girault, Monroe, La.; Edgar Nichols, Shreveport, La., and Ed Trigg, Texarkana, members of the sales department.

Missouri Pacific officials on the trip besides the speakers at the luncheon were: W. E. Lamb, division superintendent; H. R. Wilson, general freight agent; F. R. Pennell, city passenger agent, and C. K. Bothwell, general passenger agent. S. L. Shirley, Little Rock division freight agent of the Cotton Belt, was another guest on the special train from Little Rock.

The Hope Boys' band furnished music for the luncheon.

Supply Unlimited.

Officials of the plant say that there is enough high grade limestone near Okay to last for 100 years under day and night operation. Construction of the factory was started in November, 1928, and operations were started in July, 1929. This, it is believed, constitutes a record for construction of a plant containing such intricate machinery.

Fuel is furnished by the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation through a pipe line from Emmett. The plant uses more than 4,000,000 cubic feet daily. Electric current is furnished by the Southwestern Gas and Electric Company, which has built a substation at the plant. Enough gas and electric current is used daily at the plant to supply a city of 150,000 population.

The cement storage capacity in the eight large cement silos is 1,000,000 sacks. The silo structure weighs 100,000,000 pounds when loaded to capacity, it is said.

Capacity of the packing house is 30 carloads daily. According to Mr. Pinkston, the plant probably will ship from 15 to 20 carloads a day until the new rotating kiln is installed.

Railway connections are with the Missouri Pacific at Nashville and the Kansas City Southern and Frisco at Ashdown. Upon beginning construction of the plant the company purchased the old Graysonia, Nashville and Ashdown, a 32-mile road from Nashville to Ashdown, through Saratoga, about a mile from which the plant was built.

The Ideal Company operates a plant at Ada, Okla., which also produces cement bearing the O. K. brand, and heretofore this plant has served Arkansas. Okay will serve Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana and Tennessee. Prices of cement will not be affected materially in this state, however, because prices of all companies are unusually low because of foreign competition.

D. M. Pinkston has charge of the Arkansas sales headquarters of the company, located in the Wallace building.

Cement Plant at Okay Resumes Operations After Shutdown.

Special to the Gazette. ⁷⁻⁶⁻³⁴
Nashville, Feb. 5.—The Arkansas Portland Cement Company at Okay has resumed operations after having been closed since December 15. Enough cement was in storage to supply the demand during the layoff.

The plant is employing 85 men and has a monthly pay roll of approximately \$10,000. A new air quenching cooler has been installed which is said to increase the grinding capacity 25 per cent.

New buildings are being erected, enabling the plant to store twice as much raw materials as formerly. The buildings will cost approximately \$10,000. The plant is running at full capacity with an output of 2,700 barrels of cement a day.