Bureau of Mines Gives Shale Oil for Research

Under cooperative agreements signed recently with ten large industrial research organizations, Bureau of Mines has agreed to supply limited quantities of oil shale and shale oil for tests and experimentation in exchange for information on the results obtained, Director James Boyd announced. Materials covered in the agreements, now totaling about 1250 tons of shale and 320 barrels of oil, are being shipped from the Bureau's mines and demonstration plant on naval oil-shale reserves near Rifle, Colo.

Cooperating companies and institutions, Boyd said, are Sinclair Refining Co., New York, N. Y.; Standard Oil Development Co, New York, N. Y.; Union Oil Co of Calif., Los Angeles, Calif.; Socony-Vacuum Oil Co, Paulsboro, N. J.; Shell Development Co, San Francisco, Calif.; Phillips Petroleum Co, Bartlesville, Okla.; General Aniline and Film Corp, New York, N. Y.; Montana State College, Bozeman, Mont.; Gulf Research and Development Co, Pittsburgh, Pa.; and Godfrey L. Cabot, Inc., Boston, Mass.

Each of the ten organizations has requested samples of shale oil for refining and other tests on conversion of the crude oil into useful products. In addition, Sinclair Refining Co, Standard Oil Development Co and Union Oil Co also are obtaining oil shale for research on development of processes for extraction of the shale oil. Sinclair's work on oil shale will be done at the newly completed laboratories at Harvey, Ill., Standard's at Baton Rouge, La., and Union's at Wilmington, Calif.

Prize awards for best papers on resistance welding topics submitted in the 1947-1948 national contest were announced recently by a special jury of awards of American Welding Society. All prizes were donated to the AWS by Resistance Welder Manufacturers' Assn.

Central Kansas Electric Cooperative Assn plans to install a new 1160-kw diesel generating unit in its Great Bend, Kan., plant. The addition will be financed with part of a $1,260,000 loan from the Rural Electrification Administration. Great Bend plant already contains two 1000-kw diesel units. The cooperative also has a contract with Kansas Power & Light Co for supply of 1000 kw of standby energy. It obtained the REA grant on a showing of need for additional power to serve present and prospective consumers on its distribution system.

Trustees of James F Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation have announced Sept 15, 1948 to April 1, 1949 as the period for submitting entries in its annual engineering undergraduate award and scholarship program. The current competition is the second in a 10-yr series of programs that offer to engineering undergraduates (including agricultural engineers) the opportunity to compete in preparation of papers on various phases of welding for monetary awards as well as scholastic and industry recognition.