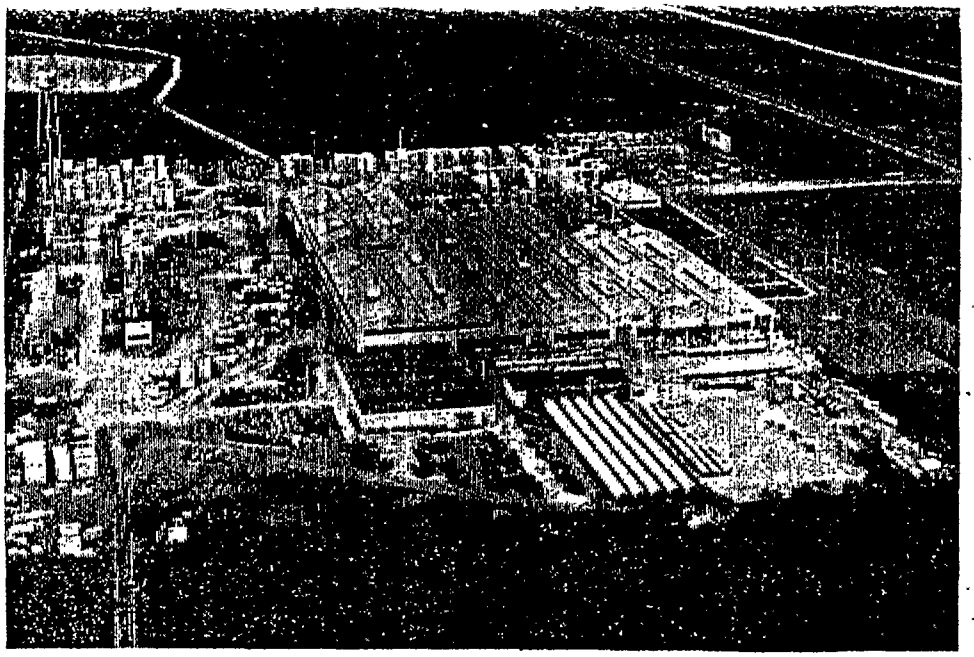

MULTI-MILLION-DOLLAR PLANT—This aerial view shows the proportions of the Johns-Manville Transite pipe manufacturing plant which was established in 1956 as one of Denison's more dramatic industrial developments of recent years.

Denison Took Big Industrial Step With J-M Start In 1956

Plastic pipe production and a record - breaking production month on Transite Pipe are recent highlights of Denison's Johns - Manville plant on Highway 75 North.

Earlier this year plant employes turned out more than 6,500 tons of Transite pipe in a month, more than any two-machine plant had ever produced in a like period before.

Plastic pipe is a new product for the Johns-Manville plant which opened here in 1958 with two Transite Pipe machines.

Four plastic production lines are now in operation, and an addition to the plant building was made to house the new production area, according to Manager Jack Hesse.

Forming machines extrude moldent plastic, forming it into continuous pipe which is Cooled and hardens. Automatic saws cut it into desired lengths. Sizes up to six inches in diameter are being produced for a variety of uses.

Groundbreaking for the multi-million dollar Johns-Manville plant here in 1956 was an important page in Denison industrial history. Construction of the big plant was itself an industrial boost, occupying all of 1957 and part of 1958 before the formal opening.

Last year the plant had a payroll of $1,300,0000.

Employment has grown to 250 with recent additions attributed to the new plastic operation which was launched on a pilot basis last fall.

In addition to the regular employes Johns-Manville employes college youths during the summer months. Currently the plant has 24 of these summer employes, giving them the chance to earn money to assist in their education.

Officials and employes of the plant have proved valuable to the community, appearing in practically all facets of city life and offering leadership in many instances.

Though the plastic operation is new and has a bit more glamour for that reason, the bulk of the local plant's production continues to be the Transite for which it is famous. The plant continues to serve as a pattern for efficiency throughout the industry, turning out asbestoes-cement pipe in sizes from three to 16 inches in diameter for a variety of uses — irrigation, sewer, water, gas vents, telephone ducts, drainage, etc. Both pressure and non-pressure pipe is produced here according to intended use.

Varied Use Made Of Bomb Shelters

MIAMI (AP) — What are people doing with their backyard bomb shelters?

About 300 were installed in the Miami area. The owners found all kinds of uses for them. They're serving as laundries, Cub Scout dens and places for weekend campouts.

A favorite use is for storage. People keep Christmas decorations, suitcases, lumber and paint in them.

And a retired optometrist has turned his shelter into an underground laboratory where he does "a little charity work for my friends."

the most important in the firm's local history.

Employment is being steadily pushed toward a goal of 600 since inauguration of a second shift earlier this year.

Manager Jim Melton reports that a steady training program is qualifying more employes for work in the plant and a good percentage of the additional employes are already on the job with others being added regularly.

Feb. 22, 1949 Levi Strauss opened the plant here with 56 machines and 60 employes making waist band overalls. Shortly denim jackets were added and remained a mainstay of the Denison plant until early this year when they were discontinued.

Levi Casuals, popular trousers, now take up the entire production of the Denison plant.

Within a few months after its opening, the Levi plant crossed the 200 employe mark, and continued growth put the plant near the 300 mark before announcement of the second shift addition assured that the work force would be more than doubled here.

When Levi leased the building at Houston and Gandy from Southern Ice Co. it became the third garment manufacturer to occupy the structure. Kraft was using the building for storage at the time of the Levi announcement.

As a Levi Strauss plant the local installation shares in the history of a firm that dates back more than 100 years to the California gold rush when Strauss first started in the clothing making business.

The tale is colorful and centers around an old prospector named Alkali Ike who could not keep his pockets sewn on. His tailor borrowed some copper rivets from a saddle shop and used them on the man's trousers, more or less as a joke.

When the prospector returned from his next trip into the hills, some of his cronies expected to have fun hearing him complain to the tailor.

However, the prospector was pleased with the rivets, and the tailor adopted their use. Meantime, Strauss had given up dreams of finding gold and become a merchant assisted by a supply of canvas he had brought along to San Francisco



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he still owed Lee W
bill.

He found Ira Wi
son, who told him
50 year-old debt.

DENISON HERALD
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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT
JMMC-52

PENGAD-Bayonne, N.J.