

MONTHLY NEWS BULLETIN



AMERICAN CYANAMID & CHEMICAL CORPORATION

Volume 5

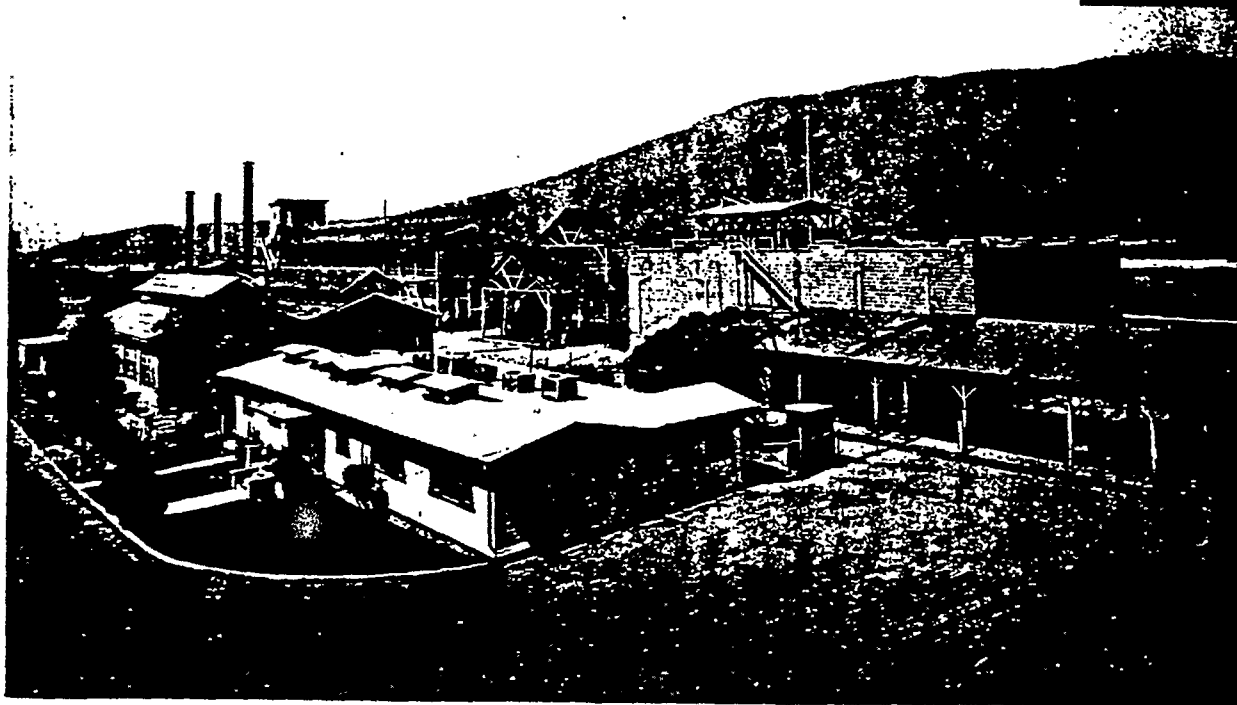
NEW YORK, OCTOBER 15, 1940

Number 10

AZUSA PLANT

PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

ACC-3



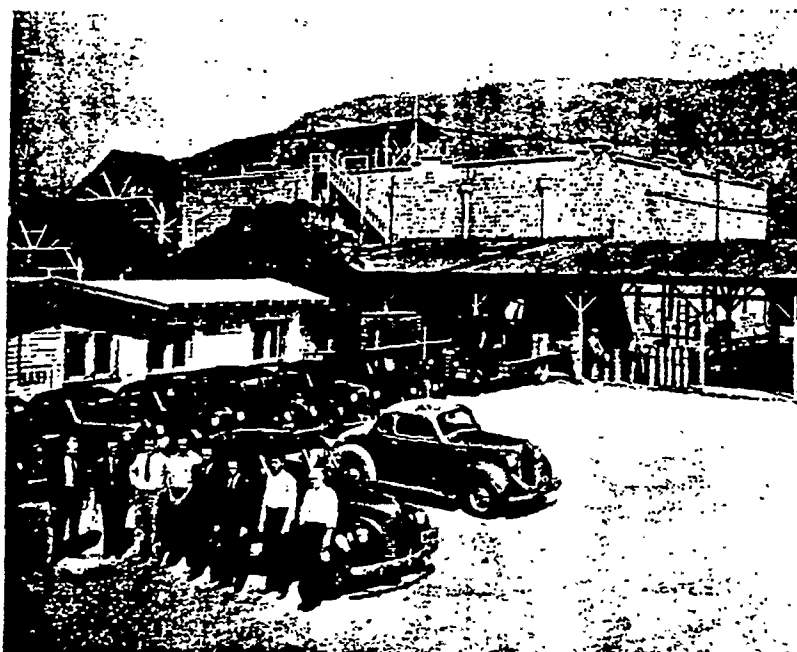
The Azusa Plant is located one mile west of the city of Azusa and twenty miles east of Los Angeles. This location was selected because of convenient sources of water and electricity, adequate railroad facilities, and particularly because it is approximately the center of the citrus district of Southern California. The plant was constructed for the production of liquid hydrocyanic acid and equipment for its use in fumigating citrus trees. The liquid was handled in drums, each containing eighty pounds. These drums could be

transported only by auto truck, hence the importance of a location near the center of the area to be served.

Liquid hydrocyanic acid was first manufactured commercially by Dingle Brothers in Azusa in 1917. Patents and rights were acquired from the Dingles in 1919 by the American Cyanamid Company, and their small plant was dismantled and construction work started on the present plant in January, 1920. The plant was completed and manufacturing operations started in the summer following. AERO Brand

Cyanide had been used by the Dingles in 1919, so their experience was of much value in the operation of the new and larger plant.

Fumigation operations are seasonal, with most of the work being done during the summer and winter months. Timing of the fumigation is dependent upon the tree and fruit condition as well as upon the life cycle of the insects to be destroyed. Because of limited storage capacity and the undesirability of storing large quantities of hydrocyanic acid, plant operations con-



Sales and Service Group

form largely to fumigation activities. Manufacturing is carried out on an average of about 100 days in each calendar year.

The Dingle Brothers had conducted their business under the name of the Owl Fumigating Company.* When this was taken over in 1920 by the American Cyanamid Company, the name was changed to the Owl Fumigating Corporation, and business connected with hydrocyanic acid for citrus tree fumigation was carried on under that name until 1934. The name of the Corporation was the cause of some confusion since no actual fumigation work was done by the Corporation. Hydrocyanic acid was sold to fumigating contractors who carried out the orchard operations. In 1934, the hydrocyanic acid business was included in the activities of the American Cyanamid and Chemical Corporation and the Owl Fumigating Corporation ceased to exist.

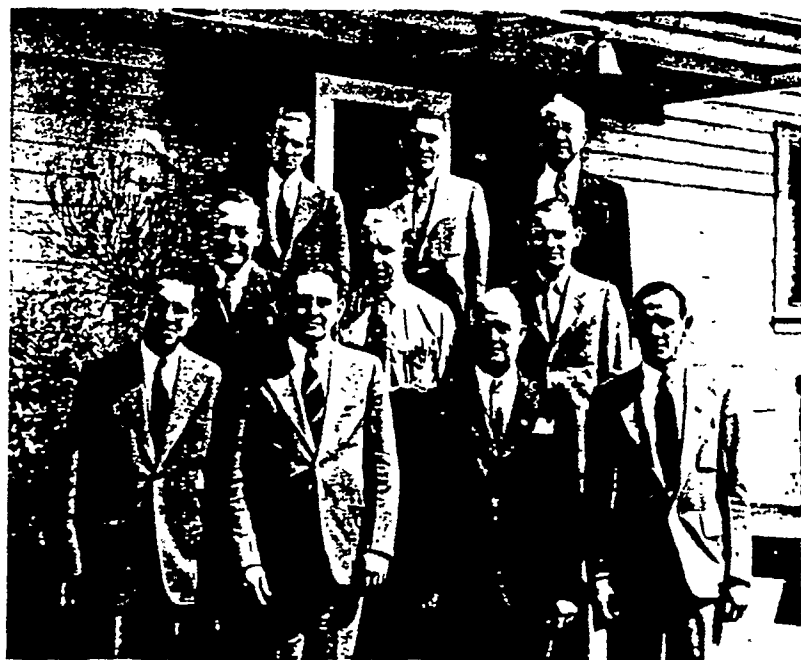
Early in the twenties, hydrocyanic acid came into extensive use for sanitary and industrial fumigation. It was used for the fumigation of food products, cotton, tobacco, warehouses, mills, boats, railway cars and numerous other products and structures. The liquid hydrocyanic acid

used for these purposes was shipped in ICC cylinders by rail and by boat to all parts of the country. There have been fluctuations in this type of business, but still each year many thousands of pounds of hydrocyanic acid are shipped in cylinders.

CYANOGAS was first used as an insecticide in 1923. From that time down to the present, Azusa has had an important part in the development of its various fields of use, such as citrus tree fumigation, soil fumigation for wireworms, vineyard dusting for leaf-hoppers and ground squirrel control. Owing to the compactness of citrus tree plantings in Southern California, and the relative ease of supplying all citrus areas with liquid hydrocyanic acid, CYANOGAS has found most of its usefulness as a citrus tree fumigant in other areas. Facts developed by experimental work with CYANOGAS in Southern California provided the background for its successful use in other countries where citrus trees are grown.

The entomological laboratory at Azusa has been used extensively in the study of various insect pests and methods for controlling them. Results of some of the investigations have been published in the Journal of Economic Entomology and the California Citrograph. An entomological service regularly extended to our customers involves orchard checking and determination of insect mortality as the result of fumigation.

The machine shop at Azusa is one of the most important units in the plant. Pumps and equipment for handling and applying hydrocyanic acid, and various



Front Row—left to right: Kellogg Krebs, J. G. Patterson, P. J. Ronan, C. F. Bonnet, Middle Row: J. N. Stone, W. D. Merrill, C. J. Kirkland; Top Row: A. F. Kirkpatrick, F. K. Howard, E. R. Hulbirt.

(*) Ed. Note: The company was named the Owl Fumigating Company because all the fumigating in those days was done at night.

types of dusters for using CYANOGAS have been developed in the shop. This equipment has also been fabricated in the Azusa shop for use in California, and for similar use in Spain, South Africa, Australia and other countries. The shop also makes equipment for use in the mining industry, such as the Fagergren Flotation Machine and the Clarkson Reagent Feeder.

Within the past year, a new activity in the nature of service to oil wells in the process of drilling, has been developed at Azusa. This has involved laboratory work to acquire the necessary technical data, and sales service in the use of phosphates for mud conditioning during the drilling operations. This activity has been extended from California oil fields to oil fields in Texas and other states.



Employees at Azusa for 20 years

Front Row—left to right: E. R. Hulbert, E. C. Mitchell, Owen Callahan, Mary C. Hart, J. P. O'Neal. Middle Row: J. R. Evans, H. G. Rasmussen, C. D. Moon. Top Row: W. C. Grant, P. J. Roman, W. I. Rury.

The Azusa Office is headquarters for sales of a wide variety of chemicals throughout the West and Pacific Coast States. This business is conducted under three main divisions: the Agricultural Chemicals Division which includes insecticides and fertilizers, the Industrial Chemicals Division, and the Metallurgical Chemicals Division. At present, the activities in each of these three divisions are varied and extensive. In 1920, hydrocyanic acid was the sole product handled at Azusa, and today it is still a very important item in the business, handled through the same office. In addition, cyanogas, cyanamid, phosphates, synthetic resins and other chemicals for the paint and lacquer industry, cyanide and flotation reagents have all come to occupy important places in the business totals.

While hydrocyanic acid has been and

still remains the main product of manufacture at Azusa, facilities have been added for making other products. Most important of these at the present time are some of the Acrofloat Reagents.

The original personnel of the Owl Fumigating Corporation in 1920 comprised twenty persons, and of that original group eleven are still in active service. With gradually increasing activities, the number of employees has been enlarged to approximately seventy-five at present. The initiative and efforts of the Azusa employees have been successful in developing new and profitable uses for American Cyanamid and Chemical Corporation products. From a single chemical product used for one specific purpose in 1920, Azusa activities have expanded to include many phases of chemical industry and the application of a large number of chemical products.

WINNER OF SLOGAN CONTEST IS ANNOUNCED

Dr. James H. Williams of the Patent & Abstract Department at Stamford won first award in the recently concluded Slogan Contest. "Molding The Future Thru Chemistry" was the prize-winning effort, and, as all will admit, it is a vivid and catchy phrase. For his efforts, Dr. Williams will receive a Schick electric razor, encased in BEETLE, the same model which recently won a top award in the annual Modern Plastics Show.

In addition, the judges decided to give BEETLE encased electric clocks to three individuals who submitted slogans which received Honorable Mention. The fortunate three are: Eugene J. Adams of Charlotte, and Miss Beula Baer and Richard Glenn, both of the New York Office.

In appreciation for the spirit of cooperation shown, all those who entered the contest will be given Zephyr Autodexes, also made from BEETLE plastics.

The BULLETIN wishes to thank the contributors for the replies received and hopes the prizes will be enjoyed by all. Congratulations, again, Dr. Williams!

IT IS MOVING DAY IN THE NEW YORK OFFICE

Mr. J. H. Morrison, our office manager, will be very glad when it is all over. Moving a great number of desks and various types of office equipment to different locations, planning for new partitions and floor layouts, combatting painters' strikes while running into a shortage of office supplies due to the tremendous increase in government and industrial office expansion, etc., is no small task.

However, at the date this Bulletin appears, the smoke should have blown away, and the "all clear" signal given. When it does, the New York Office will not recognize itself, as changes have been made on each floor.

In the interest of better working conditions and also to allow for future expansion, many departments have been moved bodily from former locations. The biggest shift was taking the Chemical Construction Corporation up to the 62nd floor from the 61st. Other departments feeling the force of the upheaval included the A. C. & C. Sales, Legal, File, Production, Mining, Budget and Technical Departments, the Structural Gypsum and Beetle Products Divisions, and part of the Lederle office on the 61st floor. Also, Calco's New York Sales Office on West Street will be moved to the R. C. A. Building—to the 62nd floor, where, we hope, they will be very happy.

Aside from moving the departments named, many individuals have been transferred to new offices, among them, Messrs. Dinkins, Banks, Lowery, Coolidge, MacAdam, Eastman, and Drs. Beard, Jaeger, Daniels, Hamblin, Mayer and many others. For further information, we refer you to Mr. Morrison. But if you should receive a stony glare, don't say we did not warn you!

MISSPELLING

If there is any reader of the Bulletin who has not discovered that MELAMAC, our new resin made from Melamine, was not spelled correctly in the September BULLETIN, let him be so advised. In fact, the mistake was repeated six times, which fact makes us six times as apologetic as we would normally feel.

Congratulations, Organic Sales Department, every last man of which called to the attention of the editor the truism that six wrongs do not make a right.