

Synthetic Latex Production Unit to Be Installed At U. S. Rubber Here

Appropriations have been authorized by the Rubber Reserve Company for the installation of a new synthetic latex production unit at the synthetic rubber plant operated by the United States Rubber Company at Torrance, F. S. Carpenter, manager, revealed today.

The budget, which will run into several hundred thousand dollars, provides also for the installation of a new "continuous polymerization" system which will increase production capacity 30 per cent according to official estimates. New storage facilities for both Butadiene and the liquid rubber and a waste water clarification system are included in the approved investment.

The latex production unit will provide sufficient quantities of special types of liquid rubber to supply the needs of the entire Pacific Coast rubber products industry. The new industry for Los Angeles is made possible through the perfection of techniques by which the test tube latex successfully replaces the natural rubber type in dipping tire cord fabric, for foam sponge, fabric and paper impregnation, canning sealants, metal coating and scores of other items.

Scientific research has multiplied the use of the liquid rubber in production and consumer goods, and opens new industrial fields for Pacific Coast manufacturers while assuring a steady post-war demand for Los Angeles new raw materials production.

Widespread use has already been found for the synthetic liquid rubber in a process which forms coatings of rubber on metal parts, such as grab rails, bolts, nuts, and perforated connection plates. Perfectly centered insulation is given communications wire when dipped in the liquid rubber. The rubber thus deposited on the metal not only provides insulation but also protects against abrasion, rust, acid and alkali erosion.

The new industry will provide a raw material source within a few miles of the products manufacturers in contrast to the natural rubber type which had

to be transported thousands of miles with special preparations added to keep it from souring in the hot tropical climates.

The tree type of liquid rubber before the war was essential in the manufacture of surgeon's gloves, golf balls, latex thread, and many other items.

Perhaps the most important application of the synthetic rubber latex is its use in dipping tire cord fabric. This technique has been a major contributing factor in the successful manufacture of synthetic rubber tires, now give up to 90 per cent of pre-war tire performance.

Continuous Polymerization
A major advance in the method of producing synthetic rubber, called "continuous polymerization" is also to be established in the Pacific Coast plant under the Rubber Reserve's expansion appropriation.

The new system is designed to connect 12 of the plant's 24 reactor vessels into an integrated production chain. Butadiene and styrene, the two basic ingredients of synthetic rubber, will flow continuously through a series of reactors and the process of polymerization will be completed progressively until the ingredients reach the last reaction vessel where the completed rubber latex will emerge.

In the polymerization process, approximately three parts of butadiene combine with one part styrene to form the giant chain-like molecule called synthetic rubber. Heretofore this process was completed within each of the 24 reactors as separate operations. The new continuous process will substantially increase production capacity it was asserted.

G-R-S synthetic rubber, the type used in tire making, is now being produced in sufficient quantities to supply all Pacific Coast factories. In the local operation, both rubber and latex are made from petroleum products piped from adjacent plants operated by Standard Oil Company, Shell Chemical Company, Dow Chemical Company, and the Southern California Gas Com-

Entrance Age For Kindergarten Lowered by State

C. C. Trillingham, county superintendent of schools, announced that in accordance with a new law which becomes effective September 15, 1945, children may be admitted to kindergarten who were born on or before March 2, 1941, and to the first grade who were born on or before March 2, 1940.

This new law lowers the entrance age to kindergarten and first grade by approximately three months in all school districts having mid-year promotions.

Hospital Cases

Among patients admitted to Torrance Memorial hospital during the past week are the following:

Mrs. Geneva E. Brewer, 2020 Lomita blvd., Lomita.
Mrs. Mary E. DeLarra, 725 N. Irena ave., Redondo Beach.
Mrs. Clint Rodford, 155 Ocean ave.
David Randall, 216 Via Colorin, Palos Verdes.
Mrs. Agnes Sutton, 26401 S. Western, Harbor Hills.
Mrs. Mary E. Taylor, 930 Arlington ave.
Mrs. Juanita Beague, 2721 Carson st.
Vernon Crowell, 4310 Century blvd.
Betty Lou Hansen, 1541 218th st.
Mrs. Emily Meeks, 1407 Greenwood ave.
Charles Mangold, 530 S. Catalina st., Redondo Beach.
Mrs. Margaret McCown, 1837 25th st.
Natalie R. Tatum, 2535 Torrance blvd.

The water clarification system also included in the rubber reserve's investment, consists of an intricate series of skimmers, and settling basins which eliminate all extraneous material from the waste water. The water is used in vast quantities to control temperatures in the reactor systems. The new clarification system purifies the water before it is run-off.

W. E. Kalbfleisch, Attorney, Opens Offices Here

W. E. Kalbfleisch, attorney, elsewhere in this issue is announcing opening of law offices



at 1119 Sartori ave., corner of Post ave., Torrance.

Kalbfleisch was admitted to practice law in California in 1927, and has been actively engaged in his profession in this state since and up to entering military service in 1942.

Just prior to 1931, he had offices in Kern County, California. In 1931 he was associated with the late J. R. Jensen, well known attorney and former Torrance City Attorney.

From 1932 to 1942, he maintained offices at Corona, when on enlisting in the U. S. Naval Reserve, he closed his offices his profession, and temporarily discontinued. In August, 1942 he enlisted in the U. S. Navy, was immediately called to active duty and served in the U. S. Navy Recruiting Stations in the Los Angeles area, New York City and Buffalo, up to his discharge in April, 1945.

Kalbfleisch is qualified to practice law in all the courts of California and in all the U. S. District Courts in this state.

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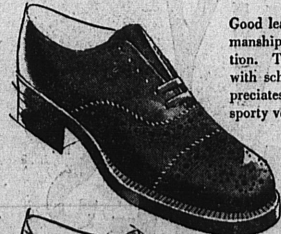
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