

# Survey Finds Clark County's Rich Deposits

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Special to the Gazette.

Gurdon, Aug. 27.—The mineral survey of Clark county, conducted by the Arkansas Geological Survey under the supervision of Robert W. Osborne of Arkadelphia, is investigating the southeast portion of the county and uncovering a great variety of mineral deposits.

For the past few months the survey has been made over the area south of Arkadelphia to the Little Missouri river and is now being extended to the east, toward the Vaden community.

In the Gurdon area the most important finds to date have been a huge deposit of kaolin and silica sand. The kaolin is used in the manufacture of high grade pottery and earthenware.

The silica sand is used in the manufacture of glass and has a good market value. It is identical with the high grade sand found in Independence county from which hundreds of cars are shipped to glass plants over the entire south. In addition to this, great quantities of lignite and peat have been found, which are valuable as fuel.

Numerous other prospects for various minerals such as tripoli, aluminum, silica sand, asphalt, ochre, bauxite and bentonite have been found. Prospects for bentonite are particularly favorable and a thorough investigation is being made.

#### Road Materials.

Clay gravel for road surfacing material has been found all over this territory in unlimited quantities. Quantities of asphalt sand and aluminum silicate have been found. The asphalt sand, used for paving and water proofing, was found southwest of Arkadelphia. The aluminum silicate, used for the making of aluminum, was found at Whelen Springs, six miles west of Gurdon. Tripoli, used in commercial work as an abrasive, has been found southeast of Whelen.

## Corporation Plans Building Of Large Quicksilver Plant

Arkadelphia  
Southern Standard  
50-Ton Per Day Cinnabar Roasting

Plant Planned For

County

3-2-39

## Mineral Highly Useful

Price Of Cinnabar Product Advances During Past Two Months

Plans for installing a 50-ton-per day cinnabar-roasting plant to provide mercury, in Clark county, by a group of Little Rock men including T. C. Moore and Dr. J. D. Jordan to head the new firm, were announced Saturday.

Organized at the Caddo Quicksilver Corporation with its main office at 2712 Asher avenue, the firm states it has several hundred acres of cinnabar ore lands in Clark county, which have been prospected with favorable reports from two engineers making the survey.

"Our consulting engineer's report shows that we have enough proved and partly proved ore to supply a 50-ton daily capacity plant for two years, and potential supplies of several million tons," the firm said.

"A mass sample of 447 tons taken from the surface or near it, and treated at the Mid-Continent plant, showed an average of nine pounds of mercury per ton."

#### Has Many Uses

The firm points out that mercury or quicksilver, is a mineral of wide usefulness, and that the United States has not produced more than half enough to meet its ordinary needs in recent years. Mercury is an essential in making explosives, hence an invaluable war munition, the firm said, adding:

"This mineral affects our lives in many ways. Dentists put much mercury amalgam into faulty teeth; your felt hat is a mercury-made product; thermometers function because its thin tube of mercury expands with the heat and creeps high, or contracts with cold and hovers low.

"As a sterilization agent, mercury is still one of the most powerful disinfectants known.

"Some 14,000 flasks, or 1,064,000 pounds, of mercury are tied up in caustic soda industry which uses an electrolytic process in manufacturing caustic soda from salt. One pound of the metal is lost per each ton of caustic soda manufactured.

"During the World war, mercury reached a high of \$300 per flask of 76 pounds. The price has been advancing for the past 60 days and is now quoted at \$93 per flask."

# Quicksilver Company Gets Ready for Operation in North Clark County Field

Arkadelphia Daily Siftings Herald 3-6-39

Dr. J. D. Jordan, Formerly of Arkadelphia, Is Vice-President of Concern Incorporated for \$90,000

T. J. Pate, a director and supervisor of the Caddo Quicksilver Corp., recently organized and capitalized for \$90,000, was here this morning in the interest of the new Clark county enterprise and stated that his company expected to begin mining cinnabar and refining it for mercury within the near future.

T. C. Moore, president; Dr. J. D. Jordan, vice president; and W. M. Coffield, secretary-treasurer, all are of Little Rock. Mr. Pate and M. J. Eunson, mine superintendent, live in Murfreesboro. All five are listed as directors.

The company styles itself as "An Arkansas Corporation to Develop Arkansas Resources."

The mining lease includes 640 acres 11 miles southeast of Amity in Clark county, in section 1 and 2, township 7 south, range 23 west. The tract is some 24 miles north of Arkadelphia. It is accessible by a CCC road and is four and a half miles from the Norman branch of the Missouri Pacific railroad.

The deposits of cinnabar on this tract were worked last summer. From June 16 to 26 last year 447 tons of the ore was treated by the Mid-Continent Quicksilver Corporation processing plant at Amity and yielded 52 flasks of quicksilver, according to the Amity concern. The new Caddo Quicksilver Corporation proposes to buy and install its own processing plant. The company claims that the 447 tons of ore processed between June 16 and 26 of last June yielded nine pounds of mercury per ton and that this constitutes profitable production.

Mr. Pate, who lives at Murfreesboro in Pike county, said the Clark county cinnabar deposits apparently were the richest in the state.

Clark