Process of Making Aluminum
From Bauxite in Arkansas Mills Is Explained by the Operators

Purified bauxite from the Hurricane Creek Alumina Plant is shipped to the Jones Mills Aluminum Plant, only a few miles, where it is converted into aluminum oxide. This aluminum oxide is then sent to a reduction plant for manufacturing aluminum. The process is divided into three main steps: (1) preparation of the bauxite, (2) production of aluminum oxide, and (3) reduction of the oxide.

First Bauxite
In Arkansas
Mined in 1899

If one is to study bauxite and its mining in the United States, the first place to look is Arkansas. As early as 1899, bauxite deposits were discovered and mined in the state. However, it was not until 1897 that the first commercial bauxite mine was opened in Arkansas, near Mena. This mine was called the Bauxite and Magnesite Company and was operated by the American Bauxite Company.

Surface and Underground Mining

Underground mining of bauxite (above) is not unlike other mineral production. Drills are used to bore into the deposits, after which dynamite is dropped into the holes. Bottom: Moving 15 yards at a lead, these huge trucks pulled by tractors are hauled over seemingly impossible hazards in the surface mine. To save lives this trucker is dumping its load down a 45 degree angle.

August 23, 1942
Arkansas Democrat

FEDERAL FUNDS LIKELY TO PAVE BAUXITE ROUTE

The road runs through the heart of the Poinsett county bauxite mining area and nearly all the ore removed from the mines is transported to markets by rail.

Cut-Off Road in Poor Shape.

The War Production Board may assist Poinsett county in obtaining a federal grant for extensive repairs on the Sweet Home cut-off between Arkadelphia and west of Hot Springs. The county furnished materials and equipment for the road and are maintaining it.

Street pipe and Sweet Home pipe, County Judge Newton said yesterday, is almost as bad as he had expected. The judge, who is a knowledgeable engineer, said that if the county did not get federal aid, it would have to spend $20,000 to repair the road.

Withdrawal of Secretary Adams today that more than 500,000 tons of bauxite, the ore from which aluminum is made, has been blocked out in two Georgia counties, Sumter and Boxton. Some of the bauxite may be used for asphalt, and others for various other uses.

The new deposits were found in the Andersonville district, west of central Georgia. The Bureau of Mines and the Geological Society in 1931 announced that more than 100,000 tons of the deposits contain more than 65 per cent aluminum oxide and rate as a "Grade C" ore.

Deposit of Bauxite Found in Georgia.

The War Production Board, which has been spending over $200,000,000 annually on bauxite, received a report from the United States Bureau of Mines that more than 500,000 tons of bauxite, the ore from which aluminum is made, has been blocked out in two Georgia counties, Sumter and Boxton. Some of this bauxite may be used for asphalt, and others for various other uses.
Arkansas Becomes Aluminum Manufacturing Center of United States

Bauxite Ore Processed Near Mines

State's First Aluminum Ingot

Underground mining of bauxite is much like mining any other mineral. In general, the technique is the same regardless of the mineral. However, the method used in the bauxite mining at the Hurricane Creek Bauxite Plant is unique because it is the first of its kind in the United States. The process involves digging into the earth, through a series of horizontal tunnels, to reach the bauxite deposits. The bauxite is then removed and transported to the surface for further processing.

Several hundred workers are employed at the plant, and the production of bauxite is increasing steadily. The company plans to expand its operations in the near future to meet the growing demand for aluminum.

Alumina Plant Gets New Devices

Washington, D.C. — The new production of aluminum is on the increase, with several new devices being developed to improve efficiency and reduce costs. The most significant development is the introduction of a new method for refining bauxite, which is the ore from which aluminum is obtained. This new method is expected to lower the cost of aluminum production by up to 20%.

The other new devices include a new type of smelting furnace, which is more energy-efficient and produces less waste. Another innovation is a new process for purifying the aluminum, which results in a cleaner and more durable finished product.

Aluminum Production Needs Odd Mineral From Greenland

Washington, D.C. — The aluminum industry is facing a potential shortage of a key mineral, which is necessary for the production of aluminum. The mineral, called diopside, is found in Greenland and is in high demand. The industry is looking at potential substitutes, but the best option is to establish a supply chain for diopside.

The government is working with the aluminum industry to encourage the development of domestic sources for this critical mineral. The goal is to ensure a stable and secure supply of diopside to meet the growing demand for aluminum.

Housing Units Provided For Mill Workers

In all, 875 units will be erected to house the workers at the Hurricane Creek Aluminum Plant. The buildings will be of the same type as those used for the workers at the Jones Mills Aluminum Plant, and will be constructed under the supervision of the Federal Housing Administration.

The buildings will be four-story units, with two bedrooms and one bathroom per unit. The size of the units is designed to accommodate the needs of the workers, and the construction will be completed by the end of the year.

Arkansas Democrat

12-2-44

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Southwest Power Pool Congregates Electricity From Six States To Transform Native Bauitect Into Precious Metal For Airplanes

Inverving Axis strongholds in ever-increasing numbers, sleek and shiny American bombers made from aluminum, with the United States' own native Bauitect—are dealing death and destruction to the axis of democracy. High-tension lines and deep in the bowels of the earth, thousands of dirt-smudged miners are pumping out Bauitect that has to be transformed into huge, flying fortresses. In never-ending procession, puffing locomotives will haul Bauitect to be precipitated into fine white powder—aluminum. Then, 100 tons, added to the huge aluminum reduction plant on Lake Tahoe, where great charges of electricity transform it into the feathersweight of metals—Aluminum. The final Touch is the anodizing sheets for use by airplane plants.

It is a new and tremendously important contribution that Arkansas is making to the war effort. For years the state's bauxite has been exported to a few select industries in the nation. But because South American bauxite could be brought into this country far cheaper than its own deposits could be used, the foreign ore is prevalent. And it was not until Axis submarine bases had imposed a need for aluminum that necessity forced the utilization of Arkansas' bauxite.

Requires Great Power Supply.

Because the production of aluminum requires great quantities of electrical power—from 10 to 16 kilowatt-hours per pound—the projected production of 100 million pounds of aluminum per year in Arkansas at times seemed to far outweigh the ability of the state's power supply. The minimum plant would require far more power than was available.

But since it was planned to install a new power plant at the aluminum mill, it meant that only electrically supplied power was to be used. With that, it was determined that the electrical engineering power plant to be constructed.

The new power plant, built with the aid of engineers of power companies, was equipped with generators that would be made available immediately by industries in the state. With that, the problem seemed to be solved.

A. P. E. L. Turns Trick.

The Arkansas Power and Light Company, largest of the state's electric companies, had the foresight in the days of the first-burnt-out area of the development of aluminum. When the aluminum plant was started in the early 1930's, the company had already been experimenting in that field for a number of years. In 1935, the company's engineers discovered that the aluminum plant was the first of its kind in the United States.

Although the immediate expenditures of nearly five million dollars of its own funds, the company is confident that the new power plant will be ready to go into operation at the end of 1943, after being manufactured by Southwest Power Pool.

Blinded area—bigger than all England—he is territory embraced in Southwest Power Pool, formed voluntarily to supply electricity for Arkansas aluminum plants. Just shows how aluminum—which requires great amount of power—is poured from out of its elements.

Giant Power Pool Formed.

Thus was formed the Southwest Power Pool, which this week round out nine months with as fine a record of performance as any electric power company ever achieved. By construction of a new power plant, the power output of some 250,000 horsepower was made available. More than 5,000 miles of high voltage transmission lines are being utilized to make power available to the aluminum plant. In order to operate such a vast grid, immediate telephone service was essential, as wireless telephones that use the transmission lines to carry the voice were built and installed.

Aluminum Production In 1943 Up 75 Pct.

Washington, Jan. 21.—Production of aluminum in 1943 totaled 1,350,000,000 pounds, a war-time increment over 1942 War Production Board reported today.

A canvass of all United States production reports, the War Production Board showed peak production of primary aluminum in the United States for the final quarter of 1944, when average monthly production was 536,000,000 pounds, recovered from secondary sources during the year. An average of 500,000,000 pounds was reported to WPA recently entered a number of the state's aluminum producers and told them that shipments of raw aluminum would be cut back to the production requirements of the war plan.

Officials of aluminum plant hold first breakfast of this precious metal employed at the Arkansas Power Pool located at Camp Core, which is near by.

Forty-five gallons have been served to date and reserve is with 100 more on hand.
WPB Desires Confederate HomeOre

Reports that sentiment attached to the aging Confederate Home may give way before the nation's need for bauxite were confirmed yesterday when Governor Adams said he had informed the War Production Board desires the aluminum-producing ore under the old institution.

The governor said he would take no action until an official request for the bauxite deposit is received. He said the United Daughters of the Confederacy would be consulted, but that no move could be made before any move was sanctioned.

A recent survey of the 60-acre tract, being a stone's throw from the Baywaxe deposit indicated it contained about 800,000 tons of high grade ore. The Army, which is interested in the bauxite deposit, had been promised the mineral by the governor.

Arthur H. H. H. Thaw, executive director of the Agricultural Conservation and Industrial Commission, telegraphed to a friend in Washington from an estimate of the property under the Confedera of Homes property.

"An appeal to the property for the project" read the telegram, "is a matter of importance and we are all united in hope of a success." The governor.

Aluminum

Cutback To Be Lessened

Washington, Jan. 17.—Congressmen are expected to cut back next week on the aluminum cutback program, according to the Aluminum Company of America, which has been in talks with the War Production Board. The company said it would like to see a 10 percent cutback in the cutback program.

The Aluminum Company said it would like to see a 10 percent cutback in the cutback program, according to the company.

HURRICANE CREEK ALUMINA PLANT IN SALINE COUNTY SOON TO PROCESS LOW GRADE BAUXITE TO PROVIDE MORE ALUMINUM FOR WAR EFFORT

By CLOVIS COPELAND

Washington, Nov. 25.—A billion dollars plus, but the aluminum-fer or war work is over the top, producing 100,000,000 pounds in excess of every three months. There is no indication that the aluminum output is slowing down.

Arthur H. H. Thaw, director of the Aluminum and Magnesium Division of the War Production Board, today disclosed the biggest and last of the major aluminum plants to be completed in the nation.

"A billion dollars more, but the aluminum-fer work is over the top, producing 100,000,000 pounds in excess of every three months. There is no indication that the aluminum output is slowing down." Arthur H. H. Thaw, director of the Aluminum and Magnesium Division of the War Production Board, today disclosed the biggest and last of the major aluminum plants to be completed in the nation.

An unusual view of a major unit of the new Hurricane Creek alumina plant in Saline county, where utilization of all available and low grade bauxite promise to give Arkansas a permanent aluminum industry, even in the post-war era when high grade ores are gone. Aluminum producers have been able to gain by comparing it with the present market-

Gains by Industry Prodigiosus

"This is a major milestone in the history of aluminum production," said the chairman of the board, "and it is a major milestone in the history of the aluminum industry." This is a major milestone in the history of aluminum production," said the chairman of the board, "and it is a major milestone in the history of the aluminum industry."
No End of Aluminum in the Earth — If You Can Get It.

To describe clay as "aluminum-bearing" is like describing water as dry. The statement that large bodies of water are lacking in the world is more truthful than the assertion that clay is lacking. And the statement that the United States is being taken from clay is more truth than the statement that the United States is being taken from clay. And the statement that a great reserve of aluminum is available is more true than the statement that a great reserve of aluminum is available.

Until recently aluminum has been produced in relatively limited quantities by comparison with metals like iron or copper, but in reality it is the most abundant of all metals, and, second only to oxygen and silicon, the most abundant of all chemical elements. The abundance of aluminum is a testament to the earth's crust, which is composed of about 80% of aluminum and oxygen.

Aluminum's Use and Abundance

Aluminum is a lightweight, highly malleable metal with excellent electrical and thermal conductivity. It is the most abundant element in the Earth's crust and the third most abundant element in the Universe. It is a key component in the manufacturing of many everyday items, including cans, airplanes, and automobiles.

The United States is the largest producer of aluminum in the world, with about 6% of global production. The country has a long history of aluminum production, with the first commercial production taking place in the late 1800s.

Aluminum's Future

With the increasing use of aluminum in various industries, its demand is expected to continue growing. The metal's lightweight properties make it ideal for use in automotive and aerospace industries, while its corrosion resistance makes it suitable for use in construction and packaging.

Aluminum's Environmental Impact

Aluminum production has a relatively low carbon footprint compared to other metals. However, the production of aluminum does require significant energy input, primarily in the form of electricity. This can have a significant impact on the environment, particularly in countries with high carbon emissions.

Aluminum's Future Challenges

One of the main challenges facing the aluminum industry is the increasing demand for the metal. This has led to a rise in prices and a decrease in available resources. As a result, efforts are being made to explore new sources of aluminum and to improve the efficiency of aluminum production processes.

Conclusion

Aluminum is a versatile and abundant metal with a bright future. Its widespread use in various industries highlights its importance and relevance in today's society. As the demand for aluminum continues to grow, it is essential to develop sustainable production methods and to explore new sources of this valuable resource.
Bauxite miners, drillers and truck drivers have signed the last of the old refrain of Home Sweet Home, as the work of producing the huge quantities of the mineral for the war effort nears completion. It is quite possible that the few remaining people who choose to remain in the valley may do so only for the sake of sentiment and nostalgia. But there are indications that the area will soon return to its former quiet, rural state.

**CAPITOL**

**Estimates**

Ark. Gaz. 18-11-43

**Placed On**

State Bauxite

Complete data concerning the estimated amount of bauxite underlying the Confederate Home is ready for mailing to the Metals Reserve Company at Washington today, Joe Harlin of Grady, chairman of the state Bauxite Commission, said here yesterday.

At the request of the federal agency, which has tentatively offered the buy the bauxite, the state has prepared estimates of only the highest grades of bauxite at the 22-acre Home site, Mr. Harlin said.

State Geologist Joe W. Kinsey has estimated the reserve with an average alumina content of 63.15 per cent, 100.17 per cent ferric iron content and 4.50 tissic oxide content are available, Mr. Harlin said.

Herd values with premium prices of $25.00 per ton for these are compared to $35.00 for the high-quality ore and $47.00 per ton for high-grade bauxite, according to an official of the Metals Reserve Company.

**BILL TO MINE STATE BAUXITE BEING DRAFTED**

Arkansas Gazette 1-25-43

Deposit Said Worth $1,000,000.

A bill to enable the State of Arkansas to mine the high-grade bauxite deposits underlying the Confederate Home west of Little Rock was being prepared by three legislators yesterday afternoon. Collaborating on the measure were Sen. William F. Hardie, Hot Springs (county) and W. H. Peery, Hot Springs (central), both of whom have been instrumental in aiding and directing the state to acquire and mine the bauxite.

A member of the Senate's Agricultural and Industrial Relations and Planning Committee was informed that $1,000,000 worth of high-grade bauxite is available for mining near the Home site.

**Three Years’ Supplies of Bauxite**

Known supplies of bauxite in the United States were last only about three years if all imports were stopped, according to the Federal Bureau of Mines.

This means Arkansas bauxite for the most part, since comparatively little has been found elsewhere in the country. Presumably, too, the estimate is based on the present high rate of war consumption for turning aluminum, and it refers, of course, to the better grades of bauxite required for processes now in use.

Improved processes might make a huge total of low-grade Arkansas bauxite available for aluminum production. Yet this is only a hope and no very bright one, all things considered.

For years there have been reports of new methods for processing low-grade bauxite, even for extracting aluminum from clay. But evidently the methods haven't proved economical in competition with bauxite of good quality, for nothing came of them. And though better processes may yet be developed, that is still a maybe, against which is the certainty of large imports of high-grade South American bauxite after the war.

Not very promising either is the possibility of substantially more high-grade bauxite being discovered in the state. Discoveries could also be made in other states.

The situation reminds us that many Arkansas minerals which we have regarded as materials for industry, are limited and in few cases are running out. This is true of our manganese, talc, bitumen, antimony and some others, so far as is known now.

Even our petroleum resources, though still large, are not inexhaustible. Only a few of our broadly useful minerals seem abundant enough to sustain long-lasting pay rolls.

In contrast with that fact, we do have endless resources for industry, if they are properly cared for, in our timber and farm production. Moreover these have the widest and surest industrial outlets.

Mineral industries can help the state market, and we shall have after any in sight. But the main routes to greater and enduring prosperity for Arkansas lead from our farming and forests. They alone replenish their yields—for markets which ingeniously is constantly expanding.

**CAPITOL**

**Confederate Board Agrees To Mining**

Ark. Gaz. 18-11-43

Members of the Confederate Home Board of Directors have agreed to a War Production Board request that bauxite deposits be mined near the Confederate Home property near Sweet Home be developed to aid the war effort.

Governer Adkins announced yesterday he would appoint a state Bauxite Commissioner to negotiate for mining bauxite deposits underlying the Home site at Sweet Home as provided by the War Production Board.

The Geological Department has estimated the amount of high-grade bauxite on deposit at about 300 tons, of ore valued at about $11,000.

Governor Adkins announced yesterday he would appoint a state Bauxite Commissioner, who would enter into negotiations with mining bauxite deposits under Sweet Home as provided by the War Production Board.

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E' AWARD THURSDAYPLEAS LEADERS INBAUXITE PRODUCTIONARKANSAS JOURNAL 1-10-42

L. R. Branting, left, superintendent of the Republic Mining and Manufacturing Company operations at Bauxite, and J. W. Lewellen, assistant, have served an aggregate of 35 years in the Bauxite fields and plant.

The production of aluminum ingots from alumina from the Tones Mills Works of the Aluminum Company of America at Lake Catherine. Stacks of ingots from the huge potlinas are shown above as waiting shipment to rolling and fabricating plants.

Production of aluminum ingots from alumina from Arkansas bauxite in tailings as depicted at the Tones Mills Works of the Aluminum Company of America at Lake Catherine. Stacks of ingots from the huge potlinas are shown above as waiting shipment to rolling and fabricating plants.

ERO'S JONES MILLS WORKS ONLAKE CATHERINE NOW PRODUCINGMETAL FROM ARKANSAS BAUXITE

The presentation of the Army and Navy "E" to the Republic Mining and Manufacturing Company at Bauxite. Thursday, probably will mean more to L. R. Branting and his assistants of those operations at Bauxite, and the assistant superintendent, T. J. W. Lewellen, than any other two persons connected with the plant.

They have served the company a total of 40 years between them. They came to Bauxite because it was a place neither had been before, and remained because it was "a good place to work."

Because of tremendous production required in the war effort, the executives expanded operations of their ore treatment plant to its capacity, then took charge of exploration and are finding activities for their parent company, the Aluminum Company of America, in the Bauxite area. They have dedicated activities which are now producing 10 times as much ore from the deposits as was mined during their busiest pre-war year.

Mr. Branting, a native of Newton County, Ark., went straight from the army to the Bauxite Railroad, where he held a number of positions with the Arkansas and St. Louis Railroad. He was later appointed to the executive board of the United States, a large section of Europe, and later became a superintendent of the main plant through the construction of the machine through the plant.

Mr. Lewellen, a native of Panola County, Miss., was working for the Bluff City Lumber Company at New York in 1920.

Bauxite Commission to PlanDevelopment of Deposits.

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Bauxite Commission to PlanDevelopment of Deposits.
State Bauxite Board Holds First Meeting

Members of the new Bauxite Commission, meeting last night in Governor Adkins' office, discussed the appointment of the Confederate Home Board, which will be needed when mining begins in the state. The location of the mine, to be known as Mount Airy, was decided upon at the conference held at Governor Adkins' office and made plans to have property surveyed.

Ruling Asked On Mortgage of ore

An Application of the State Bauxite Commission to secure mortgage of ore

On the motion of Attorney General, Guy R. Williams, the State Bauxite Commission will issue the mortgage for the mine and ore to be used as security for the Government. The mortgage will be filed in the office of the Secretary of State.

Buxton Mine Development

Government Adkins telephoned the ore property to the Secretary of State and informed him that the ore property was being offered for sale.

Buxton Mine

Gold

A small amount of gold was found on the ore property.

Tax Collections

In the county of 1,500,000, the tax collections were $100,000.

State Buxton Board Holds First Meeting

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Bauxite Mine Owners Offer To Erect Plant  
Alumina Processing Unit Proposed To Overcome Handicaps  

Geologist Proposes To Blend Bauxite.

**RULING BY WPB CAUSES BAUXITE MINES TO CLOSE**

Penalty Strangles Small Operators

**Bauxite, Wb, Ark., Aug. 11-53**

Geologist Joe W. Kimrey, after months of work, has discovered a new bauxite deposit in Pulaski County, Ark.

He has found that a large deposit of bauxite exists in the area, which is estimated to contain at least 10 million tons of bauxite.

The discovery has caused a great deal of excitement in the area, and many people are interested in the possibility of opening a new bauxite mine.

Geologist Joe W. Kimrey has been working on the project for several years and has spent thousands of dollars in exploration and testing.

The new deposit is located in theamation, a small town about 25 miles west of Little Rock, and is estimated to contain at least 10 million tons of high-grade bauxite.

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Bauxite Ore
Situation

Fe. 14, 1943
Unfavorable

The present investigation of the bauxite ore situation, being reviewed by government agencies, does not look favorable for the near completion of the railroad, a spokesman for the bauxite producers said today.

“The fact is that the government has refused to permit our operators to consolidate with large operators for the purpose of making low grade ores payable, and we have been forced to close our operations,” the spokesman said.

Senator Jeffords, who recently visited the area, said: “I am sure that the government will come around in the near future and make some arrangement with us.”

The spokesman cited the example of the Alcoa Company, which is operating in the same area, and said: “They are operating on a large scale and we are not.”

Three Provisions

As Possible Solutions

A high-ranking official of the Aluminum Company, expressing deep interest in any solution to the problem of the low-grade ores, said: “I see three provisions that could be discussed for advantage.

1. Blending high and low quality ore in the field. We will have to blend the two to get a high quality ore.

2. Weighing average over the life of the contract permitting the producer to offset low ferrous ore content with ore of known high iron content.

3. I think it would be possible to blend the two types of ore in the field, and I believe that this would be a reasonable solution.”

Fair Treatment

By Federal Official

Following are excerpts of Mr. Bunker’s letter to Senator McCellan:

The new ferrous ore regulation, if properly applied to aluminum producers, will be of little advantage to the aluminum producers who have the privilege of blending with high quality ore and low quality ore.

“T. Siron, who is known to be a producer of high quality ore, has not been able to blend with low quality ore. This is because the high quality ore has been blended with high quality ore and the low quality ore has been blended with low quality ore.

The new regulation will not affect the quality of the aluminum produced. It will affect the quality of the aluminum sold.”

Norrell Leads

Fight to Get

Bauxite Mined

(March 2, 1945)

Washington — Alabama senators are making every effort to have the government mine the rich fields of bauxite in Arkansas, which are being left untouched.

Senator McCellan, who is leading the fight since last year and has had the support of the State Department, said: “I think it would be worth while to mine the bauxite in the state.”

The War Production Board has announced that it has sufficient reserves of bauxite to last another year and has no authority to act as conservator of the Arkansas ore.

Meanwhile, the Bureau of Mines has reported that the bauxite is being shipped to Germany in spite of the embargo on the export of bauxite.

Senator McCellan has said that he will continue to fight for the mining of the bauxite in the state at the time it is no longer possible to mine it.

The matter is now before the Budget Bureau.

Senator McCellan emphasizes that the Arkansas delegation does not want to interfere with the war effort but that they are hopeful that some government agency has the authority and funds to save the ore.