Gypsum Deposit Said to Lie Near Cement Plant.

To the Editor of the Gazette:

Wednesday's Gazette contains first page story of opening of the cement plant at Okay, near Hope. The writer makes the statement that "Only one element in the manufacture of cement will be obtained from outside the state. Gypsum, the retarder in the process, will be imported from Oklahoma as no supply is available in Arkansas.

Less than 20 miles from the Okay cement plant on the Little Missouri river and not over a quarter mile from the railroad, on the farm of Mr. Walsh, is a large deposit of gypsum in the form of rock that is 99 per cent pure and with but little overburden to it. Samples of this are reported upon by Howard University by the writer of this item and it has been tested in the laboratory.

Samples also were sent to the Okay Cement Company at Okay, Okla., at the same time and they reported and said that the material was of extra good quality.

The deposit extends along the Little Missouri river for a distance of three-fourths of a mile, and no one as yet knows how far back it extends into the hills.

This material could be loaded on cars with a steam shovel and the installation would be very nominal in cost.

Hope, Ark.  

N. F. O'Keal.