OLD SALT WORKS IN THE STATE
By W. H. Halliburton.
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Miss Caroline McCorkle (left) and Miss Marjorie Meadow of Arkadelphia standing in an old 200-gallon iron pot used to manufacture salt near Arkadelphia 100 years ago.

about $1 a ton for salt cake and importing around 150,000 tons of it a year. American paper makers are putting out

Kraft paper. The big name in the production of Kraft paper now is the Southland Paper Company's new plant at Little Rock, Tex. It was intended to be designed for the production of 100,000 tons a day of newsprint paper on this basis.

E. M. Allen, president of the Mathis-McCutcheon Company, said today that the company's plant at Lake Charles, La., will start producing paper in at least one month, which is more than sufficient to supply the needs of the Southern states.

The importance of the new product was noted by the possibility of its use in the manufacture of newsprint and the elimination of the necessity of using 15 to 20 per cent of Kraft pulp in making newsprint paper.

The Southland Paper Company's new plant at Little Rock, Tex., was designed to be completed within a few months, and the company intends to start operations in May.

Production Of Salt Cake To Start Soon

New Salt Dome in
Mississippi Reported

Jackson, Miss.—Discovery of a salt dome in southeast Leiper
County, southeast Mississippi, was
graced by the misfortune of a
young man who was killed on the
site.

The discovery was made by the
Company of New Orleans, which
began operations in Mississippi in 1937.

The dome is located near the town of Leiper in the southeast part of the state, extending
into southwest Alabama and
Mississippi.

The salt is estimated to be at least 1,000 feet thick and the dome is estimated to be at least 5,000 feet in diameter.

It is expected that the discovery will result in the establishment of a new salt mine in the area.

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NEW FORM OF SALT MAY BRING JUMP IN WOOD PULP OUTPUT

Gazette 8-22-40

By HOWARD W. BLAKESLEE.

A new, slightly sweet form of salt, made for bleaching, was announced today with the claim that it was of wartime importance because it might free the United States from dependence on foreign wood pulp.

The sweet salt is sodium chlorite. It is common table salt, sodium chloride, with two oxygen atoms added. This chemical has been known for 100 years but the announcement said this was the first time its bleaching properties had been developed and large-scale industrial production perfected.

Industrially the salt is a new heavy American chemical. The announcement came from the Mathieson Alkali Works, Inc., of New York. At Seattle today, two of the company's chemists, J. F. White and G. P. Vincent, reported it to the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry.

The announcement said the sweet salt would bleach the pulp of kraft paper to a high degree of whiteness, without weakening the fiber. Kraft tends to yellowness. More whiteness and less weakening were claimed than for the present common bleaching powders.

The salt also is useful for bleaching straw for hats, cotton, rayon and other cellulosic fibers, flour milling, starch manufacture and some plastics.

"Since it makes possible the production of wood pulps of all types and qualities heretofore unobtainable with American raw materials and methods," the two chemists said, "it promises to make us independent of foreign products and to bring about a permanent increase in our output of wood pulp."

This salt is white when pure yellowish in the industrial form. Add one more atom of oxygen to it and it becomes sodium chlorate which is used in explosives. Subtract one oxygen atom and it makes the common bleaching powders known as hypochlorites.

Lot of Salt But Some Nice

Below the Surface.

In pioneer days in Arkansas salt was obtained by evaporating waters of brine springs. Today there is known to be a large salt deposit in Union county, but it is 3,860 feet, or more than a mile, below the surface.

The deposit was discovered in 1932 when the Lima Oil Company, cooperating with several other concerns, sank a test well in the East Smackover oil field to determine the character of the underlying formations. Drilling stopped in the salt at a depth of 7,955 feet, then the greatest depth reached in any well in the Gulf Coastal plain of Arkansas. Analyses showed that cores from 3,974 to 5,950 feet contained 92.06 per cent sodium chloride, and the sodium chloride content of samples from 5,948 to 6,101 feet was 95.93 per cent. The deposit at Jefferson Island, Louisiana, which is discussed in a New Orleans Times-Picayune article, runs 99.94 per cent sodium chloride.

The Union county bed is truncated, but geologists do not know whether the deposit is a dome that earth stresses forced up into later formations or whether it is a layered bed shaped by erosion. It occurs among formations of the Trinity period, one of the stages of the Age of Reptiles, but H. W. Bell says in his "Discovery of Rock Salt Deposit in Deep Well in Union County, Arkansas," that he believes the bed is older. He thinks it might belong to the Permian period.

The depth of the Union county salt would make pit mining impracticable, but it has been said that a British practice could be followed. Fresh water could be injected into the deposit, and the brine removed for crystallization.

Salt, sulphur and limestone are widely used in the chemical industries as well as for other commercial purposes. Arkansas possesses all three, and there has been development of limestone and sulphur resources.