

NEW GUAYULE EXPANSION SET

To Take Important
Part in Program

BY RUTH FINNEY

The News Washington Correspondent

WASHINGTON, Sept. 24.—The guayule rubber program, which Congress launched in niggardly fashion last spring, will be expanded to a point where it may play an important part in supplying the rubber needs of the United States Army and Navy.

The Senate has approved a bill making this possible; the House is expected to act speedily.

Synthetic rubber makers still have to mix some natural rubber with their product to meet the requirements of the armed services, and the guayule rubber to be grown in California may meet this need when the existing stock pile is exhausted.

The new bill, sponsored by Senator Sheridan Downey, permits planting of 500,000 acres of guayule, instead of the 75,000 acres authorized last spring.

Seed is not available for planting the entire 500,000 acres at this time, but the yield of seeds this year has been eight times what the Government anticipated, and present plans call for planting an additional 88,000 acres next spring.

IN NEW MEXICO

If Congress approves proposed legislation for expanding the production of guayule as a source for crude rubber, New Mexico may benefit more than anticipated from the plantings, depending to some extent on the experiments that have been conducted the past year in a few sections of the state.

In its report on the rubber situation, the Baruch committee recommended that all restrictions be removed and that the "guayule program be given every possible support as the principal source of crude rubber which could not be lost to us short of conquest of American territory."

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The guayule program sponsored this year called for the planting of 75,000 acres of the rubber producing shrub. The program recently advanced by the Department of Agriculture is for the planting of 180,000 acres, with the plantings not confined to California, where the original experiments were made, but to other sections of the Southwest where the plant will grow. The Department of Agriculture now has available 132,000 pounds of guayule seed, as against 23,000 pounds when the program was started last March.

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The Baruch report said figures obtained from the Department of Agriculture show about 1,200,000 pounds of rubber can be milled this Fall from existing mature plants, and estimated that a production of 35,000 tons could be obtained in 1943, as rubber can be harvested two years after the seeds are planted. The committee recommended that priorities for farm and milling equipment necessary for the production of guayule in large quantities be immediately granted by WPB in order that the Fall planting season may not be lost.

These recommendations, it is reported, are being put into legislation to be introduced in Congress soon.

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We have seen no authoritative reports on the results of the experimental plantings of guayule near Roswell, Las Cruces, and we believe Deming, but if these results are at all satisfactory, New Mexico should obtain plantings of several hundred acres of the shrub under the proposed program. Eventually it might provide a new crop for the southern areas of the state of considerable importance.

Sacramento Bee
September 22, 1942
p. 9

Senate Approves Boost In Acreage Of Guayule

WASHINGTON, Sept. 22.—(AP)—Legislation authorizing the agriculture department to increase the potential acreage planted in guayule, a source of rubber, from 75,000 to 500,000 acres has been passed by the senate.

Senator Downey, Democrat of California, explained that the yield of guayule seed this year was eight times what had been anticipated, "allowing a greatly expanded program." The bill, passed yesterday without objection, went to the house for consideration.

San Francisco Chronicle
September 22, 1942
p. 18, col. 5

Guayule May Be Planted in Half Million Acres

WASHINGTON, Sept. 21 (AP)—Legislation authorizing the Agriculture Department to increase the potential acreage planted in guayule, a source of rubber, from 75,000 to 500,000 acres was passed today by the Senate.

Senator Downey (D., Cal.) explained that the yield of guayule seed this year was eight times that had been anticipated, "allowing a greatly expanded program." The bill, passed without objection, went to the House for consideration.

Meanwhile, an intensive study of the possible production of guayule in the San Joaquin valley with the aid of water furnished by the Central Valley Project will be started immediately, it was announced today.

The study was approved at a meeting of U. S. Bureau of Reclamation and State officials at Sacramento.

To supplement the Nation's rubber production, guayule production in the San Joaquin valley will be surveyed to determine what acreage now irrigated within the Central Valley Project Area is suitable for guayule production and how much of that acreage will be available for the 1943, 1944 and 1945 seasons.

The University of California will join the Bureau of Reclamation and the California Water Project Authority in the study.

San Francisco Call-Bulletin
September 21, 1942
p. 3, col. 8

DOWNEY BARES GUAYULE GAIN

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California to Grow Rubber

The domesticated guayule shrub promises to become a rather important source of rubber as the result of plans now being matured for seedling plantings at Indio and Oceanside and of discussions before Congress of a much greater growing program than has been authorized to date. The two Southern California enterprises are in addition to that at Salinas, where the government has taken over the facilities of the private interests which tamed the wild plant of the Mexican desert mesas, and will be directed by Maj. Evan W. Kelley, United States Forest Service administrator in charge of the guayule rubber emergency project. Seedlings for 75,000 acres have been made available at Salinas, but enough for 175,000 acres more will be developed in the Southland areas. Planting of seed beds has, indeed, actually begun at Indio.

A bill being weighed in Washington would provide for an expansion up to 500,000 acres of producing shrubs, and the President only yesterday gave impetus thereto by asking Congress for an appropriation of \$19,000,000 in addition to the \$13,000,000 already voted for the growing of the rubber-yielding shrub.

The administration is evidently trying to make up for the time it lost in taking advantage of guayule's demonstrated possibilities. It will be recalled that the Salinas corporation offered to sell its plant and equipment to the government when domestic rubber sources were being in-

vestigated early in the defense period, but that Washington chose instead to spend large sums in quests for other sources. After all that time and money had been wasted, the existing guayule facilities were taken over—as a war measure. The fortunate thing about it all is that the developers of the industry had hung on despite their inability to make the product pay commercially in competition with the cheaper tree rubber of the tropics. There has never been any doubt as to guayule's emergency value under anything resembling a long-time program.

As things stand, production cannot amount to much before 1944, when seedlings set out now will have attained sufficient growth for harvesting. Mexico is helping by putting the wild growth of her mesas and that from limited cultivation at our disposal. Meanwhile, scientists are working to find rubber sources from other plants that produce more quickly. The bill in Congress allows for assistance in such research.

Considerable promise is seen in two vines from Madagascar and in hybrids therefrom. One, *Cryptostegia grandiflora*, to give its scientific name, has been yielding in an apparently satisfactory manner in the Coachella Valley, producing rubber even quicker than guayule. State Department of Agriculture officials are urging Washington to make large plantings of this in addition to guayule. Every proven source should be developed to the limit.

Los Angeles Times
September 18, 1942
p. 7

President Asks \$19,000,000 More for California Guayule

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17. (U.P.) President Roosevelt today asked Congress to grant a supplemental \$19,000,000 appropriation to the Department of Agriculture for guayule rubber shrub cultivation and production in California. sible of this increased seed supply this fall rather than in the spring, a six-month growth of shrub will be gained and an additional potential rubber supply of 20,000 tons will be available for 1944," Coy's letter said.

Wayne Coy, acting director of the Bureau of the Budget, said in a letter accompanying President Roosevelt's that \$13,035,000 already has been made available for the same purpose. The President's letter was addressed to Speaker Sam Rayburn.

Coy said the supply of guayule seed available for planting is six times larger than expected at the time the Agriculture Department's appropriation requests were being prepared.

"By planting as much as pos-

Southland to Be Center of Guayule Production

Oceanside and Indio Selected for Vast New
Projects, Destined to Make Area No. 1 in Nation

Two vast new guayule rubber-raising projects, one in Indio and the other in Oceanside, are destined to make Southern California the center of a new rubber resource, it was officially announced yesterday.

Maj. Evan W. Kelley, United States Forest Service administrator in charge of the guayule rubber emergency project, disclosed the expansion at a conference yesterday in the Federal Building here with Department of Agriculture officials.

WILL LEAD COUNTY

The two new projects will be devoted to raising seedlings of the desert shrub, enough for an eventual planting of 176,000 acres.

With each acre yielding 800 pounds of pure rubber, it was predicted that in little more than two years the Southland will be

the greatest guayule rubber-raising area in the country.

Maj. Kelley said that already his "rubber rangers" have begun the planting of 10,000 seed beds, each four feet wide and 400 feet long, near Indio. The Oceanside project, plans for which already have been completed, will be undertaken within the next few weeks.

DRYER DISTRICTS

Officials at the conference pointed out that experiments at the first seed beds at Salinas have disclosed that guayule grown under irrigation matures twice as fast as in its natural state and can be ready for processing at the end of two years under modern methods.

Indio and Oceanside were chosen as sites for the new seed beds, it was stated, because of moderately dry climates that eliminate the use of wooden rails for cultivators. In other areas the rails, or duck boards, were needed to keep the heavy machines from miring down where rainfall supplants irrigation. Considerable expense is saved in the dryer districts.

Maj. Kelley also explained that in the southern part of the State, because of the dry climate, two crops can be raised annually, instead of one, as in the northern half of the State.

Headquarters for the purchasing offices of the government's guayule projects are to be opened soon in San Bernardino, Maj. Kelley said.

Increase in Guayule Acreage Approved

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. (AP) The Senate Military Affairs Committee voted today to increase the acreage to be planted in guayule and other rubber-bearing plants from 75,000 to 500,000 acres.

The change was incorporated in a measure by Senator Downey (D.) Cal., amending an act under which the Agriculture Department has planted guayule in the Salinas Valley in California to produce rubber to meet the shortage caused by the war.

Salt Lake Tribune
September 17, 1942
p. 10

Expert Enters Guayule Hunt

LOGAN—D. C. Tingey, research associate professor of agronomy at Utah State Agricultural college, who is noted for his significant work in developing smut-resistant grains and weed control methods, has been appointed senior agronomist with the bureau of plant industry to help develop guayule rubber in the U. S.

Professor Tingey has been granted a leave of absence "for the duration" to assist the federal government in "this vital work," reported Dr. R. H. Walker, dean of the U S A C school of agriculture and director of the Utah agricultural experiment station.

His headquarters will be Salinas, Cal., although he will direct phases of experiments in New Mexico, California, Arizona and Texas.

Reno Evening Gazette
September 16, 1942
p. 10

Increase Proposed In Guayule Planting

WASHINGTON, Sept. 16. (AP)—
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San Francisco Call-Bulletin
September 16, 1942
p. 1, col. 7

Senate Group for Bill Hiking Guayule Acreage

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The Senate military affairs committee voted today to increase the acreage to be planted in guayule and other rubber bearing plants from 75,000 to 500,000 acres.

The change was incorporated in a measure by Senator Downey (D., Cal.) amending an act under which the Agriculture Department has planted guayule in the Salinas Valley in California to produce rubber to meet the shortage caused by the war.

Denver Post
September 13, 1942
p. 17

CONGRESS WILL ACT TO SPEED GUAYULE PRODUCTION PLANS

Legislation to Expedite Out-
put Will Be Introduced
Immediately.

Akron, O., Sept. 12.—Legislation enabling the speeding up of the guayule program as part of government efforts to find new rubber sources will be introduced in congress immediately, William O'Neil, president of the General Tire & Rubber company, said Saturday.

O'Neil, who sponsored the guayule plan which originally called for planting of not more than 75,000 acres of the rubber-producing shrub, said he had received word from Washington the program would be expedited in both houses.

The Baruch rubber committee recommended in its report to President Roosevelt all restrictions to the guayule program be removed and it "be given every possible support as the principal source of crude rubber which could not be lost to use short of conquest of American territory."

The guayule program recently advanced by the United States department of agriculture calls for planting 180,000 acres of guayule. The plantations probably would be located in Arizona, Texas, New Mexico and California.

Rubber can be harvested from the guayule shrub two years after the seed is planted, the Baruch report said.

Herald & News (Klamath Falls)
September 10, 1942
p. 6

Legislation Sought To Expand Salinas Rubber Project

SALINAS, Calif., Sept. 10 (AP) — A yield of 100,000 tons of guayule rubber by the fall of 1944 is sought in proposed expansion of the guayule rubber plant project, says Senator Sheridan Downey (D-Calif.)

Downey visited the Salinas project yesterday and told newsmen he would leave for Washington immediately to introduce legislation for the expansion of the guayule program.

He said he had received news from Washington that the Bernard Baruch committee had approved the plan which provides for planting nearly 100,000 pounds of guayule seed in nurseries this year preparatory to transplanting to fields next spring.

Sacramento Bee
September 10, 1942
p. 19

Guayule Project Increases Yield

SALINAS, Sept. 10.—(UP)—Senator Sheridan Downey, Democrat of California, said today the Salinas Valley guayule project will furnish 1,000,000 pounds of rubber this year.

This, he said, is ten times as much as was anticipated when the project was begun. He told chamber of commerce officials he intends to introduce legislation in congress calling for further expansion.

The expansion, Downey said, has been approved by the Baruch committee.

San Francisco Examiner
September 10, 1942
p. B, col. 2

Downey to Father Bill for Salinas Guayule Expansion

SALINAS, Sept. 9.—(INS)—United States Senator Sheridan Downey tonight told the Salinas Chamber of Commerce that he was leaving immediately for Washington to introduce legislation providing for the expansion of the Salinas Valley Guayule Rubber project.

He said he was acting at the request of the Bernard Baruch

committee, which has approved the expansion program.

The program provides for planting a large part of the 100,000 pounds of seed on hand this fall so that it would be transplanted to fields next spring and harvested in the fall of 1944.

From this, Downey said, more than 100,000 tons of rubber can be produced.

San Francisco News
September 10, 1942
p. 6, col. 3

1 Million Pounds Of Guayule!

By United Press

SALINAS, Sept. 10.—Senator Sheridan Downey (D., Cal.) said today the Salinas Valley Guayule project will furnish one million pounds of rubber this year.

He said that amount was 10 times the quantity expected when the project was begun. He told Chamber of Commerce officials he intended to introduce legislation in Congress calling for further expansion.

Guayule Program Ahead Of Schedule

The guayule rubber program has progressed far ahead of schedule and this fall a million pounds of rubber will be milled from the 600 acres of old shrub now growing in the Salinas valley.

This is reported in a bulletin issued by the Central Valley Project Association and copies of it have been mailed out by James R. Fauver.

Under a plan devised by the Forest Service, a total of 105,000 pounds of seed have been gathered instead of the 20,000 pounds first thought to be the maximum and another 30,000 pounds will be harvested before the end of the year.

The bulletin shows that Tulare county has been omitted from the Forest Service planting program for this year in the Central Valley. Plantings will be made on 6,000 acres in Fresno county, 2,000 acres in Kings county and 1,000 acres in Merced county. The acreages are a part of a total of 63,100 acres that will be needed if the statutory limit of 75,000 acres is lifted. Indicator plots have been planted from Glenn county to Kern county.

Sacramento Bee
September 8, 1942
p. 10

Solano Acreage Is Leased For Guayule

DIXON (Solano Co.), Sept. 8.—
The government has leased 1,500
acres of land in the northern part
of this county for growing guayule
plants for rubber.

The crop is being planted from
nursery stock.

California Cultivator
September 5, 1942
p. 444

Guayule plants from Mexico were
found to be heavily infested with a
species of root scale.

San Francisco News
September 4, 1942
p. 22, col. 7

MEXICO DUE TO SEND GUAYULE TO U. S.

By United Press

MEXICO CITY, Sept. 4.—President Avila Camacho has told the Congress that the Government would establish a supreme National Defense Council in which all branches of the Government would be represented.

At the opening of the third regular session of the 38th Congress in the Chamber of Deputies, he read a 186-page message on the state of nation.

The President said a Mexican-United States agreement is pending whereby all production of guayule would be exported to the United States to help swell the rubber stockpile of the United Nations.

He said Mexico is receiving a steady stream of armaments from the United States.

START MONTANA RUBBER HARVEST

**Russian Dandelions Threshed
for Seed at Savenac and
South of Missoula.**

MISSOULA, Mont., Aug. 31.—At the target range plot south of town and at the Savenac nurseries near Haugan, the first harvesting of kok saghyz, the Russian dandelion from whose roots rubber bearing latex is extracted, has begun, report Ray A. Coster and E. D. Sandvig, regional forest service officials connected with the experiment.

At present the dandelions will be threshed and used for reseeding purposes, and the roots will probably not be harvested until later in the season, although a test will be made to determine the rubber content.

Far Superior to Guayule.

In Russia the plant is considered far superior to guayule because of the easy extraction of the rubber bearing latex. However, Russian methods of cultivation of the plant are vastly different from methods necessary in this region, officials have learned. No irrigation is used on the projects in Russia, a method which was tried at the target range plantation with little favorable result. Irrigation of the plot south of town produced full plants in half the time for the same growth.

Other aspects in the cultivation and care of the plant have forced workers in the experiment to start at the very beginning in cultivation in this area. Three hundred acres are under cultivation in the tract south of town.

Russian experiments discovered the plant when a drive was started in 1929 to find some new rubber source.

Found Near Chinese Border.

In 1931 the kok saghyz plant was discovered near the border of China. This plant yielded 6 to 12 per cent rubber, had resistance to insects, produced good seed and was easily cultivated.

In European Russia as high as 3000 pounds of raw roots have been produced on a single acre of land. This amounts to 30 to 60 pounds of rubber. Sugars and carbohydrates of the root may be used for alcohol production as a by-product.

The United States became interested in the project in 1932, but seeds were not obtained until this year.

Albuquerque Journal
August 28, 1942
p. 14

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A representative of the Bureau of Plant Industry was in Roswell last week checking one of the one-acre experimental plantings of guayule on the farm of Howard Babcock, Jr. The guayule from which it is hoped to grow a substitute for crude rubber shows about a 75 per cent stand from plants that were received from Salinas, Cal. The plants were said to be in good condition. Several other small plantings have been made in the state, including Las Cruces and Deming.

California Cultivator
August 22, 1942
p. 420

Northern California

About 5300 acres of leased land near Arbuckle, Colusa County, will be used for guayule production.

Pacific Rural Press
August 22, 1942
p. 96

It is reported a minimum of 2,000 acres of farming land in the Chico area is being leased by the Guayule Emergency Rubber Project, and plants will start going in by October first.

Urges Guayule Plantations

Possible Industry
Cited to Club

Guayule, the rubber-bearing bush that is being grown under government supervision in the southwest, can be grown in Montana, J. W. Peckham, secretary-manager of the Montana Motor Transport association, told the Rotary club Monday.

He urged civic leaders to investigate the possibility of developing plantations in this area.

The source of his information is recent conversations with scientists at a transport meeting in California, Peckham said.

In a discussion of the rubber situation as it affects trucking, Peckham declared that unless local haulers are allowed more tires for the summer months, "they will be on the spot in a few days." The use of recaps in hot weather is a waste, rather than a saving of rubber, he said. He suggested that the tire quota for truckers in Yellowstone county be increased from 153 to 300 tires per month.

According to Peckham, truckers get greater use out of their tires than do drivers of other types of automobiles. He estimated that the average use of a set of tires on a truck in this territory is 100,000 miles, and explained that this figure is made possible by lower speed and careful checking of tire pressure.

Peckham told the club the county's truck operators are among the best customers merchants in Billings have. "A recent survey of 15 of the 32 licensed operators in Billings and Laurel shows that they spent \$375,000 in Billings for new equipment in 1941; it is estimated that the total expenditure for the 32 operators reached \$450,000. The monthly pay roll was \$54,000; estimate for the 32 is \$75,000 or more. The 15 operators spent for parts and upkeep, not including gasoline and oil, \$482,000; estimate for the 32 is \$525,000. The 15 operators reported that they spent \$57,000 in Billings for insurance; estimate for the 32 is \$80,000. The survey did not include truck lines operated by railroads or private carriers."

The American Legion junior league baseball team from Worland, Wyo., and members of the team from Lewiston, Idaho, and their coaches were guests at the club luncheon.

Los Angeles Times
August 16, 1942
p. 4, pt. 2

We're Used to It

There's still a lot of wild rubber in Brazil, where the caoutchouc first came from, but natives down there want real money for bringing it out of the jungles. Before the New Deal's agricultural "planners" start getting ideas about paying California's guayule growers not to produce, however, it might be good wartime strategy to get all the South American tire makin's we can, even if that means putting out more than had been expected for the harvesting job. Synthetic rubber apparently isn't going to be available in quantity for a long time to come.

Guayule Planting Is Set For Fall

(McClatchy Newspapers Service)

COLUSA (Colusa Co.), Aug. 15.—Kenneth B. Pomeroy, manager of guayule plantings in the valley district, under supervision of the United States Forest Service, announces that first plantings of the rubber shrub can be expected in the Arbuckle district of southern Colusa County as soon after October 1, 1942, as weather conditions permit.

Pomeroy said that Wayne G. Banks, superintendent of the Arbuckle unit of 5,600 acres, is now making arrangements with interested farmers for plowing, discing, chiseling, harrowing and other operations as needed.

200 Workers Are Needed

It is estimated that approximately 200 persons will be required in the work of planting guayule shrubs this Fall in the Valley district, which embraces Dixon, Woodland, Arbuckle, Chico and Red Bluff.

Pomeroy said that superintendents would be assigned the Dixon-Woodland and Chico-Red Bluff units within a week or two. Leasing operations in those areas are being completed by the negotiators, David M. Muir and Ralph V. Johnston.

Plant By Machine

Pomeroy added that Henry L. Lobenstein, chief of planting, Salinas area, is developing a guayule planting machine which can be operated by men or women. The machine, a belt type, multi unit affair, is fed by hand. The machine can place the guayule shrubs in rows twenty eight inches apart, and the plants twenty four inches apart in the rows.

Additional contracts for acreage in the Arbuckle district have been approved, including land owned by C. E. Wyer, Asa Kalfsbeek, Herman Schutz and A. H. Abele.

Agricultural Conference At Mexico City

A Radio Talk by Claude R. Wickard

I HAVE just returned from the second Inter-American Conference on Agriculture at Mexico City. The first was held in Washington 12 years ago. The third conference will be held in 2 years instead of 12 years, if a resolution passed at the conference is put into effect. I made the motion to adopt this resolution, because I am sure the conferences are very helpful to the United States and all the other American republics.

The history of the agricultural conferences goes back to 1928, when the sixth International Conference of American States was held at Havana. The delegates decided that a special meeting ought to be devoted to agriculture. Two years later the United States government issued invitations to a conference in September, 1930.

So for the first time scientists and officials of the American nations go together to study agricultural problems of this hemisphere. Then, as now, the idea was to work together to improve farming and farm living. A lot of sound spade work was done at that first meeting.

The second conference, held at Mexico City this month, carried that work forward. Representatives of the 21 American republics attended. Our hosts, the Mexican officials, extended every courtesy to the visiting delegates. General Avila Camacho, Mexico's able President, opened the conference. We held our meetings in beautiful, historic Chapultepec Castle. Senor Marte Gomez, secretary of agriculture of Mexico, was elected chairman. He was a hard-working chairman, always fair and tactful. Everyone liked and admired him.

Now, when we started to work we found there were many differences of opinions, just like there always are when agricultural people get together. Some of our discussions lasted far into the night. Although always friendly, they were very frank.

But in the end the 75 delegates representing 21 nations, passed 76 resolutions without a minority report or even a single dissenting vote. That is a significant record. It indicates that there are few, if any, differences in agricultural situations or policies that cannot be resolved by free and frank discussion. Everyone noticed a greater feeling of inter-American friendliness today than ever before, despite the effort of our enemies to promote dissension between the nations in this hemisphere.

The main purpose of the conference was to exchange scientific ideas and to develop co-operative research along technical and scientific lines. It was a great conference from this standpoint. The technicians and scientists gave paper after paper and then answered questions. Often it developed that scientists in the other nations had come to the same conclusions, or had something very important to add.

The conference covered a great diversity of scientific subjects. I can mention only a few of them here: Plant culture and plant diseases, irrigation problems, soil erosion, weather forecasting, livestock care and livestock diseases, and methods of combating harmful insects. Also there was a number of discussions in what might be termed rural sociology—such topics as nutrition and health of farm people, rural housing, and providing social and cultural centers for farm people.

Then we found ourselves going into economics, studying ownership of land and land tenure, rural credit, maintaining a fair income for rural people, disposal of surplus crops. We often discussed subjects which bordered on international policies, such as division of world markets for such crops as sugar and cotton and grains. Very often a scientific subject led into social, economic and political discussions. Rubber furnished an example.

Rubber was just about as popular

a subject at the conference as it is in the United States. As you know, this country has been helping develop rubber production in the tropical areas of the Americas. We are taking part in the co-operative research—trying to find better varieties and cultural practices and more suitable areas for growing rubber.

The chief aim, of course, is to get the largest and most efficient production possible. We are encountering many other problems along the way. There is the problem of getting people to go to the tropics, and caring for them after they get there. That involves housing, feeding, transportation, and medical care.

Also, it is very natural that the rubber-growing countries want to have some assurances about markets after the rubber is produced. Again and again the delegates from those countries asked this question: Should they go ahead and develop production of natural rubber for the United States when we were planning a huge synthetic rubber program? They wondered if we would continue to produce synthetic rubber plants even though the cost of synthetic rubber was higher than tree rubber.

Now that was the very kind of question our farmers would ask under similar circumstances. We could not, of course, give a flat answer to so complicated a question. But we did point out that the United States government retained control of the synthetic plants with the feeling that they should not be operated behind a tariff wall that would mean high priced rubber for American consumers and at the same time would interfere with trade to our own good neighbors to the south of us.

I am convinced that most of the other American nations can produce things we need and I am convinced we can produce many things they need. Now it just seems to be good common sense to get together to make plans for producing and exchanging these commodities. In addition, we can, by such conferences, promote the solidarity in this hemisphere which means so much to us now and in the future.

Mexico to Sell All Guayule to U. S.

Agrees on Plan to Aid Rubber Output

MEXICO CITY, Aug. 2 (AP)—Virtual agreement has been reached on an over-all rubber understanding between Mexico and the United States, informed sources reported Sunday, under which all this nation's resources of rubber will be pledged to the Democratic war effort.

The negotiations were described as an important phase of the U. S. drive to alleviate the United Nations' "serious" shortage of war-vital rubber before it becomes "critical."

Mexico's entire production of guayule, which runs about 9000 tons a year, will be sold exclusively to the United States for processing. Final price terms have not yet been settled, but are expected to be fixed within a few days.

In addition President Avila Camacho's administration has committed itself to measures to conserve the nation's stocks of finished and raw rubber which run into thousands of tons. An inventory to determine the exact amount is in progress.

Mexico produces about 3000 tons of tree rubber annually. In the past it has imported around 2000 additional tons a year to satisfy its domestic requirements.

Guayule Grown 5 Places in State

Foresters Experiment With Rubber Plants

Guayule plants, a source of rubber, are now being grown on an experimental basis at five locations in New Mexico, L. P. Wilsey, of the U. S. Forest Service regional office, disclosed in a recent discussion of rubber shortage over Radio Station KOB.

C. H. Christ, Alameda dairy farmer and chairman of the USDA war board of Bernalillo County, and E. G. Miller and Bob Kelleher of the Forest Service took part in the discussion.

Wilsey reported that test plats for Guayule have been established near Las Cruces, Roswell, Artesia, Animas and Loving by the Forest Service. He also reported that the Government is studying the possibility of harvesting wild plants, as the rabbit brush and pinguey plants which sometimes contain up to 7 per cent rubber.

Consensus of the four in the discussion was that the nation's war needs will not leave enough rubber for civilian needs for the next year or so.

Christ, recommending that farmers and others reduce their use of tires and avoid driving faster than 40 miles an hour, summarized:

"It looks like we're going to have rationing of tires for a long, long time. I would say that anyone who wants to be sure of having tires in usable condition next year and the year after will just have to give the absolute best of care to the tires and tubes he now has."

Sacramento Bee
August 1, 1942
p. 14

Guayule Will Be Planted In Butte

(McClatchy Newspapers Service)

CHICO (Butte Co.), Aug. 1.—

Ralph V. Johnston, representing the forestry service of the United States Department of Agriculture, has announced that experimental plantings of guayule, the rubber plant, will be made on approximately 2,000 acres in Butte County.

Most of the plantings will be in the vicinity of Chico, and it is understood many of the large ranches in this area may be used for that purpose. Nonirrigated lands are to be used and leases, it is understood, will be on a cash basis.

Department of agriculture workers visited Butte County last week while making a survey of Sacramento Valley soils. Johnston said they will confine their work to the Vina and Farwell loam series of soils.

On well drained soil, a crop of about a half ton of raw rubber per acre can be expected in three years, or a ton in five years. If sufficient acreage is obtained, a unit office will be set up in Chico.

Johnston said that Sacramento valley soil is generally favorable for raising guayule, but much of it is unsuitable because of the presence of morning glory, with which the guayule plant is unable to compete.

A High Wage Rate Does Not Always Assure An Ample Supply of Labor

A RECENT issue of the "Business Review", prepared by the Bank of America, carried a rather exhaustive discussion of the farm labor problem in California. In the main, this article presented the problem—or problems—in an intelligent way. But, as is the case too often, when city men (and more specifically, bankers) talk about agricultural matters, the data are accurate but the interpretation is not always sound.

For instance, this article fails to distinguish between the wage factor and the ease of the work involved, that is, the work which is to compete with agriculture.

"It is well known that agriculture pays notoriously low wages as compared with other industry and trade", the Bank of America "Review" says. "As a consequence the farmer is usually able to obtain the services of only those who cannot find employment in other fields. He is particularly at a disadvantage under present conditions of labor scarcity when even common labor enjoys a certain amount of bidding for his services. * * * In substance, if the farmer could boost his wages to a rate higher than the present level, there is no doubt his supply of workers would be considerably increased."

Without commenting on the fact that the average bank teller today is paid not very much more than the average farm laborer, the writer of the above lines has perhaps not been in the field enough to have had the rather discouraging experience of noting that high wage rates do not always bring an adequate supply of farm labor. It is unfortunately true that labor has in the last year gravitated towards government or government paid-for jobs, where the rate of pay is not higher but the supervision is rather lax and they can get by with very much less effort and earn almost as much money.

Of course, this is only human and many of us are guilty of the same sort of thing. But a higher rate of pay won't cure this selfishness.

A case in point has been the labor situation in the Salinas territory during the past season. While admittedly important, the guayule rubber project of the government has been taking a tremendous amount of labor formerly used in the various farming and harvesting enterprises in the Salinas Valley. Here the government

offered opportunities of employment in the weeding of nursery plots at the same hourly wage as was paid in agriculture. Because the supervision was not very rigid agriculture lost many of its regular workers to the rubber project.

There have been many other cases of this kind throughout the present

season. Construction industries, for instance, have been rather flagrant in drawing upon the usual agricultural labor supply. Often these industries have contracts on a cost-plus basis and are therefore not always worried about wage rates or daily outturn of work. There are no cost plus contracts in agriculture, so agriculture cannot compete with job opportunities where strict supervision of labor is not the rule.

There really isn't any answer to this situation. As long as people behave like human beings they will always seek the easier road. But a great economic organization like the Bank of America should not delude itself—or us by claiming that if agriculture paid higher wages they would solve their labor problem.—A.F.A.

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Pacific Rural Press
July 25, 1942
p. 40

By mid-winter the Salinas guayule project, first and largest in the country, will have 50,000 acres under cultivation.

New York Times
July 19, 1942
p. 5

Damaging Guayule New Offense

SALINAS, Calif. (AP)—A Salinas motorist is charged with a brand new traffic offense. He is accused of driving his automobile into a field and damaging 150 guayule plants being grown to provide rubber for tires.

Sacramento Bee
July 17, 1942
p. 10

Guayule Headquarters Will Be Opened In Colusa

COLUSA (Colusa Co.), July 17.—Kenneth B. Pomeroy, district manager for guayule plantings under the supervision of the United States Forest Service, plans to open headquarters in Colusa about August 1st. An office will be established here, along with maintenance and housing facilities for special equipment used in the cultivation of the shrub.

Pomeroy said that 5,300 acres of land in the Arbuckle district are being leased for guayule planting. Those in that area whose leases have been approved are H. H. Vann,

Elbert F. Weaver, William, Henry and John Struckmeyer, Jesse R. Dean and Gerhardt Myers.

Pomeroy said that fifteen other leases are now being appraised and probably will be approved within the next two weeks.

Pomeroy said no further acreages will be sought this year in Colusa County, the decision of the forest service being to proceed with the planting of the Arbuckle tracts and to establish experimental plots in other areas of the county, probably in the Grimes district.

U. S. UNABLE TO FIND ANY RUBBER SOURCE

By OVID A. MARTIN

WASHINGTON — (P) — After many months of intense investigating and experimenting, agriculture department plant specialists and engineers have about concluded there is no quick, easy source of natural rubber to replace supplies cut off by the war.

Departmental studies have been directed at such rubber-producing plants as guayule, cryptostegia, Russian dandelion, goldenrod and rabbit brush.

Most promising of these, in the opinion of the department's rubber specialists, is guayule, a slow-growing shrub native to Mexico and parts of Texas. Some progress has been made toward commercial production of rubber from this plant. Sufficient seedlings are expected to be grown this summer to plant at least 50,000 acres next winter.

Loren G. Polhamus, rubber specialist of the bureau of plant industry, emphasized, however, that substantial yields of guayule rubber cannot be expected in the immediate future. At least 600,000 acres would be required to provide a sixth of the nation's normal needs.

Polhamus, asserting considerable attention had been given lately to the possibilities of cryptostegia, a tropical vine of the milkweed family found in Mexico and other Latin-American countries, said it had been claimed by those interested in this plant that it would produce rubber much more quickly than guayule. He added, however, that the department was not yet ready to recommend extensive plantings of cryptostegia because no practical method of extracting rubber from the plant had been found.

Nevertheless, the department is planting several test tracts of this plant in Florida, Mexico, Haiti and Cuba to ascertain production problems and be prepared to inaugurate a commercial program in the event engineers and chemists should find an extraction method.

Polhamus said lack of an extraction method also was holding up the goldenrod as a source of rubber.

The department has planted about 500 pounds of Russian dandelion at nurseries in northern states to test its adaptability to climate in this country.

Officials said the department believed that development of the hevea rubber tree culture in tropical America offered the best hope for long term supplies of rubber, at costs which are competitive with those of rubber produced anywhere in the world.

10 Guayule Trial Farms In Colorado

Guayule seedlings have been planted in 10 areas to determine if the shrub will successfully produce rubber in Colorado, officials of the Colorado State College experiment station announced yesterday.

About 50 seedlings furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture have been planted on experimental farms near Fort Collins, Akron, Lamar, La Junta, Trinidad, Rocky Ford, Cortez, Fruita, Austin and Monte Vista.

The seedlings being tested are of the improved type of guayule plant which has been developed from the wild type which grows in Mexico and Texas.

Sacramento Bee
July 11, 1942
p. 16

Guayule Can Be Grown In Butte

(McClatchy Newspapers Service)

CHICO (Butte Co.), July 11.—The possibility of Chico becoming a guayule raising district was revealed yesterday following conferences by John R. Nelson and E. Garth Champagne of the United States Forest Service with Paul W. Little, manager of the local branch of the United States Employment Service, on the possibility of supplying labor for the rubber growing projects.

Nelson said plans for the projects are still in the formative stage, but that if suitable acreage can be located the forest service is prepared to start operations at once.

"Guayule can be grown on average soil," Nelson said, adding that favorable soil is found in this section.

Rubber processing plants will be located in the center of acreages, Nelson pointed out, indicating that such plants would be large installations.

IN NEW MEXICO

Agriculture Department plant specialists and engineers, after months of intensive investigation and experimenting have about concluded that there is no quick, easy source of natural rubber in this country to replace supplies cut off by the war, according to press dispatches from Washington.

But of especial interest to New Mexico is the conclusion that of the studies directed at such rubber-producing plants as guayule, cryptostegia, Russian dandelion goldenrod and rabbit bush, guayule, a slow growing shrub native to Mexico and parts of the southwest United States including this state, is the most promising.

Sufficient seedlings of guayule are expected to be grown this summer to plant at least 50,000 acres next winter, and how much acreage New Mexico will obtain will depend, we presume, upon the results of the small experimental plantings made in this state this year. The state might be fortunate enough to get some large sized plantings this winter.

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Grants is proposing to pull a new one in the way of a harvest festival. It is a carrot carnival, to be so named in recognition of the importance of the carrot crop on the Bluewater project. More than 500 persons are now employed in the carrot and lettuce fields with prospects favorable for bumper crops.

◆ ◆ ◆

Silver City has decided to close its bars at midnight instead of 2 a. m. except Saturday night. A new ordinance will also restrict the number of bars, prohibiting any new licenses until there is an increase in population of 6000, with new licenses thereafter for each additional 2000 people.

◆ ◆ ◆

The Gallup Independent recalls that the noted Scotch singer and comedian, Harry Lauder, once had a financial stake there. Years ago, through a friend, he was persuaded to invest in the coal mines now operated by the Gallup Southwestern Coal Co., and made several trips to Gallup to look over the mines and his interests. He sold out his holdings in 1916 to Sharp Hanson.

◆ ◆ ◆

The best quip of the week from The Aztec Independent-Review:

"If the Congressmen and Senators turn in their rubber stamps during the rubber drive how are they going to put their stamp of approval on everything in the future?"

GUAYULE STILL IS HOLDING LEAD AS POTENTIAL SOURCE OF RUBBER

Agriculture Department Decides, After Many Experiments, There Is No Quick, Easy Way to Replace Supply Cut Off by War.

Washington, July 9.—(A. P.)—After many months of intense investigating and experimenting, agriculture department plant specialists and engineers have about concluded that there is no quick, easy source of natural rubber to replace supplies cut off by the war.

Departmental studies have been directed at such rubber producing plants as guayule, cryptostegia, Rus-

sian dandelion, goldenrod and rabbit brush.

Most promising of these, in the opinion of the department's rubber specialists, is guayule, a slow growing shrub native to Mexico and parts of Texas. Some progress has been made toward commercial production of rubber from this plant. Sufficient seedlings are expected to be grown this summer to plant at least 50,000 acres next winter.

SUBSTANTIAL YIELDS ARE FOR FUTURE.

Loren G. Polhamus, rubber specialist of the bureau of plant industry, emphasized, however, that substantial yields of guayule rubber cannot be expected in the immediate future. At least 600,000 acres would be required to provide a sixth of the nation's normal needs.

Polhamus, asserting considerable attention had been given lately to the possibilities of cryptostegia, a tropical vine of the milkweed family found in Mexico and other Latin American countries, said it had been claimed by those interested in this plant that it would produce rubber much more quickly than guayule.

EXTRACTING RUBBER IS DRAWBACK.

He added, however, that the department was not yet ready to recommend extensive plantings of cryptostegia because no practical method of extracting rubber from the plant had been found.

Nevertheless, the department is planting several tests tracts of this plant in Florida, Mexico, Haiti and Cuba to ascertain production problems and be prepared to inaugurate a commercial program in the event engineers and chemists should find an extraction method.

Rocky Mountain News
June 9, 1942
p. 2

Rubber Plant Seeds Sown in California

WASHINGTON, June 8.—
(AP)—Five hundred and twenty acres of nursery beds at Salinas, Calif., have been sown with 21,000 pounds of guayule seed to produce seedling plants for 50,000 acres of field plantations next winter, the Agriculture Department reported tonight.

The plants are being grown to produce rubber but the department said that "substantial yields of guayule rubber can not be expected in the immediate future."

ARIZONA SPURS EXPERIMENTS IN RUBBER PLANTS

Thirty Plantings Being
Studied in Southwest
Area.

Phoenix, Ariz., July 6.—Irrigated regions in the southwest are considered the most likely areas where the United States can develop its own supply of natural rubber from guayule or other plants and much of the experimental work is being conducted in Arizona.

The plant that can be grown in the United States and which is believed to provide the best source of natural rubber is guayule. About thirty experimental plantings of guayule in Arizona are being observed closely.

The United States department of agriculture is sponsoring many of the experiments thru the emergency rubber project in preparation for field planting of 50,000 acres thruout the southwest this fall and next spring.

RUBBER COMPANIES ARE INTERESTED.

With America's supplies of raw rubber dwindling rapidly, experiments and scientific tests of potential rubber-producing plants have been stepped up. Rubber companies are interested in the experiments and also have been conducting tests of their own.

The Intercontinental Rubber company, which has experimented with guayule for about thirty years, is expanding its operations at Continental, Ariz., south of Tucson.

The United States Rubber company is establishing an experimental plantation for the culture of rubber-yielding plants near Yuma, Ariz. Dr. John McGavack of New York, in charge of the company's wild-rubber research, said it was planned to determine the rubber value of various plants thru the use of X-ray.

EXPERIMENTAL PATCHES ARE PLANTED.

One of the experimental guayule patches was planted on the University of Arizona farm near Tucson, where Dr. J. G. Brown, university plant pathologist, plans to observe the plants during their five-year growing period to determine their resistance to various diseases prevalent in the proposed guayule production areas.

The seedling plants which will be transplanted to 50,000 or more acres this fall and next spring are being grown on a 750-acre farm near Salinas, Calif.

L. N. Goodding, Phoenix associate botanist of the bureau of plant industry, which is co-operating in the rubber experiments, said that experimental plantings in Arizona are mostly in one-acre plots, generally in irrigated sections.

PLANTS NEED DRY PERIODS.

Guayule requires dry periods if it is to store up rubber, Goodding said. Where moisture is continuous and plentiful, the plant will grow in stature, but it does not store rubber. It is necessary to cut off water completely during hot weather, he said.

Under cultivation, guayule will have a rubber content as high as 14 to 16 per cent of its gross dry weight. The rubber is accumulated in the roots and branches of the bush.

Harvesting is by plowing up the plant. The greatest return of rubber has been obtained by allowing it to grow for four years after transplanting the seedling.

Soil preferences for guayule are well-drained medium sandy loam, free from underlying hardpan and alkali. Growth on arid, unirrigated land is too slow to warrant planting. The cultivation of guayule is similar to that for other row crops, such as corn or cotton.

Rocky Mountain News
May 1, 1942
p. 25

Guayule Plants Tested

TRINIDAD, April 30.—(UP)—Southern Colorado's first experiment in growing a substitute for rubber was underway today. County Agent Archie M. Hale announced that 50 guayule rubber plants obtained through the Department of Agriculture had been planted on the Andy McDonald ranch in Hoehne.

50,000 acres in guayule next year, former Nebraskan says

The big guayule emergency rubber project at Salinas, Calif., is planting 22,000 pounds of seed this spring in the nurseries to provide enough plants for 50,000 acres next year, H. L. Lobenstein, in charge of field planting, cultivation, seed collecting and harvesting, said in Lincoln Friday afternoon.

Mr. Lobenstein, formerly with the forest service here, returned to Nebraska on business. He has been in California, working at the only plant of its kind in this country—an industry intended to relieve the rubber emergency—with Paul H. Roberts, former director here of the shelterbelt project and now assistant director of the guayule plant. John L. Emerson, another former shelterbelt state director, is also with the industry in California.

Chemically Identical.

Guayule is a low-growing bushy shrub. Before the government took over and obtained patent rights, the company had operated for some 20 years and sold its crude rubber to tire manufacturers. The rubber is in the main stem and roots of the bush. The plant is a native of Mexico and has been used there in the manufacture for many years, yet a comparatively small amount is processed.

"Chemically, crude rubber made from guayule is the same product as tree rubber," said Mr. Lobenstein. "Capacity of our present plant is about 10,000 pounds of crude rubber per day."

However, this does not mean actual output. They are just preparing to process and plan on the initial output for next year.

Planting 1,000 Acres.

"There are some 680 acres in the old plantation," he said. "These bushes run from 5 to 7 years old and are being saved for seed. We are planting 1,000 acres this year, this being all we have available. We are planting 22,000 pounds of seed in the nursery with a view to planting 50,000 acres next year. The bush should be grown 4 to 5 years before it is harvested, but because of the existing emergency, it may be necessary to harvest it earlier. The crude rubber goes to the tire industry and we plan to harvest for the first time next year."

Asked whether it would be possible to meet the nation's tire

needs entirely from guayule rubber, he said:

"It would be possible, but would require approximately one million acres. The normal demand in this country is for about 600,000 tons of crude rubber annually. In another year we at least hope to help relieve the emergency."

According to the experts, he said, it seems practical to combine one-third of tree or guayule rubber with two-thirds synthetic rubber in the manufacture of tires.

"They say this will make a very good tire," he said. "We expect to harvest 580 acres next year and this should produce upward of one million pounds of crude."

Prior to the war tree rubber could be processed at around 9 cents per pound, while guayule cost 15 to 20 cents.

"We think it possible to grow guayule so that processing costs will be lower than heretofore," he said. "It is impossible to compare, at this time, the price of tree rubber with guayule rubber. No one can tell the price of tree rubber."

"There's no way of knowing yet the extent of damage, due to the war, to the rubber trees of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies. Indications are that guayule rubber can be grown cheaper than the production cost of synthetic rubber."

Agricultural Import Shortages

(Editorial Research Reports)

THE RAPID SWEEP of the Japanese through the Southwest Pacific has already destroyed important sources of many agricultural raw materials normally imported by the United States, and current military activity in and around India and Ceylon are disrupting imports from these areas. The seriousness of the losses varies with the importance of the product to the war-effort and the extent to which the Far East controlled world production of any item.

Probably the most dramatic and vital loss to the United States has been the stoppage of rubber-imports, normally totaling some 600,000 tons a year. Only 2 per cent of United States rubber imports came from areas other than the Far East.

From 1935 to 1940 the annual average shipments of cinchona bark (source of quinine) into the United States amounted to 2,384,000 pounds, about 90 per cent coming from Japanese-held territory.

Tea-purchases in 1941 amounted to more than 107,000,000 pounds, and all except perhaps 2,000,000 pounds came from the Orient.

Access to a number of medicinal and spice plants has been completely or partially blocked.

Domestic attempts to obtain natural rubber are mainly concerned with the cultivation of a guayule plant, which grows wild in certain parts of Southwestern United States. The Intercontinental Rubber Co. has cultivated the shrub on a small commercial scale for some years, and supplied manufacturers with 2,000 tons of rubber in 1940. Under a recent act of Congress, the Government has obtained control of all United States holdings by this company. Sufficient seed is available to plant 75,000 acres to guayule by the spring of 1943. However, since 75,000 acres will produce, after four years' growth, only 56,000 tons of rubber, any imme-

diately increase in the rubber supply can come only from the production of synthetic substitutes.

To help overcome the shortage of fibers—needed for bagging, twine and rope and for military uniforms the parachutes—the 1942 production of hemp-seed is being increased by at least 33 times the 1941 output. It is hoped that 350,000 bushels of hemp-seed will be produced, insuring a 1943 hemp-fiber output of 240,000,000 pounds. Many users of burlap (jute) are expected to shift to cotton bags. Commercial production of synthetic fibers from soy beans and from casein is already under way. It is expected that 1942 production of long-staple cotton will show an increase of about 600,000 bales above 1941 levels.

In an attempt to offset deficiencies in supplies of fats and oils, the Department of Agriculture has asked for a 1942 increase of 350 million pounds of soy bean oil, 100 million pounds of linseed oil from flaxseed, and 100 million pounds of cottonseed oil. All restrictions on domestic plantings of sugar beets and sugar cane have been removed and some improvement in beet-sugar production should be noticeable this year, although increased cane-plantings will not produce until 1943.

A number of medicinal and spice plants can be grown in the United States in addition to the few already in production. A relatively small acreage would be sufficient to supply domestic requirements, and synthetic substitutes are available for certain others.

In Latin America, guayule shrubs are grown in Mexico; and the cultivation of rubber trees in the Amazon Valley, which last year produced about 16,000 tons of rubber, is being pushed. Almost every Latin-American nation produces one or more types of fiber, and the area is also an important source of oil-bearing seeds and nuts—Argentina alone producing half the total world output of flaxseed. Sugar-production in that region can be increased, and also the output of spice and medicinal plants, although the shipping-shortage severely complicates the transportation of all these items to the United States and other United Nations areas of consumption.

Arizona Republic (Phoenix)
April 18, 1942
p. 9

***Guayule Experiment
Project To Be Started***

BISBEE, Apr. 17—(AP)—An experimental guayule-raising project will be launched soon by Frank Davis, Sulphur Springs valley truck farmer residing near McNeal.

Davis has been furnished with seed by the government, which is seeking to increase production of the plant, used in the manufacture of rubber.

If the experiment succeeds, the plant may be grown on a large scale in Sulphur Springs valley.

San Francisco News
April 16, 1942
p. 13, col. 3

WPA Men Aid Guayule Farms

Hundreds Leaving Camps for Fields

Hundreds of men capable of working and contributing toward defense production are leaving single men's relief camps for jobs in the guayule rubber fields, the WPA regional office here said today.

Camp Mitchell near Bradley, Cal., closed yesterday releasing approximately 100 men; Camp Morro Bay near San Luis Obispo and Camp Pacific at Fort Ord will close down by April 20, the WPA said. On the last count, April 7, there were 158 men in the former and 330 in the latter who will turn to planting and cultivating the rubber substitute in the Salinas Valley.

Only the camp at Benicia, doing work for the arsenal, will be retained, it was announced.

Guayule Rubber in Salinas Valley to Relieve Shortage

A preliminary group of 200 men, the advance contingent of 1000, stepped from the ranks of the WPA this month into the front line of one of the nation's most imperative emergency production challenges — the rubber shortage crisis.

Northern California Administrator William R. Lawson of the Work Projects Administration announced that single men's camps operated by the WPA will be liquidated within the month and the men separated from the rolls for employment in the guayule fields of the Salinas valley. Groups of 250 men each will be moved to the Guayule cultivation work at intervals of a week until a thousand are employed in the farming of the latex rubber producing plants, Lawson said. It is anticipated that an additional thousand men will be needed at a later date.

WPA USED

With the other WPA workers of northern California, they have built 7500 miles of roads during the past six years. They built 742 new bridges and viaducts and improved 236 more. The WPA record shows, since inception of the program in this half of the state, 152 stadia, 342 parks, 310 playgrounds, 3580 public buildings erected or improved. Thirty-four WPA built airports are in use by the army and navy, the State belt Line railroad was reconstructed by the WPA just in time to meet the demands of all-out war, thousands of miles of sewers and hundreds of public utilities are the imperishable achievements of these men who were maintained in their American birthright of useful work.

Says Lawson: "More than 12,000 projects financed by the federal government and practical sponsoring agencies attest to the work that kept a great reserve of labor ready for the hour of need. I think that the sending of these men to the guayule gields at a time when their labor is essential to the nation is a very material demonstration that WPA has accomplished the purposes for which it was intended."

San Francisco News
April 1, 1942
p. 4, col. 2

WPA Sending All Available Men To Aid Salinas Guayule Project

Two hundred men left WPA single men's camps in Monterey County and vicinity today for jobs in the new guayule rubber project near Salinas and 800 more soon will join them, Northern California WPA Administrator William R. Lawson announced.

Mr. Lawson's office said "a good portion" of the men are San Franciscans, most of them over the age of 45, who are considered rehabilitated for private employment. The U. S. Department of Forestry is creating the guayule fields and labor camps in a national program to overcome the rubber shortage.

All single men's camps operated by WPA will be liquidated within the month and the men will be released for employment in the guayule fields, said Mr. Lawson. In groups of about 250 the men will go out weekly and it is anticipated an additional 1000 men will be required later.

"I think that the sending of these men to the guayule fields at a time when their labor is essential to the nation is a very material demonstration that WPA has accomplished the purposes for which it was intended," the administrator commented.

Nevada State Journal (Reno)
April 1, 1942
p. 1

Work Guayule

WPA Shifts Workers to Salinas Area

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31.
(U.P.)—One thousand WPA workers in northern California will be transferred from single men's camps to jobs in the important guayule rubber fields of the Salinas Valley, the WPA announced tonight.

The first contingent of 200 men will begin work in guayule tomorrow. The guayule jobs were regarded as permanent. They will be under direction of the U. S. department of forestry, which is creating the fields and new labor camps.

This transfer of manpower was designed to help meet the nation's rubber shortage crisis. William R. Lawson, northern California WPA administrator, said single men's camps operated by the WPA will be liquidated within the month and the men separated from the rolls for employment in guayule.

Pasadena Post
April 1, 1942
p. 1

1000 WPA Workers Shifted To Guayule Rubber Fields

First Group Of 200 To Start Cultivation Work Today In Salinas Valley

SAN FRANCISCO, March 31. (J.P.)—One thousand WPA workers in Northern California will be transferred from single men's camps to jobs in the important guayule rubber fields of the Salinas Valley, the WPA announced tonight.

The first contingent of 200 men will begin work in guayule tomorrow. The guayule jobs were regarded as permanent. They will be under direction of the United States Department of Forestry, which is creating the fields and new labor camps.

To Meet Rubber Crisis

This transfer of manpower was designed to help meet the nation's

rubber shortage crisis. William R. Lawson, northern California WPA administrator, said single men's camps operated by the WPA will be liquidated within the month and the men separated from the rolls for employment in guayule.

Groups of 250 men each will be moved to guayule cultivation work at intervals of a week until 1000 are employed in the farming of latex rubber producing plants. Lawson anticipated an additional 1000 men will be needed at a later date.

Simple Shift Of Labor

"The WPA is helping in meeting another national emergency just as it has met previous emergencies by being able to supply workers when and where they are needed," said Lawson.

"There is more than a simple shift of labor involved in this readiness to provide the embryo guayule rubber industry with the men it needs.

"Behind this supply of labor is a history of work habits and self-respect maintained by the WPA in the years when there were no jobs and no new industries to create payrolls."

Hayward Review
March 31, 1942
p. 3

There is no limit to the acreage that may be planted to sugar beets this spring; hence, the acreage of beets hereabouts will be expanded by 3000 acres, and the big Alvarado sugar mill headed by Ben Koontz, a Hayward resident, will expand its production of sugar to more than the 450,000 one hundred-pound sacks the mill produced last season.

It is too bad that we do not have a guayule rubber industry in the United States comparable to the beet sugar business, which could be expended at this time to yield tires for motorists.

And to so build a guayule rubber industry in this way is entirely feasible. If Congress and the administration had been attending to its knitting the past dozen years we should have had such a domestic rubber production right here in the good old U.S.A., instead of being entirely dependent on Malaya.

Humboldt Star
March 31, 1942
p. 6

Guayule Rubber Fields Worked By WPA Project

(United Press)

SAN FRANCISCO—The first contingent of 200 WPA workers, transferred from single men's camps, began working today in the important Guayule rubber fields of the Salinas Valley, William Lawson, northern California WPA administrator, announced.
1,000 SOON

Eventually, 1,000 WPA workers will be transferred from the single men's camp to jobs in the Guayule fields under direction of the United States department of forestry, which is creating the fields and new labor camps. The Guayule jobs were regarded as permanent.

(Winnemucca, Nevada)

Forest Service Will Help Develop Guayule Rubber

The United States Forest Service has been charged by Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, with the responsibility of helping develop the guayule rubber production in this country, it is disclosed at local offices of the service.

The guayule plant from which this rubber comes is a native of Mexico and the southwest. Launching of the new industry is to be in the

Salinas Valley of California, where the Inter-continental Rubber Company plant is being negotiated for by the Department of Agriculture. Federal purchase of the property is not to exceed \$2,000,000, according to stipulation of Secretary Wickard.

Maj. Evan W. Kelley, regional forester from Montana, has been detailed to take charge of the project. A 750-acre seed bed is to be planted and it is estimated that approximately 75,000 acres of guayule will be planted in California and the Southwestern states before April 1, 1943.

The President has authorized the Department of Agriculture to plant guayule anywhere in the Western Hemisphere areas where soil and temperature will permit success.

Each acre planted to improved strains of guayule seedlings will produce approximately 350 pounds of rubber per year, according to nurserymen. Two-year-old plants will produce 700 pounds and four-year-olds, 1400 pounds.

Carmel Gymbal (Calif.)
March 20, 1942
p. 3

Dr. MacDougal, What Next—Now It's Guayule

You know, it occurs to us every once in a while that Carmel doesn't know its strength.

Take this Dr. Daniel T. MacDougal person who lives and breathes in our midst. The things that man knows—AND the things he's done! Remarkable.

What do you think now? There slipped in under our door, or over the transom, some sketchy, second-hand information about how it was MacDougal, in his Desert Laboratory at Tucson, Ariz., which he runs for the Carnegie Institute, as he did the coastal one at Carmel, who directed the first experiments on this Guayule you hear so much about as a rubber source.

And when the government officials recently wanted to learn more about the possible rubber producer it was to Dr. MacDougal they came to find out what scientists they could get to go into it for them.

We can't give you all the details because MacDougal is up in Berkeley this week telling some people things they didn't know about something, but we can say this: that on April 20 he's going to talk to some sort of a library convention at Del Monte about Guayule.

Quite a bird—this MacDougal!

Hayward Review
March 16, 1942
p. 1

Rubber Seed Need From Old Mexico

SALINAS.—Four United States Senators of the Truman Committee declared after a hearing here Sunday that the guayule plant is a proved source of limitless rubber, and promised to speed guayule planting when they return to Washington.

Told by Salinas rubber experts that a shortage of seed makes widespread planting impossible now, the Senators said that upon returning to Washington they will urge the purchase of seed in thousands of tons of northern Mexico.

Pasadena Post
March 16, 1942
p. 1

GUAYULE RUBBER PLAN PROBED

SALINAS, March 15. (U.P.) — The Truman Senate sub-committee on war production today investigated possibility of early large scale production of Guayule rubber to help alleviate the nation's rubber shortage.

Guayule, a small bush of Mexican origin, has been grown on a moderate scale in the Salinas Valley and elsewhere in the western states for several years. It has a fairly high rubber content.

Gilroy Dispatch .
March 12, 1942
p. 1

GUAYULE AID FROM EAST

MILWAUKEE (U.P.) — Regional Forester J. H. Price announced today seven experts from the north central U. S. forest service would be sent to California to aid in an emergency project for cultivation of guayule as a source of rubber. In addition to personnel, the north central region will supply all of its spare equipment for the project. Miles of snow fence will protect the guayule from drifting sand.

Salt Lake Tribune
March 8, 1942
p. A13

Wickard Speeds Guayule Program

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Wickard ordered the forest service and the bureau of plant industry Saturday to proceed with a program for production of guayule rubber, but made clear that no substantial amounts of rubber could be obtained in the near future.

He said the guayule project would be confined this year to test plantings in California, New Mexico, Arizona and Mexico.

The forest service has selected one of its regional foresters, Evan W. Kelley of Missoula, Mont., as field director, and Paul Roberts, director of the prairie states forestry project, as associate director of the guayule program.

President Signs Bill for Guayule Rubber Planting

Olson, Downey To Attend Dinner At Salinas Tonight

President Roosevelt today signed Congressman John Z. Anderson's re-worded guayule rubber bill calling for the planting of 75,000 acres of guayule plants in the western hemisphere, with good prospects of some of that planting being done within 25 miles of Gilroy.

State director of agriculture, W. J. Cecil today declared that federal assistance in development of guayule planting may eventually lead to a "formidable western hemisphere source of crude rubber, but no results of military or industrial consequence can be expected for several years."

Meanwhile, in Salinas, home of the plan to plant guayule rubber, ground was being broken for a guayule seed germinating plant. Governor Culbert L. Olson and Senator Sheridan Downey were on hand to help in the ground-breaking and to take an active part in a banquet planned for this evening.

Chances for Gilroy and the Santa Clara valley area to get some of the plant remain indefinite. United Press check-up in Sacramento today revealed no knowledge of where the planting would be done.

Early talk of guayule planting spread the idea that land along the eastern foothills might be used for growing guayule. Land needed for growing guayule does not have to be well irrigated. Normal period before the plant can be expected to produce full crops is about four years.

Salt Lake Tribune
March 4, 1942
p. 9

Expert Starts Survey of Guayule Sites

TUCSON, Ariz., March 3 (P)—Selection of sites between California and the Rio Grande river in Texas for the planting of 75,000 acres of rubber-producing guayule will be made by Dr. William G. McGinnies, connected with the southwestern forest and range experiment station here since 1938.

His appointment was announced Tuesday by Arthur T. Upson, director of the station, who said Dr. McGinnies had been loaned to the U. S. forest service to work on the guayule project. Dr. McGinnies has gone to Texas to begin work. He will move westward, selecting sites in New Mexico, Arizona and California.

Spokesman-Review (Spokane)
March 1, 1942
p. 13

GUAYULE RUBBER PLAN SENT TO WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28. (P)—Broadened to meet a presidential objection which brought an earlier veto, legislation to authorize the department of agriculture to develop guayule rubber was approved by the house today and sent to the White House.

DOUBTS ITS WORTH.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Feb. 28. (P)—John L. Collyer, president of the B. F. Goodrich company, said today synthetic rubber—not the guayule shrub or amazon trees—is the solution to the nation's rubber problem.

"It would be four or five years before we could get any rubber from guayule," Collyer added. "The most we could get from wild rubber trees in the Amazon would be 25,000 tons, compared with 765,000 tons of Far Eastern rubber used last year."

Collyer, who advocated large-scale synthetic rubber production two years ago, said Germany "now is moving on tires with 75 per cent synthetic rubber."

Tacoma News Tribune (Sunday Ledger)
March 1, 1942
p. A-15

REVISED LAW ON GUAYULE RUBBER PASSED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—~~P~~—Broadened to meet a presidential objection which brought an earlier veto, legislation to authorize the Department of Agriculture to develop Guayule rubber was approved by the House today and sent to the White House.

It allows the department to plant and develop up to 75,000 acres of the rubber-bearing plant in the western hemisphere and to purchase at a cost not exceeding \$2,000,000 properties in California of the Intercontinental Rubber company, which has been experimenting with Guayule for many years.

As originally passed and vetoed, the bill limited the development program to the United States.

Tribune-Herald (Casper, Wyo.)
March 1, 1942

Guayule Rubber Bill Passed Anew

WASHINGTON, Feb. 28.—(AP)—Broadened to meet a presidential objection which brought an earlier veto, legislation to authorize the department of agriculture to develop guayule rubber was approved by the house today and sent to the Whitehouse.

It allows the department to plant and develop up to 75,000 acres of the rubber-bearing plant in the western hemisphere.

Cultivation of Guayule Shrub Would Provide Quickest and Most Economical Domestic Supply of Rubber

For many years this country has been dependent almost entirely on the Far East for rubber. Of the 650,000 long tons of crude rubber consumed in the United States in 1940, approximately 98 per cent came from that area. United States imports of crude rubber, chiefly Hevea rubber, amounted in 1940 to 818,000 long tons valued at \$318,000,000.

The crude rubber plantations of the Far East have been, and are, dominated by a powerful rubber monopoly.

This monopoly has been so powerful that it has been able to suppress crude rubber production in the United States and Mexico. Even now when there is a serious danger of rubber shortage the representatives of the rubber monopoly are trying to block all efforts for crude rubber production here in our own country.

There are several ways in which a shortage in our rubber supply could be relieved. These include:

1. Increased production of crude rubber in Latin America and increased importation from that source.

2. Increased reclaiming of used rubber.

3. Increased production of synthetic and of guayule rubber in the United States.

The possibilities of increasing the production of crude rubber in Latin America have been discussed by those who know their rubber. It is pointed out that, since it requires more than seven years to bring rubber trees into bearing, it will be useless in the present emergency, and our rubber needs could not be met by increased production in Latin America in less than seven years.

Large quantities of reclaimed rubber are already being produced. However, natural rubber cannot be reclaimed repeatedly without marked deterioration in quality. A drastic shortage of imports for any considerable length of time could not be relieved by reclaiming.

The total capacity of synthetic rubber at the end of 1941 was only about 20,000 long tons. The total cost of constructing plants, including plants for supplying the required component materials, to produce 100,000 long tons of synthetic rubber annually would be about \$100,000,000, and the construction would take considerable time, especially since it would require large quantities of materials of which shortages exist.

Guayule Rubber

Rubber is produced from the guayule shrub, which can be grown in semi-arid regions of the Southwestern United States, including Utah. The plant can be harvested within one year after planting, but it is more economical to let it continue to grow for several years. A shortage of seed limits the rapidity with which guayule production could be increased for about a year.

This writer knows something about guayule. He spent several years in Mexico, where he saw plenty of it growing wild on the deserts. And, he can say truthfully that guayule rubber cultivation would provide for our country the quickest and most economical domestic supply for all the rubber needs of this country.

Probably about \$20,000,000 of capital invested would be required for every 100,000 long tons of annual productive capacity of guayule rubber.

A Desert Shrub

Guayule is a rubber-producing, desert shrub which is a native to State of Sonora, and other States in North Central Mexico and the Big Bend area of Texas.

In 1912, the year this writer last visited Mexico, that country produced 10,000 long tons of guayule rubber. After 1912, because of the Mexican revolution and the activities of the world rubber monopoly the Mexican output declined, and in 1940 amounted to about 4000 long tons. Production facilities are now being increased and production in 1941 was over 7000 long tons.

The entire Mexican production is from wild guayule, and the output is now restricted by the Mexican government in order to prevent extinction of the shrub. Most of the guayule rubber produced in Mexico is shipped to the United States.

Planting is Easy

For the past few years, the Intercontinental Rubber company, whose principal business is producing rubber in the Far East and importing rubber, has cultivated guayule at its experiment station near Salinas, California, and at scattered points in Arizona and Texas. The company has about 1000 acres under cultivation in Salinas Valley, California, where it produced about 225 long tons of rubber in 1940. After extensive tests the firm has selected high-yielding, disease resistant strains of guayule.

Also, this company has devised special machinery for planting, cultivating, and harvesting the

(Continued on page 2)

guayule shrub. One machine with a crew of 14 men plants 15 acres in one day of 10 hours, 8000 plants to the acre.

Needs Little Cultivation

Guayule requires little cultivation and an annual rainfall of only 6 to 12 inches, depending upon soil and climate. The climatic and soil conditions of Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, and the Big Bend section of Texas, are suited to guayule cultivation.

The guayule shrub may be harvested at any time between the ages of 1 and 30 years, the general and most profitable practice being to harvest it at four years.

If for any reason it is desired not to harvest the plant after four years, it may be left in the ground and in that way serve as a continually increasing reserve supply of rubber until the plant is 10 years of age. After growing for 10 years, guayule has a tendency to become gnarled. The shrub may be left in the ground for an additional 20 years but without any increase in rubber content.

The entire shrub is taken from the ground at the time of harvest and by a mechanical process the rubber is removed from the roots, stem, and large branches.

The cost of producing guayule rubber depends upon the age at which the plant is harvested. Starting with a cost of about 80 cents per pound of rubber when the plant is harvested at one year, the cost decreases for every year that the plant is in the ground until it is seven years of age. After seven years the carrying charges, principally interest on investment, exceed the income value.

It appears that when the plant is harvested at the age of four years guayule rubber may be produced at a cost of 15 to 19 cents a pound, including the cost of land rental, preparing the land for planting, and all other costs incidental to producing the rubber.

(Over)

Guayule rubber has a resin content of about 20 per cent. For this reason undersinated guayule rubber is suitable only for blending with Hevea rubber or for friction stock (for use in manufacturing tire fabric plies, transmission belts, friction tape, etc.). It is especially suited to use in rubberizing tire fabric plies, the production of which is very large.

J. H. Doering of the Firestone Tire and Rubber company has written the most authoritative article on the use of undersinated guayule rubber. After consider-

able testing, Mr. Doering found that tires made from undersinated guayule rubber give a mileage 60 per cent as great as tires made from Hevea ribbed smoked sheet No. 1.

Deresinated Guayule

However, when guayule rubber is deresinated it is of the same quality as the lower grades of Hevea rubber and can be used interchangeably with them. It is softer than Hevea ribbed smoked sheet No. 1.

Practically all the large tire manufacturing companies have tested deresinated guayule rubber, and it is reported that tires made from it give approximately 95 per cent of the mileage given by tires made from Hevea ribbed smoked sheet No. 1.

It appears that if substantial quantities of guayule rubber were deresinated, the cost of deresinating would not exceed one cent a pound. The solvent used in the process can be used several times, and the resins recovered could be sold.

Shortage of Material

A shortage of planting material limits the quantity of rubber which could be produced from guayule in the next year or two. If all the seeds available were planted immediately, there would be only enough seedlings to plant 75,000 acres of guayule shrubs in the spring of 1942.

If 75,000 acres were planted in 1942 and harvested in 1943, they would yield a total of only 3000 long tons of deresinated rubber; if the 75,000 acres were not harvested until 1944, they would yield approximately 10,800 long tons. If harvested in 1946, they would yield about 42,600 long tons.

Next year, 1943, there could be made available sufficient seedlings to plant 900,000 acres. This acreage might yield 30,000 long tons if harvested in 1944; 108,000 long tons if harvested in 1945; or 426,000 long tons if harvested in 1947. Further plantings would be possible in 1944 and subsequent years.

There could be made available in 1944 sufficient seedlings to plant at least 4,500,000 acres. Theoretically, this acreage might yield 150,000 long tons if harvested in 1945; 540,000 long tons if harvested in 1946; or 2,130,000 long tons if harvested in 1948. For comparative purposes, about 9,000,000 acres are planted in cotton in Texas.

(And for comparative purposes, about 650,000 long tons of crude rubber were consumed in 1940 in the United States.)

Guayule Is Practical

The production of guayule rubber would utilize land and migrant

labor not now employed.

Also, its production would not require, as in the case of synthetic rubber, large quantities of steel, chemicals, and chemical equipment, the demands for which are taxing the productive capacity of American factories.

This writer some 10 years ago in this paper urged cultivation of guayule rubber in this country in order to avoid future calamities and to free the American rubber consumers from the clutches of world-wide rubber monopoly.

This advice was not heeded because it came from just a humble layman, and not from a representative of the rubber monopoly or some big politician.

Had the country taken the advice of a plain citizen 10 years ago, today we would not be suffering from shortage of imported rubber from the Far East, which is now in the war zone, and indications are that most of the rubber trees there will be destroyed before this terrible war is finished.

The powers that be in Utah, right now, should be busy in planning and seeing to it that at least 10,000 acres of guayule rubber shrub are planted in this state in April, 1942.

Rocky Mountain News
December 29, 1941
p. 3

WASHINGTON CALLING

by Scripps Howard Newspaper Alliance

A Weekly Size-Up of Capital News

Look for new guayule rubber industry to be located in Rocky Mountain states. Plants won't mature for four or five years; new mood of caution makes officials hesitate to take chances on coastal area.

Congressional action on guayule due early in new year.

Burning of Malayan rubber trees makes it certain rubber shortage will last a long time; may mean permanent transfer of industry to Western Hemisphere.