

Bentonite Boom Should

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State House Reporter

CHEYENNE — Lovell, Greybull, Basin and Worland should feel most of the impact resulting from growth in the bentonite industry.

Kaycee and possibly Casper and Buffalo may also benefit. About 20 per cent of the quality bentonite reserves are located in the area around Kaycee.

The growth will not be a spectacular one, however, according to a mineral

industries forecast by Cameron Engineers of Denver.

The forecast warns that the state's bentonite deposits face depletion by the year 2000, but this will leave those controlling the sizable deposits in an excellent market position.

The study predicts the state will have 14 bentonite plants employing 500 persons in 2020, compared to 11 plants with 295 employees in 1967.

Belle Fourche, S.D. will probably get much of the

population benefit from Wyoming bentonite growth, however, since the city is located only 20 miles from the Colony deposits.

Uranium

Wyoming, now only second to New Mexico in uranium production may move to first place soon due to the nature of the state's deposits and ore reserves, the report states.

During the next 30 years, uranium production will surpass petroleum production in value. But by the year 2000, both

Industry Predictions for 2020

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