

## BENTONITE PROCESSING FACTORY TO BE BUILT

Hardin, March 7.—(Special)—T. N. Mayfield of Mansfield, Wash., lessee of 960 acres of land on Dry Soap creek, about 40 miles south of Hardin in which there is an estimated more than 3,000,000 tons of high grade bentonite, together with B. M. Mayfield, a brother and J. A. Cross, Monday announced their decision to construct a factory at Hardin at once to process their product. This bentonite deposit is located on the Crow Indian reservation and is Crow tribal property.

These men, together with R. G. Diefenderfer, Sheridan, Wyo., attorney, Walter Mumper also of Sheridan, and H. M. Simmons of Lodge Grass comprise the group which will undertake the development of the new industry.

Construction work is to start at once on the factory, which it is hoped to have in operation within 60 days. Besides 20 men steadily employed at the factory, several truckers will be required to transport the bentonite from the field to the factory at Hardin.

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This is the first development of any product other than agricultural which will bring in a revenue to the Crow tribe. It is estimated that there will be processed about 240 tons of bentonite daily, which will mean to the Indians a revenue in the neighborhood of \$36 a day, or in excess of \$13,000 annually.

It is stated that there is enough bentonite now located to supply this plant for over 50 years.

Bentonite has the distinction of having over 1,000 uses.

## Wyola Bentonite Plant Started

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