

further north there is what is known as Soda Lake in which there are immense beds of crystalline soda and on the shores of this lake pure spring water comes up in large quantities, so that the salts there are not derived from any deep springs, but must come from surface water.

The cement work has already been described and touched on. It is to be observed that the California cement industry is rather a leader in the potash recovery problem and that one of our members is connected with each of those plants that are prominent in that line.

Of the Utah alunite deposits something has been said and I can say nothing further.

The bitterns of the ocean water have been treated for potash at two salt works around San Francisco Bay where about 500 tons of salt daily is made.

Of the bitterns of the Salt Lake I might say that roughly speaking the great Salt Lake contains about 22 per cent of salt and a half of one per cent of potash, estimated as K_2O . The salt works evaporate off the salt in the summer during the dry season and towards fall have a large amount of bitterns containing about 2 per cent of potash. This is the substance which is being utilized at two plants, one owned by the Diamond Match Company and the other by the Utah Chemical Company. I am sorry Dr. Wesson has left, because he could give us some pretty good information about the Utah Chemical Company, and I am rather reticent in saying very much about it while he is not here, but it is merely a question of evaporating down this bitterns to crystallize out a rather crude potassium salt which is suitable for fertilizers, and that is the only thing that is desired, so that no further work is done at the present time, particularly at the Utah Salt Company, than to evaporate down the bitterns and eliminate a large quantity of salt in the salt boxes while the water is hot, and when they cool down a very large proportion of potash salts come out not containing much more than 15 to 20 per cent of K_2O . But this is very satisfactory at the present time as fertilizer.

As the Nebraska deposits have been touched on, I cannot say anything more, because we have men here who know a great deal more about it than I do, but I want to refer to Searles Lake, and in this connection we have a visitor here with us, Mr. Walter L. Jordan, who has slept out in the desert on the shores of Searles Lake for a long time and perhaps he can say a few words to us as to the actual