

useless. Later, he established a salt company which used solar evaporation of Bay water. John Stauffer was a pioneer of recycling.

In Richmond, in 1897, a chamber plant was built for the manufacture of sulfuric acid. This was replaced in 1919 by a contact plant which operated on pyrites from Stauffer's own mines in the East Bay. From 1906 to 1970, superphosphate was produced in Richmond using sulfuric acid produced on site and phosphate rock from Wyoming. Until the late 1920's, muriatic and nitric acid were produced at Richmond.

Over the years, many Stauffer products were made at the Richmond Plant including aluminum sulfate, ferric sulfate, carbon bisulfide and titanium trichloride. In 1960, the Agricultural Formulating Plant was moved to Richmond from another location where it had operated since 1906. Stauffer's Agricultural Chemical Division produced Devrinol, Vapam and Ordram at the Richmond Plant.

In 1985, Stauffer Chemical was acquired by Chesebrough Ponds. In



*Plant employees in 1931.*

1986, Chesebrough Ponds was acquired by Unilever and Stauffer Chemical was broken up. In 1987, ICI acquired the "old Stauffer" Ag business. In 1993, Zeneca was formed by combining ICI's biosciences companies. In 1996, Zeneca sold the Vapam business to Amvac and the decision was made to close the Richmond production site down.

One hundred years have passed on this 83 acre site since John Stauffer built on his vision to turn the white

cliffs of England into American gold. Generations of people have worked here. It is with pride that this issue of Zenquirer is dedicated to the people who spent so many years in service to the company. The 32 employees who must leave will be missed. We are grateful for what each one has done to build on Stauffer's vision. Their work during their careers has strengthened this company. **We thank them and wish the best for every one in the future.**



*Some of Stauffers products in 1948.*