

4 DEC 1953

## Fund Drive For New Tractor Plant Gets \$40,300 Pledge

The campaign by the Keyser-Mineral County Chamber of Commerce to sell \$40,000 in notes to help finance the construction of a new factory building for the Tiger Tractor Co. has apparently reached its goal, it was announced today, by J. Paul Blundon, chairman of the Chamber's industrial finance committee.

Blundon said that, as of this morning, \$40,300 had been pledged, and that still more persons were expected to purchase notes. The campaign is not scheduled to close until Monday, Dec. 7, and notes may be purchased until that time at either of Keyser's two banks.

The money raised through the sale of the \$100 denomination notes, bearing five per cent interest, will be added to \$10,000 posted by Tiger Tractor to construct the concrete block building 60 by 120 feet on a lot between F and G Sts. next to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

Work on the structure is expected to start about March 1, or earlier if the weather permits. The completion date is set for July 1.

The notes will be retired by the payment of approximately \$6,000 rental annually by Tiger Tractor to "Keyser Industry, Inc." The notes will be retired semi-annually by lot.

In commenting on the success of the drive this morning, John F. Somerville, Jr., president of Tiger Tractor Co., said: "This campaign shows outstanding community spirit of the people of Keyser in general and the Chamber of Commerce in particular. All who took part in it deserve the highest praise.

"The Chamber of Commerce deserves particular praise, not only for this campaign, but for the work the Chamber has done in the past three years to promote industry here. The effort put forth and the successes realized are not fully appreciated.

"Only through such active participation by the Chamber of Commerce and the public can such a success be achieved," Somerville concluded. "Now Tiger Tractor can continue to grow with Keyser."