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DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS Tozier - Interior 4306

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NEW PLANT PROVIDING TWO HUNDRED JOBS TO BE LOCATED ON CHEROKEE INDIAN RESERVATION IN NORTH CAROLINA

The Department of the Interior today announced the completion of arrangements for the establishment of a new industrial plant on the Cherokee Indian Reservation in western North Carolina that will provide about 200 jobs, mainly for Indian workers.

The plant will be operated by the Vassar Corporation of New York City, a manufacturer of hair curlers and other cosmetic aids to hair styling. To house it, the Eastern Band of Cherokees will construct a $250,000 building with about 50,000 square feet of floor space and will make both the building and necessary equipment available to the Corporation under a 25-year lease.

To finance the enterprise, $29,000 was provided by Jackson County Industries, a local industrial development organization, and other funds will be furnished by the Cherokee Band.

As part of its program to promote greater economic development and fuller job opportunities on Indian reservations, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has agreed to compensate the Corporation for providing on-the-job training to Indian workers in the plant.

Construction of the plant is expected to begin shortly.

This is the third manufacturing plant to be established on the North Carolina Cherokee Reservation under the industrial development program of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The earlier two, a quilting plant and a leather working establishment, are currently providing employment for about 225 Cherokee workers.

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