

sherm--

background stuff on Kickapoo.

Baldrige is out of town. Ardie Moore says plant has not closed (Carl Wallace says they started laying off Monday). Ardie said she may know Monday whether ~~Sam~~ Phil Sawin, Madison, the majority owner, has made a deal with some national company to ~~it~~ take it over. Baldrige himself isn't expected back until after the 20th.

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Carl says (not for direct quotation) that Sawin has the property up for sale. Some local interests considered it but decided against. Rough competition in the field from big national co.'s is reportedly the major reason for the decision by Sawin to pull out. They had a retrenchment in personnel about a year ago. Hillsboro plant, Carl says, is also closing.

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Building is on E. Wayne St. in Town of Hull, on land which I think is leased from the Soo Line.

Carl says they employed about 10 year-around, and about 25 during processing months--spring through late summer. They made "Kickapoo-Badger Brand Fertilizers" and the corporate name is Midwestern Farm Fertilizers Inc.