



BIG SANDY NEWS.



Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FEBRUARY 16, 1912.

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OUR OIL FIELD.

Two Wells to be Completed Saturday.

Lease Executed by the County on the Poor House Farm to Huntington Parties.

The Reuben Fork and Cochran wells southwest of Louisa are ready to be drilled in. Work was suspended a few days ago to close up the stock transactions, and to notify stockholders who wanted to be present when the wells were completed. Drilling will be resumed Friday morning of this week and should be completed on Saturday morning if no accidents occur. The formations in the wells is reported to be entirely regular and much confidence is shown by the projectors in the outcome.

The commissioners appointed by the fiscal court of Lawrence county have leased the infirmity farm to Caldwell and York for \$1045 bonus and one-eighth of the oil, with provisions for a cash forfeit if wells are not drilled within specified time.

Work on the Busseyville company well on the land of Mrs. Betty Pigg was delayed a few days by an accident to the boiler, but drilling is again under way.

Several other wells will be started in the next few weeks.

Market for Oil.
One very important point in the local oil field is the price they are to receive for the oil.

The grade obtained here from the Berea grit is the same as Pennsylvania and is worth at this time \$1.50 per barrel. Judging from the usual practice in cases where the owners of the wells are at the mercy of the pipe line people, we would get only 82 cents per barrel.

The accessibility of the Lawrence county oil field makes it unnecessary to sell the oil at such a sacrifice, and this warning is thrown out so that local people may not enter blindly into any contract that will bind them to sell their oil for less than its worth.

Kentucky Oil Fields.
(Manufacturers' Record.)
Barbourville, Ky., January 29.
Advancing prices are causing a rapid expansion of the Kentucky petroleum industry, and since the first of the year a large number of new companies have entered the field and have arranged to drill on a large scale.

The crude-oil market has shown three advances during the past two months, and quotations on Kentucky product are now the highest in three years, the better grade commanding 81 cents per barrel. The three successive advances have brought the figures up from 72 cents per barrel, the prevailing quotations two months ago.

The industry is especially expanding in the eastern section of the State, where the development of new holdings has been carried on with unusually successful results, a large area of heretofore untried territory has been opened for further developments in the Big Sandy River Valley, near the West Virginia border, the discovery of a deep oil-bearing sand in that direction awakening the trade to a consideration of the possibilities of that, the newest field of the Blue-grass State.

At a depth of 1100 feet, sand has been opened which experts pronounce identical to the well-known oil formation, which has been so widely developed in West Virginia and which yields a large amount of high-grade oil. Sixteen wells have

been drilled into this formation in Lawrence county, Kentucky, and most of them have developed into good producers, the showing being so encouraging that the Cumberland Pipe Line Co., which handles the State's crude-oil production, has decided to extend pipe lines into the new district. A branch line will shortly be extended into the Lawrence county pool from the main extension which enters Kentucky from West Virginia. About a dozen companies have now entered the new pool, and it will constitute one of the most active spots in the Kentucky petroleum districts during the ensuing few months.

The industry has also shown a marked improvement in the lower end of the State since the first of the year. The older pools are being subjected to additional punctures, and a few operators have lately entered untried fields and will do much prospecting during the remainder of the winter season. New York operators have leased extensively in Cumberland county and will shortly begin the drilling of a number of new wells. This work will be watched with much interest by the trade in general, as it is in an entirely new direction, and may lead to the proving of a profitable extension to lower Kentucky's oil-producing district.

A resume of developments for 1911 show that a total of 126 completions were made in this county under development yielding an aggregate new production of 1822 barrels. Of this number, 24 completions were non-producers, while three of the number were gas wells. The total yield from all the wells of the State approximates 600,000 barrels. This showing is about on a par with that of the preceding year. The petroleum production came from a widely scattered area, the counties figuring in results for the year, including Wayne, Floyd, Wolfe, Mingo, Logan, Hopkins, Boyd, Knott, Lawrence, Henderson, Breckinridge, Hancock and Ohio. Of these Wayne county leads in activity, contributing the greater part of the new production.

In addition to the developments in these counties, a large amount of work was accomplished in other sections, in counties in the infancy of development, and marked gains resulted from this new work. As a result of the activity of prospectors a number of new fields were tried out, and may be possible sources of new production, with the further developments which the ensuing year will bring.

The new developments in Eastern Kentucky resulted from the past year's test work, and these will figure extensively in the yield in 1912. It is placing the industry on a more profitable scale, and from present indications the record of operations during 1912 will greatly exceed that of the past year.

W. B. HUDSON.

KILLED TWO MEN.

Pike County Officer Shoots Parties Resisting Arrest.

Louis Hall and his son Morgan were killed at Millard Burke's store, Shelby Gap, Pike county, by Constable George Johnson, who had a warrant for Morgan's arrest. They resisted and the officer shot both, killing them instantly. The charge was illicit liquor selling. Louis Hall was 53 years old and had a bad record. He killed three men named Steel on Tag about ten years ago in a fight over whiskey.

BYINGTON-CRAVEN.

On Wednesday afternoon, February 14, at the home of the bride's parents, Miss Willie Maude Byington was married to Mr. William Arthur Craven, of Merrimac, Pike county, Ky. The Rev. J. W. Critton, pastor of the M. E. Church South, performed the ceremony. The bride is the oldest daughter of Prof. and Mrs. W. M. Byington of this city, and the groom is the superintendent of the mines at Merrimac. The mother of the groom, Mrs. Jas. Craven, of Dayton, O., attended the wedding. Mr. and Mrs. Craven left for Merrimac shortly after the ceremony.

Is With Large Concern.

Messrs. Bralid & Hutton, who are now preparing the first floor of their building on the corner of Bryan and Whitaker streets, for the inauguration of stationary business hope to have it ready for occupancy in about two weeks time.

Mr. W. E. Eldridge, of Ashland, Ky., who is to have charge of the stationary department reached the city this morning and will give his personal attention to the placing of the fixtures and the stock.

With the addition of the line of stationery, Bralid & Hutton will occupy the entire block in which their business has been located since the company has formed. The company is now the only occupant of this block, extending for two floors with a frontage of 129 by 96 feet.

The Ashland Independent says of the departure of Mr. Eldridge for Savannah:

"Ashland loses valuable citizens when Mr. and Mrs. Eldridge leave here, where they have so many warm friends. Mrs. Eldridge is an enthusiastic member of the Woman's Club and she will be missed both socially and in church work. Mr. Eldridge leaves here about the 25th of the month, while Mrs. Eldridge and little daughter will visit relatives in Ohio before going to their new home in the South—Savannah (Ga.) News."

A VISIT TO CUBA

Interesting Trip Made by a Wayne County Man.

Pharoah Osborn, manager of one of the stores of the big coal company at Holden, W. Va., is visiting his father and brother at Fort Gay. He has been taking a vacation for a few weeks and most of this time was spent in a trip through the South. He visited Cuba and found it a very interesting place. He and his wife were at Jacksonville, Florida, for some time. On January 23rd Mr. Osborn went to Key West by way of the new railroad line which sent the first passenger train into that town the day before. This line is 129 miles long, 75 of which is built in the waters of the ocean and gulf on concrete arches. The remaining 54 miles in on small islands or keys scattered along the route. It is considered the greatest engineering feat yet accomplished in this country. Henry M. Flagler, age 84 years, conceived the great scheme and put into it the millions he made as a Standard Oil company stockholder. The cost of the road was \$150,000 per mile.

Mr. Osborn says the trains were as great a sight to many of the citizens of Key West as they are to mountain people in the remote regions, as there were numbers of them who had never seen a railroad train. Key West is a town in which cigar manufacturers are the only industries. There is but one hotel in the place and it is small. The rush of tourists eager to make the trip over this remarkable railway was so great that the town was "swamped."

From Key West to Havana is 90 miles and a line of boats is now reaping a rich harvest at \$21 per passenger for the round trip.

At the time referred to the thermometers here were having a hard time registering anything above zero in Southern Florida and in Cuba was mid-summer temperature. Mr. Osborn said many of the tourists bought light clothing, straw hats and low cut shoes in Havana, in order to be comfortable while there if only for a few days. The ocean breezes encountered on the steamer are described as most delightfully welcome upon leaving hot Havana.

Mr. Osborn saw tropical fruits of all kinds growing in Cuba. Tobacco in all stages of growth was seen, from the setting of the young plants to the cutting of the ripe stalk.

Florida is all right to visit in winter for pleasure, but Mr. Osborn says it is a poor country to locate in, and warns the people against investing in lands there. Extensive advertising of worthless lands has been done lately and thousands of people have been caught. In one of these sections that he saw it requires \$65 worth of fertilizer per acre each year to make the land produce.

HUGHES--SMITH.

Elaborate Wedding at Huntington Last Week.

One of the most beautiful and elaborate weddings that has taken place in southern West Virginia for a long time was the one that was solemnized at the Christian Church in Huntington on the evening of February 8, at 8 o'clock. It was given that Miss Eloise Hughes, the charming daughter of Congressman and Mrs. James A. Hughes, became the bride of Mr. Lucian Phillip Smith, a member of one of Morgantown's most prominent families.

The church was filled to overflowing with admiring friends of both bride and groom and the decorations were most tasteful and beautiful. The ceremony was extremely impressive, the ring ritual being performed by Rev. Dee St. John, pastor of the West Moreland Christian church.

The bride entered the church on the arm of her father and was met at the altar by the groom and his best man, Mr. James Smith, of Dawson, Pa.

The bride's gown was a white-satin of great beauty, richly ornamented with rose point lace, and a court train three yards in length. The filmy bridal veil was gracefully draped.

The attendants were: Mrs. Donald Clark, of West Moreland; Mrs. Frank M. Seamon, of Uniontown, Pa., matrons of honor; Misses Mary Lenn Cassell, of Lexington, Ky.; Ruth Campbell and Louise Hawkins, of Huntington; Victoria Garred, of Louisa, Ky.; Crete McClure, of Wayne, W. Va.; and Miss Wilson, of Westmoreland, were the maids, and looked charming in gowns of pink and blue messaline and carried bouquets of smilax and Killarney roses. Miss Tuddell Hughes, sister of the bride, was maid of honor and looked handsome in a gown of green messaline gracefully draped.

Immediately after the ceremony a reception and dance was held at the Frederick hotel.

Mr. and Mrs. Smith will make an extended tour of Europe—Ceredo Advance.

Dams on Elkhorn.

Work is being pushed upon a large concrete dam across Little Elkhorn, immediately above the new city of Jenkins. The dam will create a reservoir with a capacity of 65,000,000 gallons, and will supply Jenkins with water for municipal and domestic purposes. Higher up on Little Elkhorn, Goodwater dam, with a storage capacity of 1,000,000 gallons, has been completed.

CHEAPER GAS.

Effort Now On Foot to Get a 20 cent Rate.

The people of Huntington and Ashland are being supplied with gas at the net rate of twenty cents per thousand feet. The same company, the United Fuel Gas Company, is charging its citizens of Louisa twenty-five cents net. This is being done in violation of the spirit and intent of the charter granted to this company by the City of Louisa, and in direct violation of the contract made with Mr. Alexander Lackey for right of way through his farm.

We called attention to this matter two or three times last summer, but nothing was done until the recent council meeting, when M. S. Burns was appointed to bring suit against the company. He has already taken up the subject with the officials and has received certain assurances which encourage the belief that the matter will be adjusted without suit.

Louisa is certainly entitled to the privilege of buying gas under the same proposition that is offered to other towns on the line, but the gas company will not make the concession until forced to do so.

Close of the Meeting.

The series of meetings which began at the Baptist church February 4th closed on Tuesday night. The services were conducted by the Rev. Harmon Holcomb, assisted by Mrs. and Mrs. Blankenship singers, of Dallas, Texas. Much interest was manifested throughout the entire meeting, the spacious church being filled nightly. On Sunday night the building was completely filled, every inch of sitting space and standing room being occupied. Mr. Holcomb is a fine preacher, and the singing of Mrs. Blankenship was worth going a long distance to hear. Much good will no doubt result from these meetings.

Mr. Holcomb and Mr. and Mrs. Blankenship went to Catlettsburg Wednesday morning and will hold a series of services in the Baptist Church in that city.

SERIOUS OPERATION.

Mrs. Myrtle Charles, of Inez, is in Riverview hospital recovering nicely after a serious operation to which she submitted a few days ago. The operation was the removal of a cystic tumor which weighed 40 pounds, and was performed by Dr. A. H. York, assisted by Drs. Bromley and Wellman. The patient is a small woman, weighing about 90 pounds, and is 23 years old.

FRED O'BRIEN DEAD.

Prominent Citizen of Williamson Passes Away.

Mr. Fred W. O'Brien, reared in this city, who had a large number of admiring friends in this community, passed from this life to his eternal rest on last Saturday night. He has taken a prominent part in the every day events of this city and section for many years. He has edited a newspaper in this city for a long time and has held positions of trust in other capacities with care and credit. His unexpected death was a surprise to most of our people and it was very sad, indeed, that one just in the prime of manhood should be taken from family and friends. He was a young man of kindly disposition and a true friend to all with whom he came in contact. Reserved in manner, he was always pleasing and courteous to all. No one thought that he was lingering in the shadow of death or even failing in health, and his sudden passing away has shown how uncertain is the lease of life. His funeral was attended by a large number of our citizens and many of his relatives were present at the funeral to pay their last respects.

The mysteries of Providence we cannot fathom and it is with the deepest regret that we chronicle this sad death of our young townsman, who had so much promise before him. He leaves a wife and one child and many sorrowing relatives to mourn his untimely death. To all of them, and friends alike, we extend our sympathies and condolence. May his ashes rest in peace and his spirit exist in a happier and better sphere.—Williamson Enterprise.

GIVE US BETTER SERVICE.

The NEWS very rarely complains, but it seems to us that the menace to property and health that is facing Louisa so frequently of late demands some notice. We refer to the waterworks situation. The town is paying to the water company more of the money collected in taxes than for anything else. The dangers of fire and disease and the great inconvenience to citizens depending upon the waterworks are of such importance that the company should provide better facilities for keeping a constant supply of water. One engine is not sufficient to depend upon for pumping. There should be two engines and pumps so that in case of a break-down in one, the other could be put into use immediately. As it now stands we must do without water for days when a break occurs.

The public school was compelled to dismiss yesterday because of the failure of the water supply.

Joe Pickett, who has typhoid fever, is getting better.

FOR BURGLARY.

Two Young Men Arrested for Robbing Louisa Furniture Co.

Tinker Pigg and Frank Justice, both of this place, are in the Lawrence county jail awaiting a trial for robbery. Pigg was arrested at his home last Tuesday morning, and Justice was arrested on the Fort Gay end of the bridge on Wednesday. Both are charged with breaking into the store of the Louisa Furniture Co., and taking therefrom a large quantity of miscellaneous goods, consisting of cloaks, wraps, hats, skirts, furs, shoes and men's clothing.

The store was broken into on last Monday night, and the burglary was made known when the salesman opened for business Tuesday morning. Things inside the store were in disorder, and it took very few minutes to get on the trail. Goods were scattered on the street in the vicinity of the building, and it was soon discovered that the room where the men's clothing is kept had also been broken into and robbed. Search for the stolen property led to the discovery of a huge pile of miscellaneous articles under the barn of Queen and Holt, all the property of the Louisa Furniture Co.

Stephen fell upon Tinker Pigg as being one of the guilty parties and he was at once arrested and later lodged in jail. When he was arrested and searched it was found that all the clothes he had on bore the mark of Louisa Furniture Co. Upon his person were also found a brand new pair of shoes and about a double handful of change.

It was suspected that something directly connected with the robbery might be found in Fort Gay, and search was made of the house occupied there by Frank Justice, who had married in that town. The results justified the suspicion, as a large amount of the Furniture Company's goods was found and brought to Louisa.

This sort of depredation has been going on in Louisa for some time. Dixon, Moore & Co. have lost quite an amount of goods, entrance to their wholesale grocery having been effected by cutting through the back windows. The firm has no means of determining the amount of goods taken. It is said that goods of various kinds have been stolen here and sold in Williamson. It is also believed that the men in jail are only a part of a band of thieves who have been operating in this city for a good while. It is hoped that the arrest of Justice and Pigg may lead to the apprehension and punishment of the entire gang. This has only recently returned to Louisa after serving a time at Frankfort for the robbery of the same premises which he is charged with having burglarized last Monday night.

DIED ON THE TRAIN.

The little 5-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Curry, of Burch, Mingo county, died on the train, No. 3, N. & W. last Tuesday, just before reaching this place. The child was afflicted with appendicitis and they were en route to a Huntington hospital to have an operation performed. Dr. Burgess, of Williamson, and Dr. Burgess, of Louisa, accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Curry here.—Ceredo Advance.

TO REBUILD BIG TANNERY.

The Ashland Leather Company has accepted plans for rebuilding its tannery, previously destroyed by fire. Its new buildings will cost \$100,000. The buildings will be of fireproof construction. An unconfirmed report states that the mechanical equipment will be electrically driven by a 150-horse-power engine and a 100-kilowatt generator, and have a daily capacity of 400 cubic-leather hides.

PARADISE LOST.

Second Sermon on Paradise Lost by Dr. Hanford, at the M. E. Church. Subject: "The Peers of Hell, Parliament; Their Object and Overtory."