Los Angeles Thirty-Five Years Ago

(Continued from Page Five)

liam H. Workman, is still alive. He has been mayor of the city, and its treasurer for several terms. Where the Baker block now stands was a one-story adobe, the former home of Don Abel Stearns and then occupied by Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Baker, Mrs. Baker having been the widow of Don Abel.

The erection of the Baker block was commenced in 1875 and for years it was the finest building in Los Angeles.

The wholesale business was all done on Los Angeles street, and was largely confined to Hellman, Haas & Co., who were on the northeast corner of Los Angeles and Commercial streets, and the Newmarks, who were on the west side of Los Angeles street, a block to the south.

Over Hellman, Haas & Co.'s store were a number of rooms occupied by young unmarried business men. Among them was Mendel Meyer, a brother of Sam Meyer. Mendel was an enthusiastic violinist. Coming in one night after 12 o'clock he began to play his violin. Doors flew open and shoes, bootjacks and bric-a-brac were hurled at Mendel's door. He opened it, stuck his head into the hall and greeted his companions with: "Hey, what is the matter with you fellows? Can't a man make music in his own castle?" (A 6x 8 room.) At the corner of Los Angeles and Aliso street, where Haas, Baruch & Co. now do business, Kalisher & Wartenberg, dealers in hides, and old-timers of long standing, were located.

On Alameda street north of Aliso was Don Mateo Keller's residence and wine cellars. Juan Bernardy had similar cellars on Alameda street, but farther south.

The old court house stood where the Bullard block is situated. It housed all of the county officials on the ground floor. On the second floor were the court rooms and judges' chambers. Hon. Ygnacio Sepulveda was district judge and Hon. H. K. S. O'Melveny was county judge. Opposite the court house, on Market street, was a large wooden pavilion which was used as a place of amusement, and for dancing parties, church fairs, etc.

Where the Nadeau hotel stands there was a one-story adobe building on the street line. The rest of the lot was used as a stable and stock yard by a stage company.

Louis Roeder's wagon shop was on Spring street south of the stage station. The old jail stood where the Phillips block now is. On Spring street, opposite Temple block, Ben Truman conducted the Daily Star, in a one-story adobe. Yarnell & Castyle had a job printing office in the Downey block on Temple street, where they also got out the Mirror, a weekly temperance publication. Out of this paper evolved the Los Angeles Times. Billings & Smith had a livery stable where the county jail and the adjoining building east of it are now located. Opposite this stable in the corner of the present county court house lot, was a small brick Episcopal church. The high school was on top of the hill where the court house now stands.

Ferguson & Rose (L. J.) ran a large and fashionable livery stable on the west side of Main street opposite Arcadia street. Louis Lichtenberger had a wagon making shop on Main street north of First street, where a building owned by his heirs and bearing his name still stands. He afterward ran the Philadelphia brewery on Aliso street, now the Maier Brewing company. The New York brewery, founded by Chris Henne and then conducted by Phil Lauth & Co., was situated at the corner of Third and Spring streets, where the Citizens National Bank building now stands. Adjoining the brewery was a place of amusement known as the "Round house," owned by George Lehman.

Judge E. M. Ross lived in a brick house on the east side of Main street opposite Third street (Third street did not then extend east of Main street). Capt. C. E. Thom lived in the large dwelling house still standing in the rear of the Thom block at the corner of Third and Main strets. Andrew Glassell lived about where the Hoegee company's store is situated.

Governor John G. Downey lived in a brick building on the west side of Main street just north of the Van Nuys hotel. The hotel site was occupeid by the family residence of James G. Howard. I. W. Hellman was building his residence, one of the best in the city, at Fourth and Main streets, where the building of the Farmers and Merchants National bank stands.

Judge O'Melveny had a very attractive home at Second and Broadway, west side. South of his place was the residence of John M. Griffith. Next to him that of Eugene Meyer and south of him that of Harris Newmark. The block on Broadway between First and Second streets was filled with the residences of pioneer citizens. The hill section of the town was hardly occupied at all.

Between San Pedro street and between portions of Main street and the river were vineyards and orchards. Orange groves were on Main and Broadway as far north as Second street. The three principal orange groves of the city were the Wolfskill, the first one set out here, located in the neighborhood of the present Arcade depot, and the Briswalter & Childs groves, which were east of Main street at Ninth and Tenth streets.

All of the lawyers and doctors and surveyors were housed principally in the Temple and Downey blocks.

Judson & Gillette and William H. J. Brooks were the only searchers of records. John Carlin, William J. Brodrick and Fred Drakenfelt shared the insurance business of the community. Butchers and bakers were scattered here and there as they are in all towns. Fred Morsch, a good-natured German who loved a glass of beer, was the sign painter of the town. The lumber yards were all located on Alameda or San Pedro streets.

Joe Mullally burned brick for everybody, up in Sonoratown west of the present Baker Iron works. Baker & Bowers, its predecessors, were at Second and Main. Nearly all of the masonry work of the city was done by Jacob Welzel, an honest and competent brick mason.

The cathedral on Main street south of First street was in course of erection. The old Plaza church was just as it now is. John Jones and family occupied an adobe residence opposite the Plaza and nearly opposite the Plaza church.

Below Fourth street there was only an occasional house on any of the streets between Main and Figueroa. Agricultural park was in existence. Fairs and races were held there. J. S. Slauson was one of the pioneers in the Figueroa street district. So were Judge Brunson, the Longstreets, Col. J. F. Godfrey and a few others.

None of the streets of the city had been paved. A little gravel from the hills was put onto some of them. In winter the streets were a sea of mud. In summer the dust was to some extent allayed by spasmodic sprinkling.

In 1875 certainly one-half of the community was Spanish.

The sheep business was very prosperous in those days. There were many Basques engaged in it, and most of them got wealthy.

Everybody knew everybody else and the people seemed to be one great happy family. I think I can safely say that I knew every man, woman and child in Los Angeles within ninety days after I got here.

Driving was one of the great daily amusements. The well-to-do families all had their own carriages. Those who were not so fortunate patronized the livery stables.

After one got beyond the immediate city limits one found natural roads, good, except at times of heavy rains. There was not enough travel on them to make them rough or dusty. The Arroyo Seco drive was a favorite one, also a road up the river. On Sundays and holidays in the summer time, a drive to Santa Monica was the thing. The drive there in the early morning, a dip in the ocean, a dinner at Eugene's and the drive home in the cool of the afternoon, afforded one a full day's amusement and recreation. The old Sycamore grove, in the Arroyo Seco, now a city park, was a favorite picnic ground. The German, the French and the Italian residents, all fun-loving and fond of open air sports, were particularly partial to the grove. Old and young were alike entertained. Games and swings for the children, dancing and song and music for the adults, served to render many a gathering tired and happy. There was no drinking to excess; no rough or boisterous conduct. The people came together, neighbors and friends, in kindly companionship, and spent a pleasant day and evening, forgetting for the time their troubles, cares and tribulations.

If the city was small and thinly populated, what of the country?

East Los Angeles was almost unborn as yet. All of that portion of the city and much more was owned by Dr. J. S. Griffin and his nephew, Hancock Johnson. As late as 1879 the latter offered me as a gift, any block—about four and one-half acres in East Los Angeles I chose to select, if I would build a residence on it.

Beyond East Los Angeles, in the Arroyo Seco, and to the east and west of it, there were no dwellings or improvements except the dancing pavilion at the Sycamore grove and John Benner's slaughter house, where Garvanza is located. Lincoln Park was utterly vacant. The settlement of Pasadena had just commenced.

Going out of East Los Angeles, by what is known as the Adobe road, past the present settlements known as "Rose Hill" and "Bairdstown," or by the four-mile house (following the Southern Pacific railroad), the country was all open. The present sites of South Pasadena, Alhambra and Dolgeville were sheep pastures.

Oneonta Park was included in 1200 acres of land known as the "Bacon Tract" owned by H. D. Bacon. It embraced the Raymond hotel grounds and extended to Alhambra road on the south (the street where the Pacific Electric tracks turn west), just beyond "Sierra Vista" on the west and to the center of South Pasadena on that side, and, on its eastern side, the arroyo running south on the east side of the Raymond hotel. These 1200 acres were fenced into two fields, separated only by the Monterey road. There was but one house on one of the tracts, the old adobe still standing in front of the Raymond and no buildings on the other tract.

East of the Bacon tract was Gen. George Stoneman's place of several hundred acres, mostly in vines, formerly the Myles place, and now subdivided. Next came the Solomon Richardson place. Then the home place of Col. E. J. C. Kewen. Both of these properties are held by some of the Huntington corporations. East of Kewen was the home place of B. D. Wilson, now owned by his daughters, Mrs. George S. Patton and Miss Annie Wilson. Then the Shorb ranch and the Winston place, both the property of Mr. H. E. Huntington except a portion of the Winston place, which he sold to W. G. Kerckhoff, who still possesses it. Adjoining Winston on the east was the James Foord property, now owned by I. N. Van Nuys. Then came the Titus ranch, with its sign on the gate, "Dew Drop," now owned by Judge Bicknell and the Bradbury estate. Titus was an orange grower, a rival of L. J. Rose as a breeder of trotting stock, and a man of sterling worth.

Next on the east were the princely possessions of L. J. Rose, known as "Sunny Slope." Here he made a reputation as a wine maker and as a breeder of trotting stock, winning for himself fame throughout the world. East of him was A. B. Chapman's ranch (still his), and then came Santa Anita, the first property in the county owned by E. J. Baldwin. From there on to Azusa there was not a house in sight. After leaving a small settlement at the latter place, there were but two stage stations and the Cucamonga vineyard until you reached San Bernardino. One of the stage stations was called "Mud Springs," and was located between Covina and Lordsburg.

At San Gabriel there was a small settlement and another at El Monte and at Puente. Leaving Los Angeles and going southeast there was no inhabitants until you got to Downey and Rivera.

To the south and southwest was open country until you reached Wilmington except for small settlements at Florence and Compton. Long Beach had not yet been heard of. The Centinella and Sausal Redondo ranchos of many thousand acres were owned by Dan Freeman and were just beginning to be cultivated.

The Cienega ranch was mostly a swamp and the best duck and snipe grounds in California. From Los Angeles to Santa Monica was almost all open country. From Santa Monica to Wilmington and from Agricultural park to the ocean in the winter months untold millions of wild geese "honked" and fed. The San Rafael rancho, where Glendale is located, was but sparsely settled.

The Providencia rancho (where Burbank now is), a ranch of 15,000 acres, was owned by Dr. Burbank, who grazed it to sheep. Later he sold it for subdivision and built the theater of his name on Main street in Los Angeles.

The San Fernando rancho of 121,000 acres had recently been partitioned. Sixty-one thousand acres, the south half, were awarded to the San Fernando Farm Homestead association, afterward known as the Los Angeles Farming and Milling company. The north half went to the De Celis family, who sold it in 1873 to George K. Porter, B. F. Porter and Charles Maclay. The Los Angeles Farming and Milling company sold the east 12,000 acres of its lands in about 1886 or 1887. This tract has been subdivided, settled and highly improved. Recently the balance of that company's holdings were sold to Los Angeles parties. Soon all of the San Fernando valley will be thickly settled, making another rich community tributary to Los Angeles.

The only street car line in Los Angeles was one that had been built the year before by Judge R. M. Widney and his associates from the Plaza on Main street down Main street to Spring street, then out Spring street to Sixth street and on Sixth street to Figueroa street. Shortly afterward the Main and Agricultural park line was put into operation and another line built to East Los Angeles.

Oil had been discovered in the Newhall district and the Pacific Coast Oil company was doing considerable development work there.

Such was the foundation for the wonderful development which has taken place in this community in thirty-five years. Surely the population of this city in 1875 did not exceed 7000 people, one-half of whom were native Californians. In 1900 its population had increased from 13,000 in 1880 to 101,000. The census just taken, I am positive, will show its population in the neighborhood of 320,000.

Activities of the United Oil Co.

Last month sixteen stockholders in the United Oil company, representing 90 per cent of the outstanding stock, gathered at the commodious central home of the company on section 24, 31-22, to attend the first annual meeting and elect directors to serve the ensuing year. The old board of directors and officers, consisting of C. F. Whittier, president; E. D. Morrison, vice president; F. L. Blumer, second vice president; C. P. Campbell, treasurer; J. B. Hedrick, secretary, A. F. Andres and J. S. Wallace, were reelected and a resolution passed by the other stockholders present approving of the work accomplished and thanking the board for its efficiency.

As "great oaks from little acorns grow," so has the United developed in a year into a big company, with large holdings. Starting with a lease on 120 acres of ground, the company now owns 1010 acres of oil lands, principally in the Midway district, has twelve producing wells and for the past seven months has been paying one per cent monthly in dividends. It has its own electric plant, a water system of fifteen miles of pipe established and furnishes gas fuel from its own wells for all its drilling operations, besides selling gas to others. The company has six wells drilling, including two on section 24, in the big well belt of the Midway.

After the meeting the stockholders visited all of the seven properties of the company and were favorably impressed with the improvements and progress being made. It is the intention of the management to crowd development work along and increase the production to 150,000 barrels a month as soon as possible, which it is hoped may be accomplished by finishing the wells now drilling.

Big Well Is No. 7

The visitors were treated to a pleasant surprise by the superintendent, H. B. Seifert, on the section 6 property. Wells No. 7 and No. 8, recently finished, had just been perforated and while the stockholders were there No. 7 commenced to flow at the rate of 2000 barrels a day and was still flowing at that rate when train time came the following Sunday afternoon. No. 2 was also flowing, making 400 barrels. No. 1 was producing 300 barrels, No. 3 100, No. 5 150, No. 6 400, No. 8 400, a total of 3750 barrels for the day. Well No. 9 is rigging up.

The section 6 property of the United is a rich piece of territory and has been a consistent producer. It adjoins the lease on which the great well of the Santa Fe is located and is one-half mile east of the big 73 gusher of the American Oilfields. The production of the United is contracted to the Standard at 65 cents per barrel.

Of the other wells of the company No. 14, locally known as the Traction well, is down 3200 feet and showing gas. Nos. 17 and 24, located on section 24, 31-22, in the heart of the gusher belt, are down 1500 and 400 feet. No. 20 supplying gas; No. 21, water shut off at 1750 feet; No. 22, down 1000 feet; No. 23 rigging up. The McKittrick property is producing about 5000 barrels a month from four wells.

The United company has two good wells in Nos. 7 and 8 on section 6, 32-23. Last month No. 7 started flowing 2000 barrels a day and is now doing 400, steady as a clock. Well No. 8 is also flowing and producing at the same rate. These wells are in the northwest corner of the property, with No. 9 between, now drilling and probably will be completed early in January. No. 7 is 1100 feet deep, No. 8 960 feet, the shallowest wells on this property. The gravity of the oil is about 24. The company now has seven wells producing on this property, the oil going to the Standard on a contract made last spring at 65 cents per barrel.

The United celebrated its first anniversary Nov. 19 and, without doubt, has made the most substantial progress of any company operating in the Midway field and is destined to become one of the larger producing companies of the state.

CARROLL J. DALY, President.
HENRY F. DALY, Vice President.
JOS. A. McBRIDE, Secretary-Treasurer.
Angus R. Lindley, Attorney.

Daly Mines Company

United States National Bank Depositary

Capitalized at 1,000,000 shares. Par value $1. Fully paid and non-assessable. Organized under the laws of Arizona. The property consists of sixteen lode claims located in the Plomosa mountains, about eight miles south of Bouse, Arizona. This section is proving to be one of the richest mineral zones in the country. Copper, gold and some silver values are the mineral contents of the ore of this locality. Send for prospectus containing engineer's report, with maps of the property and surrounding country.

Secure stock now as the contract has been let for churn drilling on the property.

Daly Mines Company

534 Byrne Building, Los Angeles, Cal.

Men Who Make Good

Dawson, the Man Who Made "Midway 5" Possible

B. X. DAWSON

Mr. B. X. Dawson, the head of the Dawson Oil company, which is now operating in the Sunset field, is the man who made the Midway 5 Oil company possible. That is one of the few companies in Midway which have made good during the past few months. Midway 5 has struck a gusher which is accounted one of the best wells in the North Midway district. The stock of that company, which was sold at 20 or 25 cents a share six months ago, is now worth much more.

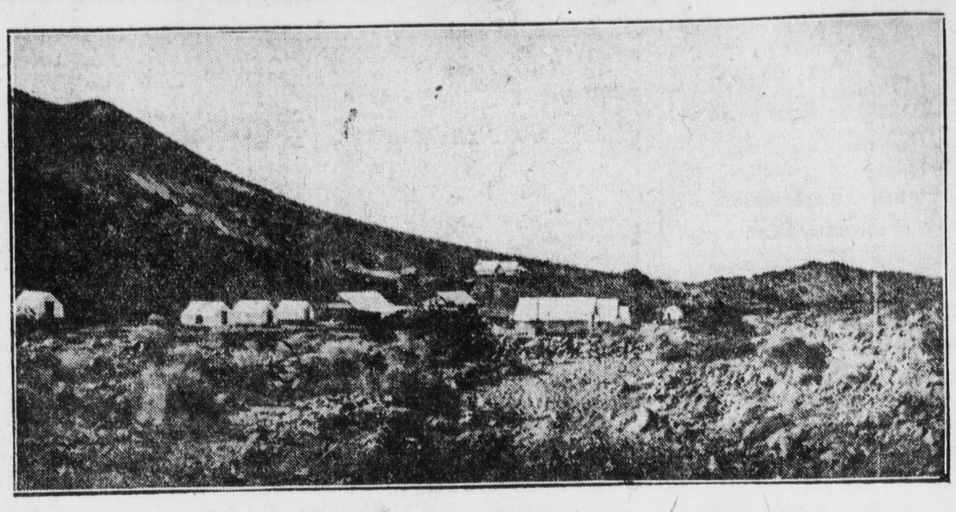
Mr. Dawson went into the Midway district in the days of its early excitement. The formation of the Midway 5 Oil company followed, and it was largely due to his efforts that the proposition was successfully financed. A first-class rig and equipment were provided and funds were raised to keep the work going without cessation until the gusher was brought in a few weeks ago.

The result justified his judgment and his own efforts were rewarded by the success which has been attained. Mr. Dawson could retire from the oil business now if he desired with stock which will pay a life income in dividends. But he does not wish to be idle. His friends, and particularly his associate shareholders, in Midway 5, have asked him to pick another winner.

He has lately secured the lease of a bonanza piece of proven oil land in a proven field surrounded by gushers and on the same quarter section as the Maricopa National Oil company's well, flowing as high as 4000 barrels a day and averaging 800 barrels a day after a continuous flow of more than three months' duration.

The Dawson Oil company has been incorporated with a small capitalization—only $500,000. The stock has been subscribed chiefly by those who have known of the success of Midway 5 or who have shared in it. Very little is offered for public subscription. The preliminary work of organization has been effected and contracts have been let for the rig and machinery to put down the first well. These are now being installed under the direction of Feld Superintendent V. D. Black, and it is expected that he will be ready to spud in by the last of December.

Books of the Dawson Oil company are now open for public subscriptions at Mr. Dawson's offices, 711 Story building.



Great Gold Belt Mining Company

B. I. PLUMMER, President. S. H. BAKER, Secretary.

Offices, 522-523 Grant Building, Los Angeles, Cal. Phone A5673

C. B. BARNES, Vice President. JAMES N. HARPER, Director.
C. G. Mann, Assistant Secretary. L. J. OLLIER, Director.
GEO. A. MATTERN, Treasurer. ALEX. McLAREN, E. M., Superintendent.

Mines situated in Eastern San Bernardino County, California. Main Camp near Ambov, on the Santa Fe.

The Company is now installing its reduction plant which will be in operation early in 1911

B. X. Dawson

MR. B. X. DAWSON, the man who made possible "Midway 5," one of the big gushers of the Midway Oil District, in California, has now organized the

Dawson Oil Company

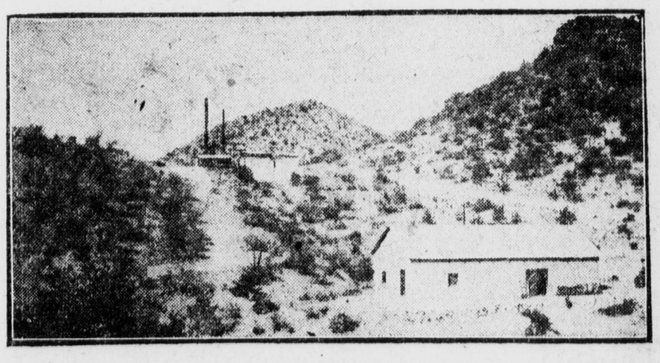
and is going after another gusher in a section where he guarantees he will strike a well, but how big, none can say

There is a chance here for a few to join him in this enterprise.

FILL OUT THIS COUPON AND MAIL IT IN
DAWSON OIL COMPANY,
711-12 Story Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.
Please send me, without expense or obligation on my part, full information regarding the property and proposition of the Dawson Oil Company.
Name .....
Address .....
M.W.H.

Marvelous Mine in Old Mexico

We have a producing mine in Mexico (near Hermosillo, only 36 hours' ride from Los Angeles) which we are proud to show to anybody. It is in advanced stage of development, as the accompanying photograph of works above ground shows. Underground we have done hundreds upon hundreds of feet of work in shafts and drifts, and have blocked out large bodies of ore and have hundreds of tons of ore on our dumps, besides what we have shipped to smelter. Our plant is fully equipped with pumps to control the water, with power to handle the further plans of development, and we have just issued an official report upon our proposition in every detail. Ask for it—IT'S FREE.



I, WILLIAM T. CALDERWOOD, am authorized as President and General Manager of the Mexico Mining, Refining & Exploration Company to announce to the public THIS SPECIAL STOCK OFFERING—a block of treasury stock at 10c a share, issued only for one particular purpose, namely, the purchase and installation of a CONCENTRATOR upon our ground, and no more stock to be sold than is necessary to raise the funds required for that one purpose. After that, all stock to be taken off the market. SEE ME ABOUT THIS AT ONCE!

Address All Communications to

William T. Calderwood

Suite 500-502 I. W. Hellman Building **Fourth and Main Streets, Los Angeles**