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TWENTY FEET OIL SANDS STRUCK

WELL IS STRUCK AT DEPTH OF ABOUT 1300 FEET; CASING TO FOLLOW

Change Hands at Rapid Rate As Success Looks Up

The Opelousas well experienced its first oil flow Saturday when it was reported that the drill on Neita No. 1, Opelousas Oil Co.'s well on the same location, had penetrated twenty feet of oil sand and that drilling had been suspended until casing could be secured in order to make a hole in the sand. It is expected that the well will be completed any time.

Mr. DeLieuville, who is making his report to the directors, stated that the well was struck at a depth of about 1300 feet. He said that the sand was of a fine texture and that it was expected that the well would produce from five to ten barrels per acre per day. He also stated that the well was struck at a depth of about 1300 feet, which is about 200 feet less than the depth of the well struck at Neita No. 1.

As soon as the report reached Opelousas, the well was struck, and the sand was of a fine texture and that it was expected that the well would produce from five to ten barrels per acre per day. He also stated that the well was struck at a depth of about 1300 feet, which is about 200 feet less than the depth of the well struck at Neita No. 1.

Mr. DeLieuville made a trip to the well Monday morning and found that the gush pit was covered with sand. There is the utmost confidence among the directors and the stockholders that they have a well and it is expected that the well will be completed any time.

In connection with the lease transactions, it is interesting to note that

the drillers and the employees at the rig are buying leases for themselves. At the directors meeting Monday a block of forty acres from the company holders was transferred to them.

The St. Louis people who are interested in the well are expected here at once and numerous reservations have been wired the Lacombe hotel from Texas, north Louisiana and other oil centers.

It is reported that the present depth of the well is approximately 1300 feet and casing has been ordered to case the hole to the sand. As soon as this reaches here it will be set and cemented in the hole. This will require from a week to ten days, in order that the cement may set. It will, therefore, be about two weeks before it is finally known just what is the capacity of the well.

The fact that the directors of the company feel warranted in going to an expense of practically \$3,000 in order to test the well is proof that they are fairly certain of something. A barbed wire fence has been erected around the derrick and the rig, in order that the workmen may not be interfered with and none of the employees are talking for publication. All inquiries are referred to the officers of the company.

President Lewis is extremely optimistic but makes the statement that actions speak louder than words. He calls attention to the fact that casing has been ordered and that if the company did not feel they had an oil well they would not be justified in spending three thousand dollars to make the test.

Opelousas may have its oil field after all. For years local enthusiasts have waxed warm on the subject and declared that there was lots of the wealth producing fluid under the crust of this territory.

Their optimistic prediction seems about to be realized, if all one hears of the test well being sunk on the Creswell farm, southwest of this city in the unvarnished truth.

The contract for the well stipulated three thousand feet, but the drill has not sunk much over fourteen hundred feet and the drillers state that oil sand has been discovered. At this depth drilling was suspended some days ago and nothing more will be done until the work of placing the strainer and bailing the well has been

accomplished. When this important task will start the drillers do not state, as they are very reticent about the matter, but are enthusiastic, too, over the prospects of bringing in a real oil well. The oil is there, others state, and are positive that even if a full-fledged gusher is not brought in, at least enough oil will be uncovered to justify future operations looking to the development of another big field, and that, too, in a heretofore unproven territory.

There has been an air of suppressed excitement prevalent for a number of days, following the veiled announcement of the discovery of "oil sand," and the speculative element, anxious to get in on the "ground floor," has been buying recorded leases or taking new ones of territory near or distant from the "discovery" well. Some believe they have a real sure thing, while others, just a little more conservative, believe they have a gambling chance and are staking their hard cash on the prospects.

According to rumors afloat, some fabulous prices and some more fabulous clean-ups have been made by speculators in leases. This speculation is all a part of the oil game, according to those wise to it, and those who are confident feel certain that they are due to ride the waves in the millionaire class before long. Parties from other points are dropping in on the scene and preparing to take a hand in the great play, and if the discovery well proves a great producer it is plain that there is going to be some tall development, commercially and otherwise, in old Opelousas.

It is reported that a lease on one place of one hundred and sixty acres brought the property owner \$750 and the buyer immediately cashed in for something like \$3,000 on the transaction. This was quite a healthy profit to realize on a deal, and if it is absolutely true then the buying and selling of oil leases might put more money in circulation than the oil itself. This is one phase of the situation that the average "oil crank" seems to overlook.

The next few or couple of weeks may prove interesting ones for Opelousas and Opelousians, and everyone interested in the development is going to watch things with an eagle eye and grasp every opportunity of making a "killing" while the making is good.

PHONE RATE HIKE BRINGS PROTEST FROM ITS VICTIMS

Mass Meeting of Representative Citizens Held Friday Night

ADOPT RESOLUTIONS CONDEMNING SAME COMMITTEES APPOINTED TO REPRESENT CITY AT ARGUMENT AT BATON ROUGE

That Opelousas are alive to the situation in the matter of increasing the telephone rates was shown by the fine mass meeting held in the parish court house last Friday night. Only a brief time before the meeting was called to order dodgers were scattered the holding of the same. Hence but few people were apprised of the mass meeting and that coupled with the heavy rainstorm of the afternoon and the threatening weather after nightfall deterred many from attending who would otherwise have been on hand.

W. F. Brown, member of the police jury, who has been one of the leading figures in the contest against the rate hike, was called upon to preside. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Brown, Mayor Loeb, Representative Dupre and Attorney L. Austin Fontenot.

The action of the commission in granting the rate increase was strongly condemned by the several speakers, and it was plain at the inception of the meeting that Opelousas and its people would not stand for the higher cost of telephoning without first putting up a fight against it.

The meeting "hopped" all over Chairman Taylor and Commissioner Michel of the state board, demanding that they resign, and failing to do, that steps be taken towards their impeachment from office. Delegates to attend the big protest meeting held at Alexandria yesterday were appointed, as also representatives to appear before the commission in the argument to be held on the reopening of the case, which will be held in Baton Rouge on the 22d instant.

The resolution as drafted by Judge Dupre "right off the reel" as the St. Landry "hornet" expressed it, reads as follows:

"The people of Opelousas, in mass meeting assembled, do hereby protest against the ruling of the telephone raise, and hereby join the other towns of the state in demanding:

"1. That the case be re-opened for a rehearing.

"2. That at the re-hearing the former rates be restored.

"3. Failing to obtain this, they demand the immediate resignation of Messrs. Taylor and Michel, and in the event of their refusal so to do, that a petition for their recall be signed and presented to the proper authorities for action thereon.

"4. Failing to obtain these resignations they demand their impeachment if any valid reason can be assigned therefor.

"5. Further, that a copy of these resolutions be forwarded the city papers, with request that they publish the same."

J. W. Milburn

Mr. J. W. Milburn, a prominent citizen and merchant of Barbreck, died suddenly on last Wednesday. He was a partner in the Milburn Mercantile company's store at Barbreck at the time of his death.

Mr. Milburn leaves a wife, who was formerly Miss May Parker of this city, but whose parents now reside in California, and three small children to mourn his demise.

He was in ill health for a couple of months and his death was expected at any time by his relatives, who were warned of his condition by the family physician.

The remains were interred at Barbreck on Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Nolan and children, after spending a week in Alexandria, La., and Dallas, Texas, returned home Sunday.

Dr. J. A. Shaw, formerly of Opelousas, now of Shreveport, is quite ill, according to late reports. The doctor is interested in the El Dorado oil field and on a recent visit there was affected by gas from the giant well and the fumes of the gas brought on the flu and pneumonia followed.

Miss Daisy Edwards of this city is spending some time in Crowley as the guest of her brother, Clifford J. Edwards, who is connected with the Louisiana Title & Abstract company.

FARMERS TO PLANT COTTON AT ONCE

NUMBER STATE THEY WILL BEGIN SEEDING THE 1921 CROP THIS WEEK OR NEXT

This country has experienced the most remarkable season on record. There has been little winter and spring came with a rush. Even the pecan trees, proverbially supposed never to be caught by a freeze, have begun to bud out, and their budding is a promise to the agriculturist that winter is over.

Several of the early bird farmers stated they would begin the planting of cotton this week, possibly, and if not they were sure to start next week, and temperature and weather permitting. Recent rains, followed by clear, warm days, have placed the soil in the finest shape imaginable and there will be little trouble getting the land ready for the seed. Corn is practically all planted and much of it is almost ready to get the first cultivation. Cotton planted now, if the warm temperature continues, will come up and start growing in a week.

MUST POPULARIZE RICE AMONG THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Senior Member of Firm of Layne & Bowler Gives Ideas

PEOPLE NOT INFORMED AS TO RICE QUALITIES

House to House Canvass Will Successfully Enlighten the Consumer

Under date March 4, M. E. Layne, senior member of the well-known firm of Layne & Bowler, has issued the following circular letter to the rice growing and milling interests of the nation. The firm of Layne & Bowler have been engaged in sinking deep wells for rice irrigation all through southwest Louisiana, having placed a number of wells in operation in St. Landry. Naturally the firm takes a deep interest in the future prosperity of the rice industry, and the following circular letter from Mr. Layne will be read with deep concern by the grower, miller, broker, wholesaler and retailer:

In order that the \$300,000.00 advertising campaign inaugurated and financed by the southern rice growers and millers, and now in progress, may be the greatest success possible, in our opinion it should be backed up by a properly organized house-to-house sales canvass, setting for the benefits of rice as a food product. These canvassers—personally representing the industry, instructing the people how to prepare rice and actually making the sale of the product on a commission basis, in quantities ranging from ten to one hundred pounds—make the introduction a self-supporting proposition. This will work both ways. It will enlighten the consumer with relation to the vegetable food values of rice and how to prepare same; and it will relieve the middleman of penny sales owing to the fact that the consumer will soon become accustomed to use rice in bulk as he does other staple and vegetable food commodities. For instance, we order 25 to 100 pounds of flour, 12 to 50 pounds of corn meal, 10 to 50 pounds of potatoes 10 to 100 pounds of sugar. In fact, all of the staple food commodities are ordered in larger bulk than rice. This shows conclusively that rice is not fulfilling its proper function in our nation, namely that of a vegetable food which two-thirds of the old world absolutely depend on as their principal staple, but which Americans use as a delicacy. It also handicaps the merchant requiring much time and attention to distribute rice in small quantities; therefore, the merchant is forced to charge from four to six cents per pound for handling in one or two pound packages where otherwise he could more profitably handle ten to twenty pounds with less physical trouble and with a charge for handling of from one-half to one cent per pound. The trouble is that our people are not informed of the benefits of rice as a vegetable food. Consequently, the entire channel from producer to consumer is blocked by the method in which it finally reaches the consumer, namely in small packages.

A national house-to-house canvass, properly organized, will successfully enlighten the consuming American as

D. of I. Dance after Easter

The Opelousas court of the Daughters of Isabella is making all preparations for the big dance which the members will give at Barilleaux's auditorium on Monday night, March 28, the day following Easter. Refreshments of all kinds will be sold at reasonable prices and everybody who attends the affair is promised a good time.

Chapman Smith, formerly of Grand Coteau but now of Lafayette, was in Opelousas Monday, transacting business.

Will P. Ewell of DeQuincey, connected with the Gulf Coast Lines at that place, spent Sunday and Monday day in Opelousas visiting relatives.

Mrs. C. C. Porter, formerly of Eunice but now of Houston, Texas, is on a visit to her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Guy A. Jackson, near Opelousas.

Tom Joyner, who has been residing here for some time, being employed in the Haas garage, left last week for Minnesota where he will in future reside. His many friends regret his departure.

Dr. and Mrs. Jos. Raphael of Port Barre were in Opelousas on a shopping mission.

F. F. Hollier of the Bennett Stores attended to business in New Orleans Friday and Saturday.

Dr. L. J. Bauman was a Lafayette visitor last Friday.

to the superior value of rice as a human food over that of other vegetable products, and not as a delicacy. This being accomplished, the middleman would be pleased to handle rice on the same ratio of profit that he now handles flour, corn meal, sugar, potatoes, beans or other staple foods or vegetables. But until we can convince the consumer of the benefits of rice as a human food, the four to six cent per pound charge for handling must go to the wholesaler and merchant to cover their financial investment, deterioration, storage, packing time and attention necessary to distribute it to consumer in small packages rather than in bulk as it should be.

When we consider the fact that the benefits of rice as a vegetable food are practically unknown to the American people, then we must consider rice from the viewpoint of being a new product; and any new product must be properly advertised, and later followed by actual introduction, so that same can be profitably grown, milled or manufactured, transferred and sold to the consumer with a living profit to all concerned. Therefore it is our opinion, that a house-to-house canvass can be made in such a way that the very first undertaking will prove profitable to the industry as a whole, namely, that the expense entailed by the merchants in handling rice in small quantities will be saved to the consumer through using rice in larger quantities and will be such a saving that the consumer will place orders in larger quantities and by this means consumption will increase to such an extent that in the future rice will be handled by our retailers in such quantities as other food commodities. We could hardly expect profitable results to immediately follow newspaper or magazine advertising of any new or largely unknown line of product unless same was fully explained to the consumer; yes, further, demonstrated; and the house-to-house canvass, as we look upon it, is the open door through which we can introduce the consuming world to the most desirable cereal or vegetable food product so far developed by man.

To prove to you that we believe in the house-to-house canvass method of introduction of rice, following newspaper and magazine advertising, the Layne & Bowler company has actively co-operated with others in organizing a house-to-house canvass in Memphis, Tenn. This campaign was launched February 28, and we hope to be able to inform the reader of beneficial results following same.

We would be glad to co-operate with growers, millers, wholesalers, and merchants in putting on like campaigns in other cities, especially in Los Angeles and San Francisco. We believe this to be the psychological time to put on these campaigns on account of the present low price of rice, which will fill the demand for a reduction in living costs; give employment to hundreds of idle men and women in soliciting and instructing the trade, in addition to providing millions with a cheaper and better food—making the industry profitable to all concerned.

If this seems feasible to the reader we will be glad to exchange views with more detailed information.

LAWYER SHOOTS, WOUNDS FORMER PELOUSAS MAN

D. D. Nuckolls, Once Editor of Clarion, Falls Before Carville's Gun

RUSHED TO HOSPITAL WOUNDS NOT SERIOUS

Duel in Plaquemine Result Of Clash Over an Advertising Bill

As a result of an informal duel in Plaquemine, La., last Friday, D. D. Nuckolls, formerly editor and manager of the Clarion and for about eighteen months a resident of Opelousas, was shot twice by J. A. Carville, prominent in the social and political affairs of Iberville parish. The wounded man was rushed to the Toussaint infirmary in New Orleans for treatment and last reports are that he is doing well and will recover, both wounds being in the left arm and left shoulder.

The shooting was the culmination of a controversy over the payment of a bill for advertising. Mr. Nuckolls is manager of the Iberville South, weekly newspaper of Plaquemine. Mr. Carville is secretary of a homestead association, member of the lower house of the legislature and also a delegate to the constitutional convention from the parish of Iberville and grand knight of the Plaquemine council of the Knights of Columbus.

It appears that the charge rendered by the newspaper for the publication of an advertisement for the homestead association was five dollars as compared with two dollars and fifty cents as heretofore charged. Mr. Carville states that he sent his young lady stenographer to the printing office to find out the reason for the added cost, and on her return she stated to him that Mr. Nuckolls had insulted her. Mr. Carville then went to the office of Mr. Nuckolls and protested against the treatment accorded his stenographer.

He says Nuckolls cursed him and that he (Carville) knocked Nuckolls down and when the latter rose from the floor and "squared off" apparently to fight he knocked the newspaper man down again and turning left the room. When reaching the door he heard someone in the office state that the newspaper man had a gun and while looking back fell and skinned his hands and legs.

Carville says that he went to his home and secured his 32 calibre revolver and returned to his office. Arriving there some friend called him up and stated that Nuckolls was coming after him with a gun. As he finished speaking over the phone the door opened and Nuckolls walked in with a 45 calibre army Colt automatic. Both men fired at the same time. Carville fired five shots in all, Nuckolls two, and the latter's gun hung. Two of Carville's bullets hit the newspaper man and the lawyer was untouched. Following the shooting both were arrested and their bonds fixed at \$150 each.

Nuckolls on arriving in New Orleans made only a brief statement to the newspapers, the inference being that the fistfight in which he was knocked down was the direct cause of the pistol duel. The newspaper man is small of stature and physically unfit for a "scrap," while the lawyer is said to be a man of 175 or more pounds and "some" man physically.

Arthur Veltin returned the first of the week after spending several days in Crowley as the guest of his daughter, Mrs. Clyde Burgin.

Mr. Henry Clements of New York, noted artist, is in Opelousas as the guest of his brother, J. B. Clements. He is a regular visitor to this city, coming every year or two, and his friends are always glad to greet him.

Arthur Richard, formerly of Opelousas but for a year or two past a resident of Port Arthur, Texas, is here on a visit.

Delegates Dupre, Sandoz and Perrault returned home last week-end to spend a few days at home with their families before resuming their duties in the convention at Baton Rouge.

Lawrence A. Andrepoint of Crowley spent the week-end in Opelousas visiting relatives and friends. Messrs. James Barry, F. J. Devine and B. H. Scroder of St. Louis and A. R. Cotton of Whiteita Falls, Texas, interested in the oil development here, came in this week to look over the situation.

WILL LET CONTRACT FOR WASHED GRAVEL

BOARD OF STATE ENGINEERS ADVISE FOR BIDS FOR FURNISHING MATERIAL

The board of state engineers advised last week for bids for the furnishing of washed gravel in the amount of approximately forty thousand tons for road construction in various road districts of St. Landry parish. Bids will be opened on Monday, April 4, at the board's office in the Lacombe Blanche annex, New Orleans. Particulars can be obtained either from the state board or from D. E. Devlin, Opelousas, La.

This announcement indicates that the work of constructing modern highways in St. Landry will be gotten under way as quickly as possible. In many of the districts taxes to pay for better roads were voted some time ago, but before letting contracts for construction it was necessary to make surveys and attend to all the preliminary attendant on the building of the roads authorized.

Judge Adolph M. Hollier

Dead, at the residence of his brother A. L. Hollier, in this city, Tuesday morning about 1 o'clock, Adolph M. Hollier. The deceased was a native of Opelousas but for several years has resided in Elton, Jefferson Davis parish, where he was prominent in public affairs. He leaves, besides a wife and a number of children, a large number of relatives here and elsewhere throughout southwest Louisiana.

The deceased has been in ill health for more than a year, and some time ago was taken to New Orleans for a surgical operation. He returned to Opelousas about a month ago, since which time he has been at the home of his brother on East Grolee street.

LOCAL POST WILL STAGE BIG DRIVE

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERS TO SEEK RECRUITS FROM RANKS OF WORLD WAR VETERANS

Opelousas post of the American Legion will hold a meeting at the Elks home in this city on Thursday night. According to a circular letter issued by the post, "at the last meeting a great program was outlined, but before beginning the new work we want everybody to come together in one more rousing meeting so that we can get together and pull together from the outset. Hence the meeting on the 17th.

"We know that you do not need to be dragged to a meeting of the American Legion, but if you are dead and don't know it, report to one of the outfits below for treatment. We want two hundred 'buddies' in each of these outfits within two months' time. Line up with either outfit for the big membership drive soon to be started."

The "outfits" referred to are as follows:

Durio's Outfit—E. B. Robert, Chas. Dejean, H. Lastrapes, R. Lacombe, J. Chachere, L. Sandoz, A. J. Bercler, D. R. Perkins, Paul Boagni, Albert Clary, Fred Guidry.

Pavy's Outfit—O. Wyble, A. J. Perrault, Ed. Estorge, Ed. Boagni, C. L. Hayes, L. J. Baumann, A. Dezauche, F. J. Reiger, Sidney Garland, Alex. Swords, I. W. Jordan.

"The outfit," says the circular, "with the smallest following on the night of the 17th will be called upon to set the post up to the drinks—the nature of the drink to be left entirely to the victorious outfit."

Estimable Lady Injured

Miss Cecile Holler, residing in the eastern part of the city, had the misfortune to fall last Saturday as a result of which accident she sustained a broken ankle and received minor bruises.

MENDOZA GIVES SHIPMENT RULES

AGRICULTURAL AGENT TELLS ADVANTAGE OF SELLING HOGS IN FORT WORTH MARKET

A. A. Mendoza, agricultural agent for St. Landry, is busy boosting the future shipment of hogs from here to Fort Worth. This week he issued a circular to prospective shippers, which reads as follows:

"I find a great number of hogs throughout the country ready for market. Since there is no local market in this parish, as you well know, a co-operative shipment of hogs is the only thing to solve the problem. It will not only find a ready market for these hogs (which, if kept over until fall, would mean a "loss" in most cases) but it also supplies a little more ready cash.

"The following are the Fort Worth quotations:

Pigs 50 to 70 pounds 7 1-2 cents per pound; heavy pigs, 8 1-2 cents per pound; good hogs, 175 to 225 pound, 9 1-2 to 9 3-4 cents per pound.

"If you are interested in this shipment, which will be made as soon as possible, please return this sheet, giving me the information requested below.

"Yours truly,
"ALFRED A. MENDOZA,
"County Agent."

H. F. Magoon of the state highway department, temporarily located in Opelousas, made a business trip to his headquarters in New Orleans Saturday, returning yesterday.

Miss Vita Guilbeau of this city left yesterday for Lake Charles where she will spend some time visiting relatives in the Lake City.

Dr. Truly of Washington, formerly of Natchitoches parish, was in Opelousas last week on a business mission.