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DECIDE TO CONTINUE DRILLING DEEPER AT OPELOUSAS OIL WELL

Sand at 1,300 Feet Not Considered Rich Enough To Stop

DRILL NOW DOWN 1,500 FEET AND IN THE ROCK

Chataignier-Mallet Well Will be "Spudded In" Some Time This Week

Having decided that the sand at 1,300 feet would not justify a test the Opelousas Oil Co., Inc., last week continued drilling on Well No. 1 and are now down 1,500 feet. While the sand at 1,300 feet showed considerable oil and some gas there was also water in it in such quantity as to make it impracticable to secure the oil in commercial quantities.

As soon as this conclusion was reached no time was lost in getting the rig under way for the resumption of work and at the end of last week the hole had reached about 1500 hundred feet in depth and everything was working smoothly. Some rock was struck but no trouble whatever was experienced in cutting through the slight obstruction. Progress has been so rapid that it is believed that the well will either go to a real paying find of oil or down to the three thousand foot contract depth without any hitch whatever. The soil in this territory is singularly free of rock, which is in strong contrast to the soil in many other fields, and sinking the casing at rapid rate is easy as compared with similar work in some of the famous oil fields of the southwest where much rock is struck and oftentimes drillers experience lots of trouble in getting rapid results in a brief space of time.

The operators deemed it wise not to bring in a well at the first oil sand struck. While real oil was found it was thought that it was not present in sufficient quantities to warrant testing the well at that depth. It was presumed that a better sand would be found somewhat deeper—a sand that would justify bringing in the well as a real producer, thus establishing the field as a proven one and not experi-

mental. This find would take the well out of the wildcat class and put it in the class of actual producers.

After drilling was continued the drill was still in the gumbo for about a hundred feet, after which a strata of soft, chalk rock was hit. Strata of this rock and gumbo alternated and it is hoped when the bit is through this formation an oil sand will be encountered.

It will be remembered that before the well was started people who are familiar with this territory predicted oil strata at 700, 1,400 and 2,900 feet. Their first two predictions have been realized as a small showing, of no real value was found at 700 feet and a better showing at 1,300 feet.

Saturday drilling was temporarily suspended, owing to the breakage of the swivel and a new part was ordered by telephone. The part reached here Monday noon and work was immediately re-commenced.

Officers of the company have been opened in the Landau building with Mr. B. H. Schroeder of St. Louis in charge and this office will be the headquarters of the company, as far as all business in regard to land, leases and mapping is concerned. W. B. Roberts has completed a map showing the drilling plot, the offsets and a plat of the J. Arthur Roy tract and this has been sent to New Orleans for prints.

Work of erecting the machinery on the Chataignier-Mallet location has been completed and they expect to "spud in" this week, after which Mr. Morgan hopes to bring in a well in less than two weeks, as he hopes to find paying sand at a depth of about 500 feet. If the expectations of both companies are realized then it is entirely possible that both wells will be brought in at about the same time. In other words it is now a race between the two as to which will make a showing first.

Negotiations are now under way for drilling near Port Barre and it is understood that the acreage has been blocked and a proposition submitted by a drilling company or syndicate. It is not known whether or not the details have been completed.

BIG RAIL SYSTEM PROPOSES TO CUT BRANCH SERVICE

Southern Pacific Says the Double Daily Trains Lose Money

WOULD ELIMINATE THE FAMOUS "BUMBLE BEE"

Only Thing That May Stand In Way Is Refusal of Commission

Last week the local newspapers noted the move of the Texas & Pacific railway to discontinue the present "boil weevil" passenger train on the Opelousas division and the substitution of a mixed freight and passenger train between the two terminals, Melville and Crowley. The attempt of the railroad company to secure permission of the commission to cancel this train is meeting with much opposition both from Crowley and Church Point. Other important places on the line, like Rayne, Branch, Lewisburg, Opelousas and Port Barre, are taking no steps whatever in the matter, either through individual citizens, commercial bodies or municipal councils, and if Crowley and Church Point are left alone to fight against the railroad company the loss of the service seems certain in advance.

Now it is stated publicly that the Southern Pacific system proposes to the Opelousas-Alexandria division—cancel one of the trains operating on the one leaving Lafayette in the morning and returning in the afternoon. The company, the public can rest assured, will claim that the operating of a double daily service on this branch is a money-losing proposition and will ask the commission to authorize the removal of the train on that ground alone, just as the Texas & Pacific claims for its local service.

The Southern Pacific has been fighting for years the maintaining of a double daily service on this branch but every time the company got the matter before the commission it lost out in its contest with the patrons of the road. Whether it will meet with success this time or not depends upon the fight put up by the patrons of the branch line service or the temper of the commission. The railroad company operates twelve first-class passenger trains on the main line daily—six in each direction—and there has never been any disposition to cancel any one of these trains on the grounds that it was a money losing proposition. But whenever the company wishes to retrench and cut out expenses it "hops on" the branch running between Lafayette and Alexandria and makes it suffer in order to keep up appearances on the main line, though a reduction of the number of palatial steel trains on it would work little injury to the towns along the line.

Judging from the number of heavy freight trains running over this branch line it is not such a money-losing affair. The public looks on it as a money-maker for the company, and certainly the company has not expended any tremendous sum in the upkeep of the track and roadbed, as a trip over the line will quickly show. Heavy engines have kept the tracks in bad shape and the total lack of gravel ballast has militated against the road's maintenance. Frequent wrecks on the branch have been proof positive that little attention has been paid to the keeping of the branch in safe condition. The company has shown little regard for the branch line, and though it has fed much freight to the main line, still the headknockers of the system have devoted little of the income to the keeping up of the eighty-mile line. Why should the commission grant the request for the cancellation of half of the passenger service, is a question the patrons would like to see answered. Everybody is opposed to the granting of the order, except the railroad company, and it desires to save present expenses, and to that end is cutting wages to the core.

Laid Up With Sore Foot

W. R. Lacombe, efficient stenographer in the law offices of John W. Lewis, was laid up for repairs the entire week due to the inflamed condition of one foot. A slight scratch brought about complications and Bob had to call in a physician. We are pleased to state that he is getting O. K. rapidly and will be up and about his work in a day or two.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Sibille of Sunset were guests at the home of Mrs. Sibille's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Estorge, several days last week.

Dr. Harold Edwards of Abbeville was the week-end guest at the home of Mrs. W. C. Perrault.

Dr. and Mrs. Ed. Berclier and children of Rayne were visiting at the home of D. L. Guilbeau and family in this city last week-end.

Oscar Bienvenue and Bob Little, Tulane students, spent the Easter holidays with relatives here.

Miss Edith Dupre, who is teaching at S. L. I. Lafayette, La., spent the week-end with her many relatives here.

Mrs. R. O. Marsh and children and Mrs. Ed. Brunner and sister of Port Barre were shopping in town Saturday.

LIGHT FROST WEDNESDAY FOLLOWED IN WAKE OF COLD

Summer heat gave way Sunday night to cooler temperatures and Monday morning was ushered in with rain and cold. The mercury dropped steadily 1 adyla nModaym mm mm mm mly all day Monday and a howling wind gave warning of colder weather following. The heavy clouds cleared away during the night Monday and the wind having lulled a light frost was reported Tuesday morning. Little damage to crops, however, is expected as a result of the frost for the dampness was a light insurance against the cold. Much cotton had been planted during the warm days of last week and some was already up to a stand.

NEGRO SHOOTING AT PORT BARRE MONDAY

NAMES AND DETAILS LACKING BUT CULPRIT CAUGHT AT BATON ROUGE SAME AFTERNOON

There was a shooting scrape at Port Barre Monday, the participants being negroes, and as a result of which one received mortal wounds, the nature of which was not learned before we went to press.

Sheriff Thibodeaux, on his return late Monday afternoon from a whiskey raid near Lecoville, was called up over the long distance telephone by Sheriff Day of Baton Rouge who stated he had caught the fleeing negro when he alighted from the eastbound Gulf Coast Lines train at the Baton Rouge station and had the culprit in jail awaiting the pleasure of the sheriff of St. Landry.

Mr. Thibodeaux left for Baton Rouge Tuesday evening for the prisoner and returned with him this (Wednesday) morning. Details of the shooting were not obtainable, but the officers at Baton Rouge were notified of the affair in time to receive the escaping negro on his arrival in the state capital.

Presbyterian Services Sunday

There will be services at the Presbyterian church in this city next Sunday, April 3, at 11 o'clock in the morning, by Rev. George R. Ratchford. The public is cordially invited to be present at the church.

Mr. and Mrs. Jim Shute of Port Barre were in town Saturday visiting relatives.

Mrs. A. L. Bird returned to her home in Elizabeth, La., after spending a week at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. Dunbar.

Miss Lena Allen, now employed in Houston, Texas, spent the Easter holidays with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Allen.

Mr. and Mrs. Clovis Deardeau motored to Opelousas on Sunday and were the guests of Mrs. T. Todd.

Mrs. Willis Roy spent the day in Lafayette last Wednesday, visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Garland Dejean of Plaquemine Point spent Easter Sunday in town and were visitors of Mrs. Dejean's grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Dupre.

Y. O. Reed of Oberlin, former sheriff of Allen parish, arrived in Opelousas Tuesday morning and spent a day or two here attending to business affairs.

Chas. F. Bailey, of the secretary of state's office, Baton Rouge, spent Easter here with relatives and friends. Attorney Merton H. Thompson made a pleasure trip to New Iberia last Sunday.

Miss Lillian J. Lassalle, who is attending school at the Sacred Heart academy, Grand Coteau, La., is spending the Easter holidays in New Orleans as the guest of her aunt, Mrs. J. Morgan Sandoz.

Mr. Frank Fontenot of Grand Prairie, one of the members of the school board from the fifth ward, was a business visitor to Opelousas last Saturday.

Sam Horais of Lafayette attended the dance given by the Daughters of Isabella in this city last Monday night.

Miss Blanche Gullbeau, who is attending school at the Sacred Heart convent, Grand Coteau, spent the Easter holidays here with her parents, Hon. and Mrs. D. L. Guilbeau.

Mrs. W. J. Sandoz, who is with her husband, Hon. W. J. Sandoz, while he is in attendance on the constitutional convention at Baton Rouge, returned home for the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Sam Stander, who have been here some time on a visit to Mr. and Mrs. J. Stander, will leave in a few days for their home in New York.

Dr. and Mrs. J. N. Brown and their two children of Washington were here last Sunday.

Aaron Wolff of Lafayette was a visitor to Opelousas last Sunday, visiting relatives and friends.

Miss Alice Desmarais spent the Easter holidays in New Orleans as the guest of relatives.

BAR ASSOCIATION PLAN FOR REFORM STATE JUDICIARY

Comprehensive Idea Affecting The Entire System of Courts

CHANGE WILL BE ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE

Judicial Councils to Be Invested With Great Power, if Adopted

Baton Rouge, La., March 28.—To secure the highest legal talent for holding the important positions of judgeships, is the object of the judiciary reform bill that has been introduced. This is known as the Spencer plan, but it is not the work of one man, but of practically the entire membership of the Louisiana bar association, and it has been endorsed by the bench and bar of the state, at a special meeting. By it, no one could hold the position of judge, even in the smallest court, unless he is learned in law. Justices of the peace would be eliminated.

Here is a brief outline of the structure of the court as proposed by the plan:

Supreme Court: Composed of one chief justice and six associate justices at least 35 years old, who have practiced law in the state at least ten years and have been actual residents of the districts from which they were appointed at least two years immediately preceding their appointment. This court would be divided into two sections, each composed of three associate judges and the chief justice.

Courts of Appeal: One for each of the four judicial districts into which the state would be divided. Each court composed of three judges, 30 or more years of age, who shall have practiced law in the state for at least five years and been residents of the judicial district from which they are appointed two years next preceding their appointment. The judge who has been longest in the service to preside.

District Courts: There would be a district court for each judicial district. In the first judicial district, there would be nine judges; in the second, six; in the third, seven; in the fourth, eight. They must have practiced law in the state at least five years and been residents of their respective districts for two years immediately preceding their appointment.

Parish Court: There would be one in each parish. Only men licensed to practice law would be eligible, and they would have to be residents of the parish at least one year next preceding their appointment.

Attorney general and parish attorneys: The attorney general would be elected every four years. To qualify, he would have to have practiced law at least five years in the state.

In each parish there would be a parish attorney, whose manner of selection, tenure, duties and compensation would be fixed by the general assembly. Until the general election of 1924, the district attorneys now in office would be the parish attorneys in their respective judicial districts as now constituted.

Judicial Council: There would be a supreme judicial council, composed of the chief justice and three other justices of the supreme court appointed in rotation by the chief justice to serve a term of two years, and the presiding judges of the several courts of appeal and the several district courts of the state. This council would be empowered to:

Make or amend the rules of pleading, practice and procedure in the various courts;

Regulate number of officers of courts and establish salaries;

Regulate cost of proceedings, subject to control of the general assembly;

Supervise business and conduct of courts and judges;

Supervise work of district, judicial councils;

Assign judges of one court to sit in another when necessary;

Investigate charges of disability, inefficiency, neglect of duty;

Determine and recommend to the legislature, whether courts should be increased or decreased;

Make regulations for admission to bar; prescribe rules of conduct;

The district judicial council in each judicial district would be composed of three judges of the court of appeals and the presiding judge of the district court and one judge of the district court, appointed in rotation by the presiding judge of the district to serve two years. It would have authority to:

Regulate the assignment of judges

CONTRACT AWARDED FOR ROAD WORK

NUMBER OF BIDDERS FOR NEW HIGHWAY LEADING OUT OF PORT BARRE ALONG BAYOU

There was a lively bidding for the construction of the earthwork on one of the new highways leading out of Port Barre along the Bayou Courtableau when the board of commissioners received and opened bids last Monday at noon, according to previous advertisement.

Bids ranged from 33 1-3 cents per cubic yard down to 19 cents, there being two bids at the low figure, those of N. A. Dawson and Henry Stagg, respectively. Two bidders at 25 cents per yard and one for 27 cents. It is generally supposed that Henry Stagg will receive the awarding of the contract on his bid of 19 cents.

The work is said to be ideal from a contractor's standpoint as the dirt to be moved is splendid material and easy to handle. This road is part of the modern system which will center at Port Barre and will connect the thriving village with the road built from the railroad crossing at Courtableau station and from that point east to Krotz Springs and will make this latter place easily accessible to Opelousas.

TEN YEARS SENTENCE BURGLARY CHARGE

LAW EXECUTES QUICK VENGEANCE ON CULPRIT WHO BROKE INTO AND STOLE TURKEY

Freddie Taylor, a young Opelousas negro, went over the road last week in record time for stealing a turkey at the home of Attorney Dubuisson. Without a doubt it was the quickest action ever taken in a criminal case in the annals of the criminal court of St. Landry parish.

Taylor broke into a building at the Dubuisson residence just before day on Sunday morning a week ago and stole therefrom a turkey. Monday morning he was arrested on the charge of burglary, arraigned on a bill of information charging that crime, pleaded guilty and was immediately sentenced to serve from five to ten years at hard labor. At 6 o'clock the afternoon Sheriff Thibodeaux had delivered the convict to the penitentiary authorities at Baton Rouge.

The young negro, according to many people, had been mixed up in many petty thefts, having a strong inclination to lift chickens and other domestic fowls from their roosts. This last case proved his undoing and he will have a long, long time to think over the truth of the old saying that the straight road is the safest to travel, after all.

Public Bodies Meet Next Week

The parish police jury and the Opelousas city council will hold their regular monthly meetings for April next week, the first named convening Monday and the last named on Tuesday night.

Divine Services Sunday

There will be divine services at the Episcopal church in this city next Sunday, April 3, at 11 o'clock in the morning by Rev. McCaa. The public is cordially invited to be present.

Two Autos Come Together

The Studebaker car of Dr. L. J. Bauman narrowly escaped serious injury last Sunday morning when the high-powered Stutz of Miss Nathalie Haas hit it a side-swipe. The Studebaker, with the owner at the wheel and several parties as passengers, was going north on Court street. The Stutz, with Miss Haas driving, also had a number of passengers and was going west on Landry. At the corner of the streets, opposite the federal building, the Stutz ran into the light car and damaged it slightly. A quick application of the brakes acted promptly. None of the passengers in either car were injured, and both machines started off after the collision.

Thomas Lewis arrived home on Friday to spend the week-end with his parents.

for the trial of cases in the several parishes of the district, so as to equalize the work;

Regulate and fix the time of sitting of the court of appeals and the district and parish courts;

Make such local rules of court as may be necessary;

Designate judicial depositaries established by the general assembly;

Report to the supreme judicial council on all matters respecting the conduct and business of the courts and of the judges and officers thereof.

OFFICERS RAID AND GRAB LIQUOR, STILL AND ARREST 3 MEN

Trip to Evangeline Nets Quantity of Liquor and Mash and 3 Prisoners

FOUR-COIL STILL IS FOUND IN 3RD WARD

Man, Arrested, Claimed He Was Making "Mule" For Medical Purposes

After many weeks of silence and quietness in the prohibition raids, activity was resumed in this neck of the woods last Saturday and taken up again Monday, Sheriff Thibodeaux and Enforcement Agent Bush being the active men in the raiding operations.

Having received several "tips" relative to the location of home-brew outfits the officers determined to investigate and see if there was any real grounds for the rumors which have been reaching them from time to time.

Saturday they went across the parish line into Evangeline, near the Deballion bridge, and as a result of their trip they uncovered a lot of moonshine liquor, some mash but failed to locate either the stills or the coils of the apparatus.

The official visit was made to the homes of Euzebe Solleau and his son-in-law, Herald Fontenot, both located on the public road leading into Villa Platte. The men evidently must have been apprised of the coming of the officers for the liquor they had on hand had been hidden between mattresses of a bed or two and several chairs were occupying the bed or beds.

The cache contained one gallon jug of the famous "white mule," and several bottles of the same "kicking" fluid and a number of cans filled with the stuff. Both men were paroled and ordered to appear before United States Commissioner W. Alex Robertson in Opelousas. They were here Monday and furnished bond in the sum of one thousand dollars for appearance before the federal court when that tribunal meets here in June.

Monday Messrs. Thibodeaux and Bush, accompanied by Deputy Stagg, took a jaunt to the Pecanniere section, east of the Bayou Teche and not far from Leonville. As a result of their visit to that neighborhood they located an elaborate distilling apparatus and arrested the owner thereof, Joe Emonet, who is charged with operating an illicit still.

The outfit was located in the poultry house in Emonet's yard, and consisted of a four-coil still, ten gallons of kerosene, a big oil stove, ten gallons of "white mule" and one hundred and fifty gallons of fermenting mash. The outfit had evidently just been in use for the apparatus was still warm from recently applied heat.

The still tanks and coil pipes were made of galvanized iron, which is not strictly in accordance with all accepted practices in the art of still-making for it is generally accepted that "white mule" made with such an apparatus is liable to be rank poison and extremely dangerous to drink. Copper tanks and coils made of the same substance are said to be the only safe stills.

Emonet stated that he was making the liquor "for medicinal purposes" and was not engaged in peddling it for profit. The officers accepted his statement with a grain of salt, for the size of the outfit placed the brand of Ananias on the assertion of the still's owner. He was brought to Opelousas and made appearance bond of one thousand dollars before Commissioner Robertson. The outfit was partially destroyed, just enough, including the coils, were taken in charge to be used as evidence. The brand of liquor was vile stuff.

EVANGELIST HOLDS MEETING AT COURT HOUSE SUNDAY

Evangelist Kelley, who is conducting a revival meeting at the local Methodist church in this city, delivered a splendid lecture at the court house last Sunday evening to a large audience present, and apparently every one was deeply interested in the theme of the lecture and the eloquence of the speaker. It was a verbal moral lesson from every standpoint and Mr. Kelley held his hearers' close attention from the first until the last. There was splendid music, Mr. Kelley's brother playing the cornet and many of the audience joining in the singing. The subject of the lecture was "Righteousness Exalteth a Nation." Members of all religious denominations were present, and the speaker paid a high tribute to every faith.

CITY WINS IN CASE AGAINST MR. JORDAN

COURT RULES COUNCIL HAD THE RIGHT TO DISCHARGE SUPERINTENDENT OF POWER PLANT

The case of the city against George C. Jordan, former superintendent of the municipal electric light plant, came up for trial in the district court last Monday, the municipality being represented by City Attorney P. R. Sandoz, assisted by Attorneys E. B. Dubuisson and R. Lee Garland. Mr. Jordan's interests were looked after by Attorneys John W. Lewis and L. Austin Fontenot.

This was the second phase of the legal tangle, the court having ruled against Mr. Jordan in the trial of the motion that the city had no right or cause for action and the matter came up Monday for trial on its merits. The court ruled quickly that the council had the right to discharge the superintendent and this ruling puts Mr. Jordan "out of court."

His attorneys will appeal the case to the supreme court at once and as the docket of that tribunal is very much congested it may be some time before an opinion is handed down, unless the case is placed on the preferential docket of the court.

Following a personal difficulty with the mayor the superintendent was discharged by the city council and, refusing to vacate the position, the council, through its representative, entered ouster proceedings against the deposed employe of the city.

Earl King arrived here Friday from Elizabeth, La., to spend Easter with his mother, Mrs. Preston King.

Miss Adella Bourdier spent Easter in New Orleans as the guest of relatives, Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Durio.

Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Dodd have returned to Opelousas to make their home. Mr. Dodd for the past few months was connected with the Southern Rice Growers' Association, New Orleans, La.

Jno. Lewis, Jr., who is attending S. U. Baton Rouge, was here to spend Easter with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jno. W. Lewis.

Gilbert and Walter Mistic arrived here on Friday to spend the week-end with their mother, Mrs. Pierre Mistic.

TWO ENTERTAINMENTS AT PORT BARRE LAST WEEK

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bruner of near Port Barre were host and hostess to a large circle of friends last Saturday night when they tendered a moonlight picnic in honor of their guests, Mrs. W. F. Moeling of Lake Charles. Those present were: Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Shute, Mrs. W. T. Stewart, Miss N. Moulis, Dr. A. J. Perrault, Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Marsh, Mrs. Warner, Miss Marie Meginley, Mr. Archie Dunbar, Mr. Burke, Mr. Alex Swords, Mr. Frank Garbo and Miss Irene Shute.

Sunday night Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Marsh tendered a moonlight supper in honor of Mrs. Moeling, at their home in Port Barre. Those present were: Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Shute, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Bruner, Mrs. Warner and Mr. and Mrs. J. Couillard.

Many Attend Catholic Services

The local Catholic church had a record-breaking congregation last Sunday for its Easter services. The several priests who were here to assist Rev. Father Couillard in conducting the mission assisted him also in the Easter services and in receiving the confessions of the hundreds who visited the church for that purpose. The sermon was delivered by Rev. Father Foulkes, S. J., who delivered quite a number of notable sermons in English during the mission. The subject Sunday was "The Resurrection." Father Foulkes made a deep impression on the congregation at every sermon he delivered in the church. His companion, Rev. Father Rousseau, S. J., delivered the French sermons. It was one of the most successful missions ever held in Opelousas.

Dr. and Mrs. Ed. Berclier and children of Rayne were visiting at the home of D. L. Guilbeau and family in this city last week-end.

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