

WALKER,
OF JENNINGS,
Sells It
for Less.

The Rice Belt Journal.

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OF JENNINGS,
Sells It
for Less.

NO. 25.

VOL. III.

WELSH, CALCASIEU PARISH, LA., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1902.

Elegant Line of . . . Millinery and Dress Hats

Just Received from Chicago.

Also a Big Dress Good and Trimmings Just in.
Line of . . .

Call and see some of the latest patterns.

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The Leader in Low Prices.

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Hardware, Shoes, Groceries, Etc.

We Meet Competition at All Times.



Our line of

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Will be constantly replenished, thereby giving our customers fresh goods at all times. Call and be convinced.

Prentice & Prentice,

Masonic Temple, Welsh, La.

The following persons were among those from Welsh who saw Gentry's dog and pony show in Jennings Saturday: Mrs. L. E. Robinson and children, Mr. L. G. Lewis and children, Mrs. C. W. Bramhall, Mrs. Chas. Stewart, E. H. Boling, C. J. Wildman, J. H. Thomas and A. J. Kuttner.

The Southern Pacific painters were here Wednesday and painted the town red, that is that part of it belonging to the railroad company. The water tank, section house, water cranes and switch signals are all bright with a new coat of paint.

Highest prices paid for hides of all kinds, o'possum and squirrel.
FRED JOHNSON.

Lake Arthur a Booming Town.

Lake Arthur, the town situated on the beautiful lake of the same name, is rapidly assuming the dignified airs of cities and bids fair to soon rival many larger but less progressive towns. A large area that has heretofore been under cultivation, has been embraced in the corporate limits of the town, and Gov. Heard recently recommended and subsequently appointed the following roster of officers as the "forefathers" of the future city of Lake Arthur, but who may now be appropriately termed "town dads": John Lovell, Sr., mayor; J. J. R. Mouton, clerk; Newton Sweeney, marshal and street commissioner; Dr. V. A. Miller, Boy Landry and D. Hebert, aldermen.

Many new buildings are under course of construction and others under contemplation, while real estate is soaring skyward at a most gratifying rate to the owners. We have been informed by a very reliable citizen that less than twelve months ago he bought lots for \$40 each that would now readily bring \$150. Farming land has also greatly enhanced in value within the past year.

A. Brechner, a veteran well man, who is at present sinking deep wells on the Illinois plantation south of town, while drilling a water well on Laurent's point, recently discovered oil in such quantities that an oil company has been organized and prospecting will commence soon near that place. It is said the indications are splendid.

In the event the Southern Pacific branch enters the town, there will be no more desirable place in the south than Lake Arthur to reside.

The Times says of it: "W. H. Ney has been made justice of the peace, Lake Arthur has been incorporated, and the citizens of that little village prophesy a high future for it. Town lots in the past twelve months have advanced 50 per cent, and a great many transfers have been recorded. There is a great deal of talk of several industries going in as soon as the railroad reaches that point, which will be some time in the spring. The road has already been built to Lacasine bayou and the rails have been laid about half way, and work is progressing rapidly.

Mr. Ney has opened up a real estate office in connection with his other business.

W. A. Bernard, the Railroad avenue barber, was rendered helpless last Friday afternoon in a very peculiar manner. He was assisting a child in a buggy when the horse that was hitched to the vehicle started. In a twisted position he placed the child in the seat, but in doing so wrenched his back to such an extent that the muscles along his spine refused to act and he fell to the ground. He was carried to the house and for several days was completely paralyzed. We are glad to note that he has recovered sufficiently to be around again.

A GENUINE GUSHER

Welsh No. 3 a Rival of the Famous Lucas Well.

SPOUTED OIL AND GAS 200 FEET

Gushed incessantly for 48 Hours Before Brought Under Control—History of the Welsh Field.

Well No. 3 of the Welsh Oil and Development Company came in Sunday afternoon with a rush and a roar as unexpectedly as a clap of thunder from a clear sky and has since rivaled the famous Lucas well at Beaumont. Oil, gas and water were thrown to a great height and for thirty-six hours the actions of the well baffled the experienced drillers in charge of the work, and not until Tuesday evening was it brought completely under control.

Drilling ceased when a depth of 1226 feet had been reached and by Sunday afternoon everything was in readiness for the bailing process. This had continued but a few minutes when it became evident that the gas pressure was too great to permit bailing. The huge bucket was making its fifth descent into the well, when water began spouting over the piping. Almost before the operator could find a place of safety the bailer shot skyward, and with it a mighty torrent of gas and oil which has continued incessantly. All attempts to subdue the gusher proved futile, owing to the tremendous gas pressure. Monday afternoon an elbow was placed on the cap and with a piece of four-inch piping fifty feet long the oil and water which at that time was exuding from the well was directed into an improvised reservoir, made by throwing up levees around a considerable area of ground near the well, and into which the well is yet gushing.

At first there was a large percentage of water, but no mud or sand as in the previous wells. The flow of water, however, diminished rapidly, until now the presence of water is barely perceptible and the output of oil gradually increases and is of a very superior quality.

With the valve only partially open between 500 and 800 barrels of oil were brought up Tuesday. Wednesday's output almost doubled this amount and yesterday the percentage of oil was greatly augmented over that of Wednesday. The pit specially prepared to receive the oil is so arranged that the water is carried off from the bottom, thus each day's output can be estimated with accuracy.

Driller Clay says that in all his experience in the oil well business, he has never encountered anything like the gas pressure in this well. He was obliged to open the valve to prevent a serious blow-out, and for the same reason he still allows the well to gush. This well is remarkable from the fact that he used only one string of six-inch pipe from start to finish, and this fact is important for the Welsh field, as it reduces the cost of sinking a well, and this alone is a great point in favor of the Louisiana fields.

The well was brought under complete control Tuesday afternoon, after having gushed wildly for forty-eight hours. Notwithstanding this fact the utmost caution is being exercised because of the great amount of gas pressure, and it is necessary to have the valve partially open to prevent the accumulation of gas, which would certainly prove disastrously as in the previous wells.

Wednesday afternoon in the presence of a large crowd of spectators the elbow was removed and the valve turned on. Oil and gas gushed more than a hundred feet above the derrick. It was permitted to gush perpendicularly for some time and several good photographs were taken of it before the elbow was readjusted.

President Robinson of the Welsh Oil and Development Company, stated to a JOURNAL representative yesterday that storage tanks would be erected at once, a pipe line built to the railroad and that Welsh oil would be in the market in a short time. The company has already had calls for oil and it will have no difficulty in contracting for all its product at high figures owing to the high grade of oil.

A great deal has been said about the good indications at the Welsh oil field, but before this time success had not crowned the efforts of the Welsh Oil and Development Company. But today they can boast of one of the best oil wells in the country. It is the third attempt of the company to

BIG BARGAINS IN SHOES!

Regents for Men, a \$3.50 Shoe, now for \$2.25. Dinsmore, for Men and Women, same price. Ladies' Shoes, a fine Assortment, 50c. and up. Children's School Shoes, 50c. and up. Now is the time to secure the greatest bargain of your life. Call early.

We do all kinds of Tailoring, Pressing and Cleaning.

SIGNAL CLOTHING STORE.

THE LEADING JEWELERS.

Welsh, La.

CARLSON & COMPANY,

Dealers in
Watches, Clocks and Jewelry.

bringing in a well, and with all the discouraging circumstances to contend with, they have persevered, and at last have a good well to reward them for all their trouble and money expended.

Welsh is proud of this well from another point of view. Besides being one of the best in the south it is the first in the big parish of Calcasieu, and in years to come Welsh No. 3 may be referred to as the pioneer well of Calcasieu parish.

Messrs. Clay and Champion are the drillers, and to whom a great deal, if not most of the credit is due for the great success of the Welsh oil field. It will be remembered that they are the drillers of the famous Southern No. 3 at Jennings, and their experience together with their good judgment has at last fathomed the mystery of the Welsh field. This is the fourth attempt at making a well in the Welsh territory, but all have failed before this on account of the great amount of gas. The third well had the greatest blowout in the history of oil wells, which lasted for twelve hours and practically ruined the well. Four hundred feet of four-inch pipe was thrown from the well and buried many feet in the air, and the rotary, which weighed several tons, was hung in the

derrick. Several feet of sand was thrown out, and the entire rig was covered up, and it was some time before the rig was repaired and drilling resumed. It was found, however, that the well was ruined, and another hole must be put down. From the time drilling was commenced until the present well was completed, it was only about fifteen days and some of this time was consumed in waiting for a liner. Considering the small expense for pipe, the short length of time in drilling, and the location of the well which is about a half a mile from the Southern Pacific, it looks as if the Welsh field would be the coming oil field of the country. Oilmen from all over the country have been looking with great interest to the completion of this well, and it is surely very gratifying to all concerned to announce that it is a success.

The land on which the present well is located is a portion of a tract of 580 acres belonging to E. S. Wood, of McGregor, Texas, who purchased it three years ago from J. R. Jarrett, paying \$12 an acre for it, costing all \$6,960. Since then some good crops of rice have been raised therefrom and recently several acres have been disposed of at prices ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000 per acre. The remainder of the tract is now valued by conservative parties at half a million dollars. Mr. Wood will begin drilling soon near the center of his farm.

KIMBALL & BENOIT,

(Successors to Knott Bros. & Co.)

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General Merchandise.

We carry an immense stock of all kinds of shoes and in order to make room for more goods are offering some unprecedented values in this line.

We have a complete line of Dry Goods and Groceries and the prices we sell them, are gaining new customers every day. Come and see us.

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And

News Stand,

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Shoes Repaired.

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