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HELP ON PRICE BILL?

The New York Times says the oil and coal blocs of congress at Washington have apparently joined forces for the purpose of bringing about higher prices for these two important natural resources. These forces reportedly joined in circulating a petition among the house members which brought to the floor a bill providing for around 60 cents a barrel increase in crude oil prices by writing a parity formula for petroleum into law.

Under an agreement that an amendment will be attached which will make a rise in coal prices possible, members representing the coal producing areas have joined the oil group. For about a year the oil group has been seeking an increase in price of 35 cents a barrel. However, Stabilization Director Fred M. Vinson has refused to approve such an increase, although it has been recommended by Harold L. Ickes, petroleum administrator for war.

Wyoming to Fight U. S. For Title to Rich Area In Elk Basin Field

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eral land grant effected when the state was admitted to the union.

The government withdrew the land, which lies in township 58 north, range 100 west, in 1913, claiming it was mineral bearing.

The Ohio Oil company has operated three shallow wells on the northeast quarter of the section several years.

When the Mule Creek company brought in the deep test well under federal permit on an outer edge of the oil structure within the section, the state challenged its operating rights under the previous state claim, and leased the area to the Ohio Oil company two weeks ago.

The state agreement with the Ohio company, Hunt announced, is on a royalty contract for sliding scale payments up to 22½ cents a barrel.

"This will mean a great deal to Wyoming, if our rights are established in the courts," Hunt said. "The field is regarded by oil men generally as 'the field' in the nation today."

Hunt declined to estimate the possible value of the field, but said indications are "it may be another Salt Creek."

The Ohio Oil company, Hunt said, has agreed to handle all legal action over ownership and "probably will start suit in federal court in Cheyenne in two weeks."

Send a contribution to the Sunburst Badger.



There was a new baby at Tommy's house — and Tommy just couldn't understand her ways.

"Mother, what is she doing now?" he asked while watching the baby nurse.

His mother replied: "Tommy, the baby has to eat the same as you do. She is having her dinner now."

"What!" exclaimed Tommy in amazement. "All that meat and no potatoes!"

Stepping from a luxurious car, the expensively dressed middle-aged woman haughtily approached the O. D.

"I wish to see my son, Montmorency Montpelier," she said.

"Who?" asked the O. D.

"Montmorency Montpelier. He is a tall, handsome, blue-eyed young man with dell—"

"Oh sure, I know who you mean," interrupted the O. D., and, turning toward the drill field, he shouted: "Hey, Stinkee-ee-ey!"

Teacher tells the youngin's to originate a few verses of poetry— something that would rhyme.

Little Johnnie writes:

This morning as I came to school, While strolling through the grass, I stepped into a mud hole, Almost up to my knee.

"But Johnnie," sez the teacher. "That doesn't rhyme."

"I know it don't," sez Johnnie. "The hole wasn't deep enough."

Guest: "My word! I'm thirsty."

Hostess: "Wait a moment; I'll get you some water."

Guest: "I said thirsty, not dirty."

Do State "Lines" Frighten You?

One of the great barriers to a true understanding of regional oil possibilities is an ordinary map of the United States.

An ordinary map ignores the facts of terrain and of subsurface and instead blithely divides the nation into neat little patches, each with a different color.

Each of the patches is called a state, and if the map is of the ordinary type the casual impression gained is that a state line is an actual barrier, with actual physical meaning, instead of the arbitrary device of lawmakers to divide a nation into easily managed subdivisions.

How true this is, and how it has influenced casual thinking, may be seen by looking at a map showing the states of Montana and Wyoming.

Oil was discovered in Wyoming before Montana had a single producing well.

Wyoming got a pretty thorough going over by operators as early as two decades ago, and as is inevitable in a region where there are true oil-bearing formations, some huge fields and big wells were brought in. To the casual mind, the name Wyoming began to mean oil.

No such meaning attached to the name Montana, because this state had had no drilling. Many operators were vehement in the declaration no oil would ever be found in Montana.

That notion has since been dispelled, of course, but some of the ideas of the mapmakers still persist.

In the minds of many, the edicts of the mapmakers still hold sway.

To them, there IS an actual barrier running east and west, separating Wyoming on the south from Montana on the north.

Actually, of course, there is no such barrier.

Both Montana and Wyoming

have a common characteristic—the presence of the Rocky mountains which jut up along the western boundaries of each state. East of these mountains, in each state, there is faulting and folding, caused by the mountain thrust.

Recently, Wyoming has begun to cash in on the effects of deep drilling.

Interestingly enough, one of the fields in which deep drilling has paid huge results is at Elk Basin. And, ironically enough, Elk Basin is squarely on the Montana-Wyoming line, ignoring the neat little divisions of the mapmakers. Both states will soon see a boost in oil production figures, resulting from the development of this field.

No one disagrees with that view, least of all operators familiar with the field.

Yet Wyoming continues to get deep test well after deep test well.

Many of them are being drilled because operators who own the shallow production have equipment near at hand with which to go deeper. It is more sensible for them to drill their own leases deeper, than to go afield in search of new deep test prospects.

In comparison, the deep tests drilling in Montana are few and far between, though this condition is changing rapidly.

After having been held back for nearly two decades by colored lines on a map, geological opinion is shifting to the agreement that if the deep drilling of shallow fields in Wyoming has produced gushers in the deeper horizons, there is no sensible reason why the same procedure in Montana should not produce like favorable results.

Now that everyone is beginning to admit it, the theory gains weight.

Montana fields are now get-

"Daddy, what is a bachelor?" "My boy, a bachelor is a man who didn't have a car when he was young."

It's getting so you can't tell what color bathing suit a girl is wearing when her back is turned.

And the old maid sez: "Don't put 'Miss' on my tombstone when I am gone, for I haven't missed as much as you think I have."

A couple of leatherneck aviators had been shot down and were floating around the Pacific in their rubber boat when a Jap submarine surfaced and its crew called on the Americans to surrender.

The marine fliers held a whispered conference.

"That's the stuff," said one to the other. "Let 'm think we're giving up. Then, when they get close, we'll rain 'em."

"And where is Cadet Smith?" "A. W. O. L."

"What do you mean by that?" "After women or liquor."

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