

WESTERN OKLAHOMA OIL REVIEW

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., Jan. 1—

There is no doubt that the money situation is easing up. That fact is of more consequence to operators in Western Oklahoma than the price of oil, the limitation of pipe line runs or the sale of leases for a big percentage of independent concerns in this section operate in some extent on money obtained from their local banks. The banks now have closed their 1929 books. They have called approximately all the loans they expect to call. Crop movement has increased the supply of money. Money will be freer to oil men than during the latter part of 1929 but probably none of them want all they need for a few months yet.

Nearly all stable concerns have been able to renew approximately all their existing leases, but the industry faces that vital period when individual leaseholders may not be able to effect renewals. What is happening in that line can not be determined for several weeks. It is vital for the reason that completions and possible field extensions have been delayed on account of it.

Renewed Activity.
There are signs of renewed activity over all of the western half of the State. It is significant that several major concerns have renewed leases and paid rentals in such commensal territory as Kingfisher and Blaine counties, indicating that they are not done with that territory. Activity is increasing over the northwestern part of the State, due principally to extensions of the Amarillo gas producing area and gas and oil discoveries in southwestern Kansas. There is no doubt that a score of tests for deep gas will be made in Woods, Woodward, Ellis, Harper, Texas, Beaver and Cimarron counties. During the period of depression in 1929 there were activity in leases in that section than any other on the west side.

Discovery of gas in a test west of Hobart, Kiowa county, recently caused a little excitement and an increase in the value of acreage, but the test is not complete. The gas evidently was of no great value, but its discovery heartened operators drilling in that vicinity. Signs of life are shown at Grant and Ootelo and Mountain View, each with its slightly explored field of shallow oil and gas. Carter and Washita counties are soon to be tested with in less than six or eight wells. Progress made on a majority of these will depend, however, on the sale of leases. Finances already have been secured for the others.

Three wells of the extreme west side are of especial interest because of the positive assurance that they will be completed. They are being drilled in Greer and Beckham counties by the Lone Star Gas Company, the Pierce Oil Corporation and Charles H. Taylor of Oklahoma City. The latter two are now drilling in Beckham county below 2,700 feet. Indications have been favorable. So far as reports show—but they may be misleading—little will be accomplished soon in Jackson, Tillman and Harmon counties and the western and southwestern parts of Cotton county. Many leases have been surrendered or permitted to expire in that territory. One company that originally had several thousand acres surrendered or lost all of it but thirty acres.

That section of country bounded by the Walters, Lawton, Duncan and Cement fields, covering part of Comanche, Cotton, Stephens, Caddo and Grady counties, continues to attract more attention than any other outside of proven territory in the western part of the State. The Denco Oil Company, a subsidiary of the Gladys Belle, has completed its second well in the new area east of the Lawton shallow pool. That an important pool has been identified there, there is no longer any doubt. Development northward from the Duncan pool foresees a connection between the two, so that area probably twenty wells are drilling, all of them on structure that is highly recommended by geologists.

Duncan District.
In the Duncan district a dependable oil pool has been found. It may not prove to have gusher sands, but new wells lately have been established that there is more in the field than this

sands and stray sands, the discovery of which originally gave the district two grave backsets and lost investors many thousands of dollars. Several northside wells there that produced gas in large quantities are now making oil, and the trend of dependable sands and larger production is northward. This accounts for much interest being taken in the south half of Gray County.

The Hobbsen district of the western part of Garvin County continues to produce gas but no oil. The Wrightsman Oil Company recently completed a new gas well there. Except that some new blocks of leases have been assembled lately and some new locations tentatively made, there is no important news of progress in Garvin County. A dozen tests are drilling, some of which early in the year may make striking discoveries. The area of activity spread into McClain County on the north and Murray County on the east into the year 1929, but no completions or abandonments were reported.

The Rex district, north of the Healthton field, came into leadership again lately as a gas producer. One new well there is reported to have gauged 125,000,000 cubic feet. Oil wells in that section are now making up to 300 barrels. At least twelve square miles in that region is likely to be scientifically exploited this year. Interest is added because of its lying between the Healthton field on the south and the big shallow district of Stephens County on the north.

Drilling Continues.
There has been no slackening of operations in that shallow territory. Scores of wells are being drilled where, five shallow producing sands are found. The region will prove of exceptional interest before long because of the number of deep tests being made. These are in the vicinities of Doyle, Velma, Alma and Lewis. The Magnolia Petroleum Company is drilling some of these. The Lone Star Gas Company is drilling one or more. These companies have large holdings there and the impression prevails that the Magnolia has found more than it is willing to admit. The region is proving a great gas producer and the Hobbsen district may be an arm of the gas sands. Some tests on the north side of the Stephens County shallow pool are receiving considerable attention, particularly that of Joe K. Kline and associates of Oklahoma City, who are starting a deep test near Doyle and in the region of the new nearly exhausted Crouse gas field.

One test is under way and two or three more have been projected in Caddo County north of the Cement field. Some good geological reports have been made on his territory, but it never has had a test to what was considered a sufficient depth. Negotiations are under way for two other Caddo County tests northwest of Anadarko.

Judge Dickerson and associates of Edmond, officials of the American Drilling Company, have started a well near the south line of Logan County, northeast of Edmond. The location is south and supposedly on the same structure on which the Empire Gas & Fuel Company is drilling a deep hole. The Champion Refining Company has a deep hole going on the western side of Logan County. South and east of this the Idaho Drilling Syndicate found a gas and oil sand and has drilled a second well to the sand level. These locations are northwest of Edmond.

Within ten days the second well of the Masd Oil & Gas Company of Okla-

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homa City should be drilled into the sand in the vicinity of Maude, Pontotoc County. No well in that part of the field has attracted more attention because of the belief that the first well drilled and lost over a year ago, is believed to have been a producer. The situation there has been similar to what it was two years ago at Paden, where now two good wells are producing after a long period of hole trouble. The Paden country gives promise of considerable activity this year.

Abandonment by the Elmer Oil Company of its well in the southern part of Jefferson County, near Terral, sets at rest for the time being speculation with reference to that section of the river district. A few miles east the Empire continues drilling in its second test. This is on the Neay ranch and

nearly due north of Nocona, Texas. Empire geologists are enthusiastic over the surface structure there. Two other interesting tests in river territory are being drilled, one by the Bluff Oil & Refining Company in Love County and one by the Red River Petroleum Company in McClain County. In the vicinity of Caddo, Bryan County, operations have been suspended.

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