

OIL

## THE KEVIN COURIER

NEWS

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## Frantz People Are Preparing to Drill

Information That Governor Franz and Associates Have 3,000 Acres In Northern Fields And Are Making An Inspection Tour This Week of Local Field, Is Given Public.

Following the news given some time ago by The Courier that Governor Franz, who first brought in an oil well in the Cat Creek field, and organizer of the company which bears his name that has been so instrumental in the development of that field, comes the information that he and associates under the name of the Montana-Sweet Grass Oil & Gas company have secured some 3,000 acres in northern Montana and are this week making a personal inspection of the field to locate the site of the first well to be put down by them with a rig said to be in transit. The location of the acreage the company holds is not given. The following item regarding this company's activities appeared in the Great Falls Tribune:

A tour of inspection of the northern Montana oil fields will be made in the next few days by George T. Hansen of Salt Lake City, president of the Montana Sweetgrass Oil & Gas company, and Governor Franz of the same company, according to an-

nouncement made by B. O. Jones, secretary-treasurer, who has left for Butte to meet Hansen.

Hansen will spend a few days in Butte, looking over mining properties owned there by him and will then be joined in Great Falls by Governor Franz, the first vice president. L. Lilly of the Montana Sweetgrass, now inspecting acreage under option in Cat Creek, will return to accompany the officials to the northern fields, where they will inspect the acreage held, amounting to some 3,000 acres. Company officials announced that the standard rig to open development operations is now en route and the visit of Hansen and Franz is interpreted to mean that development plans will be laid during their visit.

The return of Franz and Hansen in the development of the Montana Sweetgrass company recalls Franz as the discoverer of the Cat Creek field with his original company. Hansen has also played a part in the state in the mining game. He developed the Walker mine, one of Montana's famous copper producers, later sold to the International Smelting company. He still retains mining interests in Montana.

## Kevin Business Men Prepare For Rush

The continual proving out as oil land of the acreage in almost all directions of Kevin has prompted the live business men of the town to get together and prepare for the rush which is sure to follow as soon as the outside world can be convinced, as are already the big oil companies, of the great future this field and its towns have. Realizing that the town will one of these days suddenly emerge from a village and the headquarters of one oil concern into a bustling oil center for hundreds of operators and thousands of workers, a commercial club has been organized to be ready to give intelligent direction and assistance to the growth of the town and encouragement to those who want an opportunity in a business way or to those looking for an investment in the land now going for a song which will be priceless in so short a time.

The organization meeting of the Kevin Commercial Club was held last Wednesday, August 16, most of the business men of the city attending. In the absence of M. C. Green, who was elected as temporary chairman at the previous meeting, J. S. Gordon, the proprietor of the White Cash store, was named to act as chairman.

The committee of three consisting of Albert Goedertz Jr., Angus Gaines and Bruce Thompson, who were named to meet with the county commissioners in regard to roads leading into Kevin, reported that work would be started immediately on the road leading into Kevin west from the Shelby-Sweet Grass highway.

The following permanent officers were elected: Gordon Campbell, president; R. C. Lehman, vice president; M. C. Green, secretary and J. S. Gordon, treasurer. A committee of three were appointed to be called the ways and means committee, consisting of Angus Gaines, William Seabrook and Frank Stevens.

The next meeting will be held Friday, September 1, at 4 p. m. in Goedertz hall, and everyone interested in the welfare of Kevin is urged to attend.

## Dry Fork Resumes Work

Conrad, Aug. 18.—Resumption of drilling operations in the well of the Dry Forks Oil company, three miles north of Conrad, has aroused the oil interest in this community. Brugs Brothers, a contracting firm of Lewistown, is in charge of the operations in accordance with a contract entered into with the oil company several weeks ago.

Last week the drillers succeeded in cleaning out the hole, which was a difficult task, there being a set of tools lost in the hole since four years ago. The hole is said to have a depth of 2,000 feet.

The Dry Forks Oil company is an organization composed mainly of local people. The well was first started in 1914. Since that time several oil companies have been interested in its development.

## Go East For Finance

Bruce P. Radigan and E. F. Cobb of Lewistown, two operators who have been identified with developments in the Montana fields since the discovery of oil in the state, left Thursday night for Watertown, N. Y., on a business trip. Since the interests of the two men extend through Cat Creek, Kevin-Sunburst and many others of the state, it was understood that their eastern trip is in connection with financing operations that will be of importance in development of some of these holdings.

## Eulberg Makes Deal on Land Near Kevin

A deal which may portend additional development for acreage near Kevin was consummated recently, according to Toole county records at Shelby, whereby Adam J. Eulberg, a Lewistown and Cat Creek oil operator, transferred 58 per cent of all oil and gas in the east half of the southwest quarter, and west half of the southeast quarter of section 8-34-2 west; and 82½ per cent in the east half of the southwest quarter of section 9-34-2 west, to Richards, Horteinstein & Decker. The transaction is said to contain a drilling agreement, but The Courier is unable to secure additional particulars at this time, and the principals could not be seen. Mr. Eulberg secured this acreage, with other stuff, early this spring, and in addition has spent much time at Kevin in connection with a water supply line he and his associates are planning whereby water for drilling and for Kevin was to be piped from the big springs above the Rim.

## Greeks Form Company

An oil company with holdings in six different fields to be known as Hercules Oil and Gas company, has been formed in Great Falls, capitalized at \$150,000, with shares at a par value of \$1 each.

The company will seek to have only Greek stockholders. The officials of the company are: M. E. Howe, president; Alex P. Geranios, first vice-president; James Ritalis, second vice-president; Hugh M. Jones, secretary-treasurer. Fred S. Francis is a member of the board of directors.

Mr. Howe is a Great Falls restaurant man, Mr. Geranios is a partner in the Great Falls grocery company, Mr. Ritalis and Mr. Francis are landowners of the Teton Ridge and Genou sections. Mr. Jones is a railroad man and is interested in the Great Northern Mutual Oil company.

The company has holdings in the Fowler, Kevin, Genou, Bowdoin, Teton Ridge and Crown Butte fields, according to Mr. Jones. Their leases comprise approximately 3,000 acres, according to Mr. Jones. He stated that a drilling site had not been selected, but that they hoped to be able to start operations within 90 days.

## Asks Three Quarters of a Million in Cash

Billings.—Alleging breach of contract, the Wyoming Exploration company has brought suit in district court here against J. R. Prigmore and Gus Peterson of Seattle, asking for \$799,000 damages.

The plaintiff company sets forth that on June 27, 1921, it entered into an agreement with defendants, whereby it was to transfer to them for a consideration of \$50,000, all its holdings, such as drills, boilers, derricks, auto truck, and oil leases in Natrona county, Wyoming. This includes 240 or possibly 280 acres in the Salt Creek dome, according to the complaint.

According to the contract attached to the complaint, the defendants agreed also to form a new company under the laws of Wyoming, to be capitalized at \$1,500,000, retaining \$751,000 worth of the capital stock and giving the Wyoming Exploration company \$749,000 worth of the stock. This agreement, according to the copy introduced in the pleadings was signed by Prigmore and Peterson as parties of the second part. W. B. Duy, president, and C. L. Holden and C. F. Dayle signed for the Wyoming Exploration company.

In their suit the plaintiffs claim that the defendants did not pay them the \$50,000, nor any sum, and that they neglected and refused to organize the new company and make the distribution of stock as agreed.

In view of the premises alleged, the plaintiff company claims it was damaged to the extent of \$799,000 and asks judgment for this amount.

## Cloudburst Washes Out Kevin Tracks

Tracks of the Great Northern railway between Aloe and Shelby were washed out Monday night by the near-cloudburst which fell in that section and the Kevin passenger train was several hours late Tuesday as a consequence. Heavy rain fell in some places and some hail, resulting in slight crop damage, was reported in a few parts of the county. No great amount of injury, however, was done. Farther east, near Harlem, a terrific storm was experienced, doing a great amount of damage not only to crops but to buildings, livestock and other property. A rancher's wife north of that town is reported to have been killed by lightning.

The total of second sand territory now proved by the seven gushers in Cat Creek from that formation is nearly eight miles and a large part of it is territory that was formerly disproved so far as the first sand is concerned.

## Gasoline Stock Was Decreased in July

New York, August 19.—Gasoline stocks held at United States refineries at the end of July decreased for the third consecutive month, according to the weekly summary of the American Petroleum institute. The decrease during July was 441,930 barrels, covering approximately 66.7 per cent of the refinery operating capacity. There was an indicated increase of domestic crude oil, kerosene and fuel oil. Totaling 495,627 barrels and a decrease of Mexican crude oil of 1,054,213 barrels, making a net decrease of all liquid stocks held at refineries of 558,588 barrels.

Pipe line and tank farm gross domestic crude oil stocks in the United States increased 7,210,000 barrels in July, according to the institute of which 4,775,000 barrels were east of the Rockies and 2,435,000 barrels in California.

The daily average gross crude oil production of the United States increased 5,505 barrels for the week ending August 12, totalling 1,504,150 barrels as compared with 1,499,100 barrels for the preceding week according to the summary of the institute.

No changes were reported in crude oil prices for the major districts. According to figures collected by the institute, the imports of petroleum (crude and refined oils) at the principal United States ports for the week ending August 12, totaled 2,258,812 barrels, compared with 2,191,000 barrels for the week ending August 5.

## Government Permits Are Given Extension

Extension of time on drilling requirements on government oil and gas permits to December 3 of this year, has been made in the cases of Charles N. Kimball, W. J. Neuenschwander, J. W. Cushing, Walter S. Sudgen and Daniel A. MacGowan, according to notices received by W. E. Bennett, register and disbursing agent of the Great Falls land office.

An oil and gas permit has been issued to J. R. Payne of Great Falls on 1,655 acres in sections 29, 30, 31 and 32-22-2 west, and section 25-22-8w.

## Lucky Oil Files Articles

Articles of incorporation were filed in Great Falls by the Lucky Oil company, to have headquarters in Great Falls, with an authorized capital of \$250,000. The organizers, also directors for the first three months, are R. J. Owens, H. C. Atkins, Maurice Hansen, Edward Marshall and O. B. Kotz all of Great Falls.

## Development Activities

## KEVIN-SUNBURST FIELD

## Producing

Gordon Campbell-Kevin Syndicate

No. 1, NE NE 16-35-3W.

Ohio-Hannon No. 1, SE SW 26-36-2 west.

Ohio-Davey No. 2, NW NE 3-35-2 west.

Ohio-Boyce No. 1, SW SW 23-36-2 west.

Ohio-Swayze No. 1, section 34-36-2 west.

Ohio-Sinden No. 1, SW NW 1-35-2 west.

Ohio-Barr No. 1, NW NW 2-35-2 west.

Ohio-Davey No. 1, SE SE 34-36-2 west.

California Co., NE SW 26-35-2 west.

A. E. Louis Corporation, NE SE 14-35-3W.

## Drilling

Rainbow No. 1 NW SE 9-35-3W.

Coe No. 1, SW NW, 4-36-2 west.

Gladys Belle, NE NE 19-37-4 east.

Homestake No. 1, NE NW 3-35-2W.

Three-In-One Oil Syndicate No. 1, SW SW 8-35-1W.

Troy-Sweet Grass Oil company No. 1, NE NW 28-34-1W.

Sunburst Oil & Gas company No. 2, NE SE 5-35-2W.

Gladys-Belle-Fulton No. 1, NE NE 1-34-2W.

Gladys-Belle-Three-In-One No. 2, NE SE 18-35-2W.

Gordon Campbell-Kevin Syndicate No. 2, Lincoln, SW SW 10-35-3W.

Ohio-Reibe No. 1, NW NE 3-35-2W.

Ohio-Claire Stevenson No. 1, NE NW 3-35-2 west.

Apex No. 1 SW SE 3-35-3W.

Sweet Grass Oil company, 27-33-1W.

Rice No. 1, NW NW 8-35-2W.

Black Magic Oil company, SW SE 16-35-3W.

G. C. K. Syndicate well No. 2 SW SW 35-36-3W.

Sunburst Oil & Gas-Suhr, NE SW 10-34-2W.

California Co., SE SE 13-34-2W.

J. K. D. Shaffer, 33-36-2W.

## Location

O'Neil & Catlett, NE 15-35-3W.

Rainbow No. 2, NW NW 15-35-3W.

Sweet Grass Oil and Land No. 1, SW SW 6-35-1W.

Producers Oil & Gas, SE SE, 4-36-2W.

Potlatch No. 1, SE SW 27-34-1W.

Big West No. 1, NW NW 6-34-1W.

Potlatch No. 2, NW SW 28-34-1W.

Mid-Northern, NW NE 9-35-2 west.

G. C. K. Syndicate well No. 3, NE SW, 26-35-3W.

Bitter Creek Oil Co., SW SE 16-36-2 west.

Burkes and Clark, 31-36-1W.

## Shut Down

Holding and Royalty, SE NE 21-35-3W.

Aloe Oil Syndicate No. 1, SE NW 6-34-2W.

Orchard No. 1, SE SE 9-35-3W.

T. S. Hogan, SW NW 22-35-2 west.

California company No. 1, SE SE 10-35-3W. Shut down, 500.

## California Well in Section 26-35-2W. East of Kevin Lengthens Producing Area

What Many Oil Men Say Is Biggest Producer Yet Brought In Proves Ground Five Miles Southeast of Ohio No. 1 and Makes Certain Value of Land in Township Just to East of Kevin.

The bringing in of oil in the California company's well on section 26-35-2 west, known as the Homestake No. 2, last Wednesday, is the biggest single piece of news The Courier has had to give its readers since we chronicled the successful completion of the Sunburst Gas & Oil company's first producer. The new well is said to have more oil under pressure than any well in the field and later reports are that the water is being handled and many predict that it is only a pocket, the nature of the water itself, one authority tells The Courier, being such as to indicate it does not come from a large body. Men who have made the survey of the eastern part of the field were not surprised to hear of oil in this location and say it only confirms their theory and that a still larger flow of oil is quite certain to be found under ground not far distant from the California.

Shelby, Aug. 17.—That the California-Homestake well, 26-35-2 west, which came in yesterday will make a producer there is not the slightest doubt among oil men here, the amount of production to be gauged later when the well shall have been drilled into the sands. Parties from Shelby visited the well this morning, finding it capped and no one about; oil was bubbling out from the cap as though driven by gas, and indicated that the casing was filled to the top with oil; that it was coming out as stated was witnessed by several reputable citizens. Douglas Park, president of the Sweet Grass bank, was present late Wednesday afternoon when bailing was going on at the California, and pronounced the oil as high grade oil, and not of the dark kind carried in

## Four New Cat Creek Wells Are Completed

Lewistown, August 19.—Four fine wells completed from the second sand within 24 hours of each other was the record made in Cat Creek up to last evening. The first of these to be brought in was the "56" Petroleum's second well from the second sand. This is in section 11 and it is now pumping over 700 barrels.

The Catlett-Midnorthern No. 5 completed last evening is in the SW¼ of the NW¼ of section 13, it is considered good for at least 700 barrels on the pump.

The Green-Midnorthern No. 12 was the last to be brought in and was drilled two feet into the sand last night, having an estimated production then on the pump, of 700 barrels. It was fully completed this morning.

The Green-Midnorthern No. 13 is in the NW¼ of the NE¼ of section 14 and offsets the "56" to the southeast. It will pump 700 barrels if not more. This record of four wells in 24 hours, all from the second sand, with a total pumping production of at least 2,800 barrels will greatly stimulate development work in the field.

## Thinks Well of Kevin Field

Bruce P. Radigan, who was prominent in the oil game in this section up to last fall when he went to Mexico and other Texas fields, returning to Montana recently, came over from Great Falls yesterday on business and will return to that city today. Mr. Radigan has considerable interests in the Kevin field and has a good chance to come out well in that district. He thinks Kevin is going to be all that was expected of it, ultimately, and says the success at the Ohio's Hannon well has proved very encouraging. But whether he makes it there or somewhere else, Bruce is sure to win out in the oil game, sooner or later.—Lewistown Democrat.

## Lost Tools Are Found

Conrad, Aug. 18.—The set of tools lost four years ago in the Dry Forks well, now owned by a company of local men, has been recovered and drilling has again been resumed. All eyes are now centered on this well for operators say prospects are encouraging. People in this community are watching the well with interest.

the Hannon well. According to the statement of the California people the well came in when the drill had penetrated the sand less than two feet, and drilling was stopped because of trouble with the rig and in a few minutes the oil had risen to 600 feet. Later, it is stated that it was found that 800 feet of water was under 400 feet of oil. The water is black sulphur water, and not salt water, and where it came from presents a problem, the majority of opinion being that the well is on the edge of the big pool, and even more important than at first considered. For the oil operators the developments are awaited with unusual interest, as they may prove key to the big oil pool for which all the wells are drilling. No announcement is made by the California as to when drilling is to be resumed, but presumably so soon as certain repairs can be made on the rig. At noon today it is capped and the oil is bubbling out underneath the cap through force.

## Carter Co. Enters Kremlin Oil Field

The Carter Oil company has entered the Kremlin field, through closing of a deal, involving \$50,000 cash, with the Kremlin Petroleum. The deal includes property in the Kevin-Sunburst field, and the Carter will immediately set up a standard rig on the southwest quarter of section 10-32-12 south, 15 miles west of Havre, where a pit is already dug and other preparations made for drilling. This location is about two and a half miles south of the present Kremlin No. 1 well. The No. 1 well is being drilled with a diamond drill.

Under the terms of the deal just completed the Kremlin company checkerboards 8,000 acres on the lower part of the Kremlin structure, the Carter acreage being 4,000 acres.

The Kevin-Sunburst acreage taken by the Carter in the deal is described as 160 acres in section 10-35-2 west, a mile south of the Sunburst No. 1 well. It is near the drilling activities of the Midnorthern on the Dawson-Merkle tract in section 9-35-2 west. The Kremlin retains a 3¼ per cent royalty in the quarter section. The acreage was taken by the Kremlin from the Homestake Exploration company in trade for Kremlin leases. The Homestake obtained it as a part of acreage in a deal with the Kalispell-Kevin syndicate on a sliding scale royalty basis.

## Open Offices In Shelby

Shelby, Aug. 19.—The Dakota-Montana Oil company has opened offices here and will engage in a general brokerage business. The company has recently moved its offices from Tolley, N. Dak., to here. According to A. L. Fruh and M. E. Porter, president and secretary-treasurer respectively of the company, plans are now being considered to develop the company's holdings in the Sweet Grass arch. Within 30 days, they said, a well will be spudded in on acreage in 34-35-2 west.

## Church News

The meeting held in the school house last Thursday night was a real success. Every seat was taken and all went home in a happier and more cheerful mood, willing and ready to do all in their power for the uplift and good of the community. How can a home stand except it be founded on the rock of God? How can a city live except God be its ruler? Let us make our community and homes the place where God dwells and rules, and thus have clean homes and a clean town. Everybody welcome to our services which will be held every two weeks. All visitors especially welcomed.

Ernest Kistler, Pastor.

The B. O. Jones company of Denver, brokers, will open a branch office at once in Great Falls for the purpose of directing the financing of the Montana-Sweet Grass Oil and Gas company. The latter company will also have offices in the same building.