

CUT BANK FIELD EXTENDED NORTH

Cummings Gasser Is Surprise With Flow Of 28,000,000 Feet

Well In Doubtful Area Comes In As Unusual Producer

Indications Now Point To Eventual Extension Of Producing Area To Area Near Canadian Border

Coming as a spectacular climax to the 1931 drilling campaign of L. B. O'Neil in the Cut Bank field, his No. 1 well on the Cummings lease a mile north of the nearest production has blown in with a reported gas flow of 28,000,000 cubic feet.

This well is located in the center of the southwest quarter of Section 22, Township 34 North, Range 5 West, almost exactly six miles due north of O'Neil's southernmost gasser, his No. 1 Peterson which has a reported flow of 10,000,000 cubic feet.

Near Large Producer
The well is slightly more than a mile northeast of O'Neil's State Section 33 No. 1, the field's largest gasser, which came in with a flow of 38,000,000 cubic feet.

Like this well, the Cummings producers is located along the crest of a ridge which in the opinion of some is an accurate reflection of underground conditions.

No Limit Yet
Completion of the Cummings well as a producer of this size emphasizes the fact that there is as yet no way of determining how far north the gas area will extend, with no visible indications that it may not eventually extend well toward the Canadian border.

The boundary line is approximately nine miles south of the Cummings well.

Large Open Flow
Open flow of the seventeen (Continued on Page Five)

MORE WELLS PLANNED FOR BERTHELOTE

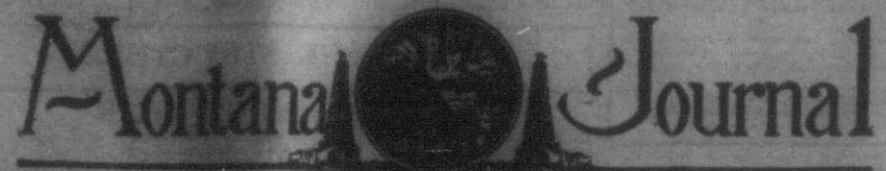
Two more wells on Berthelote dome, in the Sweetgrass Hills area, were announced during the past week.

The Oregon syndicate which is drilling in SW. NE. 1/4, SE. 1/4, 20-36-2E has spotted its next well three-quarters of a mile northeast of the present well, in Section 21, believing that the "high" of the structure is considerably farther northeast than mapped by the geologists.

This conclusion resulted from the fact that the present well is checking 120 feet higher than the Black Gold discovery oil well and the further fact that this well is getting gas in horizons where other wells on the structure have had water.

Good Gas Flows
Whereas the first probable gas producing horizon has not yet been reached, this well in Section (Continued on Page Four)

Bannatyne Refinery To Resume



VOLUME ELEVEN—No. 31. GREAT FALLS, MONTANA, SATURDAY, OCT. 24, 1931.

Seek Black Horse Lake Oil Pool



With the prospect that is may open an oil field adjoining the north city limits of Great Falls, Merz-Sheffels No. 1, shown above, has spudded in and is drilling, three miles northwest of town. Location is on a site approved by numerous geologists. Another well on this structure, not so well located structurally, found free oil in two sands, though not in commercial amounts.

Mayland Well May Add Further To Proven Gas Reserves In Hills

Advantages Of Using Montana Gas In Twin Cities Stressed

Delegation Of Producers From This State Shows How Reciprocal Plan Will Be Of Mutual Benefit

Montana gas producers representing approximately one third of the gas reserves of the State of Montana are this week in the Twin Cities giving support to the proposal initiated by Twin City business men that provision be made for the use of Montana natural gas in the new franchise to be voted upon by the people of St. Paul.

The extension of a line from Texas to the Twin Cities has been discussed and St. Paul business men maintain that it would be better to have a line from Montana with the Twin Cities as its principal market than to have an extension of a line which has as its principal market its intermediate points.

Peak Load Requirements
A pipeline capacity four times greater than the average daily load is necessary to adequately care for a city as far north as St. Paul during winter months.

In other words, a line from Texas would have its capacity taxed during winter months by intermediate points, leaving the Twin Cities without adequate gas during the days and hours when it would be needed most.

UTOPIA WILDCAT GETS MORE SAND

Standard of California's wildcat on Utopia structure is drilling deeper and at present depth, 3205, has cut nearly 95 feet of saturated oil sand, according to a report which reached Great Falls today.

STILL FISHING ON BENTON LAKE

Wildcat of Snatcher & Cassidy et al, on the Benton Lake structure 13 miles north of Great Falls, reported no change during the week, with the crew still fishing for tools at 1010.

MAY RIVAL IMPERIAL'S HUGE FLOW

With the hole drilled down to the top of the Sunburst sand, the Mayland well on the north slope of Reserve Structure, on the Alberta side of the Sweetgrass Hills, is ready to drill into the first horizon of probable large production.

Trouble in running 10-inch casing has delayed the completion during the past week. The hole bottoms at 2440 and the pipe has hung up at a round 1850 feet.

Gets Much Gas
This well has shown more gas in the Bow Island sand than any other well ever drilled in the Hills area. It serves to prove up a high-pressure gas area of approximately 40,000 acres.

The Bow Island gas flow was variously estimated from five to 12 million cubic feet per day—considerably greater than the Rogers Imperial well which is at present the largest gasser in the British Empire, with a flow of 52,000,000 cubic feet per day.

Great Gas Reservoir
Evidence that the Sweetgrass Hills area contains the greatest reservoir of gas in the North Rocky Mountain region (Continued on Page Five)

Pritchard Purchase Announced

Full resumption of drilling and producing activities in the Bannatyne field, 45 miles north of Great Falls, is now assured, through consummation of a deal whereby the Pritchard interests, north Montana gasoline marketers, have acquired control of the Sterling Refinery.

Pritchard, who operates bulk plants and filling stations in Choteau, Conrad and adjacent towns, has announced plans for placing the plant in operation in February.

Tax Decision Saves Oil Men Large Figure

An important income tax decision which will mean perhaps hundreds of thousands of dollars to Montana oil operators has been handed down by the United States Board of Tax Appeals in the case of the P. M. K. Petroleum company, operating in Kevin-Sunburst field.

Copies of the decision have been received by W. M. Findley, C. P. A., and L. P. Donovan of Shelby, attorney, who successfully upheld the P. M. K. Petroleum contention that expenditures for fuel, wages, repairs, hauling and like incidental expenses of drilling operations are capital expenses recoverable through depreciation rather than depletion.

The government allows but 27 1/2% depletion of the amount of oil owned by the operator, limited to 50% of the net income from the property, no case less than depletion on costs of the property. The government held that incidental expenses such as trucking should be added to the capital investment, being added to the cost of the lease and made subject to depletion, while the cost of casing and other capital outlay of a material nature was termed tangible and made subject to depreciation.

New Ruling
Under the new ruling all such items as trucking and other incidental expenses may be charged off separately as depreciation and the 27% depletion allowable (Continued on Page Five)

BYNUM WILDCAT CARRYING PIPE

Standard of California is drilling ahead at 2210 feet, carrying 10-inch pipe, in its wildcat on the Sullivan ranch, 65 miles northwest of Great Falls. Well is now nearing the base of the Colorado shale.

FULTON REPORTED NOW PAST CRISIS

Wm. M. Fulton, independent operator confined in a Great Falls hospital following an auto crash which resulted in five broken in one leg and two in another, is reported definitely on the way to recovery. His legs were set during the week, an ordeal through which he came with flying colors, doctors declare.

MILK RIVER TEST DRILLING AT 2710

Steady progress is reported from the Milk River anticline, potential rival to Salt Creek, where Fulton Petroleum Company's wildcat is drilling again following another cementing job at 2710 feet. This well has less than 400 feet to go to reach sands where production is expected.

E. B. & S. Subsidiary Is Not Participating In Plan For Gas Line To Pacific Coast

Official Of International Utilities Says His Company Not One Mentioned In Portland Dispatch

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM
New York, N. Y.
October, 20
MONTANA OIL JOURNAL,
GREAT FALLS, MONT.
KNOW NOTHING OF PORTLAND ANNOUNCEMENT STOP REPORT AS SET FORTH IN YOUR WIRE IS UNTRUE STOP INTERNATIONAL UTILITIES CORPORATION HAS NEVER CONSIDERED SUCH A PROPOSITION.
P. M. CHANDLER.

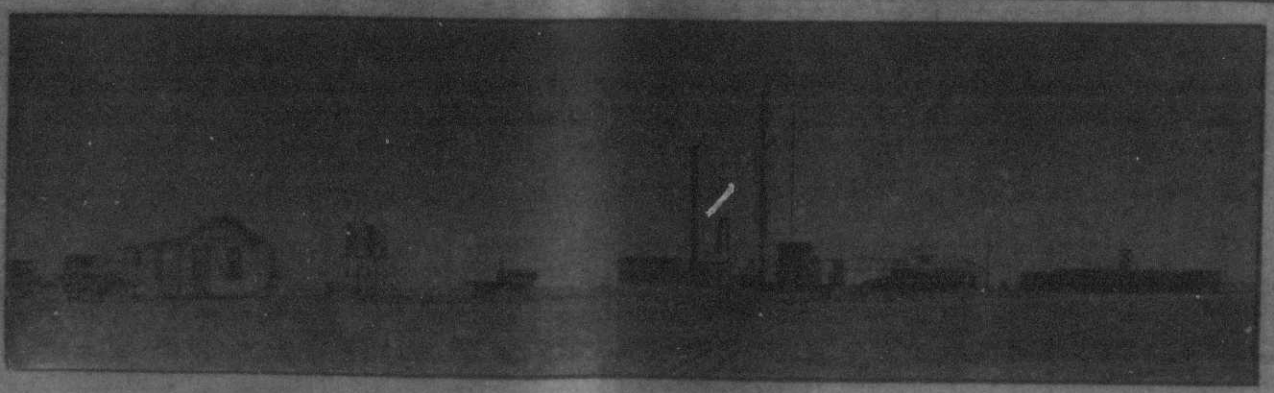
High hopes that Electric Bond & Share are proceeding immediately with the construction of pipelines from Montana to the Pacific Coast were shattered by receipt of the above telegram from P. M. Chandler, president of the International Utilities, powerful subsidiary of Electric Bond & Share Company.

OHIO-TEXACO DEAL IS YET UNCONFIRMED

Reports of a deal whereby the Texas Company is to take over the interests of the Ohio Oil Company in the International Refinery at Sunburst and producing properties of the Ohio in the Kevin-Sunburst field, including pipelines and tank farm at Sunburst, were today without confirmation.

An official of the Ohio Oil Company today issued this statement: "There has been no transfer of Ohio properties to the Texas Company."

Will Handle Bannatyne Crude Oil



An outlet for crude oil from the Bannatyne field is again assured, with news that the Pritchard marketing organization has taken over the Sterling Refinery above, and will place it in operation shortly. The plant is located in the center of a rich farming district with a heavy demand for tractor fuel making possible a profitable operation without heavy distributing costs. Much crude is now stored in the field.