

## REPORT ON DISTRICT MINERAL SURVEY MADE

Supervisor of Work in Five Counties  
Of Area Report Developments.  
Garland Co. 7-9-38

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The meeting was attended by Dr. George C. Branner, state geologist, and Robert C. Beckstrom, project supervisor, both of Little Rock. The survey is sponsored by the state geological department.

Mr. Branner expressed himself as pleased with the developments and said that he felt the survey would eventually be the means to an end to develop Arkansas resources.

County supervisors present were J. James K. Riffell, Garland; Comper Pipkin, Polk; L. C. Crutchfield, Scott; Francis Gribble, Saline; W. E. Womble, Jr., Sebastian.

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## 14 Men to Inspect Lead Deposits Near Norman

Hot Springs—Rex Mhoon, Hot Springs, supervisor of the Arkansas geological survey for this district, Saturday announced that he had moved in 14 men to a point near Norman where recently discovered lead deposits will be investigated as a WPA project.

Considerable activity in mineral exploitation in the eight counties in Mhoon's district has been under way recently. Many out-of-state industries have also shown interest in the development, Mhoon said Saturday.

## Pike County Has Asphalt

Garland 7-18-38

## Abandoned Mine Found and Other Minerals as Result Survey.

Hot Springs (P)—Rex E. Mhoon, district supervisor of a state geological survey being conducted as a WPA project, said today that an abandoned mine in Pike county had been found to contain sufficient asphalt to pave many miles of road.

Mhoon is in charge of a survey which was started last April. It has been extended into nine counties in this section of the state and, he said, he will have a report ready in the next several weeks on 11 counties.

Found in Polk county, he said, were great outcroppings of manganese and red, black and green slate, probably in the quantity of a million tons. He said the product is valuable for roofing, panel boards and other uses.

"In Garland county we discovered new outcroppings of Novaculite," he said. "This is commercial whetstone and has been produced in commercial quantities."

## Survey Finds Valuable Minerals Garland County

7-17-38

Special to the Gazette.

Hot Springs, July 16.—Asphalt in quantities sufficient to pave many miles of road were revealed in the mineral survey being made in nine counties in the southwestern section of the state by Rex E. Mhoon, district supervisor, who returned to his headquarters in the courthouse here today. Mapping of the mineral deposits of the state is being conducted under the supervision of the Arkansas state Geological Department. It is a WPA project, employing about 600 men.

### Many Discoveries Reported.

"We went into an abandoned asphalt mine in Pike county," Mr. Mhoon said, "and found a deposit of pure asphalt of from four to five feet in thickness. In Pike county there were great outcroppings of manganese. In the same county one of the most important of the newly discovered deposits is that of red, green and black slate. It is our impression that there is at least a half-million tons of that product, which is valuable for roofing, panel boards and other uses."

"In Garland county we discovered new outcroppings of novaculite. This is commercial whetstone and has been produced in commercial quantities. Some of the Garland county whetstones, because of their perfection, for years have been imported into Germany."

Mr. Mhoon said that possibly one of the most important discoveries was that of antimony, a rare mineral, which previously has been found in Europe, South America and Canada. It is used extensively in the preparation of alloys, especially type metal. This, he said, was found in Howard county.

## Mineral Survey Brings Important Data on Springs

Springs and Wells In  
Garland County Listed  
In Survey of Resources

For the last nine months a survey of the minerals, cultural features and waters of Garland County has been in progress as a state-wide WPA project, sponsored by the State Geological Survey and locally directed by James K. Riffel, county supervisor. Garland county is in a district composed of 12 southwestern counties of which Rex E. Mhoon of Hot Springs is district supervisor.

Of the 738 square miles in the area of Garland County, 646 square miles are to be investigated by the survey. On January 1, 1939, approximately 450 square miles had been covered.

The springs and wells of Garland county outside of the city of Hot Springs present interesting facts, as disclosed by the records made by the field workers. No springs having hot water have been found, although there may be a variation in the degree of temperature of springs in the same locality. Few springs in the outlying districts of the county are of distinctly mineral quality, the only minerals noted being sulphur and iron. In the extreme eastern and northern parts of the county the water in both springs and wells is usually soft. Many farmers depend on springs for their water supply. Most of the wells are of the dug type, the depth ranging between 18 and 30 feet.

Up to January 1, 1939, the survey had investigated 63 springs in Garland county, outside the city of Hot Springs. The spring having the greatest discharge is in the extreme eastern corner of the county in Section 24, T1 S., R 18 W., one mile north of U. S. highway 70. This sulphur spring has a daily flow of 119,520 gallons, as measured by the four inch pipe through which the water passes; the water from this spring forms a tributary of the South fork of Saline river. Although a six foot cement curbing has been fitted into this spring there is nothing to indicate that it is being used nor could its name be learned.

In this same section, about three miles north, is Malcomb's spring with an estimated flow of 72,000 gallons a day.

Two well known resort Springs near Hot Springs are Fountain Lake on US highway 70 and Ozark Lithia spring on State highway 7. Fountain Lake is fed by springs and Ozark Lithia is one large spring 10 feet deep. Estimates of flowage were not available on these springs.

In the vicinity of Lonsdale are a number of springs with a flow estimated at from 14,000 to 72,000 gallons daily. In Section 7, T3 S., R. 18 W (two miles north of Lake Catherine railway station) there are three springs of sulphur water in a group; four miles east of this group and three miles north of Lake Catherine station is another group of three springs. The estimated flowage of these springs is 36,000 gallons a day. In the extreme southeastern sections of Garland county are many springs

which are inaccessible by road and are used chiefly as watering places for livestock. None of these is being exploited. A number of springs in the Ouachita National Forest have been utilized as recreation camp sites and several have been dammed to make swimming pools.

Of the 207 wells so far investigated the average depth is 37 feet; of these 178 are dug and the remaining 29 drilled wells. Up to the present time only two artesian wells have been found in Garland county. One of these is near the junction of State highway 7 with US highway 70. This well is 110 feet deep and is used by one family only.

A deep flowing well which is called a spring is Potash Sulphur spring, six miles from Hot Springs in the southeastern part of the county. This well was dug many years ago. It is 143 feet deep and has a daily flow of 35,000 gallons.

At the camp of Future Farmers of America at Couchdale are four wells, three of which are dug and one drilled. Two of these wells, one 25 feet deep, the other 35 feet deep, are located on hill tops and are used for reserve water supplies. Another 25-foot well is in an open field, 30 feet above the shore-line of Lake Catherine. This is good water but is used only in the summer when many people are at the camp. A well 16 feet deep supplies the water for an average of 200 persons the year round at Couchdale. This is in a "flat" between two hills and is connected with mess hall at the camp.

As the men of the surveying crew locate and record data on springs and wells, they take samples of the water to be analyzed. The laboratory in Little Rock as well as several laboratories located in different parts of the state make such analysis. All records will become the property of the State Geological survey and will be published in bulletin form under the direction of George C. Branner, State Geologist.

The State office of the Mineral Survey is at 117 N. Victory Street, Little Rock. Robert C. Beckstrom is the state supervisor and R. E. Vandruff the technical supervisor of the project.