

Polk

**Drilling for Oil Under
Way in Pope County**

Mena—After several years of planning, several months of preparation and several weeks of mishaps following the initial "spudding in," drilling of Polk county's first oil test in 20 years was resumed this week and W. M. Blair, in charge of operations, said three crews would keep the drilling going continuously 24 hours a day.

The well is one and one-half miles southeast of Wickes, 30 miles south of Mena, and is being put down by the Blair Brothers and Rippey Co., who announced they had approximately 5,000 acres under lease.

The test well was spudded in Sunday afternoon, August 21, on the Fred Mills farm. The operators, all experienced oil men late of Whittier, Calif., and the Oklahoma fields, have erected an 88-foot derrick and set up a standard cable tool rig.

**Oil, Gas Test Being
Made in Pope County.**

Special to the Gazette. 3-13-42
Russellville, March 12.—A crew of 17 men from the Amerada Petroleum Corporation of Tulsa is mapping sub-surface structures in Pope county in a project of geophysical prospecting for oil and gas. G. D. Kendall is in charge of the office here.

The first prospecting is in an area 10 to 15 miles northeast of Russellville. The entire Russellville area probably will be prospected.

The work involves digging test holes at intervals of half a mile to a mile, setting off explosive charges, and recording the resulting vibrations from the sub-surface bases. Permission to make the tests was obtained from landowners.

Test at Gravel Hill Near Russellville Not to Be Abandoned.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Aug. 19.—The Lockwood Development Company has completed its contract by sinking the prospect well at Gravel Hill to a depth of 3,000 feet, but drilling has been continued during the week and the test will not be abandoned until a depth of 3,500 feet has been reached.

The additional drilling is being financed by pooling 1,000 acres of leases in the vicinity of the well, which was donated by the Lockwood Development Company, the Gravel Hill Oil and Gas Company, the Dover Oil and Gas Company and individuals who held acreage.

The Gravel Hill well has been drilling for more than a year. The first 65-8 inch casing was set at 2,350 feet, and this was finally lowered by underreaming to about 2,700 feet.

TO CONTINUE DRILLING IN RUSSELLVILLE TEST Citizens Pool Interests and Will Go Below Level 1,211 of 3,000 Feet.

Russellville, Aug. 19.—Floyd Hogs has been appointed trustee for a group of citizens who are pooling their acreage around the Gravel Hill test.

The investment company has consented to donate use of its tools, casing and all equipment to the pooling interests. A fund of \$2,500 is being raised by lease holders to continue drilling.

loss. Mr. Lasky, president of the drilling company, is optimistic and believes that the pay sand will be penetrated within the next few hundred feet.

The Dover Oil and Gas Company, which holds a large block of leases northwest of the Gravel Hill test, has donated a block of its acreage to the pool and it will be sold by the trust.

A \$10,000 bonus was offered by the merchants of Russellville to the Lockwood Investment Company if it brought in a 50-barrel well or better.

The Dover Oil and Gas Company has erected a derrick near the center of its block of leases, but just when it will spud in has not been announced.

RUSSELLVILLE GAS FRANCHISE GRANTED

Council Accepts Revised Offer of Arkansas Public Utilities.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Dec. 7.—The Russellville City Council last night granted a franchise to the Arkansas Public Utilities Corporation, owners of the gas field at Clarksville and the pipe line from the Clarksville field to Little Rock.

The company has surveyed the city and promises to start work on distributing system at once. It is supplying gas in Conway, but other towns along the line have refused to extend original franchisees granted two years ago and have been considering other franchisees.

A joint conference of the City Councils of Morrilton, Russellville, Atkins and Dardanelle was held here Wednesday night to consider a proposed franchise from the Southern Power and Light Company of Davenport, Ia., which proposed to post bonds for compliance with the contracts while the company drilled for gas on leases held in this section.

Action was deferred and it was reported that the four cities would act as a unit before granting franchises, but when the Arkansas Public Utility Corporation submitted a revised franchise last night and also offered to pay \$5,000 cash bonus for the 25-year franchise.

The franchise rate to residence consumers is \$1.50 for first 2,000 feet of gas; 60 cents for next 3,000 and 50 cents for all over 5,000 feet with 10 per cent discount for bills paid by the tenth of the month.

The Public Utilities Corporation is a subsidiary of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation and is affiliated with the Doherty interests said to be the largest distributors of natural gas in the country.

RUSSELLVILLE GAS FRANCHISE VETOED

Mayor Says Better Contract Is Offered by Iowa Company.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Dec. 10.—Mayor R. B. Wilson Jr. today vetoed the gas franchise granted Thursday night to the Public Utilities Corporation of Arkansas. He based his action on a previous agreement with the mayors of Morrilton, Atkins and Dardanelle, that the four towns would act in co-operation in granting gas franchises.

Representatives of the four towns had met in Russellville Wednesday night and agreed to recommend that their city councils accept a franchise offered by the Southern Power and Light Company of Davenport, Ia. The rates offered by the two companies are practically the same, except that the Iowa company offered a two per cent discount on all consumers bills payable to the city, and the Public Utilities Corporation proposed to pay the city a cash bonus of \$5,000 for the franchise.

The Iowa company also offered 40 per cent discount on all gas used by schools, church, hospitals and the city. The company has no producing wells in Arkansas but proposes to develop wells on an 80,000 acre lease in this section. The Public Utilities Corporation is a subsidiary of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation and would furnish gas from their wells at Clarksville by tapping the gas mains from the Clarksville field to Little Rock.

Russellville Gas Well Makes 1,000,000 Feet.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, April 30.—Arkansas-Louisiana Pipe Line Company's Crotts No. 1 well northwest of Russellville struck gas sand late yesterday afternoon at 1,245 feet and is said today to be making 1,000,000 feet. Drilling was stopped when the well began to spew after sand had been penetrated six inches.

Six inch casing being set today and it is believed the well will be drilled in Friday. If successful this will be the second producer in the Tate Island field on Big Piney, where the Brooks-McFadden No. 1 was brought in last fall, with production of 35,000,000 feet.

Two other wells in this field were capped and no information given out as to production. No announcement has been made by officials as to ultimate intentions, but it is believed they are testing the

GAS IN SHALLOW WELL

Pope County Farmer Makes Discovery Drilling for Water.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Dec. 23.—Interest in local oil and gas development has been revived by the discovery of a considerable flow of gas in a shallow well at Dover, four miles east of the test well that was sunk at Gravel Hill last summer and abandoned at 3,300 feet. Allen Price was drilling for water on his place in the city limits of Dover and the gas was struck at 32 feet. The roar could be heard 200 yards, it is said. The flow was undiminished after several days, and yesterday a crude pack was put in the hole and the gas coming through a one-inch pipe burns two or three feet high. B. W. Poynter, who owns land adjoining, cooked a breakfast of bread and sausage over the flame yesterday, and was exhibiting it in town today. The gas will be ample to supply Mr. Price's home with fuel and lights and will be used for this purpose.

Gas Company Will Drill Well Near London.

Special to the Gazette. London, Dec. 5.—The Natural Gas and Fuel Company of El Dorado is drilling a new test well three and a half miles north of London.

RUSSELLVILLE GAS FRANCHISE PASSED

Referendum Vote Favors Proposition of Public Utilities Corporation.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Jan. 17.—Russellville citizens voted overwhelmingly in a referendum election today to grant a gas franchise to the Public Utilities Corporation of Arkansas, the vote being 719 for and 21 against. The company has announced that if the franchise was approved, work would start tomorrow on construction of distribution system, which is to be completed in 60 days.

The rate for domestic consumers in Russellville will be \$1.50 for 2,000 feet of gas or less, 60c per 1,000 for the next 3,000 feet, and 55c per thousand for all over 5,000 feet. A franchise with similar rates was ratified in Atkins Tuesday and a similar franchise will be voted on in Morrilton Tuesday.

Gas for these towns will be supplied from the Clarksville field, which is now supplying Conway and is connected

with Little Rock by a 10-inch pipeline. The rate in Conway will be reduced to conform to rates in the other three towns voting the franchise, officials of the company say.

Natural Gas at Russellville Is Turned On With Ceremony.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, May 18.—Natural gas was turned on in Russellville tonight. A large flare was lighted with public ceremonies on the square east of the postoffice. The city has been piped by the Public Utilities Corporation of Arkansas and the company will start making connections for consumers Monday. The gas supply comes from the Clarksville field and the Public Utilities Corporation has recently started service in Atkins, Morrilton and Conway, the mains connecting at Little Rock with the capital city's supply from South Arkansas and Louisiana.

After the large flare was lighted, invocation was delivered by the Rev. Clyde V. Hickerson, and talks were made by Robert Bailey and E. W. Hogan, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce.

Test Well Will Be Drilled in Pope County.

Special to the Gazette. Conway, Oct. 14.—The Cosden Oil Company of Arkansas will drill a test well for oil and gas near Hector, Pope county, at the same time the company is testing a block of acreage between Rosebud and Quitman in Cleburne county.

The location is in the center of a solid block of approximately 15,000 acres. It is on the land of W. A. Shackelford, two and a half miles south of Hector.

POPE COUNTY FIELD AROUSES INTEREST

Tate Island Gas Well Estimated to Be Flowing 25,000,000 Feet Daily.

Russellville, Oct. 19.—Pope county, for several months past, the most active wildcat gas and oil field in Arkansas, was stirred to increased activity today by news of flow of gas estimated at 25,000,000 feet, on Tate Island, on the McFadden & Brooks farm on Big Piney, seven miles northwest of Dover, in section 15, township 9 north, range 21 west, yesterday afternoon. Operations here are by the Arkansas-Louisiana Pipe Line Company, a subsidiary of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation, which is associated with the Empire Gas & Oil Company and the parent company, the Cities Service Company. Drilling had been under way on Tate Island but three weeks, although day and night shifts were worked, and the gas was struck at approximately 1,035 feet. The drill was shut down pending a test of the flow.

A rig is under construction in the Hector vicinity, 20 miles northeast of Russellville, by the Cosden Oil Company, which has 8,000 to 10,000 acres of leases in that sector. The rig includes Deisel engines, steel derricks and bullwheels, and is equipped for depths in excess of 5,000 feet.

Leasing activities have been under way on a large scale for some time. The Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation is said to have approximately 20,000 acres of leases in the county, blocked up in four different fields. It has approximately 5,000 acres in the Tate Island field; 5,000 acres in the Gravel Hill area northeast of Dover, where a well was drilled to a depth of about 3,000 feet, about five years ago, with good oil indications; about 6,000 acres north of London, where a dry hole was drilled one year ago; and about 3,000 acres immediately east of Russellville.

The Cosden Oil Company rig in the Hector vicinity is a half-mile east of the Rock Springs schoolhouse, on the Shackelford farm. Leases extend from here east into Van Buren and Searcy counties and the northern part of Faulkner county, where another test well is being located.

The Lion Oil Company is taking leases west of Russellville in the Norristown Mountain territory, but has been unable to get acreage blocked up to justify drilling, it is said. This company is offering one-eighth gas and oil royalties and 25 cents per acre cash rent, it is said.

The Magnolia Petroleum Corporation and the Indian Territory Illuminating Oil Company are other large companies securing leases in the county. Individuals have also been active, some of them paying "top" prices for wildcat options, especially for acreage close to a drilling site or prospective site.

The Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation, which developed the Clarksville gas field, owns the pipe line from Clarksville to Little Rock, supplying gas to Russellville, Morrilton, Conway and other towns, also drilled the test well north of London last year. This

was in Section 5, township 8, range 21, about six miles southwest of the Tate Island test, where gas was struck yesterday.

Big Piney Gas Well Pressure Holding Up.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Oct. 21.—Estimates of pressure in the gas well brought in Saturday by the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation on Big Piney, 15 miles northwest of Russellville, have not been lowered by company officials and a representative of the state Conservation Department, who visited the well yesterday. Some gas and oil men estimate the pressure above 30,000,000 feet. Me associated with development of the Clarksville field say the pressure is greater than in any of the wells there.

Company officials say eight-inch casing will be placed in the well and an effort made to mud the gas off at the 1,035-foot level in order to make a deeper test of the well for oil. It is said that if gas pressure is as great as estimated it will be the biggest gas producer in the country at this depth.

A modern rig and outfit was started last week by the Cosden Oil Company, 10 miles east of the new gasser, in the Hector vicinity, and test wells by the Lion Oil Company, Petroleum Corporation and other concerns, with large leaseholders in Pope county are expected to follow discovery of the Big Piney field.

Leasing Activities Follow Piney Competition.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, Oct. 29.—With the Arkansas-Louisiana Pipeline Company's No. 1 Brooks-McFadden well on Big Piney, 14 miles northwest of Russellville, estimated at 35,000,000 feet of gas or better, and the Cosden well near Hector, 14 miles due east from the Piney gasser, due to be spudded in this week, Pope county is attracting gas and oil men from all over the country. Erection of the steel derrick and bullwheel for the Cosden test, in the southeast quarter of section 13, township 9 north, range 19 west, has

An accurate gauge of the Piney well, which blew in at 1,035 feet October 19, showed a rock pressure of 520 pounds Thursday and the gas flow gauged around 33,000,000 to 35,000,000 feet. Oil men say the well may be "drilling itself in," as the crown block is spitted with sand fragments from the 12-inch casing. The well is regarded as an eastern extension of the Clarksville structure, 16 miles west, which has been producing for several years. Geologists believe the big gas flow is either from the Hartshorne sandstone or near the top of the Atoka formation.

Dan W. Johnston of Clarksville, brother of two Oklahoma lease men and operators, prime mover in development of the Clarksville field, has approximately 100,000 acres of leases on 20 structures in Franklin, Johnson, Pope, Newton, Van Buren, Logan, Yell, Van Buren White, Faulkner Jackson and Independence counties, and it is estimated that more than 1,500,000 acres are under lease in the Arkansas river valley area between the Ozark uplift on the north and the Ouachita uplift on the south, and from the Oklahoma line on the west to the Mississippi river on the east.

Pope County Well Spudded In Near Atkins.

Special to the Gazette. Atkins, Nov. 11.—Cosden Oil Company's Shackelford No. 1, 12 miles north of here, was spudded in Sunday afternoon. About 1,000 visitors from over Pope county witnessed the operation.

Hector Test a Deep Well.

Conway, May 16.—(Special)—Making it one of the deep well tests in Arkansas, the Hector well, by the Cosden Oil Company, on May 13 reached a depth of 4,110 feet, and the drill that stage was penetrating a lime formation. The company's official report said the Doniphan No. 1 test near Rosebud in Cleburne county has reached 3,090 feet, having been delayed by a series of difficulties. The Hector test is in Pope county near the giant Tate Island producer.

4,000,000 Feet of Gas Reported in Well Near Russellville.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, May 15.—A gas flow of 4,000,000 feet was reported at the Crotts No. 1 well of the Arkansas Louisiana Pipeline Company, 10 miles northwest of Russellville. The gas was encountered at about nine feet in the sand and the drillers plan to drill deeper. Exploring of the sand was impossible in the Brooks-McFadden discovery well because of the gas pressure.

Two More Tests to Be Made in Dover Gas Field.

Special to the Gazette. Russellville, May 31.—The Arkansas-Louisiana Pipeline Company will drill two more test wells for gas in the field they are trying to prove near Dover, about 10 miles northwest of Russellville. The locations have been staked and crews are preparing roads to carry the truck traffic incidental to drilling.

The company brought in a discovery well on the Brooks-McFadden property last November, with a production of about 35,000,000 feet of gas. Later they drilled two holes, announced as dry, and recently drilled in a well on the Crotts farm, three-quarters of a mile west of the discovery well, with a production of about 5,000,000 feet. All four holes have been capped.

One of the new holes to be drilled will be on the Harnes farm, about three-quarters of a mile southwest of the discovery well, and the second will be on the Brooks-McFadden property, about half a mile west of Brooks-McFadden No. 1. One of the two dry holes was drilled on the Harnes farm.

Rigs have not yet been moved to the new spots, but will be, it is understood, as soon as work now being done on the roads is completed.

The Crotts well, capped when drilling stopped at about 1,200 feet, still maintains the pressure at the highest level encountered before drilling stopped.

Nitro-Glycerin Fails to Bring Oil in Cosden Test.

Special to the Gazette. Atkins, July 31.—A charge of 200 quarts of nitroglycerin was exploded at a depth of 4,200 feet in the Cosden test well No. 1 on the Shackelford land 13 miles north of here today. Workmen said no oil was found. The baller brought white sand from the hole. The company has been drilling on this well about a year and reported a depth of 4,900 feet.

New Gas Well Is Reported in Tate Island Section.

Special to the Gazette. *8-2-36*
Russellville, Aug. 1.—Reports here early today were that the John E. Moore well roared in with a giant gasser six miles northwest of Dover on Piney creek, in the Tate Island section. The well is said to be blowing more than the Brooks-McFadden 35,000,000-foot gasser, nearly a quarter mile away.

The log shows that gas was found at 1,365 feet. Drilling, however, will continue with 20-inch casing set in an attempt to go through the gas and strike oil, it was said.

The John E. Moore well, owned by the Arkansas-Louisiana Pipe Line Company, lies directly between the McFadden and Crotts wells. The latter is a 5,000,000-foot producer.

NEW WELL SPURRED NEAR RUSSELLVILLE

Arkansas-Louisiana to Make Deep Test in Big Piney Field.

Special to the Gazette. *9/18/36*
Russellville, Sept. 17.—With three producing gas wells and two dry holes in the Big Piney field, 14 miles northwest of Russellville, the Arkansas-Louisiana Pipe Line Company today spudded for its sixth well, which will be the first deep test in this field. The equipment is a combination rotary-standard outfit, the same as used in the Oklahoma field, and is said to be capable of going 5,000 feet or more.

The new test is a quarter a mile south and a little east of the McFadden No. 1 discovery well, which came in on October 19, 1929, with a flow of 35,000,000 feet of gas at a depth of 1,038 feet, in section 15, township 9, range 21. The Crotts No. 1 produced 6,000,000 feet of gas at 1,345 feet, and the John E. Moore showed 52,000,000 feet at a little over 1,300 feet. Both wells are on high ground, the sand level being but nine feet higher than in the discovery well. The sand level is rising to the east, it is said, and this leads the drillers to believe that the greatest pressure in this field may be developed in the new well, which is a half mile east of the Moore well.

The Arkansas-Louisiana Pipe Line Company is a subsidiary of the Arkansas Natural Gas Company and the Cities Service Company. While there is at present no outlet for the new gas field, it is only about 14 miles from the Clarksville field, which is connected with Little Rock to the south and with Fayetteville and other towns to the north. It is believed locally that the field will be developed on a large scale with a view to connecting it up with the pipe line being laid from the Texas and Oklahoma field to Chicago and other Northern cities.

Brooks-McFadden Well Down 1,108 Feet Near Russellville.

Special to the Gazette. *10-10-36*
Russellville, Oct. 9.—Drilling on the Brooks-McFadden Well No. 2, a few miles northwest of here on Big Piney creek, yesterday was being continued at a depth of 1,108 feet.

There was no sign of the gas sand that usually is struck before oil is found in a well.

The crew was in readiness to install a rotary pump at the first signs of this gas, and the mud pits and mud pumps were ready for use. The standard pump still was being used Thursday. About 100 feet a day is being averaged by the crews at work. Pipe is on the ground to make a deep test.

The bits are drilling into muck and sand, although rock previously had been encountered.

New Gas Well Will Be Drilled Near Russellville.

Special to the Gazette. *1-30-37*
Russellville, Jan. 29.—Drilling on a new well for gas and oil will begin the early part of next week on the M. H. Beard place. Drilling will be under the auspices of the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation.

A gas line will be piped from the main line south of town through which the company will get fuel to fire the boiler at the new location.

The new well makes five being worked near Russellville.

Drilling Resumed in Test Well Near Russellville.

Special to the Gazette. *3-12-37*
Russellville, March 11.—After setting 10-inch casing on hard sand at a depth of 1,168 feet in the M. H. Baird test well one mile east of Russellville, in Section 11, township 7 north, range 20 west, the Arkansas Natural Gas Corporation resumed drilling this morning. Drillers said the rig and equipment is capable of 5,000 feet if necessary.

The test is 14 miles southeast of the Piney gas field, the nearest producing field, and 25 miles southeast of the Clarksville field. Production is proven in the Piney field at depths around 1,200 feet and in the Clarksville field around 2,800 feet. One mile west of the Baird well, in the city limits of Russellville, a well was drilled 20 years ago and abandoned for lack of capital at about 1,400 feet after artesian salt water and gas in considerable quantity had been struck. The salt water and gas that will ignite when a match is applied still flows from this well, which was never capped.

Gas and Oil Test Well to Be Drilled Near Russellville.

Special to the Gazette. *9-24-36*
Russellville, Sept. 23.—The Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Company will begin work on an oil and gas test tomorrow, on the farm of L. C. Smith, in the Mill Creek community, eight miles northwest of Russellville, Charles Evans of Russellville, land attorney for the company, said today. A gas line has been laid from the main gas line south of London to provide fuel, and water will be piped from the Illinois bayou. Ten men will be employed.

Pope County.

Gazette 11-8-36
In Pope county, the Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company is drilling below 2,425 feet in the L. C. Smith No. 1, located 825 feet north and 486 feet east of the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 19-8N-21W.

Gazette 11-15-36
The Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Company was reported to have shut down at 2,552 feet this week on their L. C. Smith No. 1 test located 825 feet north and 486 feet east of the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 19-8N-21W in Pope county. It is not reported whether the test will be drilled deeper or abandoned.

Pope County.

Gazette 12-20-36
In Pope county, the Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Company was reported to be drilling below 3,460 feet in its L. C. Smith No. 1 test in the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of section 10-8N-21W.

The S. H. A. Oil Corporation was reported to be making slow progress in the deepening of its Warren No. 1 test in southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of section 10-17-14 in the Rainbow field east of El Dorado.

The company recently deepened its E. F. Gregory A2 to a new level for a good producer. The new deep sand is at 3,436 feet. The Warren test is being deepened from 3,342 feet.

Smith No. 1 Oil Test Well In Pope County Abandoned.

Special to the Gazette. *3-7-37*
Russellville, March 6.—The Arkansas-Louisiana Gas Company has abandoned its L. C. Smith No. 1 wildcat oil test as a dry hole at 4,980 feet. The test was located in the southwest corner of the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 10-8n-21w.