

A glance  
perusal of the mineral survey  
table lists Benton county as hav-  
ing deposits of tripoli and dolo-  
mite. *Benton Daily News*  
\* \* \* 6/22/38

### Baxter Co 3-27-38 Mineral Survey Gets

#### Under Way in Baxter

Mountain Home—The mineral sur-  
vey of this county is making good  
progress. There are many unexplor-  
ed caves in this section and many  
legions of lost mines.

One of the most interesting things  
is the old slag piles just west of  
this place in the White river bot-  
toms. These have been there as long  
as the first settler can recall. It is  
believed that the ore was mined by  
the Spaniards and some have ad-  
vanced the theory that the work was  
carried on by a part of the DeSoto  
expedition.

### State Laboratory 10/20/38 Project Approved

*Benton County Democrat*  
A project for the construction of  
a laboratory to test and analyze  
state mineral has been approved by  
the president, according to infor-  
mation received here.

The new building as soon as con-  
structed will furnish the geological  
survey with a much needed labora-  
tory to analyze the samples now  
collected, mapped and classified by  
the Arkansas Geological survey,  
which sponsored the laboratory pro-  
ject. Several thousand samples from  
all sections of the state are now  
on hand.

The Arkansas Mineral survey is  
now active in 37 counties covering  
37,000 square miles and employing  
about 700 people.

The Benton county survey, direct-  
ed by D. M. Greer, employs 14 men  
in the field and three in the office  
here. To date it has covered about  
50 per cent of Benton county, which  
contains 876 square miles or ap-  
proximately a half million acres.

The object of the survey is to  
locate, map, estimate, sample and  
describe each section of land to de-  
termine the surface indications of  
minerals. In many places, bore  
holes are made to determine the  
depth and extent of deposits which  
do not appear on the surface. Sub-  
surface cross-sections are being made  
of some of the districts where clay  
is the chief natural resource.

Maps are made of each township  
covered showing the cultural devel-  
opment which, with the mineral and  
water maps, gives detailed infor-  
mation for future development and  
improvement of any area showing  
promise.

Plans are now in progress which  
will make it possible within a few  
days for the various counties to  
test the hardness and chlorides of  
water wells and springs. This in-  
formation is to be compiled in bulle-  
tin and map form.

### Potpourri 5/11/39 ... from the Readers

#### ARKANSAS WATERS TESTED BY STATE MINERAL SURVEY

(Submitted by D. M. Greer, Benton  
County director of the WPA Min-  
eral Survey.)

The development of a region may  
be materially advanced or seriously  
retarded by the quality and quantity  
of surface and ground water sup-  
plies.

Ground water conditions are in-  
fluenced by the physical character of  
the soils and bed rocks. The two  
provinces in which the State of Ar-  
kansas is divided—the highland and  
lowland sections—are examples of  
different types of soil and rock for-  
mations. In Benton County the wat-  
er producing horizons consist chief-  
ly of limestones, chert, sandstones,  
shales and dolomites.

The popular idea that because a  
spring flows "sparkling cold water"  
necessarily means that the water is  
fit for human or industrial use is as  
erroneous as are many other popular  
beliefs.

Surface waters are always sus-  
ceptible to bacterial pollution from  
surface drainage.

The WPA Mineral Survey is in-  
vestigating the water wells and  
springs of the state as well as its  
commercial minerals. Samples of  
water for analysis are taken from  
all parts of every county in which  
the survey is being made. In order  
to make the necessary analyses of  
minerals and waters and the testing  
of clays, a laboratory has been con-  
structed in Little Rock.

In addition to this central labora-  
tory the mineral survey is install-  
ing field stations in many counties  
where a partial analysis will be made  
of water samples. Tests are made  
for carbon dioxide, (the excess pres-  
ence of which causes pipe corrosion),  
chlorides, iron and hardness.

The advantage of sampling the  
water of wells and springs and of  
having them tested without delay  
is that test for carbon dioxide should  
be made as soon as possible after  
taking the sample, or within 18  
hours.

In the course of sampling the wat-  
er of wells and springs the County  
Supervisor in charge selects rep-  
resentative water specimens from all  
parts of his county for further an-  
alysis at the Little Rock laboratory  
where 15 additional tests will be  
made.

The cost to the county sponsoring  
a water testing station is about \$50,  
covering the cost of equipment and  
chemicals. The county also provides  
a location for the plant at some

point convenient to the town where  
the county supervisor has his head-  
quarters, who selects a member of  
his crew to make the tests, the lat-  
ter receiving instructions in the stan-  
dard method of water testing at the  
laboratory in Little Rock.

The field workers make an accu-  
rate record of the exact location  
of each well and spring from which  
samples are taken. This is attached  
to the sample until the analysis is  
completed, when the record of the

result is attached to the field report  
and filed in the office of the State  
Geological Survey.

The new information collected will  
be available to the public and will be  
of especial value in supplying data  
to those who intend to use ground  
water for industrial use.

### WPA Aid Is Sought in Hunt for Woman

#### Sheriff Unable to Reach Administration Officials

Bentonville, Ark., June 6.—(Spe-  
cial)—Efforts by Sheriff W. A.  
Black to secure the assistance of  
Works Progress administration  
employees in a search for Mrs. Su-  
san Standefer, 78 years old, who  
disappeared Saturday from near  
Hiwasse, were unsuccessful Tues-  
day.

A searching party of about 50  
persons, including Gravette Boy  
Scouts, continued the hunt late  
Tuesday under the leadership of  
Deputy Sheriff Jack Hutcheson.

Sheriff Black said he had been  
unable to locate State Adminis-  
trator Floyd Sharp, of the WPA,  
or Area Supervisor Henry Arm-  
strong at Fort Smith. The sheriff  
said he was informed that Sharp  
was out of the state.

Tuesday's searching party, how-  
ever, included a number of men  
from the Benton county WPA  
mineral project. The project man-  
ager, D. M. Greer, received per-  
mission from Robert C. Beckstrom,  
Little Rock, state director of that  
division, to allow his men to join  
in the search.

Sheriff Black said he also at-  
tempted to reach the WPA super-  
visor at Harrison in order to se-  
cure the services of additional  
searchers.

Mrs. Standefer disappeared from  
the home of her son-in-law, John  
Thornhill Sr., about six miles  
northwest of Hiwasse, Saturday at  
1 p. m.

### WPA Workers Asked to Search For Benton County Resident.

*Gazette*  
Special to the Gazette. 1939  
Bentonville, June 6.—Sheriff W. A.  
Black late today was attempting to have  
WPA workers assigned to the search for  
Mrs. Susan Standfer, 78, who has been  
missing from her home, nine miles  
northwest of Hiwasse, since Saturday.  
Deputy Sheriff Jack Hutcheson directed  
a party in the search today, and a  
group from the Benton county WPA  
mineral survey project and Gravette  
Boy Scouts assisted.