

ARKANSAS RANKS HIGH IN MINERAL RESOURCES

Gazette 3/1/28
Exceeded by Only Two States in 1926, J. H. Hand of Yellville Tells Kiwanis Club.

Arkansas ranked third in the country in the value of its mineral resources in 1926, J. H. Hand of Yellville, mining engineer, said yesterday as the principal speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Kiwanis Club. Arkansas minerals were valued at \$87,000,000 in 1926, exceeding the value of Alabama minerals by \$10,000,000, and exceeded only by Arizona and Utah.

GEOLOGISTS TO DELIVER ILLUSTRATED LECTURES

Gazette 3-1-28
Federal Experts to Be Here in May or June Under Auspices of Arkansas Museum.

Service of two well known geologists of the United States Geological Survey, both natives of Arkansas, has been obtained for lectures here in May and June under the auspices of the Educational Extension Department of the Arkansas Museum of Natural History, it was announced yesterday by Mrs. Bernie Babcock, president. The two were authorized to lecture here by the director of the survey, through the intervention of Senator T. H. Caraway.

Tells of South's Mining and Manufacturing Plans

J. H. Hand, American Mining Congress Official, Predicts Annual Output of Minerals Worth \$250,000,000 Within Few Years. *Gazette* 4/8/28

An annual mineral output of \$250,000,000, together with equal value in manufactured mineral products, is not too much to expect from the state of Arkansas in the near future, in the opinion of J. H. Hand of Yellville, member of the Arkansas board of the American Mining Congress.

Mr. Hand, in outlining a program for extensive mineral and manufacturing development for the Southern states, calls attention to the conference held at Gulfport, Miss., March 15-17, at which the plans were adopted. This was the first step carrying into effect a proclamation of the national council of the American Mining Congress, at Washington, D. C., last December, officially recognizing the commercial merit of undeveloped mineral deposits in the Southern states. Rather than to invade new fields in foreign countries, the mining industry of the nation was advised to turn attention to these Southern resources, in keeping with the principle of fostering home development and industry against foreign competition.

Southern resources, Mr. Hand explains, gained this recognition after thorough surveys lasting several years by Dr. Henry M. Payne, consulting engineer for the mining congress.

Report on Arkansas.

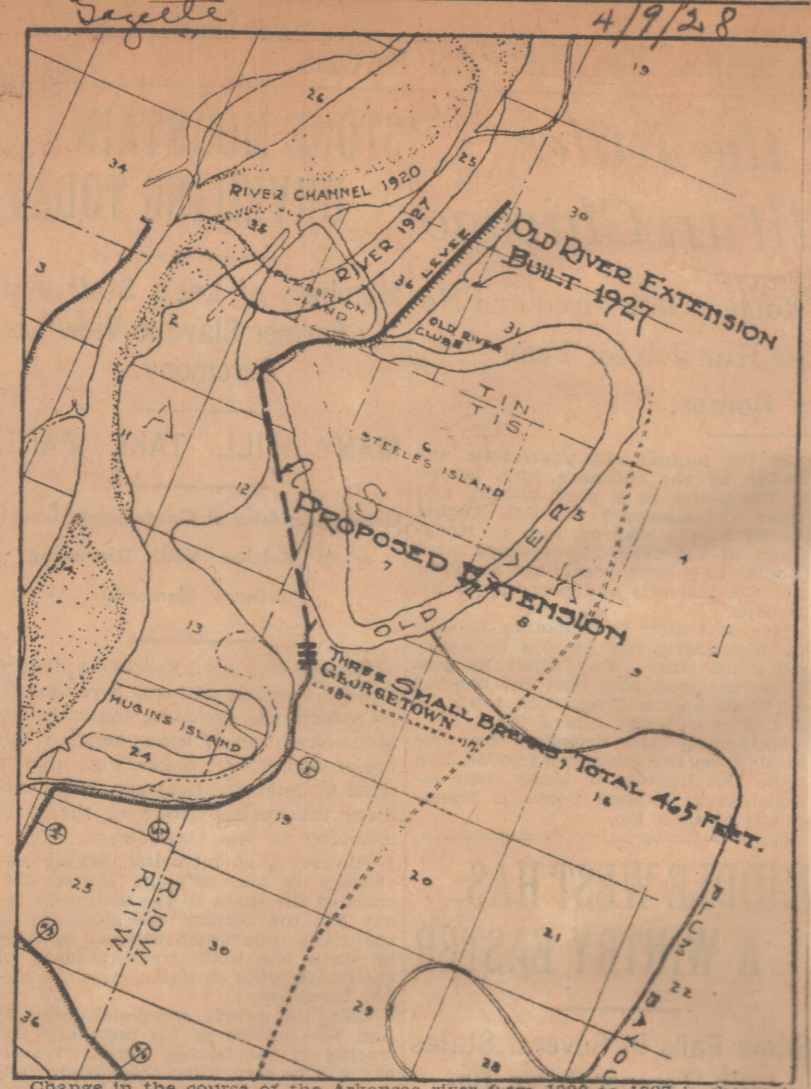
For Arkansas, the report shows the greatest variety and volume of useful materials, found in metallic or non-metallic form, in different parts of the state, in undisputed commercial volume.

The Payne report is being distributed by J. F. Callbreath, secretary to the mining Congress, to investors, developers and industrialists throughout the country, inviting inquiries regarding locations for industries especially in this section.

Along with establishing mining enterprises, it is of equal importance to obtain the location of plants for reduction of the ores and to manufacture mineral products near the mines where cheap fuel and hydro-electric power are available.

"Detail information will be handled through the Washington office of the mining congress," Mr. Hand says, "in conjunction with active state departments, business and commercial organizations, as well as individuals offering local support. The fact that \$15,000,000 has come into Southern mining and associated manufacturing enterprises since the mining Congress turned

Showing Change in Course of River Near Little Rock Past Seven Years



Change in the course of the Arkansas river from 1920 to 1927 is shown in the above map, a government survey map, which has been modified by W. DeWoody Dickinson to depict approximately the shifting of the river channel. The original map was drawn in 1920. The Old River extension levee is the key levee in a system which extends from the Templeton plantation southwest of Scott to Rob Roy, below Pine Bluff. Change in the course of the river has been caused by currents cutting into the subsoil for the formation of a new channel. Maj. Donald H. Connolly, army engineer, of Memphis, will inspect the levee and river course tomorrow.

ARKANSAS WELL UP IN MINE PRODUCTS

Ranks Seventeenth With Value of \$84,486,000, U. S. Bureau Shows. *Gazette* 5-9-28

(From the Gazette's Correspondent.)
Washington, D. C., May 8.—Arkansas ranked seventeenth among the 48 states in 1926 in the value of mineral production, it is shown in a tabulation made public today by the United States Bureau of Mines, Department of Commerce.

Petroleum, natural gas and coal, in the order named, contributed to the state's standing, the value of which is given as \$84,486,000.

Pennsylvania led all other states in the tabulation with \$1,055,766,000, attributed, first, to coal, then cement, clay products and natural gas.

Oklahoma, California and Texas ranked close together as second, third and fourth, respectively, each, like Arkansas, with petroleum as the chief contributor.

Other states ranking ahead of Arkansas were West Virginia, Ohio, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Indiana, Minnesota, Arizona, New York, Utah and Missouri.

Dreams of Lost Mines In Ozarks Still Lure

Search for Silver and Gold Persists in Fields Where Lead and Zinc Fail to Satisfy Lust for Precious Metals. *Gazette* 5/3/28

Special to the Gazette.

Mountain Home, May 12.—The greatest sport in the mineral producing counties in the Arkansas Ozarks is not fishing or following the chase, but in hunting lost mines. Searching for the sign of the turtle, the old Spanish sign of hidden treasure, and following it to the end of the rainbow. There is nothing so fascinating; nothing that raises the hope of sudden wealth in one's breast like hunting for a lost mine. And the best part of the sport is that nearly all the lost mines in this section of the Ozarks are lost silver mines, which makes the search more alluring than if one were hunting for a lost zinc mine or a lost lead mine.

Striking the trail of one of these lost silver mines is like jumping a fox. Turn the dogs loose in that little bottom down by the creek, yell a couple of times and they are off on a hot trail. That's the way to strike a fox trail in the hills.

Natives Are Hospitable.

To hit a lost silver mine trail, back up off the main highway some afternoon about sundown, spot a likely looking little house sitting down in some deep hollow with an old man puttering around in the front yard getting in the night's wood, pull your flivver up to a stop and say: "How-dye, can I stay all night?" He won't turn you away unless some of the folks are sick, because he wants to talk, and he'd rather talk to a stranger than to anyone else, for a stranger always has a new line to hand him.

Now when you sit down with your host after supper and light your pipe, ask him if there is any mineral in that locality, and you'll strike the trail of your lost silver mine at once. He'll open up about what his grandpappy told him about a Mexican or a Spaniard, that came into that country way back yonder with a map made of sheepskin hunting for a lost silver mine. No sir, they didn't find it. They didn't look on the right side o' the hollow. The mine's still there lost in the woods. And he really believes it's there, and it might be, and like as not, if you offer to go 50-50 with him he'll help you hunt for it as long as you will hunt, and probably not charge you any board either.

was smelted. He says he found it, but has never divulged the site. Years hence there will be another legend about a lost copper mine of fabulous value in that vicinity.

Sought Lost Silver Mine.

There is another legend about a lost silver mine near the mouth of Bruce creek, in Baxter county. It is to the effect that it was worked by the Indians, who captured the early settlers and members of their families, and made them work in the mine. This lost mine has been searched for hundreds of times, but has never been located.

An old slag pile on the banks of White river, in Marion county near Bull Shoals mountain, was found to contain iron. An Oklahoma prospector conceived the idea that silver ore had been associated with the iron ore, and had been saved, the iron being left because it was worthless. After many months he found a deposit of lead ore associated with iron ore and he was convinced that he had found the source of the ore they had smelted, and no doubt but what he was right in his conclusions.

Another legend recounts a lost vein of lead that crosses the bed of White river in the vicinity of Bull Shoals. Old settlers used to dig lead off the vein to get lead to mould bullets for their old muzzle loading rifles. Some old men are still alive who will vouch for the truth of the story. In late years it has been hunted for many times, but has never been located. It has probably been covered up by shifting river gravel.

Lead Mines Developed.

Many of the lost mines in the Arkansas Ozarks are not lost mines at all. In the early days the settlers used to mine what little lead they needed for bullets from small deposits scattered over the hills. Ten pounds of lead, smelted in a hollow log and run into bullets would last them a year. The little gouge that gave them this lead grew into a mine of fabulous value as the years rolled by.

Mexicans are persistent prospectors. Even in these later days one turns up occasionally with a prospector's outfit. They were probably more frequent a century ago. Maybe they found something, maybe they didn't, yet every one was good for a lost mine legend, and so the legends have tacked up one upon the other, until lost mine hunting has become a popular and exciting sport, with lots of game in the woods.

Farmers Prospect for Minerals on Their Land.

Gazette 8-5-28
Special to the Gazette.

Huntsville, Aug. 4.—John Sams, assisted by his brother, Jason Sams, of Mante, have sunk a shaft 50 feet deep, on their farm, from which they have taken several kinds of mineral, including strong traces of silver, zinc, lead, copper and coal. The brothers have owned the farm jointly for years and have prospected its mineral wealth, but only recently put a force of workers to work in the shaft, started in 1918. They have had some of the material assayed and reports prove to the farmer-miners that they have something worth while. Part of the farm is outstanding cliffs, with gray granite stretching out to the surrounding mountains, the face of which is streaked and mottled. The Sams brothers expect to send the shaft deeper through the granite. They are about 30 miles east of Fayetteville, on what is known as the Bohannan Mountain.

State Should Need Nothing From Outside Mineral Resources Almost Boundless, Says Architect.

Gazette about Sept 2 1928

Great Advantage Should Be Utilized in Future Development of Commonwealth.

Owing to the great variety of geological formations, outside of forestry products, found in abundance in Arkansas, there is an almost endless variety of mineral supplies available for the use of the state and necessary to the building trade, according to Frank W. Gibb, veteran Little Rock architect, in a third of a series of interviews on the future building development of Arkansas.

