

**Derrick for Oil Test in Clay
County Completed.**

Special to the Gazette **5-1-38**

Rector, Ark., April 30.—Ginther Bros. of Shelbyville, Ill., and Shreveport, La., have just completed a derrick for an oil test on the SE. NE. 22-19-7, just inside the west corporation line of Rector. This is the first oil test to be made in this immediate section of Clay county, and people are watching with interest.

The 40 on which the well will be drilled is a part of a 10,000-acre block of leases that lie northeast and southwest of the town. The well will be spudded in within the next 30 days and will be drilled to a depth of 3,000 feet if production is not obtained before that depth. Drillers expect to find oil in the Nacotosh sand, which they think they will encounter at less than 2,000 feet. Ginther Bros. are independents, and are interested in the Illinois field. They drilled one well some time ago near Figgott, and the showing was so good that they located the test here, which is about 16 miles from Figgott. They spent considerable time in a survey before locating the well at this place.

Notes From the Oil Field

WELL DOWN 1,200 FEET.

Special to the Gazette.
Piggott, Aug. 20.—The drillers at

the Marshall test oil well southeast of Piggott, are down 1,200 feet and are in solid rock. They went through oil sand just before striking the rock, samples of which have been examined. Other leases have been taken near Piggott and it is probable that drilling will begin soon on Crowley's Ridge west of Piggott.

Drilling for Oil Under Way Near Piggott. 10-5-36

Special to the Gazette.

Piggott, Oct. 4.—The first oil well to be drilled in the Crowley's Ridge section was spudded in yesterday and now is down about 285 feet. Preparations are being made to set and cement surface casings. The well is located about a mile and a half northwest of Piggott, Township 20, Section Four and Range Eight, East.

S. C. Jeffus, J. E. Anderson and J. M. Wells, who operate in the Luann fields, are financing the well, which is being drilled by I. W. Harlan of Piggott.

Clay County Oil Test Drilled to Depth of 502 Feet.

Special to the Gazette. 7-25-31.

Piggott, Jan. 24.—The oil well known as the S. C. Jeffus, Trustee, Underwood No. 1 well, has been drilled to a depth of 502 feet. Dr. Herman, in charge of the work, reports prospects are bright. The company financed its own work and has not solicited outside assistance.

Gurdon Sure It's Going To Be Oil Center Gazette 5-16-37

By WILLIAM A. WILSON.
(State News Editor of the Gazette.)

Gurdon, May 15.—If there's oil within a radius of 12 miles of Gurdon, the metropolis of south Clark county, there is every indication that it will be brought to the surface. This radius goes a little beyond the borders of Clark county, reaching into Nevada and Ouachita counties, but Gurdon folks refer to it as "the south Clark county oil field."

There are four wells actually drilling within this area, the rig is up and machinery being assembled for a fifth. Locations have been staked for four more, and the rig is up for still another, making a total of 10 tests that are expected to determine whether there's oil in this section.

The section is not far from producing wells in Nevada and Ouachita counties. Oil men told of the various and sundry structures and faults and other geological formations with which we were not very familiar, in describing the test locations in the "Gurdon field." As was to be expected, they were optimistic.

One thing that left an impression was the fact that little, if any, "Gurdon money" is being used in drilling the wells—it's practically all outside capital. We were told by leading business men that none of the promoters is offering stock for sale.

Town's Location Ideal.

While Gurdon has not gone "oil wild," there is a feeling everywhere that it won't be long until the liquid gold will be found in commercial quantities. The town is ideally situated to handle an oil boom, from a transportation standpoint. There are two railroads—the main line of the Missouri Pacific and the El Dorado branch. The main highway, No. 67, is in fine condition, and the county roads, while not paved, are kept in good shape. This is necessary because of the heavy lumber traffic in the vicinity.

With representatives of the Gurdon Board of Trade, your reporter "scouted" the field, and was impressed with what we saw, although it is not necessary that we admit that we know about as much about oil fields as Abraham Lincoln did about cranking a Ford car. However, we have seen the El Dorado, Louann, Stephens and Nevada county fields, and have learned a little by absorption.

Meeting Old Friends.

When we arrived at the Burdick & Carter No. 1 test, in 25-9-19, we met Ed Olds, the driller, who, with his famous drilling crew, his seven sons, we had met in the Nevada county field last December. Mr. Olds appeared about as optimistic over the prospect of bringing in an oil well as he did the day we last saw him, just after he had brought in the first deep well in

Nevada county. The Burdick & Carter well is down 1,340 feet. Twenty cores have been taken. They are drilling 24 hours a day, and are under contract to go 3,000 feet. However, Mr. Olds said that he would go deeper if necessary, and that he expected to "stay on the job until we get a producer or are satisfied there is no oil here."

The land on which the test is being drilled is owned by the Ozan Lumber Company of Prescott. Two offset wells have been staked, but will not be drilled until the present test is completed.

This Driller Takes His Time.

Bill Taylor, driller in charge of the H. C. Cabe No. 1 test in 10-14-21, is taking his time. He is drilling only during daylight hours. He said that he is "watching everything." The hole is down 1,000 feet. Taylor said that he expected to strike the Traves peak at 1,400 to 1,600 feet. He now is drilling in hard rock.

H. C. Cabe, owner of the land on which the well is being drilled, is in the sawmill business here. He accompanied the party on the tour and later was host to the crowd at his new home, a beauty if there ever was one. And, believe it or not, Mr. Cabe is a bachelor and, as far as your correspondent could learn, does not even consider matrimony. The brief stop at his home was quite refreshing. Incidentally, we used to know H. C. at Hendrix College in the days of yore.

There are two other locations on the Cabe tract, but they will not be drilled until after the No. 1 well has been brought in or junked. The present test is only a mile from the railroad.

Martin & Beals are in charge of operations for McCabe.

Drilling Stopped Temporarily.

The next well inspected was the Shephard Bros. No. 1. It is nine miles south of Gurdon and just over the line in Nevada county. We were told that drilling had been stopped temporarily while the operators cleared up some titles. The well is down approximately 600 feet.

It was at this well that some of the Gurdon "oil experts" demonstrated that they know an oil field when they see one. They walked down to the slush pit, picked up a handful of stuff that had come out of the well, rolled it around in their hands and then held it up to their noses. "Yep, you've got an oil well here," was the unanimous verdict. And who are we to contradict them?

The land on which the test is being made is owned by heirs of the Purifoy estate.

Test at Beirne Flooded.

Our next stop was at Beirne, long famous for its lumber. The test of the Beirne Lumber Company is in a low region, and it had rained hard the night before, so we were easily persuaded not to attempt to go to the well. If we had gone, we would have found drilling suspended pending setting of the cement in the surface casing which is down 300 feet. This setting business is a new regulation of the state Board of Conservation.

E. O. Lovett is the driller in charge of the Beirne well, which is located in 22-10-21, Clark county. We were told that another test well had been drilled in that vicinity several years ago, and that "favorable showings were had." The Beirne company has staked two other locations.

Gurdon Looks Prosperous.

Oil or no oil, this thriving town of about 2,500 population is going to carry on. Its lumber and farming interests are sufficient to keep the wolf from the door. During our brief visit here, we saw nothing to indicate anything but prosperity. Even the Board of Trade secretary was too busy to make the entire tour with us. The mayor, who also started out, had some pressing business to attend to and asked permission to leave the party when the inspection was only half through. But the mayor also is a preacher, so he has double duties to perform.

As a parting word, let us suggest that those of you who are oil-minded keep an eye on south Clark county—the "Gurdon oil field."