

# 'Sunken Lands' To Be Drilled

## Craighead County Leases Taken and Oil Tests to Be Made

**Democrat 11-25-37**  
Jonesboro—Sinking of a test oil well in the eastern district of Craighead county, where leases have been obtained on approximately 10,000 acres, is expected soon. John G. Wooten of El Dorado, it was announced here, will be in charge of drilling operations.

Activity of oil drillers in other sections of the "sunken land area" of Craighead was reported here. The first test well will be in the section between Monette and Black Oak. Another group is reported taking leases in the Lunsford area and is expected to begin drilling operations shortly.

A third group was reported blocking leases in the Promised Land vicinity of western Craighead county. Just south of here, near Harrisburg, drilling of a test well in the bottoms will begin shortly.

Interest in the "sunken lands" along the St. Francis river in this area was brought to light following the publication of a national geological survey, released in July of this year, which shows that the formation of the land in the eastern district of the county, caused by the New Madrid earthquake, to be similar to that of the Cato Lake fields, a large producing field in Louisiana.

Several test wells have been sunk in the vicinity of Harrisburg and one has been drilled west of here, but none in the "sunken lands."

The striking of gas pockets in the Monette vicinity recently, while a water well was being drilled, is said to have caused unusual interest to be focused on this section.

Wooten said his contract for sinking the first test well calls for a depth of 3,000 feet. It is estimated that the cost will be between \$20,000 and \$25,000.

## Oil Test to Be Drilled South Of Jonesboro.

**Special to the Gazette. 5-27-38**  
Jonesboro, May 26.—An oil test will be drilled in the Lucy Martin farm south of Jonesboro by the Tennark Corporation of New York and Memphis, which has 12,000 acres under lease. Timbers for the derrick are now being placed.

## Democrat 6-5-38 Arranges Series of Tests Near Jonesboro

Jonesboro—Joe Modisett, Shreveport, La., drilling contractor, is moving a rig from Choctaw county, Ala., to the vicinity of Jonesboro, Ark., to use on the first of a series of nine wildcat tests planned in northeast Arkansas and west Tennessee by Tenn-Ark Oil Company, which in these nine blocks has over 100,000 acres under lease.

The tests will range in depth from 3,000 to 7,000 feet, the first to be four miles south of Jonesboro.

## Oil Drillers Ready Democrat 6-20-38 For Jonesboro Test

Jonesboro—With the derrick completed and all the machinery on the ground except one carload, all is in readiness to "spud in" the test oil well on the Lucy M. Martin farm two miles south of here, Claude B. Sewell, head of operations here, said today. The well is being drilled by Tennark, Inc., of New York City and Memphis, being the sole financier of operations. No stock is being offered for sale.

## Limestone Struck at 1,700 Feet In Oil Test Near Jonesboro.

**Special to the Gazette. 7-15-38**  
Jonesboro, July 14.—Limestone rock was encountered at 1,700 feet in the Tennark company's oil test two miles southwest of Jonesboro.

Drillers have averaged 200 feet per day since July 4. Striking limestone was considered an encouraging sign since oil pools usually have a limestone cap. Quicksand was encountered over the week-end, forcing a temporary suspension of operations to allow reaming down to the bottom of the "rathole" to prevent drill tools from sticking.

## New Rig to Be Moved In For Well Near Jonesboro.

**Special to the Gazette. 9-30-38**  
Jonesboro, Sept. 2.—Claude B. Sewell, representative of the Tenn-Ark Company, reported today that a standard rig will be brought here from Oklahoma City and drilling on the test well just south of Jonesboro will be resumed about October 1.

He said that the drilling rig, which will be released as soon as it finishes a job there, will continue the drilling begun here by another rig, which was unable to penetrate farther than 1,664 feet when a rock formation was encountered. The present rig will be moved to three miles from Blytheville, where another test well will be sunk. The eight and five-eighths inch casing has been cemented at the well here.

## DRILLING WILL RESUME OCT. 1

**Dec. 1938**  
Standard Rig Will Be  
Brought Here From  
Oklahoma

Drilling on the test well of the Tenn-Ark company just south of Jonesboro will be resumed about Oct. 1 when a standard rig will be brought here from Oklahoma City, Claude B. Sewell, representative of the company, said today.

The rig cannot be released from a job at Oklahoma City until that time, he said. It is now in use there.

He said that the drilling rig which had been used to reach a depth of 1,664 feet here would be moved to a point three miles east of Blytheville, where a test well is to be sunk. The derrick will remain intact in will be used when the standard rig arrives, he said.

An eight and five-eighths inch casing was cemented in at the well here a short time ago after drilling became impossible with available bits when a rock formation was encountered.

## Half of Tools Struck in Well Near Jonesboro Dislodged.

**Gazette 2-12-39**  
**Special to the Gazette.**  
Jonesboro, Feb. 12.—Half of the tools which have been lodged in the test oil well two miles south of here and have halted drilling for the past three months have been removed and the remainder are expected to be taken out tomorrow, Claude B. Sewell, Tennark Inc., official said today. Drilling may be resumed as soon as the other tools are removed and lease rental waivers are signed.

## Oil Test Well Near Jonesboro Again Strikes Gas.

**Special to the Gazette. 6-23-39**  
Jonesboro, June 22.—Gas was struck at the Tennark Inc. test oil well south of here Tuesday night for the third time, but Claude B. Sewell, in charge of drilling operations, said no oil was discovered. Drilling will continue. The gas pocket was reached after drilling a 10-foot strata of unusually hard rock.

## Drilling on Craighead County Oil Test Suspended.

**Special to the Gazette. 7-26-40**  
Jonesboro, Feb. 25.—Suspension of drilling operations until heavier machinery can be obtained was announced by Claude B. Sewell as he capped the Tennark Inc. test oil well two miles south of Jonesboro.

Machinery will be moved to Ada, Okla., this week by R. P. Mole, engineer. Mr. Sewell, who has been in charge of drilling operations, has been transferred to Jackson, Miss., where he will headquarter while drilling near Vicksburg.

**CONTRACT LET FOR WELL.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Aug. 16.—H. F. Scott and C. C. Harter, who have been drilling for oil in Poinsett county, have closed a contract with the trustees for several landowners in this county to put down a test well. The work will begin soon. The trustees are: C. B. Gregg, A. L. Salmoms and George Bishop. The farmers have pooled their leases, about 15,000 acres, and will share in the profits if oil is found. The prospect for oil in this county, according to the geologists, is fine. The contract for the derrick timbers was let to the Barton Brick and Lumber Company of this city. The casing was ordered from St. Louis.

**TO DRILL OIL WELL.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Aug. 20.—The stakes were driven this afternoon for the first test oil well to be drilled in this county. The site is two and a half miles northwest of the city. J. F. Scott & Co. have a contract to put down the test well. At the request of Mr. Scott, Mrs. Hal Peel drove the stake. A large number of farmers have formed a pool of their land and leased, and will share in the profits if oil is found. The actual drilling will start in a few days.

**Reports Oil Show Near Harrisburg**  
 Jonesboro—Gordon P. Crenshaw, president of the Rockwell Development Co., which has been engaged in drilling a test well in Poinsett county near Harrisburg, announced Saturday that a showing of high gravity oil and a good showing of gas were encountered. According to the Jonesboro man, the company will not spend more money on the present location but will skid the rig and start another test to determine which way the structure runs. The showing is enough to convince officials of the company that there are gas and oil in commercial quantities in the area. Attorney Arthur Adams of Jonesboro is vice president of the company and R. A. Green, also of this city, is secretary and treasurer. Drilling of the well started four months ago.

**NEW WELLS PLANNED**  
 Three Derricks Under Construction in Craighead County.  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Sept. 21.—Two derricks have been completed in this county, and a third is under construction. One is Chamber of Commerce well No. 1 that will be drilled by J. F. Scott & Co., another by the Little Husky Oil and Gas Company and the third by the Southern Oil and Production Com-

**DRILLING IN CRAIGHEAD**  
 Three Tests Under Way, and Operators Are Optimistic.  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Jan. 19.—The three test oil wells in progress in Craighead county, are progressing nicely. The Chamber of Commerce well No. 1, two miles from the city, is down nearly 2,000 feet, and the formations at this depth indicates oil, it is said. The Isom well, eight miles northeast of here, is down about 1,500 feet, and the promoters of this well are optimistic. The Little Husky well at Gilkerson is down about 300 feet.

**Jonesboro to Build Gas Plant; Pipeline Project Abandoned.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Aug. 2.—The proposed natural gas pipe line between Louisiana fields and St. Louis, which was to supply Jonesboro, has been abandoned. An artificial gas plant will be erected here at once and will be ready for use by November.

**Arrival of Natural Gas Will Be Celebrated at Jonesboro.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, April 1.—A celebration of arrival of natural gas in Jonesboro will be staged here tomorrow night with a banquet for members of the Chamber of Commerce, the Rotary Club and the Lions Club. A street dance will follow. Speakers will include: Governor Parnell, President Harvey C. Couch of the Arkansas Power and Light Company and C. Hamilton Moses of Little Rock, attorney for the company.

**New Company Plans Test For Oil in Poinsett County.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Dec. 11. — Permission to operate in Arkansas has been granted the Rockwell Development Company of Delaware, it was announced today. The firm will assume control of all oil and gas leases in Poinsett county. Gordon Crenshaw is president; Arthur L. Adams, vice president, and R. A. Green, secretary-treasurer. All live here. Officials said that no stock or leases are for sale. A test will be made soon three miles north of Harrisburg between Harrisburg and Greenfield, they said. Headquarters of the firm, with Adams as agent, will be in Jonesboro. Most of the stockholders are residents of Jonesboro and northeast Arkansas. Between 15,000 and 20,000 acres of prospective oil and gas lands are controlled by the firm.

**Showing of Oil Reported in Test Near Harrisburg.**  
 Special to the Gazette.  
 Jonesboro, Nov. 16.—A showing of oil and good showing of gas have been encountered at the test well of the Rockwell Development Co., in Poinsett county, between Harrisburg and Greenfield, Gordon P. Crenshaw of Jonesboro, president of the company, said today. He said that the company will spend no more money on the present location but will skid the rig and start another test well to determine which way the structure runs.

*Poinsett*