

PLANNING TO TEST LEOLA WELL SOON

Gazette Friday
Driller Believes He Can Soon Complete His Fishing Job.
8-12-21

Special to the Gazette.
Leola, Aug. 10.—Will oil well drillers' and operators' superstition about "thirteen" prove lucky or unlucky in the well being drilled near the outskirts of Leola? This question is puzzling Harry Winters, Kansas operator, who with several associates is financing the test and who believes "13" is lucky, and Tom Beach, drilling contractor, who has an uncanny fear of Friday and "13." The completion of the well within the next week or two will test the theory.

Mr. Winters won the nickname "Lucky" in Kansas field near Iola last year when he brought in 98 producing wells out of 103, and got his best wells when they were "spudded in" or tested on Friday, or the thirteenth. He began the Leola well on the thirteenth, and hopes to see the fishing job now under way ended and the pay sand encountered on the thirteenth.

Mr. Beach, however, has had an unusual run of bad luck since setting casing at 1,940 feet. He drilled the plug on July 13, and spent a week trying to drill through hard limestone with fishtail bits which dulled after penetrating the rock a few inches. He ordered a roller bit, and lost five days. When the bit came, the lubricating system had been omitted, and another bit was ordered. Then the roller bit sprung a collar of the drill stem. After this delay, the drill stem was twisted in two within 120 feet of the bottom. A trip to El Doardo was made, and no hooks for three-inch stem were available. One was ordered and after a week's loss of time, the hook arrived. It failed to come up to specifications, and had to be remodeled. If Mr. Beach succeeds in getting the section of stem and bit out, he will consider himself lucky. Otherwise he will have to put on a diamond bit and sidetrack around the obstruction.

Mr. Beach says the formation is checking up with Bull Bayou of Louisiana, although the general contour of the structure suggests El Doardo. Various thicknesses of limestone, with shale, gumbo, chalk, and sand have been encountered since the six-inch was set, and it is believed the drill stem broke off in the final stratum of rock which overlays an oil and gas sand. A little gas was found in a crevice of the limestone, however.

As wildcat wells have the habit of coming in when least expected and near towns unequipped to handle the crowds, the Leola well should prove a gusher. Leola has no water system, hence no fire protection, no electric lights, and no accommodations for more than 100 persons, exclusive of the 398 inhabitants.

If the well proves "dry," it cannot be said of the test that "it was a well, all right, but someone was paid to junk it." The best test is being drilled with private capital, and without an acre in the block being sold to defray the cost of drilling. The only way Winters and his associates can make money from the test is finding oil. They are taking the entire gamble, and want to reap the entire reward. Little information about the well has been given out, and few operators in the state know the well is within 50 feet of probable pay sand.

GRANT COUNTY TO HAVE TEST SOON

Drillers at Well Have Been Boring Through Hard Rock.
1921

Special to the Gazette.
Hot Springs, Aug. 27.—That the acreage he controls at Leola, Grant county, will be given a thorough test, was the statement made today by Harry Winters of Leola, Kan., and some of his associates and a few of his friends in Hot Springs, has been busy the last two months trying to get production at his well in that county. For the last two weeks the driller has been trying to get through an exceptionally hard formation. Three sets of the famous Hughes roller bits have been worn out and new

ones ordered from the factory, but the showings have been so promising a nature, Mr. Winters said, that he is still sanguine, once the present hard rock is drilled, that he will not be long in bringing in his well.

This project is known as the "Lucky Harry," and derives its optimistic title from the fact Winters is one of the most successful operators that ever pierced the shallow field in the Sunflower state. Clyde Becker, who has geologized all of Winters' acreage in Kansas, also made the survey and location at Leola.

The well, Mr. Winters said, has been drilled to a depth of 2,160 feet. The contract called for a 2,200-foot well. In the event oil is not found at that depth, Winters said arrangements would be made to go 3,000 feet, and that he was seriously considering standardizing the equipment. Six-inch casing, he said, had been set to 1,950 feet.

According to local officials of the Acme Company, which is drilling in Cleveland county, their well is showing such good indications that their hope for early production has been considerably increased. This well is being drilled by the Love Brothers.

A report was current here that a delegation of farmers in the section of the well made a visit to the scene of operations and demanded of those in charge that the well be given a test. They are alleged to have been armed with guns and to have delegated a committee to remain at the well until the test was made.

Local men said they did not hear of the report, but that they had been informed considerable oil had been taken from the well and that preparations were being made to set the six-inch casing. The reason assigned for the visit of the rural residents is that the Combination company's well had never been tested and that they did not, it was said, intend to have the same state of affairs take place at Acme projects.

Grant County Oil Well Sold to Meet Creditors' Claims.

Special to the Gazette.
Sheridan, March 30.—Under orders of the Grant Chancery Court, Philip Cooney, receiver of the Jones & Watkins oil well No. 1, in the eastern part of Grant county, sold the property today, including all assets of the firm, to satisfy liens filed by laborers and other creditors. Bills on file at the court shows debts of \$4,000. Ed McDonald, appointed as trustee by the creditors, bid in the rig and assets for \$500. The well now is down about 1,400 feet and good showings of oil has been struck in two places with strong gas pressure.

GRANT COUNTY TO HAVE OIL TEST

Spann and McClung Will Drill on Site 20 Miles From Little Rock.
1-4-30

Spann and McClung announced yesterday that they had spudded in their oil test on their 1,700-acre lease in Section 8, Township 3, Range 12 west Grant county, which is 20 miles south of Little Rock and three miles east of the Arch street pike.

The drillers are experienced Oklahoma men, it was said, and J. O. Page is superintendent. The proposed well is on the Sarah Page farm.

Test Oil Well Near Leola Down About 1,500 Feet.

Special to the Gazette.
Leola, April 20.—The test oil well being drilled near here was down approximately 1,500 feet today, the driller said. Ed Neal of Shreveport, La., and Harry Winters of Tulsa, Okla., are making the test.

Group to Visit Test Well Near Leola Today.

Special to the Gazette.
Hot Springs, May 15.—Favorable reports from the Winters-Neal wildcat well being drilled near Leola, Grant county, have been sent to persons interested in the project and tomorrow a delegation will visit the location. The well is being drilled by private capital. Among those interested and who will leave here in the morning are: W. E. Neal, Shreveport; R. T. Burns, Roanoke, Va.; R. C. Clark, Henderson, N. C.; Dr. E. E. Barber, Peoria, Ill.; John H. Garner, Little Rock; J. D. Heyburn, Springfield, Mo., and G. L. Smith, Newport.

The well was started by Harry Winters, who is said to have brought in more than 160 producers in the shallow fields of Kansas. The location for the test was made by Clyde M. Becker, Oklahoma state geologist.

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One Permit Issued.

Only one permit was issued this week by the state Conservation Department. It was a permit issued to Wallace & Staples of Hot Springs to drill a wildcat test in Grant county. No information could be obtained as to whether or not operations have been started. The test will be the W. F. Davis No. 1 and is located 300 feet north and 300 feet west of the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 23-6-15 in Grant county.

Gas and Oil Struck on Leases Of Hot Springs Men.

Special to the Gazette.
Hot Springs, Nov. 23.—Al Simmons of the Detroit Tigers won't have to worry about an income after his ball playing days are over, judging from news received today by Bruce Wallace, manager of the Majestic hotel, who let the well known outfielder, together with Blake Harper, connected with Branch Rickey of the Cardinals, in on two drilling projects, one near Livermore, Ky., and the other close to Fordsville, that state. Wallace showed his friends today a telegram from his drillers, saying that an 80-barrel well had been brought in on the former location and a gas well of five million feet near Fordsville.

Wallace said that he had closed a contract to furnish the Kentucky Natural Gas Company with 10,000,000 feet of gas daily at 12 cents per thousand feet, and that additional gas wells would be drilled near the one just brought in. It is a shallow field with gas being struck at 550 feet, Wallace and associates have considerable proven acreage in that territory.

Simmons and Harper also are interested with Wallace in a wildcat test in Grant county. Wallace said they were down close to 1,900 feet, on what was believed to be cap rock over the blossom sand, and that an effort would be made this week to bring in the well. He said that excellent gas showing was had at 1,600 feet. This test has been free of salt water, Wallace said.

Simmons and Harper make their home in Hot Springs and both today were "setting 'em up" to their friends.

Oil and Gas Showing Reported In Grant County Test.

Special to the Gazette.
Hot Springs, Dec. 5.—A pronounced showing of oil and gas in a test being drilled by Wallace & Staples in Grant county, 15 miles south of Sheridan and 45 miles from Hot Springs, sent Bruce Wallace, manager of the Majestic hotel, and oil scouts to the location today. On his return, Wallace said the drill had gone through eight feet of oil sand and that there was sufficient gas to warrant immediate shutting down of operations pending a test.

The sand was struck at 1,860 feet. Casing will be set immediately. Al Simmons, Detroit outfielder, who has an interest with Wallace in oil and gas production in Kentucky, also is interested with him in the Grant county wildcat.

Grant County Well Given Drill Test

Hot Springs (P)—Bruce Wallace, Hot Springs hotel manager, and others awaited today the results of a drill stem test planned at the Wallace-Staples and W. E. Davis No. 1 well in Grant county. It is in section 23-6-15.

His associates in the drilling venture are Al Simmons, Detroit outfielder; Blake Harper, St. Louis Cardinal business office; and Frank Staples, Camden. A gas showing was found when the core was taken Friday, Wallace said.

To Complete Test of Well In Grant County Today.

Hot Springs, Ark., Dec. 10 (P).—Bruce Wallace, Hot Springs hotel manager, said that a drill stem test started today at the Wallace-Staples and W. F. Davis No. 1 well, Grant county, would be completed tomorrow.

"We believe we entered the Blossom sand at 1,886 feet today," he said. "We will drill a few feet deeper tomorrow and then complete the test. We are still encountering a good showing of gas."

The well is in section 23-6-15, near Leola.

Test of Well in Grant County Delayed by Breakdown.

Leola, Ark., Dec. 11 (P).—A breakdown of equipment prevented completion today of a drill stem test at the Wallace-Staples and W. F. Davis No. 1 well, Section 23-6-15. Drillers said they hoped to make the test tomorrow.

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Gas Pocket Ruins Oil Test in Grant County

Sheridan—Accumulated gas in the W. F. Davis and Wallace Staples oil well No. 2, located one-half mile northwest of Leola, on the Leola-Poyen highway, caused the well to cave in Wednesday night.

The machinery has been moved to a new location and plans are being made to drill another well.