

Drilling Started on Oil Test in Independence County.

3-31-38

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, March 30.—Drilling for oil has started on the R. K. Wyatt farm at Rosie, Independence county, eight miles southeast of Batesville. C. D. Daniels is driller.

To Drill for Gas and Oil in Independence County.

Special to the Gazette. 3-2-41
Batesville, March 1.—A group of persons here announced today that more than 20,000 acres in the vicinity of locust grove, eight miles south of here, had been leased, and plans are being made to drill a test well in an effort to strike oil or gas. Drilling is expected to get under way next month.

Independence County Oil, Gas Test to Start Soon.

Special to the Gazette. 5-11-41
Desha, May 10.—The first test for gas and oil made in Independence county in nearly 20 years will be started near here within two weeks. A drilling permit has been asked.

The test will be made by the Hinkle and Fitzgerald Drilling Corporation of St. Elmo, Ill., and Wewoka, Okla. The block of leases consists of 27,000 acres and lies around Desha, Jamestown and McHue, all in Independence county. Batesville men are interested in the leases and were instrumental in getting the test made. William Fischer, Mr. Snyder and Mr. Edmyer, all well known oil geologists, checked the territory before drilling plans were made. The block lies around three fault closures and is an anticlinal structure. The test will be made with a rotary rig, which will be the first of its type in this section.

Interest Shown in Test Well Near Batesville.

Special to the Gazette 7-6-41
Batesville, July 5.—Interest is being shown in the Pryor No. 1 well being drilled in the McHue neighborhood, four miles south of Batesville. Operations have been in progress two weeks. Approximately 25,000 acres near Batesville have been leased. J. W. Fitzpatrick of Wewoka, Okla., is in charge of the drilling, assisted by J. F. Hinkle of St. Elmo, Ill. Associated with them is the Hollandsworth Drilling Co. of Dallas and Longview, Tex., with R. B. Hollandsworth in charge. The well is in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 32-13-6.

Oil Well Test Is Under Way Near Batesville

Democrat 7-6-41
Batesville—Interest in the oil development of Independence County took on new life the past week with the spudding in of the Pryor No. 1 well south of White River, and four miles below Batesville.

The drilling is being financed by Batesville and Illinois men and leases have been taken on approximately 25,000 acres from Salado to Locust Grove and from White River to Salado Creek. Contract for the drilling of the first well was let this week to J. W. Fitzpatrick, Wewoka, Okla., who drilled the discovery well in the Griffin Field in Illinois, and J. F. Hinkle, St. Elmo, Ill. A sub-contract for drilling operations is held by the Hollandsworth Drilling Company of Dallas and Longview, Tex. The drilling is under direct charge of R. B. Hollandsworth, president of the Hollandsworth Drilling Company.

Location of the well is the Southeast quarter of the southeast quarter, section 32, township 13 North, range 6 west.

W. M. Fischer, Hot Springs, is geologist in charge of operations at the well. He has made surveys in Independence County the past 11 months before the beginning of actual drilling operations. The well has been drilled about 300 feet. Three eight-hour shifts are being employed.

GAS SHOWING REPORTED

Driller Sets Fire to Well Drilling South of Batesville.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Aug. 16.—The Grigsby well No. 1, south of Batesville, has reached a depth of about 650 feet and today the driller reported a pro-

nounced flow of gas. The well was bailed to a depth of 300 feet, the gas was fired and burned four or five feet above the surface of the well. The drillers continued to drill with a showing and strong odor of the gas.

The well is within 200 yards of a constant flowing well of gas, evident for the past four or five years, which would have burned constantly had it not been controlled by the owners of the property. The operators are drilling for oil, however, and will not cease drilling until a depth has been reached sufficient to justify an oil test.

NEARLY READY FOR TEST

Drillers Are Working Regularly on Two Wells Near Batesville.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Aug. 27.—A few weeks ago the driller "spudded in" the Grigsby well with a Keystone rig and has continued to drill practically uninterrupted. The well now is almost 800 feet deep and in two or three hundred feet of the geological report indicating that oil will be found. The drilling company is composed of home people, who plan a thorough test.

At the Adams well, which was "spudded in" about six months ago, the driller has practically reached a test depth, with geological indications of an oil well of shallow depth. The drill is in what is believed to be a cap rock. As soon as this has been penetrated oil sands are expected. There is much excitement over the test which will probably be made the first of the week.

At Earhart a well is being drilled for oil and gas. A gas pocket was reached several weeks ago, which produced pressure sufficient to overflow the well and a decided oil showing was in evidence.

SPUDDING-IN CEREMONY.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Nov. 23.—The christening ceremony of the first well spudded in on the Cave City Leasing Com-

pany's property at Cave City was held today, when a program consisting of speeches by the mayor of Batesville, Dr. W. S. Lacy, president of Arkansas College and others, was held. Miss Elizabeth Lacy, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Lacy, christened the bit before the well was spudded in. She broke a bottle of crude oil and made a talk. J. W. Martin of Wagoner, Okla., field manager of the company, had charge of the program.

OIL COMPANY ELECTS.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Nov. 27.—The Cave City Oil and Gas Company, Friday afternoon completed the organization of the company and elected the following officers and board of directors: J. W. Martin, president; Cal Shouse, vice president and general field manager; Junius Case, treasurer, and Miss Augusta Thomas secretary.

WELL WILL BE CASED

Work to Start at Grigsby Test in a Few Days.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Jan. 19.—Drillers of the Grigsby oil well No. 1, being drilled by the Walbert Oil Company five miles south of Batesville, have just received the casing for their test and today it is being hauled to the well by volunteers who live in the vicinity of the well. The well was shut down several weeks ago at a depth of 1,350 feet when oil sand was struck after the well had been gassing for two days, and it was considered advisable to discontinue drilling until the well had been cased and the water which rose to a point near the surface of the well had been cased off. As soon as the well is cased and the water pumped out the casing will be tested, and if no leaks are found drilling will be resumed.

The Walbert Oil Company owns leases on 6,000 acres surrounding the well.

CASING IS RECEIVED.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Jan. 20.—Casing for the Grigsby No. 1 well, which is being drilled on the Charles Grigsby farm by the Walbert Oil Company, arrived yesterday and is being hauled to the test today. E. E. Bonewitz, field manager for the company, says that drilling probably will be resumed Monday, but that it all depends on what luck drillers have in setting the casing. The hole is down 1,358 feet, and when the drillers stopped they had a showing of gas. Water now stands 1,300 feet in the hole. Work was suspended several weeks ago, when drillers neared a depth which they expect production. Several years ago good showings of oil were found in a well at Sulphur Rock.

DRILLING IS RESUMED.

Special to the Gazette.
Batesville, Jan. 26.—The Walbert Oil Company of Batesville, which is drilling the Grigsby oil well in 3-12-6, five miles south of Batesville, has employed a new driller from Tulsa, Okla., who arrived this week, and operations at this well have been resumed after a shutdown of two months. Tuesday was spent in rat-holing the well. The casing is now being set. The well is down about 1,350 feet, and officers of the company are looking for some interesting developments soon.

Gas Struck While Digging Water Well Near Batesville.

Special to the Gazette. 11-20-31
Batesville, Nov. 19.—While digging a water well on his farm at Rosie, 12 miles south of here, this morning, Kelly Wyatt struck gas at 60 feet. The flow could be heard for a mile. It diminished somewhat this afternoon.

Well Drilled For Water Is Spouting Gas

Gasser in Heart of Batesville Causes Much Excitement.

Batesville, Aug. 12.—(Special)—What was intended as a water well to provide water for the Pure Ice Company in the manufacture of ice, suddenly became a gas well about 9:30 this morning, and threw the business section of Batesville into a furor of excitement. Drilled to a depth of 365 feet, the hole suddenly began spouting gas and loosened the casing, blowing it partly out of the well.

The well is located on lower Main street, about three squares from the courthouse. There had been some earlier indications of gas, but these were not taken seriously, and the driller, B. T. Daniels, who is an oil well driller, as well as driller of water wells, went ahead at that time with the job of drilling for water.

After the excitement subsided somewhat this morning, the well was capped and a jet put on the casing. This was lighted and there was an explosion, the gas catching fire in the well. However, it was soon extinguished.

No gauge had been placed on the well and it is not known whether the flow is sufficient to make the well valuable commercially. No decision had been reached as to what would be done with the rather unwelcome gas well.

Several months ago a well being drilled for water about 10 miles south of here, began spouting gas from a depth of less than 40 feet, but the flow was not sufficient to make it a commercial well. There never have been any commercial gas wells in this vicinity.