

Test Oil Well to Be Drilled Near Blytheville.

Gazette 9-2-37

Special to the Gazette.
Blytheville, Sept. 1.—A test for oil and gas will be drilled a short distance north of Blytheville, it was announced by Allan Robinson, Memphis attorney. Work on the well will begin 60 days after the completion of the leasing of a block of 15,000 acres.

PLAN TO DRILL FOR OIL HERE

Blytheville Paper Memphis Attorney Says Associates Will Drill Well Soon 9-?-37

Allan Robinson, Memphis attorney, announced here yesterday that a test well for oil and gas is to be drilled, a short distance north of Blytheville by a group of oil operators, possibly within the next 75 days.

Work on the well, expenses of which will be borne entirely by the operators, will begin 60 days after the group has completed leasing of a block of 15,000 acres, which they claim will be completed within a week. Cost of drilling the well is estimated between \$50,000 and \$60,000 and three to four months will be required to drill the well, it is stated.

The leasing has been underway for the past week under the supervision of J. Nick Thomas, assisted by S. E. Wilson, geologist. These leases are on land north to the Missouri line. If drilling is actually developed, additional leases will be taken south of Blytheville for a second test well, Mr. Robinson said.

The royalty lease used allows the owner to retain 1-8 of all oil and gas produced on his land. There is no expense to the land owner for the drilling or any other activity connected with the enterprise. Less than one acre of ground will be used for the test well and the operators are liable for damages to any crops their attorney stated.

Backers of the proposed test, which will be the second attempted in Blytheville for the finding of oil and gas, are a group of operators who brought in and developed one of the big Louisiana oil fields in December, 1936, it is stated. The operators now have 75 producing wells in that field, according to Mr. Robinson, who is in charge of the preliminary work here.

The land on which the leases are being executed is in what is commonly referred to by geologists as the Blytheville dome. This area has been the subject of considerable interest on the part of oil operators since Byron Fuller, United States geological survey geologist, located the Blytheville, Tiptonville and Little River domes.

George Branner, state geologist of Arkansas, also reported favorably on this area. He refers to the Blytheville dome as "a potential oil bearing territory" and emphasizes the evidence of structure because of the surface doming conditions around Blytheville. In his report he recommends the drilling of one or more test wells on the Blytheville structure.

Geologist Jenny, of Texas, in a recent article appearing in the "Oil Weekly" magazine, commented most favorably in the Blytheville structure. It is said there are a number of other private reports in existence emphasizing the possibilities of commercial oil and gas here.

The operators anticipate the moving of a large rotary rig into this territory for the making of these tests. The first well will be carried to a depth of at least 4000 feet unless oil or gas is found in commercial quantities at a shallower depth. The hole will be drilled at a sufficient size to a depth of 4000 feet with the thought in view that if formations check favorably to that depth that the well will be deepened to probably 6000 feet or more, Mr. Robinson said.

A crew of 16 trained workmen will work in day and night shifts on the drilling of the test well.

It was in the fall of 1920 that the first test well was drilled on the Dillahunty farm, north of Blytheville. Local contributions were raised to assist in the work. During the process of drilling the 1800 foot well, a part of the equipment was damaged and the project was finally abandoned.

Late in 1930, the Schaffer Oil company of Oklahoma secured one year leases in the same block and was preparing to begin drilling but abandoned its plans later.

Seismographic Tests Begun In Vicinity of Blytheville.

Special to the Gazette. 5-18-38

Blytheville, May 17.—A series of seismographic tests to determine the most favorable location for several proposed test wells for gas or oil was started here today by a crew of 16 men representing an Oklahoma seismographic concern. The crew and a large amount of equipment will remain in this vicinity for two or three weeks to make tests over a tract of approximately 16,000 acres north and northeast of Blytheville.

J. Nick Thomas, Blytheville real estate dealer, is co-operating with Allen Robinson of Memphis in obtaining leases covering an area from Gosnell community to the Number Nine section. Robinson is reported to represent a large production company.

Oil Tests to Be Made In Blytheville Area

Blytheville—A crew of 16 men, representing an Oklahoma seismographic concern, has arrived here to start a series of seismographic tests to determine the most favorable location for several proposed test wells for gas or oil. The tests will cover a tract of about 16,000 acres north and northeast of Blytheville.

J. Nick Thomas, real estate dealer of Blytheville, is co-operating with Allen Robinson of Memphis in obtaining leases.

Four Oil Tests to Be Made In Blytheville Area.

Special to the Gazette. 6-25-38

Blytheville, June 24.—The possibility that Blytheville may become the center of an oil field was suggested by Allan Robinson, Memphis lawyer, in a talk at the weekly meeting of the Rotary Club here.

Robinson said the results of seismographic tests made here during the past several weeks have been encouraging, and that the company he represents has decided to drill three or more wells, even if the first 5,000-foot test well should be dry.

Although the company has declined to report the details of the findings, Mr. Robinson said that the structure of the land already tested has been found to be the same as in East Texas, North Louisiana and south Arkansas, which boast some of the richest oil fields in the country.

Oil Test Near Blytheville Waiting On Equipment.

Special to the Gazette. 9-3-38

Blytheville, Sept. 2.—Benedum-Trees Oil Company of Pittsburg, Kan., is waiting on equipment to begin drilling on an oil test well in Kildee bottom, two miles north of Armorel, the first test well in this section since 1920.

The test is on the property of C. W. Mack of Paragould, leased by Benedum-Trees. A representative of the company reported June 23 that geological tests were so favorable that the company would drill three or four additional wells even if the first 5,000-foot test proved a dry hole. Several officials of the company have been here the past 10 days but have declined comment. Seismographic tests were made of the entire area surrounding the city. The earth's structure was reported to be the same as that in eastern Texas, northern Louisiana and south Arkansas, which boast the richest oil fields in the county.

101 BLYTHEVILLE GAS FRANCHISE GRANTED

Oklahoma Firm Must Begin Service Within Year After Acceptance.

Special to the Gazette. 3-14-27
Blytheville, March 13.—The Cherokee Public Service Company of Muskogee, Okla., will supply natural gas to Blytheville for the next 25 years by the terms of an ordinance passed by the City Council last night. One alderman refused to vote for the ordinance because it did not provide for furnishing free gas to the city hall and public school buildings. Although the franchise has not been formally accepted by the company, R. H. Burtz, vice president, who met with the council several weeks ago, informally accepted the changes made and said that probably the terms would be acceptable to his company.

Distribution of gas must begin within one year under penalty of forfeiting \$5,000 bond. Gas will be sold to domestic users at the rate of 70 cents per 1,000 cubic feet, with a discount of 10 per cent for prompt payment. Rates may be revised at the end of three years, as will be agreed upon by the company and the city, or as may be ordered by the State Utilities Commission. A lower rate will be given for industrial and commercial customers. This rate also will be fixed by the city and the company or by the State Commission.

The franchise is exclusive for one year only. It is believed by members of the council and Mayor Brown that another company will not enter the field after the Cherokee company has begun operations here. The company wanted exclusion for 10 or 15 years.

Geological Survey Being Made in Blytheville Area.

Special to the Gazette. 12-14-30
Blytheville, Dec. 13.—A geological survey is being made in this section by W. C. Cates of Oklahoma City, representative of an oil and gas producers syndicate, and two experts.

A test well will be drilled immediately if indications are favorable, Mr. Cates said. Drilling activities will not depend on local financial participation, he said. A well was drilled here several years ago, but was abandoned because indications were unfavorable.

Another Test for Oil Will Be Made Near Blytheville.

Special to the Gazette. 2-22-21
Blytheville, Feb. 21.—A second test for oil and gas will be made here this year. The Shafer Oil and Refining Company is securing leases and will drill early in the fall.

Shafer Oil Company Plans Test Well Near Blytheville.

Special to the Gazette. 5-7-31
Blytheville, May 6.—Leases for 2,500 acres are needed to complete a 10,000-acre block sought by the Shafer Oil Company, which plans to drill a test well for oil and gas near Blytheville this year.

The company will not sink the well unless it is able to complete the block. W. C. Cates, representative of the oil company, is now in Tennessee, where his company also plans a test well near Covington.

Oil Test Well May Be Drilled Near Blytheville.

Special to the Gazette. 5-6-32
Blytheville, May 5.—Two Dyersburg, Tenn., business men, Franklin W. Latta and Henry Fowlkes, who have extensive property holdings here, have offered to contribute to a fund for sinking a test oil and gas well on a block leased near here by an Oklahoma concern last year.

They met with a committee of local business men last night and proposed to allow their property to be sold, the money used toward drilling expenses in return for stock in the oil company. The proposal is being considered.

Company Organized to Drill Well at Blytheville.

Special to the Gazette. 6-11-32
Blytheville, June 10.—A test well for oil and gas will be drilled on a 5,000-acre block now under lease to an Oklahoma oil company, if local men can sell \$10,000 in stock subscriptions in the project. They are to work with several Dyersburg (Tenn.) men who have property in Blytheville which they have offered to sell to back the enterprise.

The plan is to sell the property in lots averaging \$100 each, with 60 per cent of the money going into the oil company.