PLAN TO GRILL FOR OIL HERE

Blytheville Paper
Memphis Attorney Says
Associates Will Drill
Well Soon 9-1-37

Allan Robinson, Memphis attorney, announced here yesterday that a test well for oil and gas will be drilled about a short distance north of Blytheville. It was announced by Allen Robinson, Memphis attorney. Work on the well will begin in about 10 days.

Work on the well, expenses of which will be borne entirely by the operators, will begin in about 10 days after the group has completed the drilling of a block of 13,000 acres, which they claim will be completed within a week. Cost of drilling the well is estimated between $500,000 and $600,000 and three to four months will be required to drill the well.

The leasing has been underway for the past few weeks under the supervision of J. Nick Thomas, assisted by A. F. Wilson, geologist. These leases are on land north of the Missouri line. If drilling is successful, 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 landowner 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 the owner planted.

Bankers of the proposed test which will be the second attempt in Blytheville for the finding of oil and gas, are a group of investors who bought in and developed one of the big Louisiana oil fields. In December, 1936, it was leased. The operators now have 15 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 since 1906, when the early drilled oil operators since Byrnes, Putnam, U.S. geological survey, believed, located the Blytheville-Tiptonville and Little River dome. George Branning, 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, John E. Adams in a recent article appearing in the "Oil Weekly" magazine, comments on the most favorable area in the Blytheville structure. It is said there are a number of other private reports in evidence emphasizing the possibilities of commercial oil and gas here.

The operators anticipate the moving of a large rotating rig into this territory for the making of these tests. The first well will be carried to a depth of at least 5,000 feet unless oil or gas is found in commercial quantities at a shallower depth. The hole will be drilled at a sufficient rate to a depth of 5,000 feet with the intention that if formations check favorably to that depth that the well will be deepened to probably 6,000 feet or more, Mr. Robinson said.

A crew of 18 trained workmen will work in day and night shifts on the drilling of the test well.

It was in the fall of 1936 that the first test well was drilled on the Dillahunty farm, north of Blytheville. Local contributions were made to assist in the work. During the process of drilling the 1,500-foot well, a part of the equipment was damaged and the project was finally abandoned.

Late in 1938, the Schaffer Oil company of Oklahoma secured one-year leases in the same block, and was preparing to begin drilling that abandoned 1,500-foot well.

Seismographic Tests Begun In Vicinity of Blytheville.

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 18 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 cooperating with Allan Robinson of Memphis in obtaining leases covering an area from Guennel community to the number Nine section. Robinson is reported to represent a large production company.

Oil Tests to Be Made
In Blytheville Area

Blytheville, June 26—The possibility that Blytheville may become the center of an oil field was suggested by Allan Robinson, Memphis attorney, at a meeting of the Rotary Club here.

Robinson and 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 1,500-foot test well should be dry.

Although the company has decided to report the results 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

Blytheville, Sept. 2—Benedum-Trees Oil Company of Philadelphia, Pa., is waiting on equipment to begin drilling on an oil test well in Riddle bottom, two miles north of Armorel, the first test well in the area since 1928.

The test is on the property of C. W. Jackson, of Paragould, leased by Benedum-Trees. A representative of the company reported June 23 that geological tests were made favorable that the company would drill three or four additional wells if the first 1,000-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 in eastern Texas, northern Louisiana and South Arkansas, which boast the richest oil fields in the country.
BLYTHEVILLE GAS FRANCHISE GRANTED

Oklahoma Firm Must Begin Service Within Year After Acceptance.

Blytheville, March 31.—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, the aldermen who voted for the ordinance said that they were confident that the franchise would be accepted by the 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 varied at the end of the year 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 come into the field after the Cherokee company has had a chance to prove itself here. The company wanted exclusivity for 15 or 15 years.

Geological Survey Being Made in Blytheville Area.

Blytheville, Dec. 19.—A geological survey is being made in this section by W. C. Cates, representative of 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, but would be financed by the company itself. Several years ago, but was abandoned, because indications were unfavorable.

Another Test for Oil Will Be Made Near Blytheville.

Blytheville, Feb. 27.—A second test for oil and gas will be made here this year. The Shaffer Oil and Refining Company is securing leases and will drill early in the fall.

Shaffer Oil Company Plans Test Well Near Blytheville.

Blytheville, May 6.—Leases for 2,500 acres are needed to complete a 16,000-acre block sought by the Shaffer 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.

Blytheville, May 5.—Two Drybrough, Thum, business men, Franklin W. Latta and Henry Frendak, who have extensive real estate holdings here, have offered to contribute up to $4,000 for sinking a test well and gas well on a block leased near here by an Oklahoma company 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.

Blytheville, June 19.—A test well for oil and gas will be drilled on a 500-acre block now under lease to an Oklahoma oil company, if local men can sell $70,000 in stock subscriptions in the project. They are to work with several Drybrough (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 10 per cent of the money going into the oil company.