

Jacksonville To Be Scene Of Oil Test

Democrat 3-27-38

Texan to Spud in Monday Nine Miles Southwest of Cabot.

Cabot—The third well of the prospective Cabot oil and gas field is to be spudded in Monday, it was learned here Saturday, by the Coker Oil Company of Arkansas, organized by James H. Coker of Dallas, Tex., as president.

The location is in the se4 of section 36-3n-11w, nine miles southwest of Cabot.

Mr. Coker has had 15 years' experience in the oil business and has producing oil properties in Texas. His company is said to control about 10,000 acres of leases, centering around Jacksonville. Coker said he expected to find production at not to exceed 2,000 feet.

The Benton No. 1 well, in the city limits, had reached 1,427 feet Saturday and was in limestone. The rock was increasing in hardness. In view of the fact that softer strata, encountered above, yielded increasing evidence of oil and gas as the well went down, drillers believe that when the present limestone is pierced, something worth while is sure to develop.

At the Edgington test, a mile and a half north of here, spudded to a shallow depth a few weeks ago, machinery is being assembled and drilling should be resumed soon.

Test Near City To Be Spudded In This Week

Gazette 3-27-38

A test for oil and gas will be spudded in on the M. Stone place near Jacksonville early this week, James H. Coker of Dallas, Tex., president of the Coker Oil Corporation of Arkansas, said yesterday. The location is approximately 10 miles northeast of Little Rock.

The area northeast of Little Rock, through Jacksonville toward Cabot, will be surveyed, Mr. Coker said. He has obtained a block of 10,000 acres around Jacksonville, and is under contract to drill a well to 2,000 feet, he said.

The well is near the center of the southeast quarter, section 36, township 3 north, range 11 west. It is approximately nine miles southwest of Cabot, where considerable gas was found escaping from a deep water well drilled last year.

Oil Firm Secures Leases in County

Oil and gas leases on about 10,000 acres in Pulaski and Lonoke counties in the vicinity of Jacksonville and Cabot have been secured by the Coker Oil Corporation of Arkansas, it was disclosed today when leases from 66 Pulaski land owners were filed by the company in the Pulaski circuit clerk's office to be recorded.

Texan Acquires Gas, Oil Rights

Democrat 4-17-38

J. H. Coker of Dallas, Tex., a native Arkansan, and associates have acquired gas and oil rights to approximately 10,000 acres in Pulaski county around Jacksonville and have started drilling for oil.

The first well was spudded in on the Minnie S. Stone farm, one and one-half miles southwest of Jacksonville, last week. One hundred feet of 12-inch casing has been sunk.

M. W. Martin, associate of Mr. Coker, said a heavier rig and a steel derrick will be placed this week. It is planned to drill 2,000 or 3,000 feet, he said.

Mr. Coker, son of a Yellville physician, who once served in the Arkansas legislature, has made a fortune during his 13 years in the oil business, friends said. He was one of the developers of the Texas panhandle field. He was in Little Rock several days last week, but had returned to Dallas last night.

Mr. Coker is president of the Coker Oil Corporation of Arkansas. No stock is being sold.

Drilling on Pulaski Well to Be Started Next Week.

5-20-38

Special to the Gazette.
Lonoke, May 19.—Bob Zundt, oil well drilling contractor, who is preparing his equipment here, announced today that he had erected a derrick a mile and a half south of Jacksonville, Pulaski county, and will move his cable tools there this week. He plans to start drilling next week. He has a contract with Coker Company of Dallas, Tex., to drill to between 2,000 and 3,000 feet.

Test for Oil Planned Near Jacksonville

Democrat 6-5-38

J. H. Coker Hopes to Find Out if Pool Underlies Pulaski Soil.

By H. C. BROOKS.
(Staff Correspondent.)

There may be oil underlying Pulaski county soil in the vicinity of Jacksonville—and there may not—but either way, James H. Coker, president of the Arkansas Oil Corporation of Little Rock, proposes to find out, and he is backing his confidence in the potential field with an investment of several thousand dollars as an independent operator.

Returning to his native state after 25 years of operations as a successful independent "wildcatter" in various Texas fields, Mr. Coker yesterday stood on the platform of his new derrick located on the Minnie Stone No. 1 tract, 12 miles north of Little Rock on Highway 67, and told a Democrat reporter that to bring in a producing field in that section "will be the crowning achievement of my 25 years in behalf of Arkansas people, and more especially Greater Little Rock."

The Minnie S. Stone No. 1 property is located in the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter, Section 36, Township 3, Range 11 West, a stone's throw from the village of Jacksonville, where a modern Star drilling outfit, steel derrick and all other modern equipment has been planted and 108 feet of surface pipe, 12 1-2 inches in diameter has been set. "The outfit designed especially for shallow drilling, is capable of piercing Mother Earth to a depth of 3,500 or 4,000 feet in quest of the precious "black gold."

Standard Baker case barreling is being used in the well, the first of its kind ever introduced in this part of the country. The Coker operations are seven miles from the Edgington well near Cabot, and a few miles distant is the Cabot prospect, which started oil men from sections of the country trekking here when a WPA project water well there showed oil signs.

Mr. Coker is no stranger to Arkansas's potential oil areas and development in many sections of the state in recent years, although the greater part of his time has been in Texas. He maintains headquarters at Dallas. His operations in recent years have been in the East Texas fields, the famous Panhandle country, and in the Conroe and Corpus Christi, Tex., districts.

He is a native Arkansan, born at Yellville, Marion county, but in early life became identified with the oil business in its various phases before launching his career as an independent operator.

In his activities at Jacksonville, the drilling contracting is in the hands of R. E. ("Bob") Zuendt, veteran contractor, and Little Rock resident. Zuendt told a reporter he planned to start drilling under the surface pipe early this week.

Several thousand acres are embraced in the Coker block of leases, much of the property being owned by local people.

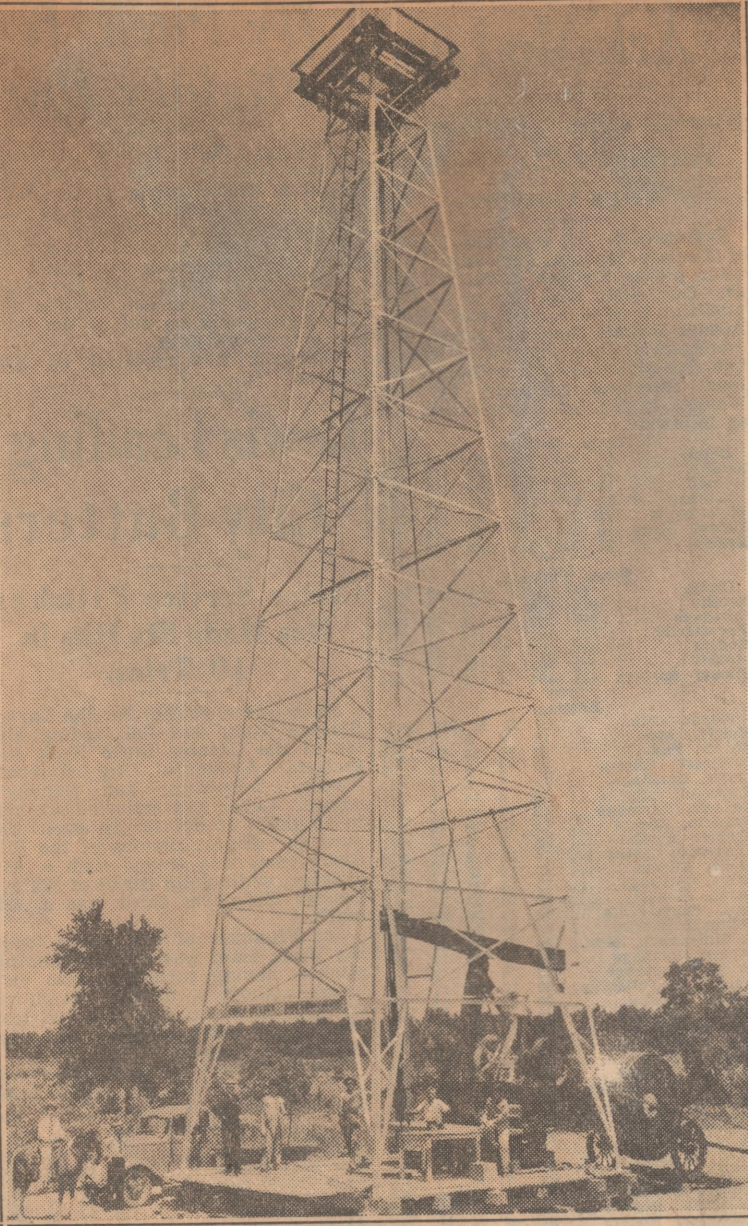
The well site, only a few hundred yards off the pavement of Highway 67, and adjacent to the main lines of the Missouri Pacific railroad, is visited daily by persons attracted by the busy operations and the towering steel derrick.

Expert oil men describe the site of the well as "on the great shore line of the Old Trinity sea basin, abutting the Ozark uplift."

The location affords encouragement for experienced drillers to back their judgment with their time and money. There is no stock for sale in the corporation, no promotional propositions, no fanfare to attract the investor; but a straightforward business venture by Mr. Coker and his associates to bring in a new independent field.

Modern Rig Used for Test

Gazette 6-5-38



Above is shown the towering steel derrick and other modern equipment of the Arkansas Oil Corporation's new well, 12 miles north of Little Rock, near Jacksonville, which will be spudded in this week. The drilling rig is capable of going down 3,500 to 4,000 feet. The company is headed by J. H. Coker, well-known Texas independent oil operator, and native Arkansan. Mr. Coker is standing at the extreme left of the picture.

Coker No. 1 To Be Drilled At Once

10-2-38

Special to the Gazette.

Jacksonville, Oct. 1.—Following completion of financing arrangements with Little Rock interests, officials of the Coker Oil Corporation of Arkansas announced today that drilling would start either tomorrow or Monday on the Coker No. 1 well on the R. W. Turner farm two and a half miles south of here.

The deal assuring the drilling of the well, recently spudded in, was closed by J. N. Coker and associates and Little Rock interests, headed by W. W. Shepherd. The contract calls for drilling to 2,000 feet, if necessary. C. J. Binkley, who has done considerable drilling in Oklahoma and Arkansas, will be in charge of operations.

The Coker No. 1 is in the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 36, township 3 north, range 11 west, approximately 13 miles north of Little Rock. The entire Turner farm of more than 1,000 acres is included in the block of more than 8,000 acres which the Coker corporation has leased. The well is the first drilled in this immediate section, although the Hudson well is drilling at Wattensaw, east of Jacksonville, and three wells are drilling in and near Cabot.

Local Company Expects to Spud In Near Proctor's Gin Soon.
Gazette 8-13-21
 The outfit secured by the Arkansas River Oil Development Company for drilling east of North Little Rock, near the Rose City Oil Company mill has arrived and is being rigged up. The fuel oil is here also and the company expects to "spud in" in about a week.
 A graded road has been thrown up to the location. The company has secured leases near the river and will drill two test wells. The headquarters of the company are at 116 West Second street in the Moore & Turner building.

RIVER OIL TEST TO START TODAY
Gazette

Ceremony Planned for Spudding In of Well Near Prothro's Gin.
 8-22-21

The first oil test to be drilled in the immediate vicinity of Little Rock as a result of the discovery of oil seepage along the Arkansas river early in the summer will be spudded in at 1:15 o'clock this morning and appropriate ceremonies will be held in celebration of the event.
 A large crowd is expected by officials of the Arkansas River Oil and

Development Company, which is drilling the test and ample provision for automobiles and vehicles has been made. The well is between Prothro's gin, east of North Little Rock, and the river.

Speakers will include Governor McRae, Mayor Brickhouse, Mayor Gardner and the Right Rev. John B. Morris, bishop of Little Rock.

10-INCH CASING SET. 7-21

The 10-inch casing in Rose City Well, No. 1 near the Rose City oil mill has been set at 250 feet, according to officials of the Arkansas River Oil Development Company, in charge of the project. The casing was set last week and the plug will be drilled this morning. The drillers will go to 2,000 feet before setting the eight-inch casing.

ENJOINS MEETING OF OIL COMPANY

Judge John W. Wade, acting in the absence of Chancellor J. E. Martineau, Friday issued a temporary injunction restraining the stockholders of the Union Petroleum Company, 1624 West Twenty-second street, from holding a meeting at the Merchants' hotel Saturday afternoon, as a result of a petition filed in chancery court by R. T. Cameron of the Union Petroleum Company against H. H. Hinkle and J. H. Turner, members of the company, and W. A. Taylor, trustee, and J. D. Proctor.

Mr. Cameron charges in his petition that it is the purpose of the defendants to force him out of the company by electing themselves president and secretary. The plaintiff says that Hinkle and Turner obtained possession of \$12,000 worth of the company's funds, which they misappropriated, it is alleged, for the purpose of a controlling interest in the company's stock, assigned to them personally. It is alleged that they had purchased from H. K. Avery of Memphis certain shares formerly held by J. Marion Sims, local manager of the company, and sold by him to Mr. Avery.

The hearing has been set for 10 o'clock Monday morning in First Division circuit court, before Judge Wade. *Democrat* Sat. 8-23-21

WELL AT 275-FOOT LEVEL 9-7-21

Rose City No. 1 to Be Cased With 10-Inch—Various Formations Found.

The Rose City No. 1, being drilled by the Arkansas River Oil and Development Company, was at the 275-foot level last night, according to officials of the company, the drill had gone into iron pyrites.

Since leaving the 250-foot depth, an 18-inch layer of hard rock, and layers of blue clay, black gumbo and shale have been drilled through. It is said that the well will be ratholed and reamed preparatory to setting 10-inch casing.

Mac Mal Mer Company Hunting for Oil Near Little Rock.
Gazette 11-16-21
 The Mac Mal Mer Oil and Gas Company, drilling in 13-4-11, Pulaski county, about 18 miles north of Little Rock, is making good progress, according to reports from the well last night. When drilling ceased yesterday afternoon, the hole was down nearly 100 feet, it was said. The test was spudded in Tuesday. The Cal Shouse Drilling Company of Wagoner, Okla., is in charge of operations. The drill is in carboniferous shale.

NEW STOCK COMPANY WILL DRILL FOR OIL 1921

H. C. Wilson, Well Known Operator, to Head Corporation Operating in Arkansas and Other States.

H. C. Wilson, owner of several thousand acres of oil leases in Arkansas, has applied for a charter under the Texas laws for the organization of a stock company to sink test oil wells. Besides his Arkansas leases, Mr. Wilson owns considerable acreage in several other states on which he proposes to drill. His first Arkansas well is being bored near Gurdon, Clark county, and is down approximately 2,000 feet.

Mr. Wilson says his company will be capitalized at \$125,000. The stock will have a par value of \$1. Blocks of from 20 shares up will be offered for sale. He expects to begin operations as soon as the state blue sky laws are complied with after the charter is received.

While the headquarters of the company will be located in Fort Worth, Tex., Mr. Wilson expects to establish branch offices at several other places, including Little Rock. The company also will drill wells in proven fields on a 50-50 basis. Mr. Wilson owns several drilling outfits. He says approximately \$50,000 worth of stock already has been sold. His temporary office is at Memphis in the Security Bank and Trust Company building.

Mr. Wilson says he has completed arrangements to begin within a few days drilling two wells in Union county near El Dorado.

OIL COMPANY OFFICER CHARGES BAD FAITH

Union Petroleum Case Heard by Judge Wade for Chancellor Martineau.

Hearing of the complaint of R. T. Cameron, president of the Union Petroleum Company, 1625 West Twenty-second street, against H. H. Hinkle and J. H. Turner, members of the company; W. A. Taylor, trustee, and J. D. Proctor, began at 10 o'clock Monday morning before Judge J. W. Wade in First Division circuit court, in the absence of Chancellor J. E. Martineau. The hearing was resumed at 2:30 Monday afternoon.

Cameron charges the \$12,000 worth of the company's funds have been misappropriated by the defendants, and that it was their intention to obtain a controlling interest in the company. Judge Wade Friday issued a temporary injunction restraining the stockholders from holding a meeting last Saturday until after the hearing Monday.

Testimony at the hearing Monday morning consisted of the reading of affidavits and the answer of the defendants, in which the charges brought by Cameron in his complaint are denied. The plaintiff, in asking a temporary injunction, charged that it was the purpose of the defendants to hold a stockholders' meeting and to elect themselves president and secretary, and to force him out of the concern by virtue of their controlling interest. This the defendants denied in their answer, stating that it was the duty of the president to call the annual stockholders' meeting, and alleging that the secretary called the meeting for Saturday because the plaintiff, as president, refused to do so. They also charge the plaintiff with being in possession of the company books and refusing to turn them over to the secretary. They denied misappropriating any amount of the company's funds.

TO DECIDE ON PLAN FOR ENGLAND WELL
Democrat

To Await Recommendation From Dr. Branner, Who Made Location.

Directors of the Consumers' Oil and Gas Company met Thursday morning to discuss whether or not drilling will be resumed in its well near England, where a test last Friday failed to produce gas. It was agreed to defer a decision until a further recommendation could be had from Dr. J. C. Branner, now in California.

When the test was made last week a depth of 2,165 feet had been reached. Prior to the test bubbles appearing on the surface indicated to the more optimistic a showing of gas, but even at that time officials of the company issued a warning in which it was stated that the bubbles might or might not indicate the presence of gas. They were not inclined at that time to the belief that the presence of gas was indicated, and their judgment was sustained when the test was made.

Some members of the company are said to be of the opinion that the drilling should continue while others are of the opinion that gas will not be found in paying quantities and that the well in paying quantities and that the well in paying quantities should be abandoned. While officials of the company Thursday declined to discuss the meeting, it is said that it was agreed to await further recommendations from Dr. Branner, the geologist who located the well.

These recommendations are expected to reach Little Rock possibly by the latter part of the week, or maybe not before the first of next week, but another meeting will be called when they reach Little Rock, and at that time a definite decision is expected by stockholders in the company.

TO USE STANDARD RIG

Driller Says Rose City Well Will Not Be Abandoned.

Gazette 3-21-22
 R. E. Zuendt, driller for the Rose City well on the river just east of North Little Rock, yesterday declared that it is not the intention of the promoters to abandon this well, although the rotary rig has been moved to the Wisby & McIntosh well near Redfield. Mr. Zuendt said the Rose City well is down 735 feet. A hard formation

was encountered, making it necessary to use a standard rig. At the same time it was found that on account of the soft formation a rotary could be used in the Redfield well, and Mr. Zuendt contracted to drill the Redfield well.

Mr. Zuendt said that a standard rig will be secured for the Rose City well and drilling will be resumed.

Little Rock Natural Gas Co. Seeks Poplar Bluff Franchise. 12-7-27

Special to the Gazette.
 Poplar Bluff, Mo., Dec. 6.—Plans for extending a pipe line from El Dorado, Ark., to Poplar Bluff for the sale of natural gas, were outlined to city officials here today by G. E. Garner, representing the Hunter interests of Louisiana and the Little Rock Natural Gas Company of Little Rock. Three concerns are planning to construct pipe lines from the Arkansas fields.

Oil Firm Incorporates.—The certificate of incorporation of the Gold Creek Oil and Gas Company was filed yesterday with County Clerk W. S. Rogers. Capital stock of \$200,000 is authorized and \$150,212.50 has been paid in, according to the certificates. The authorized stock is to consist of 16,000 shares with par value of \$12.50 each. Headquarters is at 808 A. O. U. W. building. The Board of Directors includes: E. B. Edmonds, Palm Springs, Cal., president; Jacob C. Halm Sr., Little Rock, secretary; Dr. D. L. Bower, Little Rock; Robert Coker, Little Rock; Dr. George Schlichtl, Conway; O. D. Longstreth, Little Rock; Charles William Rike, Dayton, O. The company is drilling on a 30,000-acre tract east of Mayflower. *Gazette* 3-17-28

TEST OF VERA STILES NO. 3 SET FOR TODAY

Visitors Are Invited to Bailing Out of Well Eight Miles Southeast.

Gazette 7-29-28
 Little Rock persons interested in the prospects of an oil field in Pulaski county have been invited this afternoon to the test of the Vera Stiles No. 3 well on the Frazier pike, eight miles southeast of Little Rock. The well will be bailed at 2 p. m. today, and Maj. H. A. Stiles, who is in charge, is confident that the result will astonish the oil fraternity. Major Stiles said yesterday that indications in the well point to a good showing of oil.

Stockholders interested in the success of the Vera Stiles No. 3 have received a special invitation to the bailing process, which is the formal "opening."

SHOWING OF OIL IN WILDCAT WELL

Owners of Vera No. 3 Expect to Try to Bring It in Next Month.

Gazette 7-30-28
 At a test of the Vera Stiles Well No. 3 yesterday afternoon on the Frazier plantation eight miles southeast of Little Rock, two dips of the bailer brought up what appeared to be a good showing of oil, much to the gratification of many stockholders in the company and their friends, who gathered at the well for the test.

Maj. H. A. Stiles, who is in charge of operations, and has been prospecting for oil in that vicinity about three years, said he is not ready yet to bring in a well, but is confident he has one. He said the test was made for the benefit of scouts from the oil companies and the stockholders, to confirm his announcement of an oil showing.

He will set casing, he said, and will be ready to bring the well in about August 15.

In a short speech preceding the bailing operation, Major Stiles gave an account of drilling. In all wildcat operations there are suspicions of a "salted" well, and in answer to such reported rumors, Major Stiles said:

"I admit that it is possible for me to put oil in the well, but I will ask you one question and give you six months to answer it: How can I put gas in the well?"

Unmistakable Odor of Gas.

Proceeding the bailer as it came to the surface there was an unmistakable odor of gas. The visitors filled bottles from the outpouring of the bailer in the pit. Some were disappointed because the oil appeared too pure. They were expecting, they said, more of the basic sediment, or "bs" in the lingo of the oil fields.

One oil field scout thought the oil of fine grade. "It will test about 38 specific gravity on a paraffine base," he declared.

The well was drilled with a standard outfit and is in the sand at 1,004 feet. This is regarded as a hopeful prospect in that many who are interested in bringing in an oil field here. High grade oil in a shallow sand would make fine pickings for the operators. They could drill a well with a Star outfit, which is used mostly for drilling water wells, and the cost of drilling in this soft formation would not exceed \$2,500, especially since they would have the logs of preceding wells to guide them.

The showing has aroused much interest in the test, and Major Stiles very likely will have a crowd of interested spectators when he undertakes to bring in the well next month.

REFINERY MAY BE ESTABLISHED HERE

Site for Proposed Plant Is to Be Selected Soon, It

Gazette Said. 9-18-28

Definite decision on a North Little Rock site for a large capacity oil refining plant will be made within the next day or two, it was said yesterday by business men interested. The refiner, who plans to have oil shipped to North Little Rock from Texas, Louisiana, and south Arkansas fields, has several sites under consideration, but has not made known his selection.

The plant, it is reported, would employ approximately 50 men at the beginning, increasing the number to 25 within a year or so.

Business men who have been assisting the refiner during the last two days in obtaining information regarding sites, say that he is not interested in forming a company nor promoting a sale of stock, but merely wants an advantageous location for his plant, and chose North Little Rock as a city answering his needs.

SITE IS SELECTED FOR REFINERY HERE

1,000-Barrel Plant, Which Will Cost \$50,000, to Be Installed.

Gazette 7-30-28
 A site, bordering the Cotton Belt railroad tracks near Buckeye street in the East end, has been selected as the location for a 1,000-barrel capacity oil refining plant which will be erected and operated by William Brink, oil man of El Dorado. The plant will be valued at approximately \$50,000.

It is expected that construction will start as soon as the leasing arrangement with the railroad has been completed. The plant will border the main

line of the Cotton Belt and extend to the river front, using a five-acre tract. It is said that Mr. Brink contemplates installing the plant at 1,000-barrel capacity and with 50 employees, gradually increasing the capacity to 5,000 barrels and the employees to 200 as business justifies.

Mr. Brink is an associate in the General Oil Products Company of El Dorado. The North Little Rock refinery will be his own enterprise, it is said. J. L. Moss, representing the Cotton Belt, and Mayor Lawhon, acting for the city, were active in securing the new industry for North Little Rock.

Oil from south Arkansas, Texas and Louisiana fields will be shipped to the North Little Rock plant and refined into a high grade gasoline product. Mr. Brink has a new cooking process which will be used in the new refinery.

OIL IS REPORTED OVERFLOWING WELL

Said to Bubble Over Top of Casing at Frazier Plantation Test.

Gazette Oct 7-1928

The first trace of which had been discovered July 25, was overflowing shortly after sundown last night from the top of the pipe in a well on the Frazier plantation, eight miles southeast of Little Rock, it was reported last night by Maj. H. A. Stiles, who is drilling the well. The strike was made after a depth of 1,005 feet and seven inches had been reached, he said.

Mr. Stiles said that from the time the first trace was discernible, the casing was filled with water. Mud was dumped into the hole to separate the oil and water, which stood at a point 41 feet below the top of the casing. Between 9 a. m. and noon yesterday, the oil rose 17 feet, it was said, and by nightfall it had reached the surface of the ground.

Gas pressure caused it to boil and bubble over the top of the pipe, but along toward midnight it had receded until it stood about two feet from the top. The well, which is the second drilled by Major Stiles in that locality, is in the center of the plantation, on Fourche island.

Mr. Stiles said that a test of the oil had registered 36 per cent gasoline. The well is 15 feet south of the first one drilled on the plantation, which was abandoned before a showing of oil was found.

Mr. Stiles came here four years ago

from Texas. He was in the oil business in Texas for many years, having devoted his time to the business since 1909.

REFINERY WILL BE ESTABLISHED HERE

Company Formed to Operate Plant With 1,000-Barrel Capacity. 10-23-28

An oil refinery and carbon black plant with a capacity of 1,000 barrels of crude oil a day will be put in operation in Little Rock within 90 days. It was announced yesterday by a party of local business men who are interested in the venture.

Incorporation papers were filed yesterday under the name of the Little Rock Refining Company. It is capitalized at \$250,000 and will begin business with \$150,000 paid in. The remainder will be held open for expansion when needed.

Four or five sites are being considered, and it is expected that one will be selected and installation of machinery started within 60 days. The oil stills will cost between \$60,000 and \$70,000 and office building and other equipment will increase the initial cost of the plant by several thousand dollars.

A majority of the stock will be owned by Little Rock people. C. N. Faubel is president of the company, William Steinkamp, vice president, and E. L. Warden, secretary-treasurer. The Board of Directors will consist of these officers and W. F. Brink, Charles H. Ross and John P. Strepey.

To Use New Invention.
 A new patented process of refining crude oil, known as the Brink process, will be used and the local plant will be the first installed in the United States on a commercial basis. The process is said to produce 86 per cent of high test anti-knock gasoline and the greater part of the residue is converted into carbon black, which is expected to be a highly profitable part of the undertaking. The process is said to remove practically all the carbon from the gasoline and to produce a high quality gasoline which can be sold at regular prices.

Patents for the Brink process are owned by the General Oil Products Company of El Dorado, which is interested in establishment of the refinery here. Crude oil can be shipped here in tank cars from the Union county fields and refined for local consumption more economically than gasoline can be shipped here because of the differences in freight rates, it is said.

A trade name for the gasoline will be selected later, and the fuel will be distributed locally in tank wagons and to distant places of consumption by tank cars. The plant will operate 24 hours a day and will employ from 40 to 50 workmen.

Incorporation Matters.
The Little Rock Refining Company, a newly organized Little Rock concern capitalized at \$250,000, filed articles of incorporation in the office of Secretary of State Jim B. Higgins yesterday. The company is authorized to engage in the refining of oil, manufacture of carbon black and other gas and oil products. Original stockholders are listed as C. N. Faubel, E. L. Warden, William Steinkamp, C. H. Ross and John P. Streepey of Little Rock and the General Oil Products Company of El Dorado.

OIL REFINERY FOR CITY IS ASSURED

\$250,000 Corporation Formed to Build Plant on Hot Springs Pike.

An oil refinery for Little Rock has been assured, it was announced yesterday.

A corporation has been formed, composed of Little Rock men, and incorporated with a capital stock of \$250,000. Although a site has not been definitely selected, the plant probably will be located on the Little Rock-Hot Springs highway.

Officers of the new concern are: C. N. Faubel, president; William Steinkamp, vice president; E. L. Warden, secretary-treasurer, and Charles Ross and John Streepey, members of the Board of Directors.

Work will begin on the plant within 60 days, and by April it is expected that the plant will be turning out gasoline. Machinery will cost approximately \$63,900 and will be installed by W. M. Brink, engineer. Buildings will be inexpensive. Units will be added as needed. Crude oil will be imported from El Dorado.

The plant will begin operations with a 1,000-barrel capacity and, if practicable, will increase to 5,000 barrels. Fifty men will be employed at the start. This number will be increased to 200, if possible, within a year. These employees will be paid from \$4 a day to \$250 a month. With the exception of stillmen, treaters and chemists, who must be brought from whatever section they may be obtained, local men will be employed.

The plant will refine crude oil into gasoline and carbon.

Little Rock offices of the new concern are at 505 A. O. U. W. building. The proposed site for the plant consists of 33 acres.

REFINING PLANT IS TO BE BUILT HERE

Plant to Cost \$250,000 Will Make Gasoline From El Dorado Crude.

George R. Hess, an engineer of El Dorado, will address a meeting of the newly organized Little Rock Refining Company at a meeting to be held, beginning at 8 Tuesday night, in the Fraternal hall.

C. N. Faubel is president of the refining company, which has been organized with \$250,000 capital, and will manufacture gasoline from El Dorado crude oil.

The plant will be built on the Little Rock-Hot Springs highway adjacent to the railroad spur which runs into the new city park donated by John F. Boyle.

WILL DRILL TEST WELL FOR OIL NEAR WOODSON

Wonder State Development Company to Begin Work on Wilson Plantation Next Week.

A test oil well will be drilled on the Wilson Plantation near Woodson, Pulaski county, by J. B. Leggett of El Dorado, who has contracted to drill the well for the Wonder State Development Co. of Little Rock.

Derrick timbers and drilling machinery has been hauled to the plantation and actual drilling will begin this week. The well will be known as the Wonder State No. 1.

J. B. Leggett was credited with bringing in the discovery well at Louann, Ouachita county.

Test Well at Woodson to Be Spudded in Today.

The Wonder State Development Company's oil test well, being drilled on the Wilson farm near Woodson, will be spudded in at 1 p. m. today, it was announced yesterday by J. B. Leggett, driller. The well was located by the geological report of Dr. W. H. Drummitt of Huston, Tex. Arthur Pfeiffer is president and Eugene H. Pfeiffer Jr. secretary of the Wonder State Development Company.

'OIL SPRING' SEEN AS NOT IMPORTANT

Geologist Branner Believes Excitement on Twelfth Street Pike Unjustified.

A so-called "oil spring" located near the Twelfth street pike about seven miles west of Little Rock city limits and which has caused considerable excitement among residents of that section, is nothing to be excited about, in the opinion of George C. Branner, state geologist.

Mr. Branner yesterday accompanied a member of the Gazette staff on a trip to inspect the spring. Oil, which seeps from the earth into a little pool, apparently is kerosene, Mr. Branner believes. From whence the kerosene came, he declined to express an opinion. There are many possibilities, he said. The oil plainly is visible on the surface of the little pool and the smell of kerosene plainly is in evidence.

The spring is located about a quarter-mile north of the grocery and filling station operated by June Carter. Mr. Carter discovered the spring at Christmas time, while hunting. The ground was covered with snow and all creeks were covered with a thick coating of ice. The fact that the little pool and the stream that flowed from it were not frozen attracted his attention and he discovered a film of oil on the pool and oil flowing from the ground into it.

News of the discovery spread rapidly and many persons have visited the scene. A constant stream of autoists visited the place Sunday, Mr. Carter said. It is said that some leases have been taken on adjoining property and that an oil operator from El Dorado investigated and expressed willingness to drill a test well if he could secure satisfactory leases. This, it is said, he was unable to do.

Mr. Branner spent considerable time investigating the spring yesterday and then gave it as his opinion that the oil is not coming from the rock but is seeping through the soil and gravel from some source nearby.

The Gazette reporter suggested that some moonshiner may have buried a can of kerosene near the place and that it now is seeping out through the ground and Mr. Branner agreed that this theory might be as good as any.

Anyhow, Mr. Branner said, he believes that there is very little chance that oil ever will be found in the section where the spring is found. He said that there is a belt of what is known as "Stanley shale" from eight to 10 miles wide extending west from Little Rock past the Oklahoma line. This shale has been subjected to great pressure in times past so that it lies at a steeply sloping angle. Had there been any oil in this shale, it would have escaped long ago, he believes.

However, about 20 years ago, a test well was drilled about three miles east of the "oil spring," on land now owned by J. N. Whitfield. The drillers went down over 2,000 feet but found no oil although a small pocket of gas was encountered, it was said.

OIL REFINERY TO BE OPERATED HERE

300-Barrel Capacity Plant Under Construction on Woodrow Street.

Construction of an oil refinery capable of turning out 300 barrels of finished products daily has been started on Woodrow street, near Cavalry cemetery, and a company to direct the activities of the plant and to handle the sale of its products is in process of organization.

The company will be headed by William Brink, who came to Little Rock two years ago from El Dorado, where he was engaged in the oil business. Several well-known Little Rock business men whose names were not announced will be associated with Mr. Brink in the enterprise, it was said.

Part of the buildings and property, comprising about seven acres, formerly occupied by the Pritchard Lumber Company, has been leased by Mr. Brink and his associates. Workmen are engaged in installing four large shell stills and in remodeling the building, which will be converted into offices and a laboratory. A meeting of stockholders will be held within the next few days, officers will be elected, and the organization of the company perfected, Mr. Brink said.

W. E. Twitchell, who has been associated with the Independent Oil and Gas Company of Okmulgee, Okla., the City Service Refining Company of Springfield, Mass., and other large oil companies during the past 18 years, will be chief chemist at the refinery. He came here recently from Okmulgee.

Crude oil to be distilled at the refinery will be shipped to Little Rock from El Dorado and oil fields in northern Alabama, Mr. Brink said.

"Little Rock is a logical location for an oil refinery, since large quantities of oil are consumed here and it is cheaper to transport the crude oil from nearby fields than to refine it elsewhere and pay a higher rate on the finished products," he continued. "Our company will be composed entirely of local men, and its earnings will remain in and be a benefit to Little Rock. The refinery, when completed, will produce standard grades of lubricant and automobile oils, gasoline and kerosene, and by-products. The plant will be up to date in every particular."

Plug to Be Drilled Today in Oil Test Near Woodson.

The plug of the W. E. Wilson No. 1 well, near Woodson, of the Base Line Oil Company, will be drilled today and operations will be started immediately, W. M. Silver, general manager of the company, said yesterday.

He said the well was spudded in on October 21 and the surface casing set in concrete November 1. Joe Longoria of Camden will be in charge of drilling.

A heavy rotary rig, which can drill to a depth of 4,500 feet, has been installed. Mr. Silver said drilling will continue until a thorough test for oil and gas has been made.

Oil Test Well To Be Drilled At Mabelvale

Texas Operator Secures Leases on More Than 3,500 Acres.

Oil and gas rights have been obtained on more than 3,500 acres of land in one block near Mabelvale, Pulaski county, southwest of Little Rock, and test drills for oil will start in the tract soon, A. F. Johnson of Laredo, Tex., said today.

Most of the leases obtained by Mr. Johnson have been recorded at the office of Circuit Clerk J. R. Gladden. All but about 300 acres of land is in Pulaski county, the remainder being situated in Saline county.

Mr. Johnson, who is stopping at the Hotel Frederica, said that Joe Longoria of Camden, drilling contractor, had been engaged to make the test wells.

Mr. Johnson and W. C. Ritchison, also of Laredo, have been here for several weeks, obtaining leases from more than two score property owners. Mr. Ritchison is a geologist, who reported that indications apparently are favorable for oil, Mr. Johnson said. The latter added that no leases are being purchased for land which does not adjoin the 3,500-acre block.

Oil Test Well To Be Drilled At Mabelvale

Texas Operator Secures Leases on More Than 3,500 Acres.

Oil and gas rights have been obtained on more than 3,500 acres of land in one block near Mabelvale, Pulaski county, southwest of Little Rock, and test drills for oil will start in the tract soon, A. F. Johnson of Laredo, Tex., said today.

Most of the leases obtained by Mr. Johnson have been recorded at the office of Circuit Clerk J. R. Gladden. All but about 300 acres of land is in Pulaski county, the remainder being situated in Saline county.

Mr. Johnson, who is stopping at the Hotel Frederica, said that Joe Longoria of Camden, drilling contractor, had been engaged to make the test wells.

Mr. Johnson and W. C. Ritchison, also of Laredo, have been here for several weeks, obtaining leases from more than two score property owners. Mr. Ritchison is a geologist, who reported that indications apparently are favorable for oil, Mr. Johnson said. The latter added that no leases are being purchased for land which does not adjoin the 3,500-acre block.

A. L. Kitselman of Muncie, Ind., president of the Indiana Steel and Wire Company, is aiding in financing the oil tests, Mr. Johnson said. "This is purely an independent proposition, and we are not selling any stock or acreage, at least not unless we find oil," he said.

Recording of the leases was the first public indication that tests for oil were planned near here.

OIL TEST PLANNED NEAR MABELVALE

Location was made yesterday about a half mile east of Mabelvale for a 5,000-foot oil test on a block of more than 2,000 acres in Pulaski and Saline counties, A. F. Johnson of Laredo, Tex., said yesterday. Drilling rig will be moved in within 10 days, he said. At the circuit clerk's office, it was said that 50 leases on about 2,000 acres in the Mabelvale vicinity had been recorded in the name of Mr. Johnson. He said no stock was being offered for sale.

Test Well Drilling Starts at Mabelvale

A. F. Johnson, in charge of drilling operations on a test oil well one-half mile east of Mabelvale, in Pulaski county, said today that the well was spudded in yesterday. The test is located in the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter of Section 2, Pulaski county.

The operations are financed and owned by A. L. Kitselman Sr., with the property owned in fee by Alva L. Kitselman Jr. Mr. Johnson said the owners have no stock or leases to sell, and are optimistic as to the outlook for a producer.

Permit for Pulaski Oil Test Is Issued

El Dorado Petroleum development in Arkansas will move into Pulaski county.

This fact became known here today with the issuance of a permit for a new well by the Arkansas Board of Conservation. The permit was obtained by Alva L. Kitselman of Muncie, Ind., for the A. L. Kitselman No. 2, 370 feet north and 330 feet west of the southeast corner of the southeast quarter of section 2-13-13 W.

During the past week four permits to drill new tests have been issued along with one permit for transfer of ownership and one permit to plug and abandon a well.

Two of the new tests are in Union county, one in the new deep sand field at Shuler, the Edna Morgan B-1 in the southeast of section 18-18-17. The other one was to the McCreslen Oil Company for the Atkins No. 5, in the northeast of section 3-18-13 at Urbana. One test is in Ouachita county, the H. H. Taylor Joe McCree No. 1 in the northwest of section 21-13-19.

The transfer of permit was issued to H. C. Detrick for the S. L. Robins No. 1, in the northeast quarter of section 12-19-16. This permit had been issued to Travis and Bull. The permit to plug was for the Hadley No. 3 of the McCreslen Oil Company in section 3-18-13, at Urbana.

Pulaski's Oil Test Is Down Over 400 Feet

Drilling of an oil test well about one-half mile east of Mabelvale has begun in charge of A. F. Johnson at a site 40 feet from a test made last year. The well has been bored to a depth of over 400 feet but is delayed for two or three days waiting for a new type diamond drill.

The test last year went to 788 feet but was stopped when the drill struck hard rock. The new diamond drill is expected to cut through the rock and permit the well to be put still deeper.

Mr. Johnson said today the new diamond drill will have diamonds set into a drill and was of a type used extensively in mining. It is different from a diamond point drill which consists only of a diamond point.

The well is known as the A. L. Kitselman No. 2 for Alva L. Kitselman of Muncie, Ind., who obtained the permit to drill the test.