

OIL NOTES

Output of crude oil in the United States in September totaled 34,487,000 barrels, against 33,986,000 in August, a gain of 501,000 barrels. This is a daily average of 1,149,567 barrels for September. Output for the nine months ended September 30 is estimated at 278,674,000 barrels, compared with 264,569,000 barrels in the same period of 1918, an increase of 13,710,000 barrels, or 5 per cent. Based on production for the first nine months of 1919 output should easily exceed 400,000,000 barrels for the year.

Casper oil and stock men have financed the Mule Creek Oil company to drill on holdings in the field of the same name. The company has leases aggregating 2,920 acres in townships 38 and 39-61, some of the land being within two miles of production. T. A. Hall, Natrona county commissioner, is president of the company; John Bryne, vice president; F. R. Hufsmith, secretary-treasurer; S. E. Shippen, manager; A. E. Winter and Earl D. Keaton, directors. The holdings of this company are located adjacent to those of the Wyoming-Northeastern Oil company, being organized by Hemington, Alliance and other Nebraska men.

Oil men are of the opinion that our foreign kerosene trade in the coming year will break the pre-war record, which means that we will ship more than 115,000,000 gallons a month. In the first eight months of this year we exported more than 80,000,000 gallons a month, double the amount shipped in the same period last year. With the resumption of trade with Germany it is estimated 15,000,000 gallons a month will be added. The alue of kerosene exports in the first eight months of

this year established a high record, \$75,260,613, or 11 1/2 cents a gallon, compared with \$58,811,195, or 6 cents a gallon for the same period of 1913. If the present export price of kerosene is maintained, our foreign kerosene trade should reach a value of more than \$175,000,000 a year.

Production figures from north and north central Texas during the past week show little change in the daily average, except for the Desdemona field, which dropped to 29,000 barrels daily, 8,000 barrels below the previous week, according to a Dallas telegram. Burkburnett maintained its regular 85,000-barrel daily output. Stephens county, with a daily production of 41,000 barrels, shows a decrease of more than 1,000 barrels. Ranger production, however, increased 2,000 barrels daily, giving a total output of better than 64,000 barrels daily.

The week's completions in the Desdemona pool have included several wells ranging from 1,000 to 2,000 barrels, and a number of small producers. Ranger has reported a few small wells, and five or six averaging about 1,200 barrels—all of these larger wells being on the west side of the field.

Recent advances in the prices paid for Pennsylvania crude and other eastern oils, which are acknowledged to lead the market for prices paid here, were reflected last Friday in an announcement by the Ohio Oil company of a 25-cent increase per barrel for all grades of Wyoming crude oils. Thousands of dollars added value to the daily oil output of Wyoming will be the result of the raise. On some grades the raise is the first since March 21, 1918, and on oil from the newer fields—Lance creek and Rock river, the raise marks the first change in price since March 28, 1919. In the meantime Pennsylvania crude and most eastern oils have jumped 50 cents a barrel, the last increase being authorized last week when the price went over \$4.00 for the first time. Grass Creek and Elk Basin crude are now

quoted at \$2.10; Buck Creek crude commands \$2.05; Big Muddy, Salt Creek and Rock River crude is advanced to \$1.75, these latter being of the same grade. It is expected that oil from the wells in Mule creek field will soon be placed on the market, as work is progressing rapidly on the new pipe line from the field to Dakoming. This oil will probably bring in the neighborhood of \$2.50 per barrel.

Favorable developments have marked operations in the Lance creek field during the past two weeks. The new gusher, brought in the lower sand—the Dakota, has caused renewed activity and several wells which had been abandoned on account of striking water in the higher sand will be cased off and drilled on through.

Ground was broken last week for the new refinery to be built at Osage, near Newcastle, by the McWhorter Oil and Refining company to handle part of the production from the new field. Milton McWhorter of Lusk is head of the new company, which is capitalized at \$500,000 and which will adopt the McWhorter process of refining, used successfully on the coast.

The Omaha Oil company has secured leases on 6,000 acres of land south of Lusk and will start three rigs drilling as soon as weather conditions will permit; locations have been made at widely separated points on the acreage. The company is capitalized at \$200,000 and is fully financed.

The newly organized Enterprise Drilling company, a Wyoming corporation, is reported to have entered into a contract with the Wyoming Premier company to drill several wells on the latter's holdings in the Warm Springs field, near Thermopolis, where twenty-eight wells are now capped awaiting the beginning of operations by the new Alliance refining company. Present production is estimated will exceed 1,200 barrels per day and the Wyoming Premier hopes to complete one or two wells each month. The refinery will have a capacity of 1,500 barrels per day.

Alliance people were much interested on learning the first of the week that the Mid-West Oil company was reported to have paid \$125,000 in cash for the lease on the north half of section 17-46-63, in the Osage field. Section 18 is held by Alliance parties and two rigs are now drilling thereon, under lease. This looks very encouraging to the Alliance parties. Other Alliance parties are now drilling in the field and are expecting a successful completion of the well any day.

We're Thankful

- BECAUSE the boys are all home again with us this year to celebrate the close of the great World War. A year ago many of them were in France and Germany, wishing they could be round the fireside with homefolks.
- BECAUSE the past year has been one of prosperity for all—because there has been work at good wages for those who were willing to work—all others should be sent back to the lands from whence they came.
- BECAUSE we are in the land of the living and in good health—because we have the privilege of living in western Nebraska—"God's Country," where nature has smiled bountifully during the past season and where there are huge stores of potatoes and grains awaiting shipment to the hungry cities and the east
- BECAUSE the cattle and horses of western Nebraska have plenty to eat—rich, cured grass on the prairies and in the hills and stacks of delicious wild hay and alfalfa in the valleys and on the farms
- BECAUSE the heavy snows which have been slowly melting and soaking the rich, fertile soils of Box Butte county and western Nebraska give definite promise of great and abundant crops during the coming year, providing work and food for those who by their pioneer work are changing the prairies into farms and the hills into ranches—
- BECAUSE Alliance, the Queen City of the plains and metropolis of western Nebraska, is beginning to cast aside her swaddling clothes and to take on the aspects of the city which she soon will be, for the year 1920 promises to see the greatest development in the history of Alliance and Box Butte county.

FOR ALL OF WHICH WE ARE THANKFUL

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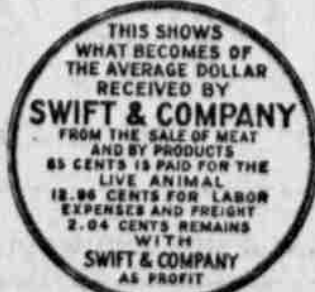
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