# HAS IOWA ANY NATURAL GAS

## Report of the State Geological Board Covering the Subject.

## NATURAL PHENOMENA ARE ALL PRESENT

### General Composition and Trend of the Rock Strata Underlying the State Make the Existence of Petroleum Tanks Extremely Probable.

For several years past considerable excitement has been occasioned now and then by the discovery at different places in Iowa of natural gas in small quantities. The gas wells at Letts in Louisa county and those at Herndon, northwest of Des Moines, are perhaps the most notable. At both of the places named the gas has been used for years for private purposes. All of the wells are the results of boring for water and hence are very shallow, containing, says Dr. Keyes, nothing but the surface gas. They therefore represent but the possibilities of the state in the line mentioned.

In nearly every county in the state at one time or another the gas agitation has appeared in one form or another. At different times of late it has broken out in Jefferson, at Carroll and Glidden, at Redfield and Rock Rapids. In boring for water in almost all the sections of Iowa, at one time or another, gas has been accidentally discovered. This fact leads the scientists to presume that there must be a quantity and quality of the product down deep in the earth that is equal to the gas of the eastern states. In response to this general belief the geological survey of the state provided for at the last legislature includes the investigation of the matter. Charles R. Keyes, assistant state geologist, has just made a report on the subject.

In his official discussion of the subject the geologist says:

With gas and oil in abundance in the neighboring states; with a close similarity of geological formations; with an expectant people already testing in different parts of the state, the question naturally arises: What are the probabilities of obtaining these substances in Iowa?

Before attempting to answer, however, it may be desirable to review briefly the conditions of a successful flow. These conditions fall under two heads: The origin and the accumulation.

The different theories concerning the origin of natural gas and mineral oil need not be considered in detail here. Nearly all geologists now believe that organic matter buried in the rocks at the time they were laid down is the real source of petroleum, some regarding it as a sort of distillation from the original masses of matter, some as the result of decomposition.

Contrary to popular opinion, petroleum is a widely distributed substance. The well known dolomites of Chicago contain large quantities. Orton has shown that the water lime formation of Ohio, which is a compact magnesium limestone having a thickness of 500 feet in places, contains not less than 2,500,000 barrels of oil to the square mile. This is rock through which the oil is disseminated so as to be perfectly unavailable, yet it could be gathered into one place the amount contained in only three township would equal nearly 260,000,000 barrels, or the total quantity obtained from the Pennsylvania & New York oil field up to the year 1885. Now in Iowa there are doubtless rocks as rich in oil as the Ohio limestone or water lime. The lower carboniferous limestones in southern Iowa are good examples.

Mr. Keyes then discusses the necessary conditions to make the almost universal accumulations of oil of commercial value.

It has already been shown that large quantities of petroleum are doubtless disseminated through Iowa's rocks, the evidence being here as elsewhere the actual presence of a large amount of hydrocarbons.

There is little doubt that the porous strata reservoirs and the shale coverings are present. This is indicated by artesian wells already put down in different parts of the state, as well as by the succession of the beds observable in the northwestern part of the state. The pressure is sufficient, as is known from various sources. There remains yet one necessary condition unsatisfied. That is geological structure.

It is well known that the strata of Iowa have a general dip to the southwestward, the total amount of fall being in the neighborhood of 3,500 feet. But the whole of the state is covered with a thick mantle of glacial deposits, hiding from view the stratified rocks entirely and at every point. Numerous streams, however, have corroded their channels completely through the drift debris, even into the underlying indurated rocks, thus exposing in many places the arrangement of the different layers. It will be some time before anything like accurate and detailed cross sections can be made across the state in direction of the common inclination of the rocks, and yet good progress in that line has already been made.

There is a widespread opinion that the Iowa strata have still their uninterrupted seaward tilt unaffected by deformations of any kind. Such, however, is not the case. Although far removed from mountainous districts, orographic movements have affected the beds to a slight extent, producing low folds. A number of these low anticlines and shallow synclines have long been known, though rather vaguely. According to McGee, says Dr. Keyes, who has indicated the chief axes of the state in a recent sketch map, the anticlines of eastern Iowa trend southwestward. Other folds have been recognized in the central and western portion of the state.

The extent of this folding is at present unknown, but in some cases it may prove to be very considerable; sufficient, perhaps, to satisfy the last requirement for a flowing well. It is not then beyond all hope that when the arching dome of some low anticline is pierced we may yet hear the mighty roar, not soon forgotten, or listen to the gushing stream of liquid amber.

NORTH GALVESTON, Tex., Jan. 18.—With locomotive and rolling stock on the ground ready for use and their fine steel track completed, the North Galveston railroad now brings the promising little city of North Galveston into direct communication with the rest of the outside world. With splendid rail and water facilities, and boundless resources to be worked up into manufactured products, the prospect certainly looks bright for that section of the country.

### SUPREME COURT SYLLABI.

**Points Covered by Recent Decisions of the Nebraska Tribunal.**

LINCOLN, Neb., Jan. 18.—[Special to THE BEE.]—The following syllabi of decisions were given out by the supreme court today:

Shoning vs Coburn. Error from Douglas county. Affirmed. Opinion by Mr. Chief Justice Maxwell.

1. Held, that the petition states a cause of action and that the new matter in the answer was not material.

2. Where objection is made that the record fails to show that a jury was waived and the cause tried to the court it must appear that the objection was made and overruled in the trial court. It is unavailing if made for the first time in the supreme court.

Curtin et al vs Atkinson. Error from Jefferson county. Reversed. Opinion by Mr. Justice Post.

An undertaking will be strictly construed in favor of sureties, and their liability will not be extended by construction beyond their specific agreement.

2. The term, traffic in intoxicating drinks, as used in section 15, chapter I., compiled statutes, will in an action on a license bond be held to mean the sale or furnishing of liquors to third persons and not the use thereof by the saloonkeeper.

3. S, a saloonkeeper, while intoxicated in his own saloon, shot and killed the plaintiff's husband. Held, that the drinking of the liquor by S was not a traffic in intoxicating liquor within the meaning of the law or such as will render his sureties liable in an action upon his bond.

4. The second point of the syllabus in this case, 29 Nebraska, 612, overruled.

Howell vs the Alma Milling company et al. Error from Harlan county. Reversed and remanded. Opinion by Mr. Justice Norval.

Where a plaintiff transfers his interest in the subject of the action to another during the pendency of the cause the suit may be prosecuted to final termination in the name of the original plaintiff, or the person to whom the transfer is made may be substituted as plaintiff.

2. A bank brought an action in a county court on two promissory notes held by it as collateral security and recovered judgment thereon against the maker. The defendant took an appeal to the district court, the usual statutory bond being executed. While the cause was pending in the appellate court the indebtedness due the bank by the pledgor of the notes was paid, after which one H, to whom said notes prior to the bringing of the suit had also been pledged as collateral security for a debt due him, subject to the claim of the bank, was substituted in place of the bank as plaintiff, who recovered judgment against the maker of the notes. Held, that the surety in the appeal bond or undertaking was not released by the substitution of H as plaintiff.

3. The mere continuance of a cause in an appellate court by stipulation of the parties, without the consent of the surety in the appeal bond, will not operate to discharge such surety.

4. By an agreement between the parties to an appeal pending in the district court a judgment was rendered therein against the party appealing without the knowledge or consent of the surety on the appeal bond. Held, in the absence of proof of fraud or collusion between the principal and the creditors, that the stipulation for judgment did not release the surety from liability on the appeal bond.

State ex rel Norton vs Van Camp. Mandamus. Writ allowed. Opinion by Mr. Justice Post.

While each house of the legislature is made the judge of the election and qualification of its members, the courts will by mandamus compel the proper canvassing officers to discharge their duties and issue certificates of election to the parties who from the returns appear to have been elected thereto, but the awarding of a certificate in obedience to the mandate of the court will not conclude the legislature in determining the question in proceedings by contest.

2. An interpretation given to a statutory or constitutional provision by the court of last resort becomes a standard to be applied in all cases, and is binding upon all departments of the government, including the legislature.

3. It is contemplated by our constitution and the election laws enacted in pursuance thereof that each qualified elector of the state shall be entitled to vote at some precinct or voting place for the respective state and county officers at every election. Hence a construction will not be adopted which would have the effect to disfranchise a considerable number of voters or to deprive a county of representation in the legislature unless such construction is rendered necessary by express and unequivocal language of the statute or constitution.

4. B. county was organized in 1891 at which time it was unorganized territory, and has never by general apportionment law or special act, been attached to any representative district. It is a narrow strip lying between H. county and the northern boundary of the state, eight townships long from east to westand less than three townships in width. It adjoins K. county along its entire eastern boundry although further west it extends north to the forty-third parallel about ten miles beyond the northern boundary of K. county. Held, that it is directly west of K. county within the meaning of section 149, chapter xviii, compiled statutes, and was while unorganized territory, attached to said county for election purposes.

5. The legislature never having attached it to any representative district, it remains a part of the 20th district notwithstanding its organization as a county.

6. In 1883 an act was approved extending the boundaries of H. county directly north so as to include the unorganized territory which is now B. county, but providing that it should not take effect until a majority of the legal voters of said county should give their assent at the next general election. At the general election in 1883 there were cast in said county 1,821 votes, of which 878 only were in favor of said proposition. Held, that the proposition was defeated and an order entered by the county board in 1885 declaring it adopted is a nullity.

7. The boundaries of H. county being clearly defined by law and not including any part of the territory subsequently organized as B. county. Held, there could be no de facto attachment of the latter to the former so as to entitle the voters thereof to participate in elections in H. county.

8. It is settled by a long line of decisions of this court that a canvassing board has no authority to go behind the returns and inquire into the legality of the votes. Their duty is to canvass the votes as certified to them, and a certificate of election issued upon a canvass of a part of the vote of a representative district is without authority of law and void.

9. Neither a canvassing board nor the court in a mandamus proceeding can inquire into the regularity of the nomination of the candidates or the sufficiency of their certificates of nomination.

10. Held on the proofs that the nomination of the relator was regular and sufficient in form and substance.

11. Provisions of the election law which are not essential to a fair election will be held to be formal and directory unless declared to be mandatory by the law itself.

12. The vote of B. county for the relator should not be rejected for the reason that his name was written on the sample and official ballots by the clerk after they had been printed and were ready for distribution.

13. Votes for representative will not be rejected because the number of the district is not designated upon the official ballot in counties included in one district only.

### Iowa Decisions.

DES MOINES, Ia., Jan. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—The following decisions were rendered in the supreme court today:

A. A. Hazard vs City of Council Bluffs, appellant, Pottawattamie district, affirmed; State of Iowa vs John Cox, appellant, Monona district, affirmed; Juliet K. Garle vs Northwestern Masonic Aid association, appellant, Hamilton district, affirmed; University of Des Moines (now Des Moines college) vs Polk County Homestead and Trust company, appellant, Polk district, affirmed; State of Iowa vs John Yoke, appellant, Iowa district, affirmed.

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WARRANTY DEEDS.

| | |
|---|---|
| Bernard Koesters and wife to Z T Lindsey, e 44 feet lot 4, block 152 Omaha | $12,000 |
| Peter Knudsen to Laura Hendricksen, s½ of w¼ lot 30, block 2, Park Place | 400 |
| D C Patterson and wife to J B Fair, lot 2, block 9, Patterson park | 1,000 |
| Same to A A Fair, lot 9, block 9, same | 1,000 |
| G W Loomis and wife to John Kraus, lot 3, Oak Hill No 2 | 400 |
| W G Norton and wife to Edward Nelson, lot 24, block 2, Irene Place | 600 |
| Herman Schneider to John Stave, 60 acres off e side sw 4-14-10 | 1,000 |
| DEEDS. | |
| E S Dundy, jr, (master in chancery) to First Swedish Baptist church, s 25 feet lot 1, block 12, Omaha | 2,400 |
| Total amount of transfers | $18,700 |

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No advertisement taken for less than 25 cents for the first insertion.

All advertisements in these columns 15¢ cents a word for the first insertion and 1 cent a word for each subsequent insertion, or $1.50 per line per month. Terms, cash in advance. Initials, figures, symbols, etc., each count as a word. Advertisements must run consecutively. Advertisers, by requesting a numbered check, can have the letters addressed to a numbered letter in care of THE BEE. Answers so addressed will be delivered on the presentation of the check.

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N—WANTED TO BUY A SAFE CHEAP. A. Edholm, jeweler, 16th and Dodge. M361 19*

### FOR SALE—FURNITURE.

O—SECOND HAND SQUARE PIANO IN GOOD repair, for sale cheap. 1301 Corby street. M814

O—WE HAVE BEEN MAKING A CHANGE IN our offices arrangements and have considerable lumber and partition for sale cheap. Call or address, Great Western Type Foundry, 1114 Howard street. M368 19

### FOR SALE—HORSES, WAGONS, ETC

P—FOR SALE, A NEARLY NEW DOUBLE spring express wagon, horse, harness and buggy; also a nearly new set of creamery tools, consisting of butter worker, churn, Howe scale, truck, etc., all will be sold at a great sacrifice. Address G. B. Tzschuck, Bee office, or call at 3317 Miami street, where goods can be seen. M638

P—FOR SALE, TWO FINE MATCHED SORREL driving horses; also one bay mare and one black horse. All elegant drivers. Must be sold at once. Fidelity Loan and Guarantee Co., Room 4, Withnell bldg. M 224

### FOR SALE—MISCELLANEOUS.

Q—FOR SALE, CHEAP, A 35-HORSE POWER automatic engine; also one 12 horse power upright engine, both in good repair. Inquire of Fest; ner Printing Co., 1307 Howard street, Omaha, Neb. 717

Q—SECOND-HAND RAND POWER ELEVATOR for sale 1209 Howard. M482 J19*

Q—THE STANDARD CATTLE CO. HAS CONstantly on hand baled hay, for sale on track at Ames, Neb. M569

Q—FOR SALE, THE BRICK THAT IS TAKEN out of the County hospital. Inquire of the foreman at the hospital. M290

Q—FOR SALE—A JUDGMENT FOR $1,653 75 AND costs against William W. Munsell and William L. Conley (Munsell & Co.) obtained in the Kent, Mich., circuit court ($154.15 collected thereon). Also a small farm, cheap. Albert Baxter, Muskegon, Mich. N292 20*

Q—FOR SALE CHEAP, POOL TABLE, BALLS cues, etc.; good order. 1622 South 10th street. M344 19*

### MISCELLANEOUS.

R—HAVE YOUR OLD CARPET WOVEN INTO beautiful rugs. Address Omaha Carpet and Rug factory, 1521 Leavenworth street. M604 J 24*

### CLAIRVOYANTS.

S—MRS. NANNIE V. WARREN, CLAIRVOYANT, reliable business medium, fifth year at 119 N. 16th. 718

S—MRS. DR. M. LEGRAVE, PROPHETESS, DEAD Strance clairvoyant and life reader; tells your life from cradle to grave; can be consulted on all affairs of life; has the celebrated Egyptian breast plate to unite the separated and cause marriage with one you love. Come one, come all and be convinced of her remarkable powers. Office and residence 417 S. 11th st., hours 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. Strict life chart and photo of your future wife or husband sent through mail for $5.00, chart alone $2.00. All letters containing 4 cents in stamps promptly answered. 841-F2*

S—KNOWLEDGE IS POWER. PROF. AND MME. Arnold, business clairvoyants, palmists and astrologers, have world wide reputation for their marvelous and wonderful power in reading the pass, unveiling the future, give indispensable advice, bringing success and happiness to thousands; tells the business you should follow for greatest success; if your lover is true and intends marriage; restores lost love; removes family troubles and through their wondrous magic mirror show picture, tell name of the one you marry. Satisfaction given. Consultation, $1 to $2; full reading by mail, $2; send date of birth. Office 218 15th street, near Farnam, 2d floor, room 4. Hours 10 a. m. to 8 p. m. M337 27*

### MASSAGE, BATHS, ETC.

T—MADAME SMITH, 1324 CAPITOL AVENUE, Room 3, 3d floor. Massage, alcohol sulphur and sea baths. M259 20*

T—MME. CARSON, 1121 DOUGLAS STREET, 3d floor, room 7, massage, alcohol, sulphur and sea baths. 233-19*

### PERSONALS.

U—YOUNG LADY WANTS PUPILS TO TEACH on the piano, 1513 Leavenworth. 356 30*

### MUSIC, ART AND LANGUAGES.

V—G. V. GEILENBECK, BANJO TEACHER, N.W. cor. 15th and Harney. Harney street entrance. 914

V—GERMAN AND FRENCH CLASSES, 2201 Douglas. M 348 30*

### MONEY TO LOAN—REAL ESTATE.

W—MONEY TO LOAN AT LOWEST RATES. The O. F. Davis Co., 1505 Farnam street. 721

W—LOANS ON IMPROVED AND UNIMPROVED city property, $5,000 and upwards, 6 to 7 per cent. No delays. W. Farnam Smith & Co., 15th and Harney 730

W—C. F. HARRISON, 912 N. Y. LIFE. 731

W—ANTHONY LOAN AND TRUST Co., 318 N. Y. Life, lends at low rates for choice security on Nebraska or Iowa farms or Omaha city property. 722

W—MONEY TO LOAN—I HAVE ABOUT $4,000 to loan on improved Omaha property, private funds, in one or more loans. Address T 16, Bee office. 505

W—MONEY TO LOAN ON OMAHA AND COUNcil Bluffs real estate and Nebraska and Iowa farms at from 6 to 7 per cent interest, with no additional charges for commissions or attorneys fees. W. B. Meikle, 1st Nat'l bank bldg, Omaha. 763

W—MONEY TO LOAN, SUMS $500.00 AND UP. George Paul, 1605 Farnam. M641 J27*

W—LOANS. G. G. WALLACE, 312 BROWN BLK. 867

W—7 PER CENT MONEY NET TO BORROWERS on Omaha city property. No extra charges of any kind. Why pay high rates? Money is cheap. You can get full benefit of low rates from Globe Loan and Trust Co., 16th and Dodge. 728

W—MORTGAGE LOANS LESS THAN 7 PER cent, including all charges. Charles W. Rainey Omaha Nat. bank bldg. 724

W—1 AND 2 YEAR LOANS ON CITY AND FARM mortgages. Reed & Selby, 334 Board of Trade. 726

W—MONEY TO LOAN AT LOWEST RATES ON IMproved and unimproved real estate, 1 to 5 years. Fidelity Trust Co., 1702 Farnam st. 703

W—WANTED AT ONCE, LOANS ON IMPROVED Omaha property; low rates. Fidelity Trust company, 1702 Farnam st. 703

W—LOWEST RATES. FIDELITY TRUST COMpany, 1702 Farnam street. 721

W—OMAHA SAVINGS BANK MAKES LOANS on real estate at lowest market rates. Loans made in small or large sums for short or long time. No commission is charged and the loans are not sold in the east, but can always be found at the bank on the corner of 13th and Douglas streets. 729

W—PRIVATE MONEY, 1ST AND 2D MORTGAGE loans, low rates. Alex Moore, Bee bldg. 732

W—MONEY TO LOAN ON IMPROVED CITY property, low rate. A. C. Frost, Douglas blk. 727

W—CENTRAL LOAN & TRUST CO. BEE BLDG. 734

W—I CAN PLACE LOANS AT LOWEST RATES on business or other choice property in Omaha. Loans of $2,500 to $50,000 wanted for foreign parties. J. H. Wheeler, 417 Karbach block. M 336

W—WANTED, LOANS, HOUSES TO RENT AND insurance solicitor. Geo. W. F. Coates, 1623 Farnam. M 360

### MONEY TO LOAN—CHATTELS.

*Continued.*

X—CALL AT THE OFFICE OF

OMAHA MORTGAGE LOAN CO.

INCORPORATED,

IF YOU WANT MONEY.
You can borrow on
HOUSEHOLD FURNITURE AND PIANOS, HORSES, WAGONS AND CARRIAGES, WAREHOUSE RECEIPTS, MERCHANDISE OR ANY OTHER SECURITY.
We will lend you any amount from $10.00 to $1,000
ON THIS DAY YOU ASK FOR IT,
without publicity or removal of property.
You can pay the money back in any amounts you wish, and at any time, and each payment so made will reduce the cost of the loan.
Remember that you have the use of both the property and the money, and pay for it only as long as you keep it.
There will be no expense or charge kept out of the amount wanted, but you will receive the full amount of the loan.
Before borrowing elsewhere call and see us and you will find it greatly to your advantage.
OMAHA MORTGAGE LOAN CO.
306 SOUTH 