

## NATURE IS BELIEVED TO HAVE LEFT BASIS FOR CRUDE OIL HERE

**"Seeps and Shows" of Oil Appearing On Surface of Elkhorn River in Inman Township, Together With Fossil Remains Found of Life From Which Oil Evolved, Furnish Sufficient Evidence To Petroleum Geologists, That Commercial Recovery Is Possible In This Part of Nebraska**

Exclusive to the Frontier by Ray E. Colton, D. Sc., Oil and Gas Science Writer.

**NOTE**

During the past three weeks field petroleum geologists, some of which represent major oil companies, have been studying Holt and Antelope counties, together with the south portion of Boyd county, for topographical and other surface evidence, which might influence a geophysical test for the purpose of defining the crest trend of buried anticlines and other oil bearing structures, now believed to lie beneath this area of Nebraska. As activities of this nature would naturally have the tendency to bring additional wealth into the O'Neill trading area, and furthermore, would mean, if oil were found, that a new industry would have come, the pertinent factors influencing this activity are discussed in this article. Geologic data contained herein, is gathered from Nebraska State Geologic Survey records, and from personal findings of the writer, skilled in oil field operations. Republishing of any of the wording of this article by any other newspaper, is prohibited.

RAY E. COLTON

### FUNDAMENTALS WHICH INFLUENCE SEARCH FOR OIL BEARING STRATA IN HOLT AND ADJOINING COUNTIES OF THE O'NEILL TRADING AREA.

There are many fundamentals, the principal one of which is the visible geologic factors, which are at the present time, causing oil operators from Oklahoma and Texas, to cast "eyes" on this part of Nebraska.

While outside of the one producing oil well which is now producing about 60 barrels of crude oil each twenty-four hours near Falls City, in southeastern Nebraska, no other oil has been located in Nebraska of the commercial production category, yet, there are certain indications, topographical of course, here in Holt county, which have again brought the possibility of commercial recovery of crude oil from beneath this part of Nebraska, to the front once more.

Four major fundamentals are visible here in the O'Neill trading area, and these are as follows:

(1) To the west of O'Neill and lying midway between O'Neill and Atkinson, there lies at several hundred feet beneath the surface, what is termed geologically as the BARTON ARCH, which also represents the western terminus of the north Salina Basin, of which Holt county occupies a very prominent part. This basin, carrying as its components, several porous limestones, sandstones and shales, coming under the names of Pine Ridge Tertiary Sands, Dakota, Lance Creek, Niobrara, etc., is represented here, and the strata herein enumerated, possesses the physical attraction of porosity necessary, in prehistoric times, to attract and to hold imprisoned within their strata folds the crude oil which after evolving from decayed marine and marine-vegetable matter, migrated to adjacent rocks of these types.

(2) The known geologic and geographical factors of the O'Neill area, such as position of porous strata beneath the surface of Holt, Antelope and Boyd counties, seeps and shows of crude oil which have appeared from time to time, along the Elkhorn River in sections 4, 3, 2, 11, 12, and 1, of Inman township, Holt County and other evidences, are influencing factors in reviving oil activity in this part of Nebraska.

(3) Fossil remains of such prehistoric marine (sea) life, i. e. cephalopods, crinoids, ammonites, trilobite and other species of Mol-

lusca (shells) which have been found in Holt county, principally in the areas between O'Neill and the Niobrara River, and south from O'Neill near Martha in Lake township, Holt county, are themselves good indications of possible recovery of crude oil under proper drilling operations. These forms of prehistoric marine life, as revealed in a recent bulletin of the American Petroleum Institute, created crude oil. Therefore the very finding of evidence of this nature, would have a strong influence in causing leasing and later drilling in such areas as produced fossil remains of these types.

(4) The state of South Dakota, through the Rural Credits Board, has issued orders, to invite major oil companies to come into the state as soon as possible for the purpose of exploiting the areas lying west of the Missouri River as to oil and gas possibilities. Under contracts which the state of South Dakota has drawn up, the companies doing the geologic work and drilling, will be able to obtain land at 10 cents per acre. This order will directly affect the area north from O'Neill in the vicinity of Butte, Spencer, Bristow, Lynch and other towns, as if oil companies take advantage of this offer, and it is believed that they will inside of six weeks, they will include in their field operations, northern Boyd county. Lease blocks already held in Gregory county, South Dakota which adjoins Boyd county, Nebraska, would be extended to include the Nebraska side. This will have the tendency to bring any "play" right up to the back door of O'Neill.

### TESTS MADE OF SAND IN INMAN TOWNSHIP SHOWED OIL CONTENT.

It might be interesting to know that on three occasions during the past two years, that confidential tests have been made of oil filament appearing on the Elkhorn River in Inman township, and quantities of sand taken from the surface of sections 4, 3, 2, 11, 12, and 1 of said township. The sands reacted favorably under a carbon-tetrochloride test, and revealed about twenty to twenty-five per cent crude oil, with paraffin base. These findings, however, are not to be mis-construed by the layman. The location of "seeps and shows" of crude oil in areas unproven as to having possibilities of commercial production of crude oil, are no indication themselves, that large amounts can be found. These "seeps and shows" merely tell to investigating geologists, that if the surface and subsurface structural arrangements are such as to indicate possible reservoirs beneath, then the "seeps and shows" are indications that oil may be located under proper scientific drilling operations.

### O'NEILL AREA CONSIDERED GOOD.

The area which radiates from the city of O'Neill, presents a very favorable section as to potential commercial mineral bounties lying beneath. The topographical plane of Holt county especially contains numerous "gas domes" denoting large amounts of cubic feet of gas beneath, and lying as it does in the north Salina Basin, which is now producing large amounts of crude oil in Kansas where the southern area of the basin is located, Holt county, is believed by investigating petroleum geologists and representatives, to offer one of the best "bets" for test well drilling as can be found in Nebraska.

Scouts of major oil companies have been in the O'Neill area for the past two weeks looking over

## Crippled Children's Clinic Will be Held Here May 11

The Crippled Children's Division of the State Department of Child Welfare in cooperation with the Elks Lodge will hold a Diagnostic Clinic in O'Neill in the New Gymnasium at the High School on Saturday, May 11th from 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.

The Clinic is open to any handicapped child from birth to twenty-one years of age. The local doctors are urged to refer any cases for consultation. All reports are referred back to the local doctor.

There will be three specialists from Omaha and Lincoln to examine the children and make recommendations for their care. Miss Regina Mendel, Medical Social Worker, will be in attendance also to advise with the County Directors and parents on Medical Social Problems.

Mr. Thad Saunders, Director of Child Welfare Services for Holt County, Miss Catherine Gehrman, Public Health Nurse Consultant, and Mrs. Lila Graves, Field Supervisor, are making preliminary arrangements for the clinic. Children will be invited from Cherry, Keya Paha, Brown, Rock, Boyd, Holt, Knox, Cedar, Antelope, Wheeler, Garfield and Loup Counties. A free lunch will be served at noon to the children and their parents by the Home Economic Department, under the supervision of Miss Lois Giles.

Further information may be obtained from Mr. Thad Saunders, Director of Child Welfare in O'Neill. It is hoped that every child, whether from a poor or a wealthy home, with any sort of medical disability will have the opportunity to consult specialists in children's medicine at this clinic. Saturday, May 11th is the date when unusual facilities will be made available to children of this district.

## Mrs. Catherine Hynes Dies This Morning, Funeral Saturday

Mrs. Catherine Hynes died at her home northeast of this city this morning at the age of 68 years. She leaves nine children to mourn her departure. The funeral will be held Saturday morning at 9 o'clock from the Catholic Church. Obituary next week.

### The Weather

Soaking rains have visited O'Neill and Holt County in general the past week, a total of 1.13 having fallen up until seven o'clock this morning. This brings the total for the month up to 2.63, one hundredth of an inch above normal for the month. The rain has been general all through this section of the county, and all predictions for a really wet year seem to be coming true with farmers and stock men much encouraged with the prospects for a good year.

The weather chart for the past week follows:

	High	Low	Prec.
Thursday	68	29	
Friday	73	43	
Saturday	70	49	
Sunday	68	50	
Monday	68	45	.66
Tuesday	54	34	.10
Wednesday	48	33	
Thursday			.37

## Funeral of John L. Quig Held Last Friday

The funeral of John L. Quig was held last Friday afternoon with services at the residence, Rev. V. C. Wright of the Methodist church officiating and burial in Prospect Hill cemetery. The funeral was quite largely attended, many of the old timers of the county coming in to attend the funeral of this pioneer.

NOTE: The origin of crude oil has recently been ascertained by studies made of bacteria and other evidence which is contained in the core drillings taken from test wells in producing Illinois Oil Fields. This information, highly educational, will be discussed in another article appearing exclusively in the Frontier.

## SOUTHEASTERN BREEZES

By Romaine Saunders

Edwin Markham's classic, "The Man With the Hoe"—taken up as a battle cry by labor, has a sort of majestic beauty and Elbert Hubbard's "Message to Gracia", a subtle and one-sided bit of philosophy. Neither of which seems to have amounted to a whoop in easing the capitol and labor tension.

Testifying at a congressional hearing the junior Mr. Ford says his company can make a good automobile to sell for \$500. Why don't they?

Maybe those New Yorkers mean Franklin D. is among the greatest of American spenders.

Profiting \$2.75 by a robbery, two cents get 25-year sentences. In some instances we are extremely zealous in punishing crime.

Bearing the honored title of doctor, a gentleman addressing a recent session of the American Philosophical Society adds his voice to an ever swelling chorus that western civilization, as exemplified "out where the west begins" and on to where it ends, is not doing so badly. Prairie dwellers persevere their peaceful walks of life in friendly cordiality, while the accumulated hatreds, greed and lust of the ages yields its diabolical force throughout the older haunts of culture. If "civilization" goes, what matters? We still have the wind-blown prairie stretching in endless miles, the blue and gold of bright days, the stars of cloudless night and God in heaven above.

According to published accounts a 35,000 acre tract in Custer county is embodied in a bird-nesting refuge to enhance the native bird life of the state. The promoters of the plan have the cooperation of land owners. One of the cherished hopes is the multiplying of prairie chickens. If this is realized, old timers like John A. Robertson will be making occasional trips to Custer just for the thrill that comes when you are startled by a flutter of wings as a covey of prairie chickens raises in flight.

Forming a passing acquaintance with those met with on the streets who are disposed to "talk it over" perhaps is a news gathering habit. A lot of them around Lincoln know about Holt county or some of its people. W. H. True is a pleasant gentleman whom I recently met who inquired if I knew Dr. Gill at Chambers when he learned my home is in Holt county. He has known the doctor for many years and regards him as one of God's noblemen. I told Mr. True we all felt that way up home.

One, two, three, four, five, six—six of the notable citizens of O'Neill passed from the scene within a few short months. And so those who for forty, fifty, sixty years budded, flourished, held places of social, business, political prominence or moved only in the humbler spheres came at last into that tragic period of the aged, gasped briefly and life's fitful dream was over. When I read of one whose acquaintance—friendship—stretches across the long years of half a century going to a city hospital it is ominous. The place to be born, the place to live, the place to die—home.

### CARD OF THANKS

We take this means to express our sincere appreciation to all the kind friends and neighbors who assisted us in any way during the illness and death of our loving husband, brother, and also for the beautiful floral offerings.

Mrs. Lulu M. Quig, Mrs. Hattie Bartlett, Mrs. Ella Mayher, Mr. Isaac Cuppy.

Mrs. F. J. Barrett and Mrs. Marie Welsh and son of Greeley, Nebraska, left Friday for their home after spending a few days here visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Larry Barrett.

## Enthusiastic Republicans Meet In Convention

The republican county convention was held in this city this morning, convening at 11 a. m. Notwithstanding the almost impassable condition of the roads, there was a fairly good attendance and it was an enthusiastic gathering. The convention was called to order by D. H. Cronin, county chairman. Upon motion Mr. Cronin was elected temporary chairman of the convention and Ira H. Moss secretary. The call for the convention was read as was also a letter from Hugh Butler, republican candidate for United States Senator. Committees on credentials and resolutions were then appointed and the convention adjourned until 1:30 to permit the committees to perform their duties.

The convention convened at 2:15 and the report of the credentials committee was received. The temporary organization was made permanent. The committee on resolutions made their report, which was adopted unanimously. The resolutions will be printed next week, as the hour was so late when the convention adjourned that we are unable to get them into this issue.

D. H. Cronin was re-elected chairman of the county central committee and Ira H. Moss secretary and members of the county central committee were chosen from the several townships after which 19 delegates were selected to attend the republican state convention to be held in Columbus next Thursday, May 2. Walter G. Sire was called on and made a short talk to the convention, after which the convention adjourned.

## Congratulations to Music Teachers of O'Neill High And Academy

The Frontier joins with the citizens of O'Neill in expressing their appreciation of the work done the past year by Ira George, band instructor of the O'Neill High school and St. Mary's Academy and to Miss Marjorie Greybill, vocal music instructor of the O'Neill High and to Sister Constance, vocal and piano instructor of St. Mary's Academy.

Concrete example of their work was furnished last Friday and Saturday at Fullerton, in the district music contest, when all of the students entered in the various events received mention, and a total of twelve superiors, fifteen excellent and six good ratings were received by the students of both schools.

O'Neill is justly proud of its band and we think that it is the best junior band in this part of the state, and we hereby extend congratulations to Mr. George.

## Dr. Kubitschek Joins Hole-In-One Club

While the social season of the O'Neill Country Club does not start until the opening dance the latter part of May, Dr. F. J. Kubitschek officially opened the golfing season on last Saturday evening, when he made the fourth hole, the "Bull Pen" in one, thus becoming a member of golfdom's most exclusive club, the "Hole-in-One Club." The shot was, according to witnesses, a perfect drive, but several minutes were spent searching for the ball, until some one thought to look in the cup. Congratulations Doctor.

## American Gear Company Sponsors Oil Show

The American Gear Company were sponsors of an Oil Clinic for independent garage men, car dealers and service station owners held at the Golden Hotel last Monday evening. They were assisted by William Hackenholz of the Lion Oil Refining company, who conducted the meeting. Despite the condition of the weather and the condition of the roads thirty were in attendance. They were present from Spencer, Butte, Bristow, Atkinson, Page, Orchard and O'Neill. After the meeting they all enjoyed a luncheon.

## ST MARY'S ACADEMY AND O'NEILL HIGH STUDENTS WIN HONORS

### The Citizens of O'Neill Have Reason to be Proud of The Record Made By Students From Both Schools

The annual music contest in which St. Mary's Academy competed was held at Fullerton, Nebr., this year on Friday and Saturday of last week, when the band, under the direction of Ira George won a superior rating, which entitles them to compete in the national contest, which is to be held at Kansas City the second week in May. The St. Mary's band was organized last September by Mr. George, and the wonderful progress made under his direction is plainly evident from the rating they received from the judges in this contest, in which they were competing against bands which have been organized for several years.

In the contests, which were held at various points in the state, four ratings were given by the judges, Average, Good, Excellent and Superior, and a superior rating entitled any of the contestants to enter the National Contest at Kansas City.

Following is a list of the other awards won by the students of St. Mary's on both Friday and Saturday:

Superior Ratings: Robert Shoemaker, Saxophone Solo; Robert Parkins, Trombone Solo, and Alma Wallace, Clarinet Solo.

Excellent Ratings: Lorene Mains, Saxophone Solo; Jack Morrison, Baritone Horn Solo; Jack Hart, Bass Horn Solo; Catherine Finley, Girl's high voice; Darleen Weber, Piano Solo; Verne Coyne, Girl's medium voice; Eileen Kelly, Girl's low voice, and George Hammond, Boy's low voice.

Good Ratings: James Golden, Cornet Solo, and Lois Kamp, Piano Solo.

### Junior Class Play Next Monday Night

The Junior Class of the O'Neill High School will present "Early to Bed—Early to Rise" April 29 by special arrangement with the Dramatic Publishing Company of Chicago. "Early to Bed—Early to Rise" is a comedy in three acts.

**CAST**

Abbie Fuller ..... Marion Olson  
Bobbie Fuller ..... Ted Sirek  
Marion Fuller ..... Eileen Robertson  
Everitt Fuller ..... Lloyd Snyder  
Spanky Minuti ..... Eunice Hunt  
Jim Griggs ..... Lawrence Kirwin  
Patsy Fuller ..... La Vera Borg  
Daisy Fairfax ..... Ava Jones  
Otto Kirshmeir ..... Maurice Grutsch  
Laura Montgomery ..... Edith Lienhart

Here is an All-American family. Dad is forever inventing contraptions like an unbreakable egg crate that won't work; Bobby, the young brother, hates to study but loves cars; Spanky, the girl across the alley, is all for steering Bobby into marriage—she's eighteen but already considers herself to be an old maid; Marion, the older sister is hopelessly in love with her boss Mr. Griggs; Aunt Abbie is frantic, trying to be a cook, mother, and general cleaner-upper; there is the younger sister, Patsy, who is crazy about pets and has in her menagerie a skunk and a white rat, is a staunch friend of the pet shop owner, old Otto.

Life in general becomes very complicated when Patsy holds the lucky ticket for a model house being raffled off, only to find that her pet parrot has eaten the ticket. But the parrot hasn't eaten the ticket, and Patsy is ready to move her whole family out in the country. There Laura, a girl friend from the South tries to get Mr. Grigg, old Otto is about to lose his shop because of no income, so Patsy sells her house so she'll have enough money to save her family from unhappiness. In a mad-cap scene she tries to put the Southern beauty out of the running and to put Marion back where she belongs—with Mr. Grigg. And in a final scene of furious fun and laughter, Patsy gets her house again and all the family is happy again.

The O'Neill High School music department, under the direction of Ira George and Miss Marjorie Graybill went to Fullerton, Nebraska last Friday and Saturday to compete in the music contest held there those two days, and emerged with honors.

Eight superior ratings were awarded contestants from O'Neill High and these ratings entitle the winners to compete in the Kansas City Division of the National Contest, which will be held the second week in May. While at this time it is not definitely known whether or not it will be possible for the winners to go to Kansas City, it is hoped that some provision for the winners of the small groups and soloists to make the trip, will be made. The band and the mixed chorus composed of about sixty-five members will not be able to go.

Following is the list of superior ratings won at the contest:

Band, competing in Class B, (Class is determined upon the enrollment at the school); Mixed Chorus; Cornet Trio, Howard Graves, Dorothy Lowery and Dorothy Yocum. This cornet trio was the only one competing to win a superior rating. Clarinet Quartette, Lydia Halva, Keith Vincent, Jerry Toy and Marion Olson; Vocal Solo, Girls High Voice, Davene Loy; Girls Medium Voice, Genevieve Graves; Bass Horn Solo, Phil Yarnall; French Horn, Roy Lundgren.

Excellent Ratings: Clarinet Solo, Keith Vincent; Cornet Solo, Howard Graves; Boys Quartette; Girls Glee Club; Boys Glee Club; Vocal Solo, Boys Medium Voice, Donald Bowen; Saxophone Solo, Robert Mitchell.

Good Ratings: Alto Saxophone Solo, Bonnie Kurtz; Girls Sextette; Girls Low Voice, Eileen Robertson; Clarinet Solo, Lydia Halva.

## Inman Students Win Honors at University

Patricia Watson, junior in the teachers college, Marjorie Moore, freshman in the same college and Gerald Sobotka, sophomore in the college of business administration, all of Inman, and students at the University of Nebraska, were 3 of the 632 honored for high scholarship at the twelfth annual honors convocation Thursday morning in the Coliseum. All their averages placed them in the upper 10 per cent of their respective classes, and Sobotka won a William Gold Prize Key in Bus. Ad. Judge Florence Allen of Cleveland, noted jurist, addressed the group on "The Constitution, an instrument of Freedom."

## E. M. Gallagher Elected President First National

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, Edward M. Gallagher was elected President of the First National Bank of O'Neill, Nebraska, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John P. Mann.

Joe A. Mann was elected a director to complete the Board of Directors of the bank, which now is Edward M. Gallagher, H. J. Birmingham, Ed T. Campbell, Mrs. E. F. Gallagher and Joe A. Mann.

## M. A. Whaley Wins Award As Safe Driver

M. A. Whaley of O'Neill has won an award from the Travelers Mutual Casualty company of Des Moines for safe automobile driving for the last year.

The award, which consists of a shield that goes on the windshield also carries with it a reduction in the cost of the insurance for the next year. If the winner succeeds in driving another year without an accident, he will get a two-year award, with a still further reduction in premium from the Travelers company. The policy was written by G. C. Robertson of O'Neill.