

ROMANCE FOUND IN WYOMING OILFIELD

Lance Creek Oil Field, North of Lusk, Was Ready to Be Abandoned When Big Well Broke

The Herald has published in recent issues particulars regarding the Lance Creek oil field, north of Lusk, which is now in need of a refinery. Alliance has been suggested as an ideal site for the proposed refinery, being practically as close to the field as Casper and more advantageously situated on account of being east of Lusk, the nearest town to the field.

The following account of the "romance" of this field will prove interesting:

A real romance in oil describes the recent movement in the shares of the Western States Oil & Land Co., a Wyoming company which has advanced within a few weeks from around 75c a share to \$26, following the completion of the pioneer well on its acreage in the Lance Creek field by the Ohio Oil Co. The bringing in of this well was, within itself, a story of adventure which has few parallels in the oil world. These events connected with the movement in the stock of the western states, the rush to the field and subsequent developments, furnish the foundation for a story very much out of the ordinary.

One of the most interesting features in connection with the developments was the way in which fortune smiled on many people and various interests after apparent failure had marked the course of events. The last twist of the drill had been given. The men were packing up to leave their jobs and another promising oil field was about to pass into the discard, when the wheel of fortune turned, and wealth dropped unexpectedly into the laps of many people.

Two years ago, H. A. Rispin, a California operator, with the assistance of his associates, organized the Western States Oil & Land Co., with the modest capitalization of 100,000 shares, par \$1. It acquired leases and placed locations on more than 4,000 acres of lands in Lance Creek, West Salt Creek, Powder River, Big Muddy, Buffalo, Basin and other fields which were then promising. The promoters figured that it could lose on all its chances but one and still make good.

The company held its acreage while other companies wildcatted in the various fields. It leased some of its holdings to large companies who were willing to take chances. Its ground in West Salt Creek was dotted with rigs. But the bringing in of water wells in that district ended all hopes of profits from that source and the rigs were removed. A water well in Powder River condemned that field. Nothing but gas, which was too far away for commercial use, was found in Buffalo Basin. One failure followed another. The company gave up some of its acreage because it was too big a burden to carry. Its acreage in Lance Creek was reduced from 21,000 to 14,000 but still it held on. It leased most of its Lance Creek acreage just as it had done in West Salt Creek.

The Ohio Oil Co. drilled a well in Lance Creek in the fall of 1917 and spring of 1918. It tapped a thin sand at a great depth which made only 10 barrels a day, just enough to cause a flurry of excitement, but not enough to make it a paying proposition. Western States was up against a threatening failure.

Arrangements were made with W. R. Macbeth, a well known Denver oil man connected with a stock exchange firm, to market 10,000 shares of Western States stock at \$2 a share to provide funds with which to do the annual assessment work on the various claims as required by law to hold the ground. Every purchaser was told that it was a chance and they went in with that understanding.

The Ohio Oil Co., which had a lease on section 36, owned by Western States and upon which the well was drilling, decided to go on down with the hole. In the meantime, Western States started its own hole. Suits were filed against the company to recover some of the costs and one trouble after another handicapped its operations. But the Ohio well kept going down. Nothing, however, was showing. There were not even any water or dry sands and everybody became more discouraged.

At last the Ohio Co. decided to abandon the test. The men gave the last twist to the drill and went into their boarding house to eat their last meal. Eight big trucks were on their way to the field to move away

the equipment. The final chapter was being written.

But while the men were eating their farewell meal, things were happening out at the well a few hundred feet away. The drill had almost reached the sand when operations ceased. Long pent-up gas and oil began seeking an outlet thru the loosening soil and all of a sudden the well drilled itself in and broke loose. The men left their boarding house to find the well shooting oil all over the place. It was gushing at the rate of 1,000 barrels a day and had gone wild. In the excitement, it was impossible to keep the strike a secret. The Ohio Co. had only the one lease and it couldn't hide the news while it obtained more. The news flew like wildfire and within a few days the rush was on.

Then followed a scramble for leases and rigs began going up by the dozens. The well was pinched down to 200 barrels while the operating companies began to fortify themselves in the field. The Midwest Ref. Co. succeeded in buying 51 per cent of the stock of the Western States and then the investors took notice. In the meantime the well kept drilling itself deeper into the sand. Two weeks ago it broke loose again and was making 4,000 barrels a day. Western States began climbing until it is now quoted around \$26 a share. Other stocks caught the contagion and Wyoming had another big oil boom under way.

Macbeth, who had sold the 10,000 shares at \$2 a share, began to take stock—what had happened to his customers. Most of it had been sold to Longmont people but some of it was held in Denver. Henry P. Davin, a clerk with the Tritch Hardware Co., of Denver, had purchased 340 shares. Two weeks ago he turned down an offer which would have given him \$7,140 profit on his \$680 investment.

C. E. Mitchell, a Denver stock broker, bought 1,200 shares. He went to war under the draft call and as he had just married, he sold part of his holdings. When he returned from the war he had 700 shares left. These can be sold today for \$16,100. It cost him \$18,000 to go to war thru the necessity of selling 800 shares.

One hundred and ten dollars invested in 55 shares saved the day for a Longmont man. He had some payments due on a mortgage on his home and he had dissolved a partnership which left him without any immediate income. He sold his 55 shares for \$1,252.35 net and this enabled him to meet his mortgage and get on his feet again.

**WANT TO BUY LAND**  
We have customers for fifty quarter-sections of Box Butte County land. If you have land in Box Butte county to sell, call at our office at once. THOMAS-BALD INVESTMENT COMPANY, Alliance National Bank Building, Alliance.

**Stinging Criticism.**  
Said the facetious fellow, "These old time school teachers may have had some funny ideas about teachin', but you gotta give 'em credit for knowin' that a good substantial ruler, when tightly applied to a stupid student would make him smart."



**Mince Pie**  
"Like Mather Used to Make" is only one of the many good things that can be made with

**NONE SUCH MINCE MEAT**

Send for Illustrated Recipes Merrell-Souls Co., Syracuse, N.Y.

The telephone service has not been exempt from the increased cost of labor and materials. It is costing this company a great deal more to furnish telephone service now than it did before the war.



Sense and Nonsense

Gleaned from Our Weekly Study in the Gentle Art of Gossip

By JACK BESTHIM

There will be joy in the hearts of the automobile speed demons when the paving of Alliance has been completed.

A little legislation along the proper lines is all that is needed to affect a commission-manager form of government for Alliance. There is yet hope that the necessary laws may be enacted.

The United States can not hope to gain all the concessions that might be desired at the peace conference, but she will get a large per cent of what she has asked. No man could possibly win all, pitted as is President Wilson, against the ablest men of Europe, and it is foolish to hope for as much. However, it is safe to rest assured that Mr. Wilson will secure for his country all that any American would secure.

Nebraska's new governor is for the creating of a state constabulary. He believes border policing will practically eliminate the importation of booze and the theft of automobiles. Maybe so, but I can not become enthusiastic over a proposition that might bring upon the state a blot such as the killing of Herrigan by the Colorado constabulary brought on Colorado. Well regulated it might be all right.

It doesn't make much difference what a woman sends her husband to get for her she will insist that she could have gotten it a couple of cents cheaper.

I have for a long time wondered just what is meant by the cafe term, "planked steak." This week I inquired of Jesse M. Miller of the Alliance Cafe. "Why, that's where you plank down two dollars," said Mr. Miller. "Oh, no, it isn't," I finally replied. "No such high flakin' stuff for me, and besides, I haven't the two dollars."

Men, as a rule, haven't much sense but I'll wager that if they wore skirts the bowlegged kind wouldn't wear them as short as the bowlegged girls do.

An unquestionable sign of the nearness of spring—the advent of the bookseller. Alliance has just been visited by one of the smooth-tongued agents and 'tis said success crowned their efforts. "Efficiency in the Home" is the title of the publication and has been found popular and valuable among the teachers of the city.

A few fellows succeed through taking chances—others succeed by taking everything else in sight.

One thing in favor of the flying machine is that the pilot need have no fear of the railroad crossings. But then, who is to be the fall guy when it comes to getting damages for injuries?

The real pessimist is found in the guy who thinks of fly time while the rest of us are anxiously awaiting the breaking of spring.

Some people have coffee—others have tons of it.

Joe Harvey, coffee king, admits that the only thing that might tempt him to relax his grip on the java market is for the other fellow to come across with some condensed cream. Coffee Joe is always ready and willing to "swap."

A man's brightness is like unto a woman's beauty—it superinduces an affliction from which the patient is a long time recovering, sometimes.

If some of you fellows would take to calling on your sweethearts in the morning, just before breakfast, instead of in the evenings after supper, there wouldn't be one-half so many engagements.

**He May Be An Anarchist**  
The Sherlock Holmes of The Herald force contends there will be another vacancy in the school staff ere long. Anyway, his discovery was sufficient in effect to cause a certain good looking school ma'am to forego her evening meal the other day and flee from the midst of her surprised, yet elated, friends and the scene of much jollification—at her expense—while the young gallant sat tight in the boat and refused to reveal further information. Ability to keep one's seat on such an occasion without Expressing, at least, an opinion in the case certainly displays sterling worth and the fair moulder of the destinies and morals of the children of her charge may rest assured that I, too, extend sincere congratulations.

**Sugar Abnormally Distributed**  
The prospective production of sugar for the season of 1918-19 is about 188,000 short tons less than the annual average for the five years just before the war which, as compared with a total of 18,750,000 short tons, is not of great significance, and the current crop is regarded by the United States Department of Agriculture as practically sufficient to meet a normal world consumption even if present stocks did not exist. Attention is called to the fact, however, that the world sugar supply is not normally distributed. There is a shortage in the beet-sugar production in Europe of 50 per cent of the prewar average, amounting to about 4,150,000 tons, while in the same time the cane sugar output has increased by 3,842,000 tons, and the beet sugar crop of the United States is 131,000 tons above the prewar average, though the smallest since 1914. No considerable increase in beet sugar production is expected within the next 12 months, although it is expected ultimately to exceed that of prewar times.

**Nothing Gained by Brooding.**

Give up brooding over failures—take each day as a fresh start. Give up enmities, grudges, envies—all conditions of mind that drag down the spirit. Be constructive. See the good in people. Keep abreast with the news of what our men "over there" are doing each day and perform your duty (even be it dish washing) in the fervor that fills them as they obey their bugle calls.

**Beautiful Ferns.**

When the new shoots of potted ferns appear turn them to the light until they are well up and the shoot started in the right direction. When the ferns full grown the result will be a beautiful sound plant.

**Well, Knowledge Is Power.**

Jimmie had been to the dentist to get a tooth pulled. A few days later a friend of the family, a man whose head presented an extremely barefooted appearance, called at Jimmie's house. Jimmie squirmed around awhile and finally asked: "Mister Brown, did it hurt much when ya gotcher hair pulled?"

**SAYS HOT WATER WASHES POISONS FROM THE LIVER**

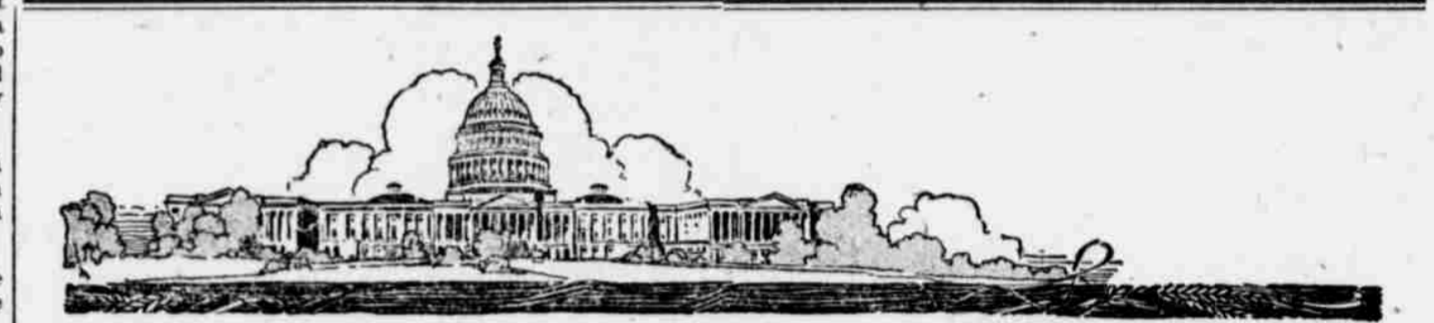
Everyone should drink hot water with phosphate in it, before breakfast.

To feel as fine as the proverbial fiddle, we must keep the liver washed clean, almost every morning, to prevent its sponge-like pores from clogging with indigestible material, sour bile and poisonous toxins, says a noted physician.

If you get headaches, it's your liver. If you catch cold easily, it's your liver. If you wake up with a bad taste, furred tongue, nasty breath or stomach becoming rancid, it's your liver. Sallow skin, muddy complexion, watery eyes all denote liver uncleanness. Your liver is the most important, also the most abused and neglected organ of the body. Few know its function or how to release the dammed-up body waste, bile and toxins. Most folks resort to violent calomel, which is a dangerous, salivating chemical which can only be used occasionally because it accumulates in the tissues, also attacks the bones.

Every man and woman, sick or well, should drink each morning before breakfast, a glass of hot water with a teaspoonful of Limestone phosphate in it, to wash from the liver and bowels the previous day's indigestible material, the poisons, sour bile and toxins; thus cleansing, sweetening and freshening the entire alimentary canal before putting more food into the stomach.

Limestone phosphate does not restrict the diet like calomel, because it can not salivate, for it is harmless and you can eat anything afterwards. It is inexpensive and almost tasteless, and any pharmacist will sell you a quarter pound, which is sufficient for a demonstration of how hot water and limestone phosphate cleans, stimulates and freshens the liver, keeping you feeling fit day in and day out.



The Government has lifted the ban on cereals and relinquished its lease on the new Bevo building. Our plant, voluntarily tendered the Government, is now ready to resume full capacity production of

**Bevo**  
REG. U.S. PAT. OFF.  
THE BEVERAGE  
America's Cereal Beverage

Like all Americans, we have made our sacrifice to help win the war. Now we are ready to renew our full duty as a great National industrial institution.

Anheuser-Busch St. Louis

**Suffering Transmuted.**

Unhappiness is the hunger to get; happiness is the hunger to give. True happiness must ever have the tinge of sorrow outlived, the sense of pain softened by the mellowing years, the chastening of loss that in the wondrous mystery of time transmutes our suffering into love and sympathy with others.—William George Jordan.

**Interest.**

Interest speaks all sorts of tongues and plays all sorts of parts, even the part of the disinterested.—La Rochefoucauld.

**IT'S UNWISE**  
to put off to-day's duty until tomorrow. If your stomach is acid-disturbed take  
**KI-MOIDS**  
the new aid to digestion comfort today. A pleasant relief from the discomfort of acid-dyspepsia.  
MADE BY SCOTT & BOWNE  
MAKERS OF SCOTT'S EMULSION

**WRIGLEY'S**  
5 long-lasting bars in each package.  
The biggest value in refreshment you can possibly buy.  
A BENEFIT to teeth, breath, appetite and digestion.  
The price is 5 cents.  
The Flavor Lasts  
WRIGLEY'S JUICY FRUIT  
WRIGLEY'S SPEARMINT  
WRIGLEY'S DOUBLEMINT  
WRIGLEY'S MINT SEA FLAVOR