

OIL NOTES

Another big strike has been made in the Lance creek oil field, north of Lusk. This time the Ohio Oil company and Richards & Comstock are the lucky ones. Richards & Comstock of Ellsworth, of which Charles C. Jameson is president, are the owners of the land on which the Ohio Oil company well on section 32-36-65, which had 2,000 feet of oil in the casing last Friday, came in as a flowing well on Sunday night.

The oil was first struck at 2,900 feet and the gusher flow was encountered at 2,910 feet. The oil, one telegram read, went over the top of the derrick. No estimate of the volume of production was given, but all sources of information agreed that the well will prove a big one.

Finding oil at this comparatively shallow depth was a surprise to the drillers and consequently only a small amount of storage had been

provided. Several truckloads of tankage material was being rushed in yesterday, and as soon as erected a measure of the output will be taken.

This well, which is fully a mile west of the nearest oil production—that of the joint well on section 3—gives an entirely new angle to coming developments in the western part of the Lance creek field.

The Ohio well is located near the center of the southeast quarter of section 32.

Cow Gulch Oil company owns forty acres adjoining the new well on the north, 160 acres in the same section and an additional 160 acres in section 29, adjoining still farther north. There are numerous Buck creek leases in the neighborhood and the royalty rights belong to the Tom Bell Royalty company.

The Osage field, eighteen miles northwest of Newcastle, the newest of Wyoming's oil producing districts, now is reported to have fifteen wells running oil and between thirty-five and forty drilling rigs in operation. The oil is of high gravity, is found at shallow depth, and the territory promises to play an important part

in oil operations of the coming year.

The field, as proved to date, covers an area of six miles north and south and four miles east and west. A well was brought in on 9-46-63 Tuesday by the Sparks syndicate, which now has two producers, is working on eight holes and will immediately put four more rigs in the field.

The discovery well in the Osage field was brought in on section 5-46-63 by the Mike Henry company in August of this year, and that company now is drilling on a deep well which should be nearing the second sands.

This deep well is the first attempt at deep drilling, the various holes heretofore being sunk only to a depth of between 300 and 400 feet. It is said, however, that with the completion of the small refinery, construction work on which will be started immediately by the McWhorter Oil and Refining company of Lusk, the drills will be put down to a depth of 2,500 and possibly 3,000 feet.

The news that the Mid-West Oil company had paid \$125,000 for the lease on the north one-half of section 17 was encouraging to local parties. Dr. H. A. Copsey, Chas. Brittan, J. O. Walker and their associates, with J. S. Adams in charge of the work, are drilling on their holdings in section 19 and are nearing the oil sands. The Wyoming-Northeastern Oil company of Alliance has leased the northwest quarter of section 19 and the northeast quarter of section 24, across the township line, a total of 320 acres; while other Alliance men and their associates control section 18, one of the best in the field.

A test well now drilling in the Six-Mile basin, six miles from Newcastle and between Osage and the site of the old Howard postoffice on the south, when completed will prove a strip of territory said to have been favorably reported by several geologists.

Another test well will be drilled on Wildcat creek, a tributary of Black Thunder creek, about forty miles west of Newcastle. If this well comes in, it will be the connecting link between the Newcastle, Osage, Mule Creek, Dewey and Lusk fields.

The Salt Creek Producers' association has brought in the largest oil well since the gusher of the Midwest Refining company was brought in in the Salt Creek field a year ago. The new well is on section 25, Salt Creek field and was brought in about two weeks ago. The first estimate on the production was made recently. This well will make about 4,000 barrels, those connected with the

company believe.

This new Salt Creek "giant" flowed approximately 8,000 barrels of oil the first twenty-four hours. The new well is a producer from the second Wall Creek sand, said to be the mother sand of this field. It is likely that the Midwest Refining company will stop production until it has larger pipe line capacity. The well is reported to be on patented land.

The gusher is an offset to the Midwest well brought in a year ago.

The Consolidated Royalty Oil company owns a 5 per cent interest in the lease. The lease on which this well is located belongs to the Wyoming Associated Oil company.

The Hugo-Williams Oil syndicate reports its first strike in the Osage field near Newcastle, Wyo., on section 8-46-63 and the well is rated as a good small producer, above the average of the several other wells in the field which are considered good for about five barrels a day. The Hugo-Williams hopes for increased production when the caprock is penetrated.

The plans of the Hugo-Williams company are to drill as many wells as possible before spring. The company is reported to have a well down 800 feet in the Mule Creek field which will be completed by next spring. The Hugo-Williams company reports that it has leases on 10,000 acres in fourteen fields of Wyoming.

(From the New York Telegram.) A general leasing bill is likely to be enacted into law in the early days of December. This question has been before congress since 1913 in one form or other, and has passed the senate four times and the house five times. At present it is before a conference committee which is composed of five senators and five representatives. This is a strong committee. The senators are Smoot, Pittman, Lenroot, Fall and Myers. The house members are Sinnitt, Taylor, Ferris, Elston and Smith of Idaho.

This committee has been holding meetings since the bill last passed the house and it is understood a measure is nearly in readiness to be reported.

The reason for the bill being in conference is the parliamentary form that occurs when a measure has passed the senate and house in different forms. The last senate bill is regarded by those best capable of judging, as the best ever passed by either house. It provides for a 25 per cent maximum royalty and a 12 1/2 per cent minimum royalty, leaving it to the secretary of the interior to use his discretion in each instance to fix the exact royalty

within the limits named, whereas the house measure merely names a minimum of 12 1/2 per cent, leaving it to the discretion of the secretary to fix that or a greater amount.

A leasing measure which has no fixed maximum is anything but businesslike. What business man will invest his money in an enterprise where there is no fixed limit to the tariff that may be imposed against

it? The oil men are more wary on this question than they might otherwise be, because of the severe lesson which they learned in connection with the administration of the temporary relief act, passed by congress on August 25, 1914. In that act the secretary of the interior was given discretionary power to grant tempo-

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conditions and in this way we are able to foresee the present conditions and under these circumstances all of our managers went to the Chicago markets and placed our orders for Holiday merchandise early in July. We advise the Christmas shoppers to do their selecting early for after an article is gone in will be impossible to replace.

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Tinker Toys	Toy Wagons
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