

Nebraska

MINERAL LEASE DELAY IS LOSING MONEY FOR STATE

Land Commissioner Objects to "Watchful Waiting" Attitude of Nebraska Officials; Busy Developing Resources.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, April 15.—(Special.)—State Land Commissioner Grant Shumway has not lost his temper. He is just simply angry. He is getting impatient with the state's delay in the mineral lease proposition.

"This department is growing old in an effort to overcome the numerous obstacles thrown in the way of mineral leasing," he says, "and the constant losses to the state because no action has been possible."

"There never was a time when potash and oil were needed for the support of Uncle Sam and the people so much as at this time. At the present rate of speed we will probably have this production under way when the war is over."

"Know-it-All" Attitude. "The trouble now is that other members of the state board give the subject very little attention except during the hours when in session, and then some of the members are much more sure that their views are correct, than are the views of the land commissioner, who has the matter constantly and daily before him."

"The commissioner is willing at this time to vote for the reinstatement and the reviving of the 229 contracts previously issued, subject to a proper showing of early production, or, I am willing to vote to utterly ignore the 229 leases heretofore issued, and begin new."

"But I will oppose making fish out of one and fowl out of another. None of the lease holders are without a just claim against the state. All have expended money, effort, and have plans for development. It is the honorable thing to do to make good those contracts. However, the losses to those individuals is of minor importance when compared with the country's need."

Great Sums Spent. "To my knowledge vast sums, aggregating hundreds of thousands of dollars, have been spent testing for mineral wealth in Nebraska; and dozens, in fact nearly all, and perhaps all, of the mineral lease holders, have been partly inspired to this expenditure by the fact that they held leases from the state."

"It has all resulted in knowing more about Nebraska and her great stores of natural wealth." Mr. Shumway cites a large number of instances where individuals and corporations have spent money or are ready to spend money in an effort to develop the state's mineral resources. He closes by saying that "it is doubtful if any new arrangement would pay the state as well as the old. I would prefer a royalty of \$1,000 a day beginning soon to any possible cash bonds that involves the possibility of long delay. Production is what we need, not problematical production. The supreme court and the legislature pointed out the way. It is now up to the executives. The best thing for all is to get busy."

Work Now Underway. Commissioner Shumway then gives a few instances where work is being done.

The Prairie Oil and Gas company of Independence, Kan., and associates have expended about \$50,000 in oil drilling operations in Banner county, Neb.

The Carter Oil company of Tulsa, Okla., and Al. C. Sneiderker and others of Bridgeport, Neb., have preparations for drilling for oil in Morrill county.

The Midwest Oil company of Casper, Wyo., and others, have made a test for oil in Dawes county, and are further prospecting in the vicinity at an expense of nearly \$100,000.

F. M. Bell, trustee, of Butte, Mont. and others, have made extensive preparations for drilling for oil in Sheridan county, including geological examinations.

J. W. Alexander & Co. of Lincoln, and Wichita, Kans., and others, have contracted for drilling for oil in Sioux county, the geological examinations being through.

Testing in Frontier. "J. W. Scott of Wichita, Kan., and Roswell H. Johnson of Pittsburgh, Pa., and others, have made extensive tests and expect to further drill for oil in Frontier county. Two geological maps having been completed."

Philip J. Harrison of Lincoln and others, have geological reports and are preparing for drilling in Red Willow county.

The Big Chief Oil company and associates are drilling at Red Cloud, Neb., and the Buffalo Oil and Gas company contemplate drilling at Wilcox.

Furnas county, and extensive geological work has been done.

Plan Pipe Line. T. E. Heskett, A. J. O'Malley, W. J. Root, C. L. Triplett of Sutherland, Neb., and others, contemplate production of potash in McPherson county, and have made extensive examinations and preparations, embracing a 26-mile pipe line to the railroad.

Roy M. Harrop of Omaha has made investigations, and plans development of potash and glauber salts in Lancaster county.

C. T. Haines, J. E. O'Brien of Omaha, and others, contemplate the development of potash in Antioch, obtaining waters from Garden, Morrill and Sheridan counties for that purpose and have a mill well under construction.

John O'Keefe, Glen Miller, George J. Hand, Herman A. Travert, L. H. Highland, Roy C. Strong, Robert O. Reddish, J. C. McCorkle, J. K. Snow, C. M. Looney and others of Alliance, are contemplating production of potash from lands in Sheridan, Box Butte, Morrill and Garden counties.

To Erect Plant. The Nebraska Refining and Pipe-line company, E. M. Westervelt, Woods Brothers, Eli Shire, J. E. Updike of Lincoln and Omaha, and others, contemplate the erection of a potash plant in Antioch, and have made extensive preparations and preliminary work therefor.

A Stanley, western representative of Wilson & Co., New York City; J. P. Barrett of Concordia, Kan.; J. L. King, C. A. Welch and others of Lincoln are interested in the development of potash in the vicinity of Lakeside and have done some preliminary work.

W. F. Schmor of Council Bluffs, Ia., and Edson Rich of Omaha and others, are interested in potash production at Lakeside, where the Wyoming Nebraska Potash company has a small production plant in operation.

Preparations are being made for drilling for oil in Cheyenne county, and a derrick is up in Rock county.

Patriotic Address Closes Men's Meetings at Aurora

Aurora, Neb., April 14.—(Special.)—A patriotic address by Charles B. Matson of Lincoln today closed the series of men's meetings of the Young Men's Christian association for the season of 1918.

Mr. Matson told the men present that the present war finds the democracies of the world fighting against the autocracies. The principles of the allies today, he said, are the same as those for which the patriots of Lexington fought way back in 1775.

Mr. Matson reviewed the history of the doctrine of the divine right of kings and showed by the declarations of the present emperor of Germany the real contentions of the central powers.

The interest of the people of the state in the controversy at Lincoln between the Lutheran preachers and the Liberty loan committee, of which Matson is chairman, was plainly shown when scores of men, after the meeting, personally congratulated him on his patriotic stand.

Miss McMahon's Hearing Set for April 17

Lincoln, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—April 17 has been set by the State Board of Control for hearing on the recent dismissal of Miss Lydia J. McMahon from the superintendency of the Girl's Industrial school of Geneva, because of alleged misconduct in connection with the management of the institution.

The charge covers the arrangement of a marriage to an employe of another for the purpose of saving the girl from disgrace. Miss McMahon has asked for a hearing and the board has granted it. The hearing will be held at the office of the board in Lincoln.

A telegram was received by the board today from Lamar, Colo., where it is alleged the girl was sent to have the marriage ceremony performed, stating that E. P. Roggen of Omaha was there looking up information regarding the standing of the girl. The board says Mr. Roggen is not in its employ for that or any other purpose.

Stapleton Red Cross Sale Saturday Brings \$1,200

Stapleton, Neb., April 15.—(Special Telegram.)—Red Cross sale Saturday nets \$1,200. A heavy rain is falling here now.

Oelkers Gets Promotion.

Lincoln, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—William Oelkers, stenographer in the office of State Treasurer Hall, who was also connected with that office under former State Treasurer Walter A. George of Omaha, has been promoted to a position in the blue sky department of the State Railway commission.

Workman-Hopkins. Wiley George Workman and Miss Edith Hopkins, both of Clearwater, Neb., were married by Rev. Charles W. Savidge Monday.

Rainfall General in Nebraska; Worth Million Dollars

The rain that began early this morning will continue tonight and tomorrow, according to weather bureau reports.

Reports from out in the state show that the rainfall was general. Nearly an inch and a half fell at Hastings. The lightest rainfall was reported from the southeastern part of the state.

Farmers say this is a million-dollar rain and that it may be in time to save the winter wheat which has suffered from the dry weather.

SISTER SAYS: What's the use of cooking when we can have

POST TOASTIES Made of Corn Bobby

The Clark-Hurst-Stubbs association has been drilling in Richardson county at a cost of more than \$50,000 and J. A. Dolphin and associates expect to do likewise.

F. A. Cumbow and C. H. Cornell of Valentine, Neb., and Richards & Comstock, Denver, Colo., and others, have had chemists, at high expense, make analyses of alkali waters of Cherry county with a view to the production of potash.

H. I. Lingle of Lingle, Wyo., and J. E. Homold of Casper, Wyo., and others, have made extensive examinations and contemplate drilling for oil and gas in Sioux and Frontier counties.

Aged Inmate of St. Joseph's Home Dies at West Point

West Point, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—Fritz Trompeter, an inmate of St. Joseph's Home, at West Point, died at the age of 64 years. He came here from Atkinson, Neb., last January. He leaves no relatives. Interment was in the new Holy Family cemetery, being the first in the newly dedicated burying ground.

The management of the Auditorium has purchased the Ideal theater at West Point and will combine the two houses.

The members of the Girls' Culture club have elected Miss Mildred Neligh and Miss Grace McLoughlin as delegates to the district convention of Women's clubs to be held at Oakland, this week. The women of the club have completed the large service flag ordered by the county Board of Supervisors. It is 11 by 15 feet in size and contains 250 stars.

The amount of thrift stamps purchased each Wednesday, by the children of the public schools of West Point, average \$200 per week. Up to this time the children have bought stamps to the amount of \$3,700.

Marriage licenses have been issued, during the week to Conrad Kaup and Mrs. Clara Kaup and to George Franzlhuber and Miss Frances Ortmeier, all of this county.

Prof. J. L. Rich, for the past two years principal of the West Point high school, who enlisted in the aviation corps of the army last fall, has left his home at Goldenburg, Neb., and gone to Berkeley, Cal., for training.

The West Point Woman's club met at the home of Mrs. A. W. Weller to discuss the proper care of streets and alleys, for the betterment of conditions regarding cleanliness and sanitation in West Point.

Rain Does Not Deter Crowd From Hearing Funston Band

Broken Bow, Neb., April 15.—(Special Telegram.)—More than 4,000 people stood in the rain at the city park Sunday afternoon and listened to a concert given by the all-Nebraska band of Camp Funston. Speeches were made by J. J. Bouche and H. B. Fleaharty of Omaha. People were here from all parts of the county.

Mrs. Martha Rhodes has returned to Burkett after an absence of two months' passed with relatives and friends at Elgin, Ill.

Mrs. Randall was called to Omaha yesterday on account of the dangerous illness of her daughter-in-law.

Henry Newell is convalescing at Central City from his recent illness. William Madden, librarian, is improving in health.

Mrs. J. W. Adams and daughter, Mildred, were in Grand Island recently.

Mrs. Paul Krite left yesterday for Camp Cody, Deming, N. M., to visit her son, Clarence Smith, who recently underwent an operation for appendicitis. He is a member of the Fifth Nebraska infantry.

The tree planting on Sheridan boulevard is progressing and when finished it is to be dubbed "Riley Park," and will be set aside for social purposes.

John Grabach has taken his annual trip to Denver, Colo., for an indefinite time.

Charles Binkley is now a member of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Millford, Neb.

Soldiers Home Notes. Grand Island, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—Dan Hammond has returned from a furlough, during which he visited in Buffalo county with his son.

Chief Engineer Cotton will make his first issue of ice from the hospital this morning. This will continue for the season on Tuesday and Friday of each week to the members on the line.

Mrs. Kattie Barnes has returned from a visit with relatives at Kearney.

Mrs. W. E. Jones expects to leave the hospital today for her cottage on the line.

Joseph W. Johnson, Nebraska Pioneer, Dies at Plattsmouth

Plattsmouth, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—Joseph Wright Johnson, for more than 61 years a resident of this county and state, died at the age of 83 years at his home after an illness of many months' duration. He suffered a stroke of paralysis a week ago.

Mr. Johnson was born January 19, 1835, at Leesburg, O., where he lived until March, 1857. On April 17, 1857, he came to Plattsmouth, taking a claim from the government, about eight miles from this city. That winter he spent in Pacific City, which was just across the Missouri river from this place, and during the following years went to Kansas, Oklahoma, and thence to Missouri, where he stayed until 1860. In 1861, he, with Alce Pratt, "Bill" Bain and Sam Peters, enlisted in Company A, under General R. R. Livingston, and was in the battles of Fort Donaldson, Corinth, Shiloh, and was mustered out on August 24, 1864. Mr. Johnson's death marks the passing of this company, he being the last.

May 8, 1865, he was married to Miss Mary J. Henton, who survives him. Four sons and one daughter, J. Jay, St. Joseph, Mo.; J. Edgar, Lincoln; Frank H. Weeping Water; Alge S., Lincoln; Mrs. John Chapman, Willard, Mont., also survive.

Mr. Johnson served here as policeman, sheriff and county judge for many years. He was appointed by Governor Robert W. Furnas as aide-camp of the commander-in-chief of the state of Nebraska. He was a member of the Friends church.

The funeral will be held Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Interment will be in Oak Hill cemetery.

Philbert Back to Prison.

(From a Staff Correspondent.) Lincoln, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—Secretary E. M. Johnson of the State Board of Pardons went to Omaha today to bring back to the penitentiary Charles Philbert, sent from Douglas county for highway robbery.

Philbert was paroled some time ago, but was recently indicted by the grand jury of Douglas county for breaking and entering. He had about four years of his former sentence to serve. He was let out because of poor health.

STATE CROPS IN GOOD CONDITION

Wheat Better Than Yearly Average; Spring Grains Progressing; Rainfall Has Been Below Normal.

The Burlington's crop report, dealing with Nebraska crop conditions up to Friday night of last week, the time for the closing the compilation of the data, was issued Monday morning. It is the first of the season.

Putting the growing winter wheat on a basis of 100 per cent, the following estimate is made on the conditions on the four Nebraska divisions of the road, covering practically all of the agricultural area of the state: Omaha division, 70 per cent. Lincoln division, 85 per cent. Wymore division, 78 per cent. McCook division, 86 per cent.

Indications are that the winter wheat came through the winter in better than an average condition, although there are many isolated localities where patches in some of the fields have been killed by the severe weather.

Rain Needed. There is considerable anxiety felt on account of a lack of moisture, the report indicating that so far the rainfall has been below normal.

The rain Sunday, which according to the reports to the railroads was general over most of the state, has improved conditions very materially. This rain was heaviest in the south and southwest, where the precipitation was one-half to two and one-half inches. Other places in the state the precipitation ranged from light to one-half inch.

The report indicates that spring wheat and other spring grains are coming along rapidly; that farmers are plowing for corn and that a large acreage is in prospect.

Owing to the continued cool weather, pasturage has been slow in starting and farming and stockmen have had to do more the usual close feeding.

Patriotic Rally at Arapahoe.

Arapahoe, Neb., April 15.—(Special.)—A patriotic rally was held in the Arapahoe opera house Saturday night. The Arapahoe band played patriotic airs. A vocal solo by Mrs. Fern Sohn, entitled "The Yankees Are Coming," was written by Ole Vikoren, leader of the Arapahoe band.

A patriotic address was given by Dean Budlong, Episcopal minister of Hastings.

Rev. E. C. Stanley presented Guy Haine, Hayde Crowell, Joe Williams and Claude Matter, with Boy Scouts medals, given by the United States government for their work in selling the second Liberty bonds.

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A motor truck investment whether fleet or single truck—must be measured by

SAFETY EARNINGS RESALE VALUE

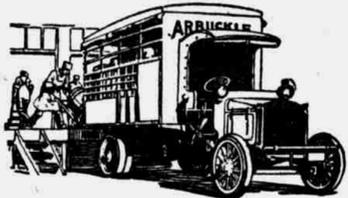
Safety depends on length of service and whether the maker continues in business and stands behind his trucks.

Earnings depend on whether the truck is suited to the work required, its speed and carrying capacity and its uninterrupted service.

Resale value depends on the reputation of the truck which determines the price it will bring second hand.

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FOR INSTANCE: The first Pierce-Arrow sold July 11, 1911 to Ar buckle Bros. was sold two years ago to Brainerd Bros., who operate it daily and say it is as good as new although it has run over 100,000 miles. Ar buckle Bros. bought five in 1917 and twenty-five since. They now operate 29.

The greater speed of the Pierce-Arrow enables it to carry a larger aggregate load in a given time, make more trips than any other truck.



FOR INSTANCE: The output of Gera Mills, near Passaic, N. J., is hauled daily to the showrooms in New York. A 5-ton Pierce-Arrow makes 3 trips daily in 9 hours, hauling 15 tons each way. It replaced 5-ton trucks which required 9 hours longer for three trips, carrying 9 tons. It does 80% more work in the same time and effects a big saving.

Rarely can you find a Pierce-Arrow truck on the second hand market. Occasionally trucks bought for emergency work are sold when the operation is completed. Sometimes unusual conditions force a sale. When a Pierce-Arrow is offered it is instantly snapped up at a good price.

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"The Autocars can shoot through traffic and get to places other cars can't reach," they say. "With them we were able to give the better service and make the quicker deliveries so necessary this winter. The aftersale service of Brown-Rowan-Buck is prompt and reliable."

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