

NEW WORLD HOLDS GRIP ON PETROLEUM

PRODUCTION IS GREATEST

Most of Oil Produced Comes From the Americas; New Sources Discovered; Comparisons

Despite utmost effort which both governments and capitalists of the Old World have put forth since the war's close, the New World seems to hold a firm grip on control of petroleum production. All over Europe, many parts of Asia and Africa, and throughout the South Seas, exploration and drilling for oil is in progress. All the important European nations are giving utmost diplomatic support to their citizens seeking new supplies of oil.

Nevertheless, most of the world's petroleum still comes from the Americas. The United States alone produces over 70 per cent of it. In an address before the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers Valentine R. Garfias declared that the world produced last year 1,096,000,000 barrels of petroleum, the United States, Mexico and Russia being the three largest producers. But Venezuela took fourth place, previously held by Persia, which fell into fifth place. Roumania stepped into sixth place, passing the Dutch East Indies, which retired to seventh position; and Colombia, which in 1925 occupied sixteenth place, moved up to the eleventh.

It is now apparent that both Venezuela and Colombia, in which great amounts of American and British capital are being invested, are destined shortly to become among the most important sources of petroleum. The advent of capital, enterprise and leadership from the great industrial nations is rapidly making over the social and economic conditions of these countries. Whether civilization is a good or bad thing for people it subjugates, there is no doubt that it is a very insistent institution.

FROGS RAIN ON ROAD NEAR LIBERTYVILLE

Such Is Claim of Waukeganites, According to Sun; Good Yarn, Anyway

If it were not for that fact that William "Bill" McGrain, city building inspector, was known to the reporter as a man of veracity and a t-totaller this story would never have been written, says the Waukegan Sun of Saturday, April 16. Even then there might have been some question as to whether, or not, Bill saw what he claims he saw were it not for the fact that three others were with him and attested to his statements.

While traveling along the Libertyville to Grayslake road, two miles north of Libertyville at 10:00 o'clock last night, in company with Mrs. McGrain and Robert Williams and wife, Mr. McGrain became aware that dur-

ing a heavy fall of rain, objects obviously heavier than raindrops were striking the automobile. He glanced ahead into the glow of the light and then realized that the objects were not hail, instead they seemed black in color and apparently possessed life. Stopping his machine he investigated. He found hundreds of frogs lying about on the pavement all crushed, apparently by falling. Some still twitched. In one spot he found more than 50 small frogs in a cluster. He is sure that others fell from the heavens as he stood there.

Bill scratched his head, climbed back into his machine and continued on his way homeward, his thoughts torn between the phenomenon which he had just witnessed and wonderment as to what the world was coming to.

And while he is pondering over the matter his claims are given support by scientists who contend that such a phenomenon has happened at least once before. It is believed that the frogs were drawn into the air from a pond during a cyclone condition and carried by sheer force of the wind to a point where they were deposited. We cite this in explanation so that Bill will have something to tie his story to.

DESCRIBES OLD LAND CERTIFICATE FOUND

Instrument Issued in 1838 Is Excavated by North Chicago Man

An old certificate or land grant by the United States, printed and written on yellowed parchment and dated Sept. 1, 1838, signed by the then United States president, Martin Van Buren, has recently been found under an old copper plate on a vacant lot west of North Chicago and is now the property of Roy Sleszer, 1460 Sheridan road, North Chicago, who found the document while excavating for a house.

The land grant, giving a 40 acre tract to Thomas Landrum of Jefferson county, Indiana, is in perfect condition except for one little yellow spot and one jagged hole in the center.

The certificate acknowledges payment of "good and sufficient consideration" for the property which is described as the southwest quarter of the northwest quarter of section 25, township 4, north range 9, east 40 acres in the district of land distribution sale in Jefferson, Indiana. It is signed by "Martin Van Buren, president of the United States," and the signature is perfectly legible as is all of the writing on the document.

Sleszer found the paper carefully folded and placed on top of a brick, a badly dented and discolored copper plate above it, protecting it from water, and the whole was buried a short distance under the top soil on a lot west of the North Chicago city limits at Sixteenth street. Sleszer declares it is of no value other than a curio or keepsake to some collector. He has refused a \$25 offer for it.

LATE PROCEEDINGS IN PROBATE COURT

Action in Settlement of Estates; Wills Filed and Other Matters

Recent proceedings in probate court are reported as follows:

Probate Judge Decker admitted the will of Moses Eisenstaedt, of Highland Park, to probate and the estate was valued at \$400,000, personal property. A bequest of \$2,000 was made to the Associated Jewish charities of Chicago. The balance was left to his widow and two children.

The will of Lydia J. Curran, of Grayslake, was admitted to probate. The estate was valued at \$3,900 and is to be divided between three children. Proof of heirship was taken. Letters testamentary were issued to James Curran. His bond was set at \$7,800.

The court admitted the will of Jane E. Haskin, Highland Park. The estate was valued at \$13,000 personal property and \$20,000 real estate. Property was bequeathed in various

amounts to a sister, nephew and niece. Letters testamentary were issued to John V. Norcross. His bond was set at \$28,000. Appraisers were appointed.

The report and account was approved in the estate of George H. Bartholic, et al, minors, North Chicago.

The final report was approved in the estate of John S. Gridley, who recently was found sane and restored to his rights. The conservator was discharged and the estate closed.

In the estates of Joseph Miller, Libertyville and Frank Panek, Libertyville, the inventories, appraisal bills and widow's selections were approved.

Decree was entered to sell real estate under contract of sale in the estate of Gemma Bertucci, Highwood.

Final reports were approved and estates closed in the following matters: Cynthia Dunnill, Fox Lake; James F. Wells, Libertyville; Phebe A. Douglas Wright, Lake Villa; Elizabeth Porter Marshall; Martha A. Protine, Libertyville; Horace H. Martin, Lake Forest.

Letters of administration in the estate of Louise C. Paisley, Dubuque, Ia., who owned real estate in Lake Bluff, were issued to Peter W. Newhouse, public administrator. Proof of heirship was taken and the inventory approved.

PROHIBITION RECORD AT STATE CAPITAL

Prohibition Administrator John B. Madden recently reported to the federal government a total of 448 inspections made in the Springfield, Ill., district during the last six months. Fines aggregating \$171,057 were assessed against 542 defendants in 337 cases; property valued at \$302,641 was seized by agents during the period in this district, and jail sentences totaling 58 years, 5 months and 9 days were imposed and in addition penitentiary sentences totaling 12 years and 4 days for Fort Leavenworth and four years for the federal penitentiary at Atlanta, Ga.

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