

DISCOVERY OF OIL
BOOMS MILLVILLE
Speculators and Investors
Flood Jersey Town in
Wake of Find

STEELMAN WELL GROWS
Reports Credit Operations with
Production of 20 Barrels of
Precious Fluid a Day

MILLVILLE, N. J., Nov. 28.—Millville is sitting to prosperity on the crest of an oil boom.

Enthusiasm is running riot throughout this bustling manufacturing town. Real estate values are rising with leaps and bounds, and everybody—from the taxicab cabs at the station to the officials of the local banks—is talking oil.

This state of affairs is due to the report that the oil well sunk on the estate of Louis Steelman is yielding twenty barrels a day. The news quickly flashed across the country, and now Millville is besieged by speculators, land grabbers, oil experts from the big companies, and boom followers generally.

Many of them are well dressed, glib-tongued and persevering, and make no secret of the fact that they are here to buy all oil land which follows the golden trail.

Steelman said today that 15,000 acres of land had already been leased in Cumberland County in which the present well was discovered. In Atlantic County, it is said, 15,000 more acres have been leased. The discovery of the oil was made by Dr. Hugo von Pagen, a well-known geologist, who has been making investigation in New Jersey in this connection for several years. His discovery, incidentally, has shattered previous geological theories.

The well is now down to a depth of 800 feet, it is said, and the operators say they intend to go down about 1,000 feet more. The big yield in the upper strata, they say, indicates a big harvest when they get down further. In fact, many believe it will be a comparatively short time before they strike a gusher.

Analysis of the oil, according to one of the operators, showed fifty-five per cent gasoline, thirteen per cent kerosene and a high percentage of paraffin. The oil is reduced from the Steelman well seems to possess magical properties. One of the operators made the somewhat surprising statement that he took a quantity of it in its raw state right from the well and used it to run his automobile from the oil well to Millville, more than three miles away.

NO STOCK FOR SALE?

All those who are on the ground floor of the proposition emphatically declared there was no stock for sale. They are apparently optimistic as to the outcome. Their chief object seems to be to acquire great stretches of land in which to sink more wells. Steelman also is a nifty frowner at the suggestion that stock was to be sold. Despite his attitude, however, there appeared in the *Bridgeton News* of Saturday the following advertisement:

"Oil discovered in Millville! All oil stocks going up! One thousand shares for \$10. Make checks payable to cash. L. S. care News office."

Directly under this advertisement was another, urging readers to buy stock in an oil company in Oklahoma City.

STEELMAN REPUDIATES "AD"

When shown the advertisement in the *Bridgeton* paper, Steelman was amazed. "I notice the initials L. S.," he said, "which conveys the impression that I placed the ad. But there is no foundation for such a conclusion. I am not a stock promoter. I never inserted such an advertisement, and no one has had any authority to offer for sale a single share of stock in this well."

On further questioning, however, Steelman admitted that a company would be formed on Wednesday. It will be known as the Steelman Realty, Gas and Oil Company, he said, and will have a paid-up capital of \$300,000. There will be only 100 shares for sale at \$100 a share.

The officers of the company are all members of Steelman's family. Steelman himself is president. His son, M. A. Steelman, is secretary and treasurer, and Leroy Steelman, another family member, is vice president.

Steelman denied that the well was yielding twenty barrels a day, but declined to say just what the daily output was. "There has been a little oil coming out," he said, "but I don't believe in going to extremes. I am going to protect my friends and not let any of them do anything rash through exaggerated reports."

LAND PRICES SOAR

The case of Thomas Mayhew is an illustration of the jump in land values. A year ago Mayhew would have sold his eight-acre estate for \$100. Now he will not take a cent less than \$20,000. In many instances it was shown that ground worth about \$75 an acre had now jumped to \$150.

The dash of the picture has been injected into the boom by the oil scouts who are out after land. Some represent big concerns in the West; others are free-lancing with the hope of selling the ground leases for big sums later on.

OIL SCOUTS BUSY

These scouts have already cornered the market on taxis. Armed with leases ready to sign, they start out in the morning and invade every section of Cumberland County. If one is suspected of having a lead on the lay of the oil land, he is trailed by the others. But some of the farmers are suspicious. They don't believe in signing anything. "I guess we'll wait a while," is the reply of many; "if it's good oil it'll keep."

When one scout seizes a piece of land the others make every effort to lease another strip close by.

These scouts also keep a sharp eye on the railroad station for all strangers who look as though they may have oil ambitions. They follow visitors to the Steelman well and have ways of finding out just what he intends to do. There is a steady stream of visitors to the well all day long, but they cannot get very close to it. There is a fence around it and a number of sturdy guards, who see that all unknowns get nothing but a bird's-eye glimpse.

DESOLATE SCENE

The little well is the only sign of activity in the immediate neighborhood. Clustered about it are a half dozen little shacks and a bungalow, in which the drillers and caretakers sleep. All around the well are hundreds and hundreds of straggling and stunted pines, which add to the desolation of the scene. The big derrick over the well towers like a lone sentinel, but it will soon have company, says the oil men.

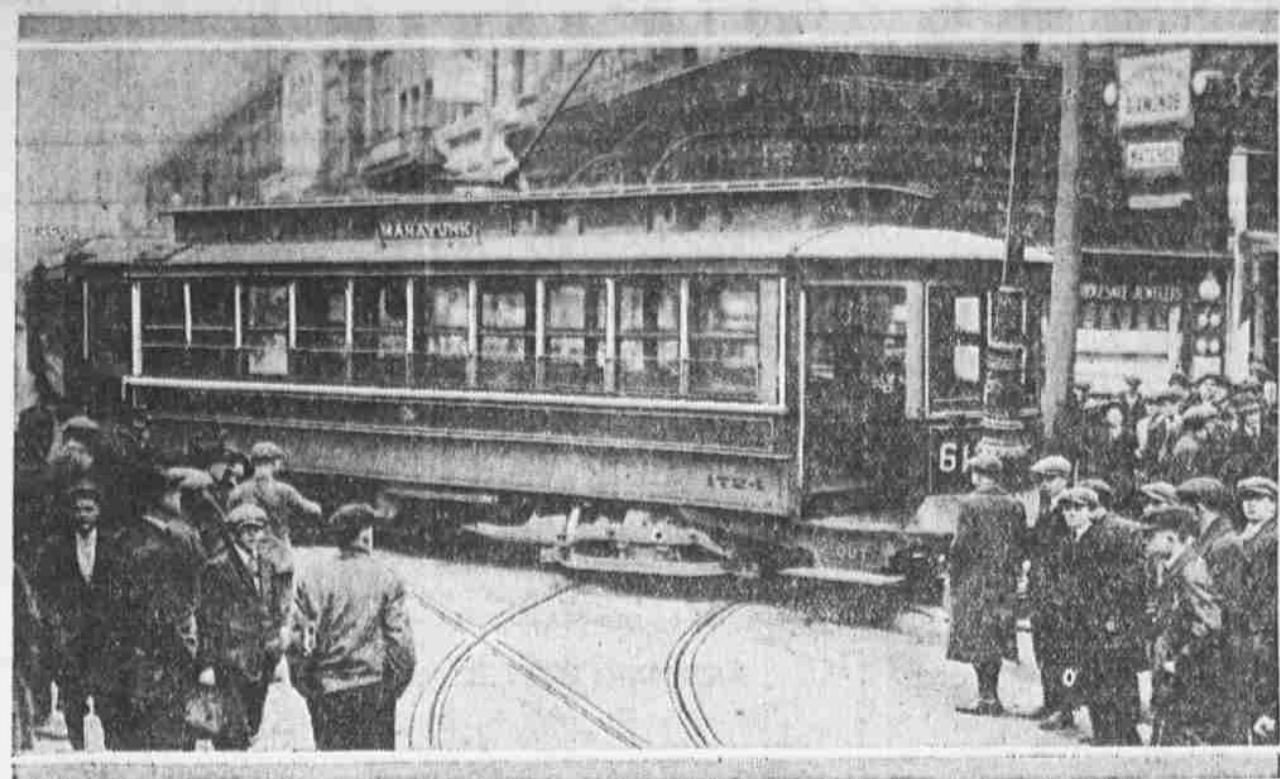
There is nothing picturesque in digging for oil, the operators say, and they look forward to the time however when the straggling trees will make way for more serviceable and well-kept buildings, which go with a prosperous oil operation.

In drilling, according to one of the operators, a great variety of formation was encountered. After 100 feet of sand and clay a four-foot vein of forty-seven per cent iron ore was struck. This was followed by a small per cent of natural gas, but not of commercial quantity. Then a rock was then passed through and then a sixty-foot section of oil-bearing shale. This shale will yield twenty-five barrels of oil to the ton, according to the operators. Following this shale came the oil-bearing sandstone. A deposit of sparite, a crude form of paraffin, was beneath a layer of trap rock.

When the suggestion was made that the oil was seeping from the Pennsylvania fields, Doctor Von Pagen, who made the investigation, expressed doubt. He contended that the geologic structure of the New Jersey belt belongs to the Cretaceous period. He also said the distance was too great. The general direction of the geologic belt in which they are now working, he said, is northwest.

But no matter what the outcome may be, it is an optimistic and enthusiastic

DOWNTOWN TRAFFIC DELAYED WHEN CAR "SPLITS SWITCH"



Two men were knocked down and bruised in an accident at the corner of Eighth and Chestnut streets today. The front trucks of a southbound Eighth street car passed over the switch to proceed down Eighth street, but the rear trucks started around the switch down Chestnut. The two men who were waiting for the car to pass were knocked down by the rear end. They were J. P. Blinn, fifty-six years old, of Pocono City, Md., and Julius Schweiger, sixty-four years old, of 514 Lombard street. A passing automobile took them to the Jefferson Hospital, where they were treated and sent home. Jumping the track at Eighth and Chestnut streets is getting to be an almost daily habit with street cars.

BARRING OF ENVOY
MAY NOT BE FINAL

Safe Conduct Likely to Be Given
Austrian ir U. S. Asks
Formally

LONDON A BIT RESTIVE

Considers Tauton Diplomats Have Been
Unnaturally Active
Here

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—England's refusal to permit passage of the new Austrian Ambassador to the United States, Count Tarnowski, probably is not final, the British Embassy said today. Officials there pointed out that the United States had not asked for Tarnowski's safe conduct, and therefore England's action is not a direct refusal to heed this Government's wishes.

It was pointed out that England permitted passage of German Ambassador von Bernstorff, who was in Germany at the outbreak of the war. The impression was given that the British Foreign Office wishes the State Department to make a formal request for Count Tarnowski's safe conduct. Such action would, in the opinion of the British Government, more surely obligate the United States to guarantee the "good behavior" of the new Ambassador.

This is in line with the Foreign Office explanation of its position in the matter. The British Government, it is understood, has not been satisfied with the efforts of the United States to "maintain its neutrality" with respect to the activities here of Central Power diplomats.

It is understood England's earnestness to impress this upon the United States is at least partly responsible for the present action in the Tarnowski case.

15-YEAR-OLD GIRL
THANKSGIVING BRIDE

Rush for Marriage Licenses
Breaks the Record at
City Hall

A fifteen-year-old girl, Agnes C. Varely, 2540 South Alder street, was one of the many persons who obtained marriage licenses today. She will marry Elmer Morlock, twenty-one years old, a sailor on the United States steamer Dixie, now stationed at League Island.

The Thanksgiving rush for licenses continued today. More than sixty had been issued by noon. Yesterday 144 were issued, breaking the record for any one day.

Among the licenses granted was one to Jacob Sells-Cohen, Jr., 2115 Chestnut street, and Marion G. Labe, 2247 Green street. Cohen, a real estate man, is twenty-six years old, and Miss Labe, whose father is a tobacco importer, is twenty-one. A license was issued to Mr. Howard D. Gleister, 15 High street, and Eleanor V. Wirt, 508 East Washington lane, daughter of Charles Wirt. Doctor Gleister is thirty-nine years old and his prospective bride is twenty-nine. They will be married by the Rev. Charles Fischer.

Licenses issued were:
Alexander Thompson, 4226 N. 17th st., and Anna Flanagan, 1401 Blivy st.
John G. Kaufman, 2602 W. Sergeant st., and Margaret H. 107 2404 Marlboro st.
John G. Kaufman, 2602 W. Sergeant st., and Carolyn L. Linder, 2029 N. 34 st.
Elmer C. 2029 N. 34 st., and Marie H. O'Leary, 2029 N. 34 st.
Coleman, 1224 Quarry st., and Mattie Coleman, 1224 Quarry st.
Marie E. Hibby, 2029 Morris st., and Edward J. Kane, 1929 Moravian st., and Helen Frank, 1829 Moravian st.
Anna M. 1829 Moravian st., and Charles E. 1829 Moravian st.
Francis M. J. Smith, 1055 E. Passunk ave., and Catherine J. Smith, 2303 E. Hambrecht st.
John Green, 224 W. York st., and Julia Fisher, 112 Newmarket st.
Edward A. Milroy, 108 N. Howard st., and Anna M. 112 N. Howard st.
Thomas F. West, 2511 Aspen st., and Helen M. 2511 Aspen st.
Clara S. Dorner, 1841 Mellon st., and Mae A. Lauck, 1209 N. Jessup st.
Rustanick Samba, Elizabeth, N. J., and Henrich J. McElvay, 1825 N. 54th st., and Florence Evers, 1416 Oakes st.
Alfred E. 1416 Oakes st., and Sophia Wile, 2028 W. Boston ave.
Joanna A. McNulty, 818 N. 48th st., and Violet G. 818 N. 48th st.
John P. 818 N. 48th st., and Lucy O. A. 818 N. 48th st.
Anton H. 818 N. 48th st., and Alice V. 818 N. 48th st.
John E. 818 N. 48th st., and Julia A. 818 N. 48th st.
Anna M. 818 N. 48th st., and Bridget J. 818 N. 48th st.
Michael Duff, 2114 Catharine st., and Mary M. 2114 Catharine st.
Charles E. Law, 1207 Alder st., and Margaret M. 1207 Alder st.
Robert Holland, 516 S. 18th st., and Sarah M. 516 S. 18th st.
Timothy G. 516 S. 18th st., and Alice V. 516 S. 18th st.
Margaret M. 516 S. 18th st., and Cecelia M. 516 S. 18th st.
John A. McPeters, 2419 S. 9th st., and Edna M. 2419 S. 9th st.
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Housewives Ask
Federal Action

Continued from Page One

ple of the United States and to take measures to limit sales for exports to the surplus over domestic requirements."

At the same time, an egg boycott was spreading rapidly and promised to become country-wide.

"With speculators holding a gun to the heads of the American people, your situation seems to demand drastic measures," said Quinn, telling why he thought the United States should establish Government control of food prices.

"The storing of eggs, butter, meat, poultry and like food to boost prices is only less criminal than the destruction of food to keep the market up, such as I have seen in San Francisco."

"I don't want to appear nosey about the affairs of a country whose guest I am, but when I see high prices in the United States where there is no regulation and compare it with the reasonable prices and legitimate profits obtained in my home country of New South Wales, where food prices are controlled by the Government, it is a strong temptation to say:

"Go thou and do likewise."

"Every Monday morning the prevailing prices for staples are announced by the Government. If the announced price is thirty-six cents for butter the housewife knows she will pay thirty-six cents and no more without ample warning. In the United States the housewife reads a quotation of forty-three cents for butter and prays all the way downtown next morning that it won't have jumped a nickel a pound over night."

EGGS AT TWENTY-FIVE CENTS IN AUSTRALIA

"Thanks to our control system, housewives in Sydney and other large cities pay about twenty-five cents a dozen for the best eggs. Can you imagine that in the United States? No, but there is no legitimate reason for the high prices. It is a strong temptation to say:

"Your American egg barons would like to hit me with some of their storage eggs for saying it, no doubt, but the reason eggs are not 25 cents here is that the speculators are holding a pistol to the consumer's head."

"At home we provide a reasonable profit for the producer, one for the wholesaler and one for the retailer and yet sell many articles of food at half and less than half the price you pay here."

"The solution of your storage speculation problem seems to me simple. Legislation prohibiting the sale of cold-storage products altogether is the solution."

"There is plenty of food of all kinds in the United States. The speculators have got dealers and consumers by the throat. They have raised the false cry of 'heavy exports on account of the war' and then have boosted prices on that artificial theory. This is a situation that could not exist in New South Wales."

"In Australia we believe that a Government which cannot control prices for the benefit of its people is not living up to its obligations as a democracy."

"Can you imagine a two-pound loaf of bread selling in the United States for seven cents? I think not. Yet that is what the Australian State bakeries do."

Other passengers on the Empress of Russia will be Bishop J. E. Robinson and wife, of New York; Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Pittsico, of the H. R. M. Consulate at Swatow, China; H. S. Harmon and B. S. Chapman, of the Standard Oil Company, and C. J. Clifford, of the National City Bank of New York.

TENNIS STARS TO SAIL

Church and Throckmorton Depart for
the Orient Thanksgiving Day

VANCOUVER, B. C., Nov. 28.—George M. Church, of Tenafly, N. J., and Harold Throckmorton, of New York, will sail from this port Thanksgiving on board the Empress of Russia for Manila, where they will participate in the Manila tennis tourney. From this city they will journey to Japan, where they will enter the championship tournament.

LANSING ALSO AGAINST
MORE LOANS TO ALLIES

Secretary of State Fully Ap-
Proves Warning Issued by
Reserve Board

READY TO MEET PROTEST

Prepared to Answer Entente Argument
That Interference Is Im-
proper Act

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—The State Department is ready to back up the Federal Reserve Board in the warning to banks of the United States not to purchase securities of belligerent nations, it was announced today. The warning was issued with the full approval of Secretary of State Lansing, who is prepared to refute the anticipated claim of the Entente Allies that such a stand is improper.

Safety for America, Americans and their money lies behind the Federal Reserve Board warning against undue loan expansion secured by foreign treasury bills, experts held. And, some said, a possibility of unsettled conditions ahead was the immediate reason for the warning. Many read into the board statement an actual apprehension as to the outcome of enormous financing of the Allies, especially in view of the possibility that they are "biting off more than they can chew."

DISCLAIMER BY BOARD

The board, however, disclaimed any intent of reflecting on or discouraging the status of foreign nations involved. Its sole aim, said the statement, is to keep America's funds liquid and to avoid tying up funds through the purchase of foreign treasury bills under long-term obligations.

"The board deems it its duty to caution member banks that if done not regard it in the interest of the country at this time," said the statement, "that they invest in foreign bills of this character."

LOOKING INTO FUTURE

And as to the more basic nature of the case, the statement added: "In the opinion of the board, it is the duty of our banks to remain liquid in order that they may be able to continue to respond to our home requirements, the nature and scope of which none can foresee, and in order that our present economic and financial strength may be maintained when at the end of the war, we shall wish to do our full share in the work of international reconstruction and development which will then lie ahead of us, and when a clearer understanding of economic conditions, as they will then exist, will enable this country more safely and intelligently to do its proper part in the financial rehabilitation of the world."

The order was taken as a reply to the house of Morgan for approval of loans contemplated under the Treasury bill's method.

SPLITS CONSCIENCE IN TWO

Smuggler Sends Half of \$500 Bills to
Two Offices

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Undecided whether to send his "conscience bill" to the Treasury at Washington or to the port of New York, where he evaded customs duties, an unknown Boston contributor cut \$500 in bills in half sending one-half to each place.

The Treasury will receive the duplicate halves today. They are redeemable.

TOO LATE FOR CLASSIFICATION

DEATHS

CRAWFORD—Nov. 26, THOMAS J., husband of Carrie M. Crawford (nee Seligman), relative and friend (passed in funeral services, Thurs. Nov. 27, 2727 W. Lehigh ave., Int. Chelsea Hills Cem.)
GOULD—Nov. 27, Mrs. MARY, widow of E. P. Gould, aged 76. Funeral services Wed. 7:30 p. m., at 501 Kesteloff st., Bristol, Pa. Int. at Boston, Mass.
REISER—Nov. 27, JOHN WENTE REISER, aged 60. Relative and friend (passed in funeral services, Thurs. Nov. 28, 10:30 a. m., at St. Paul's Church, 401 E. 10th st., Philadelphia, Pa.)
WEISSMAN—Nov. 28, JEANETTE B., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William M. Weissman, aged 2, 1741 N. 21st st.

CHIHUAHUA FALLS;
TREVINO FLEEING

Villa's Capture of Mexico
Capital Confirmed by
U. S. Officials

GARRISON GOES SOUTH

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Nov. 28.—That Chihuahua has fallen into the hands of Francisco Villa is confirmed in official reports received by General Funston today. The reports say General Trevino and his forces are in flight toward Salaz.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Nov. 28.—Pancho Villa is in possession of Chihuahua City and General Trevino with his Carranzista garrison has evacuated and fled southward in an attempt to form a junction with General Murtagh's relief column, according to reports obtained today by United States authorities and transmitted to Washington.

SUCCOR FOR CHIHUAHUA
RUSHED FROM JUAREZ

EL PASO, Tex., Nov. 28.—With about 400 men drawn from the garrisons of Casas Grandes and Namiquitla, General Gonzalez, Mexican commander at Juarez, started toward Chihuahua City before dawn on military trains.

Officers of the garrison remaining at Juarez declared that Gonzalez is rushing these reinforcements to the aid of General Trevino, admitting that the besieged garrison in the "capital of the north" is being hard pressed on all sides by Villa's bandit army.

Andrew Garcia, Mexican consul general, today refused to comment upon reports that General Trevino had been driven out of Chihuahua City. "We have no news," is all the Mexican official would venture.

Brodbeck's Plurality 2127

YORK, Pa., Nov. 28.—Andrew J. Brodbeck, Democratic Congressman-elect from the twentieth district, defeated Samuel K. McCall by a total plurality of 2127 in the district, according to the official count of the vote in York County and of the York Quakers in the Mexican border.

STEEL HEAD KILLED BY TRAIN
David Benjamin Falls Under Car
Wheels at Hazleton

HAZLETON, Pa., Nov. 28.—Falling off the bumper of a small locomotive, on which he was making an inspection of the Ebervale striping plant this morning, David Benjamin, president of the Pennsylvania Quarrying, Striping and Contracting Company; head of the Benjamin Iron and Steel Works, and one of the highest striping operators in the Lehigh valley, was instantly killed. His son Harry was badly hurt in trying to rescue him. Both were caught under the wheels of the engine.

Benjamin a year ago ran as a Republican candidate for national delegate from the Eleventh District, but was defeated.

Precher's Widow Guilty of Theft

NEW YORK, Nov. 28.—Mary A. Sanford, gray-haired and in widow's weeds, who declared in court that her dead husband had been John Sanford, a Congregational clergyman, today faces a three-year term in the penitentiary as a convicted thief. She was found guilty of taking \$150 worth of goods from a jewelry store where she was employed.

Columbia Records advertisement featuring a portrait of a man and the text: 'LAZARO The Greatest Tenor since Rubini - a Greater than Gayarre!' New York City, Nov. 14, 1916. Columbia Graphophone Co., Woolworth Building, New York City. Includes a list of agents for sale by in various Philadelphia neighborhoods.

DREKA FINE STATIONERS INEXPENSIVE CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES NEW THINGS ADDED DAILY TO OUR BEAUTIFUL COLLECTION 1121 CHESTNUT STREET