



THEY DON'T HAVE THIS in Texas. This electrically driven pumping jack in the basement of the Mineral Industries Building is capable of pumping an 8000 foot oil well.

MI Oil Well Beats 'Real' Texan Method

By MARIE RUSSO

The College of Mineral Industries has gone the Texans one better and come up with an oil well that is indoors and pumps water.

The well, located in the basement of the Mineral Industries Building, is 450 feet deep and is the only indoor model

in the East. The water pumped by the well is accumulated natural ground water that usually reaches about 150 feet.

Students in Petroleum and Natural Gas 320 set up the well and make their own calculations using regular field equipment.

The water is pumped into a tank where it is measured by a meter. The students also make other calculations such as the amount of electrical power being used and the amount of mechanical pull or work that is being done.

The electrically driven pumping jack that is used by the apparatus is strong enough to handle an 8000 foot well. Actual oil wells range in size from 450 to 20,000 feet.

The entire organization and setting up of the equipment is a student project under the direction of Dr. C. Drew Stahl, assistant professor of petroleum and natural gas engineering, who teaches the course.

When the class starts the project, they have a hole with 8-inch casing and 2-inch tubing in the center of the casing to start working with. The students must install a pump at the bottom of the well to bring the water to the surface. A pump is also installed inside the tubing.

The well operates with "suck-

er rods" which are solid metal rods placed in the 2-inch tubing. The pumping jack moves the rods up and down bringing the water to the surface.

The well was dug in 1937 before the erection of the Mineral Industries Building and is one of the few indoor wells in existence. Many schools of mineral industries in the Southwest and West have experimental wells that are outside.

Ag Group Proposes Survival Course

The survival course which is under study by the Agricultural Student Council could probably be set up under the College of Physical Education or the ROTC Department, according to Lawrence Hutchinson, a council member.

Hutchinson, chairman of the council's survival committee, said the committee will interview the heads of the Physical Education College and the ROTC departments and other University personnel to see if such a course is possible, and if possible, where it could be placed.

Hutchinson said the committee felt the course could be a 1- or 1 1/2-credit one and could be used as a substitute for one semester of physical education

or ROTC for students who wanted to take it.

He said the course should be one in civil defense training which would teach the students enough so that they would not panic in time of war or disaster. One of the major parts would be a first aid, he said.

Roy C. Buck, associate professor of rural sociology, said the course the Civil Defense Council wants set up in colleges is more than just a first aid course. He said it is a course on the organization and administration of a community under survival conditions.

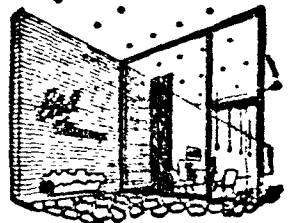
Buck also asked the council to consider a student-faculty forum where problems concerning both groups could be discussed. He said the classroom doesn't prove that professors

and students can think together but perhaps the forum would.

The forum would not have to be given the power to vote, he said; however it would exercise considerable influence once it became established.

No action was taken on the proposal.

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