

THIS SECTION OF THE CITIZEN CONTAINS A STORY OF THE OIL FIELDS OF CLAY COUNTY, TEXAS.

The Citizen

IT IS FULL OF INTEREST FOR THE MAN WHO WANTS TO BETTER HIS FINANCIAL CONDITION.

THE STORY OF THE OIL FIELDS IN CLAY COUNTY, TEX.

An Oil Field where the Man with a Few Hundred Dollars can get a Producing Well that will give him an Income that will put him far along on Easy Street. How the presence of Oil was made Known to the Early Settlers, who would rather have had Drinking Water than Oil.

STORY OF FINDING OIL.

LOWBOYS AND INDIANS DISGUSTED WITH IT.

Drank Water from a Spring that Had an Oily Scum and Thought no More of It Then.

Forty years ago a Comanche Indian, who answered to the euphonic name of Knee High, was riding over a rolling prairie in Northern Texas. As far as the eye could reach no sign of the legitimate

proach of a number of Indian warriors until they were almost upon them. Not a sign of weakening did they show, but the tale is soon told. The three sold their lives as dearly as possible, but three men could not stand out long against forty, and there were three dead bodies weltering in the sun and eleven Indian graves marking the spot where forty years after a coming city was being builded.

CLAY COUNTY OIL FIELDS.

For many years it has been known that there were excellent indications of

with oil men everywhere, was probably the first expert driller and all-round oil man to locate in the oil fields of Clay county. Mr. Chaffee came to the oil fields of Texas from Boulder, Colo. He has large holdings. In conversation with the writer, Mr. Chaffee stated that he had never seen an oil country that offered such immense possibilities for the man with only a limited amount of capital as well as the man "with money to burn." "I was raised in the oil business," said Mr. Chaffee. "My father was an oil man before me, and I truthfully say that I think that the greatest oil field in the world, considering everything. In the first place the cost of a well to put it in pumping condition in this field is less than it costs to start a hole in any other oil country that I know of, and I have worked in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, Kansas, Colorado and Texas. It only takes about \$500 to start a well in pumping condition in this field, and any kind of a well will pay for itself every month. I don't want any better proposition than this. Any place where a man can get a hundred barrels or \$500 looks good to me. What are you going to print this? Well, just tell them that I say things here are all right, they can take things easy, make lots of money and not have to drill clear through the earth to get what they are after.

The arrival of such men as Mr. Chaffee has marked a new era in the Henrietta oil fields. Within the past four months over forty wells have been brought in on the townsite of Oil City, twelve miles north of Henrietta, and a "duster" has been struck. The townsite of Oil City is fast assuming proportions, and the townsite company do not hesitate to sell a man a well and guarantee a well.

Two pipe lines are being laid from the barrel storage tanks to the pump house.

until rid of those lighter products, benzine, gasoline, etc., which go off at or near the boiling point of water. The oil is exceptionally free from mineral residue and practically free from ash on ignition. It has a sweet and pleasant odor and promises well from many points of view."

Practically the same analysis has been made by Wm. B. Phillips, director of the University of Texas Mineral Survey, Kable Brothers, Oil City, Pa., and H. B. Setzler, chemist for the Gulf Refining company, Port Arthur, Tex.

RANGE OF THE FIELDS.

O. T. Ross of Denver, Colo., for many years a student of geology and mineralogy, has just completed a six weeks investigation of the oil fields for the purpose of studying the geological formation, and he is quite sanguine as to the stability, extent and life of the field. His opinion is based upon evidence discovered particularly along the bluffs of Red River just west of the confluence of the Little Wichita and Red River. Oil in springs and water wells was found to exist at this point, together with other hydro-carbon minerals, such as elaterite and asphaltum. These evidences undoubtedly mark the trend and zone of the oil fields, the trend lying in a north and easterly direction from Oil City, while the zone is shown to be about three miles wide where it crosses Red river. From evidence that Mr. Ross considers indisputable, the oil stratum is at least three miles wide and is in a direct line with the Corsicana and Southern Kansas oil fields. Mr. Ross did not make a statement for publication until he had firmly convinced himself that he was right. He holds that he has a reputation to maintain in his business, and consequently is extremely conservative in his remarks.

your estimation?" he was asked.

"Well, I know the field is at least three miles wide east and west, and if I'm any judge the underlying oil extends north between the 22nd and 45th degree line clear into Kansas. The first stratum of oil has been struck on the banks of Red River six miles north of Oil City, the present developed field, and if indications count for anything this section (near Red river) is as good as if not better than any I have yet seen. The time will come, and that within 90 days, when

A GREAT OIL PRODUCER

THE FIELDS OF CLAY COUNTY ARE WORTH MILLIONS.

Statistics Show What is Doing, and the Beginning Has Hardly Been Made in This Territory.

On November 27, 1900, W. H. Chilson of the firm of Chilson & Co. of Henrietta and Oil City sold to J. W. Lockridge 300 acres of land known as the Wemkin and

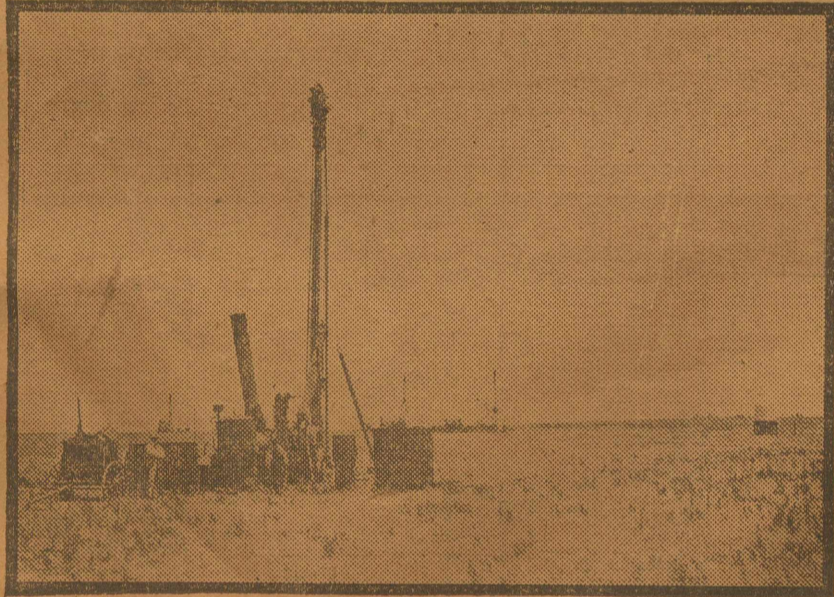


Photo by Miss Alice Snearly, Henrietta.

An Oil City field scene, showing the drilling machine of Wilson, Chaffee & Dismuke, just before bringing in the famous Avis No. 2. In the distance

prey of the red man, the pale face could be seen. Only the smouldering ruins of a camp fire showed that there were any of the arch-enemies of the country. Still, with the typical of the Comanche, Knee High did not dismount. He was sitting on a grass in his hand he placed it with the murky waters of the stagnant pool to be found at that place and took a long draught of the water. Now, if Knee High had been of a white race that swallow of water would have caused something very much like an oath to break the silence that was so oppressive. However, no word escaped the lips of the stolid Comanche scout, but an expression showing extraordinary disgust passed over his countenance. The water was covered with a slick slimy coating. Knee High very deliberately put his dirty finger in the fluid and when he drew it out it was greasy and shining. Slowly he raised his finger to his mouth and gently licked the stuff. This time "ka chote" (no good) was forced from his lips.

How long the Indian would have investigated this phenomenon will never be known, for his meditations were most rudely broken into by the sudden arrival of three pale-face horsemen who quickly made him a prisoner. One of the horsemen, whose handsome face was only made the more handsome by his picturesque costume, dismounted and said, "I am going to see what so absorbed that red devil's attention that he was so unaware of our approach." He walked with a swinging stride to the edge of the pond, looked curiously at the greasy surface and remarked, "Well I'm d-d! Come here, Charley. What do you think of that? If that isn't oil on the surface of that stinking pond may I be shot by a pesky red devil."

His companion at once became interested, and the third man's curiosity be-

other machines are seen at work. The storage tanks elevated for loading in wagons, and teams hauling to the cars.

oil in the northern part of Clay county, near Henrietta, but nothing toward investigating the outlook had been done until three years ago. Then, the discovery of oil was made. It was a well known fact that a layer of the beautiful waters of Mother Earth, concluded that water was not the most desirable thing on earth with which to quench thirst, so shortly after locating in Clay county, which was a little over three years ago, he arranged to have a well bored within three hundred feet of his residence. At a depth of 189 feet the well drill showed most unmistakable signs of being oily. Up until this time no thought of striking oil entered the head of Mr. Lockridge, but a tinge of the oil fever made itself manifest and the work on the well was pushed until, at a depth of 262 feet, oil of a very fine quality was found in paying quantities.

At this time the great oil strike at Beaumont held the attention of the nation, and until the advent of a few men who knew their business into the field not much was accomplished. It is true that a home company of three or four of Henrietta's business men was organized, and some development work done. These gentlemen did not wish to encourage an unhealthy boom, and consequently the outside world has learned little of the vast possibilities for accumulating wealth in Clay county.

In October following the discovery of the oil by Mr. Lockridge, D. R. Beatty, who was operating at Beaumont, purchased forty acres of land out of the 480-acre tract comprising the Lockridge farm. A well was sunk by Mr. Beatty and oil was struck at the same depth of the first well, 262 feet.

Mr. Beatty was followed by many expert oil men and all say that the Henrietta oil fields are the best they have seen, considering the cost of sinking

QUALITY OF OIL

The quality of oil is superior

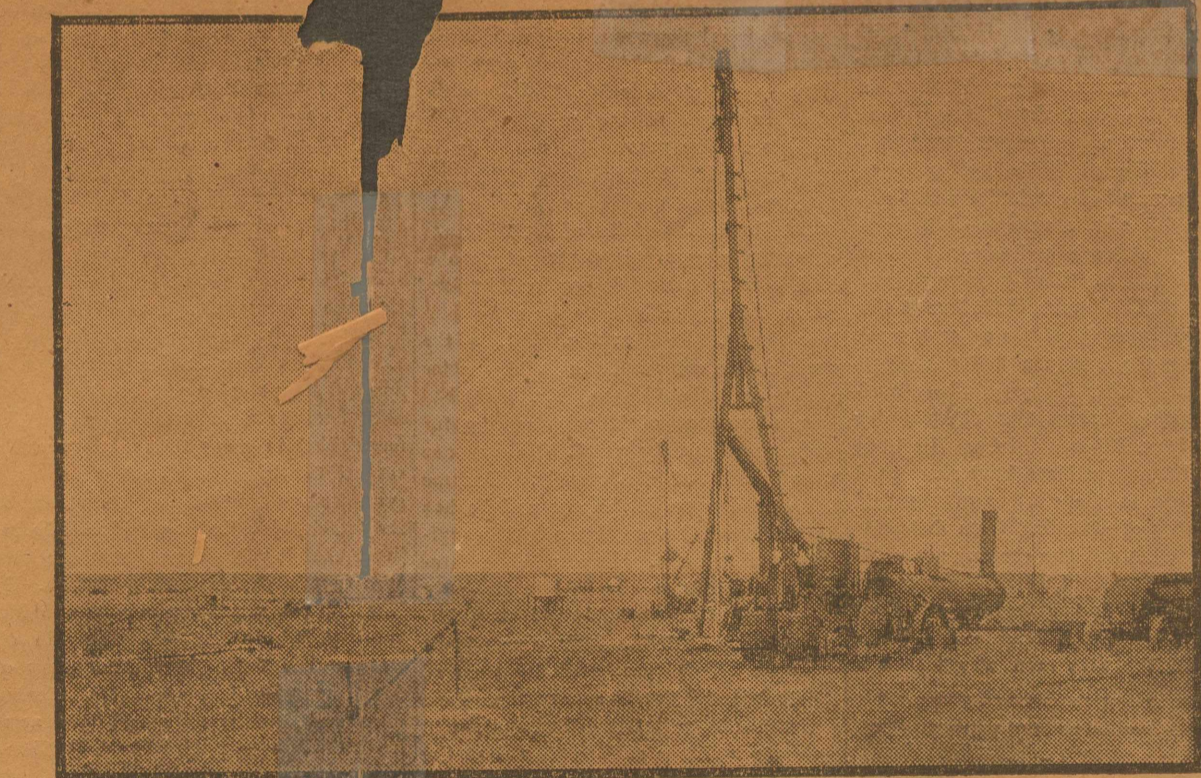


Photo by Miss Alice Snearly, Henrietta.

Field scene, showing a machine of Myers at the well of the Red Mule Oil Company's No. 3 and the tank of Winfrey, Morris & Reed, and pump house of the Wichita Oil Company.

the state, according to the following analysis by a well known St. Louis firm.

"We cannot make the complete determinations of the different parts, naphtha, gasoline, kerosene and lubricating oils, contained in the laboratory. Such determinations are made on a large scale with special apparatus at oil works only, and are not accurate on small samples. "Approximations can be made by a study of the sample, and these we give you. The results are:

"Specific gravity, 0.840 or 85.1 degrees Beaume. "Flash test, 98 F. "Fire test, 98 F. So close to flash test as to make the difference unmeasurable. "Loss at temperature of 212 F. for five hours, 39.78 per cent. This includes lighter benzine and gasoline groups. "The residue is still liquid and contains possibly 20 per cent of clean smelling kerosene, which is volatile at temperatures over 300 F. The final fixed residue at temperatures under 400 F. is a black plastic and stringy asphalt base of good appearance and practical value. The gravity of the Beaumont oil is 0.825 or 21.5 Beaume. The Pennsylvania oils show a gravity of 0.801 to 0.817, or 44.6 to 41.3 B.

"The indications are that you have an excellent oil, though not of the paraffin series. The question as to lubricating oils and so on must be determined on a larger scale by the proper authorities, and the exact proportions of the different results fixed by 'cracking.' As a fuel oil, the product is too explosive for use

ly his opinions on oil questions are much in demand. Mr. Chaffee arrived in Henrietta from Boulder, Colo., in April of this year, and recognizing the present and future possibilities of the oil fields, he at once shipped in two standard rigs and commenced contracting. His fastest record in this field is in drilling and casing a well, counting the time of moving on and off the land, in only forty-two hours. "I have been in the oil business all my life," said Mr. Chaffee, "to use the oil man's expression, 'I was born on a derrick.' This proposition beats anything I ever saw, and I have seen several," he added with a smile. "My brother Harry came here first, and at his suggestion I quit Boulder and came to the Henrietta oil fields at once, and I have never been sorry for it. You take a fellow that has been used to drilling through two or three thousand feet of almost solid rock and put him where he can punch a hole down to paying oil in a couple of days, and I'll tell you he will appreciate the change. There are a number of men right here in Henrietta who scarcely realize what is lying right at their door for them, and if they don't get a move on 'em they will be wondering 'where they are at.' I have yet to see an oil man who knew his business and came here, but what he stuck. The oil is there in from twenty-five to one hundred 'barrel' wells, and it don't cost \$800 to get it. A man who invests in this field early begins to receive 'velvet' after the first month."

"and that's the truth.

"Too enthusiastic, you say? Not a bit of it. When I know a thing, I don't hesitate to say it, and if I don't know it I keep my mouth closed. This country offers the best inducements to outside capital and labor of any place in the world, and only one trip here is nec-

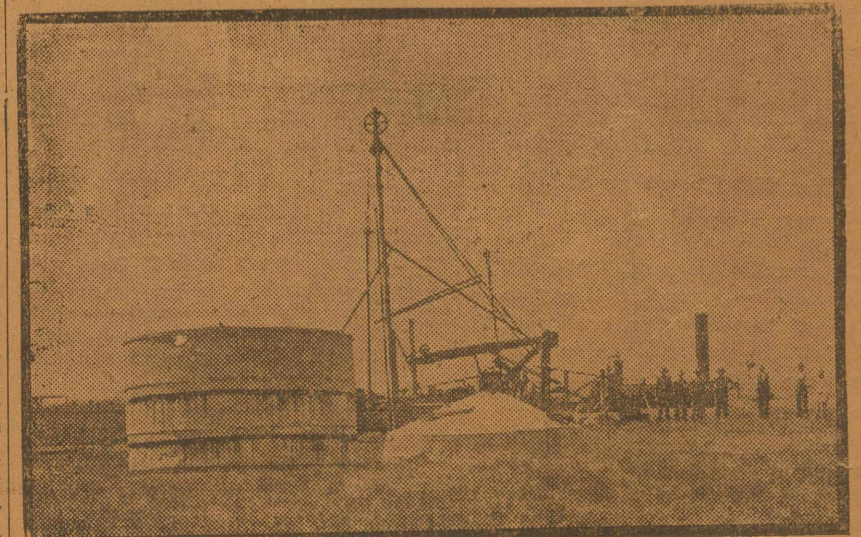


Photo by Miss Alice Snearly, Henrietta.

Shows the bringing in of the famous Patton well No. 1, with the storage tank at the left. Dr. Patton is seen in the foreground with his hat off, thanking the blessed Lord for his good fortune.

essary for any man, for if he has 'eyes to see he will see."

"As smooth as oil" means "Easy" street.

Podzemny farm following spring himself without stock to drink, and asked if he

father of this oil field and the of many wells, was consulted by Mr. Chilson and a contract made to drill 300 feet for water if necessary. On August 15, 1901, McCord drilled into a black oily stratum of oil. Having had no experience, he was as much surprised as Mr. Lockridge, who paid for drilling the well. They both knew that if they found good water it would be ruined by the substance they had drilled into. Lockridge came to town with a bottle of the product and his friends recognized indications of petroleum. Mr. Lockridge seems to have been an unfortunate man, as had he placed his property in the hands of the right parties he would today have had sufficient money loaned on the broad acres of Clay county to take care of him during his lifetime. The particular tract of land owned by the Lockridge Oil Co. seems to have been an unfortunate one. Their wells are very light and they state to the writer that the yield is but a few barrels per well. About 300 feet north of their wells we find wells pumping close to 50 barrels per day. More than one half mile south of their south line we find wells showing 20 to 30 barrels each day. Shortly after the finding of the oil by Mr. Lockridge, D. R. Beatty of oil fame appeared upon the scene. Mr. Beatty purchased from the Lockridge Oil Co. 40 acres of land. The price given out by the Lockridge Co. was \$100 per acre and a contract to drill a hole 1200 feet deep. The contract was let to Sharp Brothers of Dallas, Texas, and W. H. Russell. An experienced driller was put to work on the derrick and about eight months was spent in drilling the 1200-foot hole. Nothing was given to the public, except that part of the se-

ing aroused, he too came to see what was the cause of so much excitement. The three stood and pondered, and so interested were they in their conversation that they did not see the stealthy ap-

wells, the output, etc.

Harry H. Chaffee, considered one of the best oil men in the country, and a man whose opinion bears much weight

crecy that was extracted from the drillers and others closely associated with him. That he passed through five different strata, each bearing oil, is positively known, when the well was drilled

LESS THAN ONE FARE RATE

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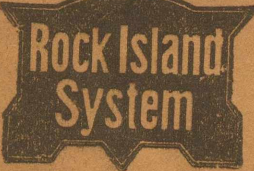
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Advertisement for the World's Fair in Saint Louis, featuring an illustration of the fairgrounds and text describing the importance of the visit and the services provided by the Frisco System.

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Five car loads of Fruits
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Are consumed daily in these two cities.

All along the Interurban line are as fine lands for the production of the above as are to be found on earth. It's cheap now. Truck farmers, dairy men and poultry men, now is the time to get in line. Fortunes will be made in these lines in the next ten years.

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FOR THE HOUSEWIFE

Watermelon Rind Preserve. Every one knows how delicious watermelon rind preserve is, provided it is carefully prepared. In the south watermelon preserve is almost as highly rated. The melons are chosen before they are quite ripe and are peeled and sliced and placed in a weak brine for several days. After a thorough washing in clear water to remove the salt the melons are put in hot water in a preserving kettle and boiled briskly for ten minutes, after which they are transferred to another kettle containing a very weak alum water. While they are boiling in this a strong ginger tea is prepared and the melon transferred to this, where the boiling continues for a few minutes. Prepare a sirup of ten pounds of sugar to one pound of fruit, flavor with a lemon cut in very thin slices and place the fruit therein for a last boiling. Let it remain in the sirup until quite clear and easily pierced with a fork. Seal while hot.

Instead of Mayonnaise. Many people object to oil in any form, and for the following mixture will be found a delicious substitute for the ordinary mayonnaise. Beat two ounces of fresh butter to a cream with a wooden spoon, add a teaspoonful each of powdered sugar and fine salt, half a teaspoonful of mustard and a dash of cayenne pepper. Beat the yolks of two eggs lightly, set over the fire in a bain-marie and add very gradually half a gill of hot vinegar, beating well till the mixture thickens, then remove it from the fire, mix in the creamed butter, beat all well together, and when quite cold stir in a gill and a half of whipped cream to make about half a pint of sauce altogether. This dressing can be used in any case where mayonnaise is generally served.

Pie Cutting Machine. It has more than once placed the careful housekeeper in an embarrassing position to have to serve slices of pie of grossly unequal sizes, to say nothing of a variety of shapes, to her guests at dinner. The solution to the problem is found in a pie cutter, herewith illustrated, which is guaranteed to cut the



adds materially to the making of a fair. Explanation is hardly needed. The cutter consists of a metal rim about the size of the pie plate and having extended at right angles from the rim two blades which sever the pie into four equal slices.

Household Hints. An easy and quick way of cleaning candlesticks is to warm the candlestick and then rub it well with paper. Save labor by mending clothes before they are sent to the wash. Washing generally results in making the holes larger. Freshen gilt frames by brushing over with the white of egg beaten up with an ounce of soda. Use a soft brush. Stained flower vases may be cleaned by adding some vinegar to a lather of soap and water. Shake till all stain is removed. Brass, if lacquered, should be rubbed with a cloth dipped in sweet oil and afterward polished with soft cloths. Unlacquered brass can be cleaned with lemon juice or paraffin and bath brick. Polish with chamois leather.

A New Apple Jelly. Any juicy apples will do. Wash and wipe them. Then cut them up, without peeling, into eighths, or if large into smaller pieces. Barely cover with water and cook to a pulp. Then strain by putting the pulp into a bag and letting it drain all night. In the morning take a pound of sugar to a pint of juice and cook about twenty minutes, or till it jellies on the spoon. Then cut up two lemons, peel and all, stir into hot jelly and take off the fire at once and strain into jelly glasses. It will be of a delicate color and of a most delightful flavor, much more dainty than apple jelly usually is.

How to Test Coffee. Genuine roasted coffee of no matter what quality will not impart its color to cold water, nor will the bean lose its smooth surface or hard, tough consistency when subjected to a scalding of any duration, whereas chicory and other imitations become soft and spongy when soaked and render the water muddy, so that it is only necessary to give the suspect a bath to determine its genuineness. Of course the bean must be tried before grinding and the water must be cold, otherwise the test will not be conclusive.

Hemming Table Linen. Have your tablecloth ready as if to sew by machine, and turn the hem all along with the hemmer, but without threading the needle. This turning in of the hem is, every one knows, the most laborious part of the task. With this accomplished, it is a comparatively easy matter to complete the sewing by hand.

Proved. Magistrate—The evidence clearly shows that you threw a stone at the man, Prisoner—An! the looks of the man shows more than that, your honor. It shows that I hit him—Scrap!

Making Home Happy. Mrs. Geyer—Men have different ways of making home happy. Mrs. Meyer—How so? Mrs. Geyer—Some do it by staying at home and some by going away.

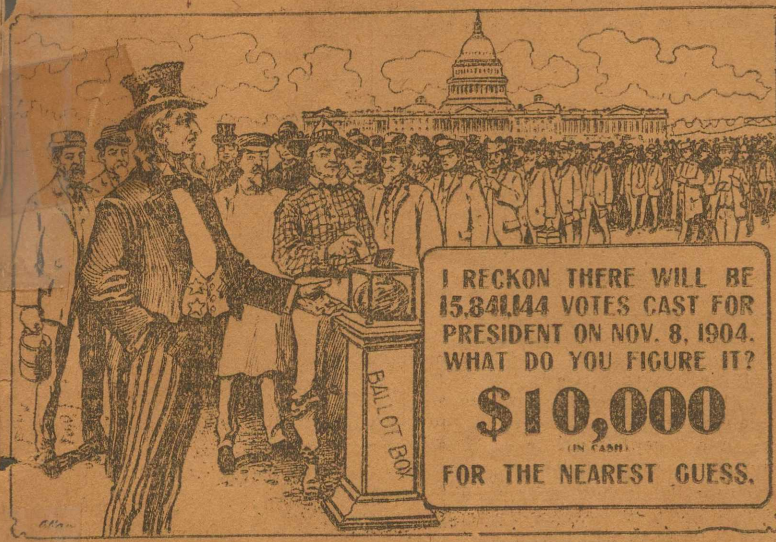
OUR GREAT

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500 Cash Prizes

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I RECKON THERE WILL BE 15,341,444 VOTES CAST FOR PRESIDENT ON NOV. 8, 1904. WHAT DO YOU FIGURE IT? \$10,000 FOR THE NEAREST GUESS.

First Prize, \$10,000
Second Prize, \$5,000
Third Prize, \$1,000
8 Special Prizes of \$500 Each for Early Subscriptions.

Every subscriber to THE DAILY LIVE STOCK REPORTER or THE WEEKLY CITIZEN has a chance to share in these cash prizes. The subject matter of the interesting Contest in which these large prizes will be paid is the Total Popular Vote to be cast for the office of President of the United States on the 8th day of November, 1904. Every man, woman and child in the United States should be interested in the Greatest Election the Country has ever had. It costs you nothing to win a prize.

Conditions of this Great Contest.

Every subscriber who remits 50 cents for one month's subscription to The Daily Live Stock Reporter, will be entitled to two guesses. For a year's subscription to The Weekly Citizen, at 50 cents, he will be entitled to one guess. For each guess he will receive a certificate. These certificates will insure to him any prizes which his guesses will entitle him to claim. When you send us your subscription also send us your guess or estimate of the Total Vote to be cast on November 8th, for the office of PRESIDENT. In making your guess consult the figures below showing the total vote for President from Lincoln to McKinley. Write your name, address and estimate of the vote in the Subscription Blank. The paper will be sent to you regularly and we will mail to you certificates containing the figures of the guesses which you send to us. This certificate will guarantee to you any prize which your guess entitles you to. Keep the certificate until the prizes are awarded, so that you can compare your figures with the official figures at the close of the contest. The contest will close at midnight, November 7th, 1904, and no estimate received after that hour will be allowed. The official figures of the government showing the total vote cast for the office of President will determine who are entitled to the prizes and the awards will be made by a disinterested committee of prominent judges just as soon as the official vote can be ascertained. When the prizes are awarded every subscriber who holds a certificate in the Contest will receive a printed list of the winners. In addition to the large general prizes there are Eight Special Prizes of \$500 each for early subscriptions. All have an equal chance to win these magnificent prizes. Those who estimate or guess the total vote for President on the last day of the contest. Act at once. It may mean a fortune to you. The money with which the prizes has been deposited by the Press Publishing Association, in the Central Savings Bank, Detroit, Mich., will be used for no other purpose. In case of a tie for any individual prize such prize will be equally divided among the contestants.

HERE IS THE LIST OF PRIZES.

Table listing prizes: For the nearest correct estimate or guess... \$10,000; For the second nearest... \$5,000; For the third nearest... \$1,000; For the fourth nearest... \$500; For the fifth nearest... \$200; For the sixth nearest... \$100; For the 10 next nearest correct estimates or guesses, \$50 each... 500; For the 20 next nearest correct estimates or guesses, \$25 each... 600; For the 42 next nearest correct estimates or guesses, \$15 each... 630; For the 100 next nearest correct estimates or guesses, \$10 each... 1,000; For the 314 next nearest correct estimates or guesses, \$5 each... 1,570; 692 prizes amounting to... \$21,000.

Table listing special prizes: In addition to the foregoing prizes... Special Prizes of \$500 each... For the nearest correct guess received before July 1st... 500; For the nearest correct guess received on or after July 1st and before July 15th... 500; For the nearest correct guess received on or after July 15th and before August 1st... 600; For the nearest correct guess received on or after August 1st and before August 15th... 600; For the nearest correct guess received on or after August 15th and before September 1st... 600; For the nearest correct guess received on or after Sept. 1st and before Sept. 15th... 600; For the nearest correct guess received on or after Sept. 15th and before Oct. 1st... 600; For the nearest correct guess received on or after Oct. 1st and before Oct. 15th... 600; Total 500 prizes amounting to... \$35,000.

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