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Gas Believed Struck In Idaho Well Drilling

ONTARIO, Ore. (AP) — H. K. Riddle, president of the Oroco Oil and Gas Co., said here that he believes he has struck gas in commercial quantities in a well eight miles east of Payette, Idaho.

Riddle said he drilled the well 1,399 feet deep. In a 24-hour test it emitted 290,000 cubic feet of gas, he said, adding that when the well was shut off for an hour it built up a pressure of 275 pounds.

Riddle, who has had water trouble with previous wells he has attempted in Southwestern Idaho and Southeastern Oregon, said no water has shown in this well, which he calls Johnson No. 1. It is in a farmland area on Highway 52.

Flying At 1,800 MPH, Drop At 40,000 Ft. 'Safe'

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Air Force colonel who ought to know says a pilot probably can be dropped from a plane flying 1,800 miles an hour at 40,000 feet "without being killed or seriously injured."

The colonel is John Paul Stapp, who rode a rocket sled on rails from a dead start to 632 miles an hour in 5 seconds, and then ground from that speed to a halt in 780 feet. He made the run last Dec. 10 at an Air Force test center at Alamogordo, N.M.

Stapp, giving a colorful description of his tests to a House Appropriations subcommittee, said his body withstood a force up to 50 times its own weight for just a flash of an instant.

He said a body apparently can withstand 25 times its own weight for 1.1 seconds. And if that is true, he added, he feels "fairly certain"

about the safety of ejecting a pilot flying 1,800 miles per hour at 40,000 feet.

Tuberculosis Patient Gives Birth To Triplets

SALEM (AP) — Mrs. Pascual Estigoy, 41, a patient in the State Tuberculosis Hospital here, Monday gave birth to triplets.

The little girls—two of whom weighed three pounds and the other four—were named Denise, Diana, and Doria.

They were born at the Salem General Hospital where Mrs. Estigoy was taken when the birth neared.

The Estigoyes have four other children but no previous multiple births. The father is a waiter at a Eugene restaurant.

Agriculture Dept. Predicts Surplus Wheat Reduction

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Agriculture Department Wednesday forecast a slight reduction on the huge wheat surplus in the 1955-56 marketing year which begins July 1.

The carryover from previous crops on July 1 is expected to be about 1,100,000,000 bushels above July 1, 1954. This would be the smallest increase since 1952-53 when the buildup of stocks began.

But, the department said, prospects for a further decline in production and a likely increase in disappearance—domestic use plus exports—indicate the carryover as of July 1, 1956, may be somewhat smaller than this year.

Most of the carryover, both this year and next, will be owned or controlled by the Commodity Credit

Corporation, the government's farm price supporting agency.

The winter wheat crop this year is forecast, as of April 1, at 622 around 840 million bushels, 14 per cent below 1954 and 27 per cent below average.

"A crop of 850 million bushels would be below likely total disappearance and result in some reduction in the carryover," the department said.

Domestic use of wheat for 1955-56 was estimated at 650 million bushels, with exports accounting for another 225 million bushels or so, for a total disappearance of 875 million bushels or more.

Acresage allotments and marketing quotas have sharply reduced wheat plantings. This year's wheat acreage is indicated at about 57,400,000, a decline of about 4,600,000

acres from 1954 and 21,400,000 from 1953, the last year in which acreage allotments and marketing quotas were not in effect.

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Air Force has expressed "serious concern" about accidents—auto accidents.

In a report to a House Appropriations subcommittee, the Air Force said its men have about five times as many auto accidents as airplane accidents.

In 1954 there were 757 fatalities from airplane accidents and 608 from auto crashes. But 5,324 military personnel were injured in auto accidents, compared with 529 in planes.

Airmen Suffer Most From Auto Accidents

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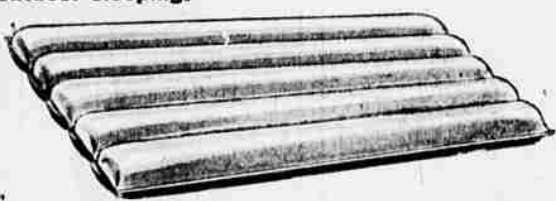
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