

GASOLINE SHORTAGE LAID TO CONSUMERS

Standard Oil Company Gives Its Explanation.

SUPPLY NOT DIMINISHED

Far West Has More This Year Than Ever Before, but Not Enough to Supply Demand.

In the current issue of the Standard Oil Bulletin, the Standard Oil company of California, appears an extended explanation from the company of what it declares to be the causes of the present gasoline shortage on the Pacific coast. The company also discusses prospects for the future.

"There is no mystery in the existing shortage of gasoline on the Pacific coast," declares the Bulletin. "It is not a case of diminished supply—the far west has never had so much gasoline as this year—but one of increased consumption. The refineries of California are this year manufacturing a greater volume of gasoline than last year, and great quantities are being brought to the far west from mid-western fields and Mexico. Yet this larger supply does not satisfy the enormous demands of additional automobiles, trucks, farm tractors, gas engines, pumps and other equipment dependent upon gasoline for power."

Situation Is Summed Up.

The outstanding features of the situation are summed up in the Bulletin, as follows:

The crude oil supply: California will this year produce about 100,000,000 barrels of crude oil.

Crude oil consumption: The Pacific coast will this year consume about 110,000,000 barrels of crude oil, the 10,000,000-barrel difference being drawn from reserve stocks.

The gasoline supply: Greatest in history of California oil industry and augmented by the importation of millions of gallons from eastern and Mexican fields.

Gasoline consumption: In 1915 there were 220,000 motor vehicles on the Pacific coast. In 1920 more than 750,000 in 1915 there were 3000 tractors, in 1920 at least 25,000. There are many thousands of gas engines in operation. In 1918 the Standard Oil company's sales of gasoline amounted to 122,000,000 gallons. In 1919 133,000,000, while the sales of 1920 will be more than 140,000,000 gallons. So far this year, the company has sold 4 per cent more gasoline than for the same period of last year.

Current Rumors Answered.

The company has much to say of the many rumors that have been current as to causes of the shortage. These rumors, the Bulletin states, are one by one and answers as follows:

"The gasoline situation has been greatly confused by the circulation of countless and most astonishing rumors and untruths. They may be discussed seriatim:

"Exports—This is one of the most vigorously circulated reports. It is said that the reason for the shortage is that huge quantities of gasoline are exported and sold at higher prices abroad. This company's exports have for three years constantly diminished, from 792,741 barrels in 1918 to 239,023 barrels in 1920, and these exports are being made by the company under obligations of last year. For the last six months of this year exports will average but 200 barrels per day. Further, and quite important in its bearing upon this rumor, the Standard Oil company of California does not export, but sells for export and obtains for its product the market price prevailing at San Francisco.

"The 30-cent sign—Here is a rumor that has covered the Pacific coast. At a meeting of the California Automobile Trade association in Fresno an unidentified person said that he had seen in Los Angeles 1000 signs announcing recent gasoline, prepared by the company, which were to be posted on July 1. Being an absolute untruth, it is natural that most diligent efforts have been made to remove these signs from the streets with failure.

Production Shows Increase.

"The capped wells—Production, it is alleged, is being kept down by wells being 'capped,' thus creating the shortage. The company has capped no wells and knows of none. The production of the state of California is little less than last year; the production of the Standard Oil company is greater than last year. One hundred and thirty-four more wells have been started in California fields this year than last. There are over 3000 more producing wells in California today than in 1915. If an oil operator capped a well his neighbor on an adjoining property would drain his land. Hence, to cap wells would be folly. The California state mining bureau has recently officially investigated this report and found that in all fields there is evidence of effort to obtain a maximum production."

"The Fuel Refinery Tanks: This report has usually taken the form of an employee of the Richmond Refinery of the Standard Oil company stating that the tanks there were full to overflowing, and the gasoline withheld from the market to create a shortage. Never has gasoline storage touched such high points as this year. Instead of entering the busy season with 40 to 50 days' supply, as formerly, the company this year had only two or three days' supply. In January of this year the company had 4,400,000 gallons of gasoline at refineries; two years before the quantity was 27,000,000 gallons.

Gasoline on Priority List.

"The Railway Situation: In announcing curtailment of sales in San Francisco and Oakland this company stated that the dislocation of railway transportation, coupled with the general shortage of gasoline, had created a serious situation in the agricultural districts. It was further stated that the railway had caused this dislocation, but that the railways having placed gasoline on a priority list, the situation had now improved. This company, however, had not recovered from the previous dislocation. All of which was true, as anyone familiar with conditions during the railway strike, when there was material dislocation, can so testify.

Stopping Refinery Improvement.

It was reported that in the face of shortage and restriction, work on expanding the company's Richmond refinery had ceased. The report was absolutely untrue. That part of a \$10,000,000 improvement at Richmond, designed to increase the gasoline output has not been stopped nor suspended, and the work goes on 24 hours a day. The construction of certain mechanical units, having nothing to do with the increased production of gasoline, has been postponed."

Thief Gets Jail Sentence.

Lover Latourel was sentenced to 30 days in the county jail by District Judge Jones yesterday for the theft of a large quantity of soap and cleansing powder from city stocks.

state mineralogist, and R. P. McLaughlin, state oil and gas inspector. Of the export rumor, the company asserts that "Standard Oil exports of gasoline for the whole of this year will be, and these under old contracts made in 1919, 213,351 barrels containing 50 gallons each, against 239,023 barrels last year and 795,741 barrels in 1918, which shows a very material decrease in exportations. Seventy per cent of this year's exports already have been made.

"Second: The Standard Oil company does not export gasoline, but sells for export, and such sales are at the market rates in San Francisco, and not at fancy prices alleged to prevail abroad.

"In 1918 this company's gasoline

Joel B. Ettinger, director of the Royal Rosarian municipal band, now playing in park concerts.



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Joel B. Ettinger, musical director of the Royal Rosarian Portland municipal band, playing in the public parks this season, is a schooled musician, a magnetic and authoritative conductor and has built up his band from the best instrumentalists. The citizens of Portland can well be proud of the band. Each concert has shown decided improvement in music ensemble, as conductor and instrumentalists became more accustomed to each other. Mr. Ettinger is also a business man, being manager of the American Woodworking Machinery company. In the east he was a noted bandmaster on tour.

exports amounted to 18.5 per cent of the total business handled by the company in 1919 to less than 8 per cent, while in 1920 the gasoline exports for the entire year will be about 3 per cent.

"Nothing is more indicative of the great change that has come over the petroleum business in the last few years than the situation concerning exports. Not long ago this company was active in seeking foreign markets for surplus products. The oil fields of California produced such quantities over and above the domestic demand that existed at that time, which was before the great development of automotive vehicles and gasoline-using machinery, that there was a considerable supply available for foreign sale.

Eastern Fields Entered.

"The situation today is completely the reverse. The California crude oil supply is insufficient to meet domestic demands, and not only is there a market for everything that California can produce, but in order to supply fields formerly dependent upon supplies of gasoline furnished by California—notably eastern Washington and Oregon, Nevada and Arizona—this company has gone into eastern fields and to Mexico, and there made purchases of gasoline to meet the demands of the public."

Under the heading, "The Future," the bulletin has this to say:

"The gasoline shortage will grow less acute as summer wanes; precisely when conditions will be back to normal and supply and demand equalized, is difficult to foretell. With the lessening of demand at the end of summer and the supply of crude oil constant—and there is every reason to believe that this supply will remain constant for some time, with possibilities of increase—the shortage should not be of great duration, and a steady improvement should be manifest shortly.

"Further, the new processes this company is installing at its refineries at Richmond and El Segundo for the extraction of more gasoline from crude oil than is now obtained will help the situation materially."

Hood River Woman's Club Names Year's Committees.

Activities of Organization Are Postponed Until Fall.

Hood River, Or., July 24.—(Special.)

The executive committee of the Hood River Woman's club, the activities of which have been postponed until fall, has appointed the following committees for the ensuing year:

Calendar, Mrs. E. O. Blanchard, Mrs. Paul R. Hughes and Mrs. L. S. Bennett. Educational, Mrs. E. R. Miller, Mrs. J. W. Crites, Mrs. S. G. Campbell and Mrs. George C. Gladden. Civic, Miss May Davidson, Mrs. R. D. Gould, Mrs. E. A. Franz, Mrs. P. L. Tompkins and Mrs. W. L. Nichols. Legislative, Mrs. Ella Wilbur, Mrs. William Munroe, Mrs. H. C. Cooper and Mrs. P. S. DeWitt. Emergency, Mrs. J. W. Ingalls, Mrs. Frank Gilbert and Mrs. V. E. Abraham. Philanthropic, Mrs. L. M. Bentley, Mrs. F. C. Wittenberg, Mrs. C. J. Calkins and Mrs. A. C. Loftis. Decoration, Mrs. E. A. Franz, Mrs. P. L. Tompkins and Mrs. G. A. Molden. Auditing, Mrs. George Stranahan and Mrs. W. B. Heath. Social, Mrs. W. H. Chipping, Mrs. William Irwin, Mrs. W. B. Tewksbury and Mrs. P. L. Manser. Home economics, Mrs. F. A. Gram, Mrs. W. J. Knight, Mrs. L. D. Parkers and Mrs. Harry Conaway. Lyceum, Mrs. W. A. Schaffner, Mrs. A. S. Keir, Mrs. O. D. Duro, Mrs. L. E. Hays and Mrs. W. J. Knight and Mrs. Geo. Wilbur. Property, Mrs. A. Canfield. Parliamentary, Mrs. W. F. Laraway.

R. C. Kephart Visits Portland.

Midshipman Ralph C. Kephart, who is on the annual cruise of midshipmen from Annapolis, is visiting Portland and Willamette valley cities on leave from the fleet now in Puget sound. He is visiting his brother, C. I. Kephart, who is in charge of the public service commission, and Mrs. Kephart, and while in Portland, is the guest of the latter's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Alston, on Shattuck road. Midshipman Kephart's home is in San Francisco, and he will rejoin the fleet there after visiting relatives in that city.

Dancing Tonight and This Afternoon

Columbia Beach

BIGGEST SHOW IN TOWN

THIS WEEK

"MAN AND HIS WOMAN"

FEATURING HERBERT RAWLINSON



NOW GUTERSON'S ORCHESTRA NOW

MAINTAINED AT A COST OF \$75,000 YEARLY

\$25,000 SUIT IS FILED

REV. J. P. ALLEN SAYS MISSION BOARD LIBELED HIM.

Plaintiff Claims Letter Sent Out Damaged His Good Name; Second Suit Recorded.

As a new high light in the confusion surrounding the affairs of the Interdenominational Mission association, international, starting with the supposed ousting of Rev. J. P. Allen, George King and Mardella King from the councils of the elect, is a \$25,000 libel suit filed in the circuit court yesterday by Mr. Allen against Rev. E. L. Cooper, superintendent of the mission; Rev. Myrtle Cooper, assistant superintendent, and Rev. William Harvey, Rev. M. McPhee and Rev. Alma Daugherty, general board of the mission association.

The plaintiff asserts that he was libeled grievously in a "To Whom It May Concern" letter issued by the defendants July 8, 1920, and sent to M. D. Ellis, Walker Furniture company, C. A. Sumner and others. Mr. Allen, who asserts that he is a minister of the gospel and was at that time, and still is, treasurer of the Interdenominational Mission association, international, maintains that his good name has been damaged to the extent of \$25,000 by allegations of theft in the letter.

The excerpts particularly objected to were: "Dr. J. P. Allen took with him \$250 cash received from the sale of our printing press, type, etc., together with all moneys belonging to the mission in the bank, amount unknown," and "Registered letters were sent to Allen and King informing them of the action of the board and demanding return of books, papers and all moneys belonging to the mission association."

Further, the plaintiff asserts that Mr. Cooper told Dr. Hinson of Portland, on May 16, 1920, "that J. P. Allen has stolen \$150 and other money belonging to the mission," and that Myrtle Cooper made virtually the same statement to H. H. Newhall of this city.

The letter was sent from 9 1/2 Union avenue and was signed by all the defendants. It set forth that the undersigned believed it a duty to apprise "all business men and subscribers to our paper that Dr. J. P. Allen, George King and Mardella King have been expelled from our association by unanimous vote of the board."

Among statements following is the charge that Mr. Allen had sought to spread the impression that the name of the organization had been changed

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"MAN AND HIS WOMAN"

INTERNATIONAL NEWS
HER PERFECT HUSBAND
TOPICS OF THE DAY

THINK!

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SPECIAL SUNDAY CONCERT

12:30 Noon Today

Ruy Blas F. Mendelssohn-Bartholdy
Loin du Ball Gillett
Liebstrum F. Liszt
Piano solo by Francesco Longo
Melodie in F Rubinstein
Valse Op. 34 M. Moszkowsky
WEEK-DAY CONCERTS
Valse Op. 34 M. Moszkowsky

FRANCESCO LONGO

MASTER PIANO SOLOIST

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TOURIST PARTY TRAVELS IN HANDSOME GRAY HEARSE.

Young Couple Go Through Ashland on Way to Los Angeles to Enter the Undertaking Business.

SHLAND, Or., July 24.—(Special.)—That "there are many men of many minds, and ways of traveling, many kinds," was manifested on the streets here recently when a tourist party stopped for gasoline.

They were traveling in a handsome gray hearse and two cunning little dogs peeped over the shoulder of the driver, whose wife stated they had shipped their furniture to Los Angeles and that her husband was the third generation to be in the undertaking business. She said it seemed the sensible thing to travel in the hearse, since it would be needed in the business. The bedding and cooking utensils were packed in the hearse.

The hour being early and the couple in a hurry to get to their new home, they did not camp in the park, but after a plunge in the sulphur pool "hit" the highway south.

OUTING TO BE HELD TODAY

Knights of Columbus, With Friends, to Enjoy Sunday.

The Knights of Columbus will hold its annual outing today, members of the order and their families and friends spending the day at Bonneville. The trip will be made in a special train leaving the Union station at 9:15 o'clock this morning.

An interesting athletic programme

No other piano possesses the golden beauty of tone which is the dominant characteristic of the

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