

BLACK GOLD BRINGS BITTERNESS

World Battle for Oil Likely to Affect Consumer Price in U. S.

By SAM DAWSON

New York, Dec. 13 (AP)—The world battle for oil is likely to center next year more over who is going to sell it, the Americans, the British or the Dutch, than over who is going to get it.

And this fight is likely to cause increased bitterness here at home between the big and little oil companies, with the final price to the consumer very much at stake.



Capone Foe Slain—Frank J. Christenson, 45, former assistant Cook county state's attorney who fought to break the Capone syndicate, was shot and killed from ambush as he stepped from his car near his home in Chicago's suburban Cicero. (Acme Telephoto)

Several indications of the coming battle are included in late news: The Trans-Arabian oil line is being pushed toward the Mediterranean; big U.S. oil companies expect to import more oil next year than last; a group of small operators complain that independent oil refineries here are being destroyed by the oil pricing policies; the price of heavy fuel oil goes up in Chicago; some Pennsylvania crude oil prices rise; and talk of an oil loan to Mexico revives in Washington.

During and immediately after the war, the great battle was to get control of world oil supplies. American oil companies invested huge sums in developing foreign fields, refineries and pipelines. World demand seemed increasing faster than supply.

Then, almost overnight, supply caught up with demand. Two things happened at about the same time: Oil from the near East began to flow to the United States, and production in some United States fields was ordered cut back to prevent a glut of the crude oil market.

Independent oil companies sent up a howl against the flow of foreign oil to our shores at such a time. The big oil companies with foreign holdings into which they had poured a lot of money finally bowed to the storm and said they were cutting back their imports.

But recent testimony before the subcommittee of the house small business committee indicated that imports of oil and refined products this year will average 676,000 barrels a day, and that the companies expect to step that up during the first half of 1950 to about 850,000 barrels a day. Their plans are based on an anticipated increase in demand during the cold months ahead. They expect to use oil from their exclusively acquired foreign fields to meet part of that increase.

Moreover, the big oil companies expect to use more and more of their foreign oil to supply world markets, and therefore export less from their domestic wells.

But they may be reckoning without the British, England has announced an all-out drive to sell oil from its foreign holdings in the dollar market, and a sharp battle for world's oil trade may develop.

The Arabian American Oil Co. announces that it has pushed its big Trans-Arabian crude oil pipeline a third of the way from the Persian gulf to Siden on the Mediterranean.

When this pipeline is completed it will cut tanker time greatly between the near East oil fields and the European markets.

Texas, which cut back crude oil production sharply to prevent oversupply of the market and consequent weakening of the price structure, is allowing a little more production for December, perhaps counting on the approaching cold weather to perk up demand.

But the narrow margin between high crude oil prices and the recently weakened prices for some refined products is bringing a protest from the Consumers Co-operative association in Kansas City.

Wintermute in Island Service

Clark Air Force Base, Philippines—Lt. Col. Ira F. Wintermute, former Salem, Oregon, resident, and son of Mr. and Mrs. James C. Wintermute, formerly of Salem and now of Redwood City, Calif., recently arrived here for a tour of duty with the Thirteenth Air Force. The officer is assigned as operations and training officer of the 18th fighter group. His wife, the former Betty Hamilton, and the couple's two children, Rand and Sheryl, will join him here later. They presently are residing in Salem, Oregon, with her parents.

The colonel, a senior pilot, was graduated from Randolph and Kelly fields in October, 1938. After graduation he was transferred to Hickam Field, Hawaii, with the 18th Bomb Group and in 1941 joined the ferry command. In 1942 he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for action in the Aleutians.

Wintermute attended the command and general staff school at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, from 1943 to 1945. The following three years he was senior air instructor for air force units in the state of Nevada with his home base at Reno. He received his orders for overseas duty in October and on November 14 landed at Manila, Col. Wintermute will return to the United States in September, 1951, after completing his two-year tour of duty.

Billion Light Years Into Space Still to Be Reached by 'Scope

Palomar, Calif. Dec. 13 (AP)—New photographs made with the 200-inch telescope at Palomar observatory, the first since the huge mirror was re-polished, indicate it is "a thoroughly successful instrument," says Dr. Ira S. Bowen, director of Palomar and Wilson observatories.

The mirror's full range will not be achieved, however, he said, until a correction lens has been installed. "This lens will give the Hale the same focal ratio as the 100-inch and we will then be able to get accurate comparable photographs," he said.

High spots over an area of some 20 inches around the outside edge of the mirror's surface were removed by polishing last summer. The mirror then was given a new aluminum reflecting coat and replaced in the telescope. Study of the resulting photographs prompted Bowen's optimistic announcement, plus a promise that "it is going to do the work for which it was designed."

About 10 billion glass containers are used in the United States in one year.

Slayer's Secret Not Revealed

Fort Lauderdale, Fla., Dec. 13 (AP)—Police today kept the secret of a distraught father who killed his three children as they slept and then shot his wife and himself to death.

Officers said that Carl Amarella, 34-year-old well-to-do interior decorator, left a long note saying, "I'm sorry it had to end this way."

The note was believed to reveal Amarella's reason for slaying his 33-year-old wife, Millie, and his children, Sandra, 6; Larry, 4, and Jane, 1. But police would not quote all of the note directly and apparently had agreed not to disclose Amarella's secret.

A newsman, however, overheard two officers speak of Amarella's "fear of disgrace." And Amarella's lawyer said the note asked him to keep news of the tragedy out of the newspapers as much as possible.

Neighbors called police yesterday when the Amarella children did not come out to play as usual.

Choke Demonstration Brings Murder Charge

Iowa City, Ia., Dec. 13 (AP)—Robert Bednasek, 24, Cedar Rapids, Ia., a University of Iowa psychology student charged with slaying a pretty co-ed, signed a statement Monday which said he was showing the girl "The proper place on the neck to choke a person."

The statement was released by County Attorney Jack C. White, who filed a first degree murder charge against the husky, handsome student shortly after the body of Margaret "Gee Gee" Jackson, 20, Burlington, Ia., was found in the "Empty Arms" rooming house, a campus home for men.

"The next thing I remember was Margaret lying on the floor," Bednasek said in the statement. "She was not breathing."

Earlier, Coroner George D. Callahan said that Bednasek had "admitted" he "must have" strangled the girl. Callahan quoted the youth as saying, "I must have done it; I was the only one there."

Leech Nominated for Pulitzer Prize Award

Pittsburgh, Dec. 13 (AP)—Edward T. Leech, Pittsburgh Press editor who died yesterday, had been nominated for a Pulitzer prize for his series of articles on British socialism, entitled "Utopia on the Rocks," it was disclosed today.

Dr. Carl W. Ackerman, dean of the Columbia University school of journalism and chairman of the prize award committee, said in a telegram on the editor's death:

"I am posting a tribute to Edward Leech for the information of our students today. Last Friday I received a personal letter from Bernard M. Baruch nominating him for a Pulitzer prize. "We honor and respect his memory as a great crusading editor."

Baruch is noted as the nation's elder statesman and adviser to presidents.

Since the advent of wireless, later radio and then television, hardly a day goes by without some new technical word coined for the language.

Advertisement for the Baby Brownie Special Camera, featuring a camera image and text: 'capable... inexpensive The BABY BROWNIE SPECIAL CAMERA. It's an ideal camera for beginners of all ages... just load, aim and shoot for sparkling snapshots. Takes Kodak 127 films or Kodacolor 127 film for full-color pictures. Negatives 1 3/4 x 2 1/4. Only \$3.15, including Federal Tax here. EASY BUDGET TERMS. Parker CAMERA SHOP'.

Large advertisement for Miller's Toyland featuring a central illustration of Santa Claus on a sleigh with reindeer, surrounded by various toys like a typewriter, sewing machine, bicycle, and dolls. Text includes: 'THERE'S A GREAT DAY COMING Toyland', 'SEE SANTA AT MILLER'S', 'OUR TOYLAND is full of wonderful toys, to charm the girls and thrill the boys...', 'Santa Claus is waiting here... ready to lend a willing ear!', 'And mothers and dads can lay away, A gift of toys, every day! So bring the kiddies, come and see What a wonderful place, Toyland can be!', 'DOWNSTAIRS TOYLAND Miller's The Store of a Million Gifts'.