

A Grand Canyon Marvel



Where the Grand Canyon is Grandest

World's Premier Scenic Region Suddenly Produces a New Development of the Greatest Economic Interest to the Entire Nation.



U. S. Senator Cameron

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER

THE Grand Canyon of the Colorado River, widely regarded as the world's most imposing natural wonder, has suddenly taken on a new and startling interest.

A few years ago, when it was as inaccessible as the North Pole, John Wesley Powell won fame by making the first trip through it. A little later another adventurer conceived opening a trail from the canyon's rim down to the river, a mile below. It seemed grotesque, but the impossible was accomplished, and its accomplishment has made the canyon's innermost wonders accessible to thousands of tourists each year. They come from all quarters of the world every season in greater numbers to traverse the Bright Angel Trail. That trail is truly a monument to the daring and devotion of its builder. He worked at it for ten years, almost without help or financial backing, at one period spending almost half a year alone in the vast gorge. But today Ralph Cameron, builder of the Bright Angel Trail, occupying a seat in the United States Senate voted to him by the people of Arizona, has his reward.

Greatest Artificial Lake

But the conquest of the canyon had hardly been realized when the engineers discovered a new use for it. At Boulder Canyon, Arizona, the greatest dam in the world, a third of a mile high, should impound a lake which, spreading over a great area in Arizona and Utah, would be, next to Lake Michigan, the largest fresh water body entirely within the United States. Harnessed to mighty turbines, the water, falling hundreds of feet, would produce a power greater than Niagara, and irrigate an area several times that of the Nile Basin, which served for uncounted centuries as granary of the ancient world.

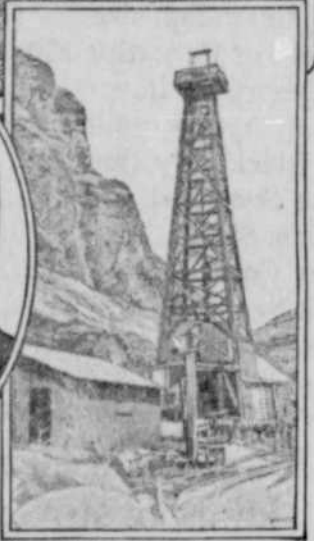
The Boulder Canyon dam has not yet been built, but the people of the Southwest are as confident of its construction as that the Colorado will continue to flow between its giant walls.

Now comes a new chapter in the romance of the Colorado. The intrepid "wildcatters" of the oil industry, scouting for new sources of petroleum, have brought in an oil well right in the canyon! Drilling from a narrow shelf at the gorge's bottom, they have overcome unbelievable obstacles. Perpendicular walls of rock grimly forbade construction of road or trail to transport machinery and supplies. From the river a succession of rock walls rise in gargantuan terraces to a height of 3,000 feet.

The "Great American Desert"

The little Mormon town of Moab, eighteen miles up-stream, is the nearest supply base. But Moab is not a railroad town, a drive of forty miles is still required to reach the Denver & Rio Grande railroad. Salt Lake City is 250 miles away, to the northwest.

Standing at the foot of the derrick which marks the site of the new oil well, one's back is fairly against an 800 foot cliff, which is matched by another immediately across the river. Looking up, one imagines that if he could climb one of these walls he would be "outside." But, trying this, he finds himself on a plateau or terrace, with another cliff a little way



Just Room for the Derrick

a flat-bottomed boat and floated down from Moab. It was a daring performance, for the stream twists constantly; unseen rocks and shifting bars add to its difficulties, and the canyon's perpendicular walls threaten instant wreck.

But it was done. Materials were brought, a derrick reared, machinery placed, a camp built and drilling begun. Now, with oil flowing from a depth of 2,035 feet, the Crane Creek well is suddenly the wonder of the whole intermountain country.

A Maze of Difficulties

Just about a year from the beginning of drilling the well began to flow, with every indication that when the drill goes somewhat deeper into the producing sand it will be an important producer. For the present, drilling has been suspended, awaiting provision for taking the oil away. It is doubtful if in all the history of the 600,000 wells that have been drilled in this country, largely in regions difficult of access, any one has ever presented such a category of obstacles as this canyon well in Utah. How the oil will be transported to a refinery is still sheer guess work, but a way will be found, for the ingenuity and resources of the oil engineers have never failed.

The "bringing in" of this well illustrates the difficulty of petroleum development. Convinced that the geological structure was particularly favorable, the projectors determined to gamble \$75,000 on drilling. Before they got oil they had spent more than twice that.

For years wells have been drilling in various parts of the state—fully 200 in all—at a cost of probably \$5,000,000, and this canyon well is the first real producer! It is only by dint of such persistence in coping with natural obstacles and financial hazards that the country's supply of oil is maintained. The first oil well in Western Pennsylvania became a producer at the depth of 69½ feet. Nowadays wells a mile deep are not uncommon, and they have gone down as far as a mile and a half.

Every Well is a Gamble

A large proportion of wells produce nothing whatever and represent total loss. It was recently estimated that in the last twelve and a half years \$1,200,000,000 was sunk in wells which were failures. Despite every effort of science, engineering and long experience, and notwithstanding the stupendous depths now reached, 25 per cent of wells last year were dry.

The "wildcatter" is the Columbus of oil. He is to petroleum, to gasoline, to the fuel supply of the country's 20,000,000 automobiles, what the old time gold prospector was to building the empire of the far west. He is essentially a gambler; good loser or good winner. The lure of enormous winnings keeps him tirelessly searching, and sometimes he finds his reward. But in the aggregate, offsetting all winnings against the total cost of this engrossing gamble, it is not improbable that all the oil that has been taken from the soil of this country from the beginning cost more than its producers got for it.

A World in the Big Game

ahead. To climb this in turn would only bring him face to face with still another cliff and so on till he had mounted full 3,000 feet from the river. Not only must this succession of cliffs be mounted, but to traverse the rock terraces gashed and torn, is only less difficult. And finally, the ascent to the outer rim accomplished, one confronts a waste of ridged, seamed and boulder-strewn desert, endless save for distant mountain peaks. Manifestly, the oil "wildcatters" could not make roads, so they built

But they have gambled in the basis on which the whole industry rests. The ice-bound Arctic and the fever-festering tropic jungles alike attract the hardy "wildcatter." To them the world owes its newest and best in transport by land, sea and air. They help light its homes and streets, provide an astonishing share of its power furnish an endless list of necessities which are by-products of petroleum. The "wildcatter" is well nigh the Atlas of this modern mechanized world.

235 ENROLL AT ASHLAND NORMAL

The Ashland normal school opened Monday morning for the fall term, with an enrollment of 235, up to 11 o'clock in the forenoon, an increase over the summer school registration. It is expected 250 students will be registered by the end of the week. The first classes and assembly will be held tomorrow.

4 rooms, breakfast nook, screen porch, large garage and wood shed, corner lot. Priced low for quick sale. Inquire at this office. Central Point.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given, that the undersigned, has been appointed administrator of the estate of Anna Olsson, deceased, and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby required to present the same, with proper vouchers, to said administrator, at the office of his attorney, W. G. Trill, in Central Point, Oregon, within six months from the date of this notice.

Dated this 30th day of September, 1926.

H. T. PANKEY,
Administrator.

W. G. TRILL, Att'y. for Admr.
s30-o28

CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday school 10 a. m. Preaching services 11 a. m. and 8 p. m. Christian Endeavor 7 p. m. Preaching services both morning and evening by the Rev. I. G. Shaw.

Mrs. J. E. Weaver, S. S. Supt.; Mrs. J. O. Isaacson, Supt. of Primary Dept.; Mrs. Al Hermanson, Supt. of Cradle Roll Dept.; Mrs. G. C. McAllister, Pres. of Ladies' Circle; Bernice Shaw, Pres. C. E.; Mrs. Warner, Choir Director.

Rev. Shaw, Pastor.

Brick Ice Cream at Damon's.

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BLANKETS FOR SHEETS\$2.25, \$2.50 to \$4.50

BLANKETS TO KEEP WARM.....\$4.75, \$5.00 and \$5.50

OREGON BLANKETS MADE FROM OREGON WOOL BY OREGON PEOPLE.—THE BEST YET. COME IN AND SEE THEM—

SMALL SIZE \$2.75; LARGE COLORED\$4.50, \$5.00, to \$9.50

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The Name for the New and Greater General Gasoline is

General "MOTO-CRAT" Gasoline

This name was chosen from more than a half million names submitted. The winner is Homer M. Parsons, 543 Highland Avenue, San Bernardino, California. Tell your customers that the whole story of the contest for a name for this greatest of gasolines has not yet been told. Watch for details regarding additional awards soon to be published.

---Judges of Contest

The above Telegram was received today by

Central Point Service Station

as the new name for the General ? Gasoline