

Oilmen Using Lawyers - - Not Derricks - - On Offshore Oil

WASHINGTON (AP)—Oil men, traditionally fearless plungers, are not diving over their heads as yet in the controversial coastal waters known as "tidelands."

Instead of setting up their derricks, they're calling up their lawyers.

They're watching the U. S. district court in Washington. There last week the State of Arkansas filed legal action to avoid the congressional act which gives the coastal states title to submerged offshore lands and their rich oil resources.

That measure, which President Eisenhower signed into law May 22, declared that 20 coastal states—rather than the nation as a whole—own submerged land along the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts.

What's happened—and what is going to happen—since enactment of the law which opponents brand a "big steal," and which supporters claimed was ending them to what they rightfully owned?

A check by Associated Press bureaus in key areas gives this picture:

1. Oil companies and prospectors have not rushed for new leases or

speeded up field research, but some increase of wildcatting is expected in some places. Florida hopes that title clarification will speed up exploration of its offshore gulf lands.

2. Louisiana and Texas are especially concerned about title to lands further out to sea than those covered by the law.

3. Development commissions expect that in addition to boundary discussions and state-vs.-federal ownership, there will be further court tests over the royalties, from state leases, which have been impounded since the tidelands issue first got hot in 1945.

Right now the three offshore oil producing states (Florida has leased eight million acres but has yet to hit a gusher) have about 1,400 wells tapping undersea petroleum pools at the rate of 107,000 barrels a day. Until the fiscal freeze came along, they (plus Florida) had collected 127 million dollars in rents and royalties. Another 200 million is being held until all the legal snarls have been straightened out.

Offshore oil work is a rough, tough combination of ultra-fancy scientific gear and a primitive battle of man against tidal wave, hurricane and fire. But its complexities have nothing on the forensic battle which bewildered the ordinary citizen after tidelands hit the headlines.

The controversy began quietly building in the mid-1930s when a man named Dr. F. W. Lee started bawling Interior Department secretaries for interviews with their bosses.

Dr. Lee was in charge of an instrument project for the Geological Survey. But what was on his mind had nothing to do with the project. Wherever he appeared he had bundles of maps and drawings under his arm.

He always said that his appointment "will take quite some time." Finally Oscar Chapman, then Secretary of the Interior, and later Interior secretary himself, sat down with the persistent visitor. What he had to say and show startled Chapman.

"As far as I know this was the first time this situation had been called to the attention of responsible government officials," Chapman says.

Lee's thesis, in brief, was that the American continent doesn't end at the shoreline, but extends seaward—in some places a hundred miles—until the Continental Shelf drops away into really deep water.

Lee suggested the shelf around the United States, and all its island possessions, should be claimed as part of the nation's territory so that all mineral riches—including oil—would become national treasure.

Washington officials worked on the ideas for years, and on Sept. 28, 1945, President Truman proclaimed a policy that the Continental Shelf was subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.

Over many years, various states had asserted they had jurisdiction—at least police power—three miles or more to sea. In 1947 the presidential proclamation and historic policy collided in the U. S. Supreme Court.

The court upheld the nation's title to lands off California and the mineral resources. Later court decisions in 1950 applied similarly to Louisiana and Texas.

By coincidence, both California and Texas had begun development of offshore oil riches in 1922, and Louisiana got going on sizable scale in 1947.

The cry of state's rights went up and it wasn't long until tideland oil was the burning—and continuing—issue in petroleum-rich states.

This was the problem that finally ended up on the desk of President Eisenhower.

It's a problem, though, still far from the dead-issue title.

(Tomorrow: Gulfers Island rigs and who said three-mile limit?)

Lakeview Area Has Two Fires

LAKEVIEW—Fires at two widely separated points in the Lakeview district Monday burned over more than 2,500 acres of grass, brush and old logging slash.

The larger blaze on the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge burned across 2,500 acres, starting at the North end of the valley near the old CCC camp now occupied by State Game Commission personnel who were apparently burning a fire break.

Flames burned up the mountain to the rim and was finally controlled by men of the Hart Mountain Refuge, the US Fish and Wildlife, members of the State Game Commission and nearby ranchers. Thirty men were sent by the Fremont forest service but the blaze was out by the time they arrived.

The second fire in the Silver Lake Ranger District, first of the year on the Fremont Forest, burned over 10 acres on the West side of Sugar Pine Mountain. Cause of this blaze was undetermined.

Wheat (bid to arrive market, basis No. 1 bulk, delivered coast: Soft White 2.23; Soft White (excluding Rex) 2.23; White Club 2.23.

Hard Red Winter: Ordinary 2.23; 10 per cent 2.23; 11 per cent 2.23; 12 per cent 2.23.

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Today's car receipts: wheat 60; flour 2; corn 1; mill feed 2.

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Aphis Control Time Is Here

Western Oregon — Mostly sunny through Thursday except for some night and morning cloudiness along the coast. Highs from 74 to 84 Wednesday. Warmer Thursday with highs from 78 to 90. Not so warm on the coast, though, with highs near 65. Lows Wednesday night 60 to 65. Winds off coast westerly 8 to 15 miles an hour, becoming northwesterly Thursday.

Eastern Oregon — Mostly clear Wednesday night and Thursday. Highs from 75 to 85 Wednesday. Warmer Thursday with highs from 80 to 90. Lows Wednesday night 45 to 55.

Northern California — Fair through Thursday, but local fog on the coast night and morning hours. Little change in temperature. Winds off coast northwesterly 10 to 20 miles an hour.

Grants Pass and Vicinity — Fair through Thursday. High of 85 Wednesday and 90 Thursday. Low Wednesday night 52.

Coe Bay Area — Patches of night and morning fog, but fair Thursday. Bar winds northwesterly 12 to 22 miles an hour, becoming northerly 20 to 30 miles an hour during afternoons. High of 68 Wednesday and 70 Thursday. Low Wednesday night 45.

Baker and Vicinity — Fair Wednesday night and Thursday. High of 78 Wednesday and 82 Thursday. Low Wednesday night 48.

By The Associated Press

24 hours to 4:30 a. m. Wednesday	Max.	Min.	Prev.
Baker	84	47	—
Boise	78	36	—
Eugene	77	52	—
Klamath Falls	79	46	—
La Grande	80	—	—
Lakeview	82	47	—
Medford	84	54	—
Newport	68	55	19
North Bend	68	56	—
Ontario	69	60	—
Pendleton	63	57	—
Portland Airport	75	59	—
Roseburg	78	56	—
Salem	75	52	—
Boise	99	37	—
Chicago	91	67	—
Denver	93	62	—
Eureka	64	56	—
Los Angeles	92	69	—
New York	81	64	—
Red Bluff	72	54	—
San Francisco	71	50	—
Seattle	71	50	—
Spokane	80	50	—

'Catfish' 17, Obeyed Summons And That's All

A 17-year-old Indian, who tips the scales at 210 pounds, and is known as Catfish, "cleaned up" Tuesday when he appeared as the star witness at an Oregon Liquor Control Commission hearing.

The youth was supposed to have purchased beer at the M&M Grocery. He refused to testify against the defendant.

When called to testify, Catfish staggered to the witness chair. Asked why he showed up at the hearing drunk, Catfish replied:

"I accepted a subpoena to appear as a witness. But I didn't guarantee what shape I would be in when I got here. I've been drunk since I was 13 years old."

Examiner Sam Mothershead of Portland, adjourned the hearing in the Court House, after Catfish denied he signed a statement admitting purchase of beer from Mrs. Felicia Marshall, operator of the grocery store.

Catfish was then taken into custody by Juvenile Officer Francis Mathews. Circuit Judge David R. Vandenberg signed an order for the youth's incarceration in the County Jail.

Officials estimated that at least 850,000 farms would be subject to quotas.

The 62-million figure was set by Congress in an amendment to crop control legislation which would otherwise have permitted Benson to cut down the national total to 55 million acres.

CHICAGO POTATOES — Potatoes: Arrivals 174, on track 361; total U. S. shipments 665; white: barely steady; reds firm; California long whites \$3.10-3.20, Potatoes \$3.10; Idaho-Oregon triumphs \$5.00; Washington triumphs \$4.75.

STOCKS

NEW YORK (AP)—A moderate advance in the stock market Wednesday capped off a four-day decline.

Gains generally were small with advances of between 1 and 2 points appearing infrequently in the list. Enthusiasm for the advance was limited. Trading came to an estimated 900,000 shares. That compares with 1,030,000 shares traded Tuesday.

Happy Is The Day When Backache Goes Away . . .

Nagging backache, loss of pep and energy, headaches and dizziness may be due to poor kidney function. Doctors say good kidney function is very important to good health. When some everyday condition, such as stress and strain, causes this important function to slow down, many folks suffer nagging backache—feel miserable. Minor bladder irritations due to cold or wrong diet may cause getting up often or frequent passages. Don't neglect your kidneys if these conditions bother you. Try Doan's Pills—a mild diuretic. It's amazing how many times Doan's give happy relief from these discomforts—help the 15 miles of kidney tubes and filters flush out waste. Ask for new, large, color-coded Doan's and save money. Get Doan's Pills today!

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NOT LOST, JUST FORGOTTEN—If young Billy White, of Meriden, Conn., grows up to have eight children, like his Dad has, maybe he'll understand how one of them can get lost in the shuffle. Right now, Billy thinks it's a rough deal. En route home from a New Hampshire vacation, Billy's dad stopped at a Topfield, Mass., gas station. In his car were Billy's mother, three of his brothers, an uncle, an aunt and a cousin. Billy went inside to get a candy bar. When he came out the family car was gone. Hours later and 100 miles away, police managed to flag down the car at Berlin, Conn., to inform Pop of his forgotten son. In the meantime, an uncle from Cambridge, Mass., had picked Billy up and took him home.

Wheat Quota 62 Million

WASHINGTON (AP)—Secretary of Agriculture Benson Wednesday formally set a planting allotment of 62 million acres for next year's wheat crop.

He also set Aug. 14 as the date for a national referendum of growers on the question of whether they approved the rigid marketing quotas on the wheat crop. Approval by at least two thirds of those voting would be required.

The wheat supply is at a record level and Wednesday's action was designed to keep the wheat surplus from getting larger.

The planting allotment would serve as a basis for the quota. The 62 million acres compares with 77 1/2 million planted for this year's crop.

The new figure will be apportioned among the states, and the state allotments among the counties, on the basis of the acreage seeded for the production of wheat during the preceding 10 years, with adjustments for abnormal weather and for trends in acreage.

County allotments will be apportioned among individual farms on the basis of past acreage of wheat. Eligible acres for crop rotation practices, type of soil, and the slope and lay of the land.

Each farm's marketing quota would be the amount of wheat grown on its allotted acres.

Any person having an interest in a wheat crop in 1954 on a farm with an acreage in excess of 15 acres, and with a normal production of 200 bushels or more, would be subject to a marketing quota and would be eligible to vote in the referendum.

Officials estimated that at least 850,000 farms would be subject to quotas.

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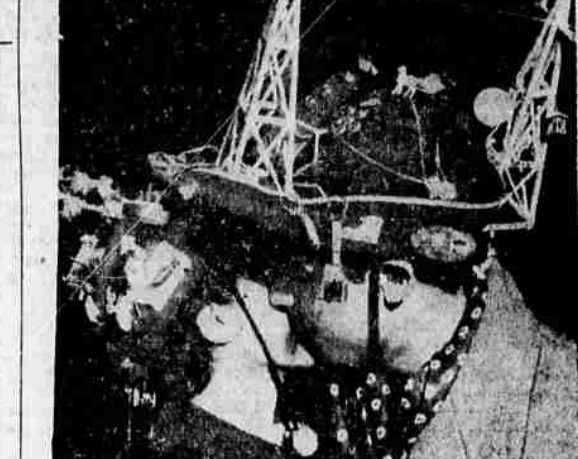
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MISS HAWAII OF 1953—Mighty proud are these Hawaiian girls who walked off with the blue ribbons to become Miss Baby Hawaii of 1953 and Miss Hawaii of 1953. Colleen Kelly, the junior title, won a trip to Washington, D. C. Miss Hawaii is 17-year-old Dorothy Lelani Ellis, who will represent the islands in the Miss America pageant at Atlantic City, N. J.

Italian 'BEANIE' PREVIEW

aren't the only ones who go in for fads—a hat craze is sweeping the Italian universities. These two students in Rome model the superstructure erected between the ears and atop the head. Any entanglement might result not only in the loss of the superstructure, but also part of the skull.



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