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5

"About 200 yards from where we drilled, was an old Salt well (35) drilled several years before we went there and had to be abandoned on account of what the natives then called "the Devil Soap," but from all descriptions it was heavy oil, what we were drilling for. They found the oil or whatever it was at 340 or 350 feet. This information I got of good reliable people who boarded the men that drilled the old well, a family by the name of Metheny."

This boring starts near the same horizon as the one last described; hence, the oil show was apparently in the Second Cow Run sand.

Prospective Oil and Gas Areas, Pleasant District.—As mentioned above, the structural conditions are practically the same in this district as in Grant, and the presence of oil or gas in paying quantities just as doubtful. The structure is favorable for gas in that region along the crest of the Preston anticline northeastward from Cheat river for 4 miles, and likewise northeastward from Valleypoint to the region immediately northwest of Kelley Knob. As in Grant the failure to get gas in paying quantity in these localities would render it futile to search for oil in the district. Gas might be encountered in a test along the crest of the Briery Mountain anticline in Pleasant, but it would be very problematical, especially so as the Pleasant-Portland, district line is approached, owing to the intense folding in the region around the nose of this great arch.

## Valley District.

Valley district lies immediately southwest of Grant and Pleasant and adjoins Monongalia county, so that its area is traversed in a northeast-southwest direction by three structural folds; viz, the Chestnut Ridge and Preston anticlines and the Ligonier syncline. Practically the same conditions prevail in this district as outlined above for the last two mentioned; hence, the prospects of finding oil or gas in paying quantities are doubtful.

The Isaac Welton No. 1 well (46), located in the Ligonier Basin, 0.4 mile southward from Bretz, and drilled 10 to 12 years ago, is the only test ever sunk within the boundaries of Valley district. No log of this boring could be obtained, but it was a dry hole and is reported to have reached a depth of 3200 feet. As it starts about 25 feet below the Upper Freeport

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coal, it penetrated below the Elizabeth or Seventh sand. The well flows a strong stream of fresh water.

Prospective Oil and Gas Areas, Valley District.—The structure is very favorable for a pool of gas in the eastern portion of this district in that territory lying along the crest of the Preston anticline, but for reasons given on preceding pages of this chapter, the financial risk in sinking a boring in this highly folded, mountain region would be great. The failure to get gas in paying quantity in a test well located anywhere along or near the axis of this fold southward from coal prospect No. 60 (See Map II) to the Valley-Kingwood district line, would render the chances of getting oil in paying quantity anywhere in the district extremely doubtful.

## Lyon District.

Lyon district lies immediately south of Valley district and adjoins Monongalia and Taylor counties. A glance at Map II shows that the major portion of its area lies in the Ligonier and Evansville synclinal basins, a small part along the southwest border being affected by the Hiram anticline. Only three test wells have been drilled in the district, all of which were non-productive. These will now be discussed from north to south across the area.

The following is the record of a boring located in the western edge of Lyon district along the steep eastern slope of the Chestnut Ridge anticline. The well mouth is about 140 feet below the horizon of the Upper Freeport coal; hence, the correlations in parentheses:

## Idell Debilher No. 1 Well Record (62).

Lyon district, ½ mile S. E. of Irondale; by the Great Elk Oil & Gas Co.; authority, J. P. Deem, Parkersburg W. Va. Commenced October 24, 1910, and completed December 14, 1910. Elevation 1190' B-A. T.

Th	ickness	Total
	Feet.	Feet.
Quick sand	. 32	32
Sandstone, hard and white (Clarion, Home	-	
wood and Upper Connoquenessing)		300
Unrecorded		350
Sandstone	. 25	375