



A shot taken from the West side of the new gas well that was drilled in Monday night showing the drilling rig in the background and the three storage tanks on the right that were to be used to mix the strong salt solution in, prior to flooding the well and putting the fire out.

News Photo

## Natural Gas "Blowtorch" Lights Area Sky

A brilliant flickering red glow in the area sky Monday night attracted spectators of all ages to the Greenwood-Jasper area as a result of a natural gas well being drilled "in" and then being lighted to burn off the huge volume of escaping gas prior to the flooding of the well.

The red glow was first seen by this reporter from a hill just outside of Rathbone, a small hamlet just a short distance from Addison, as we were traveling West towards Jasper.

Since a thunderstorm could be observed in the same general area, it seemed logical to assume that a big house or barn had been set on fire by lightning. But, as we neared the area of the blaze, it kept blazing up higher in the sky — instead of diminishing — the way a flash fire will do, so we figured it had to be the well that we knew was being drilled in that general area.

On arriving at the area scene, which could be plainly seen from Route 17, we observed several cars heading up a narrow dirt road towards the fire, and followed the "parade" until reaching the "dug-road" that led up to the drilling rig — and spectacle. This area was already cluttered with cars that were either stuck in the wet clay or parked there with the occupants watching for further developments.

On further investigation, we found that people were present from the Canisteo-Hornell area as well as the immediate surrounding area — with all of them being attracted by the "will-of-the-wisp" in the sky. We then introduced ourselves to Pete Flanigan from Bradford, Pa., who proved to be owner and operator of the drilling rig and had drilled in the well and followed him up the steep and slippery "dug-road" to the fire.

In an interview under extremely difficult circumstances — due to the terrific roar caused by the escaping gas burning like a huge "blowtorch" — Mr. Flanigan, a partner of the "Flanigan Brothers Drilling Co.", who has been engaged in this type of operation for over 35 years, patiently explained the whole process to us and gave us the information that we asked for.

This was the third gas well being drilled in this area and is located on the Homer Banks farm just off Route 17. Drilling operations had begun just a week ago Monday and the huge rotary drill had sunk a casing 4,700 feet deep into the "Oriskany" sand in just

## H. L. Shirey

Services for H. L. Shirey of Acampo, Calif., former resident of Alhambra and Wellsville, were held at 2 p. m. today (Thursday) in the Mulholland-Crowell Funeral Home in Wellsville.

Mr. Shirey died Saturday, July 22, 1967 in Fairmount Rehabilitation Hospital at Lodi, Calif., after an illness of approximately eight weeks.

A native of Johnstown, Pa., he was born Feb. 21, 1889, son of Edwin and Nellie Bidwell Shirey. He had resided in Allegany County prior to moving to California in 1947.

Surviving are his widow, the former Anna Bern Moore, a daughter, Mrs. C. M. (Elsie) Leary of Lodi; two sons, Russell Shirey of Vero Beach, Fla.; 11 grandchildren and four great grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Interment will be in Woodlawn Cemetery, Wellsville.

## Scout News

Fourteen Boy Scouts of America are spending this week, July 23 - 29 at the Wolf Creek Council Camp under the leadership of Scoutmaster, John C. Murray.

7 days when the gas well was drilled in" earlier that evening.

Since there was such a terrific flow of gas from the new well, it was necessary to run a large pipe some distance from the drilling rig and then ignite it in order to burn off the escaping gas to prevent a serious explosion prior to sealing off the well and completing the operation.

Plans at that time called for mixing 600 barrels of heavy salt brine in three large storage tanks located at the scene and then pumping this solution down the casing to "flood out" the gas well and put the fire out. The casing would then be cemented in and a perforated casing then sunk down inside the present casing below the brine solution, and the well would then be developed by the "fracking process".

Estimates at the scene as to the size of the new well ranged anywhere from a capacity of 20 million to 30 million cubic feet production but until operations are concluded this is all a matter of conjecture.

The development company that is running this operation has already come up with a successful well estimated at 8,000,000 cubic feet on the former Bert Healey farm nearer Jasper; and have a second well on the former Hardy farm, but its capacity has not been announced at the present time.

## News That's Print To Fit

Well neighbors, summer days are upon us — and according to the latest bulletin from the Better Business Bureau of Western New York — Gypsy Driveway Sealer Crews are swarming into our local area to "put the bite" on unwary home owners.

Local State Police officials added a warning to all householders to investigate offers thoroughly before signing any contracts. A group that hit the Wellsville area a few days ago was reported to have charged a resident of that area more than \$800 for a sealer job that was completed in less than two hours.

The Better Business Bureau Bulletin reports that numerous complaints have been received from residents of our own local area about the work and prices of the traveling crews. "They go from door-to-door soliciting business and falsely state that they have done work for neighbors or friends" it explains.

"These men stay in an area only as long as home owners patronize them. The publicity given their methods by Western New York Newspapers has crimped their style, but they will not leave until the home owners refuse to allow them to work.

Do business with a well-established driveway sealer whose reputation can be verified through the Better Business Bureau", the bulletin concludes.

And to this we add, check with your local Banker as to the reputation of a firm if you like, and also check with a local contractor as to what his price is for the same job. And, don't forget, if you do deal with a Gypsy Crew — don't be surprised if that nice black sealer that they spray on — turns out to be nothing more than used motor oil.

LATE FLASH — it has been just reported to us that around 55 newcomers with something like 9 leaders have moved into the area. SO O O we add our warning to all local residents — investigate — before — you invest! The money you save — will more than likely be your own!

We had a pleasant surprise Tuesday morning when a former resident of Andover stopped off at the News Office and introduced himself. In fact — it was just that much sweeter — when he turned out to be a successful reporter for a down-State Daily Newspaper.

David Eno, who left Andover several years ago with his family while he was still a child, tells us that he reads our paper every week — and gets a "big charge" out of it. He is currently employed by the Utica Observer-Dispatch as Court Reporter for that area, and judging from some of his news stories and exposures that we had the pleasure to read — he has the "courage of his convictions" to report Public Spending and Waste that affect the local Taxpayers — right in their pocket-books.

Yes, a couple of his stories sounded a lot like a few of ours — when we really get irked — and have "our dander up".

In our brief discussion, we both agreed that "time wounds all things" — and that some or later the "crooked politico" would meet his "come-uppance"! And do you know who will be right there at the end — to write his "obit"? Yep, you guessed it! It will be the Newspaper. Maybe not the same reporter — but it will still be the "Newspaper"!

## Andover Firemen To Hold Street Dance Saturday Night

The Andover Fire Department will sponsor a Street Dance, Saturday night, July 29th in the Market Basket Parking Lot.

There will be Round and Square Dancing with music furnished by Herb Leonard's Orchestra and "The Doubtlers".

Refreshments will be available.



Left to Right: Francis O. Reesher, Sales Mgr., of Midland Charge Plan of the Citizens National Bank; Larry Geary, Sales Officer of Midland Charge Plan, Midland Marine Trust Co., Buffalo; and James E. Searle, Sr., Vice-President, Citizens National Bank of Wellsville; host of the Business Luncheon held at Long-Vue.

News Photo

## Annul Old-Timers vs. Little Leaguers Game August 13th

Plans are progressing nicely for the Old Timers vs Little Leaguers annual baseball game played for the benefit of the entire local Youth Baseball Program.

According to Leo Horan, Chairman of the project, "Jim" Mulholland is going to take care of arrangements for the broadcasting of the game over Radio Station WLSV, Wellsville, and a Hornell Radio Station.

Old Timers that have been invited to participate on the "BIG TEAM" include: Claire Backus, Gary Backus, Ed Kent, Clarence Halsey, Don Smith, Pete DeRemer, Ralph Burgess, Hugh Barlow, Richard Harder, Charley Joyce, Harold Sisson, Pete Howland, Howard McAndrew, Walter Harris, Pete Rifenburg, Avery Mead, Flanny Horan, Zel Sheilman, Jim Smith, Jim Burgett, Carl Atwell, Jim Mulholland, Don Mulconery, Bill Ford, Kent Harder, Clarence Davis, Everett Davis, Eddy Harkenrider, Elmo Barden, Neil Hazzard, Eddy Smith, Marty Smith, Phil Mac Michael, Herald Ford Jack Ros in toski, Slim Lehman, Sonny Lehman, Miles Gorsuch, Bill Lehman, Myrlan Phillipson, Dodd Lehman, Don Baker, Swig Lehman and Dick Rosintowski.

Undoubtedly, other members haven't been able to be contacted at press time and their names will be added to swell the Roster by game time.

With this big depth of players to draw from it would certainly indicate that the Old-Timers should be able to make a clear sweep of the game. However due to the cob-webs on the bats and gloves of the "Old-Timers" — as well as to their stance and swing at the plate (could be like a rusty gate) — the odds are in favor of the youngsters.

Don't forget — the rain date for the ball game are scheduled for August 20th; or even August 27th if necessary. So don't miss this exciting event!

## Local Man's Aunt Killed In Ulysses Explosion

According to word received at the News Office at press time, Ralph Empson's Aunt, Mrs. Ada B. Empson was instantly killed and her husband, Gerald Empson was severely burned, in an explosion at their home in Ulysses, Pa., yesterday afternoon.

The couple had been using cleaning fluid to clean a living room rug according to a report, and when Mrs. Empson went out to the kitchen to prepare a meal the explosion occurred which blew out windows, followed by a devastating fire.

Funeral services will be held at

## News Editor Attends Business Luncheon

"Red" Allen, Editor of the Andover News, attended a business luncheon at Long-Vue a guest of the Citizens National Bank of Wellsville where the Midland Charge Plan was explained and discussed.

Larry Geary, Sales Officer for the Midland Charge Plan from the Midland Marine Trust Co. of Buffalo, presented a film on salesmanship at the Citizens Bank after which James E. Searle, Jr., Vice President, acted as host at Long-Vue Restaurant for the business luncheon. About 50 invited guests and bank officials

It was announced at the luncheon that over 10,000 area residents have received their Midland Charge Plan Credit Cards and that over 50 business establishments have already signed affiliation agreements to participate in the plan, with many more firms indicating their desire to enroll within the next few weeks.

Francis Reesher, Sales Manager of the plan for the local branches of the Citizens Bank, explained that the card holder will receive only one bill a month for their accumulated purchases and will have a 30 to 60 day period of free credit to pay the amounts charged. The card holder will also have extended credit terms available.

Under terms of a reciprocal agreement between the Midland Charge Plan and C.I. Inc., of Canada, the card holders of each plan will allow their services in both countries.

The Midland Charge Plan has over 5,300 affiliated merchants throughout New York State at present and the credit cards issued here will be honored where ever the Marine Midland sign is displayed.

It was also announced that Marine Midland Corporation has plans of an interchange of bank cards between areas among the large banks which already have their own credit cards. In other words, your Midland Charge Card will be honored throughout the United States and Canada.

This plan will be known as the "Interbank Card System" and is designed to provide a nationwide network of around 2,000 offices of 175 banks.

The Citizens National Banks will participate in this service.

L. Reid Mattison, Vice-President of the Andover Office of the Citizens National Bank is presently making the Midland Charge Plan available to the local area merchants and dealers.

2 p. m., Saturday in the Ulysses Baptist Church.