

# A Newspaper Man Asks Infor- mation About Gasoline Prices

"WHAT are the reasons for the advance in gasoline prices?" was asked by the President of a large daily newspaper.

Continuing, the gentleman said: "I can conceive how the cost of a manufactured article might increase as much as 50 to 100 percent because of the increased cost of raw materials, labor, etc.; but it has always seemed to me that the price of a product taken from the ground at a comparatively low cost should not be affected to any marked degree."

This constitutes a fair question, and we are glad of an opportunity to answer it frankly.

Gasoline is refined from crude petroleum by a lengthy and expensive process, and is, in the true sense, a manufactured article. Time, labor, and heavy investments enter into the manufacture of gasoline from the crude, and each of these necessarily affect the price.

The cost of crude is a dominant factor in fixing the price of gasoline.

The extraordinary demand for petroleum products, plus the abnormal increases in the cost of labor, machinery, and money necessary for drilling and equipping oil wells, have combined to force upwards the price of crude oil f. o. b. Whiting from \$1.54 to \$4.30 per barrel in four years, nearly 180 percent.

For the same period the selling price of gasoline has increased but 44 percent.

Since the Armistice was signed, the production of automobiles, tractors, trucks, and other power using machinery, has created a demand for gasoline far in excess of normal. Gasoline reserves have been reduced to an alarming extent, and the bidding for crude oil on the part of refiners generally, has forced prices upward.

The Standard Oil Company (Indiana) having practically no wells of its own is obliged to go into the open market and compete with other refiners for the crude oil it requires.

Because of its acknowledged superior efficiency in manufacturing, the Standard Oil Company (Indiana) despite these conditions has been able to exert a marked deterrent pressure upon the upward sweep of the gasoline market.

**Standard Oil Company**  
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## HELP

The Dewey Biggs Post of the American Legion  
by  
Doing Your Trading On  
**WEDNESDAY, JULY 14**

The merchants of Rensselaer have agreed to donate 5 per cent of their gross sales on that day to the Legion to be applied toward securing headquarters for the Legion.

## LAWN FETE

A lawn fete, given under the auspices of the Women's Auxiliary to the Legion, will be held on the court house lawn in the evening. There will be dancing and other forms of entertainment at the court house and all are urged to help the Legion to make the drive a success.

## COMMITTEE

### ABE MARTIN.

(Indianapolis News.)

"What gets me is how a clerk that don't know you an' has never seen you kin allus manage to sell your wife a night shirt exactly four sizes too big for you," said Lufe Bud, today. It's jest about got so it's a natural death 't git killed on Sunday.

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### COUNTY EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

State Supt. L. N. Hines has requested success grades from the following applicants who wrote on the June teachers' examination: Mae Clarke, Rensselaer; George Hammetton, DeMotte; Martha Faris, Modestville; Jane Parkison, Pleasant Ridge; Florence Brady, Thayer; Florence McKay, Fair Oaks; Lucy W. Harris, Mt. Ayr. There were no failures from Jasper county on the June examination but two of the applicants were conditioned.

The records show that the following teachers received state licenses since the January examination: William May, Millie Hoover, Robert Rayle, Gertrude Kanzleiter, Freda Ferguson, Day Jordan, Mildred Rush, Mabel Worland, Hazel Miller, Lewis Hurley, Jessie White, Daisy Knauer, A. C. Campbell, Margaret Marshall, H. F. Case, George Hammetton, Elsie Benson, Gladys Ogle, Helen Kessinger, Gertrude Besse, Edna Reed, Alice Myers, Elsie Zellers, Mammie Reed, Alta Lucas, Grace Norris, Frank Woerner, Helen Lamson, Beatrice Tilton, Agnes Kahler, Ruth Murphy, Frances Folger, Amanda Steinke, Nellie Johnston, Kathryn Chamberlain, Cecile Culp, Bertha Hershman, Margaret Delahanty, Grace Knapp, Chas. M. Blue, Gay Makeever, Florence Frame Story, Jesse Rardin, Cecile Jordan, Vera M. Woods, Mary Miles, Martha Parker, Lottie Porter, Lucy Harris, Florence McKay, Jessie Zellers, Gladys McGlynn, Mae Clarke, Martha Faris, Jane Parkison, Florence Brady. There are possibly a few others who removed conditions in other counties and received their licenses through other counties. However, the long list from the state department gives the successful applicant an opportunity to teach outside of Jasper county and in most of the western states of the union. Most of this teaching body will reappear in the school rooms of Jasper county again the coming year. In the former issue of educational notes appears the names of the teachers who are in colleges and universities at the present time. It might be worth while to note that every student from Jasper county in these higher institutions of learning are also holders of state licenses. A comparison of the two lists will endorse this. These are two distinct earmarks of conscientious teachers.

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## Good Bread

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A Good Bakery

Ralph O'Riley

## DESERT IN BLOOM

Irrigation Makes Garden Spot of Death Valley.

Furnace Creek Ranch, in Eastern California, Probably the Most Isolated Farm in the World—Many Feet Below Sea Level.

Probably the most isolated farm in the world is situated in a certain spot in eastern California, near the bottom of the United States, where some mining men have fitted out a ranch of some 65 acres. The place is known as Furnace Creek ranch, and it has been made possible by irrigation, the water being piped from springs in the Funeral mountains.

Edward Hogg, in describing the ranch, says that it "is situated 178 feet below sea level on the floor of the greatest depression on the face of the western hemisphere, within pistol shot of and only about 100 feet higher than the greatest depth of Death valley. Yet, in spite of its peculiar location, the ranch is within the shadow of Mount Whitney, whose eternal snows tower into the heavens to a height of nearly three miles, the highest point of land in the continental limits of the nation."

Furthermore, Furnace Creek ranch is probably the only farm in the world where weeds are unknown. As it is entirely artificial and surrounded by a desert barrier, the seeds of noxious weeds have had no way of getting there, and unless they be imported by man, the ranch will undoubtedly always remain free from them.

Obviously the introduction of an abundant water supply was the prime requisite to make the ranch possible. This is obtained from two large springs far back in the Funeral mountains, which pour their streams upon the burned-out Death valley soil through two great aqueducts, one of steel and one of masonry. Part of the water is diverted along the route to freshen a heavy growth of willows planted to give shade to the watercourse. But in spite of this, the loss of water from evaporation is very great, and in summer the water emerges from the aqueduct at temperatures up to 110 degrees. Men and live stock, of course, cannot drink it so hot. Cooling is therefore effected by means of large evaporation 'ollas,' and the drinking water is quickly reduced to 70 degrees in the hottest weather.

The humidity of Death valley's atmosphere varies like that of other places, but according to analyses made by the United States weather bureau, its air is the driest known. Its average moisture content is less than .01 per cent. Water thus becomes as volatile as gasoline and evaporating cooling is accomplished with great rapidity. It is this speedy evaporation that has largely made Furnace Creek ranch possible. The ranch is primarily a hay farm, the principal crop being alfalfa, which is fed to cattle and hogs. After being dressed, the meat is sent to mining camps. The live stock could not live through the scorching summer if it were not for the cooling influence of shower baths with which their corrals are equipped. The cattle, horses and mules are further protected from the blistering winds by having the sides of their pens covered with sheet metal.

"White men cannot live long in the withering heat. Consequently all the work about the ranch is done by Indians of the Piute and Shoshone tribes, under the direction of an educated foreman. The average life of a white man in Death valley is very short. Three white foremen employed on the ranch lasted two summers each and perished during the third. Two others went insane and attempted to flee out of the valley on foot. Neither of them lived to get out of the maze of Funeral mountain canyons."

The Stygian temperature of Death valley lasts for about five months of the year, usually from May 1 until October; the other months are cool and pleasant. Rain is virtually unknown. Consequently the irrigation of Funeral creek ranch is continuous."

### Thrifty? Yes.

The other day an Indianapolis lawyer took one of his women clients out to lunch. He, being discreet, decided to say nothing about the event to his wife. But the tattling friend who always learns of such affairs told wifey instead, and that evening he was duly scolded for this misdemeanor.

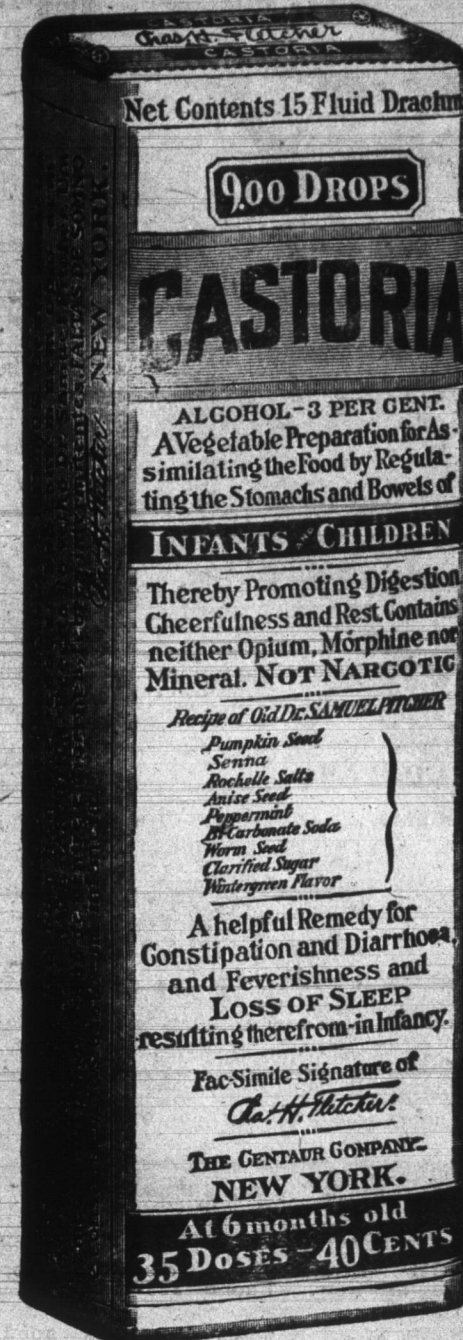
"But you sometimes go out to lunch with men who are our friends," protested her husband, "and I don't object. Now, what is the difference between your coming and my going in this way?"

"Why, the difference is in the bill," smiled the wife. "One way you save it and the other you pay it."

### Needed Her Help.

Will R— is a high school pupil who knew very little of children until his married sister and her three-year-old son came home to visit the other day. Now the variety of the three-year-old's language amazed his uncle. He said, "Bow-wow" for dog, "bye-bye" for automobile, "mew-mew" for cat, and even "la-la" for the victrola.

The other evening Will came into the house. "Say, sis," he called upstairs to his sister, "you'll have to give me some help. I want to ask this youngster to go with me to a show and I don't know what kind of a noise to make for moving pictures."



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### GOLF AN ELIXIR OF YOUTH

George Ade, who a few years hence acquired renown as a prophet when he predicted that the country would soon go dry, has offered another prediction that the time is fast approaching when golf will be the ruling passion among country folk as well as among the more elite of their country cousins. His prediction is contained in an article in the current American Magazine entitled, "Look Out for Your Husbands! Golf Is Coming!" According to Mr. Ade, golf is "the golden panacea that will bring back a has-been." "Myraids of business and professional men residing in country towns," says Mr. Ade, "are going to attire themselves in shapely knickerbockers and short-sleeved shirts and renew their youth in the green fields and beside the still waters. Men are too old for tennis and baseball, and too masculine for croquet, and too negligent to hold themselves to any drudging routine of exercises, are going to find in golf a real elixir of youth—the only golden panacea that will bring back a has-been."

The officers and teachers of the First Christian Bible School held a picnic supper at the Frank Schroer home this Monday evening.

"Babe" Ruth registered homer number twenty-seven Sunday, his third in three games.

Large clean rags wanted at the Republican office.

Job printing at the Republican office.

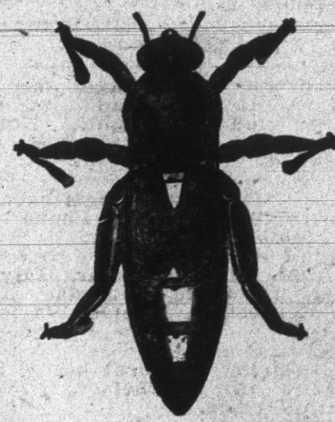
### POTASH INDUSTRY IN FLOURISHING SHAPE

One of the very few German industries that may be said to be flourishing is the potash industry. The production of this raw material and its derivatives is entirely in German hands and the demand for it both at home and abroad is constant and eager. One company has made during the last fiscal year a record net profit of 43,000,000 marks, while another has made nearly 18,000,000 marks.

The ball game at Goodland Sunday between Kokomo and Goodland was a romp for the former, Goodland at no time having a chance with the visitors. The final score was 10 to 3 and would have been 20 to 3 had the visitors desired to exercise. After the sixth inning Kokomo made no effort to get on base, hurrying the game that they might catch their train.

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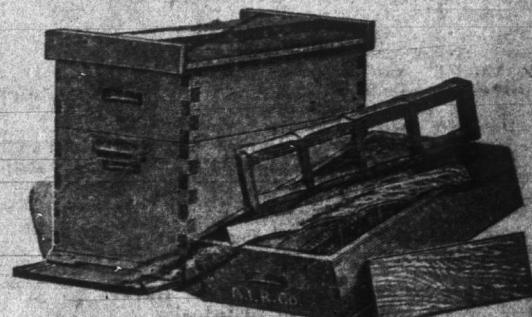


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