

ESTABLISH NEW HELIUM CENTER IN TEXAS CITY

Amarillo Takes Lead Over Ft. Worth With Award of New Contract.

By C. J. LILLEY

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—Amarillo, Texas, instead of Ft. Worth, is to become the helium center of the United States as result of a half-million-dollar contract just let by the Bureau of Mines.

This contract, awarded to James T. Taylor, Ft. Worth builder, provides for a new helium plant at Amarillo which will manufacture more helium than any other ever projected in this country.

The Amarillo plant will be much smaller than that which has been operating at Ft. Worth, but its output will be nearly double. Improved machinery and higher content of helium in the natural gas used are given as the reasons.

For years Ft. Worth has been the helium center. Practically all the helium used to operate the Los Angeles and other airships of this country has been extracted there.

Natural gas from which the helium has been extracted has come from the Petrolia field, some distance from Ft. Worth. The field is almost exhausted and the Government's gas contract expires Jan. 10, 1929. Whether it will be renewed or the helium plant be shut down has not been determined.

Natural gas in south Texas and in Oklahoma has been tested for helium, but has not been found to

Blind; Kills



W. C. Hill, 67-year-old farmer of near Poplar Bluff, Mo., is blind, but is held for shooting to death Clyde Wilson, his son-in-law. He told police Wilson came home intoxicated and threatened to kill him and that he fired in the direction of Wilson's voice.

contain sufficient amounts to make its extraction feasible, bureau officials said.

Helium is extracted by cooling natural gas to 300 degrees below zero. At this temperature all constituents of gas, except helium, are reduced to liquid state. Helium is then drawn off and compressed into tank cars or steel cylinders for shipment to points where lighter-than-air craft are operated.

After helium is extracted, gas can be returned to its natural state and is still usable.

APARTMENTS TO COST MILLION

Gigantic Project Proposed on North Side.

Permission of the city plan commission to erect a \$1,000,000 apartment between Washington Blvd. and Central Ave., south of Forty-Sixth St., will be asked by the Capitol Construction Company, Aug. 7.

The former request of the com-

pany was denied June 5. It is proposed to erect six units, each of a twenty-eight family capacity. Plans provide that the apartment will be modern and spacious.

James W. Selvaage is president of the company seeking to erect the structure.

The site is zoned for residential purposes at present, according to Henry Steeg, assistant plan engineer. The commission can issue a variance for the apartment.

Charles G. Fitch petitioned the board for permission to build a twenty-five family capacity apartment at 2317 N. Delaware St.

Earl Nelson asked permission to erect an eighteen family apartment on the northwest corner of Pennsylvania and Thirty-Second Sts.

DEVICES LIGHT SPEED TESTS

New Measurements Are Planned by Scientist.

By Science Service

PASADENA, Cal., Aug. 3.—Dr. A. A. Michelson, University of Chicago

physicist and Nobel prize winner, plans new experiments to measure more accurately than ever before the speed of light.

He proposes to reflect a beam of light back and forth half a dozen times through a mile of gas pipe from which all air has been exhausted.

Several years ago Dr. Michelson measured the velocity of light by sending a beam of light from Mt. Wilson to another peak twenty-two miles away, from which it was reflected back. Now another peak is to be used which will make the light

beam travel 100 miles. Haze makes the new experiment difficult.

The gas pipe experiment by air exhaustion would eliminate one source of error. It would cost about \$10,000 and Dr. Michelson thinks the funds would be forthcoming when needed.

Prof. Michelson, while at Mt. Wilson, will continue his repetition of the Michelson-Morley experiment. When he first performed this about forty years ago it failed to show an expected motion of the earth through the ether supposed to permeate all space. Out of efforts to explain it resulted the Einstein theory of relativity.

CLAIMS OCEAN RECORD

Freight Ship Hugs Up Speed Mark Across Atlantic.

By United Press

MONTREAL, Quebec, Aug. 3.—Carrying a full cargo of package freight and perishables, the Canadian Pacific refrigerator freighter Beaverburn, on its last eastbound trip, hung up a new record in rapid transit between Montreal and London, docking at Surrey Commercial docks eight days ten hours and fifty-four minutes after leaving Montreal.

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