

OIL PROPERTY IS WORTHLESS, CHARGE IN U.S. INDICTMENT

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, June 25.—A dozen or more of the 50 persons caught in a net spread by post office inspectors for operators suspected of using the mails to defraud through the sale of worthless oil stocks were expected to appear in federal court here today for arraignment on indictments returned yesterday.

The indictments, five in number, charge four oil companies, ten brokerage concerns and 50 individual defendants in various cities with having used the mails to circulate "literature" which resulted in the purchase of valuable stock by hundreds of customers. Federal authorities said the total of sales would run into the millions. Further indictments are promised.

Lewis C. Van Riper, formerly secretary to Thomas W. Lawson, was the only one of the indicted men who appeared in court yesterday. He appeared voluntarily and was held in \$20,000 bail.

The indictment against Van Riper names also the United Securities company of New York and Boston in which he is said to be heavily interested; the Ranger Oil company and Curtis Backer and company, New York brokers. All are charged with promoting the sale of Ranger company stock which, the indictment alleges, "represents no more in assets than one dry well".

In one case, the indictments charged, salesmen disposing of stock of the Crown Oil company falsely represented that a son of former President Roosevelt was an officer of the company, which, it was claimed, soon would rival the Standard Oil company in volume of business.

Shares of this company, according to one of the indictments, were sold to investors in Chicago at \$2.25 a share, and to "evade the western Blue sky law" later was disposed of here at \$3 after costing brokers only seven and a half cents a share.

Oil Companies Named

The companies involved are the Ranger Oil Companies, W. P. Williams Oil company, Great Western Petroleum corporation and Crown Oil company.

The indictment against the Ranger Oil company and others charges that Curtis, Packard & Co., by misrepresentation, sold to investors at more than \$1 a share, 1,000,000 shares, which they are said to have bought at 20 cents.

It also is charged that a brokerage firm, of which Ashley L. Hobbrook was said to be the president, and with which Louis C. Van Riper, Charles R. Morton and John L. McLean "were connected," represented that new wells were being drilled on the Ranger property when efforts to procure oil there had been abandoned.

The United Securities Company, of which Van Riper was said to be president, is charged with disposal of \$300,000 worth of Ranger stock.

According to the indictment George A. Lamb & Co. bought Great Western Petroleum stock for from \$1 to \$2 a share and then disposed of it to investors at \$5 on false representation that the oil company was paying dividends of 12 cent.

It was misrepresented, the indictment charges, that its wells at Erie, Kan., were the fourth largest owned by an independent corporation in the United States and that it had pipelines. The indictment says it further was misrepresented that at Burk-Burnett, Texas, a gusher had been developed yielding 1,000 barrels of oil a day, while the company was said to have had only a fractional interest in town lots on which were no oil wells.

The Forum

(All articles for this column must not exceed 300 words. Contributors must sign their names, although the name will be withheld by the management at the request of the writer. Articles having no name attached will be thrown into the waste basket.)

To the Editor:—

Few cities still permit the use of fireworks, especially the large cannon crackers, in celebration of the Fourth of July. Those that do, however, compel the persons celebrating to confine the discharge of fireworks to the Fourth. In Richmond, the bang of firecrackers has been heard daily for more than a week, much to the annoyance of men who work at night and must sleep during the day; to the irritation of old and sick persons and to the disturbance of babies. It should not be the work of the police to prevent the use of fireworks for two weeks before and for two weeks after the Fourth. The police have other and more important work. It is the duty of the parents. Parents should have enough respect for their neighbors and for the laws and peace of the community to see that their children confine the use of fireworks to the Fourth.

A VISITOR.

OBREGON LEAVES CAPITAL
(By Associated Press)
MEXICO CITY, June 25.—General Alvaro Obregon left the capital last evening for Sonora, intending to make the trip by way of Guadalajara and Manzanillo.

Ma knows how to make our house headquarters for boys; she gives 'em

POST TOASTIES
—says *Bobby*

IT'S ALL OFF WITH SILK STOCKINGS AT ATLANTIC CITY



Left to right, with their painted hose, are: Annie Greene, Vera Colburn, Ruth Grey, Myra Cullen and Adele Christie.

The high cost of silk stockings isn't going to worry the younger class of girls at Atlantic City

any longer. These maidens have taken to having imitation stockings painted on their—er limbs—

with oil fluid, which is guaranteed not to run. The picture shows some of the fair ones.

SEEK FAKE LIGHT CO. INSPECTOR IN CITY

Officials of the municipal light plant, Friday, were seeking the identity of a man who professed to be investigating the electric lighting equipment of residences.

Superintendent Dillon said meter readers and employees of the plant carry badges showing their identity. Housewives are asked to make persons desiring to make an inspection of electric wiring and meters prove their identity.

He was unable to learn whether the person about whom complaints were received at his office was trying to sell accessories or was trying to obtain data for burglarizing purposes.

Central Labor Council Building Its Own Home

Delegates to the Central Labor Council were instructed Thursday night, to present at the meetings of their various councils, tentative plans for building a permanent home for the Central Labor Council.

The delegates were also instructed to explain before the individual unions, that locals would meet in the permanent home as well as the C. L. C.

A. J. Davis and Frank Irwin, were nominated for president of the council at Thursday's meeting. Nominations will be closed on July 8, when elections will be held. Other nominations were: Clarence McCormick and Harold Salters, vice-president; L. C. Martin, corresponding secretary; C. W. Snodgrass, treasurer; J. D. Smith, sergeant-at-arms.

K. T. Holliday, Edward Helmich, Gilbert Henn, John Burlough and Vern Pentecost were nominated for the board of trustees.

KANSAS DENIES I. W. W. RIGHT OF ORGANIZATION
TOPEKA, Kas., June 25.—Charging that the Industrial Workers of the World organization advocates acts in violation of the Kansas anti-syndicalism law, an injunction suit was filed in the District court at Eldorado, ask-

VIGRAN'S LADIES' SHOP
923 Main Street
Agents for P. N. Practical Front Corsets

HOWARD A. MOORE, Tailor Dry Cleaning and Pressing
Altering, repairing and relining of Ladies' and Men's garments a specialty. Our pressing is all done by hand work, delivered promptly and guaranteed. 92½ Main St. Over Bartel & Rohe's

PLEASE NOTICE
My dental office will be closed the month of August.
Dr. E. J. DYKEMAN.

CANDIES
Fresh Stock Always
"Phil" Zuttermeister
Now at 1103 Main

Expert Radiator Repairing
RICHMOND BATTERY AND RADIATOR CO.
Cor. 12th and Main Phone 1365

CITY TO TAKE EXTRA NAP ON JULY 4; NO CONCERTED ACTIONS

Celebration of Independence Day in Richmond on July 5, will be impromptu. The only concerted action is the closing of stores, factories, post-offices, banks, newspapers and all other forms of activity, except railroading, police and fire department.

Inquiry among officers of the American Legion, Sons of Veterans, D. A. R., G. A. R., and the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion, disclose that none of these patriotic organizations have plans for a formal observance of the signing of the declaration of independence.

The last time when the city got together for a general Fourth of July celebration was in 1918. Lawrence Handley was marshal of the monster parade that went from the court house to Glen Miller Park. He said that parade was the biggest ever held in Richmond.

Those who will chiefly enjoy the Fourth are the employees of Richmond business houses, etc. These will have

a two day vacation and hundreds are planning days of rest, picnics, fishing trips or visits.

Junior Richmond will have its annual big noise. Plenty of racket can be made with the fire crackers permitted by the city fathers. The taboo on balloons will be felt by junior Richmond.

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