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J. B. LYLE - Editor and Manager

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Very reasonable, and will be made known upon request.

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THE AMERICAN PRESS ASSOCIATION

**Prevailing Conditions •  
Make Crude Oil Prices**

Contrary to the firmly established beliefs of many, prices of crude petroleum and its finished products are established exactly as are prices for wool, steel or horseshoes, or in fact any other staple or manufactured products. This is one of the fundamental but little understood truths of the oil business.

There is no directors' room anywhere in which a group of men can decide when crude oil shall be marked up or down. Prices are the inevitable result of costs.

Because there are exchanges which act as clearing houses for buyers and sellers of some of the principal commodities such as grains, cotton and coffee, the question sometimes arises as to why there is no petroleum board of trade. There was such an exchange but it was in the earlier days of the industry when practically all of the crude came from a limited area. This exchange failed because transactions became purely speculative with the actual business of buying and selling going on outside its doors. Since then the number of producing fields has greatly increased and with them the number of grades of petroleum.

To create now an exchange to function on the lines of existing exchanges would necessitate a revolution in present methods and would add tremendously to overhead. Because it would be essential to create middlemen and a multiplicity of machinery to perform services that are now almost wholly rendered by producers and consumers themselves.

There are in the United States about 18,000 producers of crude and more than 500 refineries. For the most part the crude oil consumed by refiners is either their own or is purchased in the open market through direct dealing with the producers, represented by his purchasing company, and the consumer. More than two-thirds of the oil produced in the Mid-Continent, Wyoming and California fields is consumed in the field where the oil is produced, and to sell this through an exchange located in Chicago or New York City would be obviously impossible. The condition in the oil business is the reverse of that which obtains as regards wheat, corn, oats, cotton and other commodities which are purchased from millions of producers who could not do business directly with a like number of consumers. The uselessness of the middleman in one case is as apparent as is their indispensable function in the other.

It is hard to explain the mechanism of crude oil price-making because nothing quite like it is known in any other industry, but the system is the natural growth of conditions obtaining in the industry. And it is automatic in its reflection of the changing relation between production and consumption.

Comparatively few producers, large or small, have their own refineries. The middleman who acts as broker, finding a market for the producer and oil for the refiner, is usually a purchasing company operating in connection with a common carrier pipe line. Because this purchasing company is dealing with hundreds or even thousands of owners of wells and cannot make a separate contract for each lot of oil, it publishes currently what it will pay for the crude it takes. This is known as the "posted price" and it is subject to frequent fluctuations. Different prices are posted and paid for different grades of crude oil depending on their refining values.

The process is a natural one developed through long experience to meet conditions. It is entirely beyond control either by producers or by the refiners. The rate at which finished products move into channels of consumption is the determining factor in all prices, not only of the crude but of the finished products. There is at all times the freest play of economic factors.

Back of all prices of finished products is the cost of the crude oil. When that advances there must sooner or later be a corresponding advance in prices. When it declines the saving is reflected at the most remote road side pump.

**COME, LET US  
REASON TOGETHER**

On August 23, 1924, at the close of the Geo. W. Sebren School of Music held in Franklin, there was organized a fraternity known as the Macon County Singing Teachers' Fraternity, its object being to promote the singing interest in Macon County. It is therefore hoped that every singing teacher and choir leader in Macon County will come together and join hands in this great undertaking. There was also adopted in this organization an all-day singing to be held every three months, with the different churches of Macon County. It was therefore voted and agreed upon that the first of these singings would be held with the Holly Springs Baptist Church of Macon County, on September 14, 1924, it being the second Sunday of September, 1924, and what is extended unto one is extended unto all; and that is a cordial invitation. Come make a joyful noise unto God, all ye lands: sing forth the honor of His name: Make His praise glorious, for it is said, that all the earth shall worship Thee, and shall sing unto Thee, they shall sing to thy name. Also let us sing of the mercies of the Lord forever. With our mouths let us make known His faithfulness, to all generations. O come let us sing unto the Lord: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation. O sing unto the Lord a new song, sing unto the Lord all the earth, sing unto the Lord, bless His name: show forth His salvation from day to day. And again sing unto the Lord a new song; for he hath done marvelous things: Now if these things were good for the children of old, I am made to believe they will be good for us of today; therefore let's all meet at the above named place and make it one of the best days that old Macon has even seen in singing praise unto our God. There will be some short talks on the kind of music that should be used in our churches and what kind of a character a person should be who teaches and conducts choirs; it is also hoped that there will be several of our ministers of Macon with us on this day.

Written by the suggestion of the above named organization to the Franklin Press for publication.  
W. H. DALTON,  
Secretary and Treasurer

**"Don't Hit Me, Big Boy!"**

The other day an automobile was driven along one of the streets of the city, says the Columbus Enquirer-Sun, and the following printed request on the cover of the spare tire attached to the rear end was observed: "Don't Hit Me, Big Boy."

Although in passing it might be regarded as nothing more than a slang phrase, when you come to think of it, it means something. The driver of the car is in your lead; he is traveling along, let us assume, at a legitimate rate of speed; he is not violating the law, and all that he asks of you if you are driving behind him is not to hit him, or rather, not to bump into his car.

And that means don't break or smash his property; don't wound or maim or possibly kill someone who may be in his car by disregarding his rights, violating the law and running into his machine.

This request is made in a jocular sort of way; it may cause you to smile, and accordingly put you in a good humor; and you surely would not have the heart to run into a fellow who makes you laugh.

"Don't Hit Me, Big Boy." Remember that, whether you see it on the back end of an automobile or not. It may prevent damage to your car and injury to yourself and others who may be riding with you, to say nothing of the car ahead and those who are in it.

"Don't Hit Me, Big Boy."  
Keep that in mind when you are driving your automobile.—Exchange.

**CO-OPERATIVE CATTLE SALE.**

Since the first six co-operative poultry sales were so successful, it has been suggested that we hold a co-operative cattle sale on the plan that has been followed so successfully at Spruce Pine, N. C., for the past few years.

If you have cattle for sale and are interested in this plan of trying to get more money for your cattle, please drop me a card at once, giving the number and description of the cattle you have for sale.

JOHN V. ARRENDALE,  
County Agent.

**Administratrix' Notice.**

Having qualified as Administratrix of Butler Jenkins, deceased, late of Macon County, N. C., this is to notify all persons having claims against the estate of said deceased to exhibit them to the undersigned on or before the 11th day of August, 1925, or this notice will be plead in bar of their recovery. All persons indebted to said estate will please make immediate settlement.

This 11th day of August, 1924.  
JENNIE JENKINS,  
Administratrix.

**-STARTING HOME.**

In my last I told of riding out of camp.

I should have told first that in the general camp there was a good mule that could not be ridden. It was publicly announced that to any man that would ride it home was welcome to it. No sooner said than a Johnny Reb climbed on his back and told him to go. This he promptly did, and as promptly Johnny was laid in the sand. He at once climbed on his mule with the same result. He went out of sight, alternately riding and getting up out of the sand. I never knew how it ended.

When I was ready to start home it was a real question what would save me from the mule's sharp back. One or two old army blankets and my overcoat solved it. But what about stirrups? My experience in the country came to my relief, and said make them of hickory bark, which I quickly did.

It seemed very difficult for my steed to keep up with the procession. I feared he was very weak, as well as poor.

So when we had fallen well behind I dismounted, did up my traps, and turned him before me. He looked every way to see if he were really loose. Being assured, he loped off glibly, stopping to eat grass occasionally, being sure to steal on again before I came up. At last he was so well entertained by good grass, I took advantage of his blindness and caught him. He raised his head in great surprise to find himself in custody again. I provided myself with a good withe and was soon up with my company. After that I had little trouble to keep up with my crowd.

I found an axe one day in the road, which I exchanged for food for man and beast.

The friendly trees and starry skies were our covering. One night a clever farmer let us use his barn and loft. I had a great surprise one night for supper when a friend, I think Mr. Mark McCracken, gave me a real cup of coffee and a generous slice of yeast bread. It tasted so good I seem to taste it yet.

One day at noon we found ourselves in front of Col. Hamilton Moore's gate, six miles this side of Asheville. We called for dinner which was promptly given, though something to eat was very nearly as precious as gold dust.

Immediately after, being nearly exhausted, I lay down to rest. All too soon it was said "It is time to go." I said, "Boys, you will have to go without me. I can't go any further." I saw them do what I would rather have done than anything in the world—start home.

But there was some compensation. Col. Moore's good Christian wife was my own cousin. How they both received me with such open-hearted hospitality that it was a balm to my wounded spirit. Then the Colonel had a brother, Dr. Jim (bless his memory), a returned soldier, making a crop on his father's farm a mile away.

He was soon called and brought his entire stock of medicine, consisting of a bottle each of turpentine and oil. But better still, a genial heart and cheerful spirit.  
T. R. GRAY.

**Notice of Summons.**

North Carolina—Macon County.  
In Superior Court—Before the Clerk.

Withan Penland and wife Sada Penland, Vernie Rush and husband G. W. Rush, Lawrence Penland and wife Cordia Penland, Sible Penland by her next friend Lawrence Penland, and Callie Penland

vs.  
Earnest Penland and wife Annie Penland, Mae Lovelace and husband William Lovelace, Bulan Bryson, William Bryson, Edna Bryson, Grace Bryson, J. B. Bryson, Gertrude Bryson, Marie Bryson, Bland Cabe and husband Hernie Cabe, and William Penland.

The non-resident defendants Mae Lovelace, William Lovelace, and William Penland, will take notice that an action entitled as above has been commenced in the Superior Court of Macon County, to sell the lands of which Henry A. Penland died seized for partition between his heirs at law; and the said defendants Mae Lovelace, William Lovelace and William Penland will further take notice that they are required to appear before the undersigned Clerk of the Superior Court of Macon County, N. C., at office in the Court House, in the town of Franklin, on the 10th day of September, 1924, and answer or demur to the complaint or petition now on file in said office, within twenty days from said date or the relief demanded will be granted.

Done at office this 11th day of August, 1924.

FRANK I. MURRAY,  
Clerk Superior Court, Macon Co., N. C.  
R. D. SISK, Atty for Pif. S5

**Card of Thanks.**

We wish to thank our many friends for their kindness shown us during the serious illness and death of our dear brother, P. H. Justice, who died August 30, 1924.  
MR. AND MRS. J. B. JUSTICE,  
MR. AND MRS. B. W. JUSTICE.

**AUCTION SALE**  
**Tuesday, Sept. 16th, 1 P. M.**

107 feet frontage on Main Street, 170 feet on Palmer Street, 300 feet deep. Will be divided into small business lots and sold at absolute auction.

This property now owned by J. A. Porter and W. L. Higdon.

The house on this property will also be sold at public auction, successful bidder to remove same.

This is your chance to secure valuable property right in the center of town, at your own price.

Terms, one-fourth cash, balance in one, two and three years.

**OGLESBY REALTY AUCTION CO.**  
Ansley Hotel, Atlanta, Ga.

SODA FOUNTAIN TOBACCO, CIGARS

**FRANK T. SMITH**  
PRESCRIPTION DRUGGIST

Is it not worth a great deal to you to know that if your prescription is filled by me that it is filled right. I have only the purest drugs and my prices are reasonable.

Thirty years experience.

KODAK DEVELOPING TOILET ARTICLES


**R. L. SMART**  
General Merchandise  
LIVE STOCK  
OTTO, N. C.

Buy tan bark, pulp wood, chickens, eggs and other produce.  
See Me For Bargains.



**SPECIAL**  
Sale on Watches, Jewelry, Etc.,  
For Two Weeks.

**GROVER JAMISON**



**Renew  
the life  
of your  
roof**



Carey Fibre Coating contains preservative oils that penetrate every crack and pore of the composition or gravel roof, making the dried-out roof tough and elastic once more. Let us know your roof area and save your roof before it is too late.

**Carey**  
FIBRE COATING

**Franklin Hardware Co.**