

In the year 1899 William Aldrich, a Mormon settler from Cardston squatted on Section 29, Township 1, Range 30, West of the 4th Meridian, and made a living for himself and family from the exudations of petroleum obtained from the surface by the following very crude method:—

An excavation about 6 feet deep and 40 feet long was made into the bank of the creek. The sand, which was saturated with oil, was thrown into this ditch, and water sufficient to wash the oil clear from sand was turned on, the oil and water then running through the ditch into a pit at the lower end, the oil floating on the surface of the water. It was then collected by means of gunny-sacks thrown on the surface of the water. These gunny-sacks absorbed the oil, which was then stripped off in pails by hand and boiled down to evaporate the small quantity of water and thicken the oil; it was then ready for market. By this primitive method he, in his affidavit, has stated he was enabled to collect from **40 to 50 GALLONS OF OIL PER DAY**. He was also able to find a ready market for his product with his co-religionists, who were farmers and ranchers in and about Cardston, who used it for lubricating purposes, and readily paid a dollar a gallon for it. It is on this Section 29 that Camp No. 1 of the Company is located.

At almost any place along Coal Oil Creek on this Section a pick may be driven into the bank, and upon its withdrawal oil can be seen exuding from the sand and gravel. Further evidences of oil may be seen, upon turning up large boulders in the stream, in the form of two or three large bubbles of oil, which rise and float off with the current.

On the east side of the creek, going up the stream, and about thirty feet from the water, is a large gum-bed, measuring about 150 feet long by 100 feet wide. The deposit is formed by the exudation of the petroleum below, and certainly indicates the existence of oil, as, when lumps of the substance are broken open or subjected to pressure, oil oozes from them.

The Company's No. 1 Well, on Section 29, was put down 1,496 feet 6 inches, and is generally referred to as the Prospect well. (*See diagram of the well on page 3.*)

It will be noted that the first showing of oil was in a black shale from 130 feet depth to 139 feet; this was a thick, heavy lubri-