

State Department of Geology and Mineral Industries

1069 State Office Building
Portland 1, Oregon

REPORTED OIL SEEP AT GASTON, OREGON

Yamhill County

Klinge

Summary: Ed Jannsen, A. M. Jannsen Drilling Company, requested that the Department investigate oil occurring in a water well he drilled for Carl Klinge of Gaston, Oregon. The well was drilled in the fall of 1961, and shortly after being put on the pump it was noted that the water tasted and smelled like oil. The well is used to supply water to Mr. Klinge's apartment house, and tenants were extremely unhappy with the water.

Owner of property: Carl Klinge, Box 7, Gaston, Oregon.

Location: The water well is located at the back of the property on which Mr. Klinge's apartment building is situated. The apartment building is located at the north end of town on the east side of Highway 47. The property is in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ sec. 2, T. 2 S., R. 4 W., Yamhill County.

Geology: U. S. Geol. Survey Oil and Gas Investigations Map OM 42 shows the property to lie on Quaternary alluvium and underlain by middle Tertiary marine shale. The well log was described by Jannsen's driller as follows:

<u>Formation</u>	<u>Depth (Ft.)</u>
Topsoil	0- 2
Sandy clay	2- 8
Brown and gray clay	8- 11
Sandy brown clay	11- 33
Fine gray sand	33- 36
Fine gray sand and gray clay with green spots	36- 71
Hard and soft layers of shale	71-152

Report of Investigation: R. E. Corcoran and I drove to Gaston on Tuesday, November 14, 1961, to check the Klinge well. Ed Jannsen called the preceding week and asked the Department to send someone to inspect the Klinge well as it contained oil. Mr. Klinge showed us the collecting tank and well at the back of his property and then took us into the cellar of his apartment house where he turned on the water tap. We let the water run for about 15 minutes and the oil odor was quite strong. It smelled like kerosene or fuel oil. Mr. Klinge mentioned the possibility that his fuel oil tank may have had leakage. It was located at the west side of the building and uphill from the well. Adjacent and west of the apartment building was a Shell service Station located on the highway passing through Gaston.

Below the back of the property some 30 feet was a small creek. No oil was noted in the creek; however it was running fairly fast. The water sample taken from the top in the basement was colorless but tasted of and smelled of oil.

Neting from the well log that water was probably being produced at very shallow depths led us to believe that the oil was almost surely a result of surface contamination, especially with fuel oil storage nearby and a gasoline station within 100 feet of the well.

Mr. Klinge/^{was} advised of this opinion by letter a few days after our investigation and a carbon copy mailed to Ed Jannsen. A sample of the water was checked by the State Board of Health laboratory here in Portland and found to contain a trace of hydrocarbon but not enough oil could be found in the water to venture a guess as to what type of oil it was.

Reported by: V. C. Newton
December 8, 1961