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SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Oil Crews Hit Gusher Of Water

The city of Tucumcari may be unable to find a water pool sufficiently productive to feed city mains, but such is not the case in Montoya.

Crews drilling for oil on the Hoover ranch, ran into a veritable gusher last week. E. D. Humphrey, in charge of the drilling for Ray Oil company of Dallas, said the well has been producing 6000 barrels of water a day.

The water is a bit brackish, Humphrey said, and contains some salt. "But I think cattle could drink it with no ill after effects," he said.

Drillers have run into eight or nine streams of water in their operations already, Humphrey stated. "I don't know what this means as far as an oil discovery is concerned," he said, "but we will continue drilling."

The abundant flow of water was encountered in the Yazo formation at a depth of about 2265 feet. The Yazo sand was hit at 2165. The well is at a depth of 2420 feet. It was previously reported at around 3000.

Humphrey said the sand formations are closely following the geological maps prepared before drilling operations began. "They were way off to start with, but now are right on the line."

Original predictions were that the Pennsylvania sand structure would be encountered at a depth of 2800 feet and that oil showings might be expected at 3100 and 3600.

Drilling has been slowed down because of the abundant water, but it is expected that normal operations will be resumed when the flow is shut off.

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*Well file —
Ray Oil Co. — T. A. Kirk*