

Bentonite file

June 25, 1946

Mr. T. J. Jones  
Douglas, Wyoming

Dear Mr. Jones:

Mr. Flannery has forwarded me a copy of your letter describing your bentonite holdings. We frequently have inquiries regarding available bentonite deposits in the State and it would be to our advantage to have in our files a description of the location of the deposit by section, township and range. In addition, it would be appreciated if you could furnish us a 10-pound sample. The sample should be taken as a composite by trenching across the bed. If it is possible for you to send a sample, will you please also give the legal location of the sample point.

Yours very truly,

H. D. Thomas  
State Geologist

HDT:r

CC: L. G. (Pat) Flannery  
Cheyenne, Wyoming

Cody, Wyoming,  
December 8th, 1942

Honorable L. C. Hunt,  
Governor-Elect,  
Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Dear Sir:

I hope I am not entirely presumtuous in taking the liberty of this line to you at this time. Being hopeful that we might want to possibly take this up in a legitimate way later.

As there has been pre-election talk of the state doing something toward the development of some of our minerals, I am presuming that some reasonable appropriation will be asked for from the Legislature.

I have been concerned for considerable time in the development of a Bentonite deposit near Cody, a large deposit covered by 17 lode claims throughout the strike of a well-defined apex, and all needed accessories are available here nearby for production, which makes this exceptional. My efforts have been to develop a cleansing agent for general use in commercial laundries and textile industries. I have recently developed a process which redeems it for use by these industries. It is a decided soap substitute which makes it strategic in these times. I have the matter up with the WPB in Washington with some favorable action in sight. I am on the eve of getting away to Chicago where this has to be fine-ground to provide an amount necessary for demonstration, and obtain some bona fide orders needed now as proof of the pudding. This will take me on to New York to complete what I have in sight along this line. This deposit is of such purity that it has been used repeatedly by laundries in general laundry work in its crude natural form suspended in water and has proven itself to be in a class of its own by comparison with other known deposits, being free of magnesia and other troublesome minerals. This process, which has been tested and proven in some 15 laundries, redeems the product, can be used in its dry form, and is a greater soap replacer. I give you this detail at this time.

I think we all appreciate the bull's-eye hit of Senator O'Mahoney's broadcast last week. Surely we still have a state organization and should not stand by and see the Government take the whip-hand in the development of all our minerals, particularly those proven beyond the wildcat stage. I have these deposits and formula within my personal control. No equipment on the claims. I am making efforts to get this equipped and in production, first, a release from the WPB, and there is some intimation of an RFC loan with the above evidence. This product should be in our Army camps, besides I have a considerable potential market waiting in Chicago for assured production. I am hopeful of leasing this to capable people; do not know definitely. In any event, if the Legislature takes any action looking to state development of minerals, this is certainly a staple proven product that I might be very pleased to offer for consideration, in which case even a lease to state management on the claims and formula. This would give the state the benefit of it. I hope I am not entirely presumptuous in bringing this to your attention and that it might be taken up later as things may develop.

I will appreciate a reply as to your idea of these possibilities.

Yours very truly,

*B. Payne*

B. Payne

*Cody -*

C O P Y

December 15, 1942

Mr. B. Payne  
Cody,  
Wyoming

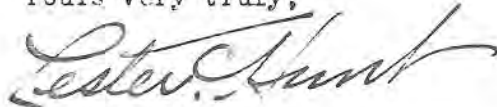
My dear Mr. Payne:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 8 with reference to your holdings of bentonite deposits near Cody. Your letter was very interesting and I am taking the liberty of forwarding it to our State Geologist at Laramie with the suggestion that he mail to you a list of all the manufacturers who have manifested an interest in Wyoming bentonite.

With reference to direct aid from the state, I regret that I cannot give you a great deal of assurance for the reason that it appears at this time as though our anticipated income will this year fall considerably short of supplying enough money for the usual functions of state government.

However, development of Wyoming's natural resources and industrial development will be quite a topic before the State Legislature.

Yours very truly,



LESTER C. HUNT

LCH:ed

February 13, 1946

Mr. A. Losick  
The Youngstown Miller Company  
675 Main Street  
Belleville 9, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Losick:

Your letter of January 16, addressed to the Wyoming State Department of Mines, Cheyenne, Wyoming has finally reached this department by a somewhat circuitous route.

We do not know of any producers in Wyoming of naturally active or activable clays and earths, as such. However, in our investigations of the bentonites and clays of the State we are including preliminary tests to determine whether any of these materials may have decolorizing and bleaching properties on oils. Some of the clays or meta-bentonites so far investigated in our laboratories do appear to have such properties, particularly after activation. We are using methods based on Geological Survey Bulletin 923-C, Adsorbent Clays, in this investigation.


Incidentally, we would appreciate suggestions which you might have as to procedure in testing clays for contact decolorization and filtration of mineral oils. Also, perhaps you could cooperate with us by sending us a sample of a satisfactory bleaching material as well as an oil which could be used for our tests. As soon as the survey which we are now working on has been completed, we will be very glad to send you a copy of the report.

The determination of bleaching or clarifying value of these clays and related materials represents only a small portion of our work in this project, as we are also determining the jelling and swelling properties of the samples being tested as well as their possibilities as sand binders in the foundry industry.

Thanking you for your interest, we are

Very truly yours,

NATURAL RESOURCES RESEARCH INSTITUTE

  
H. G. Fisk, Director

WSP:J  
cc - Dr. H. D. Thomas, State Geologist

June 22, 1946

A. M. Leach  
Box 334  
Cody, Wyoming

Dear Mr. Leach:

Your letter and bentonite specimen, addressed to the University, have been forwarded to me. We concluded our field investigations of bentonite last summer and for the time being, at least, have not planned any for this summer. If anyone comes to my office, however, seeking a bentonite deposit I shall refer them to you. In than connection we ought to have the legal location of the deposit, by section, township and range, and it would also be desirable for us to have a ten-pound sample of bentonite.

I have never received your letter and specimen of gypsite. If they were simply addressed to the University they may have gone astray. Such communications and samples should be addressed either to the Geological Survey or the Natural Resources Research Institute. If you will send another specimen of the gypsite we will gladly appraise it for you.

Yours very truly,

H. D. Thomas  
State Geologist

hdt:r

DOUGLAS, WYOMING

May 27 46

Mr. L. G. Flannery  
State Department of Commerce  
Cheyenne, Wyo.

Dear Mr. Flannery:

I note from a newspaper that you have received inquiries regarding bentonite.

I wish to inform you that other parties and myself have one of the largest, if not the largest deposit of bentonite in the state, it is located near a town and can be developed within about 80 rods of R R and not more than three miles from center of property to town, graveled road for two miles.

Our deposit consists of a vein running for over four miles exposed with about 30 foot vein on about 30 degree pitch.

We have sent samples of this material to the Bureau of Standards, Washington, and they have classified it as very good grade.

We wish to get some parties interested in developement of this property and will give them a very attractive proposition.

Should your department contact such party we will be very grateful, as it would seem that it is a shame that properties of this character should lie idle, undeveloped, I might also state that electric power line is within half mile and that 15 inch gas line crosses this property.

Trusting that we may hear from you in the near future, I am

Yours very truly,

T. J. Jones /s/

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Bentonite file

June 13, 1946

Mr. T. J. Jones  
Douglas  
Wyoming

Dear Mr. Jones:

This is in reply to your letter of May 27 describing your deposit of bentonite.

We are enclosing list of bentonite producers known to us, some of whom may be interested in your property.

Also names of persons and firms who have recently made inquiry to us concerning sources of bentonite, with whom you may wish to communicate.

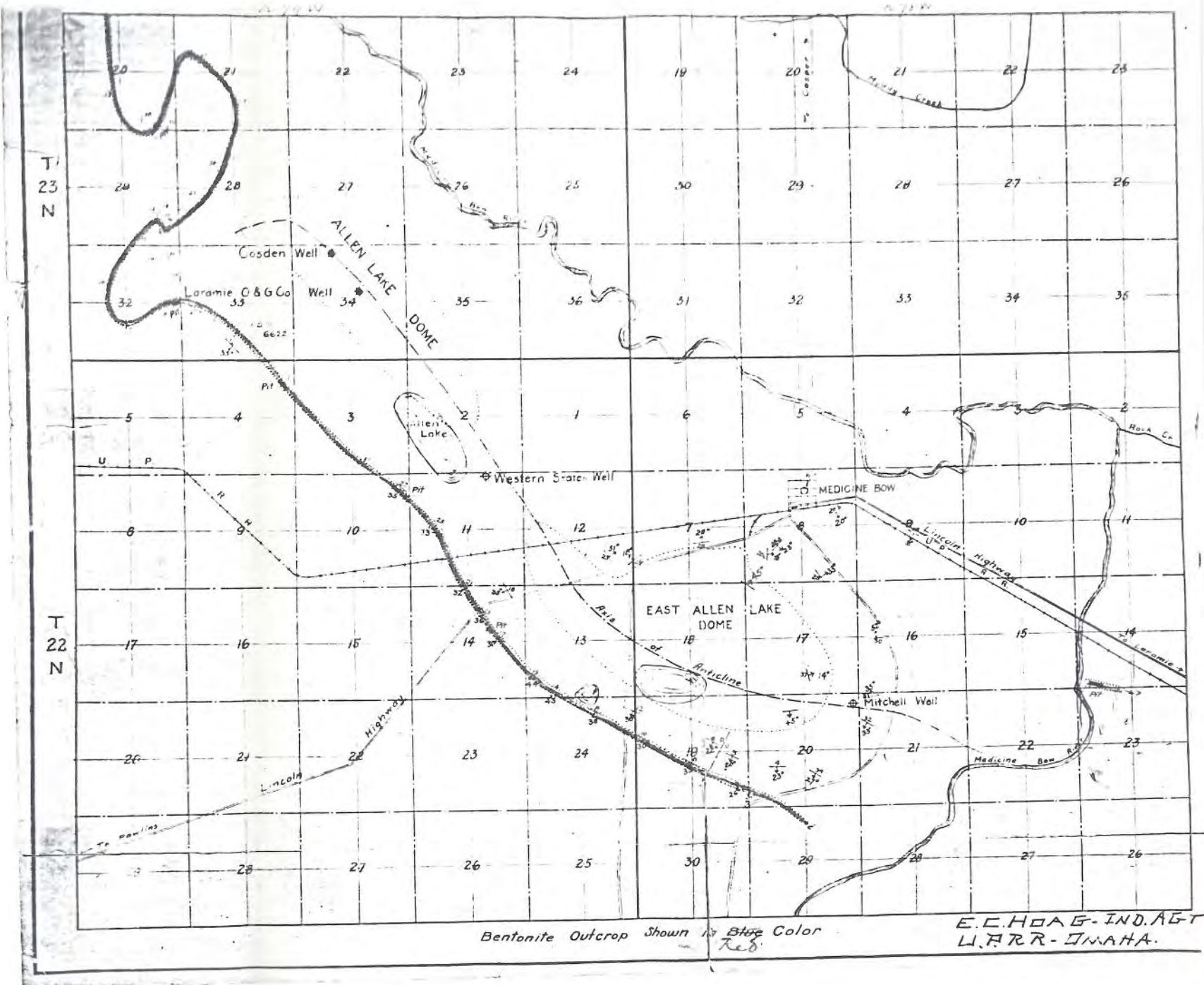
We are also sending copy of your letter to Dr. Horace D. Thomas, State Geologist, University of Wyoming, Laramie, who may be able to offer you further suggestions concerning the development of your property.

If we can cooperate further let us know.

Sincerely,

L. G. (Pat) Flannery  
Executive Manager

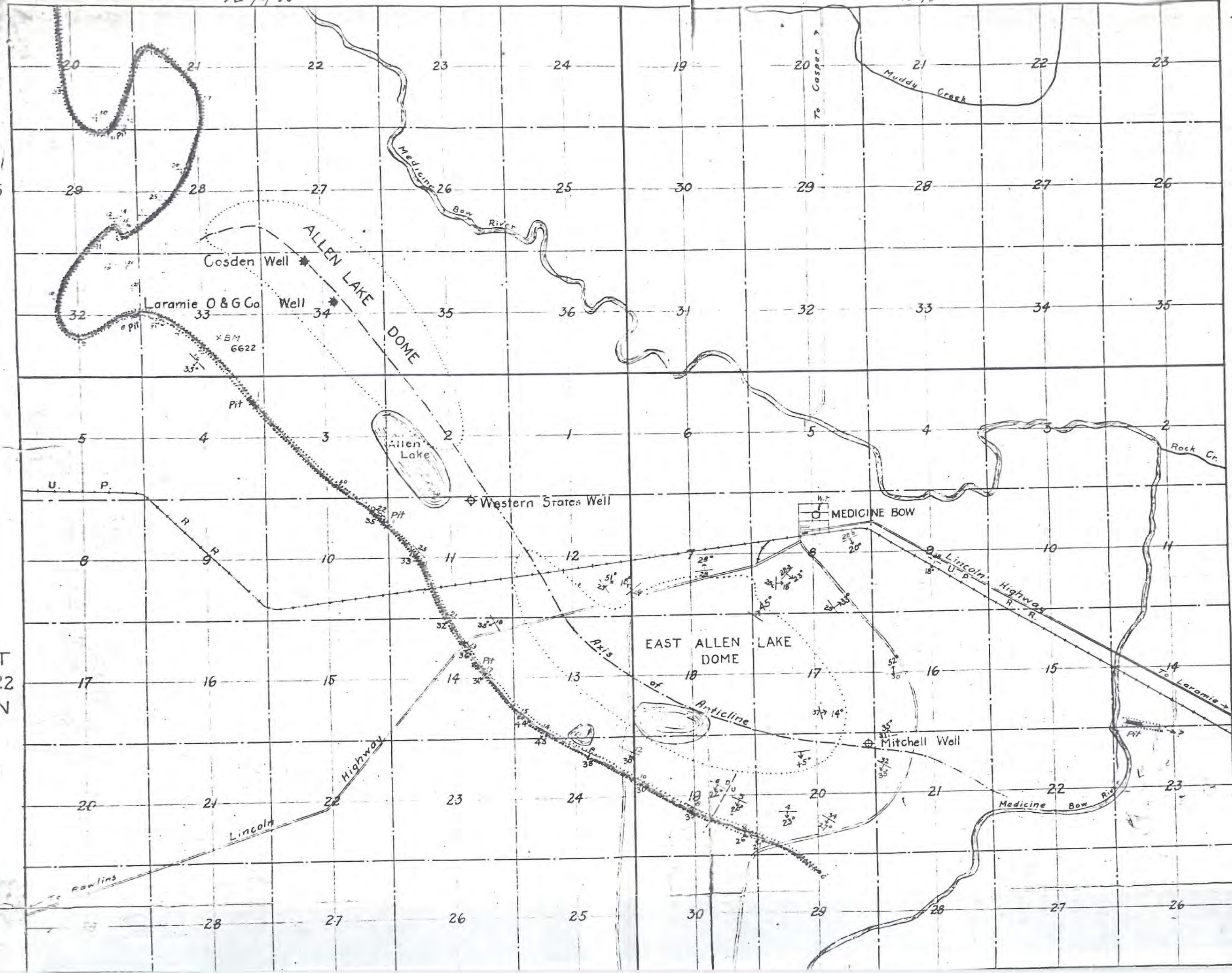
P-K  
CC Dr. Thomas  
Encls.





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