



Frank Phillips 1991

1873 – 1950

Frank Phillips and his brother, L. E., began drilling for oil near Bartlesville, Oklahoma, in 1905. This venture led their way to a string of more than 80 producing wells. Frank and L. E. later branched out into banking by organizing the Citizens Bank and Trust Company.

With the onset of World War I, the Phillips brothers organized the Phillips Petroleum Company. In ten years Phillips expanded the production of oil, gas and natural gas. This facilitated the opening of natural gas liquid extraction plants in West Texas which helped make Phillips the world's largest producer of natural gas liquids by the late 1920's.

Phillips Petroleum's activities in Texas fields led to the drilling of three record depth wells in Texas (two in the Permian Basin); also, one record depth was reached in the North Sea.

Phillips was enthusiastically interested in the future of aviation. He supported early test flights which led to Phillips Petroleum Company's high-octane aviation gasoline program during World War II.

In recognition of his fair dealing and interest in their welfare during the Company's drilling activities on Osage Indian lands, Phillips was the only white man ever to be made an official Chief of the Osage tribe.