

BILLINGS MAN NAMED IN COMPLAINT MADE BY FEDERAL TRADE BOARD

Special to The Billings Gazette.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—The federal trade commission has issued formal complaint against George F. Barton, Claude A. Hargis and R. W. Waits of Fort Worth, Texas; Rockwood Brown of Billings, Mont., and Charles N. Edwards of Kansas City, Mo., charging violation of Section 5 of the federal trade commission act by deceiving and defrauding the public in the sale of stock in the Consolidated Royalty and Leasing syndicate. An additional charge of misleading representations concerning the plan of organization, assets, and resources is also made in the complaint. The defendants have 30 days in which to reply, after which the case will be tried and decided on its merits.

Simultaneous with the issuance of the foregoing complaint the commission also issued complaint against S. P. Shepard, Chicago, Ill.; Rockwood Brown, Billings, Mont.; A. L. Todd, Denver, Colo.; R. Allyn Lewis, Phoenix, Ariz.; R. J. Wiswell, Dallas, Texas; D. M. Leooold, Fort Worth, Texas; H. P. Hanson, Denver, Colo.; E. H. Eshleman, Fort Worth, Texas; F. L. Moorman, Fort Worth, Texas, and E. H. McArthur, New York City.

The charge is that the respondents made false and misleading statements, false representations and false advertisements relative to the organization assets, resources, business, good will and prospects of several companies they organized. These companies are the Burkley Oil company, Burk Crest Oil company, the Burt Bethel Oil company and the Gipsy Burk Oil company.

Rockwood Brown, an attorney, is now in Minneapolis on business. It developed last night when efforts were made to secure from him a statement relative to the federal trade commission's complaints.

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Federal Trade Board Complaint

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