

BROMBERG

LEON BROMBERG, M. D.

THE DOCTORS CLINIC

1501 BROADWAY

GALVESTON, TEXAS

May 19, 1959

Dr. H. B. Stenzel  
3726 - Colquitt Avenue  
Houston, Texas

Dear Dr. Stenzel:

The enclosed clipping from the May 13, 1959 issue of the Galveston News has prompted me to write you this letter about bentonite.

I have read in the past with considerable profit and interest your publications on the discovery of a large deposit of bentonite in the area directly north of Crockett, Texas lying along Hurricane Bayou. You certainly know more about this deposit than anyone else in the State and I am writing you to ask if you have any suggestions about its potential commercial development or exploitation.

When Judge Wayman and I sold this tract of approximately twelve hundred acres of land to Mr. Charles G. Heyne of Houston, Texas some eight years ago, we reserved a non-participating one-half interest in the minerals and specifically named bentonite in the sale contract and deed. We did this on the basis of your findings and our belief that the bentonite would some day prove valuable.

This property is now under oil and gas lease to British American Oil Company, but bentonite was specifically excluded from this lease.

About a year ago, I wrote to MAGCOBAR Company in Houston telling them about this area of bentonite which is almost in Houston's back yard, but they were not interested in its development, apparently because the physical characteristics of this bentonite did not meet their requirements.

I am informed that you are now the consultant geologist to Shell Oil Company. In this capacity or as an individual you might know of other firms in the area who should be advised of this bentonite and its possible commercial use. As indicated above, only Mr. Heyne has the right to sign a lease or to enter into contract for the development of bentonite, but from conversations which I have had with him I am confident that he would consider favorably a reasonable offer so long as he is protected against damage to the beautiful ranch which he has built on this tract of land. Of course, Mrs. Wayman and I would profit from the development and sale of bentonite in which we have a one-half interest.

I hope that you are enjoying good health again and that all goes well with you.

It would give me great personal pleasure to renew our acquaintance. Whenever you happen to be coming down to Galveston please give me a call.

LEON BROMBERG, M. D.  
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1501 BROADWAY  
GALVESTON, TEXAS

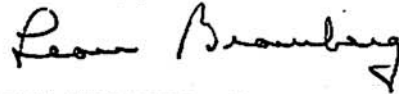
Dr. H. B. Stenzel

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With many thanks for any advice which you can give us regarding the bentonite problem and with best personal wishes, I am,

Cordially,



LEON BROMBERG, M. D.

LB:al

CC: Mrs. James W. Wayman  
4815 - Denver Drive  
Galveston, Texas

## ***Rare-Clay Find In Africa Starts Rush For Land***

Parys, Orange Free State — A rich deposit of bentonite, a rare clay, has been discovered near Parys and has touched off a farm buying boom with land values soaring to \$1,900 an acre.

Bentonite has the peculiar property of absorbing water to an abnormal degree, swelling out to more than 30 times its own volume.

It is used in iron and steel foundries and oil refineries and an important raw material in the manufacture of high-quality soap, toothpaste, face powder, lipstick, and other beauty preparations.

Samples from the Parys field are of higher quality than Wyoming bentonite, previously considered the world's best. The South African deposit is yielding 25 tons a day — well over the Union's requirements.