

OCCURRENCE OF OIL AND GAS IN EASTERN ILLINOIS.

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The year just closed was a very prosperous one in the petroleum fields of Illinois. The area was extended rapidly to the southeast, many gaps were filled in, new and lower sands were tapped, additional pipe-lines were laid, a new refinery was built and the output was phenomenal.

At the close of 1906 the number of producing wells was estimated at 4,185, and 532 dry holes were known to have been drilled. The total number of producing wells January 1, 1908, may be estimated at 9,772, with 1,260 dry holes. At this rate 88 per cent. of the holes put down have proved productive despite the fact that the outlines of the field are at many points yet to be determined.

The first oil was shipped from this field in June, 1905, and the shipment for that year, all of which went out in tank cars, amount to 156,502 barrels. In 1906 a pipe-line was extended into the territory, and the shipments as reported by the Ohio Oil Co., were 4,385,470 barrels.

There are now collecting mains extending from north to south throughout the field and four 8-in. lines (or an equivalent) from Martinsville, the central pumping plant, eastward across Indiana. A new line has recently been put in service running westward to a large refinery built this year near Alton, Illinois, by the Standard Oil Co.

The pipe-line runs for 1907, given through the courtesy of the Ohio Oil Company, were as follows:

PIPE-LINE RUNS FROM ILLINOIS, 1907.

January	752,670 barrels
February	918,620 barrels
March	1,494,598 barrels
April	1,823,024 barrels
May	2,094,194 barrels
June	1,830,633 barrels
July	2,376,281 barrels
August	2,398,895 barrels
September	2,560,592 barrels
October	2,818,952 barrels
November	2,464,980 barrels
December	2,201,265 barrels
Total	23,734,704 barrels

To these figures must be added something for the fuel oil shipped by cars from Duncanville, the oil used by the local refinery at Robinson, and the tank-car shipments of the Sun, Cornplanter and other independent companies, amounting to something over 800,000 barrels. The recorded production for the year is 24,540,024 barrels, and probably the actual production ran a little over this. The oil, in the main, grades 32 degrees or better, and sold at the standard price of 68 cents per barrel. Only a limited amount was lower and sold at 60 cents. Of the year's production, 12,610,618 barrels are stored in the field by the Ohio Oil Company and a large amount is in producers' tanks.

OCCURRENCE.

The oil occurs in a number of isolated pools which, however, are being brought closer together by drilling. It is not improbable that they will eventually be found to overlap. To

the north they are higher stratigraphically, and also shallower in depth. The Westfield pool is in the upper coal-measures. Most of the oil in Crawford county seems to come from the lower coal-measures, well down toward the base. In Lawrence county there are three sands, the main production being from the Buchanan sand at 1,300 ft. This probably represents the Mansfield sandstone of the Indiana geologists, an approximate equivalent of the Pottsville strata of the East. The Kirkwood sand at 1,600 feet is in the Chester. Farther south in the Princeton, Indiana, the Chester group is also productive.

In general the year's work resulted in extending the field to the south and in connecting up intervening territory. Wild-cattling was active in other parts of the state, but so far without much result. Some gas has been found near Medora, and one or two oil wells have been brought in at Sparta, but as yet too little has been done to test thoroughly any considerable portion of the field.
