STATE OF ILLINOIS ADLAI E. STEVENSON, Governor

DEPARTMENT OF REGISTRATION AND EDUCATION NOBLE J. PUFFER, Director

> DIVISION OF THE STATE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY M. M. LEIGHTON, Chief URBANA

No. 63

ILLINOIS PETROLEUM

July 28, 1951

PRINTED BY AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

DEVELOPMENTS IN ILLINOIS AND INDIANA IN 19501

ALFRED H. BELL² AND R. C. COOPER³ Urbana, Illinois, and Evansville, Indiana

ABSTRACT

In all, 4,424 wells were drilled for oil and gas in Illinois and Indiana in 1950 as compared with 4,018 in 1949, an increase of 10 per cent. Total oil production decreased 3 per cent, from 74,139,000 barrels in 1949 to 71,914,000 barrels in 1950.4 Wildcat drilling increased from 1,217 completions in 1949 to 1,334 completions in 1950. Fifty-five new pools, 102 extensions, and 64 new producing zones were discovered in the two states in 1950.

Most of the discoveries in 1950 were in Mississippian formations, but the Devonian limestone produced oil or gas in four new pools, and Pennsylvanian sandstone in three. There were no discov-

eries of new pools in Silurian or Ordovician formations.

INTRODUCTION

In Illinois and Indiana, 4,424 wells for oil and gas were drilled in 1950 as compared with 4,018 in 1949, an increase of 10 per cent. Total oil production decreased 3 per cent, from 74,139,000 barrels in 1949 to 71,914,000 barrels in 1950. Wildcat drilling increased from 1,217 completions in 1949 to 1,334 completions in 1950, an increase of 10 per cent. Fifty-five new pools, 102 extensions, and 64 new producing zones were discovered in the two states in 1950.

In the Illinois basin area—southern Illinois and southwestern Indiana—51 out of 58 discovery wells of new pools discovered in 1950 produced from Missisippian formations (27 Chester series and 24 Lower Mississippian). Of the remaining 7 discovery wells of new pools, 3 produced from Pennsylvanian sandstone and 4 from Devonian limestone.

ILLINOIS

By Alfred H. Bell

In Illinois 2,894 wells were drilled for oil and gas in 1950 as compared with 2,737 in 1949, an increase of approximately 6 per cent. (These figures are exclusive

- ¹ Reprinted from Bull. Amer. Assoc. Petrol. Geol., Vol. 35, No. 6 (June, 1951), pp. 1206-1218.
- ² Geologist and head, Oil and Gas Division, Illinois State Geological Survey.

The writers gratefully acknowledge the assistance of Virginia Kline and Kathryn C. Irving, both of the Illinois State Geological Survey, in the preparation of the manuscript.

- ³ Division exploration manager, Sinclair Oil and Gas Company, Evansville, Indiana.
- 4 U. S. Bur. Mines Monthly Petroleum Statement 334 (December, 1950).
- ⁵ The distinction between "pool" and "field," which is made in other areas and by the committee on statistics of exploratory drilling, is not made in this article, and the two words are here used interchangeably. Such a distinction would be difficult to maintain for the Illinois-Indiana area because of the large number of producing formations, several of which are confined to a relatively small stratigraphic section, and because of the large number of separate productive lenses in a single producing zone. The number of oil and gas pools (defined as separate reservoirs) is not accurately known but is undoubtedly more than a thousand for Illinois alone. If a field is defined as all of the pools on a single well defined structural feature, the Southeastern Illinois field located on the LaSalle anticlinal belt is a good example. But for many of the newer producing areas in the Illinois basin there is much room for difference of opinion as to a proper grouping into "fields." The word pool is used in this report to mean, in general, a separate producing area, but there are numerous exceptions where two or more separate producing areas are grouped together under a single pool name.

of water- or gas-input wells, salt-water disposal wells, and old wells worked over.) Of the 2,894 wells drilled, 830 are classified as wildcat wells as compared with 746 in 1949, an increase of 11 per cent. Of the 830 wildcat wells drilled in 1950, 325 were located more than 2 miles from production ("wildcats far"), of which 14, or 4.3 per cent, were successful. In 1949, 7 per cent of the wildcats far were successful. Drilling in 1950 resulted in 1,286 oil wells, 19 gas wells, and 1,589 dry holes.

Of the 830 wildcat wells drilled, 25 discovered new pools and 77 discovered extensions to pools (Tables I and II). In addition 25 wells, most of which can not be designated properly as exploratory wells, discovered additional producing zones in known producing areas (Table III).

Most of the drilling in Illinois in 1950 was in the deep-basin area of southeastern Illinois. Wells were drilled in 52 counties in the state in 1950 and producing wells were drilled in 29 counties. Half the total wells completed were located in 7 counties, and 86 per cent of the total wells completed were located in 17 counties. The 7 counties having the largest number of wells drilled in 1950 are White, 290; Wabash, 223; Hamilton, 207; Wayne, 205; Lawrence, 184; Fayette, 173; and Clinton, 165.

There were no major pools among the 25 discovered in 1950. Those having the most producing wells at the end of the year were Carlyle North in Clinton County with 37 and Oskaloosa in Clay County with 36.

Total oil production in Illinois in 1950 was 61,922,000 barrels as compared with 64,501,000 barrels in 1949, a decrease of 4 per cent. Average daily production in 1950 was approximately 170,000 barrels as compared with 177,000 barrels in 1949. The daily average by months varied from a low of 165,000 barrels in January to a high of 176,000 barrels in March.

EXPLORATORY DRILLING

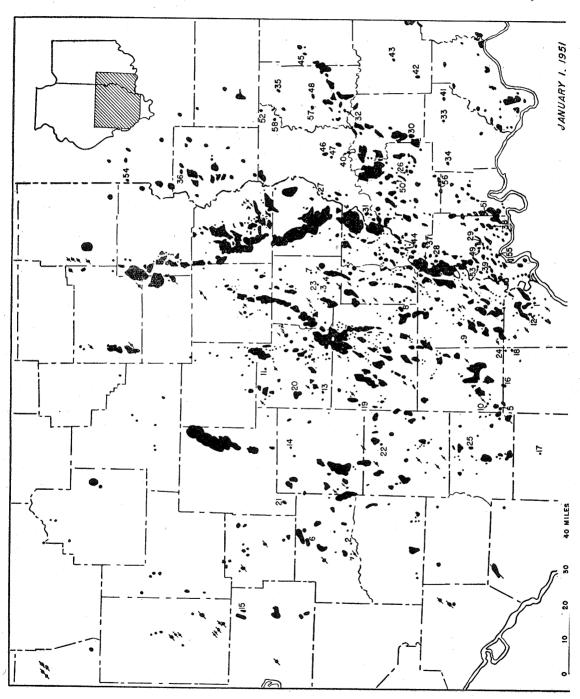
Exploratory drilling in 1950 was done in 52 counties in Illinois as compared with 54 counties in 1949. These counties extend from Boone and Winnebago on the Wisconsin border to Williamson and Saline in the south, and from Adams County east to Vermilion County. Nearly all the new pools discovered in Illinois in 1950 are located within 2 or 3 miles of previous production. The only noteworthy exception is the Marion pool, Williamson County (Table I, No. 17), which is about $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of the nearest previous production, the West Frankfort pool in Franklin County. Initial production from this well was 25 barrels of oil and 15 barrels of water from the Aux Vases sandstone and, to the end of 1950, no offsets had been drilled and no pipe-line runs had been reported from the pool. Even though this discovery may not be a commercial success, it is significant because it indicates the presence of oil farther south on the southern margin of the Illinois basin than any previous production except in the Junction pool, Gallatin County, which is located about 40 miles east.

A list of some of the most noteworthy dry holes completed in 1950 is given in

Table I. Discovery Wells of New Fields in Illinois in 1950

No. Wells Producing in Pool, Dec. 31, 1950	нннго	37 1 13	4 S 12	» ы	нъю	н н	36	н и и	01
Date of Completion	11-7 9-5 10-17 1-17 6-27	1-17 11-14 8-22	5-29 8-1 12-31	8-8	6-13 2-21 1-31	5-16	3-21 3-21	IO-24 II-7 6-6 9-5	0-50
Initial $Production \ (Bbl.)^{\mathtt{a}}$	38 99 8 382 430; 20	10 2,833,000 cu. ft. 285; 5	175; 3 148; 8 300; 200	35 65; 4	27; 35 24 47; 40	25; I5 63	. 22 5; I3	12; 80 10; 22 991; 18 52; 6	41; 5
Depth to Top (Feet)	2,727 2,528 3,278 3,270 3,209	1,147 3,198 3,270;	3,207 3,280 3,240 2,810	2,474	1,910 538 3,188	2,385	2,901 2,595	1,415 2,618 3,198 2,934	2,578
Producing Formation	Aux Vases Devonian McClosky McClosky Rosiclare	Bethel Rosiclare Lower Ohara;		Cypress Rosiclare	Bethel Pennsylvanian McClosky	Au Cy	vases McClosky Bethel	Bethel McClosky Rosiclare Aux Vases	Cypress
Total Depth (Feet)	2,754 3,284 3,280 3,393;	FB 3,210 1,151 3,315; PB 3,230 3,317	3,296 3,253 2,954;	2,494 3,000;	1,917 543 3,264;	2,560; PB 2,400 2,846	2,906 2,891;	1,425 2,629 3,210 3,161;	2,953; PB 2,600
Location	31-8S-10E 23-1N-3W 3-2N-10E 12-2N-10E 7-7S-5E	23-3N-3W 17-3N-14W 23-2S-9E	29-5S-9E 28-6S-5E 14-5N-6E	27-8S-9E 2-2N-5E	19-4N-3E 28-6N-6W 20-7S-6E	7-9S-3E 36-7S-7E	29-1N-5E 35-4N-5E	15-4N-1W 28-1S-3E 25-3N-10E 24-7S-7E	4-6S-3E
Сотрану анд Гагт	Coy & Vandenbark, L. Drone I Deep Rock, C. Johnpeter I Sanders & Frye, C. Wells I Johnson & Davis, C. W. Moore I Wrather & Duncan, R. P. Droit I	T. M. Conrey, King I George & Wrather, W. Malone I Skiles, Allison 1	Dedman & Herndon, I. Dunn r Stewart Oil, Johnson r Ashland et al., G. F. Van Dyke 1	A. Valter, L. B. Drone I Sohio, R. Fleming et al. 1	H. Luttrell, T. E. Robb I Geo. Zicos, J. Repovsch I W. O. Morgan, Cole I	T. M. Pruett, Norris Weisbroht Comm. 1 Skiles, Bramlett E-1	Henson Drlg., Richison I Texas, C. T. Gabbert I	C. J. Simpson, F. Bonnell I. Gulf, III. Cities Water Unit I. Calvert, C. L. Jordan I. J. F. Balderson, B. F. Bruce I	W. Duncan, U. S. Coal & Coke I.
County	Gallatin Clinton Richland Richland Hamilton	Clinton Richland Wayne	White Hamilton Clay	Gallatin Clay	Marion Madison Saline	Williamson Saline	Wayne Clay	Fayette Jefferson Richland Saline	Franklin
Pool	1. Ab Lake West 2. Bartelso East 3. Calhoun Central 4. Calhoun East 5. Cantrell South	6. Carlyle North7. Claremont Gas8. Ellery West	9. Enfield 10. Flannigan 11. Hord	12. Inman South 13. Kenner South	14. Kinmundy 15. Livingston South 16. Long Branch	17. Marion 18. Omaha West	 Orchardville Oskaloosa 	21. Patoka West 22. Reservoir 23. Ritter 24. Roland West	25. Whittington South

a Oil and water.
 * Consolidated with Inman West Consolidated.



Date of Comple- tion	9.20 9.20	
Initial Production (Bbls.) ^a	113 114,5 5 115,6 6 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 2 120,2 3 120,2 3	
Depth to Top (Feet)	11, 962 11, 10, 62 11, 10, 62 12, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10	~
Producing Formation	Biehl Bethel Salem McClosky McClosky Rosiclare Cypress Aux Vases McClosky Rosiclare Cypress Aux Vases McClosky	
Total Depth (Feet)	1,1990 1,1153 1,11153	
Location	2.3.	
Company and Farm	Calvert-Willis & W. Duncan, G. R. Evans I T. R. Kerwin, Bass I Ben Hess, Sohn I I. M. Conrey & d., A & K. Kneier I Ben Hess, Sohn I E. B. D. Jones, W. J. Todd I Sun Dig, W. D. Lake I C. E. Freim, E. M. Smith I F. M. Sunton, D. Olceser I F. L. Runyon, D. Olceser I F. L. Runyon, D. Olceser I F. L. Runyon, D. Olceser I F. Fulk, C. Robards I A. Stum & Son, Gaston I D. Hopkins, S. Redd I Wackins Diffe, H. Redd I N. C. Davies, B. Wilson I Sailes, C. D. Wafkins I Sailes, L. F. Holland I N. C. Davies, B. Wilson I Sailes, L. L. J. Williams I F. A. Stumon I, C. T. Stumon I Sailes, L. J. Williams I Sailes, L. J. Williams I C. D. Warthin, E. Scott I R. A. Harris, Hann I R. A. Sutton I Copper Dig, E. Stout et al. I Goopher Dig, E. Stout et al. I Sohlo, L. J. Williams I Goopher Dig, E. Stout et al. I Coy Oil, L. D. Asstin I Oil Management, Schmitt 2 Shulman Bres, V. Gibson I N. Redenine, C. C. Aud I I. L. Crawford, Patterson I Oil Management, Schmitt 2 Shulman Bres, V. Gibson I Sohlo, L. B. E. Richardson "An" I Magnolia, O. Taylor I I. Crawford, Patterson I I. Canviord, Patterson I I. S. Lalor, Quade I I. Radderson, R. Lily I-A M. H. Slagfer, I', Knaust I I. R. Slagfer, I', Knaust I I. W. Rudy, M. Koenete I I. W. Rudy, M. Frees I III. Mid-Continent, Shannon-Schodt I III. Mid-Continent, Shannon-Schodt I III. Mid-Continent, Shannon-Schodt I III. Mid-Continent, Shannon-Schodt I	
County	Edwards Clinton Clinton Clinton Clinton Clinton Edwards Clinton Edwards Clinton Edwards Clinton Edwards Clinton Richland Wayne Wayne Wayne Richland White Clay Clay Clay Clay Clay Clay Clay Clay	
Pool	1. Albion Cons. 2. Beaver Creek South 3. Beaver Creek South 4. Beaver Creek South 5. Batton North 6. Bible Grove North 7. Bairwille 8. Bone Gap South 9. Carlyen North 11. Clay City-Noble Cons. 12. Clay City-Noble Cons. 13. Clay City-Noble Cons. 14. Clay City-Noble Cons. 15. Clay City-Noble Cons. 16. Clay City-Noble Cons. 17. Clay City-Noble Cons. 18. Clay City-Noble Cons. 19. Clay City-Noble Cons. 19. Clay City-Noble Cons. 10. Clay City-Noble Cons. 11. Clay City-Noble Cons. 12. Conscription Clay City-Noble Cons. 13. Dale-Hodville Cons. 14. Elavardo 15. Elevardo 16. Epwarth 16. Elevardo 16. Elevardo 17. Elevarence 18. Election 18. Herald 19. Livingston South 19. Lougerove East 19. Livingston South 19. Livingston S	

60. New Harmony-Keensburg Cons. Wabash C. E. Skiles G. Okakaloosa Clay F. B. Drig. G. Okakaloosa Clay F. B. Drig. G. Parkersburg West Richland D. Baines, K. H. Chilipstown Cons. White J. Hinkle, F. H. Hillipstown Cons. White J. Hinkle, F. H. Hillipstown Cons. White J. Hinkle, F. H.	Skiles, E. Schmidt I. Oper, E. Kurtz I. I. R. Harrell I. Drig., R. Harrell I. I. R. J. Bossette I. I. R. J. Bossette I. I. R. Peptins I.	18-2S-13W 21-3N-10E 34-4N-5E	ļ.		(493.r)	$(BbL)^{\mathbf{a}}$	tion
West Clay F West Richard D Cons. White I	Drlg., R. Harrell I tines, J. Bossette I akle, Perkins I	1		Rosiclare Rosiclare Bethel	2,815 3,163 2,581	100 113	3-21 12-31 4-18
Cons. White J.	nkle, Perkins 1	3-3N-5E 26-2N-10E		Bethel McClosky	3,266	65	5-16
	chman. Sturm 1	24-3S-10E		McClosky Lower Ohara	3,186	40; 70	12-31
Richland J. Stapp Wabash I. Rezni	pp, S. Dobbs 1 znik, H. C. Waddle 1	30-3N-11E		McClosky Waltersburg	3,238	1,056	7-13
Rural Hill Stewart Rural Hill Stewart	ort Oil, M. Cluck I	9-6S-6E		Aux Vases	3,076	207; 10	8-22
71. Rural Hill Hamilton D. Hopkin	opkins, Burnett-Johnson Comm. 1	26-68-5E		Aux Vases Aux Vases	3,166	45; 50	10-17
	e & Wrather, H. Ditter 1	18-4N-8E		McClosky Cypress	2,992	3; 68	11-21
75. Sumpter South White M. & M. 76. Yealpole Hamilton Oil Manag	M. Drig., Hubele r anagement, Howard r Everbart, Harrell r	3-5S-9E 4-7S-6E 35-2N-4E	2,584 3,197; PB 3,192	Tar Springs Aux Vases McClosky	3,185	95 14; 100	5-23

a Oil and water.

TABLE III, DISCOVERY WELLS OF ADDITIONAL PRODUCING ZONES IN POOLS IN ILLINOIS IN 1950

7 6 × 5		
Date of Comple- tion of Discovery Well	7-18 11-7 11-7 3-14 9-19 9-19 9-19 9-19 6-6 6-20 6-20 6-20 8-8 11-218	10-3 89-55 89-12-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-10-
Initial Production (Bbl.)®	50; I 50 62 63 100; 50 31 126; 44 26; 85 11; 60 21; 6 21; 7 21; 7 2	300 300 583 35 35 35 441 23 441 25 46; 25
Depth to Top (Feet)		2,124* 2,072 2,037 2,9215 2,9215 1,387 1,387 1,457 860
Producing Formation	Cypress Aux Vases Mux Vases Mux Clossky Palestine Hardinsburg Salem Pennsylvanian Palestine McClosky Rosiclare Salem McClosky McClosky McClosky McClosky	Tar Springs Palestine Waltersburg Tar Springs Bethel Aux Vases Golconda Pennsylvanian Hardinsburg Cypress
Total Depth (Feet)	2,716 3,216; PB 3,138 2,337; PB 2,320 3,436; PB 3,612 777 1,956; PB 3,451 3,105; PB 3,437 2,466; PB 2,447	2,497 3,215; PB 2,415 2,072; PB 2,144 2,963 2,963 1,394 1,467; PB 1,463 885
Location	16-65-4E 7-75-5E 7-75-5E 18-45-10E 5-3N-9E 36-3N-11W 36-3N-11W 29-55-8E 29-55-8E 29-55-8E 29-55-8E 29-55-8E	22-88-9E 16-78-6E 18-18-13W 3-6S-10E 3-6S-10E 3-7N-3W 8-1N-14W 10-2N-2W 16-6N-2W
Company and Farm	Taylor & Schumaker, U. S. Coal & Coke 6 George & Warther—W. Duncan, R. Hunro 1. J. A. Wasson, Carlisle T. Fox & Fox, Barbre-Williams 2-A Skelly, Barbre "A". J. Fulk, H. E. Coen et al. 1. Nafl. Assoc. Pet. & Continental, W. I. Maddock, M. TX. Fulk, I. T. Stinson I. Superior, T. J. Dunn I. R. A. Harris, Hanna I. R. A. Harris, Hanna I. C. H. Murdock, Bartnes 2. Gopbier, Diffg., E. Stout et al. 1.	Cay Uil, W. Miner I. LaGrange Pet., Howard I. Miracle & Steber, J. A. Weir I. Skiles, G. Ackerman I. Skiles, G. Ackerman I. Mayor Drig, Brown I. Cullum & Lawhead, F. Koehler I. J. E. Bauer, J. M. Brevoort 2. D. Hopkins, Nelson I. Mami Oper., Besserman 2-A
County	Franklin Hamilton Hamilton Hamilton White White Richland Edgar Saline White White Edgar	Gallatin Hamilton Edwards Wabash White Bond Edwards Lawrence Bond Bond
Pool	1 400000 HHHOM	13. Inman South 14. Long Branch 15. Maplegrove East 16. Maud North Cons. 17. Maunie West 18. Maunie West 19. Panama 20. Parkersburg South 21. St. Francisville East 22. Woburn 23. Woburn South

a Oil and water.* Producing from 2 pays.

Table IV. These include a test of the Trenton limestone in the Assumption North pool, Christian County (No. 2), a test of the Silurian limestone in the Ayres gas pool, Bond County (No. 1), and a test of the St. Peter sandstone in the Dudley pool, Edgar County (No. 6). The deepest dry hole (No. 21), total depth 4,035 feet, tested the "Trenton" limestone near the Dubois West pool in Washington County.

No new Niagaran reef pools were discovered in Illinois in 1950 but exploration for them is continuing. Well numbers 9 and 14, in Table IV, were drilled on seis-

Pool	County	Company and Farm	Location	Total Depth (Feel)	Deepest Forma- tion	Depth to Top (Feet)	Date of Comple- tion
I. Ayers (Gas) 2. Assumption North 3. Assumption North 4. Warrenton-Borton 5. Warrenton-Borton 6. Dudley 7. Lawrence 8. 9. 10. 11. 12. 13. Waverly 14. 15. 16. 17. 18. 19. 20.	Bond Christian Christian Coles Edgar Edgar Lawrence Logan Macon Mason Montgomery Montgomery Montgomery Morgan Moultrie Perry Piatt St. Clair Sangamon Sangamon Shelby Washington	Hiawatha, Hunter 1 Nat'l. Assoc. Pet. & Cont. Lawrence 34 Lippitt, Jones 3 Shipman, Snoddy 1 Bridge, Johnson 1 Faulkner, Stoneburner 2 Black, Baltzell 1 Allspach, Park 1 Carter, Henneberry 1 Pinkston, Ainsworth 1 Harmony, Osburne 1 Reed, Hitchings 2 Murwood, Points-McMahan Comm. 1 Obering, Reuss 1 Schock, Glenn 1 McDowell & Murvin, Schwartz 1 Kidd, Frailey 1 Werner & Kluzek, Dietel 1 Blakley & Grubb, Cooper 1 Lippitt, Parsley 1 M. & M. Drlg. Co., Dallman 1	29-6N-3W 9-13N-1E 15-13N-1E 15-13N-1E 21-14N-14W 13-14N-14W 3-13N-13W 2-4N-13W 2-5-15N-3E 15-10N-10W 11-10N-1W 16-10N-4W 11-10N-1W 16-10N-4W 32-14N-4E 9-48-3W 18-10N-5E 8-2N-7W 14-15N-3W 14-15N-3W 14-15N-3W 14-15N-3W 34-34-3E	2,355 3,021 1,067 1,050 2,997 3,176 2,078 2,717 1,684 2,824 2,824 2,824 2,829 2,850 1,787 2,340 2,250 2,402 2,860 4,035	Silurian "Trenton" "Trenton" Devonian Devonian Devonian St. Peter Devonian St. Peter Silurian Devonian Devonian Devonian "Trenton" Galena "Trenton" Devonian "Trenton" Tenton "Trenton"	2,885 1,045 858 2,987 3,158 2,069 2,666 1,551 2,721 1,898 1,429 2,850 2,795 1,418 2,126 2,122	5-2 3-7 3-28 10-24 3-14 8-29 12-5 4-11 4-25 6-20 10-17 10-17 4-4 8-20 8-8 1-10 5-23 3-38

TABLE IV. SELECTED LIST OF DRY TESTS IN ILLINOIS IN 1950

mograph highs in an area recommended as having fair possibilities for reef production by H. A. Lowenstam.⁶ There still remains a large territory which has been little explored for Niagaran reef production. Well No. 1, Table IV, on the Ayers anticline was the only Silurian test completed in 1950 in the area recommended as having good prospects for the discovery of Niagaran reef production. It did not encounter reef rock in the Silurian. It is located 1½ miles east of a previous test well which penetrated reef outwash.⁷

METHODS OF EXPLORATION

The principal methods used in locating exploratory wells continued to be subsurface geology and the reflection seismograph (Table V). The amount of seismograph work decreased from 53 crew months in 1949 to 44 crew months in 1950. Gravity meter work increased from 25 crew months in 1949 to 28 crew months in 1950.

⁶ H. A. Lowenstam, "Niagaran Reefs in Illinois and Their Relation to Oil Accumulation," *Illinois Geol. Survey R.I.* 145, Fig. 9, p. 34.

⁷ Ibid., p. 35.

TABLE V. WILDCAT FAR WELLS CLASSIFIED BY METHOD OF LOCATION

Method of Location	Total	Producers	Percentage Successful
Geology	284	13	4.6
Geophysics	14	ī	7.1
Geology and geophysics	I	0	. 0
Non-scientific	26	0	0
Total	325	14	4.3

TABLE VI. NUMBER OF GEOPHYSICAL CREWS ACTIVE IN ILLINOIS DURING 1950 BY MONTHS

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Seismograph	3	3	3	4	5	4	5	3	3	3	4	4	44
Gravity meter	I	Ι	I	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	28
Resistivity	0	0	0	I	2	2	ĭ	ī	ī	ŏ	ő	ő	8
Soil analysis	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	ī	ī	T	ī	ī	6

INDIANA

By R. C. COOPER

During 1950, production in Indiana totaled 9,942,000 barrels.8 This is comparable with a total of 9,696,000 barrels produced during 1949 and represents an increase of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The total of all tests drilled was 1,530, representing an increase of 19 per cent over 1949. Tests were drilled in 55 counties, the same number as during 1949. This leveling off of the spread of exploration was to be expected since 1949 activity had been expanded greatly because of the sudden revival of interest in reef possibilities. Drilling activity in 1950 was more or less confined to the frontiers established in 1949 and was intensified as drilling commitments expired and geophysical work progressed on blocks taken during the previous year. Of the II counties in which the number of producing wells equalled or exceeded dry holes, only Pike and Posey counties were among the leaders in new pools discovered.

The footage drilled during 1950 was 2,637,597 feet. This figure is 12 per cent higher than that of 1949. The total initial production of all completed oil wells in 1950 was 41,236 barrels daily and the total initial production of all gas well completions was 70,219 M cubic feet. This compared with 44,650 barrels of oil completions and 26,000 M cubic feet of gas completions during 1949. Oil completions decreased 8 per cent and gas completions increased 170 per cent.

Discoveries include 33 new fields, 25 extensions, and 30 discoveries of new pay zones in producing areas. The Pocket area of southwest Indiana, which includes Posey, Gibson, and Vanderburgh counties, had 13 new field discoveries, 15 extensions, and 29 new pay discoveries. Ranking the counties by total discoveries of all types, Posey County is first with 37; Gibson second with 17; Knox third with 11; Pike fourth with 8; Daviess fifth with 6; and Dubois sixth with 4. Rank-

⁸ U. S. Bureau of Mines Monthly Petroleum Statement for December, 1950.

Table VII. Discovery Wells of New Fields in Indiana in 1950

Pool	County	Company and Farm	Location	Total Depth (Feet)	Producing Formation	Initial Production (Barrels)®	Date of Completion
26. Barrett-Mitchell North 27. Benan South 28. Black River 39. Claybank 31. Claybola Hills 32. Cumback West 33. Dickeyville 33. Elnora 35. Enora 35. Enora 36. Ford South 37. Fords Pond 38. Ford South 41. Heilman 42. Huntingburg 43. Jasper 44. Jimtown 45. Loogootee North (Gas) 46. Monroe City North 47. Monroe City North 47. Monroe City North 47. Monroe City North 48. Montgomer South 59. Sandborn 51. Shillips 52. Sandborn 53. Savah 54. Sixte Line 55. Savah 55. Savah 56. Warrettown East 57. Washington 56. Warrettown East 57. Washington	Gibson Knox Posey Posey Posey Posey Pike Daviess Daviess Daviess Cibson Martick Dubois Gibson Martick Dubois Gibson Martick Cox Knox Knox Knox Knox Knox Knox Knox Kn	George & Wrather, Temme 1 D. McCumber, Alexander 1 Ill. Mid-Continent, Foot 1 Ryan Oil Co., Buchanan 1 R. L. Rea, Stekfer 1 B. L. S. Drig. Co., Allison 1 Tecumsan Coal Co., Herald 1 Tecumsan Coal Co., Herald 1 Tarentasa Coal Co., Herald 1 Tarentasa Coal Co., Herald 1 R. L. Rasoc. Pet., C., Yeck 1 E. Mitchell, Woodruff 1 E. Mitchell, Woodruff 1 E. Mitchell, Woodruff 1 E. Mitchell, Woodruff 1 Carter Oil Co., Danke 1 N. W. Strange, Holman Est. 1 H. C. Exiles Allutedge 1 N. W. Strange, Holman Est. 1 H. C. Exiles Allutedge 1 B. W. J. Dev. Co., Hachgensang 1 Gale & Walters, Struckman 1 B. W. J. Dev. Co., Hachgensang 1 Galamboe, Phillips 1 M. & M. Drig. Co., Crene 1 H. & V. Oil Co., Kinsler-Dreiman 1 Aurora et al., Wells 1 C. E. Skiles, Schrode 1 W. S. Shiles, Schrode 1 W. S. Shiles, Schrode 1 W. S. Shiller, L. Keek 1 F. B. Clinc, J. Crews 3 Target Oil Co., Schloat 1 Target Oil Co., Schloat 1 Target Oil Co., Buller 1	25-25-10W 18-45-38W 18-45-38W 18-45-53W 18-45-	1, 884 1, 882 1, 982 2,930; PB 2,771 1,446 1,144 2,582; PB 1,907 1,538; PB 1,490 1,538; PB 1,490 1,538; PB 1,490 1,538; PB 1,568 1,727 1,470 1,788; PB 1,568 2,704 1,257 1,257 1,277 1,470 1,288; PB 1,568 2,367 2,367 2,367 1,385 1,3	Lower Ohara Rosiclare Clore Salem Cypress Devonian Hardinsburg Jackson Jackson Salem	131 55 123 123 126 127 127 127 127 127 127 127 127	8.3 17.13 17.21 17.21 17.21 17.21 17.22 17.23 17
58. Westphalia	Knox	Comm. 1 F. J. Ellison, Wood 1	28-5N-7W	950	Ste. Genevieve	210; 5	8-10

a Oil and water.
Location.
Military donation.

ing the counties by combined initial potential of discoveries places Posey first with 2,773 barrels; Gibson second with 1,105 barrels; Knox third with 1,057 barrels; Vanderburgh fourth with 327 barrels; Pike fifth with 230 barrels; and Sullivan sixth with 180 barrels.

Perhaps the most important discovery during 1950 was the Ford South pool in Posey County in March. At the end of 1950 it had 38 producing wells, princi-

TABLE VIII. DISCOVERY WELLS OF ADDITIONAL PRODUCING ZONES IN POOLS IN INDIANA 1950

Pool	County	Company and Farm	Location	Producing Formation	Initial Production (Barrels) ^a	Date Comp tion
I. Barrett-Mitchell North		Garfield et al., Wilderman 1	31-2S-9W	Aux Vases	275	8-1
2. Bufkin	Posey	H. A. Atha, Williams 1	18-6S-12W	Waltersburg	46; 8	8-1
3. Caborn West	Posey	L. Angermeier, K. Blackburn r	23-6S-13W	Degonia; Palestine	43; I	10-5
4. Claybank	Pike	Ryan & Sharp, Enos Coal Co. 12	3-3S-8W	Upper Cypress	3,000,00 cu. ft.	10-1
5. Claybank	Pike	Ryan & Sharp, Enos Coal Co. 12-A	3-3S-8W	Jackson	25; 50	10-1
6. Cypress Pond	Knox	Carter Oil Co., H. A. Fox 1	11-1S-12W	McClosky	60	1-5
7. Ford South	Posey	W. C. McBride, Feldman 1-A	27-6S-12W	Mansfield	160	5-I
8. Ford South	Posey	S. G. Walker, L. Lurker 1	27-6S-12W	Waltersburg	12; 50	6-1
9. Ford South	Posey	Ashland Oil & Ref. R. V. Stinson 1	33-6S-12W	Degonia	35; 24	II-2
10. Hatfield	Spencer	Ryan Oil Co., G. G. Forler 1	6-7S-7W	McClosky	48; 70	8-2.
11. Heusler	Posey	G. L. Reasor, P. Hahn 1	2-7S-12W	Pennsylvanian	150	10-1
12. Lamott	Posey	Magnolia, J. W. Seeger 1	19-7S-12W	Aux Vases limestone	35; 2	I-I
13. Lysle	Gibson	T & H Corp., Deep Vein Coal Co. I	1-2S-12W	Salem	20; 3	8-7
14. Monroe City North	Knox	Graham Dev. Co., A. Myers 3	*39-2N-9W	Rosiclare	45	12-1.
15. Monroe City North	Knox	Graham Dev. Co., A. Myers "B" 1	*38-2N-9W	Aux Vases dolomite	360	10-1
16. Mumford	Posey	C. E. Skiles, Mumford "B" 8	33-3S-13W	Clore	17	8-3
17. Mumford	Posey	Calvert Drlg. Co., Mumford 1	33-3S-13W	Degonia	451	7-13
18. Owensville	Gibson	Ashland Oil & Ref., F. Mount 1	19-3S-11W	Aux Vases	16	8-3
19. Owensville	Gibson	C. C. Clark, M. Montgomery 1	18-3S-11W	St. Louis	7	1-5
20. Owensville South	Gibson	C. E. O'Neal, M. Smith r	30-3S-11W	Aux Vases limestone	36; 2	7-20
21. Owensville South	Gibson	C. E. O'Neal, Garwood 2	25-3S-12W	Aux Vases sandstone	210	1-10
22. Patoka East	Gibson	J. Richardson, Pauley 1	20-1S-10W	Aux Vases limestone	100	10-12
23. Patoka East	Gibson	J. F. Howard, Ranley Hrs. 1	20-1S-10W	McClosky	40; 60	11-1 (
24. Piroque	Posey	Sinclair, S. Klein 1	13-8S-14W	Waltersburg	35	4-6
25. Plainville	Daviess	B. L. S. Drlg. Co., Plainville Unit "8" 2	2-4N-7W	Aux Vases limestone	. 9 6	3-2
26. Plainville	Daviess	Nat'l. Assoc. Pet., W. C. Foust "A" I	2-4N-7W	Salem	4,186,000 cu. ft.	6-1
27. Point	Posey	Slagter Prod., J. Harlem 1	31-7S-14W	Degonia	34; I	8-17
28. Point	Posey	G. Engle & Slagter Prod., Wolf 1	31-7S-14W	Cypress	43; 50	10-19
29. Prairie Creek	Vigo	John Unger, Drake-Shattuc Hrs. 2	16-10N-10W	McClosky	150: 15	7-13
30. St. Wendell East	Posey	Carter Oil Co., F. Wessel 1	25-5S-12W	Aux Vases limestone	108	1-5
31. Spencer	Posey	Carter Oil Co., B. Hastings 3	11-8S-14W	Cypress	56; 8	5-18
32. Springfield Cons.	Posey	G. & W. & Aurora, A. F. Clements 4	29-5S-13W	Degonia	30; 46	1-19
Springfield Cons.	Posey	Carter Oil Co., I. Nichols 4	29-5S-13W	Aux Vases	592	2-16
34. Stooker East	Posey	Superior, P. Jordan 1	4-7S-12W	Cypress	50	3-2
35. Terminal	Posey	R. Bauer, Posey Co. Poor Farm 1	6-7S-13W	Tar Springs	46	4-13
36. Union-Bowman	Pike	R. C. Brown, O. R. Phillips 2	29-1N-0W	St. Louis	35	5-18
37. Upton	Posey	C. E. Skiles, Geiger 1	6-7S-14W	Clore	. 24	8-24
38. Vienna	Vanderburgh	G. L. Reasor, C. B. Alson 1	30-5S-11W	Cypress	64	8-24
39. Welborn	Posey	V. R. Gallagher, Taran i	16-6S-14W	Waltersburg	600	12-21

^a Oil and water. * Military donation.

pally from the Cypress sandstone, with minor amounts from the Degonia and Waltersburg sandstones. This pool was producing 1,719 barrels per day at the end of the year and had accumulated 260,000 barrels. Reserves on that date were estimated at approximately 1½ million barrels. This pool was discovered from subsurface information and the accumulation is directly related to structural closure.

The discovery of the Fairbanks pool in Sullivan County, in September, 1950, further augments the Devonian production of Indiana. This new pool had 10 completed producers at the end of 1950 with a daily production of 608 barrels and an accumulation of 41,400 barrels. Most of the production in this pool is under

Table IX. Discovery Wells of Extensions to Fields in Indiana in 1950

County	Company and Farm	Location	I otal Depth (Feet)	Producing Formation	Initial $Production$ $(Barrels)^a$	Comple- tion
Init	ed Drlg. Co E. Flint I	14-1N-8W	I,285	Aux Vases	21; 5	8-31
7	field. Wilderman 1	31-2S-9W	1,850	Aux Vases	275	8-17
3	an Oil Co., Egli Hrs. 1	18-6S-12W	2,385	Cypress	22; 10	1-12
Š	an & Sharp, Enos Coal Co. 12-A	3-3S-8W	1,240	Jackson	25; 50	01-01
200	sor H. P. Stropp 1	WII-SS-II	2,470	Ste. Genevieve	300	8-24
Ċ	Walker L. L. Lurker 1	27-6S-12W	1,830	Waltersburg	12; 50	91-9
15	and I. A. Eisterhold I	33-6S-12W	2,350	Cypress	80	10-12
Por	oe & Wrather Weber I	36-2S-10W	1,063	Aux Vases	96	6-28
Š	C Dev Co Warner 2	7-2S-4W	672	Ste. Genevieve	12; 3	6-22
22 tok	a Oil & Gas Co L. Mendel I	12-2S-5W	604	Ste. Genevieve	6; 3	5-25
2	Hennard Thomas I	25-75-13W	1,021	Tar Springs	41; 40	11-2
) P	ons C. D. Waggoner I	34-4N-4W	1,468	Chattanooga shale	250,000 cu. ft.	11-22
1	am Mevers "B" I	*38-2N-0W	1,505	Aux Vases dolomite	360	10-19
choc	nmaker T. F. Mumford I	7-4S-13W	2,566	Cypress	50; I	7-27
Sush	Creek Oil P. Shoultz 2	12-5S-14W	2,040	Palestine	50	1-12
B	Cherry, Miller 1	12-2S-12W	2,400; PB 2,337	Cypress; Ste. Genevieve	17; 10	$\bar{7}$ -20
200	er Harlem r	31-7S-14W	1,860; PB 1,845	Degonia	34; 1	8-17
in Der	ior. Phillip Iourdan 1	4-7S-12W	2,300	Cypress	50	3-2
inide.	r & Kirklin, Geo. Moore I	35-13N-6E	050	Trenton	20	9-14
Ţ	Thos A Harth I	22-5S-2W	576: PB 546	Cydress	8; 6	4-13
	Cline Fine Coal Co I	17-1S-8W	1.612; PB 1.565	Aux Vases; Rosiclare	40; 15	9-21
i i−	rons W C Grubb r	W0-15-0	1.482	Cypress	1,300,000 cu. ft.	6-11
غ (ئار	s Drig Co Granlich 1	23-1S-0W	I, 601: PB I, 612	Aux Vases	40	10-12
i i	Chile: R Coiger 1	WAT-25-9	2.806; PB 1.848	Clore	24	8-24
):>	R. Gallagher, A. Taran 1	16-65-14W	2,345; PB 2,133	Waltersburg	009	12-21

a Oil and water.* Military donation.

restricted flow and all is from the Devonian limestone, which apparently is draped over a Silurian reef. This discovery has been attributed to seismograph.

In Knox County the Monroe City North pool was discovered in October, 1950, and at the end of the year there were 7 producing wells, 6 of which were from the Aux Vases limestone and one from the McClosky limestone. At the end of the year the daily production was 727 barrels and the accumulated production 40,896 barrels. This accumulation appears to be due to a pinch-out of porosity rather than to structural closure.

Two discoveries during 1950 which appear to be of some significance have been developed by operators who have not yet released any specific information.

			, ,	
County	Company and Farm	Location	Total Depth (Feet)	Deepest Formation Tested
1. Daviess 2. Floyd 3. Greene 4. Greene 5. Greene 6. Greene 7. Greene 8. Jackson 9. LaGrange 10. Orange 11. Parke 12. Parke 13. Parke 14. Vigo 15. Vigo 16. Wayne	W. Heppard, R. Norris I W. Brazil, Brazil I W. Hostettler, Hostettler-Ammer I F. Lyons, E. Blanton I Nat'l. Assoc. Pet., J. Shake I C. E. Skiles, S. Newson I C. E. Skiles, J. Stephens I A. Seevers, O. Griffin I Trico Dev. Co., F. & V. Spero I A. Brewer, H. Tolliver I Carter Oil Co., F. Blair I Clouse, Clouse I J. McGuire, Jeffries I Alco Engineer, Halstead et al. I Clouse, Lange I P. Gordon, M. Doddridge I	34-2N-6W 22-2S-5E 31-6N-4W 1-8N-7W 34-6N-7W 32-8N-5W 16-8N-4W 20-5N-4E 13-37N-11E 32-3N-1W 30-14N-8W 30-15N-8W 10-15N-6W 11-11N-9W 12-13N-74E	2,269 1,600 1,713 3,527 2,840 2,574 2,413 402 782 1,266 2,000 1,642 2,005 1,685 2,352 3,997	Trenton Trenton Silurian Prairie du Chien Trenton Trenton Trenton Devonian Trenton Devonian Silurian Silurian Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Trenton Granite

TABLE X. SELECTED LIST OF DRY TESTS IN INDIANA IN 1950

E. B. ...

One of these is the Montgomery pool in Daviess County. This pool was discovered by a coal company using coal data supplemented by seismograph. At the end of 1950, 9 producing Salem limestone wells had been completed with the highest initial potential reported to be 180 barrels per day. Accumulative figures are not yet available. Although very little is known of the stratigraphic information in this pool, its general outline and geographic position would suggest that it is related to an underlying reef.

The other discovery on which information is being withheld is the Washington pool in Daviess County which was brought in in September, 1950, and had 12 producing wells on December 31, 1950. The depth of completions indicates that the Salem limestone is the producing formation. Unconfirmed information indicates that approximately 145 barrels of oil per day were being run at the close of 1950 and that the accumulative production on that date was more than 5,000 barrels. This discovery was made by an operator who is known to be using seismograph as a principal means of exploration. This pool is very likely related to a Silurian reef.

In Daviess County the Plainville pool was discovered in 1949 but had only 4 completed wells at the end of last year's report. At the end of 1950 this pool had 54 producing oil wells and 4 gas wells. Operators were running approximately

1,700 barrels of oil per day and the accumulated production was 700,000 barrels from the Aux Vases limestone, McClosky limestone, and Devonian limestone. The gas is from the Salem limestone. This pool has been attributed to seismograph and is thought to be producing from beds draped over a Silurian reef.

Exploration and leasing continue active in the marginal counties of the Illinois basin, particularly in the belt along the northeastern margin where Silurian reefs

Table XI. Number of Geophysical Crews Active in Indiana during 1950 by Months

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Seismograph Gravity meter	7 4	7 5	10 4	9 3	8	9 3	11 3	11 2	11 2	11 2	8	5 1	107 33

are known to have resulted in accumulation of oil in younger beds and in the Pocket area where Pennsylvanian and Chester sandstones together with the Mc-Closky oölitic limestone porosity zones offer a larger number of pay possibilities through structural closure and porosity pinch-out traps. Leases are becoming increasingly scarce and prices are increasing daily. Through the year 1950 there was a continuous and intensive search for structures by geophysical methods, particularly seismograph and gravity meter. This is particularly true of the belt in which reef accumulations are expected. Some core drilling was done and a few stratigraphic tests were drilled. Prospects for 1951 are good and an active program of leasing and exploration is anticipated.