50 OIL PROSPECTING, DRILLING AND EXTRACTION

DOS BOCAS-CASIANO FIELD.

This field has a distinct geological definition, the oil-bearing strata being exposed along a chain of low hills having an easterly-westerly trend, which can be traced for over fifty miles.

There is no difficulty in investigation along these hills, as the formation has been uplifted during recent disturbances, showing the stratified rocks dipping with more or less regularity away from them. These stratified rocks are largely made up of limestone, sandstone and shale measures. The layers of sandstone are loose, ranging from 30 to 100 feet in thickness and are very porous, thus affording great storage capacity for oil. Intrusive rocks outcrop at various places along these hills and there are numerous oil seepages in the vicinity of these intrusive rocks and at the axis of anticlines.

The oil from these seepages ranges in gravity from 14° to 18° (B). This field, without doubt, is destined to become highly productive, as is indicated by the developments at Juan Casiano, where the Huasteea Oil Company, better known as the Doheny interests, has brought in some very successful wells.

CERRO VIEJO FIELD.

The Cerro Viejo field lies to the south of the Dos Bocas-Casiano field just described, and in a measure parallels it, lying as it does on the opposite side of a mountainous elevation which divides the two fields. The character of the formations and the oil which they yield are largely similar in each. Shale and sandstone strata penetrated by intrusive rocks are the chief geological features of the district. The existence of oil is proven in a great part of the region by numerous oil seepages. Very successful wells have been drilled in this region and one in particular, the El Potrero, stands today as the record well of Mexico since the unfortunate destruction of the Dos Bocas Gusher by fire. It is believed, from a study of the general character of the formations throughout this region, that a number of wells of this high type can be brought in. There are a number of good producing wells besides the large gusher mentioned, and they all indicate the high character of the oil-bearing formations in this part of the Tampico region.