

Nearly all of the crude petroleum produced in Canada comes from the coniferous limestone, and contains a considerable proportion of sulphureted hydrogen, which imparts an unpleasant odor to the finished product, unless removed by special treatment.

The wells are usually from 330 to 400 feet in depth, and are cheaply drilled, as only one string of casing is required. Owing to these conditions, there are a great number of wells in operation, compared with the production secured. The present production in Canada does not amount to more than 40 per cent. of the quantity consumed, the deficiency being supplied by the United States.

In Quebec a number of deep wells have been drilled in the last ten years on Gaspé Peninsula. In all, fifty-two wells have been drilled in this locality, from 500 to 3,700 feet in depth. A number of these have shown traces only of petroleum of good quality, one variety being much lighter in gravity than the other. There are several well defined anticlinals in a general southeast-northwest direction, more or less faulted. The strata containing the petroleum are sandstone, alternating with red or brown shales, which are supposed to be of Devonian age.

The recent developments south of Moncton, New Brunswick, are still progressing, and deeper drilling has developed more productive lands. The production in this field at the close of 1903 is estimated to be close to one hundred barrels per day, the product of fifteen wells, if pumped to their capacity. The depth varies from 1,000 to 1,500 feet.

Several deep wells drilled within the last four years near Lake Ainslie, Cape Breton, have failed to find petroleum in paying quantities, although the succession of shales and sandstone deposits are quite similar to those of the Pennsylvania productive region.

The development of petroleum, already mentioned in a former report, in southeast Kootenay district, Alberta, has not as yet taken place. There are some evidences of petroleum springs in this region, and the structural conditions are considered favorable.

Newfoundland—During 1903 another well was drilled near Parson's Pond, on the west coast, to a depth of 1,204 feet, which developed a flow of petroleum. Two other wells, drilled to a depth of 600 feet, developed considerable natural gas, but no petroleum. Up to this date, six wells have been drilled at this locality to sufficient depth, and five of them have found petroleum. The quantity is yet to be determined by pumping them a sufficient length of time to test their output. No new developments have recently been made at Long Point, where a number of small wells were drilled in former years.

The following is a statement of the production of crude petroleum in Canada for the years 1902 and 1903, by districts, in barrels of forty-two gallons:

District.	1902.	1903.
Petrolia .....	397,628	350,390
Oil Springs .....	60,747	56,405
Bothwell .....	50,141	48,880
Dutton .....	8,867	21,483
Raleigh .....	2,462	1,161
Wheatley .....	....	1,995
Leamington .....	....	1,190
Total .....	519,845	481,504

\*\*\*

## INDUSTRIAL NOTES.

A new post-office is to be erected in Winnipeg.

A cement brick factory will be started at Galt by George Howes and George Booty.

The Norton Manufacturing Co., Hamilton, can manufacturers, are building a large addition to their factory.

John O'Leary, of Ottawa, has been awarded a contract to repair the leaks along the Galops Canal. The price is \$40,000.

The Saginaw Salt and Lumber Company, of Sandwich, Ont., has closed down its plant until the latter part of next spring. Over a hundred men are thrown out of employment. The reason attributed for the shut-down is that the company has a quantity of cut lumber on hand sufficient to last until the middle of the coming summer.

The American Axe and Tool Co., which has three factories in the United States, is looking for a suitable site for a Canadian factory.

The new boiler works of the Goldie & McCulloch Co., in Galt, are practically completed, and are expected to be in operation before Christmas Day.

As a result of a trip through Canada by a party of French and Belgian bankers, headed by A. Demmee, of Paris, capital from France and Belgium will be invested in this country.

Plans for Toronto's new Union Station, on lines that will make the cost about three million dollars, will be drawn up by Architects Darling and Pearson, E. J. Lennox and Alfred Chipman.

The American Horseshoe Co. has acquired land in Hamilton, and will begin the erection of a factory in the spring. The plans call for a building 300 by 75 ft., constructed chiefly of steel.

An oil gusher, bigger than any yet discovered in Moore Township, was struck on October 31st by Messrs. Duncan, Dunfield and Wilkinson. This opens up a new oil field six miles from Petrolia.

The C.P.R., during the summer, laid down nearly four hundred miles of new track in the North-West, built several new bridges, straightened out curves, altered gradients, did some double-tracking, and commenced work in connection with the irrigation scheme in the North-West.

The Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, in convention in St. Louis last month, chose Toronto as the place of meeting for the next biennial convention. The new officers are: Grand president, John T. Wilson, St. Louis; first vice-president, A. B. Lowe, Kingston, Ont.; second vice-president, W. S. Powell, Greensboro, N.C.; grand secretary, C. Boyle, Merrickville, Ont.

The contract for the construction of the new Victoria Museum, at Ottawa, has been awarded to George Goodwin. The figures of his tender are understood to be slightly over \$1,000,000, and it was nearly \$300,000 lower than the next tender.

W. H. Wattman, late of Toronto, is starting a carriage factory in Perth, Ont. He will build the woodwork for broughams, landaus, hearses, etc.

Paul Bloch and Jules Weill, representing the Compagnie General des Produits Metallurgiques de France, are now in this country investigating the iron deposits, and the prospects for a market for steel products. The company they represent have large factories in the south of France, and propose erecting steel plants in the United States and Canada. The Canadian plant would probably be located in Ottawa or Montreal.

Tenders are invited for a \$200,000 lift lock, at Kirkfield, on the Trent Canal. The location will be between Lake Simcoe and Balsam Lake, or about one hundred miles from the Peterborough lift lock. The Kirkfield lock will be about ten feet shorter than the one at Peterborough, and the lift will be fifty-five feet, or ten less than at Peterborough. The towers at Peterborough are of concrete; at Kirkfield they will be of steel. The lock, as well as that portion of the canal on which it is located, will be completed next autumn.

It is reported that the Packard Automobile Mfg. Co., of Detroit, is negotiating to establish a branch factory in Canada. It has a factory at St. Catharines for the manufacture of incandescent globes, and will erect an addition to the establishment for the manufacture of motors. The St. Catharines council has agreed to submit a by-law to fix the assessment on the new industry at \$12,000, and this will be voted on shortly. The company is required to pay \$25,000 annually in wages and to have the plant in operation by February.

The Pictou smelting plant has been bought by the Inverness Copper Co., Limited, of Halifax, which has valuable mineral property at Cheticamp, C.B. The smelting plant was originally erected at a cost of \$175,000, and two years ago it was improved at a further cost of \$45,000. The present capacity is 100 tons per day. The new owners are putting it in condition for operation, and later will increase its capacity to about 300 tons. Besides smelting ores mined by the Inverness Co., the smelter will do custom smelting of copper, gold and lead. The original owners got into litigation and were forced to sell soon after completing the plant.