

LETHBRIDGE CONFERENCE ON MORE AND BETTER WATER SUPPLY

al survey and from memory may be summed up as:

Nodpath, 784 feet

Taher, 470 feet.

Daze Bros., sec. 36-8-15, over 800 feet

Well near Elncastle on farm of Mr. C. D.

Well near Purple Springs gradually silted up 655 feet.

Several at Hardett; water found in about twenty wells.

C.P.R. well at Faremost, 725 feet.

No. 3 well in Etzikom coulee, 600 feet

Beaver well, Milk River, 165 feet.

Wells drilled by geological survey between sec. 11 and 12-8-13 and between sec. 19 and 30-9-10.

Several of the wells are reported as decreasing in flow and this seems to be owing to the silting up of the wells by the fine sand. They are apparently not supplied with a proper strainer at the bottom, a precaution that seems often to be overlooked in the proper completion.

Well Drilling—For shallow wells the prospecting should not be done by a boring machine using as large a diameter as the finished well. Small diameter drill holes cost much less and the area prospected may be

greatly enlarged. The jetting tool can profitably be employed where the material is soft, but over a large area here it is questionable whether it is of any advantage. We are trying a combination machine and have found the great difficulty that there is owing to the very hard layers encountered. Our experience seems to indicate that a rotary drill will eventually be the solution of the drilling problem. For the benefit of all it is one of the necessary things to consider that the experience gained by every test well sunk should be recorded and if possible samples of the rocks passed through kept. Certain areas may thus become known as suitable for the use of one type of machine for economical work and the depths to water known. Uncertainty about depth and character of drilling tends to keep up the price of the work.

In the summary report of the Canadian Geological Survey, 1915, pages 102-111 (copies of which may be had from the Department of Mines, Ottawa), there is an interesting article by Mr. Dowling on "Water Supply, South-eastern Alberta," describing the work that was undertaken by the survey in 1915.

NOTE ON RECENTLY-FOUND ARTESIAN WATER

Before this Bulletin goes to press it is learnt that one of the wells drilled by the Dominion Government has proved water at the road allowance between sections 11 and 12, township 8, range 13, W. 4th meridian, about ten miles north east of Skiff. A flowing well has been developed there.

The other well being drilled by the Dominion Government about ten miles south of Bow Island, on the road allowance north of section 19, township 9, range 10, W. 4th meridian, was not completed in the Fall of 1917, but drilling will be resumed in 1918.

In the meantime another Artesian Well has been brought in, close to Gahern post office about 12 miles south of Etzikom; this is on the road allowance between sections 19 and 30, township 4, range 8, W. 4th meridian. This well is delivering a splendid flow of water, estimated at over 30,000 gallons per day.