

**OKLAHOMA GEOLOGICAL SURVEY**

**Chas. N. Gould, Director**

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**OIL AND GAS IN OKLAHOMA**

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**BEAVER, TEXAS, AND CIMARRON COUNTIES**

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**By**

**Ray L. Six**

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**NORMAN**

**MAY, 1930**

## CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION .....	5
Location .....	5
Acknowledgments .....	6
BEAVER COUNTY .....	7
Location .....	7
Topography .....	7
Geology .....	7
Surface formations .....	7
Whitehorse sandstone .....	7
Cretaceous beds .....	8
Tertiary volcanic ash .....	8
Late gravels and sands .....	8
Subsurface formations .....	9
Structure .....	12
Development .....	12
TEXAS COUNTY .....	14
Location .....	14
Topography .....	15
Geology .....	15
Surface formations .....	15
Subsurface geology .....	18
Structure .....	21
Development .....	21
CIMARRON COUNTY .....	23
Location .....	23
Topography .....	23
Geology .....	25
Surface formations .....	25
Triassic red beds .....	25
Comanchean .....	27
Exter sandstone .....	28
Morrison .....	28
Cretaceous .....	28
Tertiary .....	28
Quaternary .....	28
Subsurface geology .....	28
Structure .....	33
Development .....	33
SUMMARY .....	33

## ILLUSTRATIONS

PLATE	
I. Geologic Map of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron counties... In Pocket	
II. Cross-section east and west through Beaver, Texas and Cimarron counties ... In Pocket	
III. A. Dune topography on the north side of Beaver Creek, south of Floris, Beaver County .....	24
B. The High Plains northwest of Guymon, Texas County. Road crosses one of the broad saucer-like undrained depressions .....	24
IV. A. Dakota sandstone topography east of Kenton, in the Cimarron Valley; Furgatoire and Morrison underlie scrap-forming Dakota .....	26
B. Cimarron River Valley and Black Mesa west of Kenton, Oklahoma .....	26
V. Cauplin: A recent volcanic cone in northeastern New Mexico. A possible source for volcanic ash deposits of the Panhandle and adjacent regions .....	34
FIGURE	Page
2. Map showing the relationship of this area to the Anadarko Basin.	
1. Index map of Oklahoma showing the area covered by this report....	5
3. Contours on the base of the red beds .....	13
3. Map showing areal relationships in the Red Point area, Texas County, Oklahoma .....	16
4. Caliche deposits and gravels in Rock Island railroad cut, southwest of Optima, Texas County, Oklahoma .....	18

## BEAVER, TEXAS, AND CIMARRON COUNTIES

By  
Ray L. Six

### FOREWORD

In 1917 the Oklahoma Geological Survey issued Bulletin 19, Part II, entitled "Petroleum and Natural Gas in Oklahoma." This volume was so popular that the supply was soon exhausted and for several years copies have not been obtainable.

The present Director has seen the need of a revision of this bulletin. On account of the lack of appropriations he has not been able to employ sufficient help to compile the data, and has called on some twenty representative geologists throughout the State to aid in the preparation of reports on separate counties. These gentlemen, all busy men, have contributed freely of their time and information in the preparation of these reports.

It will be understood that the facts as set forth in the various reports represent the observation and opinion of the different men. The Oklahoma Geological Survey has every confidence in the judgment of the various authors, but at the same time the Survey does not stand sponsor for all statements made or for all conclusions drawn. Reports of this kind, are at best, progress reports, representing the best information obtainable as of the date issued, and doubtless new data will cause many changes in our present ideas.

This separate, which deals with the petroleum geology of the three Panhandle counties, Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron, has been prepared by Mr. Ray L. Six, instructor in geology in the University of Oklahoma. The general geology of these three counties is embodied in Bulletins 34, 37, and 38 of the Oklahoma Geological Survey published in 1925 and 1926. Mr. Six spent some time during the summer of 1929 in field work in these counties and has brought the information in the above bulletins up to date.

Norman, Oklahoma

May, 1930.

CHAS. N. GOULD,

Director.

### INTRODUCTION

#### LOCATION

Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron Counties are located in the extreme northwestern portion of the State. They form the area formerly called "No Man's Land" and in territorial days "Beaver County". After statehood it was divided into three approximately equal parts and "Beaver" was retained for the eastern third. This area is sometimes referred to as the "Panhandle" of Oklahoma and for obvious reasons.

This area embraces Tps. 1 to 6 N., inclusive, and Rs. 1 to 28 E., C. M., inclusive; and lies between 36° 30' and 37° 00' N. Latitude and 100° and 103° W. Longitude. Its northern boundary is the state lines of Colorado and Kansas; its eastern is Harper and Ellis counties of Oklahoma; its southern is the Texas line and its western is the New Mexico state line. This series of counties lies in the Great Plains phy-



Figure 1. Index map of Oklahoma showing location of Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron counties.

siographic province. With the exception of shallow, saucer-like depressions and two stream valleys the area is a featureless plain drained by the Cimarron and the North Canadian Rivers and the tributaries. The former has carved a series of beautiful canyons in northwestern Cimarron County near Kenton and its environs. After flowing two-thirds of the way across this county this river flows north into Kansas then returns to Oklahoma just east of the center of the north line of Beaver County. The North Canadian enters Oklahoma in southwestern Cimarron County and flows almost across the southern part of the county before it flows into Texas. It reenters Oklahoma just a few miles west of the southeast corner of Texas County and continues eastward through central Beaver County. This stream is extremely interesting in that it flows in a valley grooved out of the top of the divide between the Cimarron and the South Canadian Rivers.

The geology of this region is simple excepting for some stratigraphic relationships in northwestern Cimarron County. There is need of much detailed field work to clarify these relationships. This comment also applies to the relationships of the Tertiary gravels.

The following generalized geologic column presents the writer's understanding of these stratigraphic relationships of these three counties in May, 1930. Plate I of the report shows the general areal relationships. A number of corrections have been made on previous maps of the area but many inaccuracies still exist.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Inasmuch as sufficient time was not available for detailed field studies of this very interesting area on the part of the writer, especial thanks are due those whose data has made parts of this report possible. The publications of Gould and Lonsdale,<sup>1</sup> Rothrock, Lee, Darton, Stanton, and many others have been very helpful. The writer is also deeply indebted to Mr. R. C. Tate of Kenton for personally conducting him to the places of geologic interest in the northwestern part of Cimarron County and its environs. The Oklahoma Geological Survey prepared the maps for this report.

Structurally this area lies within the monoclinial province east of the southern Rocky Mountains. The western part of Cimarron County is broken by a series of undulations whose axes are nearly parallel to that of the Rockies to the west. These folds are probably related to the orogenic disastrophism of these mountains.

<sup>1</sup> Gould, Chas. N., and Lonsdale, John T., Geology of Beaver County: Oklahoma Geol. Survey Bull. 38, 1626.

## BEAVER COUNTY

### Location

Beaver County is the eastern one of the three Panhandle counties. It is rectangular and includes all of forty townships and four-sixths of nine others. It embraces Tps. 1 to 6 N., Rs. 20 to 28 E., C. M. The northern boundary is the Oklahoma-Kansas line. On the east it is bounded by Harper and Ellis counties, on the south by the Texas line, and on the west by Texas County of Oklahoma. It has an area of 1,728 square miles.

The W. F. & N. W. Ry. enters the county at Gate and follows the divide between the Cimarron River and Beaver Creek westward to Forgan. From here it runs due west to Hooker in Texas County. At Forgan a branch line known as the B. M. & E. Ry., connects it with Beaver City, which is the county seat, on the south bank of Beaver Creek six miles south of Forgan.

The population of Beaver County is approximately 17,000 which is an average of about 10 per square mile. Important towns are Beaver City with a population of 1,500, Forgan 700, Gate 250, and Knowles 225.

### Topography

Beaver County lies on the eastern edge of the Great Plains province. The surface is a plain which slopes gently eastward. The northeastern part of the county is dissected and drained by the Cimarron River and its tributaries. The central and southern portions of the county are drained by Beaver Creek (North Canadian River) and its tributaries, the most important of which are Kiowa, Duckpond, Clear and Jackson Creeks. The North Canadian and its tributaries drain approximately five-sixths of the county.

## GEOLOGY

### Surface Formations

The following formations outcrop in Beaver County; Whitehorse sandstone, Day Creek dolomite(?), and Cloud Chief Gypsum of Permian age; Cretaceous oyster beds(?); late Tertiary volcanic ash, limestones, and clays; later Tertiary sands and gravels; and Quaternary alluvium and dune sand.

### WHITEHORSE SANDSTONE

This formation outcrops in the eastern and central portions of the county along Kiowa and Camp Creeks and the North Canadian River and the valleys tributary to it from the south. It is also found along the Cimarron River in the northeastern part of the county. The Day Creek dolomite is probably present in the same areas separating it from

the overlying Cloud Chief. The Cloud Chief gypsum is found in the valleys of Camp and Kiowa Creeks along the south wall of the North Canadian and in practically all of the tributary valleys from the south and also in a number of those from the north.

#### CRETACEOUS OYSTER BEDS

These beds occur in isolated localities in the county and are composed largely of *Gryphea* shells of Lower Cretaceous age. Judging from the water-worn character of these shells they may be transported Cretaceous material, Tertiary in age. They may be observed in T. 3 N., R. 24 E., C. M., along Clear Creek, in the SW. cor., T. 3 N., R. 25 E., C. M., and in the NW. cor., T. 4 N., R. 25 E., C. M.

#### TERTIARY VOLCANIC ASH

These deposits may be found in many localities. A typical one is found north of Gate in sec. 10, T. 5 N., R. 28 E., C. M., one and one-half miles west of another deposit of the same material. The first deposit is approximately 10 feet in thickness and 120 by 450 feet in extent. A deposit 12 feet in thickness occurs in the NW.  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 1, T. 5 N., R. 27 E., C. M., Numerous other deposits of the same will be found listed and described by Frank Buttram.<sup>2</sup>

Later Tertiary sands and gravels cover approximately four-fifths of the surface area of the county. Within or under these gravel deposits in many areas are found limestone and fine clay deposits containing fossil leaf and fish remains. These are most abundant in the east-central part of the county north and south of North Canadian River. Three deposits are found south of Cline and one  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles west of Zelma. Two others are found 4 miles northwest of this along Kidd's Creek in sec. 23, T. 4 N., R. 26 E., C. M. An extensive deposit occurs one mile north of Riverside in secs. 3 and 10, T. 3 N., R. 25 E., C. M. Udden, Berry, Darton, Gould, and others have described fossil leaves from these localities.

#### LATE TERTIARY SANDS AND GRAVELS

These deposits belong, perhaps, to the Loup Fork (Miocene), Goodnight (?), and the Blanco (Pliocene) of the Texas Panhandle Tertiary. This subdivision of the Tertiary in the Panhandle of Texas is based upon vertebrate fossils as identified by Cummins and Cope. Quaternary alluvial deposits occur along the Cimarron and North Canadian Rivers. A strip of fine sand varying in width from one to five miles lies north of the North Canadian. Northwest of Beaver City and southwest of Floris dunes are found to reach their maximum development. In a number of localities the Tertiary gravel or "mortar beds" yield abundant *Equus* and *Elephas* remains. The "mortar beds" and the Tertiary gravels cover most of the county.

<sup>2</sup> Buttram, Frank, Volcanic dust in Oklahoma: Oklahoma Geol. Survey Bull. 13, 1914.

#### Subsurface Geology

Our knowledge of subsurface conditions in this county is wholly dependent upon logs of the few wells that have been drilled here and in adjacent areas. Deep wells drilled in northwestern Oklahoma within the last two years have revealed a practically complete section of Permian and old rocks as far as the Mississippian. The deep well drilling in sec. 14, T. 26 N., R. 24 W., Harper County, has revealed much more Mississippian limestone than was expected, over 800 feet. Fossils from this section indicate that the Mississippian seas came from the Cordilleran region. Plate II shows the general subsurface relationships of the underlying Permian and the older rocks. The following logs of wells drilled in this county indicate the detailed character of underlying sediments.

#### Log of Gate Well, Sec. 33, T. 5 N., R. 28 E., Cimarron Meridian

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Soil .....	0	5	Blue slate .....	905	910
Sand clay .....	5	25	Red rock .....	910	970
Red rock .....	25	40	Lime .....	970	978
Water sand .....	40	48	Red rock .....	978	985
Red rock .....	48	83	Sandy lime .....	985	1000
Water sand .....	83	90	Red rock .....	1000	1005
Red rock .....	90	170	Lime .....	1005	1015
Water sand .....	170	178	Red rock .....	1015	1045
Red rock .....	178	265	Salt .....	1045	1048
Sandy lime .....	265	268	Sandy lime .....	1048	1065
Red rock .....	268	275	Red rock .....	1065	1067
Sand .....	275	300	Sandy lime .....	1067	1080
Red rock .....	300	350	Red rock .....	1080	1085
Sandy lime .....	350	353	Sandy lime .....	1085	1100
Red rock .....	353	362	Red rock .....	1100	1123
Lime and gyp .....	362	395	Red lime .....	1123	1130
White lime .....	395	412	Red rock .....	1130	1140
Blue shale .....	412	420	Sandy lime .....	1140	1155
Brown shale .....	420	450	Red rock .....	1155	1160
Sandy lime .....	450	467	Salt .....	1160	1166
Salt .....	467	567	Gray lime .....	1166	1177
Red rock .....	567	572	Red rock .....	1177	1187
Salt .....	572	585	Blue lime .....	1187	1203
Red rock .....	585	620	Red rock .....	1203	1215
Salt .....	620	630	Lime .....	1215	1240
Red rock .....	630	670	Red rock .....	1240	1250
Salt .....	670	720	Salt .....	1250	1288
Red rock .....	720	740	Red rock .....	1288	1290
Sand .....	740	743	Salt .....	1290	1395
Red rock .....	743	840	Blue slate .....	1395	1405
Sand .....	840	842	Salt .....	1405	1430
Red rock .....	842	860	Red rock .....	1430	1510
Sandy lime .....	860	865	Blue slate .....	1510	1528
Red rock .....	865	890	Red rock .....	1528	1548
Sand .....	890	892	Blue slate .....	1548	1563
Red rock .....	892	905	Red rock .....	1563	1575

(Continued on page 10)

Formation	Top	Bottom
Brown slate	1575	1600
Red rock	1600	1625
Brown slate	1625	1650
Red rock	1650	1725
Blue slate	1725	1765
Lime	1765	1770
Blue slate	1770	1775
Lime	1775	1780
Blue slate	1780	1795
Lime	1795	1820
Blue slate	1820	1823
Lime	1823	1840
Blue slate	1840	1855
Lime	1855	1895
Slate	1895	1900
Lime	1900	1905
Slate	1905	1915
Lime	1915	1918
Slate	1918	1943
Lime	1943	1958
Salt	1958	1975
Lime	1975	1990
Salt	1990	1997
Slate	1997	2015
Salt	2015	2020
Lime	2020	2035
Salt	2035	2040
Sandy lime	2040	2050
Salt	2050	2063
Limey salt	2063	2087
Lime	2087	2092
Lime and slate	2092	2102
Lime	2102	2107
Salt	2107	2165
Lime	2165	2170
Salt	2170	2190

*Log of Skear Well, Sec. 17, T. 3 N., R. 23 E., Cimarron Meridian*

Formation	Top	Bottom
Soil	0	10
Red beds	10	250
Sand and water	250	265
Red beds	265	300
Sand and water	300	310
Red beds	310	400
Quick sand	400	425
Red beds	425	600
Salt	600	640
Red beds and blue shale	640	692
Blue shale	692	712
Sand (dry)	712	720
Red beds	720	840
Red beds and salt, mixed	840	860
Brown shale	860	1140

Formation	Top	Bottom
Slate	2190	2205
Lime	2205	2245
Slate	2245	2248
Lime	2248	2365
Sandy lime	2365	2370
Salt	2370	2395
Lime	2395	2505
Lime	2505	2665
Gray slate	2665	2667
Sandy lime	2667	2750
Water sand	2750	2765
Slate	2765	2770
Water sand	2770	2775
Red slate	2775	2780
Sandy lime	2780	2832
Slate	2832	2837
Lime	2837	2862
Asphalt	2862	2893
Brown sand	2893	2903
White lime	2903	2908
Lime and sand	2908	2918
Gray lime	2918	2940
Black lime	2940	3005
Gray lime	3005	3014
Blue shale	3014	3020
Lime, gray	3020	3030
Brown sand	3030	3040
Lime and much sand	3040	3049
Pink lime	3049	3060
Gray shale	3060	3065
Coarse sand	3065	3068
Brown shale	3068	3073
Gray lime	3073	3079
Black lime	3079	3099
Gray lime	3099	

Formation	Top	Bottom
Soft red beds	1140	1500
Hard gray lime	1500	1540
Red beds	1540	1600
Brown shale	1600	1810
Soft cavy red beds	1810	2000
Brown shale	2000	2018
Hard blue shale	2018	2030
Hard white lime	2030	2040
Lime and blue shale, mixed	2040	2072
Sandy lime, good showing oil	2072	2075
Hard blue shale	2075	2102
Hard gray lime	2102	2105
Blue shale	2105	2120

(Continued on page 11)

Formation	Top	Bottom
Brown shale	2120	2123
Blue shale	2123	2250
Black shale, soft	2250	2262
Light blue shale	2262	2272
Hard sandy lime	2272	2287
Black shale, soft	2287	2295
Hard sandy lime, gray	2295	2300
Sand (dry, gray)	2300	2312
Black shale, mixed with soft white formation	2312	2318
Blue shale	2318	2340
Dark shale (fine)	2340	2370
Blue shale mixed with soft white formation	2370	2385
Mixture of lime, salt and sand	2385	2410

Formation	Top	Bottom
Soft blue shale	2410	2427
Coarse dark blue shale and soft white formation	2427	2450
White lime, not very hard	2450	2465
Black shale	2465	2475
Hard lime and blue slate mixed	2475	2522
Hard white lime	2522	2810
Sandy brown lime	2810	2915
Sand and water, about 600 feet water in hole	2915	2985
Brown sandy lime	2985	3005

*Log of Empire Well, Sec. 6, T. 1 N., R. 20 E., Cimarron Meridian*

Formation	Top	Bottom
Soft red surface	0	19
Soft red mud	19	79
Hard red shell	79	82
Soft red sand	82	85
1 bbl. water per hr.		
Soft red mud	85	125
Hard white lime	125	140
Soft red mud	140	180
Soft red sandy shale	180	195
15 bbls. water at 185'		
Soft red mud	195	255
Soft red sandy shale	255	270
Soft red mud	270	331
Soft red quick sand	331	336
Soft red mud	336	367
Soft red quick sand	367	374
Soft red mud	374	395
Hard red shell	395	402
Soft red sand	402	406
Soft red mud	406	409
Soft red sand, 1/2 HFW	409	416
Soft red mud-hole cave	416	430
Soft sandy red rock	430	436
Soft red mud	436	447
Soft red mud	447	502
Soft red shell gyp	502	506
Soft red mud	506	512
Hard white rock gyp	512	530
Hard red shell	530	540
Hard white gyp	540	550
Soft red mud	550	580
Hard red shell	580	588
Soft red mud	588	653
Hard white shell	653	670
Soft red rock	670	685
Boulders at 685'		
Hard red shell	685	690

Formation	Top	Bottom
Soft red rock	690	785
Soft red mud	785	820
Hard red shell	820	825
Soft red mud	825	885
Soft red salt	885	895
Soft red mud	895	1040
Hard red sand	1040	1065
Soft red mud	1065	1165
Soft red shale	1165	1175
Soft red mud	1175	1275
Hard sandy shell	1275	1290
Soft red mud	1290	1340
Soft red sandy mud	1340	1360
Soft red sandy shale	1360	1450
Soft red mud	1450	1480
Soft gray lime mud	1480	1490
Hard gray lime	1490	1535
Soft red mud	1535	1595
Hard gray shell	1595	1610
Soft red mud	1610	1620
Hard white salt-caving	1620	1695
Soft red mud	1695	2040
Soft red shale	2040	2085
Hard white lime	2085	2090
Soft gray shale	2090	2115
Soft red mud	2115	2145
Hard gray shell	2145	2148
Soft gray slate	2148	2175
Soft blue slate	2175	2200
Hard white lime slate	2200	2320
Hard white lime	2320	2350
Hard white salt	2350	2355
Hard white lime	2355	2385
Soft blue slate-lime	2385	2530
Hard white lime	2530	2850
Hard white sandy lime	2850	2855
Hard white lime	2855	2860

(Continued on page 12)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Hard brown sand	2860	2905	Soft blue slate	3129	3132
Soft brown sandy lime	2905	2940	Soft white sand	3132	3140
Hard white lime	2940	2975	Hard white sandy lime	3140	3147
Soft white sand	2975	2980	Hard white lime	3147	3150
Hard white sandy lime	2980	3012	Hard white sandy lime	3150	3205
Hard white lime	3012	3037	Hard black lime	3205	3245
Soft blue slate	3037	3040	Hard gray lime	3245	3290
Hard white lime	3040	3050	Hard red mud	3290	3295
Soft white sandy lime	3050	3060	Hard white sandy lime	3295	3385
Hard white sand	3060	3083	Soft white sand	3385	3392
Hard white lime	3083	3107	Hard white lime	3392	3415
Soft blue slate	3107	3110	Hard black lime	3415	3423
Hard white lime	3110	3119	Hard white sandy lime	3423	3475
Soft white sand	3119	3129	Hard gray lime	3475	3537

### STRUCTURE

The structure of the surface rocks of Beaver County is a monocline dipping gently to the east. The Tertiary and Quaternary rocks covering most of the county show little, if any, underlying structure of this area. It is only along the valleys of the Cimarron and North Canadian rivers and the lower portions of their tributaries that mapable horizons are found. A comparison of logs of wells drilled in this county reveals a marked similarity to those drilled at Texhoma, Oklahoma, and in Liberal, Kansas as well as in the northern part of the Panhandle of Texas. In all of these places oil or gas has been found in commercial quantities. Figure 2 shows the general structure of this region and its relation to the Anadarko Basin.

### DEVELOPMENT

Thus far only three wells have been drilled in Beaver County. The logs of these are given under "Subsurface Geology" of this county.

#### Location of wells drilled in Beaver County.

WELL	LOCATION	DEPTH Feet	REMARKS
Gate	Sec. 33, T. 5 N., R. 28 E., C.M.	3,099	Dry
Skeer	Sec. 17, T. 3 N., R. 23 E., C.M.	3,055	Dry (1924)
Empire	Sec. 6, T. 1 N., R. 20 E., C.M.	3,537	Dry (Sept. 1925)

Considerable interest has been manifested in this county due to commercial production of natural gas in Clark County, Kansas, at Texhoma in Texas County and both petroleum and natural gas in the Texas Panhandle. Producing horizons known to the east of the county should be nearer the surface in the western part of Beaver County than in the extreme northwestern part of Oklahoma east of the Panhandle.

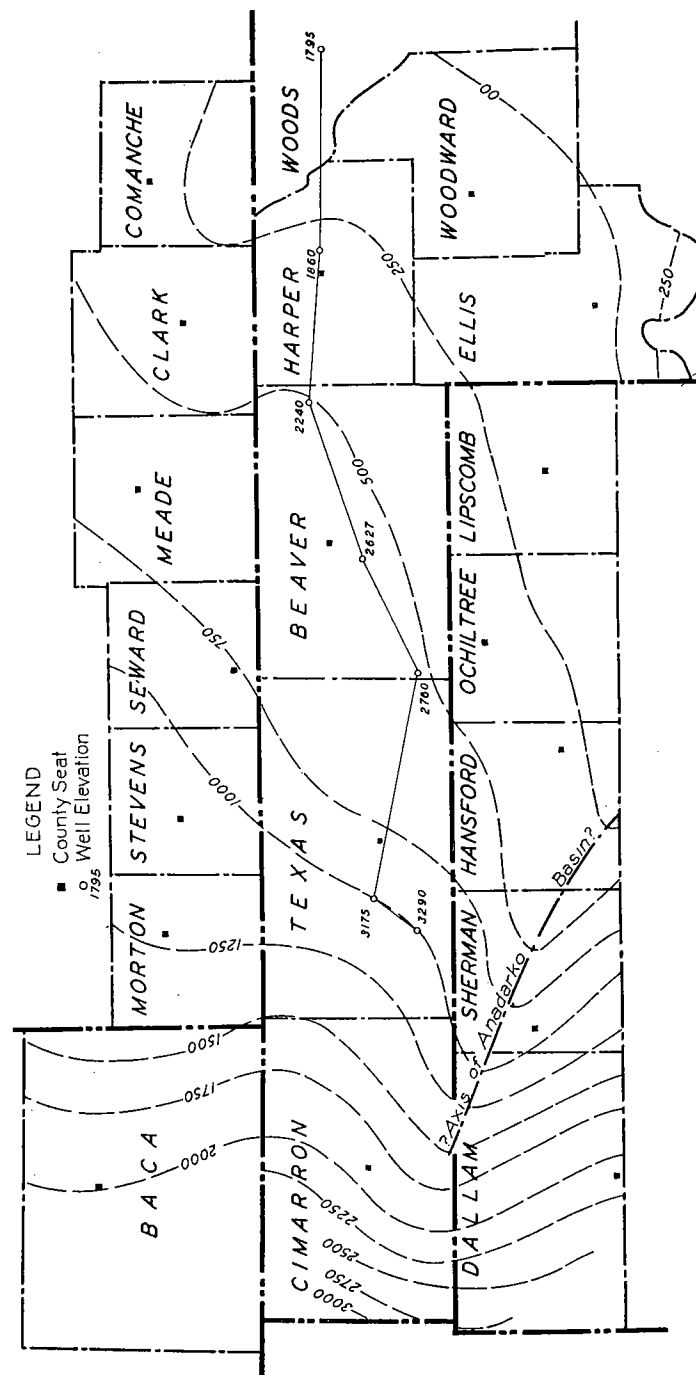


Figure 2. Map showing the relationship of this area to the Anadarko Basin. Contours on the base of the red beds.

The western part of Beaver County is composed of a portion of the High Plains the subsurface rocks of which dip eastward. Core drilling and geophysical methods would give more accurate information to guide prospecting in the area. Inasmuch as Beaver County lies along the northern rim of the Anadarko Basin and along the west rim of what is believed to be a structural high, it would not be surprising to find production in this area. The exact nature of the structure of the producing areas in Kansas on the north and in Texas County to the west is in question. So far as the writer is informed, these producing areas were not determined from surface indications.

*Generalized geologic section of surface rocks of  
Beaver, Texas, and Cimarron Counties, Oklahoma*

ERA	SYSTEM	FORMATION
RECENT	Quaternary	Alluvium and eolian deposits
CENOZOIC	Pliocene Angular unconformity	Black Mesa Basalt and Volocanic ash
	Pliocene and Miocene	Limestones, clays, sands and gravels
MESOZOIC	Cretaceous	Benton shales and limestones Dakota sandstone
	Comanchean	Purgatoire formation
		Morrison formation Exter sandstone
		Unnamed varigated shales Red beds
Triassic	Red beds	
PALEOZOIC	Permian	Quartermaster (?) Cloud Chief formation Day Creek dolomite (?) Whitehorse sandstone

### TEXAS COUNTY

#### Location

Texas County is the central one of the Oklahoma Panhandle counties. It is rectangular in shape and includes all of fifty townships and two-thirds of ten others. The area embraces Tps. 1 to 5 N., inclusive and four miles of Tps. 6 N., Rs. 10 to 19 E., C. M., inclusive. (From the base-line on the 36° 30' parallel N. Lat.) The northern boundary of the county is the Oklahoma-Kansas line, and the southern is the Oklahoma-Texas line. To the east is Beaver County and to the west is Cimarron County. The area of Texas County is approximately 2,065 square miles.

The main line of the Rock Island enters the county near the northeast corner and runs southwest through Tyrone, Hooker, Optima, Guyman, Goodwell, and Texhoma where it enters Texas. The B. M. & E. Ry. enters the county one and one-half miles north of the southeast corner T. 5 N., R. 19 E., C. M. and runs due west through Baker, Hooker, and Mouser to Hough, a distance of 34 miles. Another branch of the Rock Island enters the county at the northeast corner and runs southwest through Baker, Adams, and Hardesty and across the Texas-Oklahoma line at Hitchfield. A branch line of the Santa Fe from Elkhart, Kansas to Boise City in Cimarron County crosses the northwest corner of the county.

The population of Texas County is approximately 20,000 which is an average density of 10 per square mile. The principal towns are Guyman, the county seat, with 1,600 in population, Goodwell, Hooker, Tyrone, and Texhoma. The Panhandle State Agricultural College has an excellent plant at Goodwell.

#### Topography

This county is in the High Plains physiographic province and consequently has little relief. The elevation varies between 2,900 feet at the eastern side of the county to 3,700 feet at the northwest corner. Beaver Creek (North Canadian River) with its tributaries drains the county. The principal tributaries are Paloduro, Hackberry, Coldwater, Pony, Goff, Tepee, South Fork and North Fork of Beaver Creeks. Owing to light rainfall these creeks are dry during the greater part of the year. The average rainfall is only twenty inches. Water is obtained from wells drilled into the Tertiary gravels which cover most of the area of the county.

With two exceptions the county is an unbroken plain sloping gently to the east. The North Canadian and its tributaries have carved a shallow valley through the central portion of the county and the valley of Paloduro Creek presents a rough, broken terrane. Most of the county is without drainage lines. The stream valleys are usually small canyons. In the northern and western parts of the county are a number of shallow, saucer-like depressions without surface drainage outlets which form shallow lakes after rains. These lakes seem to be characteristic of High Plains topography and their origin is problematical. Springs occur at the base of the Tertiary gravels where streams have cut through into the underlying red beds.

#### GEOLOGY

##### Surface formations

The oldest rock occurring on the surface is the Cloud Chief gypsum of Permian age. This formation and overlying "mortar beds" form the precipitous valley walls of Paloduro Creek and its tributaries



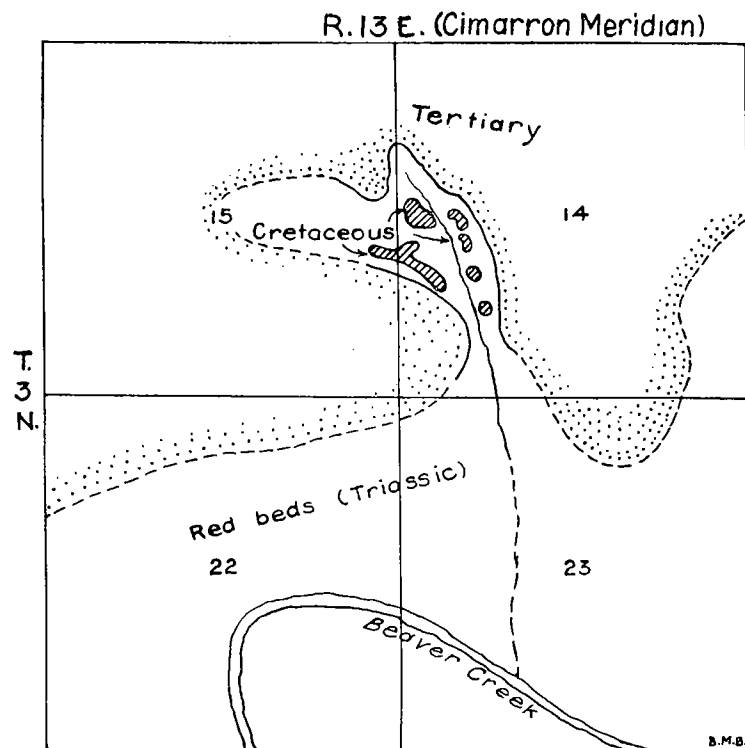


Figure 3. Sketch map of the Red Point area, Texas County, Oklahoma.  
(After Bullard)

in the southeast part of the county in the vicinity of Range and Grand Valley in Tps. 1 and 2 N., Rs. 18 and 19 E., C. M. The thickness of the Cloud Chief gypsum just east of the Range postoffice is approximately 70 feet. Gypsum beds form a prominent part of the Cloud Chief formation at only one point in the area and that is about one mile east of the Range postoffice in the valley wall of Paloduro Creek. At other places the formation is composed of red, gray, and green shales with some red sandstone lentils. A concretionary sandstone member lies about 25 feet above the gypsum member previously mentioned. It occurs in sec. 17, T. 1 N., R. 19 E., C. M., about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Range. The thickness of this member is about 8 feet and it is buff to brown in color and very fine grained. Within it are numerous dendritic-shaped, concretionary aggregates averaging one-sixteenth of an inch in diameter and numbering about 10 to the square inch of rock surface. These are dark in color which is due, perhaps, to the presence of manganese oxide. There are numerous concretions of iron

oxide spherical in shape and ranging in size from small shot to the size of a pea. These are, no doubt, pyrite or marcasite altered to limonite. This sandstone member is similar to the Hackberry and Big Basin of the Kansas Permian. It is possible that a part of this area mapped as Cloud Chief is really Whitehorse.

Two areas of red beds occur in this county, one near Red Point on the North Canadian River in T. 3 N., R. 13 E., C. M. and another along Tepee Creek in T. 3 N., Rs. 11 and 12 E., C. M. These beds are Triassic in age.

Six Lower Cretaceous outliers are found in secs. 14 and 15, T. 3 N., R. 13 E., C. M. They rest directly upon the Triassic red beds and are composed of soft, white to yellow-brown sandstone which, due to its ferruginous content, weathers to dark red. This is very similar in color to the underlying Triassic and Clifton<sup>3</sup> was the first to differentiate between the red Tertiary and the red Triassic. For a detailed discussion of this area the reader is referred to Bullard's<sup>4</sup> report embracing this area, and to the following map (fig. 3) for the areal relationships of the rocks of this area.

The Tertiary rocks cover more than nine-tenths of the surface area of this county and lie unconformably upon the older rocks. They vary in thickness from 300 to 500 feet. The following log taken from a well drilled at Optima in the north-central part of the county reveals the general character of the Tertiary of the area.

*Log of the Optima well, Texas County.*

Character	Thickness	Depth	Character	Thickness	Depth
Sandy shale	100	100	Yellow sand	15	388
Reddish Clay	15	115	Dry sand	10	398
Sandy clay	114	229	Brown sand	5	403
Red clay	64	293	Sand clay	3	406
Dark clay	56	349	Blue shale	80	486
Blue clay	4	353	Sandy gravel and shale	12	498
Yellow clay	20	373			

The Tertiary rocks of this portion of the High Plains present a very complex problem, and the differentiation and correlation of these gravels with the Tertiary of the northern and southern Great Plains has not yet been accomplished. Fragments as large as one foot in diameter are found in Texas County over 100 miles from their nearest known source. The streams which transported these clastics were very different from those now existing in this region. On the surface the clastics have a mortar-like appearance, hence the name, "mortar beds."

Overlying these Tertiary deposits and widely distributed throughout this portion of the Great Plains are caliche deposits which are usually overlain by gray, clacaeous soil. This caliche varies from one

<sup>3</sup> Clifton, R. L., personal communication to Chas. N. Gould, 1925.

<sup>4</sup> Bullard, Fred M., Lower Cretaceous of western Oklahoma: Oklahoma Geol. Survey Bull. 47, 1928.

to 20 feet in thickness and occasionally one observes two or more accumulations, one above the other. It is the same as the "cap rock" of the Texas Panhandle and the tops of the Antelope and Twin Hills of Roger Mills County. Excellent exposures of the caliche and underlying Tertiary gravels may be observed in the Rock Island railroad cuts between Guymon and Optima. Remains of vertebrates are obtainable in the railway cut on the north side of North Canadian River about two miles southwest of Optima. Figure 4 is a photograph taken at this location which shows the deposit. The University of California has made extensive collections here of several species of horses, camels, elephants, saber tooth tigers, and ruminants. Extensive collections have been made from numerous other localities in this county.

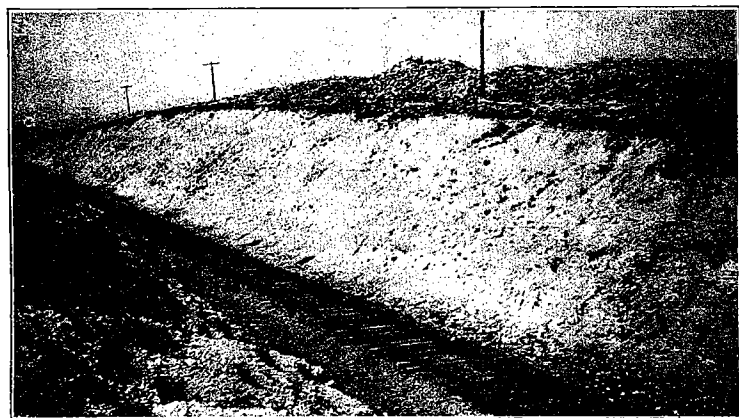


Figure 4. Caliche in railroad cut between Guymon and Optima.

For detailed description of the previously mentioned caliche deposits, the reader is referred to work of Gould and Lonsdale<sup>5</sup> on Texas County.

The Quaternary system of rocks in this area is represented by alluvial and dune deposits, the latter occurring in the broad, flat bottoms of the canyon-like valleys of the major drainage lines. Dune sand occurs north of North Canadian River in the southeastern part of the county. This is a westward continuation of the eolian deposits of Beaver County. The height of these dunes reach as much as sixty feet, length a quarter of a mile, and width fifty yards.

#### Subsurface Geology

The subsurface formations are Cretaceous and older. These and the Triassic rocks outcrop in the vicinity of Red Point in the west-central

5. Gould, Chas. N. and Lonsdale, John T., *Geology of Texas County: Oklahoma Geol. Survey Bull. 37, pp. 30, 33, 1926.*

part of the county in the vicinity of Range. Of pre-Permian formations little is known. It is reasonable to suppose, however, that the same formations which underly Beaver County to the east also underlie Texas County at shallower depths. The regional dip of rocks is a gentle monocline to the southeast. Very little diagnostic criteria relating to the structure of the pre-Cretaceous rocks is available as they are overlain unconformably by Tertiary and Quaternary sands and gravels. A considerable number of wells have been drilled in the county in recent years and the following logs reveal the general character of subsurface horizons to a depth of about 3,000 feet. The use of the core drill and geophysical instruments will reveal more. Core drill holes should be drilled to exceed 300 feet since the Tertiary deposits are almost that thick.

The following well logs show the general character of the subsurface formations in the southern and west central portions of the county.

#### Log of Texhoma well sec. 4, T. 1 N., R. 1 E., C. M.

(Elevation, 3,500 feet?)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Sandy soil .....	0	15	Red shale .....	1425	1450
Sand and gravel .....	15	174	Red sand .....	1450	1467
Hard sand .....	174	200	Red shale .....	1467	1500
Red rock .....	200	315	White lime .....	1500	1525
Sandy shale .....	315	355	Sandy lime .....	1525	1575
Red shale .....	355	400	Salt rock .....	1575	1650
Lime shale .....	400	420	Gyp rock .....	1650	1655
Flint rock .....	420	425	Black lime .....	1655	1670
White lime .....	425	433	Red shale .....	1670	1700
Red brake .....	433	480	Red sand .....	1700	1740
Red sand .....	480	510	Red shale .....	1740	1750
Red shale .....	510	600	Broken sand .....	1750	1800
Sandy shale .....	600	640	Lime shale .....	1800	1825
Red shale .....	640	700	Red mud or shale .....	1825	1860
Red water sand .....	700	760	Broken sandy .....	1860	1880
Red shale .....	760	775	Sandy hard lime .....	1880	1910
Gyp rock .....	775	800	Red shale .....	1910	1950
Red brake .....	800	825	Red shale .....	1950	2125
Hard lime .....	825	860	Red cave .....	2125	2160
Red shale .....	860	875	Sandy shale .....	2160	2180
Salt rock .....	875	900	Hard lime .....	2180	2190
Red shale .....	900	910	Blue shale .....	2190	2200
Red sand .....	910	930	Sandy shale .....	2200	2210
Salt rock .....	930	985	Red shale .....	2210	2220
Red shale .....	985	1000	Hard lime .....	2220	2240
Soft sand .....	1000	1025	Red cave .....	2240	2250
Hard red sand .....	1025	1100	Lime hard .....	2250	2260
Soft red sand .....	1100	1220	Shale red .....	2260	2270
Red shale .....	1220	1280	Lime hard .....	2270	2275
Red sand .....	1280	1300	Blue shale .....	2275	2280
Red shale .....	1300	1400	Lime white hard .....	2280	2290
Red sand .....	1400	1425	Blue shale .....	2290	2300

(Continued on page 20)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Lime dark	2300	2310	Lime	2707	2720
Blue shale	2310	2340	Blue shale broken	2720	2735
Lime and shale	2340	2400	Red shale	2735	2740
Blue shale	2400	2450	Lime hard	2740	2750
Lime hard	2450	2475	Water sand	2750	2760
Blue shale	2475	2500	Lime hard	2760	2775
Black lime hard	2500	2520	Shale red	2775	2780
Blue shale	2520	2545	Shale blue	2780	2800
Lime shale	2545	2555	Lime shale	2800	2825
Red shale	2555	2560	Soft sand no water	2825	2850
Lime white	2560	2570	Blue shale	2850	2875
Red shale	2570	2580	Black and white lime	2875	2900
Lime white hard	2580	2590	Red shale	2900	2925
Blue shale	2590	2620	Lime white	2925	2950
Lime broken	2620	2630	Red and blue shale	2950	2980
Blue shale	2630	2670	Lime white	2980	2990
Lime black	2670	2695	Red shale	2990	3020
Gas sand	2695	2707	Red cave—Total depth	3020	3040

*Log of Zea no. 1, sec. 28, T. 3 N., R. 13 E., C. M., Near Redpoint*

(Elevation, 3,167 feet)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Surface soil	0	20	Lime	1585	1600
Sand and clay	20	50	Broken lime	1600	1608
Sandy clay	50	150	Gyp and shale	1608	1634
Sand and clay	150	170	Broken sand and shale	1634	1654
Clay	170	200	Shale	1654	1708
Sand rock	200	218	Salt	1708	1710
Sand and red clay	218	375	Broken sand and gyp	1710	1728
Hard sand	375	425	Lime shell	1728	1732
Lime	425	430	Broken sand, gyp	1732	1783
Broken lime	430	445	Shale	1783	1796
Lime	445	470	Gyp broken	1796	1798
Red shale	470	575	Broken gyp and shale	1798	1888
Broken lime	575	580	Broken sand and shale	1888	1935
Red shale and clay	580	655	Sandy lime, shale	1935	1937
Shale and clay	655	765	Broken sand, shale	1937	1950
Broken sand and lime	765	775	Shale	1950	1995
Red bed	775	800	Shale, gyp, sand	1995	2025
Red shale	800	825	Broken lime	2025	2035
Gyp	825	835	Gyp rock	2035	2045
Gyp rock	835	855	Broken gyp shale	2045	2055
Gyp and red shale	855	890	Broken sand and shale	2055	2075
Gyp and shale	890	945	Shale, sand and gyp	2075	2105
Broken gyp rock	945	955	Gyp	2105	2110
Sand rock	955	973	Gyp and shale	2110	2125
Gyp rock	973	975	Gyp and shale	2125	2133
Gyp	975	976	Gyp	2133	2135
Red shale	976	1150	Gyp	2135	2143
Sandy shale	1150	1260	Gyp and shale, broken	2143	2155
Red shale	1260	1425	Shale	2155	2184
Red shale and sand	1425	1498	Gyp shell	2184	2185
Gyp rock	1498	1500	Red shale	2185	2190
Red rock	1500	1505	Broken gyp and shale	2190	2201
Shale	1505	1555	Gyp rock—Total depth	2201	2204
Gyp	1555	1585			

## STRUCTURE

Very little is known as yet concerning the structure of this county except through inference. The rocks on the surface are largely unconsolidated and do not contain well defined mappable horizons. The Tertiary and Quaternary deposits cover all of the county excepting Range and Red Point like a huge blanket. The nature of the structure at Texhoma is problematic.

Figure 2 shows the general relationships of Texas County to the Anadarko Basin. Contours are drawn by Clifton on the base of the red beds. In the Red Point area there are local variations in dip. At Texhoma a monocline(?) represents the structural relationships.

## DEVELOPMENT

Either petroleum or gas has been found in paying quantities in the Panhandle region of Texas to the south, in the vicinity of Liberal, Kansas, to the north and at Texhoma and Red Point in this county. Consequently, Texas County may be regarded as potential oil and gas territory.

The well at Taxhoma was begun by the Home Development Company of Texhoma, November 15, 1922 and completed at a depth of 3,040 feet on December 3, 1923. It is located in the NW  $\frac{1}{4}$  SW  $\frac{1}{4}$  sec. 4, T. 1 N., R. 11 E., C. M. It has been furnishing Texhoma with gas for a number of years. Another well drilled by the same company just one location to the east and drilled to approximately the same depth had produced gas but was not being used when the writer visited the well in the summer of 1929. Exact data regarding the initial production of this well was not available but various estimates range from 5 to 30 million cubic feet. The production comes from the "Big Lime" of the Texas Panhandle which is of Wichita-Albany age (?). The thickness of the producing horizon is 15 feet. It will be observed from examination of the log that the Tertiary rocks were passed through at a depth of 200 feet and the Permian(?) red beds at 2,275 feet with the well ending in the Pennsylvanian.

The well drilled by the H. F. Wilcox Oil and Gas Company in sec. 8, T. 3 N., R. 13 E., C. M. is known as the Zea No. 1. It was begun on September 27, 1925 and completed at 2,204 feet in gypsum which apparently is still in the Permian section. Gas was reported at 2610 feet (3 M. cu. feet) and at 2,680 feet ( $\frac{1}{2}$  M. cu. ft.) The upper producing horizon (Cottonwood ?) is 50 feet in thickness and the lower is 20 feet thick.

The discovery of gas at Texhoma and at Red Point gave impetus to the lease and royalty business and to drilling activities. Most major oil companies obtained blocks of leases and some have drilled. About fourteen wells have been located or drilled. Texas County has received more play than all the rest of the Oklahoma Panhandle.

## Wells drilled in Texas County

COMPANY	LOCATION	DEPTH Feet	RESULTS
Wilcox Oil and Gas Co., E. W. Zea No. 1 Wilcox Oil and Gas Co., Geo S. Honey No. 1 M. M. Valerius No. 1 Dillard Easterwood M. M. Valerius No. 2	SW SE 28, 3N-13E, CM. SE SE 21, 4N-14E, CM. NW SW 18, 3N-12E, CM. SE 32, 5N-12E, CM.	4,025 4,400 4,000 4,001	2,685 gas show 2,680 gas show Gas at 2,690 Gas at 3,339 Gas at 3,940 1,000,000 cu. ft. 7,000,000 cu. ft. gas, 2,635 15,000,000 cu. ft. gas Abandoned
(Frantz) Reiter-Foster Hurliman No. 1 Allison-Garber-Pulse Allison No. 1	NW SW 9, 3N-15E, CM. NW SW 4, 1N-12E, CM.	3,500 3,040	
(Kugle-Hargrove) Reiter-Foster H. & H. Oil Co. N. Panhandle Oil Co. Three Way Oil Co. North Panhandle Oil Co. Huddilleon Gas Co. Texas Co., Gas Co. No. 1 Boone Skaer, Hitch No. 1 Argus Prod. Co. No. 1 Ralston	Gen. NE 10, 2N-11E, CM. NW NW 25, N- E, CM. SW 24, 2N-18E, CM. NW 11, 1N-18E, CM. NW 5, 1N-19E, CM. SE 15, 2N-11E, CM. NE NE 17, 3N-15E, CM. NW cor. 25, 1N-15E, CM. C SW 23, 6N-14E	3,500 Drilling at 200 Ft. Drilling at 300 Ft. Drilling at 2,200 ft. Spudded in 3,503 250 Rig on ground	Shut down

Plate II shows the general east-west subsurface relationships based on well logs. Most wells drilled have been too shallow for thorough tests.

The following list includes all wells drilled or located in this county to May, 1930.

## CIMARRON COUNTY

## Location

Cimarron County is the extreme western of the Oklahoma Panhandle counties. It is rectangular in shape and includes all of 45 townships and two-thirds of 9 others making a total area of 1,836 square miles. It embraces Tps. 1 to 5 N., inclusive and four miles of T. 6 N., from the base line 36° 30' N. Latitude and from Rs. 1 to 9 E., C. M., inclusive. It is bounded on the west by the New Mexico-Oklahoma line, 103° W. Longitude; on the north by the Kansas-Oklahoma line; on the east by Texas County and on the south by the Texas-Oklahoma line.

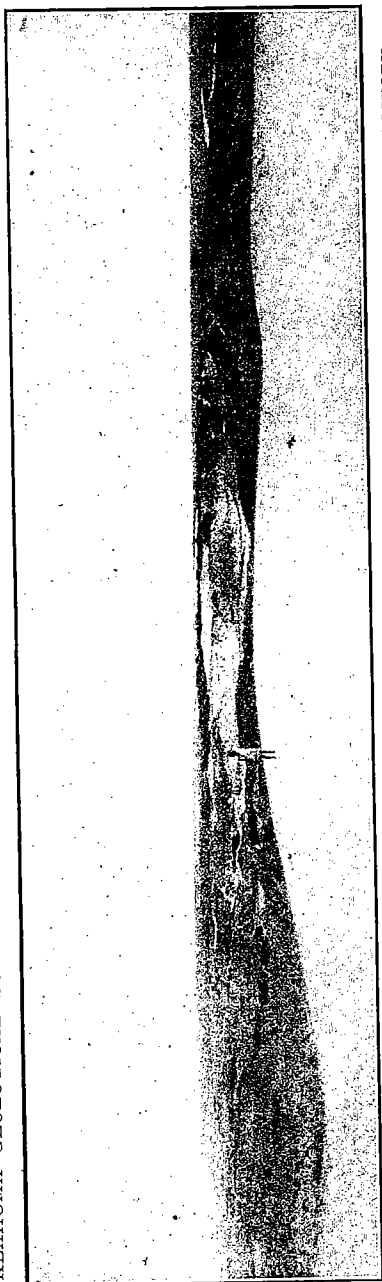
The southern or "dry" Santa Fe Trail from Dodge City, Kansas to New Mexico crosses this county from northeast to southwest and can still be traced across the prairies. (See the geologic map of this county for location.) A branch line of the Santa Fe from Elkhart, Kansas has been built southwest through the county to Felt in sec. 12 T. 1 N., R 2 E., C. M. and connects it with Keyes and Boise City which is the county seat.

The population of Cimarron County is approximately 5,000 which is slightly more than four persons per square mile. Boise City has the largest population with Felt and Kenton next in size. There are numerous stores and trading posts throughout the county.

## Topography

Cimarron County lies within the High Plains physiographic province and, with the exception of the area around Kenton and east along the Cimarron River, it is a gently sloping plain. The area around Kenton, Black Mesa, and Cimarron River Valley presents a beautiful, mature topography. It is replete with historical romance dating from the days of the Basket Makers through the Spanish occupation and the days of the cattle men to the present.

The northwestern part of the county is drained by the Cimarron River and its tributaries the Cold Spring arroyo, South Carrizzo, Tesesquite, West Carrizzo and Gillenas creeks. The eastern part of the county is drained by Goff Creek and North Fork of Beaver. The southern part is drained by North Canadian River and its tributaries Agua Frio, Cieneguilla, and Curumpa creeks. Throughout the central and southern portions many saucer shaped depressions occur similar to



A. DUNE TOPOGRAPHY ON THE NORTH SIDE OF BEAVER CREEK, SOUTH OF NEW FLORIS, BEAVER COUNTY.

B. THE HIGH PLAINS NORTHWEST OF TEXAS COUNTY ROAD CROSSES ONE OF THE BROAD SAUCER-LIKE UN-  
DRAINED DEPRESSIONS CHARACTERISTIC OF THE PLAINS.

those in Texas County except that they are larger and deeper. Some are two or three miles in diameter and approximately 175 feet deep and many are occupied by intermittent lakes. These depressions are characteristic of the High Plains topography and their origin is as yet problematical.

### GEOLOGY

#### Surface formations

The generalized columnar section on page 14 indicates the formations which occur at the surface of this county. (Those above the Paleozoic only).

#### TRIASSIC RED BEDS

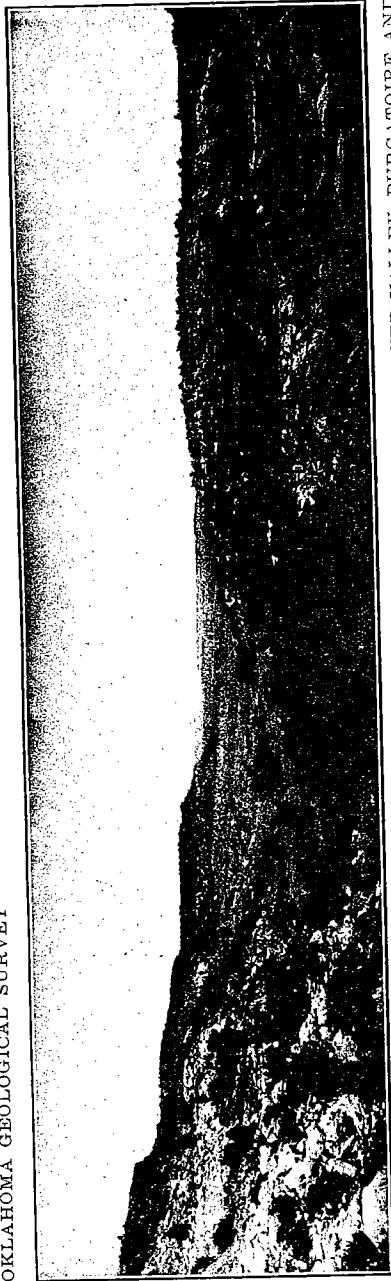
The Triassic red beds are the oldest surface rocks in the county. These outcrop along the Cimarron River in Tps. 5 and 6 N., R. 6 E., C. M. in the valley of the Cimarron River. An excellent exposure is found in secs. 4, 9, and 16, T. 5 N., R. 6 E., C. M., on the Burnette Ranch. This exposure is due to the dissection of a small, elliptical fold by one of the tributaries of the Cimarron. Other outcrops of this same formation are found in the valleys of the tributaries of the Cimarron near by. In thickness these red beds are approximately 20 feet in the surface of the exposures. The total thickness in this locality is perhaps as much as 2,000 feet (Rothrock.) A well drilled four miles north of Liberal, Kansas in the SE. cor. sec. 20, T. 33 S., R. 33 E., which is sixty miles east of Cimarron County reports 1,640 feet of red beds. A well drilled fifty miles to the south, near Channing, Texas, shows at least 2,500 feet of red beds. In the Rocky mountains 180 miles to the west, Lee has measured 14,000 feet of red Beds. He suggests, however, that this great thickness may be due to duplication by faulting. If these three localities represent the same stratigraphic horizon as the red beds of Cimarron County, a rapid thickening can be expected to the westward. A well drilled in T. 4 N., R. 1 E., C. M., Cimarron County, logs the red beds 1,670 feet thick.

The character of these Cimarron County red beds is indicated by the following section which was measured by Rothrock.<sup>6</sup>

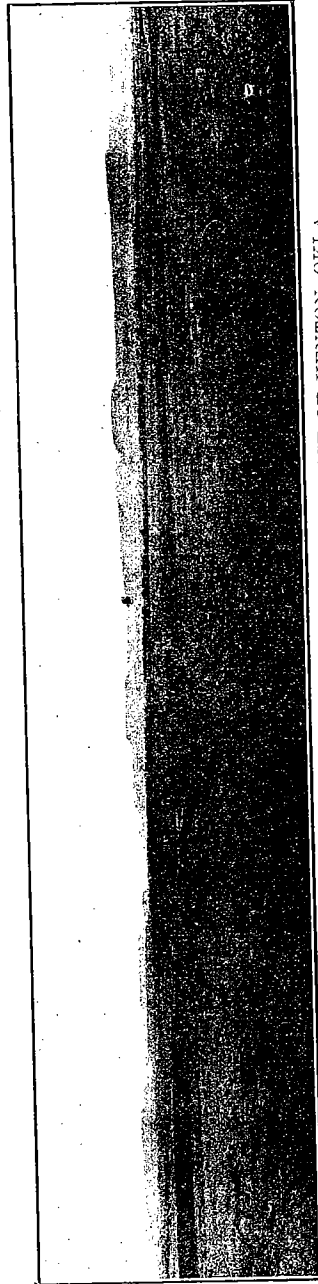
#### Section of red beds, cen, sec. 9, T. 5 N., R. 6 E., C. M.

	Ft.	in.
Sandstone, buff, in beds 1 foot thick. Much tiny crossbedding .....	5	6
Soil, brick red, on slope between benches, typical red bed sandstone exposed at this horizon 200 feet to the west .....	8	6
Sandstone, buff to red, makes a ledge .....	5	6
Soil, red, indicating red sandstone .....	19	6

<sup>6</sup> Rothrock, E. P. Geology of Cimarron County: Oklahoma Geol Survey Bull. 34, pp. 29, 30, 1925.



A. DAKOTA SANDSTONE TOPOGRAPHY EAST OF KENTON IN THE CIMARRON RIVER VALLEY, PURGATOIRE AND MORRISON FORMATIONS UNDERLIE THE SCARP-FORMING DAKOTA SANDSTONE



B. CIMARRON RIVER VALLEY AND BLACK MESA, WEST OF KENTON, OKLA.

The surface character of this formation is indicated in the following well log.

Well drilled by the Empire Gas and Fuel Co., sec. 22, T. 5 N., R. 5 E., Cimarron County, Oklahoma.

Drilling commenced April 27, 1917. Date of completion not given.

Formation	Thick-ness	Depth	Formation	Thick-ness	Depth
Soft red shale .....	130	130	Red clay .....	20	1058
Gray sand .....	40	170	Red clay and gyp .....	42	1100
Gray lime .....	15	185	Gypsum .....	30	1130
Soft red sand .....	20	205	Sand and gyp .....	20	1150
Soft red shale .....	60	265	Gypsum .....	20	1170
Hard lime .....	15	280	Clay, gravel and gyp .....	20	1190
Soft sandy lime .....	22	302	Clay, gravel and gyp .....	40	1230
Soft red sand .....	217	519	Fine sand and shale .....	45	1275
Soft red rock .....	23	542	Sand and shale .....	30	1305
Water sand .....	10	552	Sand shale and gyp .....	30	1335
Red rock .....	15	567	Sand .....	9	1344
Red clay .....	20	587	Fine sand .....	15	1359
Red rock .....	98	685	Sand .....	15	1374
Lime .....	37	722	Fine sand .....	26	1400
Red rock .....	92	814	Sand and clay .....	15	1415
Shale .....	3	817	Sand .....	10	1425
Lime .....	3	820	Clay, sand and gravel .....	15	1440
Red rock .....	63	883	Sand and gyp .....	20	1460
Red clay and gravel .....	3	886	Sand .....	30	1490
Red clay and gravel .....	5	891	Sand and clay .....	15	1505
Red clay .....	42	1033	Sand .....	70	1575
Red clay and gyp .....	5	1038	Sand and clay .....	8	1583

Fossils are rare or totally absent in the surface exposure of these rocks, thus making exact age difficult to determine. Seventy miles west near Folsom, New Mexico Stanton mentions red beds containing Triassic dinosaur bones. From the structural relations of this area it is quite evident that these two outcrops are the same age. Gould believes that these outcrops are more likely Permian Cloud Chief gypsum.

COMANCHEAN

Rocks of this age found in Cimarron County consists of a series of red beds resting unconformably upon those of Triassic age. Some geologists do not differentiate between the Comanchean and the older red beds. Above these beds is a series of variegated shales which are as yet unnamed. They are below the angular conformity at the base of the Exter sandstone. They are not present everywhere below the unconformity. Good exposures are found in T. 6 N., R. 1 E., C. M. These are mapped by Rothrock as Morrison. The angular unconformity is much more angular westward in New Mexico.

**EXTER SANDSTONE**

This lies above the previously mentioned unconformity and can be well observed in T. 6 N., R. 1 E., C. M. Rothrock included this in the Purgatoire formation.

**MORRISON**

The Morrison lies conformably upon the Exter sandstone and is separated from the overlying Purgatoire by a disconformity.

**CRETACEOUS**

The lower part of the Cretaceous is Dakota sandstone and the upper is Benton shales and limestones. There are about ten square miles of excellent exposures of the Benton shales around the NW. cor. T. 4 N., R. 2 E., C. M. Rothrock mapped this area as Dakota and Purgatoire.

**TERTIARY**

Pliocene and Miocene limestones, clays, and gravels lie unconformably upon Cretaceous Dakota sandstone. Lying unconformably upon these is the basalt of Black Mesa which is a lava flow from craters at Bar Seven L. Buttes or Piney Mountain. This lies ten miles east of the west end of the Mesa de Maya (Black Msea) of which it forms the cap rock.

**QUATERNARY**

The Quaternary is represented by alluvium along the major drainage lines, gravels on the highlands in the southern part of the county along Beaver Creek, and some eolian deposits. Rothrock<sup>r</sup> gives a more complete description of these formations in his report on Cimarron County.

**Subsurface Geology**

The subsurface rocks of this area are Pennsylvanian (?) to Recent in age. The following three logs of deep wells drilled in the County describe the character of these rocks.

*Log of Ramsey State School Land No. 1-D well in cen. N. 1/2 N. 1/2 S. 1/2 SE 1/4 sec. 34, T. 4 N., R. 1 E., C. M.*

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Top soil .....	0	1	Water sand white .....	175	205
White sand stone .....	1	12	Shale .....	205	215
Blue shale .....	12	17	Red rock .....	215	280
Sand stone—yellow .....	17	40	Lime .....	280	285
Sand rock .....	40	100	Sandy lime .....	285	290
Blue shale .....	100	120	Sand rock .....	290	340
White sand soft .....	120	175	Red rock .....	340	350

(Continued on page 29)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Sand rock red .....	350	380	Brown sand .....	1965	2015
White slate .....	380	397	Red rock .....	2015	2021
Hard sand rock .....	397	400	Sandy red rock .....	2021	2136
Sand rock—red .....	400	420	Sandy red rock .....	2136	2187
Red rock hard .....	420	423	Quick sand red .....	2187	2201
Sand rock .....	423	470	Sand .....	2201	2225
White mud .....	470	480	Sand red rock .....	2225	2240
White sandy shale .....	480	545	Sand .....	2240	2245
Hard sand rock .....	545	550	Red rock .....	2245	2253
Sand stone hard .....	550	553	Hard sand .....	2253	2268
Blue slate .....	553	568	Red shale .....	2268	2272
Blue mud .....	568	640	Sand .....	2272	2295
Sandy shale .....	640	665	Sandy red rock .....	2295	2320
Gray sandy shale .....	665	675	Hard red sand .....	2320	2327
Red rock .....	675	693	Hard sand .....	2327	2341
Red sandy lime .....	693	698	Sand .....	2341	2350
Red rock .....	698	739	Red rock .....	2350	2360
Sand red rock .....	739	747	Sand .....	2360	2366
Lime .....	747	752	Red sand .....	2366	2374
Red sand rock .....	752	754	Red rock .....	2374	2380
Lime .....	754	756	Hard sand .....	2380	2410
Red rock .....	756	775	Hard lime .....	2410	2420
Sand water .....	775	788	Hard sand .....	2420	2488
Red sand .....	788	794	Red mud .....	2488	2493
Red rock .....	794	808	Lime .....	2493	2500
Red sand rock .....	808	855	Red rock .....	2500	2508
Sandy lime .....	855	862	Hard lime .....	2508	2520
Lime—some sand .....	862	870	Hard red sand .....	2520	2584
Red rock .....	870	923	Hard sand .....	2584	2608
Sandy lime .....	923	935	Soft red sand .....	2608	2616
Red rock .....	935	1008	Red sand .....	2616	2652
Sand lime .....	1008	1025	Red rock .....	2652	2664
Red bed .....	1025	1045	Red sand .....	2664	2707
Red mud .....	1045	1075	Red sand rock hard .....	2707	2745
Red rock—muddy .....	1075	1150	Sand hard .....	2745	2765
Sandy red rock .....	1150	1275	Red rock .....	2765	2780
Lime hard .....	1275	1283	Sand .....	2780	2785
Red mud .....	1283	1290	Red rock .....	2785	2808
Lime .....	1290	1333	Hard sand .....	2808	2820
Red rock .....	1333	1415	Sand .....	2820	2840
Lime .....	1415	1425	Red rock .....	2840	2870
Red rock .....	1425	1440	Sand .....	2870	2890
Red sand rock .....	1440	1520	Red rock .....	2890	2898
Sandy rock hard .....	1520	1535	Red rock .....	2898	2904
Red rock .....	1535	1585	Hard sand .....	2904	2912
Hard sand rock .....	1585	1615	Red rock .....	2912	2940
Hard lime .....	1615	1645	Sandy red rock .....	2940	3000
Rock salt .....	1645	1720	Red rock .....	3000	3010
Hard white sand .....	1720	1740	Sand .....	3010	3020
White sandy lime .....	1740	1750	Red sand .....	3020	3038
Rock salt .....	1750	1815	Hard rock .....	3038	3050
Lime hard & sandy .....	1815	1852	Red rock .....	3050	3068
Red rock .....	1852	1880	Sandy red rock .....	3068	3095
Sandy lime hard .....	1880	1896	Red clay cave .....	3095	3110
Hard lime .....	1896	1916	Red rock & lime .....	3110	3130
Fine brown sand .....	1916	1946	Red sandy lime .....	3130	3135
Sandy lime .....	1946	1965	Red rock cave .....	3135	3180

(Continued on page 30)

Formation	Top	Bottom
Sandy lime	1887	1915
Sandy r. r. & shale	1917	2009
Sand	2009	2014
Sandy red rock	2014	2114
Red rock & shale	2114	2144
Sandy red rock	2144	2159
Shale	2159	2171
Sandy r. rock	2171	2406
Sand	2406	2424
Red rock	2424	2456
Sand	2456	2462
Red rock	2462	2498
Shale	2498	2502
Red rock & sand	2502	2673
Shale	2673	2683
Sandy red rock	2683	2783
Shale	2783	2818
Shale & red rock	2818	2859
Sand	2859	2866
Shale	2866	2900
Broken lime	2900	2912
Broken lime & sand	2912	2973
Broken lime & shale	2973	2993
Shale	2993	3001
Red rock	3001	3025
Red sand	3025	3035
Blue shale	3035	3080
Black shale	3080	3085
Blue shale	3085	3100
Black shale	3100	3108
Sand	3108	3128
Brown shale	3128	3140
Sand	3140	3182
Red rock	3182	3200
Sandy red rock	3200	3220
Sand	3200	3230
Sandy lime	3230	3242
Red rock	3242	3275
Lime	3275	3280
Red rock	3280	3300
Sand	3300	3310
Brown shale	3310	3335
Black shale	3335	3355
Lime	3355	3365
Blue shale	3365	3390
Brown shale	3390	3405
Lime	3405	3425
Brown shale	3425	3435
Red rock	3435	3450
Lime	3450	3475
Blue shale	3475	3485
Red rock	3485	3510
Sand	3510	3520
Brown shale	3520	3530
Red rock	3530	3565
Brown shale	3565	3580

(Continued on page 31)

Formation	Top	Bottom
Brown lime	3580	3600
Brown shale	3600	3610
Red rock	3610	3625
Red rock	3625	3640
Brown shale	3640	3645
Hard lime	3645	3650
Hard sand	3650	3660
Broken lime & sand	3660	3665
Sand	3665	3705
Red rock	3705	3730
Sand	3730	3755
Red rock	3755	3770
Sandy lime	3770	3785
Hard lime	3785	3800
Sandy red rock	3800	3820
Red sand	3820	3840
Red rock	3840	3890
Sand	3890	3905
Pink shale	3905	3935
Blue shale	3935	3950
Shale & shell	3950	3970
Brown lime	3970	4005
Sand	4005	4050
Red shale	4050	4060
Broken sand & lime	4060	4085
Brown shale	4085	4095
Bkn. shale & lime	4095	4150
Sand	4150	4165
Shale	4165	4200
Shale	4200	4210
Black shale	4210	4235
Bkn. shale & lime	4235	4295
Lime	4295	4305
Sticky shale	4305	4340
Shale & lime	4340	4390
Shale & sand	4390	4400
Shale & lime	4400	4435
Sticky shale	4435	4450
Shale & lime	4450	4470
Red shale	4470	4500
Red shale	4500	4530
Blue shale & lime shells	4530	4550
Blue lime	4550	4565
Gray sand	4565	4570
Slate & lime	4570	4580
Sand	4580	4590
Lime	4590	4615
Lime	4615	4625
Shale	4625	4640
Sand	4640	4660
Gray sand	4660	4665
Sandy lime	4665	4690
Hard sand	4690	4705
Blue slate	4705	4735
Sand lime	4735	4740
Black slate	4740	4765

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Red sand	3180	3206	Sand	3732	3767
Sand	3206	3223	Sand	3767	3800
Red sand	3223	3247	Red sandy shale	3800	3818
Sandy red rock	3247	3250	Red rock	3818	3855
Slate blue & gray	3250	3255	Lime shell	3855	3858
Lime	3255	3264	Gray lime	3858	3865
Red rock	3264	3297	Red rock	3865	3870
Sandy red rock	3297	3312	Lime	3870	3880
Sand—HFW	3312	3371	Sandy lime	3880	3915
Sand red	3371	3378	Blue shale	3915	3923
Slate blue	3378	3383	Sandy lime	3923	3960
Sandy lime	3383	3393	Blue shale	3960	3985
Blue slate	3393	3399	Sandy lime	3985	4010
Red rock	3399	3423	Sandy lime	4010	4050
Lime	3423	3433	Sand	4050	4056
Red rock cave	3433	3496	Sandy lime	4056	4090
Lime shell	3496	3500	Water sand	4090	4100
Red rock & shells	3500	3550	Sandy lime	4100	4190
Lime	3550	3573	Sand	4190	4205
Sandy lime	3573	3608	Sandy shale	4205	4220
Sand	3608	3635	Sandy lime	4220	4235
Sandy gray	3635	3642	Sandy brown shale	4235	4250
Sand—hole full water	3642	3665	Sandy lime	4250	4289
Blue shale	3665	3670	Brown shale	4289	4295
Sandy lime	3670	3725	Sand	4295	4306
Red rock	3725	3732	Total depth		4306

Log of Sinclair Oil & Gas Co. School Land No. 48 well in NE 1/4  
NE 1/4 NE 1/4 sec. 22, T. 5 N., R. 2 E., C. M.

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Lime	0	6	Red rock & shale	956	1118
Br. shale	6	20	Br. sand & slate	1118	1157
Shale & lime	20	31	Red shale	1157	1242
Hard lime	31	41	Lime	1242	1246
Sandy shale	41	56	Red shale	1246	1282
Hard lime	56	64	Lime	1282	1290
Red rock	64	71	Broken lime	1290	1340
Sand	71	86	Shell and lime	1340	1365
Lime and shell	86	120	Broken shell & L. S.	1365	1385
Lime and red rock	120	150	Broken lime	1385	1440
Lime and shale	150	342	Sandy red rock	1440	1475
Red rock	342	432	Sandy r. r. sh. & gyp	1475	1527
Lime and shell	432	450	Gyp & red rock	1527	1540
Red rock	450	480	Red shale	1540	1548
Lime and shell	480	535	Hard sand & r. r.	1548	1565
Sandy red rock	535	698	Red rock & shale	1565	1587
Broken shell	698	713	Shale & lime	1587	1604
Red shale	713	773	Shale & lime	1604	1614
Shell	773	796	Red r. & shale	1614	1708
Red shale	796	800	Shale	1708	1728
Lime	800	806	Red r. & shale	1728	1829
Red shale	806	816	Sandy red rock	1829	1853
Broken shell	816	832	Broken lime	1853	1885
Red shale	832	886	Shale	1885	1887
Red sh. & shell	886	956			

(Continued on page 32)



Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Blue slate	4765	4780	Sandy shale	4860	4870
Slate sandy	4780	4800	Sand-water	4870	4872
Blue shale	4800	4860	Total depth		4872

Log of J. R. Phillips No. 1 well in SE.¼ SE.¼ NE.¼ sec. 24,  
T. 6 N., R. 2 E., C. M.

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Sand	0	25	Red rock	1885	1955
Red rock	25	35	Sand	1955	1990
Sand	35	45	Red rock	1900	2150
Red rock	45	55	Sand	2150	2200
Sand	55	80	Red rock	2200	2240
Shale	80	100	Sand	2240	2255
Gyp	100	105	Red rock	2255	2290
Shale	105	120	Sand	2290	2335
Gyp	120	125	Gyp	2335	2350
Shale	125	175	Sand	2350	2385
Gyp	175	190	Red rock	2385	2395
Shale	190	220	Sand	2395	2410
Shale	220	265	Red rock	2410	2455
Gyp	265	275	Sand	2455	2588
Sand	275	340	Sand	2588	2596
Gyp	340	360	Sand	2596	2610
Sand	360	700	Sandy shale	2610	2625
Red rock	700	875	Sand	2625	2670
Sand	875	885	Shale	2670	2710
Gyp	885	930	Sandy shale	2710	2770
Red rock	930	1000	Sand	2770	2800
Gyp	1000	1025	Shale	2800	2890
Sand	1025	1085	Sand	2890	2920
Red rock	1085	1110	Sand shale	2920	2984
Sand	1110	1140	Lime	2984	2988
Red rock	1140	1180	Sand	2988	3000
Sand	1180	1225	Broken shale	3000	3160
Salt	1225	1235	Sand	3160	3170
Red rock	1235	1245	Shale	3170	3235
Gyp	1245	1275	Lime	3235	3238
Salt	1275	1300	Shale	3238	3290
Gyp	1300	1330	Sand	3290	3315
Salt	1330	1380	Sand shale	3315	3350
Gyp	1380	1430	Sand lime	3350	3355
Red rock	1430	1465	Sandy shale	3355	3400
Sand	1465	1675	Sandy lime	3400	3415
Gyp	1675	1685	Shale	3415	3445
Red rock	1685	1700	Shale	3445	3462
Gyp	1700	1705	Lime	3462	3487
Red rock	1705	1715	Sandy shale	3487	3497
Sand	1715	1730	Sandy lime	3497	3515
Sandy shale	1730	1760	Shale	3515	3590
Red rock	1760	1785	Shale	3590	3630
Gyp	1785	1790	Sandy shale	3630	3670
Red rock	1790	1805	Sand	3670	3675
Gyp	1805	1815	Lime	3675	3688
Red rock	1815	1860	Shale	3688	3734
Gyp	1860	1885	Sandy lime	3734	3745

(Continued on page 33)

Formation	Top	Bottom	Formation	Top	Bottom
Shale	3745	3760	Shale	4125	4130
Lime	3760	3800	Lime	4130	4145
Shale	3800	3825	Lime	4145	4160
Sandy lime	3825	3850	Broken lime	4160	4170
Shale	3850	4005	Shale	4170	4187
Sandy shale	4005	4017	Lime	4187	4215
Sandy lime	4017	4025	Shale	4215	4246
Shale	4025	4045	Sandy lime	4246	4268
Broken lime	4045	4105	Broken lime	4268	4315
Shale	4105	4115	Conglomerate	4315	4370
Lime	4115	4125	Total depth		4370

### STRUCTURE

Structural relationships in the eastern and southern parts of the county are not very well known due to overlying alluvial and gravel deposits. Mappable horizons are abundant in the northwestern part of the county. Here can be observed a series of folds whose axes parallel the axial trend of the Rocky Mountain flexures farther west in New Mexico. Numerous small anticlinal folds have been mapped in this county and some have been drilled. In no case thus far have wells proved commercially productive of either oil or gas.

### DEVELOPMENT

To date (May 30, 1930) eight wells have been drilled in Cimarron County without production. Further exploration may prove productive.

The table on page 34 gives a list of wells drilled in this county.

### SUMMARY

The foregoing report covers that portion of Oklahoma commonly known as the "Panhandle." It is subdivided into Beaver, Texas and Cimarron counties and embraces some 5,790 square miles of territory.

The surface rocks are Permian, Triassic, Comanchean, Cretaceous, Tertiary and Quaternary in age. Of the subsurface formations little is known because the greater part of the surface is covered by Tertiary sands and gravels. Some data are available from well logs indicating rocks as old as Pennsylvanian.

Structurally the region is a part of the monocline forming the Great Plains and the northern flank of the Anadarko Basin whose axis lies to the south in the Texas Panhandle. The outcrops in the northwestern part of the area along the Cimarron River are easily mapped. Those in other areas are difficult because of the unconsolidated nature of the overlying sediments. Axial trend of the folds is nearly parallel to the southern Rocky Mountain orogenic axes.



CAPULIN, A RECENT VOLCANIC CONE IN NORTHEASTERN NEW MEXICO; A POSSIBLE SOURCE FOR VOLCANIC ASH DEPOSITS OF THE PANHANDLE AND ADJACENT REGIONS.

*Wells drilled in Cimarron County*

COMPANY	LOCATION	DEPTH Feet	RESULTS
Sinclair Oil and Gas Co.	NW SE NE 22, 5N-2E, CM.	3,745	Dry
J. R. Phillips	NE 24, 6N-2E, CM.	3,900	Dry
Ramsey Bros., A1	NE 27, 5N-5E, CM.	4,512	Oil Show
Ramsey Bros., C1	SE SE 4, 5N-6E, CM.	3,957	Dry
Ramsey Bros., D1	NW SE 34, 4N-1E, CM.	320	
Gladys Belle	Cent. 25, 3N-7E, CM.	4,095	Dry
Smith-Krull	NE 2, 2N-9E, CM.	(?)	Rig down, lease lapsed.
Magnolia Pet. Co., School Land No. 1.	Cent. SE NE 22, 5N-5E, CM.	4,356	Abandoned
Magnolia Pet. Co., School Land No. 1.	Cent. SW NE 27, 5N-5E, CM.	100	Drilling

Thus far three tests for oil and gas have been located in Beaver County, fifteen in Texas County, and eight in Cimarron County. Texas County has the majority because gas was discovered in the Texhoma and Red Point districts, giving impetus to the leasing and royalty business in 1925-26.

Much detailed field work will be necessary to determine the exact stratigraphic relationships in this area. Geophysical and core drilling work in addition to ordinary methods should be used.

A number of corrections in the areal geology as shown on the State geological map have been made in the map accompanying this report. Much data of a confidential nature concerning this region is in the files of major oil companies but is not available for publication.