



WELL ELEMENTARY
REPORT

S.A. OIL WELLS

MOUTAJUP-2

W338

SA OIL WELLS MOUTAJUP-2 W338

PE904036

This is an enclosure indicator page.
The enclosure PE904036 is enclosed within the
container PE906785 at this location in this
document.

The enclosure PE904036 has the following characteristics:

ITEM_BARCODE = PE904036
CONTAINER_BARCODE = PE906785
NAME = Well card
BASIN = OTWAY
PERMIT =
TYPE = WELL
SUBTYPE = WELL_CARD
DESCRIPTION = Well card, South Australian Oil Wells
No.2, Section 115, (enclosure from Well
Elementary) for Moutajup-2
REMARKS =
DATE_CREATED = 31/12/21
DATE_RECEIVED =
W_NO = W337
WELL_NAME = South Australian Oil Wells Moutajup-2
CONTRACTOR = South Australian Oil Wells No. 2
CLIENT_OP_CO = Sth Australian Oil Wells Co. NL.

(Inserted by DNRE - Vic Govt Mines Dept)

20 JUL 1984

OIL and GAS DIVISION

on the field, and vouched for the presence of petroleum, and stated that "had similar indications been proven in a new district in California a drilling boom would have followed." Already all the chief features of successful oil fields have been proved to exist at Moutajup.... Brine springs so common on many oil fields occur at Moutajup. The proximity of the Grampians is an interesting feature of the field, inasmuch as the chief oil fields of the world are to be found flanking the great mountain ranges. The location of the Moutajup field for economic development is excellent, being in close proximity to Portland with its wonderful harbour affording easy access to the markets of the neighbouring States. Immediately on the formation of the company, a site will be chosen for a bore, so that progress may be co-incident with developments in the apparent venture."

On the 22nd November, 1921, the Directors of the Moutajup Oil Wells received a telegram from the Field Superintendent, stating that there was a good show of oil in the bore at 153 feet, and asking that a geologist be sent to make an examination of the occurrence. On the 26th November, Mr. Stanley Hunter reported as under:

"BORING AT MOUTAJUP

PARISH OF JENNAWARRA

by Stanley Hunter, Engineer for Boring.

"The country in the neighbourhood of the Moutajup bore consists of almost flat basaltic plains underlying which are strata ~~of~~ somewhat similar to those proved south of Rokewood and Pitfield consisting of clays and sands, occasionally containing in the upper portions small quantities of ligneous material, probably derived from swamp beds or drift vegetation. The sub-artesian water level in this district ranges from a few to about 60 feet ~~at~~ from surface and there is but little doubt that the whole of the Tertiary formation here is waterlogged and analogous to the deep lead areas in other parts of Victoria. The bedrock here will almost certainly consist of Ordovician slates & sandstones containing small quartz & calcite veins & should be struck at

about 300 feet from the surface. The foregoing strata are under existing geological conditions wholly unfavourable for oil prospecting.

"On arriving at the borehole baling operations were commenced. The baler consisted of an open iron tube about 4" in diameter with a retention valve at the lower end and holding about $3\frac{1}{2}$ gallons. This was sunk to the bottom of the hole and raised and lowered about a foot in jerks to induce the bottom sands into the baler. On raising and emptying into a wooden tub a few small films of oily substance were observed to rise to the surface; these varied from a mere wisp to round and oval films the size of a shilling and usually four or five were counted at each baling. I collected a number of films from five bailings for test purposes.

"Assuming that baling is carried out at intervals during any one day for say a total of four hours, about 60 balings would be completed, giving a total of approximately 210 gallons of ~~oil~~ which nearly a quarter would be sand. Allowing the average number of films at each baling as five and the area of each film as one square inch, then one single drop of natural or crude oil such as would fall from a vertically held lead pencil, the end of which had been dipped for one inch in the oil, would be sufficient to produce all the oil films obtained from such bailings in the four hours mentioned above.

"The statements, therefore, which appeared in the 'Age' of the 23rd and 24th inst. respectively that there "was a good show of oil in the bore at 153 feet" and "Directors visited well with expert, oil unmistakably present in steadily increasing quantities" are not in accord with facts as observed by me. No precautions appear to be taken to prevent oil from the oil engine on boring plant getting into the bore or on to the cable attached to baler, and it would be a most extraordinary thing if some oil from the plant did not, under present working methods, get into the borehole. So small is the amount of oil necessary to produce a large film on water that a mere suspicion of oil in the driller's hands when handling the baler and cable would be sufficient to create quite a number of

films such as were observed. I am compelled, therefore, to conclude that the oil reported as being obtained from the bore is the result of accidental inclusion of lubricating oil through insufficient precaution on the part of the drillers.

"I suggest that this report be made available to the press and that the investing public be invited to confer with this department prior to buying any oil company shares in the State."

~~The Company, on the receipt of Hunter~~

No. 953-405/21 submitted by Stanley Hunter

Three samples were tested at the Laboratory. One con-

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sisted of Ordovician bedrock (slate and sandstone containing quartz and calcite from bores 1A and 2 of the South Australian Oil Wells.

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Two samples of black cemented sand from ^{140 ft and 158 ft in} bore No. 1 of the Moutajup

W336

Oil Company gave no oil.

August:- The Commonwealth Government offer for oil in payable quantities attracted attention, and ~~and~~ it was stated in August, 1921, that in a shallow bore near Moutajup, a small township on the railway line between Dunkeld and Hamilton in Western Victoria, ~~that~~ petroleum had been found. This was referred to by Mr. H. C. Dod, B.Sc., who, in a report to the Directors on the South Australian Oil Wells Company, recommended the exercising of an option over the holdings of the Western District Oil Syndicate, with the object of immediately developing the area. The Directors adopted his recommendation, and secured leases to the extent of 5,000 acres in the vicinity. ~~and~~ [When boring for water about 1910, a contractor observed indications of "oil." Nothing was done until 1921, when a syndicate was formed and the matter was brought under the notice of the South Australian Oil Wells Company who secured an option over the leases. A bore which had reached a depth of 175 feet was ~~deepened~~ deepened. Samples of the material from the bore were tested in the field and it was reported that positive petroleum results were obtained. Mr. Dod stated ~~that~~ that the work already done had proved "the presence of thick beds of carbonaceous shale containing all the organic matter necessary for the formation of oil in quantity, also the proper series of strata favorable to the concentration of oil. The ground consists of alternating sands, clays, and shales covered by thick layer of basalt." "The basalt and layers of clay," he asserts, "account for the absence of surface indications and the presence of oil sand containing visible oil in small percentage was only proved by chance while boring for water." Reports received in Melbourne at the end of July that "oil had been discovered" led to speculation in South Australian Oil Wells shares, which rose from 18d. on 19th July to 12/- on the 10th August. On the receipt of Dod's report, however, share values declined sharply to 9/-. The following day, 11th August, 1921, Mr. Barnes, Minister for Mines, said ~~and~~ when commenting upon the claim that petroleum had been discovered at Moutajup "that he would advise the public to exercise caution. The Mines Department, he explained,

did not wish to damp the ardour of oil searchers or to force its ^{views} upon those who thought their knowledge was superior to that of the geological staff, but he would urge that those who claimed to have discovered free mineral oil and to be in possession of samples should submit them for test to Commonwealth or State Government analysts."

A Company, the Moutajup Oil Wells, N.L., was formed in September, 1921; the legal Manager was Mr. H. E. Connolly, and boring operations were commenced on Mt. Sturgeon Estate. The South Australian Oil Wells Company was interested in the ^{adjoining} area, and the drilling was carried out by the Goldfields Diamond Drilling Company. Huts ~~was~~ for the men, an office, and a laboratory were erected.

Mr. Charles ^{McLennan} ~~McLellan~~, the discoverer of the oil indications, was the Field Superintendent of Moutajup Oil Wells Company.

Another Company, the Jennawarra Oil Wells, 40,000 shares at 5/- each, was formed to test a large area of country adjacent to the South Australian Oil Wells and Moutajup Oil Wells holdings at Moutajup. This property was reported on by Mr. ^{McLennan} ~~McLellan~~, and the prospectus set out that "immediately on the formation of the company, a site would be chosen for a bore." By the beginning of November, 1921, ^{companies} ~~four companies~~, the Moutajup, South Australian, and Jennawarra, had been formed, while the Rockefeller Oil Wells and the Meudell Standard Oil Wells were being floated to prospect on properties adjacent to that of the South Australian Oil Wells. A rotary plant, capable of drilling to a depth of 4,000 feet, was to be used.

Another Company, the Boonah ^{Wah} Oil Wells N.L. located at Moutajup was floated with a capital of £10,000 ⁱⁿ ~~and~~ 40,000 shares at 5/-. Twenty-five thousand of these shares ^{were} issued to the public at 6d. per share on application. The company was formed to acquire ^{boring} ~~options~~ options over property ^{near} Moutajup in the vicinity of the bores being operated by the South Australian Oil Wells, the Moutajup Oil Wells, and the Jennawarra Oil Wells Companies, where discoveries of petroleum have been reported over a wide area.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OIL WELLS COMPANY N.L.

31 Queen Street,
Melbourne,

5th November, 1921.

The Minister for Mines,
Mines Department,
MELBOURNE.

MOUTAJUP - 1, - 1A, - 2

Dear Sir,

Re Application for Federal Bonus

Further to my letter of the 6th of October last, I append report on boring for period ended 2nd November, 1921.

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No. 1 bore, on sec. 121, Parish Moutajup, was deepened from 175 to 185 feet and then left as a water well. Five inch casing to 177 feet in coarse sand. Very fair and potable water in good quantity.

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No. 1 A bore, sec. 121, is 60 yards S.W. of No. 1. Started it with 8" casing on 17th October and "landed" this casing at 134 feet in brown coal and clay on 2nd November.

Water at 65 feet, fresh and increasing in quantity as bore is deepened. Oil films first seen on water from 95 feet, continuing to 117 feet and then again and stronger in dark sand from 123 to 126.

<u>Log</u>	0'	-	2'	Sandy soil
	2'	-	60'	Basalt decomposed in spots to clay
	60'	-	123'	Sand, red, yellow, cream
	123'	-	131' 6"	Sand, brownish, darkening
	131' 6"	-	134' 6"	Lignite with clay streaks
	134' 6"	-	136'	Sand, blackened by coal, dust and clay

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No. 2 bore, on sec. 115, Parish Moutajup, County of Dundas, Vic. begun on October 3rd. One shift.

<u>Log</u>	0'	-	3'	Black soil
	3'	-	39'	Basalt, hard
	39'	-	168'	Sand, various colors with clay slurry increasing.
	168'	-	172'	Clay, sandy brown
	172'	-	180'	Sand, brownish
	180'	-	182'	Sandstone, hard, gray, fine grained
	182'	-	185'	Clay, brown sandy
	185'	-	190'	Sand, gray
	190'	-	208'	Gravel and sand, coarse
	208'	-	211'	Sandstone
	211'	-	220'	Sand and gravel
	220'	-	222'	Sandstone and tuff with many fossils of shells and corals. (Tertiary age)

Used 6 $\frac{3}{8}$ " casing to 222 feet. ~~Now~~ Now trying to shut off water to test last sandstone for oil as films were very strong therefrom.

Water at 74 (poor) 174 (good supply of pure water) and again in sand and gravel to 208'.

Oil films seen at 90 feet, 110 feet, 164 to 172, 182, 185, 220 to 222, the last being best.

Gas bubbles at 90 feet, 167 feet.

Yours faithfully,

SOUTH. AUSTRALIAN. OIL. WELLS. COY. N.L.

Report for,

MINISTER OF MINES.

S.A.O.W. Moutajup No 1A
No 2, No 3

Covering work done at Moutajup to 14th of December, 1921.

No 1 Bore, Elevation 785 feet. Section 121- Parish of Moutajup, Victoria.

LOG (continued)-

W337

- 136-167, Dark sand with traces of oil (Proved by ether test).
- 167-167½ Sandstone
- 167½-168 Clay, dark
- 168-209 Sand and gravel, brown to yellow; with good water in quantity
- 209-217 Clay-dark brown sandy with thin layer concretionary limestone below.
- 217-430 Shale-blue, with thin bars of hard blue fine sandstone. Calcite seams occur from 363 feet, onwards. Much black scum on mud with traces of light oil at times.
- 430-504 Shale, paler blue, fairly hard, much shattered at times and filled in with calcite (probably of Jurassic age) Scum as above. Inflammable gas occurs all through the shale, increasing with depth. Oily films are more frequent. Stopped this well at 504 feet.

Casing Record,- 8"x23lb pipe to 133 landed in clay
6½"x17lb Landed in blue shale at 231 feet.
5"x11lb Cemented with ½ ton of cement at 327 feet in shale.

This hole will be tested for a gas well when cement is set.

No 2 Bore, (continued)-

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- 222-223, Sandstone (Miocene).
- 223-239, Sand and gravel with corals etc.
- 239-243, Clay, pale blue.
- 243-265, Gravel with 2 feet of clay at 252 feet.
- 265-274, Limestone, pale and fine grained, -Base of Miocene strata.
- 274-280, Shale, white with sandy bars.
- 280-303, Shale, blue, with thin sandstone bars., pyrites and calcite Probably Jurassic in age.

Good water at 190 feet, and a little at 245 feet. Pulled 5' casing out. Left 6½" casing at 239 feet, in clay. Perforated at 194 feet and 204 feet for use as a water well.

Oil films show in sandstone at 220 feet and much stronger ones from the sand just above 239 feet. Casing "froze" so could not develop this latter sand.

W339

No 3 Bore On Section 133 Parish of Moutajup, Owner Mrs. J. Duschke. Elevation 785 feet (approx above sea level.)

Log,-

- 0-1½, Soil
- 1½-4½, Gravel (ironstone) and hard sand lumps.
- 4½-48, Sand, coarse, cemented with red clay (Red beds).
- 48-52, Hardened "Red beds".
- 52-192, Sand, brown, white, gray and varying fineness.
- 192-195, Sand, blackened by carbonaceous matter, tarry odor, traces of oil.
- 195-206, Sand and gravel.
- 206-207, Sand, greenish grey, with oil very plain on water. Films rapidly disappear.

S.A.O.W. Moutajup
1, 1A, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, No. 52

16th January, 1945.

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OIL WELLS COMPANY

Covering work done to 28th February, 1922.

W336	No. 1 Bore, Moutajup	-	Abandoned.
	1A	"	"
W337	"	"	- Water well, 327' of 5" casing left in cemented.
W338	2	"	" - Water well
W339	3	"	" - Water well
W340	4	"	" - Water well
W341	5	"	" - Abandoned
W342	6	"	" -

Log Contd.

80' - 154' .. Basalt

154' - 163' .. Fine white sand

163' - 188' .. hard blue sand

W342 188' - 195' .. Fine grey sand

195' - 225' .. Limestone grey granular, becoming a mass of shells towards the base.

225' - 236' .. Shale, pale blue, mudstone becoming darker. Veins of calcite, black scum on mud and a little gas.

Remarks: No oil. Pulled casing, left 30' of 6 3/8" in at top for a water well. Fine supply of water from 194' and onwards.

No. 7 Bore, Moutajup; on ~~CC33200~~ Allotment 8 of Section 14, Warrayure Parish; owner E. B. Noske.

Log:

0' - 1' 6" .. soil, dark

1' 6"-4' .. Clay, yellow

W343 4' - 17' .. Clay and decomposed basalt

17' - 124' @ @ .. Basalt, hard

124' - 140' .. Sand, fine brown. 6" lignite at 135'.

140' - 145' .. Clay, blue

145' - 175' .. Shale, dark blue with quartz veins.

Remarks: Water at 24' (sub-artesian, strong) and at 115'. No oil. Pulled casing; left as a water well.

Spudded 6 October 1921 El.

Canceled

Abandoned Dec. 1921 perforated 6 3/8" casing at 194' + 201' for use as water well. T.D. 303' P.L. Montaguip.

Location - Section 115. P.L. Montaguip. Casing 6 3/8" to 237'.

Black soil	0-3
Basalt, hard	3-39.
Sand, colored.	39-168.
Clay, sdy, brown.	168-172
Sand, brownish	172-180
Sandstone, fine gr. grey.	180-182.
Clay, sdy, brown	182-185
Sand, gray.	185-190
Gravel + coarse sand.	190-208
Sandstone	208-211
Sand + gravel	211-220
Sandstone + tuff with many shells + corals (Tertiary)	220-222
Sandstone (Miocene)	222-223.
Sand + gravel w/ corals etc.	223-239.
Clay, pale blue	239-243
Gravel w/ 2' clay at 252'	243-265
Limestone, pale + fine grain. - Base of Miocene	265-274.
Shale, white, with sandy bars	274-280
Shale, blue, with thin ss. bars, pyrites + calcite probably granitic	280-303. T.D

0-222' Conky's Reflts

W. P.H.

Conky

Water at 74' (poor), 174' (good supply of pure water) 190-208', 245'.

Oil films seen at 90', 110', 164' to 172', 182', 185', 220 to 222' (best) + 239

Gas bubbles at 90', 167'.

Canceled