

## REPORT OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF OILS.

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OFFICE OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF OIL INSPECTION, }  
ROOM 92, STATE HOUSE, }  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND., January 13, 1896. }

PROF. W. S. BLATCHLEY,  
*State Geologist of Indiana:*

SIR—In compliance with an act passed February 25, 1891, I herewith submit to you my first report as State Supervisor of Oil Inspection. The report embraces the period between March first (1st), 1895, the beginning of my official term, and December thirty-first (31st), 1895, inclusive.

Respectfully,

C. F. HALL.

## REPORT OF STATE SUPERVISOR OF OILS.

Having been appointed to the office of State Supervisor of Oil Inspection on March 1, 1895, I assumed the duties, after complying with the requirements of the law, and soon thereafter the following deputies were appointed as my assistants in the various parts of the State:

Viele, Walter.....	Evansville.	Magee, Wm. H.....	Lafayette.
Weems, Robert F.....	Vincennes.	Davidson, James G....	Whiting.
Dorsey, C. B.....	New Albany.	Johnston, John M....	Logansport.
Bowman, M. J.....	Madison.	Daly, W. F.....	Peru.
Mills, L. B.....	New Maysville.	Sebring, W. D.....	Portland.
Shirk, B. F.....	Muncie.	Thorward, Theo.....	Fort Wayne.
Boltz, J. H.....	Winchester.	Schutt, M. A.....	Michigan City.
Dorsey, W. C.....	Terre Haute.	Derr, Walter.....	South Bend.
Carr, W. C.....	Crawfordsville.	Cornell, J. B.....	Goshen.

During the ten months of my administration of the office 43,706 barrels of oil were inspected by myself, and 152,694 by my deputies and assistants. Of this number 551 barrels were rejected. The standard test for all illuminating oils in Indiana is gravity test, Beaume's hydrometer, not below 46° nor higher than 50°. The said oils shall bear a flash test not below 120° Fahrenheit, and a fire test not below 140° Fahrenheit. This test is as high, if not higher, than that required by any other State in the Union. Much of the oil that was rejected would very likely have passed the inspection in other States, but it would not stand the test required by law in Indiana.

While the law concerning the inspection of oils has been generally obeyed, there have been a few intended violations of it. Two parties who persisted in selling uninspected oil in Vermillion and Fountain counties were arrested and fined \$50.00 and costs each. At the present writing warrants are out for two additional violators of the law in the same section of the State. The uninspected oil sold was shipped into Indiana from Danville, Ill., and the Deputy Inspector in the Eighth District was not notified by the persons to whom it was consigned.

It is the duty of all Deputy Inspectors to prosecute any and all violators of the law and any failure to do so renders them at once liable to be removed, and at the same time fined in a sum not to exceed \$500.

On account of the high test required and rigid inspection of the oil sold in the State no accident resulting from the use of illuminating oils has come to my notice, during my term of office. Some complaints have been made that the oil at present sold has a tendency to smoke the chimneys, but this is doubtless due to faults in the burner and wick used rather than in the oil itself.

The following table will show the total inspections for the ten months covered by this report, also the number of barrels inspected by the month.

Number of barrels approved .....	196,400
Number of barrels rejected .....	551
Total inspections for ten months .....	196,951

TABLE SHOWING INSPECTIONS BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Approved.	Rejected.	Total.
March .....	20,936	123	21,059
April .....	17,228		17,228
May .....	11,036		11,036
June .....	10,369		10,369
July .....	10,760		10,760
August .....	14,567		14,567
September .....	19,520		19,520
October .....	27,469	428	27,897
November .....	32,904		32,904
December .....	31,611		31,611
Total .....	196,400	551	196,951

TABLE SHOWING INSPECTIONS BY STATIONS.

STATIONS.	Approved.	Rejected.	Total.
Evansville .....	14,487		14,487
Vincennes .....	7,153		7,153
New Albany .....	3,267		3,267
Jeffersonville .....	1,801		1,801
Madison .....	2,276		2,276
Brookville .....	1,675		1,675
Aurora .....	1,308		1,308
Greensburg .....	842		842
Rushville .....	1,450		1,450
Shelbyville .....	893		893
Columbus .....	1,443		1,443
Danville .....	976		976
Union City .....	1,020		1,020
Richmond .....	3,960		3,960
Muncie .....	1,448		1,448
Indianapolis .....	43,706	551	44,257
Terre Haute .....	10,249		10,249
Brazil .....	2,013		2,013
Crawfordsville .....	2,801		2,801
Lafayette .....	13,286		13,286
Kokomo .....	1,743		1,743
Logansport .....	6,920		6,920
Delphi .....	1,265		1,265
Rochester .....	488		488
Whiting .....	5,087		5,087
Hammond .....	3,234		3,234
Valparaiso .....	1,060		1,060
North Manchester .....	719		719

TABLE SHOWING INSPECTIONS BY STATIONS—Continued.

STATIONS.	Approved.	Rejected.	Total.
Peru.....	4,479	.....	4,479
Marion .....	1,573	.....	1,573
Huntington .....	1,616	.....	1,616
Portland .....	120	.....	120
Ft. Wayne .....	9,410	.....	9,410
South Bend .....	6,024	.....	6,024
Michigan City .....	1,623	.....	1,623
Elkhart .....	4,046	.....	4,046
Laporte .....	1,738	.....	1,738
Warsaw .....	1,072	.....	1,072
Goshen .....	1,851	.....	1,851
Louisville, Ky. ....	3,910	.....	3,910
Cincinnati, Ohio .....	3,806	.....	3,806
Toledo, Ohio .....	1,554	.....	1,554
Lima, Ohio .....	10,679	.....	10,679
Mansfield, Ohio .....	745	.....	745
Cleveland, Ohio .....	4,456	.....	4,456
Hamilton, Ohio .....	1,128	.....	1,128
Total .....	196,400	551	196,951

TABLE SHOWING PLACE OF MANUFACTURE.

Whiting, Ind .....	57,805
Lima, Ohio .....	104,584
Toledo, Ohio .....	5,110
Pittsburgh, Pa. ....	4,084
Franklin, Pa. ....	148
Cleveland, Ohio .....	11,751
Findlay, Ohio .....	1,082
Oil City, Pa. ....	5,259
Washington, Pa. ....	4,273
Titusville, Pa. ....	1,545
Reno, Pa. ....	513
Bear Creek, Pa. ....	120
St. Louis, Mo .....	135
Chicago, Ill. ....	14
Buffalo, N. Y .....	123
Welker, Ohio .....	345
Marcus Hook, Pa. ....	60
Total .....	196,951

TABLE SHOWING STATES WHERE OIL WAS MANUFACTURED.

Ohio .....	122,872
Indiana.....	57,805
Pennsylvania .....	16,002
Missouri.....	135
New York .....	123
Illinois .....	14
Total.....	196,951

How much of the oil refined at Whiting, Ind., and Lima, O., is made from the crude petroleum produced in Indiana I have not been able to ascertain. The development of the petroleum industry in this State has continued to steadily advance, and during the year 1895 nearly three thousand new wells were put down, more than three-fourths of which proved productive.

Oil found in Ohio and Indiana comes from the Trenton limestone. It contains more sulphur and nitrogen than does the shale oil of Pennsylvania. For this reason it is of a darker color, higher specific gravity, and possesses a more rank and disagreeable odor. These properties diminish the commercial value of the Ohio and Indiana product to a considerable extent. During the oil boom in April, 1895, the highest point touched by the Pennsylvania oil was \$2.70 per barrel, while the highest reached by the Ohio oil was \$1.24; the Indiana product being about 10 cents less than the Ohio, though for no known reason, as the oil fields of the two States are doubtless continuous and the product essentially the same.

The following table shows the number of wells completed by months in Indiana during the year 1895, with the average daily production of each, and the number which proved dry; also, the number of wells being drilled and the rigs up on December 31, 1895:

NUMBER OF WELLS COMPLETED BY MONTHS IN 1895.

MONTHS.	Wells Completed.	New Productions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January.....	222	3,150	99	201	137
February.....	171	2,425	72	155	111
March.....	235	3,095	83	187	131
April.....	256	4,163	76	223	343
May.....	311	5,014	86	289	345
June.....	240	4,730	59	250	314
July.....	262	5,235	57	282	326
August.....	236	4,750	50	212	239
September.....	272	5,220	57	284	144
October.....	204	3,690	42	222	135
November.....	150	2,565	34	175	81
December.....	152	2,305	39	158	62
Total.....	2,711	46,342	754	2,638	2,368

## WELLS COMPLETED IN ADAMS COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	21	600	4	18	18
February .....	19	400	3	19	16
March .....	24	440	4	20	17
April .....	32	505	5	21	37
May .....	43	710	7	36	38
June .....	39	800	5	31	27
July .....	36	730	4	34	31
August .....	29	640	5	32	28
September .....	36	710	6	39	16
October .....	25	385	5	30	13
November .....	12	180	1	16	7
December .....	11	110	2	12	10
Total .....	328	6,210	51	308	258

## WELLS COMPLETED IN BLACKFORD COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	10	100	5	5	5
February .....	5	20	3	3	8
March .....	12	330	3	16	9
April .....	14	450	4	17	21
May .....	16	504	5	19	23
June .....	13	500	4	16	21
July .....	17	670	3	21	22
August .....	21	700	2	16	8
September .....	24	605	4	21	12
October .....	11	230	3	9	18
November .....	13	205	2	12	11
December .....	12	140	3	9	5
Total .....	165	4,454	41	164	163

## WELLS COMPLETED IN GRANT COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	28	350	12	21	8
February .....	21	310	13	11	5
March .....	16	205	9	13	6
April .....	15	135	8	12	32
May .....	27	315	9	26	29
June .....	12	210	4	16	31
July .....	14	305	6	12	24
August .....	15	300	5	10	21
September .....	31	645	7	19	11
October .....	29	620	2	27	21
November .....	20	340	4	21	12
December .....	23	305	5	22	8
Total .....	251	4,040	84	210	208

## WELLS COMPLETED IN HUNTINGTON COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	6	150	3	5	6
February .....	7	125	3	5	7
March .....	6	60	3	8	3
April .....	7	200	2	8	13
May .....	10	235	3	13	17
June .....	6	120	3	16	19
July .....	5	120	2	15	18
August .....	3	60	2	8	16
September .....	6	75	2	6	9
October .....	7	105	2	4	8
November .....	2	10	3	4	4
December .....	6	100	2	4	5
Total .....	71	1,360	25	93	125

## WELLS COMPLETED IN JAY COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	36	8'0	6	35	32
February .....	24	530	5	26	23
March .....	41	610	6	31	24
April .....	46	707	6	35	44
May .....	57	905	9	47	51
June .....	46	810	7	40	60
July .....	51	940	9	51	70
August .....	46	810	8	38	42
September .....	51	905	9	46	21
October .....	30	410	10	31	12
November .....	19	220	6	26	6
December .....	21	210	6	22	8
Total .....	468	7,897	85	428	393

## WELLS COMPLETED IN WELLS COUNTY IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	58	1,060	7	56	44
February .....	51	940	5	44	31
March .....	67	1,120	6	62	43
April .....	80	1,863	7	87	99
May .....	97	2,130	11	96	101
June .....	83	1,845	10	94	102
July .....	104	2,160	9	103	99
August .....	98	2,040	11	86	84
September .....	103	2,160	13	126	62
October .....	89	1,910	13	96	44
November .....	71	1,605	9	81	32
December .....	62	1,410	7	60	21
Total .....	963	20,243	108	991	762

WELLS COMPLETED IN ALL ADDITIONAL COUNTIES IN INDIANA IN WHICH  
DRILLING FOR OIL WAS DONE IN 1895, BY MONTHS.

MONTHS.	Wells Com- pleted.	New Produc- tions, bbls.	Wells Dry.	Drilling.	Rigs Up.
January .....	66	50	62	61	24
February .....	44	100	40	48	21
March .....	69	330	52	41	29
April .....	62	303	44	43	97
May .....	61	215	42	52	86
June .....	41	445	26	37	54
July .....	35	310	24	46	62
August .....	24	200	19	22	40
September .....	21	120	16	27	13
October .....	12	30	9	22	19
November .....	13	5	12	16	8
December .....	17	30	14	29	6
Total .....	465	2,138	360	444	459

In conclusion, I will say that in my opinion the law regulating the inspection of oil is accomplishing all that its originators intended. It has resulted in a much better grade of oil being furnished to the consumers than was done before its enactment. As a result the loss of life and property due to explosions has been reduced to a minimum. All of this has been brought about without cost to the tax-payers of the State, as the expense of inspection is wholly borne by the oil companies.

Respectfully submitted,

C. F. HALL.