

By: W. P. Hancock - Field Geologist
F. A. McKinnon - Field Geologist
E. K. Redford - Assistant Geologist
R. D. Stinar - Assistant Geologist
L. Castelli - Student Assistant

January 15, 1945.

INTRODUCTION

Stratigraphy	3
General Statement.....	3
Cambrian.....	3
Katherine Formation.....	3
Macdugald Formation.....	3
Silurian.....	3
Mount Roaring Formation.....	4
Devonian or Silurian.....	4
Bear Rock Formation.....	4
Devonian.....	4
Middle Devonian - Beavertail-Ramparts Formation..	4
Upper Devonian - Fort Creek Formation.....	5
Upper Devonian - Bosworth Formation.....	5
Cretaceous.....	5
Structure.....	5
General Statement.....	5

PART I - MACKENZIE RIVER PROSPECTS

Morrow Creek Structure.....	7
Perry Island.....	7
Sans Sault.....	8
Bath Hills Oil Seep.....	8

PART II - THE CARCAJOU RIVER AREA

General Statement.....	10
Imperial River Prospect	10
Link Lake Prospect	13
Sammons Creek Prospect	13
Painbow Arch and Vicinity.....	14
Trail Anticline	14
Lower Carcajou River.....	16

PART III - THE IMPERIAL MOUNTAINS

18

PART IV - THE MOUNTAIN RIVER AREA

Introduction.....	21
Stratigraphy.....	22
General.....	22
Table of Formations.....	23
Paleozoic	22
Devonian or Silurian - Bear Rock Formation.....	22
Middle Devonian-Beavertail-Ramparts Formation...	24
Upper Devonian - Fort Creek Formation.....	24
Upper Devonian - Bosworth Formation.....	25

10	Initial Survey Progress.....
11	Initial Modeling.....
12	Lower Creek Progress.....
13	Recommendations re Geophysical Surveys.....
14	Lower Creek.....
15	Trail Creek.....
16	Cherrytail-Loonier Ridge Extension.....
17	Lower Creek Area.....
18	Recommendations re Further Geological Field Work.....
19	Bath Hills Oil Seep.....
20	Lower Mountains and Discovery Range.....
21	East Mountain and Caronou Rock.....
22	Flammable Gas Seep.....
23	Geophysical Surveys.....

BIBLIOGRAPHY

PHOTOGRAPHIC ILLUSTRATIONS

Several areas of oil shows have been located and localized to the Imperial anticline. The most promising has definitely been located on the Imperial anticline. Two smaller positive features in the Bath Hills area, which are recommended on Whirlpool anticline on Mountain Creek, and on the Imperial an icline, near Link Lake. In addition, River and Sammons Creek prospects are two additional possibilities for locations on the Imperial anticline.

Geophysical surveys will be necessary before recommendations can be made for locations in the area between Carcassou River and the Mackenzie. Further geophysical work is also required to map out the trend and establish closure, before a second well can be located on the Norrow Creek structure.

The active oil seep near Bath Hills is encouraging and warrants detailed surface geological work, in an effort to obtain information which would favor a location for a test well.

INTRODUCTION

Field work during the 1944 field season was confined to the Norman - Carcajou Basin area and consisted mainly of checking over various prominent structural features which were mapped by Canol Project Geologists in 1943.

The summer's program was as follows:-

June 5 to June 14 - Morrow Creek, Ferry Island,
and Sans Sault,

June 22 to July 23 - Carcajou River area, including Imperial anticline,
Rainbow Arch, Sammons Creek,
Trail Creek, etc.,

August 7 to August 27 - Imperial Mountains,

August 29 to September 3 - Blackwood Lake, Sammons
Creek and vicinity,

September 7 to September 23 - Mountain River and
Hume River.

Personnel engaged in geological field work during
1944 consisted of: - University of Manitoba, J. J. Cannon, H. F. Reid-
er, and G. C. Miller, with field work done by R. D. Gluzer.

Plate II - Vertical Sections, Mountain River Area -

Scale 4 inches to 1 mile, by W.P. Hancock.

Plate III - Geologic Map of Norman Carcajou Basin

Area - Norman Wells to Mountain River -

Scale 1 inch to 1 mile, by F.A. McKinnon.

Plate IV - Cross Sections, Carcajou River Area -

Scale 2 inches to 1 mile, by F.A. McKinnon.

Plate V - Geologic Map of Hume River Area - Scale

1 inch to 1 mile, by F. A. McKinnon.

STRATIGRAPHY

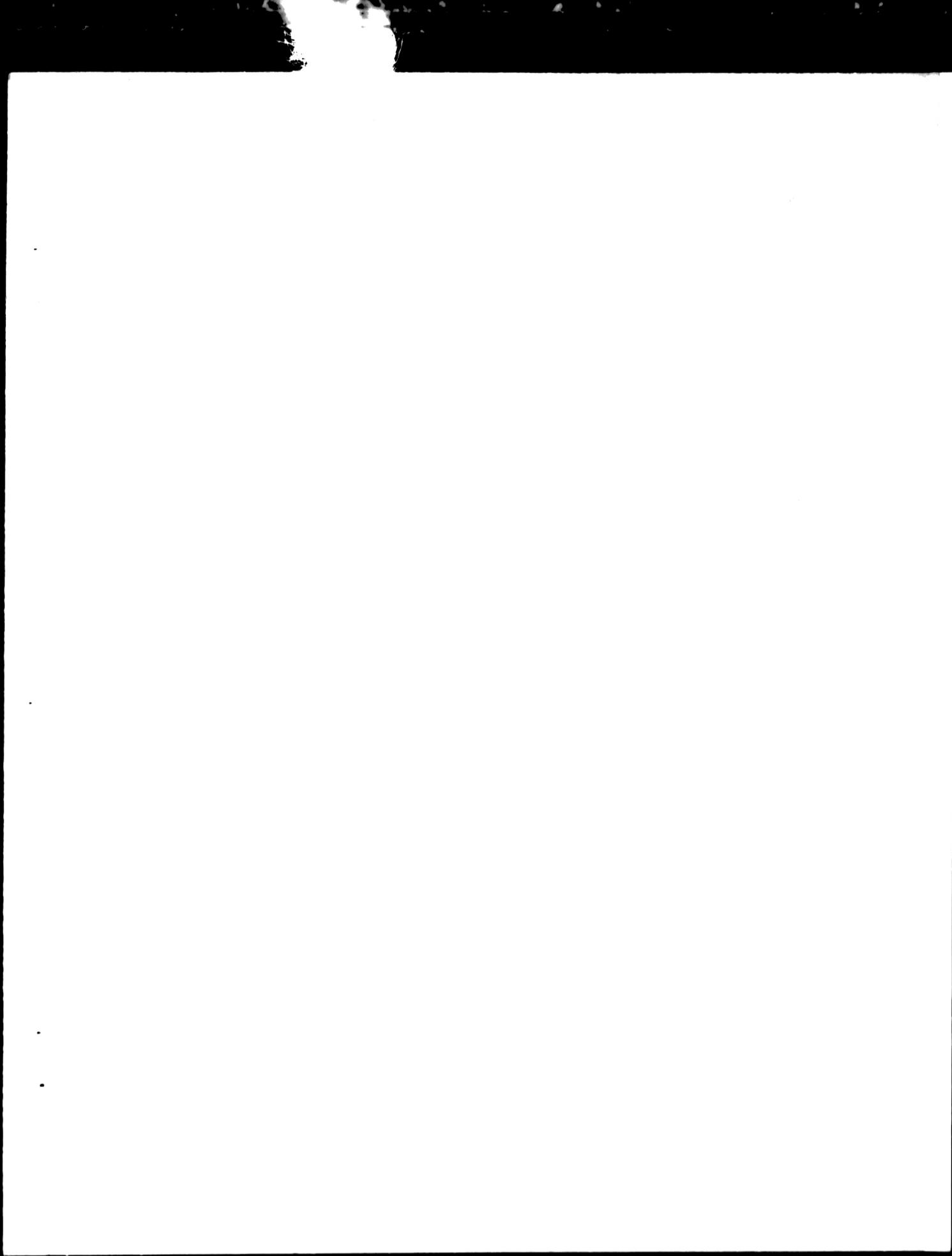
General Statement

The stratigraphy of the Norman - Carcajou Basin Area is fully discussed in the reports by Imperial Oil Limited - Tanci Project geologists for the 1943 field season.

Stratigraphic data obtained in 1943 were fairly well in line with the conceptions previously held, and no major changes in the nature of the formations are necessary. There are, however, some minor changes in the Mountain River Area, as follows:

1. The "Hume" is now considered to be

the "Hume".



1. THE CRETACEOUS
2. THE JURASSIC
3. THE TRIASSIC
4. THE CENOZOIC

THE CRETACEOUS FORMATION

The Cretaceous formation is composed of angular blocks of limestone and dolomite, cemented in a calcareous matrix. It is fossiliferous and often notably bituminous. The formation contains thin bedded zones which grade laterally into dolomite limestone, and also a well-developed gypsum horizon.

The age of this formation has not been determined, nor is its origin definitely known. Its thickness is fairly constant, about 400 feet.

DEVONIAN

Middle Devonian - Beavertail - Ramparts Formation

Formerly mapped as two separate formations, the Beavertail - Ramparts consists of a thick lower series of alternating dark grey limestones and limey shales, with an upper massive buff-colored limestone member. On the whole it is very fossiliferous except in the upper part.

The thickness of the Beavertail - Ramparts in the Carcassou River area is about 350 feet. In the central and westward parts of the Imperial Range it is over 2,000 feet thick, and this

Sans Sault it is 1,517 feet thick, and at Marrow Creek it is 955 feet.

Upper Devonian - Fort Creek Formation

The Fort Creek has two main subdivisions; an upper soft grey crushable member and a lower hard black platy part. The reef limestone, where present, generally occurs between the two. The formation is around 1,000 feet thick in the eastern part of the basin, and thins to about 90 feet in the western part. It is absent in the northwestern part, around Bath Hills.

Upper Devonian - Bosworth Formation

The Bosworth is composed of light grey to greenish or buff sandstones and micaceous shales. In the eastern part of the area it is over 1,000 feet thick. In the northwestern parts, around East Mountain, Sans Sault and Bath Hill, it is absent. On Mountain River it is about 1,300 feet thick.

CRETACEOUS

The Cretaceous formations, and a new correlation for them, are discussed in Part IV.

STRUCTURE

General Statement

The Norman - Carcajou Basin area is a wide synclinal basin in which several positive structural features occur. These positive features range in size from small flexures to large ridges, which are compensated by fairly complex folding and faulting.

average 70 miles in width. It is bounded on the northeastern side by the Long armante Discovery Range, and on the southwestern side by the front of the Rockies mountains.

Since the assignments for the 1944 season consisted mostly of evaluating certain previously-known structural features of the basin area, it seems advisable to discuss each of these from the standpoint of its structure. This is done in the following pages.

PART I - MACKENZIE RIVER PROSPECTS
(By F. A. McKinnon)

BITTON CREEK, PERRY ISLAND AND SANS SAULT

These prospects were examined in the early part of June, 1944, and a report was submitted immediately, to enable the Drilling Department to organize a program for drilling during the summer of 1944.

BITTON CREEK STRUCTURE

This prospect was recommended by Hancock (5) in 1943. The anticlinal structure is clearly defined, lying in Cosworth beds. Geophysical surveys by both seismograph and gravity meter have confirmed its presence at depth. All indications are that this structure is not connected with the Hoosier Anticline.

Following the recommendations of the geological department, a well was drilled at this location during the latter part of the summer. This well reached the Bear Rock formation at 1,965 feet, and was suspended at a depth of 2,024 feet after encountering a very large flow of salt water in the Bear Rock.

Although the results of this first well have been discouraging, the structure is not condemned, and it is possible that with the help of further study of the results of geological and geophysical surveys, a new location may be recommended.

PERRY ISLAND

The presence of a structure between Perry Island and the south bank of Mackenzie River was suspected by Hancock during his survey of the islands of the Mackenzie in 1943. (5)

McKINNON, ROBERT L.

Bear Rock Oil Well

McKinnon, Robert L., visited the area of the
the left bank of the Mackenzie River, about
Birch Creek, King of the Rockies area, in
1944, confirmed the structure, and a drilling contract
The well drilled on this location during the summer
reached the Bear Rock at a depth of 2,925 feet, and operations
were suspended for the winter at a depth of 3,123 feet.

No favorable signs of oil were found. Present plans
are that this well will be deepened during 1945, to test the
formations underlying the Bear Rock dolomite. For the time
being no further recommendations are made for this prospect.

Bath Hills Oil Seep

An active oil seep on Mackenzie River near the Bath
Hills was reported by the gravity crew during the summer, and
was visited by McKinnon late in September, 1944. At that time
the river was at a low stage, and the seep, which ordinarily
would be covered by water, was just at river level.

The oil comes as small pools from fractures in the massive limestones which are near the top of the Beavertail-Pamparts formation. The oil seep is surrounded by many strong sulphur springs. No free oil was obtained, but specimens of the oil covered rock and samples of film-covered water were collected and sent to the chemist at Norman Wells. Results of this analysis have not been submitted.

The source of the oil cannot be positively stated. However it is significant that the beds in this locality are folded, and that the rocks from which the oil flows are older than the reef limestone horizon in which oil is found at Norman Wells. This adds importance to the testing of the Bear Rock dolomite, which is notably bituminous in the adjacent area east of the Mackenzie River (3).

It is recommended that further field work in the Bath Hills be undertaken as soon as possible in 1945, in an attempt to obtain more information regarding the seep, and if possible to choose a location for a test hole.

Bridgford, Gainsford, and others, a number of which were taken from the Chapel Bank to the Wolds in County the period June 22 to July 23. The size of this party, and the amount of time available, made it possible to work inland on both sides of the river and cover far more of the adjoining country than was previously possible. (See Plate III.)

The Imperial anticlinorium was studied in considerable detail, and a few revisions were made in the stratigraphy as reported by Bath in 1943 (1).

Imperial River Prospect

By the directive of May 10, 1944, the field parties were requested to make a particular study of the Imperial anticline in the vicinity of Imperial River, in an attempt to establish closure along the axis, and if possible to recommend a location to test the beds from Lower Fort Creek to Bear Rock. Previous work on this problem was done by Nauss (11) and Laudon (7).

Both Nause and Laudon have considered the possibility of a well location in the Imperial anticline at Imperial, Iowa, and both of these men consider that the Imperial anticline is a good location for a well.

It is believed by the writers that the Beavertail limestone is the same bed as the one lying less than 150 feet of Fort Creek limestone. This was based on the presence of blocks of limestone in the Fort Creek bed described as Hypothyridina castanea, which is typical of the lower 110 feet of the Beavertail limestone. The following observations during the 1944 season, however, described by Nauss are not in place, and the 1944 observations, and the Imperial limestone bearing the same fossils were found in the cliffs at least 200 feet above the river at the same place. Thus Nauss' conception is shown to be erroneous.

Nauss refers to this respect as follows:-

"The structure is a closed dome on the top of the Imperial anticlinal structure. The crest point of the structure is located on the valley flat of Imperial River, just above the junction of the two rivers. The dome is 10 miles in diameter."

Nauss' evidence of closure was apparently obtained from the 1943 season, along the axis on Imperial River, as shown by the dip and strikes on his map. However, the dips and strikes recorded by the writers during the 1944 season do not concur with those of Laudon, and failed to establish closure along the axis.

Regarding the thickness of the beds covering the Beavertail limestone, Laudon assumed a minimum of at least 300 feet, but stated that "it is altogether probable that the cover is greater than this."

However, the possibility of a closure in the Beavertail formation is interesting, since there is little or no evidence of closure along the axis. However, it has been pointed out that this is the only presently known prospective test of the Beavertail and Bear Rock formations in this locality. If the winter program of geophysical exploration can be extended this far afield, further information may be obtained.

A location at the mouth of Imperial River would be difficult of access. It could probably be reached most easily

from the Canol-Whitehorse highway, by a winter road which would parallel the Carcassou on the north side, or by descending the river on the ice.

Link Lake Prospect

The presence of a closed high on the Imperial anticline about half way between Imperial River and Sammons Creek was first noticed by Dr. J. A. Link while on aerial reconnaissance in the basin areas. The structure was subsequently delineated by Dr. Beaufortine on U.S.A.A.T. oblique aerial photographs, 1944, not examined on the ground prior to 1946.

The Link Lake prospect is topographically as well as geologically anomalous. It has been mapped as a high basin resting on exposures of sandstone. Link Lake are brecciated and contain a large amount of sandstone debris. Strong sulphur springs

occur in the area and are very well defined in exposures

of the sandstone and dolomitic formations on both

sides of the basin. The basin is bounded along the axis

by a series of small, low, rounded hills

which are the eastern extension of Bear Creek

and the western extension of the Carcassou, the latter

being the eastern extension of the Bear Creek

area. The basin is bounded on the west by the Carcassou

and on the east by the Bear Creek area.

The basin is bounded on the north by the Carcassou

and on the south by the Bear Creek area.

Just east of Sammons Creek is a low, rounded structure, which is also a closed dome on the surface of the hill. Bear Rock beds are exposed in its axial region, and they are surrounded by "rim rocks" of Beavertail limestone. The plunge to the east is gentle, but to the west must be rather sudden, since only a narrow strip of Bear Rock is exposed on Sammons Creek, several hundred feet lower than the central part of the structure.

As a test of the formations below the Bear Rock, this structure is larger, and possibly more favorable in that regard, than the Link Lake prospect. However, it is much less accessible. The country is high and rugged, pitted with innumerable sink holes, and thickly covered with brush. Furthermore, the banks of the Carcajou in this vicinity are high and steep, with no valley large enough to offer means of access to the long south branch river. For reasons of inaccessibility, the structure is not regarded with very favor by the miners.

Rainbow Arch and vicinity

On the south side of the Carcajou River, about

one-half mile from the mouth of the creek,

is a low, rounded structure.

After filling the vessel with water and sealing, for the rest

INTERCOSTAL AND PLEURAL CAVITIES

he should let the evidence be lacking, the charges

Digitized by srujanika@gmail.com on 10/05/2014

Structural constraints of the type are

... and a echelon arrangement of these cells would also

¹⁰See, for example, *W. H. H. Clayton, The Law of the Sea (1976)*.

Fig. 13. - A small, isolated, simple, either技 or 手, found along the

¹⁴ A stratigraphic trap at the base of the reef limestone.

It is well known that Rondeletia may but apparently not present in the collections.

(b) Rainbow anticline, root to Ghavetai anticline.

11 perfectly spaced in the document 61-24

on the catalog cover, with their last names.

to the wall. This cold also means a

least. It has been traced from the same source.

extension is independent

Sammons Creek, and the area immediately west of the creek.

At the country is brush covered and several miles, but from all observations it appears that this "Brasshat" fold is probably a small one which finally becomes the main central anticline of the Colorado Rockies Mountains uplift. The rise to the west is gentle and gradual, with no indication of local closure anywhere.

(d) The fourth fold in this series has been named the Sammons anticline. It is a rather tight fold, and has been traced only about a mile east of Sammons Creek. No information was obtained regarding its westward extension.

(e) The fifth fold on Sammons Creek is the main Imperial anticline, which is a clearly-defined major structural feature extending from Hopkins Lake to Sammons Creek, but which has not been traced westward from Sammons Creek.

(f)(g) The sixth and seventh folds mapped on Sammons Creek are small and not clearly defined. They are found in lower Fort Creek beds, near the junction of Sammons Creek and Blackwood Creek, but have not been traced eastward or westward.

Small Anticlines

The existence of the so-called Trail anticline has never been definitely proven. Impressions of Cretaceous beds along the Colorado River and on Trail Creek indicate the possible presence of a small anticline, but evidence has not sufficient to complete

Lydon and
the same
picture, instead of mapping West Mountain
in 1943.

The results of this work show a slight regional dip to the north. The map indicated by the gravity data, except that the regional map shows a positive anomaly east of Grafton River on West Mountain. However, no interesting structural features found by surface geological work in this locality.

Survey work was done in the area of the range, but there are no major lakes, streams, or
mountain villages and no streams large enough for
water travel. The survey party was landed on Imperial
Lake, on the north side of the range, four to five
miles west of Rainbow Arch. From a base camp at this
lake, supplies were packed up into the mountains, and
left in caches, which were used later during an 8 -
day fly trip through the range. Although this pro-
cedure made it possible to work out the main structural
features of the range and to obtain considerable data
on the stratigraphy of the area, limits of time and
distance prevented the accumulation of as much informa-
tion as would normally be desired. It is the
opinion of the writers that the data is
sufficient from the standpoint of petrology and
mineralogy to warrant publication.

As was pointed out in the descriptions of the folds on Sammons Creek, the three most northerly of the seven folds can be traced westward from Carcajou River. Of these three, the two outer ones, Shavetail and Rainbow anticlines, appear to die out near Imperial Lake. The third fold, the "Brasshat" anticline, appears to rise and widen to the west, and forms the main central anticlinal fold of the Imperial range. For about fifteen miles west of Sammons Creek this fold rises gently and gradually at one to four degrees, to reach a maximum elevation of approximately 2,250 feet. This elevation is structural as well as topographic. Dips on the south flank over this distance average 10 to 12 degrees. On the north flank the beds turn over very suddenly, and for most of the length of the range are nearly vertical.

Absence of exposures and relative inaccessibility of the area to the south of the range have limited the amount of information, and little is known of structural conditions here or of the possible westward extensions of the remaining folds on Sammons Creek.

Beavertail-Ramparts and Bear Rock beds are exposed throughout the central part of the range, but without a more precise plot of the topography of the range it is impossible to represent the distribution of these formations on a map. Most of the range is covered by beds of the Beavertail-Ramparts formation, with Bear Rock beds exposed in the creek bottoms and in the central part of the range where the forces of erosion have cut deeply into the mountains.

From the standpoint of stratigraphy, it is important to note the upward increase in thickness of the Bear Rock dolomite. Intercalations of dolomitic limestone and dolomitic dolomite are present in the dolomites on Carrizoou River above the base of the formation. The dolomitic dolomite is composed of dolomitic limestone and limey shales between the base of the formation and the top of the Bear Rock. Fifteen miles west of the latter, the dolomite thickened to at least 2,000 feet. Most of this thickening occurs in the lower part of the formation, and is apparently due to the introduction into the section of a series of soft grey to dark grey limey shales. The thickness of this series on Mountain River is reported to be 1,716 feet. (13)

No recommendations are made in the Imperial range, for the following reasons:

- (1) The Bear Rock dolomite is exposed throughout much of the central part of the range, and other more accessible locations are available as excellent tests of pre-Bear Rock horizons.
- (2) There are no legal closures within the range.
- (3) The most accessible part of the range would be extremely difficult to reach with heavy equipment.

The first geological survey of Mountain River was made in 1943 by J. M. Parker (13) who ran a plane-table traverse through the Imperial mountains and mapped the whirlpool and Turnbull anticlines, recommending a well location on Whirlpool anticline.

Mountain River was descended during the 1944 field season for the purpose of further study of the Whirlpool anticline and to mark a drilling site on this structure. The Turnbull anticline lying below (north of) the Whirlpool anticline was also studied, and further examination was made of the Imperial anticlinorium.

Mountain River emerges from the Mackenzie mountains about 50 miles due west of Norman Wells, and flows through concessions 6 and 8 of the Imperial Oil Limited - Norman Exploration holdings in the Norman Wells area, to enter the Mackenzie River just above Sans Sault Rapids, 70 miles downstream from Norman Wells.

The writer and H. K. Reidford were landed on Florence Lake by C.P.A. Norseman on September 7th. The party proceeded to Mountain River via Lake Doris and Virgin Creek, using two canoes. That part of the Imperial anticlinorium adjacent to Mountain River was examined, completing the study of this structure, which was begun by the field parties on the previous assignment during August 1944. A plane-table survey was made along Mountain River across the Whirlpool anticline. The plane table survey was tied in to a previous

~~a comparative table of formations~~

~~1900 feet above sea level.~~

~~Imperial.~~

The Palaeozoic section as measured and described by Parker (13) where Mountain River cuts through the Imperial range is left unchanged except for revisions in nomenclature. These revisions were made to conform to conclusions reached in the study of the Imperial range, and have been confirmed by data obtained from the Sans Sault No. 1 well.

The following formation descriptions are a summary of those given by Parker.

Devonian or Silurian - Bear Rock Formation

This formation has been divided into two sections,

Comparative Table of Formations

Mountain River Area

W. F. Hancock 1944

W. F. Hancock 1944

Formation	Thickness	Age	Formation	Thickness
		Upper	Little Bear, sandstone & shale	150 ±
		CRETAZOUS	Slater River, shale & bentonite	1000 ±
"Link" sandstone & sh.	335 ±			
"Sperry" shale	2150		Sans Sault, sandstone & shale	3850
Sans Sault, sandstone & shale	1410			
Bosworth, sandstone & shale	1200		Bosworth, sandstone & shale	1200
U. Fort Creek, shale	90		Fort Creek, shale	90
Reef Limestone & L. Fort Creek, shale	390			
Beavertail, limestone	80	DEVONIAN	Beavertail-Ramparts, limestone & shale	1716
Upper Ramparts, ls.	100			
Middle Ramparts, shale	700	Middle		
Lower Ramparts ls.	166			
Bear Rock, limestone & dolomite	200 ±		Bear Rock, limestone & dolomite breccia	200±

from the upper portion of the body.

卷之三

150 feet thick.

Both sections may be regarded as probably older rocks.

Middle Devonian - Beavertail-Ramparts Formation

Included in this is the uppermost 350 feet of limestone which Parker called Reef Limestone, correlating it in general stratigraphic position with the Reef Limestone at Norman Wells. No subdivision into individual formations or members is made by the writer, and details of description may be found in Parker's report. Parker measured a total thickness of 1,716 feet for these sediments, composed of 800 feet of relatively pure limestone, 200 feet of shaly limestone with shale bands, and 700 feet of shale with limestone beds.

Bituminous matter was found locally but not abundantly, in both the limestones and shales. Source and reservoir rocks appear to be present in the section.

Drake, Pennsylvania - Post Office Department

This formation consists of 90 feet of black platy bituminous shales and thin shaly limestone. The formation is a probable

source rock for oil but not likely in any great quantity because of its thinness. It would provide a cap rock for oil accumulation in the limestone below.

Upper Devonian - Rosserth (Norman) Formation

Parker mapped this section in detail on the north flank of Imperial range. It consists of 1,200 feet of shales, sandy shales, sandstones and limestones.

Almost as thick a section is exposed on Whirlpool Creek. This section was mapped for structural information and no attempt was made to subdivide it according to lithology or faunal zones.

The formation is thought to have little or no importance as source or reservoir rocks.

MESOZOIC

Cretaceous

The stratigraphy and correlation of the Cretaceous sediments in the Norman Wells area is probably more confused in the literature than that of any other rock group. This is partly due to the scarcity of megafossils, partly to the lack of any number of correlatable lithologic horizons, and partly to the introduction of unnecessary new formation names, having indefinite and widely separated type localities, resulting in ambiguous correlations.

On Mountain River, Parker (13) divided the Cretaceous into the following formations, least to youngest these are the: 1. Mountain River, 2. Laramie, 3. "Link" formations. Nauss (11) has the following correlation for the Cretaceous on Imperial River. The formations are in the same order, and it appears that not only the formations are the same, but the correlation of the Mountain River non-marine formations is the same as that of the same categories on

Imperial River, but the name Sperry is also used in the former area. It has been mapped as both "Sperry" and "Link" in age. In this report the name Sans Sault is retained because it is the first name assigned to the sediments of Lower Cretaceous age in the area. The names Slater River and Little Bear are used in preference to "Sperry" and "Link", because the above mentioned confusion regarding the latter terminology is avoided, and there are lithological bases for using the Slater River and Little Bear terminology, both of which are prior names.

Lower Cretaceous - Sans Sault Formation

This name was assigned by Parker (14) to the Lower Cretaceous sediments exposed in the Mackenzie River Valley. The type section is at the Sans Sault rapids in the Mackenzie River, and is defined as "all bed from the base of the Lower Cretaceous upward to the base of a non-sandy, thick shale section". Reudanticeras cf. affine (a lower Cretaceous ammonite) associated with Inoperamus bleuomys, Corbula, Gastropilina, Lissoceras and Limna were found in the lower 100 feet of this formation. The lower part of the formation is composed of sandy, silty, and clayey sandstones, with thin interbeds of shale. The upper part of the formation is composed of thick, non-sandy, greyish-green shales.

the Canadian.

the water in the

valley of

the Glater

is 100 ft.

the Glater Gorges

are now spread in

the valley of the Glater

the mouth of Red

is 100 ft. above the level of

the mouth of the Glater

the water in the valley will be confined

in the valley of the Glater

the water in the valley of the Glater

characteristic of the section, the bentonitic shales are assigned to the "Link" section of Bent and Parker (1936) and the bentonitic shales of this section (G. E. Meissner, 1938) correlated with the "Link" section. The bentonitic shales of the "Link" section are correlated with the bentonitic shales of the "Sperry" formation by virtue of the accepted correlation of the "Sperry" with the "Link". The bentonite seams are excellent correlating horizons because they are generally widespread and restricted in time range. It is logical, therefore, to correlate the bentonitic shales on Virgin Creek, Carcajou River and Mountain River with the Slater River formation. These beds on Carcajou River near Imperial River are the equivalent of the "Sperry" formation as mapped by Nauss (11) on Imperial River. Bentonitic shales at the mouth of Virgin Creek on Mountain River were mapped as "Sperry" by Parker, but on the north flank of Whirlpool anticline these same beds were placed at the top of the Cretaceous section, in the "Link" formation. These shales are now called Slater River. Only 70 feet of the bentonitic shales are exposed on Mountain River, but a thickness of 1,000 feet is assigned to this formation by the writer, on the basis of assumed structural conditions (Plate 2), and regional considerations.

Upper Cretaceous - Little Bear formation

In its type section on Little Bear River the rocks assigned to this formation consist of sandstones, locally conglomeratic, sandy shales, and coal seams. The beds are lenticular and even local correlations are uncertain.

Beds of equivalent age are thought to be present throughout much of the Norman Wells area but their correlation is difficult. In general any sandy series lying above recognized Slater River type shales may be tentatively correlated with the Little Bear series. The K3 division of the Cretaceous on Leon Creek (4) and the "Link" formation in its type locality on Imperial River (11) are placed in this category. On the Mountain River not more than 150 feet of sandy beds, which may be equivalent to the Little Bear formation, are exposed. These lie in the trough and on the flanks of the syncline north of Whirlpool anticline, and on the north flank of the Turnbull anticline.

STRUCTURE

STRUCTURE

Mountain River crosses the western extremity of the Great Bear synclinal basin. This basin is 26 miles wide, from the eastern Great Bear Mountain to the Mackenzie mountain front.

The Great Bear is bounded by the Imperial anticlinorium. The

Imperial anticline extends from Imperial

to the Mackenzie mountains in this

area. The Great Bear is the most important anticline

in the area.

Well No. 2 Survey

this report.

No work was done between the Mackenzie mountains and Imperial anticlinorium so there is nothing to add to Parker's account of the structure of this part of the area. The Imperial anticlinorium is considered elsewhere in the report of the 1944 field work.

Whirlpool Syncline

Whirlpool syncline lies between Imperial anticlinorium and Whirlpool anticline. This basin is somewhat asymmetrical. Dips up to 50 degrees were recorded in the Cretaceous beds on the south limb and the highest dip observed in these beds on the north limb was 19 degrees. The basin is about 6 miles wide, measured from the base of the Cretaceous.

Whirlpool Anticline

The Whirlpool anticline is a slightly asymmetrical fold of considerable structural relief. Its axis trends north 68 degrees east. It is bounded on the north by the Mountsill River, on the south by the North Saskatchewan River. Whirlpool River is a tributary of the North Saskatchewan River.

feet is situated on the south flank of the Whirlpool syncline.

While the dip of the beds exposed on the south bank of the river, the Bosworth beds indicate a plunge of 8 to 14 degrees to the northwest. The amount of plunge apparently increases to the east, for the top of the Bosworth is estimated to be 1,300 feet below the surface there. Section CD measures the axis. Sections HI illustrates the westward plunge of the Bosworth beneath Mountain River and the westward plunge at Whirlpool Creek. Sections HI and CD and the Bosworth exposure on Mountain River are under structural control. Section HI pictures the structure between these points as relatively flat with the maximum plunge beginning abruptly near the edge of the river valley.

Cross-section FG is drawn at right angles to the trend of the structure in the vicinity of Whirlpool Creek. Using the thickness of the Bosworth as recorded by Parker on the north limb of the Imperial range, and the dip values recorded in these beds along Whirlpool Creek, the base of the Bosworth formation is shown to be 180 feet from the surface at the crest of the fold on section FG. Assuming a uniform thickness of the Bosworth from Imperial range to this area, the crest of the fold here is at least 6,395 feet structurally higher than the north bounding synclinal axis on the river. Using the same assumptions the structural relief with respect to the Whirlpool syncline is at least 4,370 feet.

but its
shape is not known and does not owing maximum towards
the Mountain River arch can be postulated. The maximum relief
of the Devil's Blank is 8,394 feet, of the south blank 4,890
feet, giving an effective north-south relief of 3,500 feet.
The fold plunges steeply to the north-east where crossed
by the Mountain River. A low plunge to the southwest was
measured on Whirlpool Creek. The maximum possible width of
the closed area is seven miles. Its length is not definitely
known, but the closure appears to extend eight to ten miles
to the west of Mountain River. The steep eastward plunge
of the anticline probably limits the eastward closure to
one or two miles east of the Bosworth exposures on Mountain
River. This gives a possible overall length of the closed
area of nine to eleven miles. The relatively deeper north-
bounding syncline suggests that beyond the closed area the
structure may be monoclinal.

The structure is rated as very good for a test
of the Beavertail-Ramparts and older formations in this area.

Turnbull Anticline

Very little is known regarding this structure due
to lack of sufficient exposures. The northern exposures
are about five and one-half miles long.

cross-cut block of the anticline the top of a 15
 foot thick bed of sandstone was found at 16,000 feet. At 16,
 000 feet the dip of the bed was 10 degrees per 100 feet, or at
 16,000 feet the bed strike north
 80 degrees. At 16,000 feet the dip was 10 degrees per 100 feet.
 This is the same as the dip of the bed in the block. This is the
 same as the dip of the bed in the block. At the Turnbull No. 2
 well the dip of the bed is north. The top of the section here is
 sandstone. It is believed to be correlative with the sandy (Little Bear?)
 sandstone. It is believed to be correlative with the sandstone. Downstream the dip decreases
 progressively until the longitudinal axis is reached about 12,000 feet
 upstream. The axis of the Turnbill anticline is drawn about
 midway between the point α and the Taser.
 At 16,000 feet, dip is drawn on the basis of the above
 information. The northeast-southwest structural relief
 is 10,000 feet.
 It is possible to give a classification and rating
 of the structure. If all is obtained in the test of the Whirlpool
 anticline, geodetic surveys will be warranted to evaluate the
 longitudinal and transverse structure.

1000 feet thick.

1000 feet thick.

1000 feet thick.

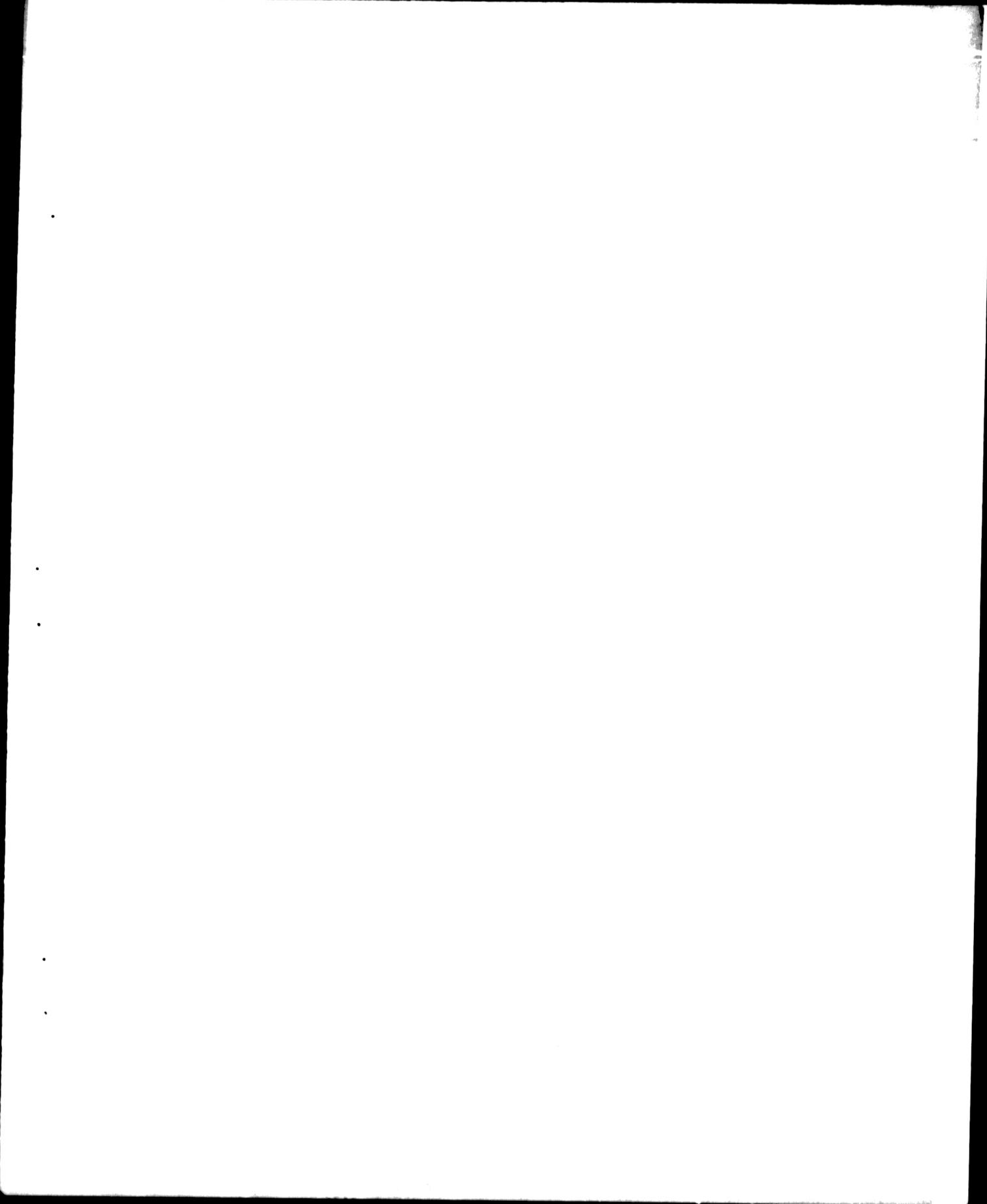
Luminous dolomites are the most common reservoir rocks in the Imperial Valley, and the only one which has been a reservoir for oil developed from one or both of these dolomitic limestone rocks. The Bear Rock formation is generally regarded as a source rock, but has yielded only salt or sulphur water in the few wells which have penetrated it to date. Warm sulphur springs issue from this formation where the Mountain River cuts through Imperial range. Possibilities of the Silurian are not known in this area, but where studied in other areas, both source and reservoir rocks are present.

Structurally the area studied is favourable for accumulation of oil. Whirlpool anticline, which is closed in all directions, and which has an effective north-south structural relief in excess of 4,000 feet, is the most promising structure. It is possible that fracturing related to the development of the fold may have added to the original effective porosity and permeability of the potential reservoir rocks.

A well location was chosen on the west bank of the river about 500 feet from the edge of the valley. This location was marked prior to the traverse up Whirlpool Creek, and as illustrated on section XX (Plate 2), the structure may be higher further south and above the axis. The following formation thicknesses may be expected at this location:

50% / Surface material
400% / Bosworth shale and sandstone
2% / fine-grained shale
1% / fine-grained limestone and dolomite
1% / sandstone
0.5% / dolomite and gypsum

last September, the river was very shallow (two to four feet) except along cutbanks. Movement of the equipment could be facilitated by travelling up the frozen river in mid-winter, after which a road could be constructed from the location along the west bank of the river to Sene Gault. Aerial reconnaissance would be advisable and would facilitate construction of a road to Sene Gault. Construction of a bridge, if required, would be



STRUCTURES

RECOMMENDATIONS RE DRILLING

Structures with the greatest immediate drilling prospects are as follows:

Class A - Immediate drilling prospects.

1. Whirlpool Anticline - This is a prominent closed structure with Bosworth beds exposed in its axial region, and with well-defined closure both across and along the trend of its axis. The structure should be drilled at least through the Bear Rock, and it may be advisable to test the lower formation, if the results of deepening the Sans Sault well are encouraging.

2. The Mink Lake Basement - Closure along the axis of the Imperial Anticline has been determined in the vicinity of Mink Lake. Unless other deep structures are found to indicate that the

2. Link Lake

and the

Link Lake

area

an important

was commercial

3. Drill Creek

Creek Prospect). This

the Link Lake prospect, and is

sible. Success in drilling

warrant a location near

the same

Recommendations re Geophysical Survey

1. Envir Island - Surface geological

1944 gravity survey, did not confirm

here. Detailed geophysical work is

2. Drill Creek - Surface information

the gravity survey did not cover

1. Oil Seep in the Mackenzie River Valley - Further work on this oil seep is recommended. Further work should be concentrated in the area around the oil seep as soon as possible in the Spring of 1945. The area in the vicinity of the oil seep should be examined in detail, to obtain all possible information relative to the seep, and if possible to make a location for a test hole.

2. Morrow Mountains and Discovery Range - Further work is recommended in the area north of the Mackenzie, from the Morrow mountains to Oil Creek. This survey should attempt to discover any manifestations of structural conditions which would favor the accumulation of oil in this area where the reef limestone is known to be present.

1. Upper Crowsfoot and Carcassou Rock - Re-examination
Re-exposure on these mountains would determine
whether the beds reported by Barker as "Dks" are actually
Upper Crowsfoot Limestone, stratigraphically equivalent to
the Crowsfoot Limestone, Delta.

2. Gas in the Crowsfoot - was reported by the gravity party,
1930, that there was a gas water near the north
end of Mackenzie River about one mile below
the lower point of Judith Island. If this spot
can be located, samples of the gas should be
collected for analysis.

3. The Cambrian section on Upper Carcassou River
This section is examined for more information
relative to the petrolierous beds reported
by Barker in 1930 (p. 1).

4. Geophysical Surveys during the first part
of 1931 will doubtless raise other incidental
problems which will require checking by field
examination.

1. Bath, Lt. Col. "The Lower Mackenzie River Area - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 26, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-2.

2. Foley, E. J. "The Mackenzie River Area - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 27, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-3.

3. Foley, E. J. "The Donnelly River Area - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 26, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-3.

4. Hancock, W. P. "The Loon Creek Area - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 4, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-13.

5. Hancock, W. P. "The Right Bank and Islands of the Mackenzie River, Norman Wells to Carcajou Ridge" - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 38, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-4.

6. Hancock, W. P. and McKinnon, F. A. "Geological Report on Morrow Creek, Perry Island and Sans Sault" - Imperial Oil Limited - Norman Exploration, Report No. EX.G-44-1, June, 1944.

7. Laundon, Dr. L. R. "The Imperial River Area" - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 18, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-36.

8. Link, T. A. "The Fort Norman Area" - Imperial Oil Limited Report, 1920.

9. McKinnon, F. A. "The South Bank of Mackenzie River Between Hoosier Ridge and Mountain River" - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 7, 1943. Report G.C.-44-5.

10. Moore, G. G. "The Bear River Area" - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 15, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-14.

11. Moore, Dr. G. G. "The Bear River Area" - Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 15, 1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-14.

12. Parker, J. H. "The Mackenzie River Area Between
Susa-Sault Rapids and the Ramparts -
Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project,
Assignment 1, 1943. Final Report
No. G.C.-44-23.

13. Parker, J. H. "The Mountain River Area" - Imperial Oil
Limited - Canol Project, Assignment 19,
1943. Final Report No. G.C.-44-24.

14. Parker, J. H. "The Carcasson Rock - East Mountain Area" -
Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project,
Assignment 6, 1943. Final Report No.
G.C.-44-22.

15. Stelck, G. R. "The Bear Rock - Bluefish Area" -
Imperial Oil Limited - Canol Project,
Assignment 1, 1943. Final Report No.
G.C.-44-20.



FIGURE 1
Bosworth-Fort Creek Contact exposed
on Carcajou River opposite the mouth
of Imperial River



FIGURE 2
Fort Creek shales exposed on Carcajou
River near the axis of Imperial Anticline



FIGURE 3
View looking eastward down
Sammons Creek, showing the
syncline between "Brasslet" (on
the left) and Sammons anticline.



FIGURE 4
Closer view of the steeply-dipping
Beavertail-Ramparts beds on the north
flank of Sammons anticline. Note the
abrupt change in dip just above the
creek.



FIGURE 5
Small thrust fault in basal Fort Creek
beds on Sammons Creek, north flank of
Sammons Anticline.



FIGURE 6
Upper Bear Rock beds exposed near
the axial region of the Imperial
Anticline on Sammons Creek.



FIGURE 7
View looking eastward across Carcassonne River at Rainbow Arch. The arch is composed of Beavertail limestone. The small scarp in the distance is in lower Fort Creek Shales



FIGURE 8
Shavetail Creek, west of Carcassonne River at Rainbow Arch. Massive Beavertail limestone exposed.

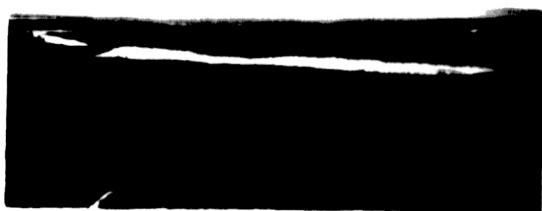


FIGURE 9
View looking northwestward from the north side of Imperial Range across Imperial Lake, showing West Mountain (left center) and East Mountain (right) on the horizon.



FIGURE 10
View looking northward across the Carcajou - Mackenzie basin, from a high point on the south side of Imperial Range, approximately fifteen miles west of Rainbow Arch.



FIGURE 11
View looking northward across the
central part of the Imperial Range.



FIGURE 12
Showing the southward-dipping beds
of the Beavertail-Ramparts formation
on the south side of Imperial Range.



FIGURE 13
View looking westward along the south side of the Imperial Range showing southward-dipping beds of the Beavertail-Ramparts formation.

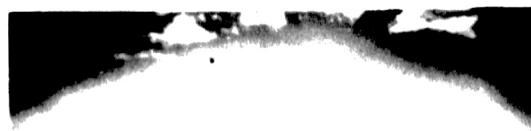


FIGURE 14
View looking eastward from the same point as above, showing the central part of the Range with the Discovery Range in the far distance.