and fish remains rare. Gray, fine-grained, friable sandstone, weathering yellowish brown to maroon, bearing hematite concretions and laminae; base not exposed.inox.

Thickness (Feet)
0.5
5

REFERENCES


DARTMOUTH COLLEGE COMMEMORATED HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST SCIENTIFIC EXAMINATION OF CRUDE OIL

ANDREW H. McNAIR
Hanover, New Hampshire

Commemorative exercises were held at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, on June 27, 1953, when leaders in the petroleum industry joined public and educational officials in celebrating the hundredth anniversary of the first analysis of petroleum.

In 1853, at the request of George Bissell, Dartmouth 1845, Doctor Dixi Crosby of the Dartmouth Medical School and Professor Oliver P. Hubbard of the Chemistry Department conducted a preliminary analysis of crude oil obtained from the land of Francis B. Brewer, Dartmouth 1843. The encouragement given by Crosby regarding the useful and potentially valuable properties of petroleum led Bissell and his associates to purchase oil land in western Pennsylvania; to the incorporation in 1854 of the first petroleum company in the world; to the idea in 1855 that crude oil might be obtained by drilling; and finally to the completion of the Drake well in 1859.

The chief event at the anniversary was the unveiling of a bronze tablet on Crosby Hall, home and laboratory of Dixi Crosby in 1853. The tablet has a brief account of Crosby and Hubbard’s work and the subsequent role that the small group of Dartmouth alumni played in the beginnings of the petroleum industry. The principal speaker at the unveiling of the tablet was Paul H. Giddens, presi-

1 Manuscript received, January 7, 1954.
2 Dartmouth College.