

REPORT ON BROWN SAND NEAR
CONNELLY'S CREEK NEAR DUNALLEY.

The above locality is situated about midway between Carlton and Dunalley on the northern shore of Norfolk Bay. Access is gained by motor road from Hobart (via Sorell and Carlton) to Dunalley.

Connelly's Creek is a small stream flowing in a general southerly direction into Norfolk Bay. An alluvial flat some 10 to 20 feet above stream level extends for a length of one to two miles inland along its course and with a width of approximately half a mile. The surrounding hills as far as investigated are occupied by diabase.

The flat is restricted in width on the eastern side of Connelly's Creek at its mouth, and diabase outcrops on the beach and inland forming a low ridge running easterly.

The beach immediately east of the mouth of the creek shows horizontally bedded and partly consolidated sands. They are brownish in colour and contain a few pieces of wood. The colouration is due probably to oxides of iron and also organic (vegetable) matter. The sands are only to three feet in depth and rest on almost completely weathered diabase. They probably accumulated in a quiet bay or lagoon to which vegetable matter had access.

It was thought that the sands were probably oil bearing and that this was verified because when treated with chloroform and the latter evaporated, an oily or waxy residue was obtained. It must be pointed out that this test would not necessarily distinguish between natural petroleum, vegetable or any other matter that dissolved in chloroform. It is almost certain in fact that such residue would be obtained from the vegetable matter in the sand.

A test of one sample of the sand in the Mines Department Laboratory, Launceston gave nil results as regards oil content.

A sample taken by the writer was tested with the following results:-

Organic Matter	6.24 per cent
Iron oxides	1.56 " "

This verifies the statement made above that the colouration was due both to iron oxides and organic matter.

The sands are of no economic importance because

1. of their very limited extent
2. any oil that they would yield on distillation or solution in chloroform etc. would be derived from the contained organic (vegetable) and not from natural petroleum.

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HOBART.

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