a little slower to preserve and maintain the pressure, because that pressure drives the oil ahead of it and cleans the well of the oil. We find that in going back those wells no longer produce oil, but 100 percent water. We find where the water has completely pushed the oil away, and that by going back those wells no longer produce oil, but 100 percent water. We have found that the saturation of those sands is less than 2 or 3 percent, which, of course, means that there is very little oil clinging to the sand.

If, on the other hand, we had produced the wells at a high rate of flow the pressure in the wells would have gone out and the oil would have become viscous and sticky, and instead of making a recovery of 97 to 98 percent as indicated by the saturation left in the sands, the recovery under the old extraction methods would have been about from 10 to 15 percent, leaving 85 to 90 percent in there to be recovered by some other method. It might have been recovered by secondary methods later on, but at great cost.

This chart which I have here, and which I have distributed, just about tells my story about the Texas field and the oil reserves. There are 11,478,790,000 barrels of oil in fields already discovered, and ready to be produced if, as, and when needed, or $56\frac{6}{10}$ percent of all the oil reserves in the United States. There are wells in the East Texas field that do not produce and which could produce if allowed to do so 30,000 barrels per day. They are now allowed to produce only 20 barrels per day, and they have only 12 days a month to do that, and they are shut down the other 18 and not allowed to produce at all.

Mr. CULKIN. You mean 20,000 instead of 20, do you not?

Colonel THOMPSON. Well, we could produce 30,000 barrels a day if allowed to produce, but they are allowed to produce 20 barrels a day 18 days a month.

Mr. RANKIN. At the present rate of production, how long would that 11,000,000,000 barrels last?

Colonel THOMPSON. In order to get that you would divide your production rate right now, which is an average of 378,000 barrels a day; divide that into 2,700,000,000, which would show that they would be producing 50 years from now, and we have many fields in the State even more greatly restrained than that. I suppose that there are 50 fields in the State that at the present rate of allowable production will be producing 100 years from now.

Mr. RANKIN. The Bureau of Mines says that in January the State of Texas was producing 1,550,000 barrels a day.

Colonel THOMPSON. Yes; that is what we were producing some time ago, but not now. The latest figure is 960,000 barrels per day.

Mr. CULKIN. Are you observing that limit?

Colonel THOMPSON. The first week of the month we had a figure of 890,000 barrels as against 960,000, and the next week it was 1,210,000.

Mr. RANKIN. If kept up at the rate of production it would cut down your supply to about 25 years?

Colonel THOMPSON. No, sir; the rate I have told you about is 1,500,000 barrels a day. I am sure that we have enough oil in Texas to produce that rate of 1,500,000 barrels a day for at least 30 years.

Mr. RANKIN. At that rate your known producing fields would be exhausted within that time.