THE MINERAL SURVEY
OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Workers Have Completed Covering
About One-Half of County

Workers of the State WPA mineral survey under the sponsorship of the State Geological Survey are investigating the entire area of Montgomery county. Of the 784 square miles in this county, 291 square miles, or about 49 percent have been completed. The work was started in the southeastern part of the county by Dean Chad
dock, county supervisor in August 1938 with a crew of 18 workers selected from the rolls of the WP
A in this county. When Mr. Chad
dock was transferred to Garland
county in January 1939, he was succeeded by Louis M. Hannum as
supervisor, with headquarters at
the Mount Ida high school.

The field workers walk over the county, section by section, taking
notes of all outcropping minerals and taking samples to be tested or
analyzed in the laboratory in Lit
tle Rock. They also record the
position of ground water tables as
indicated by wells and springs.

The quality of the ground water
is also determined by analyzing
samples at the water testing sta

tions which are maintained in
several counties for this purpose.

The work of the surveying crew
also includes the estimating of the
extent of all deposits located, when
possible. Montgomery county is
one of the counties which has pro
vided a water testing station
where the mineral content of the water of the county will be
tested. In addition to mineral in
vestigations the survey workers
do record the location of rail
roads, highways, power transmis
sion lines, bridges and dams in
order to permit a check on the lo
cations of these items on county
maps now in use.

So far as the survey has pro
ceeded the most important min
erals located and sampled by the

group are novaculite, manganese,
limestone, sandstone, and tripli
cassiterite, coal, quartz crystals, an
timony, lead.

Novaculite (whetstone) is found
in the townships lying along the
eastern boundary of the Garland
county line. In township 45, range
33 west a bed of novaculite is ex
posed which runs in a NE to SW
direction across the entire town
ship. Novaculite occurs in this
township in white, light and dark
gray, and a black shade; the tex
ture also varies from fine to very
course grained, and the deposits
range in thickness from 12 inches
to 100 feet. Novaculite is also
found in large boulders scattered
over the hillsides.

The only deposits of manganese
so far located are in the extreme
southeastern section. One mine is
operating in this area at present.

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