

ARCHIVES

Newsletter of the Petroleum History Society

September 2017; Volume XXVIII, Number 6

P.H.S. Lunch and Learn Meeting – Wednesday, September 13, 2017

“The Fabulous Oil Sands”

A movie produced in 1967 by Bechtel Corporation to celebrate the opening of the Great Canadian Oil Sands (G.C.O.S.) Plant at Fort McMurray, Alberta

This film, originally produced in 16 mm, was remastered to DVD by Bert MacKay and David Ryan of Suncor. It is approx. 40 minutes in length and will be screened in its entirety. September 2017 marks the 50th anniversary of this dawn of the modern oil sands era.

The venue for this screening has been organized by P.H.S. Director and Suncor employee Judy Frame with the assistance of P.H.S. Treasurer Micky Gulless. Our thanks to both. Attendees can proceed directly to the room. Thanks also to Bert for providing this feature film for us.

Time: 12 noon, Wednesday, September 13, 2017

Place: Suncor Energy Center (not the Petroleum Club)
150 – 6 Avenue SW, Calgary; West Tower, 17th Floor Conference Room
Dress: Business casual.

Cost: P.H.S. Members and Student Members \$30 and Guests \$35 (most welcome).
Only cash or cheque at the door. Payment can be made in advance by credit card or by e-mail. Please advise payment method with reply.

Lunch: Soup, sandwiches, salad, squares and fruit. Gluten-free? Vegan? Advise with reply.

NOTE: Instructions for registering for the Luncheon:

Reply, if you wish to attend, to: Micky Gulless at 403-283-9268 or
micky@petroleumhistory.ca by noon, Monday, September 11, if not sooner.

Those who register but do not come, or cancel after the deadline, will be invoiced.

Those who do not register by the deadline may not get a seat.

The Bull Wheel



Luncheon Pricing: Please be advised that on June 12, 2017 the P.H.S. Board approved a motion to increase luncheon prices for events held at the Calgary Petroleum Club by \$5.00 bringing those rates for \$35.00 for members and \$40.00 for non-members. We try to run these events on a long term break-even basis and increases in our costs over the last few years have unfortunately made this move necessary. The old pricing still applies to this month's event.

Book Launch: P.H.S. Director Peter McKenzie-Brown has just released a new volume entitled *"Bitumen: The people, performance and passions behind Alberta's oil sands"* which draws on his work on the recent P.H.S. Oil Sands Oral History Project. The official launch for the book is being held at the Glenbow Museum (130 – 9 Ave, S.E., Calgary) from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 11. An official invitation is being e-mailed to P.H.S. members at the same time as this issue of Archives. The text of the invitation reads *"You are invited to the Glenbow for refreshments and the launch of a comprehensive new history of Alberta's oil sands. This book tells the stories of the world's second-largest petroleum resource. The many tales woven into the book speculate about the uses indigenous people had for this material. However, the known story doesn't begin until the earliest Hudson's Bay Company reports on bitumen, dated 1715. The cover photo shows the Bitumount oil sands plant which bravely tried to make an oil sands mine profitable during the Great Depression when an international cartel kept oil prices artificially low. The focus of the author's remarks will be on the development of Canada's largest petroleum company."*

Strange Map: For those of you who value attention to detail, the commercials made by Alberta Culture as a part of their summer advertising program contain an item that is a bit unusual. Their background map depicts Fort McMurray as simply "McMurray". Being of a conspiratorial frame of mind I immediately wondered if these folks were trying to hoodwink the public into forgetting about "those oil sands". However I did give them the benefit of the doubt and consulted Wiki for background – and there I found that *"Fort McMurray was known simply as McMurray between 1947 and 1962"* and that *"Fort McMurray and Waterways amalgamated as the village of McMurray by 1947 and became a town a year later. The "Fort" was dropped until 1962 when it was restored to reflect its heritage. Fort McMurray was granted the status of new town so it could get more provincial funding and by 1966, the town's population was over 2000."* But why that map – and why is Moose Jaw spelt Moosejaw on it?

Call for contributions and speakers: The Petroleum History Society values your input. If you have an article that you'd like to see in *Archives* or if you have a talk that you'd like to give, please get a hold of us. Contact President Clint Tippet at the address indicated on page 3.

New Oil Sands Book: Geo Takach has published, through the University of Alberta Press, a new volume entitled “*Oil, Environment and Alberta’s Image – Tar Wars*” - 241 p., softcover, \$34.95. Geo is a writer, filmmaker, workshop leader and speaker. He is an Associate Professor of Communications and Culture at Royal Roads University in Victoria, B.C. The back cover description of the book is as follows: “*Tar Wars offers a critical inside look at how leading image makers negotiate escalating tensions between continuous growth mandated by a globalized economic system and its unsustainable environmental costs. As place branding assumes paramount importance in an increasingly global, visual, and ecologically conscious society, an international battle unfolds over Alberta’s bituminous sands. The battle pits independent documentary filmmakers against professional communicators employed by government and the oil industry. Tar Wars engages scholars and students in communications, film, environmental studies, social psychology, PR, media and cultural studies and petro-cultures. This book also speaks to decision makers, activists and citizens exploring intersections of energy, environment, culture, politics, economy, media and power.*”



This bumper sticker was purchased outside Beaumont, Texas this past spring. Its meaning is a bit ambiguous. It could be purely religious. It could be an oil field worker (or owner) praying for a discovery. New meaning has been given by Hurricane Harvey’s impacts in that region.

Editorial Comment: Please note that unless otherwise indicated, all contents of this newsletter have been created or assembled by P.H.S. President and Archives Editor Clinton Tippet.

Archives is published approximately eight times a year
by the Petroleum History Society for Society members.

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Back issues are archived on our website at <http://www.petroleumhistory.ca/>

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**Petroleum History Society Awards for 2016 –
As presented at the P.H.S. Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony
on March 29, 2017 at the Calgary Petroleum Club**

BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2016

TO: ROBERT BOTT, GRAHAM CHANDLER AND
PETER MCKENZIE-BROWN

FOR: *"FOOTPRINTS – THE EVOLUTION OF LAND CONSERVATION AND RECLAMATION
IN ALBERTA"*

PUBLISHED BY KINGSLEY PUBLISHING SERVICES,
240 P.

ARTICLE OF THE YEAR AWARD FOR 2016

TO: S. GEORGE PEMBERTON, JAMES A. MacEACHERN
AND MURRAY K. GINGRAS

FOR: *"AN ICONIC PROFESSOR:
THE LIFE OF CHARLES RICHARD STELCK
O.C., Ph.D., F.R.S.C., P.GEOL.
(MAY 20, 1917 – MAY 14, 2016)"*

PUBLISHED IN: *BULLETIN OF CANADIAN PETROLEUM GEOLOGY*, V. 64, NO. 4, PP. 495-
515

MULTIMEDIA AWARD FOR 2016

TO: JULIA IVANOVA (DIRECTOR) AND
THE NATIONAL FILM BOARD OF CANADA
FOR: THE MOVIE *"LIMIT IS THE SKY"*

PRESERVATION AWARD FOR 2016

TO: OIL MUSEUM OF CANADA,
OIL SPRINGS, ONTARIO

FOR: FACILITATING THE PRESERVATION AND UNDERSTANDING OF ARTIFACTS
RELATED TO THE EARLIEST DAYS OF THE CANADIAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY
THROUGH AUDIOVISUAL PRESENTATIONS, OUTDOOR EXHIBITS, A DRIVING TOUR AND
INTERNET-BASED DOCUMENTATION

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FOR 2016

TO: BRIAN BRENNAN

FOR: MAKING NUMEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE BODY OF LITERATURE
CONCERNING THE CANADIAN PETROLEUM INDUSTRY INCLUDING MANY FOCUSED ON
ITS COLOURFUL PERSONALITIES AND SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

REMEMBRANCES

(with thanks to the Calgary Herald, Legacy.com and Fort McMurray Today)

Note: We have experienced a number of key passings that need to be reported.

Leiper, Hugh William. Born September 24, 1927 and passed away July 27, 2017. Hugh was born in Didsbury, Alberta and lived his life with integrity, hard work, honesty and devotion to his family and dedication to the industry he loved. He lived his life on his own terms, his way. Hugh was raised in the Turner Valley Oil Field at the Royalties Mercury Camp. He started roughnecking during WWII at the age of 15. Hugh was quite athletic in his youth and was the catcher on a Turner Valley baseball team that won the Provincial championship. He was a talented hockey player and turned down an offer from the farm club of the Detroit Red Wings, as he could make more money on the rigs. Present at the birth of the contemporary oil industry in Leduc in 1947, he was the last surviving member of the drilling crew on the Atlantic #3 blowout in 1948, which was the largest blowout in North American history until the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico in 2010. At the age of 21, while working for General Petroleum, he became the youngest tool push in the history of the oil industry. In 1948, while working on a drilling rig near Unity, Saskatchewan, he met the love of his life Irene Jones, and they were married on June 2, 1949 in Camrose, Alberta. They were able to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary in 1999 before Irene's passing in 2001. Badly injured on a rig in 1954, Hugh switched from the "rough-and-tumble" oilfield contractor sector to safer office work at Great Plains Petroleum and then Pacific Petroleum, where he became Operations Manager. During his 21- year career at Pacific, Hugh became Chairman of the Canadian Drilling Research Association (C.D.R.A.). Between 1974 and 1979 he made six trips to Russia, which resulted in a valuable exchange of drilling techniques, turbo-drill data and improvements which are now extensively used in the Canadian oil industry, and methods for mining for oil, as well as opening up opportunities for investment in the Russian oil sector. Hugh finished his career as Executive Vice-President for Morguard Resources Ltd., a company responsible for managing oil and gas properties for several large Canadian pension funds, including Pensionfund Energy Resources Limited, Ontario Municipal Retirement System (O.M.E.R.S.) and Exchange Resources. In recognition of his many contributions to the Canadian oil industry, Hugh was inducted into the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame in 2002. An avid hockey fan he was an original season ticket holder for the Calgary Flames where the friendly ushers of the Saddledome were always ready to chat and assist him, especially the last few years, and he rarely missed a game. He really loved golf and joined the Canyon Meadows Golf and Country Club in 1966 and thoroughly enjoyed the game up until he had a stroke in August 2016. He had an unbelievable memory and could easily recite incidences and people's names from the past. This resulted in his children hearing many, many times over, his antics during his teen years, and his early experiences in the oil industry.

Hugh was up until recently a Director of the P.H.S. and was for some time on the selection panel for the Canadian Petroleum Hall of Fame. He recently collaborated with journalist Gordon Jaremko on the successful nomination of Turner Valley and Calgary entrepreneur Albert Mayland to the Hall. He was also a supporter of the cairn constructed at the now-vanished petroleum industry village of Little Chicago just north of Longview. Hugh will be missed.

Kung, Edward "Ted" Jacques. Born January 23, 1924 and passed away July 21, 2017. Edward was born in Triengen, Switzerland, a country he continued to love all his life. His mother died when he was very young and he was brought up by his father and the family housekeeper. His father died in a fire while Edward was serving in the Swiss Air Force. He moved to England

to study Electronic Engineering. His English landlady called him "Ted", a moniker that stuck for the rest of his life. After studies in England he returned to Switzerland and worked with Siemens. During that time he met Trudy, his future wife. Ted's quest for adventure and new challenges led them to immigrate to Canada in 1950. With the challenges of oil exploration he found himself in Alberta in the early days of seismic exploration. He began working for Shell Canada, where he remained until his retirement in 1986. In his early years with Shell Canada he braved the elements in the oil fields and on ships, repairing, maintaining and inventing new ways to monitor seismic exploration. Settling in Calgary in 1972, Ted worked on innovations that sped up computer analysis of data from oil explorations as well as electronics that aided in seismic exploration.

Ted was part of the petroleum industry that led the charge on technical improvements in geophysical acquisition and processing in the late 1950's through the 1970's. During this period there were few service companies. Industry operators invented and patented many new devices that facilitated, amongst many other things, the transition from analog to digital recording. Ted was involved in these innovations and was renowned as a highly proficient tinkerer even well after the broad outsourcing of this technology to the service sector.

Orr, Robert "Bob" Dobson. Born July 17, 1932 and passed away April 26, 2017. Bob was born in Banff, Alberta, growing up in the mountains and foothills of Exshaw and Cochrane. It was here that his lifelong passion for the cowboy life was born, as was his love for science and geology. Bob graduated from high school in Canmore, then moved onto Mount Royal College, U.B.C. and then the University of Alberta where he graduated in 1956 as a geologist. It was at Mount Royal that he met the love of his life, Margaret Matyas, marrying in 1956. Over the course of their 56 year love affair they created a loving household that highlighted learning, athletics, music, and good food and drink shared with family and friends. Bob's successful business career began at Imperial Oil in the exploration department in Edmonton. He was then transferred to Calgary in 1968. In 1972 Bob joined Husky Oil as their Manager of Exploration, and in 1980 he became Husky's Vice President of Exploration. During this time Bob also served as the President of the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and was presented with honorary membership in 1982. He retired from Husky in 1989, joining Marg as a full-time snowbird and golfer at their second home in Casa Grande, Arizona.

Kirker, Raymond James "Jim". Born November 17, 1927 and passed away May 2, 2017. Jim was born in Trail, British Columbia. He was the first born child of Catherine McComb and James Kirker who immigrated to Canada from County Antrim in Northern Ireland. Jim was very well liked and appreciated by many for his consistent good humour, and his ability to connect with people in all walks of life by sharing a joke or a story. Jim will be remembered for his passion for the oil business and for travelling the world, golfing, sailing and skiing. Jim was an avid member of Rotary Club Downtown and thoroughly enjoyed talking business, sharing jokes and hearing about the good works of the Club. Jim received his B.A. in Geology in 1950 from University of British Columbia. He was the consummate geologist. Having grown up in a mining and smelting community, he started his career in mineral exploration, but went on to spend the majority of his working life in oil and gas exploration. His first oil and gas job was based in Edmonton but he quickly moved to Calgary where he was active exploring the western Canadian Sedimentary Basin. He had a short spell as Mining Director at Canada Northwest Energy in Perth, Australia from 1980-1982 and made many new friends on yet another continent. Upon returning to Alberta he continued his exploration career with C.N.W.E. Jim was most proud of his role in the discovery of Casablanca Oil Field, offshore Spain. This

oilfield is still producing now after more than thirty years and 120 million barrels of oil. Jim was very active in the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and in 1981 earned an Honourary membership for contributions to the Society. He was recognized for his successful exploration in the Simonette and Obed Fields with the prestigious "Stanley Slipper" award in 1991. He greatly enjoyed the annual Past Presidents dinners and the C.S.P.G. golf tournaments.

Jim was a long time member of the P.H.S. and had recently given the Society a luncheon talk about his lifetime of adventures in the industry. Jim had also possessed the foresight to write a book on this same subject which he self-published and made available in digital form to any and all that were interested. He was always a source of good commentary and fresh ideas.

Rintoul, Gordon Robert (Bob). Born May 11, 1930 and passed away August 15, 2017. Bob was born in Calgary, Alberta. His entire schooling was completed in Calgary, attending Bankview and Cliff Bungalow Elementary Schools, Rideau Park Junior High School and Central Collegiate High School. While in school, Bob was an original member of The Buffalo Hockey Association and a cadet in the #22 Royal Canadian Sea Cadet Corps 'Undaunted'. At the age of 13, Bob entered the workforce with Canada Safeway, working part-time until he left school and full-time until 1950, when he began his long career in the oil industry with Northwest Seismic Surveys Ltd. By 1953, he had attained the position of Party Manager. In early 1956, having worked all over Western Canada and the Territories, he embarked for six months with his Northwest crew on a very unique oil exploration venture in Jamaica. Immediately thereafter, in late 1956 and early 1957, Bob briefly worked for Accurate Geophysical as Party Manager, then joined Continental Explosives in spring 1957 as Sales Manager. This marked his entry into what was to become his ultimate entrepreneurial focus - the explosives industry. In 1958, Continental was sold to Explosives Limited where Bob remained as Operations Manager until 1967 when he started his own company, Ace Explosives - a business in which he would become a pioneer, a leader and, ultimately, a successful entrepreneur. Through Ace, he realized all his goals and aspirations in business and built the economic engine that would eventually provide for his family and the means to realize his philanthropic vision. Throughout his retirement, Bob mentored many a budding entrepreneur.

His contributions included service with Canadian Society of Exploration Geophysicists (Treasurer and Secretary); Heritage Park - Calgary, Alberta; Motor Transport Association; Charter Member of The Bank of Montreal Business Advisory Panel; Co-founder, First President, and Honorary Life Member of The Canadian Explosives Distributors Association; Southern Alberta Pioneers and Descendants (Pioneer Gentleman 2015); Director - Petroleum History Society; Executive Boards of The Canadian Federation of Independent Business, Nobel Insurance, Innovative Insurance Corporation and Autoglass Maintenance Inc. Bob was one of twelve businessmen instrumental in giving the Canadian National Hockey Club a home in Calgary. Later, he served as a Calgary Flames Ambassador. Bob was a member of the Edmonton Petroleum Club, Calgary Ranchmen's Club, the Edmonton Golf & Country Club, the following Calgary area Golf & Country Clubs – Earl Grey, Priddis Greens, Cottonwood - and Union Hills in Sun City, Arizona. He was also a life member of Heritage Canada and The Petroleum History Society, The Southern Alberta Pioneers and Their Descendants, The Historical Society of Alberta and the Chinook Historical Society. Bob was very active and enjoyed life to its absolute maximum. He often said, "If I die tomorrow, I have no regrets and make no apologies." His maxim was "Add as much or more to society than you receive." Indeed, he eventually authored and published his biography entitled, '*No Regrets, No Apologies*'

- *The Life of Bob Rintoul*. For those interested, the electronic version of his book is now available on Amazon, with proceeds going to charity.

Bob was a long time Director of the P.H.S. and had recently spoke to the Society about the above-mentioned Jamaican exploration program. He served as our contact for the P.H.S. scholarship at the University of Calgary – a role he came naturally to given his work with them as a major donor to one of their flagship medical research programs.

George, Richard Lee. Born May 16, 1950 and passed away August 1, 2017. Rick was born in Brush, Colorado. From an early age, Rick loved to compete in a variety of sports - football, lacrosse, baseball, and wrestling. He attended Colorado State University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Engineering and, later, a law degree from the University of Houston Law School. During his graduating year at C.S.U., he married his best friend and high school sweetheart, Julie G. White, embarking on a 45 year adventurous journey together. The first 10 years of his career were with Sun Company, where he held various positions in the area of project planning, production evaluation, exploration and production. Rick's acute business acumen and strategic thinking led the family on a continuous magic carpet ride, which included a move to London, England, where he was managing director of Sun Oil Britain Limited. In 1990, he and his family made the move to Toronto, where he was appointed President and later President and Chief Executive Officer of Suncor Energy. Over 21 years, he transformed the company from an oil sands pioneer to Canada's leading integrated energy company, headquartered in Calgary. Whether it was introducing game-changing new technologies, listing the company publicly, championing the creation of the Suncor Energy Foundation, or overseeing the merger with Petro-Canada, Rick's impact on Suncor and the oil sands industry was profound. His expertise and experience as a leading Canadian businessman meant that he was regularly sought out for his perspective. He served as chairman of the Canadian Council of Chief Executives, was a member of the North American Competitiveness Council, and was conscious about giving back, serving on a wide variety of community boards and committees. After his retirement from Suncor, he continued to make significant contributions, serving on the boards of Osum Oil Sands Corp, R.B.C., Anadarko Petroleum and Obsidian Energy and as a partner at Novo Investment Group.

Sheppard, Mary Clark. Born 1927 and passed away 2017. Mary was an energetic and eloquent advocate for the great legacy of her father, Dr. Karl A. Clark, and his scientific analysis of the geology and extraction separation of bitumen from the world's third largest source of energy, the Alberta Oilsands. He was also a firm environmental supporter and outdoorsman and canoeist. Mary dedicated her life to compiling the "technical and operational history" in her book *"Oil Sands Scientist"* and a follow-up book with personal anecdotes of all the historical pioneers of this vast resource industry. Dr. Clark passed away in December 1966; his ancestry goes back to Islay off the west coast of Scotland. Mary made many presentations and discussed, and where necessary corrected, many of the inaccuracies of her father's scientific legacy. Rainy Hutchinson, Mary Clark Sheppard's daughter, announced Mary's passing in Sheffield, England, at the seniors' care home where Mary was a resident following a series of strokes she took over the last few years.

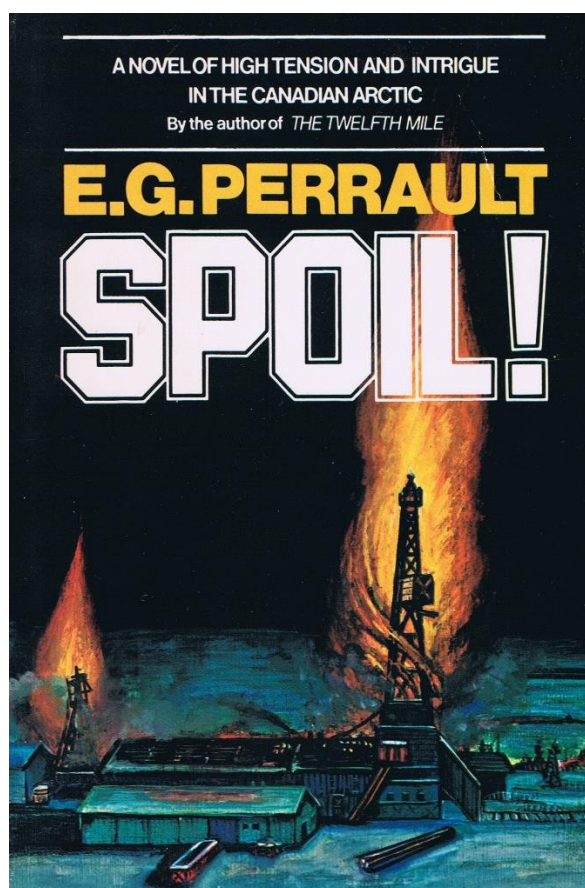
This brief obituary was provided to us by Bert MacKay. The books mentioned can be purchased from the Alberta Historical Society.

Avery, Jack. Born Feb. 23, 1925 and passed away August 13, 2017. Jack was born in Lacombe, Alberta. He enlisted in the Canadian Army as a wireless operator in 1943. At 18, he completed training in Kingston, Ont. and spent time in Ottawa and England. Eventually, he found himself in the Netherlands, where he continued monitoring and sending communications. Avery left the military after the war and returned to Lacombe, finding work at his father's bakery, then with Greyhound. Hours before he was supposed to take a girl to a party in 1947, Avery was stood up. To apologize, she arranged a blind date with her friend, Olga. After that date, the pair married in 1949 and spent 63 years together before Olga passed away in 2012. They had three children together. Eventually, the couple moved to Medicine Hat where Avery found a job with Northwest Nitro Chemicals. When word spread the oilsands needed people, Avery and Olga headed north. The Averys made Fort McMurray home after arriving in September 1966. They threw themselves into community life, particularly in education. The Great Canadian Oil Sands (now Suncor) base plant was preparing to begin production "*I think it was basically known in those days that the cost of operating in the oil sands was beyond, most thought, and nobody wanted to take that flyer on it until Sun Oil did*" Avery told the Petroleum History Society (Oil Sands Oral History Project as interviewed by Peter McKenzie-Brown). The following year the fledgling company needed staff; when Avery was hired to work in upgrading, his employee number was 5. "*I didn't know a discharge end of a pump from the suction, all right. I didn't know anything mechanical, so I had to learn because I was completely out of my element then,*" he said during one of several interviews between 2011 and 2013. "*But I did, I learned. And I guess I became a fairly good operator.*"

Excerpted from Fort McMurray Today courtesy of P.H.S. Director Judy Frame.

THE OIL FIELDS BUSINESS DIRECTORY	
Where to Eat WHITE OWL Frank MacFarland, Prop. LITTLE CHICAGO BEST CAFE Meals and Lunches Lending Library LITTLE NEW YORK Lumber Yards CROWN LUMBER CO. Ltd. Mgr. T. Guttered ROYALTIES REVELSTOKE SAWMILL Royalties and Longview McFARLAND LUMBER YARD Rig Timbers and Building Material Yards at Royalties Meat Market KING'S IMPERIAL Better Meat For Less ROYALTIES NEW YORK MEATS Quality Meat Jackson and Godwin Electricians F. DORWARD First Class Electric Service LITTLE NEW YORK	Truck-Hauling Riley's Transport Phone M2 BLACK DIAMOND ALTA. C. B. HARDEN Oilfield Hauling Winch Work New York - Phone H. R. 3615 Radio Service KEN'S RADIO Sales and Service ROYALTIES Shoe Repair CHICAGO SHOE REPAIR Roughneck Boots a Specialty ROYALTIES L. Y. N. SHOE HOSPITAL We sell the 10 inch Roughneck Shoe - Expert Repair Work Contractors BECKER and SON Cabinet Makers Building Contractor ROYALTIES Dry Cleaners YORK CLEANERS Truck Calls At All Points in Oilfield LONGVIEW

January 12, 1940



"Distantly they could hear the familiar and complicated rhythm of engines, machines, and parts in motion as the drill bit deeper into the frozen gut of the earth. Blackie nudged him in the ribs and motioned his readiness to continue. Stubbornly he forged ahead of Danelock, determined to demonstrate that he had energy to spare; then he froze in his tracks, his head turned to the derrick.

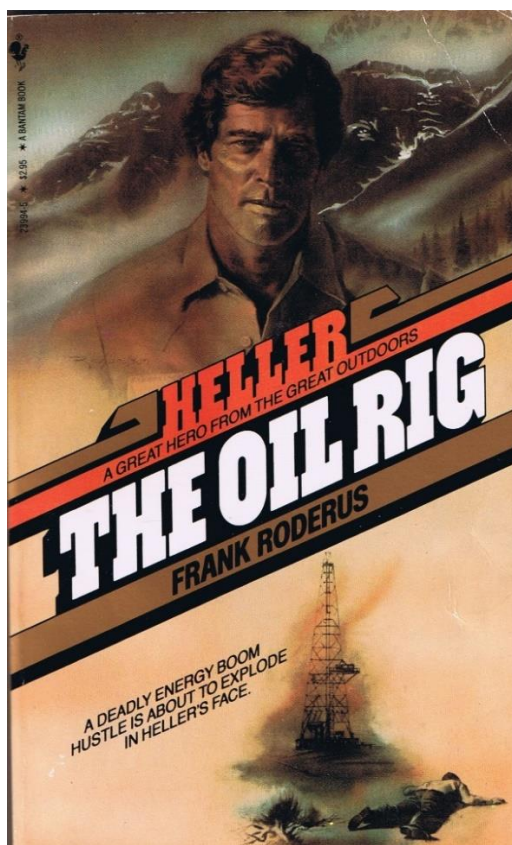
"Possibly the wind had carried the sound to him sooner than to Danelock, or his parka was funneled to capture the thing that attracted and startled him. Danelock saw his reaction first, and then became aware of the derrick.

"First he was alerted to an audible change from the direction of the rig, a sound which overrode the normal clatter and cacophony of a drilling operation. Then he heard the first of the alarm klaxons, its howl picked up almost immediately by the warning systems in the crew quarters and the maintenance sheds. B16 was blowing wild.

"The mechanic stumbled back down the road, as though to warn him. Danelock was standing with his eyes fixed on the drill rig floor, probing through the hissing screen of snow and ice for some further evidence of disaster. Behind them the rest of the camp was coming alive, following procedures rehearsed at least three times a week since drilling had commenced. Off-duty crews were piling into trucks and tracked vehicles, their voices carried thinly on the wind."

from **SPOIL!**
E.G. PERRAULT

This 1975 potboiler was clearly inspired by the Panarctic King Christian blowout in the High Arctic Islands of Canada. Former P.H.S. Director Len Maier would be proud.



MEET CARL HELLER

A maverick son of the new West, Heller's a man you can turn to when your life's in danger – if you can get him off his butt. Born in the Colorado high country, he's a part-time rancher and a full-time drinker who savors a laid-back approach to living. But Heller's also a law school dropout with a head for justice that's as hard as the Rockies and a mile-wide stubborn streak. So he hires out to hopeless cases, hurtling into action when some big guy is putting the squeeze on a little guy – or gal. Whether he's tracking down a murderer, out hustling a high-tech con man, biking in the wilderness or falling for a lady's charms, Heller fights hard and plays harder. Wise-talking, quick-thinking, with a body that can absorb – and dish out – a lot of punishment, that's the combination that's kept Carl Heller alive. So far.

The Oil Rig

It was supposed to be a simple oil and mineral sting run by a bunch of sharp Easterners against some of the locals. But then the boys from the East got ugly. One man lay dead, and several others were facing ruin. Until Heller stung back – with a vengeance.

Note: As illustrated in this 1984 thriller, obviously East vs. West wasn't something restricted to Canada.