

Publishing Company. It was in his capacity as Editor/Owner of *The Derrick* that he began to gather and publish items such as production statistics, drilling activity and oil pricing from various oil exchanges. These statistics came not only from the Pennsylvania region, for he sent reporters to all new oil fields to gather such information. Thus *The Derrick* became known as the *Organ of Oil*. Such was the demand for these data, that he began to publish twice a week with *The Semi-Weekly Derrick* and had a circulation that covered nine states from Pennsylvania to Maine and in 1898 it was named the largest semi-weekly paper in those nine states. In the same year Boyle published *The Derrick's Hand-Book of Petroleum* which was a chronology of oil history, production records, oil exchange prices, pipeline shipments, and biographical information on prominent people in the oil industry. This was the first of several such volumes which gathered all these data in one location and proved to be a valuable source for oil commentary of the day and has provided the statistics needed for the study of oil industry economics.

As the oil industry shifted to the Gulf Coast in the early 20th century, so did P. C. Boyle and in 1910 he purchased the publication *Oil Investors Journal* based in Beaumont, Texas. But again following the movement of oil exploration, he quickly moved the journal to Tulsa, Oklahoma, which was the new center of the oil boom. He renamed his publication *The Oil and Gas Journal* and formed a new publishing company, *Petroleum Publishing Company*. Boyle changed this twice-monthly publication into a weekly and gathered his most experienced reporters from Pennsylvania to run it. By the time of Boyle's death in 1920, *The Oil and Gas Journal* had a worldwide reputation for fairness and accuracy and was the bible of the industry. Truly Patrick C. Boyle was the true *Voice of Oil*, and in one sense he still is, for in the second decade of the 21st century *The Oil and Gas Journal*, and its sister publications, remain among the most widely read oil industry publications in the world.

GEOPHYSICAL INSTRUMENTS USED IN EARLY TEXAS OIL DISCOVERIES

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POSTER PRESENTATION

Geophysical recording instruments played a vital role in early Texas oil discoveries. Although many initial discoveries were made by drilling near oil seeps or were based on surface geology or topographic highs, in the 1920's newly developed geophysical recording instruments allowed explorers to look below the surface and began a new era of petroleum exploration. This display of vintage instruments and documents from the Geophysical Society of Houston Museum Collection includes early examples of geophysical instrumentation developed for recording data which, when interpreted, led to discoveries.

Included is a Torsion Balance of the type used in 1924 to discover the first salt dome in the United States based on geophysics, a single trace seismic refraction recording instrument used in the first seismic discovery in 1924, and an early prototype seismic refraction detector from 1926. Also included are other items and documents from the same time period which illustrate the computations, maps, and charts used to convert the instrument readings into exploration maps

NOTES ON THE MEXICAN OIL INDUSTRY IN THE NINETEENTH CENTURY

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The oil production in Europe and North America during the first half of the nineteenth century was run by a proto-industrial system, marked by absence of mechanization, limited outcomes, and, mainly, penalized by the lack of a target market. During the sixties of the nineteenth century new practices and production techniques were introduced into the petroleum sector; the result of a cumulative process of experience and innovations that started to develop in the first decade of the century. From this path arose a new technological system in which oil research, drilling, and refining taken over new value and meaning. This particular conjunction between processes and physical artifacts took place for the first time in Pennsylvania; the satisfactory outcomes of this model would have influence across the years, as a domino effect, in all countries in which had active early oil operations. Each *oily* country

has its own oil history in which growth was marked by internal economic, social, and scientific factors, all influenced by external components. Aim of this presentation is to describe selected significant moments of the development of the modern Mexican oil industry in the second part of XIX century. This analysis intends to highlight the connections and the interdependencies that existed between the Mexican case and the development of the oil system of other countries.