

1915), many earlier Petrolia oilfield images were used on this period's postcards.

Petrolia oilfield postcard scenes include spring-pole drilling operations, three-pole ash derricks, the torpedoing of wells, the moving of wooden derricks using horse teams and rolling logs, and early horse-drawn oil tankers. The dangers of oil field-related work are depicted in 1907 scenes of a nitroglycerin plant explosion. Early postcard views include Petrolia's Canadian Oil Refinery and nearby Sarnia's Imperial Oil Refinery.

AN OIL FAMILY HISTORY: 140 YEARS OF BLACK GOLD

David Stauff
348 Springborough Way SW
Calgary, AB, T3H 5M7, Canada

This is the story of five generations in an oil business family over the past 140 years. Those involved include my great grandfather, John McDonald, my Grandfather, Francis David McDonald, my Mother and father, Flora McDonald Stauff and Jacob Lauer Stauff, myself, David Lauer Stauff, and my brother Peter Stauff and his 2 sons, as well as my son Timothy Lauer Stauff who is currently working for a Calgary based oil company. Much of our family's involvement in the oil business has involved Imperial Oil Ltd and its predecessor Standard Oil.

My Great Grandfather, John McDonald, first came to Petrolia in 1867. He founded a boiler works there and also built a refinery under the name of the National Oil Works, which he sold to Standard Oil in 1898. His son Frank operated an oil producing property he acquired from his father. He sold his oil to Imperial Oil Ltd. and as a child I remember helping him with this process. Frank's daughter, my mother Flora, was a school teacher who went to Peru in South America in 1922 to teach in a school operated by International Petroleum, a subsidiary of Imperial. There she met and married Jacob L. Stauff, a petroleum engineer working for the company. He was killed in a well completion accident in 1934. She returned to Petrolia to raise their 3 children including myself. My brother Peter and myself both became geologists and worked for Imperial Oil. My son Timothy and both of Peter's sons have also worked in the oil business. The careers of the various family members have included all aspects of the business from exploration and production to refining, marketing, and administration. Crude oil, or Black Gold and its changing place in our world ties it all together.

SHELL'S INHERITED ROOTS IN THE CANADIAN OIL INDUSTRY

Clinton R. Tippet
Shell Canada Energy
President, Petroleum History Society

(Paper Withdrawn at author's request)

Shell Canada was established in 1911 at the time of the construction of its first marketing terminal in Montreal, Quebec. The company has expanded very significantly since then, partly through a set of acquisitions in the early 1960's that provided it with strong regional positions across the country and, in the process, made it heir to some of Canada's earliest petroleum enterprises. In 1960, Shell Canada purchased **North Star Oil**, a Winnipeg, Manitoba-based company founded in 1919 with refining and marketing operations throughout Western Canada. In 1958 North Star had acquired **Cree Oil**, a small explorer and producer with connections to Ted Link of Norman Wells and Leduc fame. In 1962, Shell Canada made an even larger acquisition as it took control of **Canadian Oils**, based in Ontario and having assets nation-wide. Incorporated in the Sarnia area in 1908 by a group of regional refiners and marketers, it had roots deep in the oil-producing regions of southwestern Ontario, including a refinery at Petrolia. A subsidiary of National Refining Company of Cleveland until 1938, Canadian Oils had also just entered the Western Canadian upstream scene through its 1955 capture of **Anglo Canadian Oil**, an important regional player that had been formed in 1935 and had ridden the Turner Valley and Leduc oil booms into the 1950's. Shell Canada has continued its interest in Canada's original petroleum heartland in southwestern Ontario. In 1978-1980 it mounted a short exploration program exploring for pinnacle reefs in the deep Silurian section. It has repeatedly enlarged and upgraded the Sarnia refinery that it inherited from Canadian Oils and, at present, is considering yet another major refining investment in the area related to the upgrading of bitumen from its Alberta oil sands properties.

OIL IN THEIR BLOOD, THE AMERICAN DECADES

Herman K. Trabish
2763 Mary Street, La Crescenta, CA 91214
drhermandc@yahoo.com

Readings from his novel

OIL IN THEIR BLOOD, The American Decades, the second historical novel in the multivolume oil saga, brings to life the mid-20th Century as the United States emerges as an oil power and a superpower. Trabish once again uses a matriarch's remembrance of oil industry families over three