

Shellegraph

Friday, April 26, 1974

Vol. 39, No. 16

THE SIGNS OF THE TIME IN MASSACHUSETTS



In line with the current trend of criticism concerning the energy crisis is a Shell gas station located in North Easton, Massachusetts. Long lines every morning are the accepted nuisance which motorists in this town of 13,000 people put up with. In an

effort to make waiting a little less painful, the proprietors of this station have hung amusing signs in their windows. The signs may not shorten the gas lines, but they usually shorten tempers, which is no small feat these days.

A BACKWARD GLANCE AT ATHABASCA

In 1778, while the colonists were struggling for independence from England, an itinerant fur trader and explorer made the first recorded visit to Canada's vast tar sands. Carrying goods pooled from several other traders, American Peter Pond pushed through the wilderness to the banks of the Athabasca River, establishing a trading post on the very edge of Alberta's largest tar sands deposit.

Pond was well-known for the detailed maps made during his travels, and others - attracted by the vast amounts of hydrocarbons deposited there - soon followed him to Athabasca. Some came to study, some came to survey, and some came to exploit.

The early visitors, however, discovered their struggle would be almost as tough as the one faced by the colonists during the American Revolution.

After a long, arduous trip, the Geological Survey of Canada got exploration under way in 1897, using a cable tool rig in an unsuccessful attempt to find conventional light gravity oil beneath the edge of the tar sands deposit. The well encountered only tar and natural gas and it wasn't until 60 years later that follow-up work resulted in discovery of gas fields at nearby Marten Hills and Calling Lake.

Next to come was Count Alfred von Hammerstein. A German entrepreneur, the Count

figured to drill through the tar sands in hopes of finding light gravity oil below, but his efforts were jinxed from the very start.

The Count lost his rig and his crew - and almost his life - when his barge capsized in the Grand Rapids of the (Continued on page 2)

EXERCISE YOUR VOTE

The "Voters Guide" published by the League of Women Voters of Texas is attached to this issue of the SHELLEGRAPH.

Hopefully it will assist you to make a more informed choice when you go to the polls to vote on May 4.

A BACKWARD GLANCE AT ATHABASCA (Continued from page 1)

Athabasca River. The lone survivor, the Count struggled ashore with difficulty and walked back to civilization for another rig. Eventually he returned to drill a series of deep tests downstream from Fort McMurray, finding no light oil but adding considerably to geological knowledge of the area.

Subsequent expeditions tried different tacks. In 1920 D. Diver made an unsuccessful attempt to produce oil by an in situ (subsurface) method, lowering a heating unit to the bottom of a well drilled near Fort McMurray. Two years later a group of New York City policemen formed a company and unsuccessfully drilled for oil near tar springs found along the Athabasca River.

Technology improved somewhat in the next decade, bringing better chances of producing hydrocarbons. In 1930, R. C. Fitzsimmons produced 8,400 gallons of bitumen at the International Bitumen Company's Bitumount Plant, which was enlarged in 1936 to produce 350 barrels per day and to include a distillation unit.

This company - which in 1938 also produced 4,500 drums of

**DEADLINE FOR ADS -
9 AM ON WEDNESDAY**

asphalt and 2,000 barrels of fuel oil - was reorganized in 1942 as Oil Sands Limited, the forerunner of the present-day Great Canadian Oil Sands, Ltd., currently the only oil sands producer.

Shell's experience with the tar sands date back to 1945, when geological field studies were conducted along the Athabasca and followed this in the late '50s and early '60s with laboratory and experimental work directed mainly toward recovering oil through an in situ process. Expenditures in the tar sands to date total about \$25 million.

SYNTHETIC CRUDE - WHAT IT IS

Canada's tar sands are thick, tarry deposits made up of bitumen and a mixture of sand and various minerals. Although the bitumen is a liquid, it is so thick and resistant to flowing that the most efficient way to currently get it out is by surface mining, which provides the highest recovery percentages of all known production methods. The bitumen is later separated from the sand and minerals before being upgraded by a process that ultimately involves adding hydrogen to it.

A high-grade crude oil results, which is called synthetic crude in the industry to distinguish it from crude obtained from conventional oil reservoirs.

MACEK HONORED AT RETIREMENT PARTY



E. W. Macek, second from left, was recently honored at a retirement party held in his honor in Automotive. His friends from the Dispatching Department joined in wishing him a joyous retirement; they included J. T. Wilkerson on the left and W. C. Cowey and B. E. Daniels.

OIL DROPS

A message from Shell's corporate medical director states that this year, high blood pressure will help kill about 250,000 Americans, 10 times the number of people who will be killed in automobile accidents. High blood pressure can hit anyone, and often there are no symptoms.

You are urged to see your doctor this month (National High Blood Pressure Month) and spend the 30 seconds it takes to guard against a very much underrated killer.

George Johnson, engineering Technological, will be installed as president of the Pasadena Jaycees on Tuesday, April 30.

The installation ceremony will take place at the Sunset Methodist Church on Allendale.

The office of president is an ex-official member of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce.

The purpose of the Jaycees is to provide leadership training through civic projects designed to improve the community. The Jaycees membership is made up of a cross section of the Pasadena labor force including laborers, craftsmen, businessmen and professional people.

Johnson has been active in the Jaycees since 1968 and has held several other offices in the organization.

His other community activities include participation on the Pasadena Beautification Committee and service as the club master of Pack 3.

Ex-treaters and friends are planning a get-together of oldtimers on Thursday, May 2, at 6:30 p.m. for a steak dinner and fellowship.

For further details contact

W. B. Gunn - 946-7231

or

O. H. Boggs - 946-2871

RETIRE
WALL



Sim

Lee S

April

Simmo

after

a disp

Funer

Apri

Funera

ment w

orial

He is

Ruby,

Calvin

Melv

retire

23 ya

died

tended

of his

machin

neerin

Funer

at the

Chapel

Forest

He is

The ma

7181 M

WELC

Dianr

Clerk

Oil

RETIREES, SIMMONS AND WALLACE, DIE



Simmons Wallace

Lee Simmons, 61, died on April 17 in Bayshore Hospital. Simmons retired in May 1972 after 36 years of service as a dispatcher, Automotive.

Funeral services were held April 19 at the Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Interment was in San Jacinto Memorial Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Ruby, who resides at 322 West Calvin, Pasadena.

Melvin M. Wallace, 57, who retired in July 1967 after 23 years of company service, died April 22 after an extended illness. At the time of his retirement he was a machinist No. 1 in the Engineering Field Department.

Funeral services were held at the Forest Park Lawndale Chapel with burial in the Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Thelma L., who resides at 7181 Moline in Houston.

WELCOME TO SHELL



Patricia Albracht
Office Secretary
Treasury



Dianna Perry
Clerk
Oil Movements

A BACKWARD GLANCE AT ATHABASCA

Along with the arrival of spring is the arrival of the roving termite inspector, who for a small fee will find termites in your home and for a slightly higher fee will make them disappear - almost as quickly as he disappears!

Then one finds the traveling tree surgeon, who just happens to notice that the trees in your neighborhood are in dire need of his surgical skills. Actually, his only skill is that he knows of a market for green fireplace logs. But, if you're lucky, your trees subjected to his surgical skills will recover - although it may take them months or even years for them to regain their former standing.

And, then, there is the smooth talking, super duper, home improvement expert, who just happens to have a fantastic special price on new siding for your home. His promises are many; the fruits of his labor are few if any at all.

Beware; be informed. Consult with established local people. Compare services with friends and neighbors, who have had similar jobs done for them; accept several bids on a job that you would like done in your yard or on your home!

Then, and only then, have the job you would like done done

by experts so that the results will be an improvement and not an unfortunate learning experience.

SPEAKING OF GASOLINE PRICES

The next time you hear that gasoline prices are going out of sight, why not treat the critic to a scotch at \$30 a gallon to ponder the situation. You might come to the conclusion that gasoline is a bargain.

For example:

- you can sweeten your coffee with Sweeta at \$74.50 a gallon,
- or sweeten your breath with Binaca at \$686 a gallon,
- or hate the taste of Listerine at \$6.80 a gallon,
- or help a runny nose with Privine at \$123 a gallon,
- or clean your contact lenses with Allergan LC-65 at \$360.96 a gallon,
- or soothe your ulcer with Gelusil at \$15.90 a gallon,
- or get rid of streaking (grey hair, that is) with Grecian Formula at \$83 a gallon,
- or do it up big for your wife with a gift of Chanel No. 5 at \$1,600 a gallon - but make sure you warn her not to shed a sentimental tear at your generosity - her Mascara costs \$557 a gallon.

LANGNAU WALKS 20 MILES FOR MARCH OF DIMES



Greg Langnau, services clerk, MTM Process R&D Laboratory, tells "the world" by broadcasting live on KIKK radio March 23 about the 20-mile walk he had just finished for the March of Dimes, on behalf of the Deer Park Jaycees. Langnau is president of the Deer Park Jaycees. Looking on in the KIKK mobil studio on Super Jaycee KIKKer Day are Mike Culling, past president of the Deer Park Jaycees, center, and Ross Ahlstrom, Texas Jaycees President's Cabinet.



ACCIDENT-FREE YEAR



ELECTRICIANS
CELEBRATE SAFE
YEAR ON THE JOB



G. P. Bergeron (top, l-r) laughs at his own joke with Mr. & Mrs. Elmer D. Polk. Picking up their name tags are Red and Lydia Alexander and Robert and Kay Taylor. Enjoying themselves were Mr. & Mrs. G. M. Gambel. Irene and Gene Pagel (bottom, l-r) share a moment

at the electricians' safety party with Tom Whitfield. Lillian Stefka, Merle Pitchford and Ben Stefka enjoy their refreshments, as do Jackie and J. Kirland in the background.

FOR SALE

1972 "98" Olds, 2 door, H/T, 29,000 miles, fully loaded, new tires, excellent condition. Telephone: 644-8021

Reminder

DEADLINE IS APRIL 30

April 30 is the deadline for returning the Supplementary Group Life Insurance enrollment cards.

The cards must be returned regardless of whether or not you wish to take out the additional insurance. If you wish to take out the Supplementary Group Life Insurance, completely fill out the cards; if you don't wish to take advantage of this opportunity, sign, date and write REJECTED across them and return to Employee Relations before April 30.

CLASSIFIEDS

Small house on one corner acre. Private road, air conditioning, city water, Lomax. Telephone: 427-4312

Formica table with six chairs. \$20. Two-lamp room divider. \$10. Telephone: 479-4901

Men's diamond ring, five stone cluster, 1/3 carat center stone. Notorized valuation of \$500; sell for \$250. Telephone: 479-5734

12-foot shrimp trawl with doors and pull ropes. \$35. Telephone: 479-2261

1970 VW yellow bug, air, air stick shift, radio, heater. 38,000 miles, rebuilt engine. \$1,595. Telephone: 729-0788 after

Sunbeam electric frypan. Used three times. Cost \$10. will sell for \$10. Telephone: 487-0361

1968 Mercury Cougar XE console, auto transmission, air conditioning, power steering and brakes, radio. Telephone: 479-4991

SHELLEGRAPH

Published by Shell Oil Company for its Houston Refinery and MTM Research-Houston employees at Deer Park, Texas.

Mrs. Dotti West - Editor