

PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT
TRANSCRIPT

INTERVIEWEE: Lew Workman

INTERVIEWER: Betty Cooper

DATE: 1982???

BC: This is Betty Cooper and I'm near Sorrento, B.C. and my interview today is Mr. Lewis Edwin Workman. We're speaking in his living room which is situated at the corner of Lakeview and Cedar Drives in Cedar Heights, British Columbia. Mr. Workman, I want to start right at the beginning, when were you born and where?

LW: I was born in Chillicothe, Ohio which is toward the southern part of Ohio on January 11th, 1899. I lived there till I was 13 years of age and then we moved to Youngstown, Ohio. My father named Sherman, my mother named Lillian, my father was a cabinet maker and he worked in a planing mill in Youngstown. We lived there for a couple of years until we got a chance to move out into a suburb of Youngstown which was a delightful place called Poland, Ohio. This is steel mill country and in the intervals, in the summer intervals I worked in the steel mill, first testing pipe and second surveying.

BC: This would be when you were in high school or after high school?

LW; In high school and afterward.

BC: Were you the only child?

LW: No, I had 1 brother and 4 sisters.

BC: Would you like to just give me their names so we can have it all down?

LW: The brother in order of their age, the brother being the oldest was James, then came a sister Ruth, then myself, then my sister Eleanor and Marjorie and Dorothy. In the steel mill I ran the rod for awhile then I became a transit man.

BC: What does running the rod mean?

LW: That means holding the rod while the transit man sights from one site to another and designates the line between the 2 points, measuring. Then in the steel mill area there was quite an interesting procedure because we had to survey in a lot of buildings and tracks and new equipment into the mill and one got a chance to see all the operations of the steel mill.

BC: But you were really on a surveying crew?

LW: Yes.

BC: The same kind of survey crew that would go out and survey a road?

LW: Oh yes. Actually the way I got into surveying would take me back a little bit. Out of high school, as soon as I got out of high school I went to work with the railroad as a record clerk. I spent a year there, recording the cars that went into and out of the yard at Youngstown of the PNLE Railroad. But I got sick, I think it was some child disease, measles or something and while I was sick I decided I would be a surveyor. So I never went back to the railroad but I got a job with a Youngstown private surveyor. We had a chance that was to plot off developments, of surveying farm lands and city streets. The

farm lands weren't so accurate but the city streets had to be measured with accuracy to a thousandth of an inch. The tape had to be stretched at a certain pressure and everything had to be exact. From there I went into the steel mill and that's the way I got into the business of surveying.

- #053 BC: So you went to your elementary school and then your high school, all in Youngstown did you or did you do part and part?
- LW: Well, of course, in elementary school I was in Chillicothe up to 13 years of age.
- BC: I see, and then you finished high school in Youngstown but you didn't go right into university at that time.
- LW: No, I took a year off.
- BC: How old were you then when you went into university?
- LW: I should say 17.
- BC: You were quite young even then to go into university?
- LW: Even 16, yes. Because I graduated from Ohio Western University in 1921. I took the ordinary literature, the classics and other courses like that.
- BC: Were you then working in as a surveyor through the summer months?
- LW: Yes.
- BC: Did you pay your own way through university?
- LW: Yes. Of course, I had to because I would make a little bit in the summer time but it wouldn't be enough to take me through so I worked in restaurants and pressing clothes and selling butter and tending furnaces and things like that, all through university.
- BC: How far away was the university from your home?
- LW: My home was in Youngstown and that's about 200 miles away. The university is in Delaware which is about 20 miles north of Columbus, the centre of the state. Whereas Youngstown is the northeast corner.
- BC: Did your parents encourage you to go to university?
- LW: No. I always understood in my mind that I was going to university. So it was a natural thing. My sister went to the same university before me so I followed her.
- BC: For a girl to go to university in those days was fairly uncommon was it not?
- LW: No, it was not uncommon in 1917. But shortly after I got into the university, in order to take care of my room, I got a job taking care of the chemistry building, sweeping and cleaning it out and then I lived on the campus from then on. Until the last year I joined a fraternity and went with them and took care of their furnace and stuff like that. Anyway it was a task. My grades were not good but the instructors all knew that I was working and they let me pass. So after the university I took a year off and what did I do in that year. . .
- BC: This would be in 1921-'22.
- LW: Took 2 years off, teaching. Teaching in a small town high school, grade school, high school combined and I taught physics, science, mathematics, arithmetic, even did a little music. So after that I had decided where I wanted to go by talking to my geology professor at Ohio Western University. So I went to the University of Chicago. There I continued taking care of furnaces and waiting table and things like that.

- #101 BC: But you had now decided to become a geologist had you?
- LW: Yes, I specialized in geology right there. 2 years at University of Chicago.
- BC: Why did you go to the University of Chicago?
- LW: The professor of geology at the Ohio Western University previewed all the geological faculties and he decided that one could go to Princeton or MIT or Michigan or Chicago. He decided that at that time, Chicago was the best.
- BC: What was the name of this professor, who obviously had a great influence on your life?
- LW: Louis Westgate. He was the department of geology in Ohio Western. But he was also a part time worker in the United States Geological Survey. Anyway he knew people and he knew places so he said, these certain professors, noted them off for me, they're the best at the present time. Things change he said. So I studied at Chicago for 4 years and graduated with a Masters degree in geology in 1925 and immediately, as everybody else was doing in those days, got a job.
- BC: During that time when you were taking your Masters, did you work with the American Geological Survey during the summers at all, were you ever involved in that?
- LW: No. Just strictly school work. In the summer I went on a field trip. I went down to the lead and zinc mines of southeastern Missouri after a field trip and there I immediately got a job running a transit. So I was never out of work, it wasn't like the Depression. All the people who went to school with me in the University of Chicago turned out to be prominent geologists because it was a time of the upswing of geology and they really had the prestige, the University of Chicago as my professor had predicted would be the one.
- BC: Could you remember the names of any of your classmates?
- LW: Well, Ted Link was one of them. He was one of the geologists on . . .
- BC: He was up in the Norman Wells.
- LW: Norman Wells, yes, and also down at Turner Valley. I don't think there's any more up here.
- BC: What do you remember of Mr. Link in those days?
- LW: He was a grand guy. Always happy, always pulling jokes, smart as a whip and everybody knows him as that type of a person.
- BC: Were you fraternity brothers in that last year?
- LW: No. we just knew each other in the department. So I don't remember much that he especially did at Chicago. We just knew he was well acquainted with the Alberta geology and had taken part in it.
- #152 BC: At that time did this interest you at all, in coming to Alberta, was that an introduction to you or did you not give it second thought?
- LW: Never gave it a second thought. Because when I got out of the university Mr. M. M. Layton, chief of the state Geological Survey of Illinois offered me a position as a subsurface geologist with the state Geological Survey in Urbana, Illinois. I took the job and was with them 25 years. So there's a long distance between there and Alberta.
- BC: You were involved then in mapping Illinois?
- LW: My work was subsurface geology, having to do with drilling, all drilling. I examined cores and sample cuttings, made logs of them. I was especially interested in ground water

supplies. We searched for subsurface aquifers all over the state, for towns and large companies and even private farmers. It became such an important job that we hired several people to run resistivity surveys. These surveys would cover the ground looking for electrical resistance of the ground to the current. Where the current met resistance greater than where it didn't, there's a likelihood to be gravel and sand underneath the surface. So we had them running these machines, we had 2 of those machines and we had, after awhile it became so important to get ground water and other water supplies that we had 25 people on staff in that division, the subsurface division.

BC: Why was there such a need to find the water?

LW: Development going on. Besides the water supply interest we were interested in coal drilling, oil well drilling and any other drilling that was done for foundations and anything that might be needed in the states.

BC: How successful were you in the oil area?

LW: There was an oil and gas division so that I cooperated with them in furnishing them records. So I didn't do much with them as a primary work. We were successful. We opened up Illinois to oil production more than it ever had been before. In fact, up to that time the Illinois basin had not been discovered and our men were instrumental in getting that opened up. And there was lots of oil brought forth.

#207 BC: That must have been quite an exciting time for you.

LW: Oh yes, it was.

BC: Can you remember it, can you remember when you got the first inkling?

LW: The head of the oil and gas division was A. H. Bell. He actually worked out a private enterprise with the Pure Oil Co. to drill a deep well in the basin. I remember that 2 spurs were designated, both of them to be about a mile in depth. I think both of them were successful, I'm sure one of them was. That's where it started.

BC: That must have caused quite a flurry.

LW: Oil people then came through the office in great numbers, looking up records. My work was to give them the records. I do remember that since I was up here, one of the men said that the subsurface division has never been as well handled as I had it handled. Because there was no bureaucracy involved, it was just a matter of if a man came to you and he asked for the records, I said, sure, let's go and get it. There was no delay. So we had real good cooperation and everybody was rather happy about it. Then there was florspar??? drilling and at one time, it was during Roosevelt's administration, I was asked to go out into the Missouri River area to consider the geology of the Missouri basin. That was under the supervision of the chief of the North Dakota Geological Survey. So I spent a few weeks out there and drew some maps and made a report. We had many field trips, every year there were field trips and of course, during these field trips we would collect samples of rock and take them back to the laboratory and make records, logs of those.

#256 BC: During these summer field trips, did you have university students working with you as they do on the national Geological Survey?

LW: Yes. We'd have about 100 people or more on these field trips. And of course, in order to

get these field trips organized we had to draw up plans, bulletins to show what would be seen. That involved a lot of study and work.

BC: Your hands were pretty full?

LW: Yes. Of course, my principal job was to write reports. I've got a list of some of them there, they're not all of them there.

BC: And where would the reports go, to the government?

LW: Most of them were in publications, such as the Illinois Geological Survey publications. One or two of them were in the American Association of Petroleum Geologists bulletin. There was one report that I didn't make, which I should have made that never got out, never developed.

BC: Which one was that?

LW: When I first started out I was assigned to an area to study the geology. Just an aerial survey and I collected all the data and then when I got back into the office after a summer in the field I was so busy that I never got around to writing it up.

BC: Was this a particularly interesting part?

LW: Well, they had a plan of surveying various parts of the state and publishing these surveys and it was part of the plan. There are a number of such reports in the files over there which never got published. So next comes the change to Canada.

BC: You feel that you've told me all that you wanted to tell me about your work in the Survey there?

LW: I think so.

BC: Were you with the State Geological Survey all that time, is that who was your employer?

LW: Yes. That was over 25 years.

#305 BC: We never mentioned the fact that in that 25 years you got married.

LW: We got married just the start of it, the first day of it. We lived in one room for a year or so and then began to have children, we finally had 4. They are Roland, who is now professor of philosophy at the University of Cincinnati, Jim, who is now an accountant with the city of Portland and Miriam, who is now a teacher of violin and stringed instruments in Columbia, which is right close to Washington and Nathan, who is a what do you call them . . . anyway, glorified accountant with the Navy in San Diego. He just came back from being several years in Hawaii for the same group.

BC: And we never got the name of your wife and her maiden name?

LW: Salome Wallace.

BC: Where was she from?

LW: She was born in Stillwater, Ohio, which is over in the eastern portion. She came to Ohio Western University to go to school and there we met and there we were with each other quite a bit in the church activities. And between the times that I left the school and the time we got married, it must have been about 4 years or maybe 5, she taught high school in various places in Ohio and in Arizona.

BC: Okay, I'm glad, I wanted to make sure that we got the family involved. All your family I see, stayed in the United States. Of course, they were born there, none of them came up with you when you came up to Canada?

LW: No, they all were. . . they left at the time we left. Actually our two boys were in the Navy during the second war and. . .

End of tape.

Tape 1 Side 2

LW: . . .what I was getting and we weren't afraid of the future. We just had an adventurous spirit so we were willing to try it out.

BC: Who hired you and what were you hired to do?

LW: I started with the Canadian Stratigraphic Service, under Jim Mitchell and Joe Guyer. I became the manager of this Canadian Stratigraphic Service and people working at that time in it were George Chocette??? and Jim Humphreys.

BC: How did Mr. Mitchell or Mr. Guyer hear about you, or you about them?

LW: Jim Mitchell was a geologist in Illinois, so that he was up to the Survey quite a number of time, with the Pure Oil Co. So we knew each other well and he came to me and asked me if I would be interested and I said I was and that was that.

BC: Had you heard much about Alberta and their recent oil boom?

LW: I had heard about it but I had to look it up to see where Alberta was. So that's the way the people of the United States are. If they aren't directly interested in it. And the way Canadians are about the United States too. You can't say that they're, as they're often quoting, people don't know anything about Canada from the United States, well, Canadians don't know anything about the United States especially either. Anyway, we were in a building . . .

BC: What year was this that you came up here to the Canadian Stratigraphic Service?

LW: 1951. About June. We were in a building on the corner of 17th Ave. and 14th St. which is now occupied by a bank.

BC: Oh, you were in that original building. . .

LW: What, Jimmy Condon was at the corner. . .

BC: Kiddy corner across.

LW: And we were at the corner towards the north from there. As I said before, maybe you didn't get it recorded though, we made records then of drilling in the province. We would make a log of the well by a study of the cuttings by microscopic methods.

BC: Where would you get these cuttings?

LW: They were furnished to us by the companies. We would wash them and put them in envelopes. Sometimes we would distribute them to the companies, sometimes we wouldn't. But usually there was at least one extra sample made. I remember that sometimes we put out 13 extra samples.

BC: Why?

LW: They were put in envelopes for them to have their records, they would have that in their files. We made these logs to a scale of 100' to the inch and reproduced them so that we were selling them to about 30 companies. I think the price in those days was about \$200 a month subscription. We would log these without necessarily having their request but we would accept a request and log the wells that they wanted. Or we would log any one we

figured they liked.

#044 BC: Where would you get the material if it wasn't given to you then, if you wanted to log something and you didn't have. . . ?

LW: If we didn't have it we would go to the companies and borrow it. And they were quite willing because we furnished them, we gave them a service that they needed.

BC: Why did they need this service?

LW: They couldn't hire the geologists to do the same thing we were doing. If 30 companies hired 30 geologists to study a log that would take them say a week to complete, that's a lot of work. So we did it in a week and then we turned it over to them. That expanded until it moved to an office down on the corner of 11th Ave. and I think it was about 10th St. There we took on several new geologists, George and Jim left us and we had changes. I remember one of them was Gilbert Raasch, who is now a consultant in Calgary. One was . . . oh, the business manager now at the present, a girl. Anyway we continued that work till maybe perhaps, 10 years. Then I became just a worker and turned it over to a new manager who was, the name's Anderson. . .

BC: Why did you decide to do that?

LW: We all thought he could do it better.

BC: In what way?

LW: He was quite an executive and I was not an executive.

BC: What was his first name, do you remember? . . . It's all right, I can probably find it out in the records. This must have been quite a decision for you to make, having come up there and having become the manager, to suddenly switch over, what year would that have been?

LW: Well, anyway, I preferred that sort of work.

BC: What year would that be do you think?

LW: I don't know, it might have been '64, let's say. There was plenty of work for me to do and I did it. In '62 I took a year off to act as a technical advisor with the United Nations in Turkey. I spent a year there, instructing them, their geologists in the Turkish Geological Survey, how to make our logs and they're using that system now. Then I studied their samples and cores to try to find them some more oil.

#089 BC: That must have been quite exciting, how long were you there, 2 years?

LW: 1 year.

BC: It must have been an exciting year.

LW: It was, it was a very interesting year. I spent half of it in Ankora and half of it in Botman???, which is in the oilfield down southeast towards Iraq.

BC: How successful were they in finding oil?

LW: I wasn't successful, that's the trouble about it.

BC: The data was there but the oil wasn't eh?

LW: No, it wasn't there. They haven't found but one field since. And that was right in the middle of their former field. One of their students now is the chief of the Geological Survey there, he came over to the Case Institute in Cleveland to study for a doctor's

degree and went back and became the head of the Survey, although it's only been the last couple of years that he's been the head of it. Because they've had so much turmoil over there that one didn't know who was head or how long he'd last. There was a time within the last year when about 20 politicians a day were assassinated. A man in the Geological Survey would be considered a politician. So this man was considering going to Bangladesh as a UN technical advisor.

BC: You didn't have any of those kind of incidents when you were there though?

LW: No, no. It was very quiet.

BC: And after one year they replaced you with Mr. Anderson, is this what happened?

LW: No, I just took a year off for that purpose. It was just a year's assignment. Actually it was a half year assignment first and then they requested my stay another half year.

BC: How different was it working in Turkey as against working in the United States or in Canada?

LW: They furnished all the equipment and they were very obliging and quite helpful in every way. One has a feeling that they were complemented by a United Nations person, so that it's quite a nice spot to be in. But one ought to have found some oil.

BC: It would have been nice. So you came back and came back into the Canadian Stratigraphic Service.

LW: Yes.

BC: Just before we come back into what you did at that time, when Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Guyer left, where did they go to?

LW: They went to Denver. They had a same system down there, actually it started from Denver so that was their home. And Guyer had one in Billings and another man had one in Regina so it was quite a scattered and involved system. Another one in a city in Wyoming. . .

BC: Not Casper?

LW: Casper. And that was the guy you're going to see.

BC: Mr. Campeau?

LW: Campeau, yes, he was down there.

#144 BC: So you knew Mr. Campeau?

LW: Oh yes. I knew him before he came up here.

BC: What other people did you know down in the United States that came up before or after you that you then worked with again?

LW: I can't think of them.

BC: When you came up to Canada, at that time there were many Americans that came up because there were just no people who had been trained in the oilfield. Was part of your work really training Canadians to work with you, did this form part of your work normally?

LW: I must have had about 50 or more classes in logging methods. I reviewed the list recently. I've got a notebook in which hundreds of people went through those classes and many of them are principal geologists now. But that was really a good part of that work.

BC: So that they could eventually take over and be doing some of the work rather than having

to bring people up all the time, or did they. . .

LW: No, it's this way. These classes were geologists from other companies who came for instruction in the method.

BC: How long were these courses that you were giving?

LW: About a week.

BC: And where did you give them?

LW: In the office of the Strat Service. We'd get around a table or I had a U-shaped affair of tables and I would be up in the middle. I would have many illustrations. In other words I'd have a sample of sample cuttings and I'd pass it around and I'd say, now this sample is described as limestone, grey, very fine grained, fossiliferous and anything else that might be in it. They would then be able to see what I saw and of course, if they had different ideas we would discuss those. We discussed how the logs were formed, how one drew up the log. Right from looking at the sample one didn't make a description and then make a log but right straight down the line. With the very experienced people that were in there we had some very interesting discussions.

BC: About what for instance?

LW: About what the rock represents, what it means and how to represent it. There might be dissension and we'd have to iron that out.

#192 BC: The Canadian Stratigraphic Service, why did you give these courses?

LW: The Strat Service was, you might say, a centre of stratigraphic information. It is now. They've gone to computers and they put out the information that I wouldn't even know anything about nowadays. But they are the centre of the industry of examining cuttings and interpreting them.

BC: Would they not have studied this in university, did they not have that. . .?

LW: They all had university training.

BC: Right, that's what I mean, they were all geologist. Yours was really a much more detailed course I presume?

LW: It was a matter of standardizing everybody. Besides instructing and discussing. Actually it went on to Turkey you see, the same standards. The log was devised by Jim Mitchell, head of the company. It was a little different from the usual log and therefore . . .

BC: In what way?

LW: I really don't know. I can't point it out. There were spaces for indicating for instance, the relative proportions of framework, that is big material, to filler. Large to small. It's been so long ago I forget now what else there was but that feature was new and different.

BC: What was the advantage of standardizing everything, from you point of view?

LW: From our point of view it was devising something that would make us money. From their point of view it was accepting something which would be recognizable to their fellow workers throughout the industry. Since these logs were sent to up to 30 or more companies, they knew what the other fellow was talking about when he brought up the subject. Our correlations were our own, we might be different from their but they also knew what we thought. They had their own. But ours would go around the industry and they could make up their minds.

- #240 BC: And they would all know what in the world it was all about when they saw it.
- LW: Sure.
- BC: Up to that time what were the major stumbling blocks in the business?
- LW: Up to the time these were introduced they were having their own geologists, each one of them do their own logs and their log would be quite different, not only in size but make-up. Then when they compare Pure with Imperial they just don't fit.
- BC: How could they make such differences in how they wrote it?
- LW: They devised their own and each person who devised his method of logging thought his was the best. That's fair enough. Maybe ours wasn't the best but it was a standard you see. They then had a tendency to merge towards the standard and use of course, the standard all the time. I don't know what they're doing with the metric system now. We used the metric system over in Turkey but I don't know that they do here. You see, 100' to the inch doesn't fit into the metric system very well, an inch being $1 \frac{54}{100}$ centimetres. They probably have worked it out. I noticed that on the east coast they do get these metres into the logs. Actually Salome is still working on the east coast and other places. She gets cuttings from Imperial and Gulf and various other companies, looking for fossils in them.
- BC: Your wife Salome is a geologist now or has she picked this up from you?
- LW: She did it while I was in the Strat Service, someone asked us if we would have anybody to pick out these micro-fossils. I said, sure, we'll get you somebody. So I got her and she supervised it and she had half a dozen people working for her at one time. At the present time there are only 3 people working for her. They send some to her and these other 2 do the others in Calgary.
- BC: And she just sort of supervises it from out here in the Salmon Arm area.
- LW: Can't do much supervision because it's too far away but there's another woman there who has charge of it and reports every once in awhile.
- #290 BC: So it really became a sort of family affair then didn't it?
- LW: Yes.
- BC: Did she help you when you were doing these lectures?
- LW: No, we didn't call on her for that.
- BC: Who were some of the people who worked with you in the Canadian Stratigraphic Service after Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Guyer, can you recall any of them?
- LW: As I said, my memory is not good on people. I could find them in here because they all had to go through the classes.
- BC: You mean some went through the classes and stayed to work for you did they?
- LW: Yes. Well, Ed Billin???, he's still there I think. You mentioned Ding Beard???
- BC: Yes, I haven't spoken
- LW: No, that's Dana Beard of Home. But she wasn't working with us, that's one of, she was in the classes I just came across her name.
- BC: It doesn't matter if you don't. I just thought there might be some people that you worked with particularly that you would like to talk about. Now during the time that you were doing all this work with Can Strat, you were also very heavily involved with some of the

- petroleum organizations were you not?
- LW: I was editor of this book, this bulletin.
- BC: Yes, could we talk about that, the Bulletin was fairly new when you took it over.
- LW: I took it over when it was in its third year.
- BC: Could we just give the name of it so that we have it on the record?
- LW: The Journal of the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists.
- #330 BC: How did you get involved in being an editor?
- LW: I helped out in the first 2 volumes. For instance, let's see what I can find here, the Exploration Desk, the Dunvegan Formation by myself, I'd write that up. Each month I'd put something in. Here's one about the Elkpoint Formation in the Peace River region. So I was. . .
- BC: This material that you wrote, would it come from your logging experiences?
- LW: Yes.
- BC: You would really write up on what you found from the logs?
- LW: That's right.
- BC: So this was continuing to unearth information about the oil patch then was it not?
- LW: Yes.
- BC: What areas of Alberta were you involved with?
- LW: All over.
- BC: Would you say that through Can Strat that someone in there would have logged every well that was drilled?
- LW: Not every well, just the important well. We would pick out a well which was the most important in a certain area and do that.
- BC: Can you give me an example? For instance did you log in the Swan Hills area?
- LW: Oh yes. But I can't give you an example of a name of a well. We logged actually, a map of the wells that we logged were like spots every 3 to. . .
- End of tape.

Tape 2 Side 1

- LW: . . .rather familiar with publications because I started the Illinois Well Driller down in Illinois and it developed until when this large expansion came of 25 people came in the division, another man took over and he was a go-getter and that became then, the National Driller's News. That goes all over the world nowadays. So I had experience with writing and publishing so I just asked for it I think.
- BC: How many years did you remain as editor?
- LW: I think it might be. . . it must be about 10 years.
- BC: Did you make any changes in the Journal when you took it over?
- LW: Yes, I changed from this to this.
- BC: If we could just describe it for the tape?
- LW: The original Journal was a news bulletin which was on 8 ½ x 11 size and that was edited by . . .

- BC: It's probably on the second page in there somewhere. But it looked more like it was typed, not typeset.
- LW: Yes. Then I had. . . I want to find that man's name. . . there he is, Carl Olson. So when I took it over I took the format from the AAPG, that is the American Association of Petroleum Geologists and that's their type of publication right now.
- BC: It's more like a book, about 5 x 8 ½.
- LW: Well, this is a bound volume. But one cope would be only a few pages.
- BC: But more like 5x8 ½ like a section of a book really, glossier print etc.
- LW: That's right. I have a pile of them in on my desk, I should have brought them in.
- BC: Why did you decide to do them that way?
- LW: A more formal manner of publication. It was more attractive, it looked like we really meant something by it you see.
- BC: A journal for a society is considered normally a learned paper.
- LW: Yes, whereas this newsletter, it's just a happening. . .
- BC: Reports of speeches, things like that. So would you solicit then, papers from the industry?
- LW: Yes.
- BC: And decide what you would publish?
- LW: Actually we were so willing to publish anything that it turns out that we published almost anything that they turned in. We rarely rejected anything. Some of them ought to have been.
- BC: I was going to say, what did this do to the standard of your journal?
- LW: I think they were all pretty well written before it came to us. There weren't very many that were controversial but we did have a few.

- #046 BC: There was a gentleman that I met not too long ago, a Mr. Crickmay. Did he publish through your journal?
- LW: Yes, I've got some stuff in here. I ran across his in the first one I believe. Let me see if I can find it.
- BC: The reason I mention it is because he was considered quite controversial.
- LW: Oh, he was always controversial.
- BC: Can you remember much about Mr. Crickmay?
- LW: He was just both a wit and an opponent to anything that turned up. Everybody recognized that and they admired him for it and they considered him as the grand old man.
- BC: Was Mr. Crickmay, would you suggest that he had that scientific query, that I'm going to disagree so that you'll prove your point, is that really what you're saying?
- LW: I don't think he did it on account of just a disagreement attitude, I think he really disagreed. He was so well versed that there were a lot of things that he found that was wrong with the thing. Even in the latest articles, well written, reread by half a dozen people, in a few years they find out there's something wrong with them. Crickmay could spot them in the first meeting. There are famous articles here, ??? but I can't find Crickmay.
- BC: Did you ever have occasion to disagree with Mr. Crickmay on a theory?
- LW: No, I didn't. No, actually he was so familiar with his field and I never attempted that. I

didn't think that I could run up against him in fact.

BC: A lot of his papers were published other than in the journal.

LW: Yes.

BC: Did you ever refuse, you say you didn't refuse many, did you ever refuse any of his material?

LW: No, I don't think so. I ran across. . .yes, I saw it this morning, I was getting these out and I saw a reprint of something that he put out that he put out in some other paper that didn't . . . sort of a disagreement with somebody. I think he's over in Vancouver isn't he.

BC: No, he's in Calgary, he's retired, living in the Scarboro area.

LW: Is that so? He's older than I am.

BC: Yes, by several years, I think he's 87 or 89.

LW: Something like that, yes.

BC: Can you think of any of the other people who published in the early books of yours, this would be from about '54, that have since. . .theories for instance that have become part of the warp and woof of what is believed?

LW: One of the most prolific writers was Helen Bellier. She is still in Calgary I think. There's Jack Porter.

BC: What about some of her papers, did they break new ground?

LW: Oh yes, she was always breaking new ground, she was always giving new names to formations. She would take the rocks and divide them up into smaller units and give them names. Her names are used so that she was quite a . . . what's the word, I want to say, a person who begins things.

#099 BC: An originator.

LW: Originator is right. And they're all good and everybody respected her for them. I don't know whether she's writing now or not.

BC: When one decides to give a name, I'd like to just take a moment to talk about that because that's another area that you broke new ground in and that is this book on Lexicon of Geological Names in Alberta, which indeed you put it together. This was in 1954. You hadn't been up in Canada many years before you got yourself completely involved in this.

LW: Being the editor of the Journal, I was always invited in to the executive meetings. In one of the executive meetings I said, there are so many geological names that it's hard to work around and look at all the publications to find out the original definition of the name. I said, there ought to be a book put out on that subject. Of course, naturally they said, go ahead. And that's the way it was.

BC: How long did it take you to put this book together and who made the final decision on names?

LW: It must have been a couple of years to do that. It was one of the most popular books. It's been printed twice and they're now putting out a lexicon on northern names. That's quite a large job.

BC: This would seem to me a large job, to get it done in 2 years is quite an undertaking.

LW: It was a large job. I had quite a good committee and people were really willing and anxious to contribute their portions. We asked people to take up such and such a name,

they were quite willing.

BC: Could we just be a little more specific for the tape on that, when you asked them to take up a name what would you mean, like they would take up. . .?

LW: Well, let's take one of these names in here. Here's a [Kneehills Tough]???. Author was J. O. G. Sanderson. He tells where the Kneehills Tough is to be found, how it came to be names, it's lithologic characteristics, its thickness and distribution and referenced the best references to the literature on the subject.

BC: Now he made that name himself, he gave it that name, like I might want to name a river?

LW: Whoever gave the name is to be found in here. Let's see, Sanderson, yes, he's the one. Here's his reference, volcanic ash beds in Alberta. In the Royal Society of Canada transactions and so on. So we know exactly where to go to get the original name. Now it doesn't say who wrote this. Many of these, for instance, the Winterborn formation was prepared, described by Mr. Taylor of Shell Oil Co. But the author, the original name of it came from the staff of the Imperial Oil Co. So most of them are described by persons named at the end.

#151 BC: Now you mentioned when you were talking about Helen Bellier that she gave names to many things. Where would she get the authority to give a name and how would she suggest that it was different from something already in your book?

LW: Helen is an authority herself. She wouldn't ask anybody. She went out in the hills and mountains and observed the rocks and said, this is different, somebody called it this but I call it this. If they didn't like it they wouldn't accept it but they liked it you see. If someone else called a formation that they didn't like then they just wouldn't pay any attention to it, they'd forget it. That's how it became established or discarded.

BC: Why was it very necessary to have these particular names and have a uniformity?

LW: You can't say that this formation that's red and outcrops out there in the hills west of Calgary, you can't call it that. You've got to have something to tag on to it.

BC: Where would you get the names, what decision. . . after your wife or your favourite bird?

LW: No, you would usually name it after a place. Kneehills, Beaverfoot, that's a place, all of them, Cadomin, Cadotte, a river, a mountain, a place, anything like that. It's its geographical name.

BC: Now if you found that same strata somewhere else it wouldn't be near where you had the originally had the geological name but it would still hold the same name, would it?

LW: Yes, that's right. If you tied it in. But if somebody else described it over there, say 100 miles away and gave it another name, well the name that's the most appropriate will take on. Sometimes the new name won't stick but usually the new name is more specific and the other fellow's name is dropped.

BC: And this is what your lexicon was about, in order to have that?

LW: Yes. All these have, there's references on the bottom and they've picked out the one reference that puts them right on the spot. The other people have talked about it and they've called it something else or described it differently and so on.

BC: What advances did this make in the well logging, having this lexicon of geological names?

LW: It didn't do a thing for well logging. It was just a matter of simplifying the work of getting to the description of a formation. It did give us a standard name which we could use in our logs which might not have been used if we didn't, if we got the wrong impression, we used some other name instead of a standard name. So it did help us in that way but when it came to describing the formations we saw what we saw in the microscope, we put it down. We found a section in there that is called the Beaver Hill formation and that's what we put on the side, formation, Beaver Hill. So we used these terms after we did the work. We used the right terms after we did the work in order to give the latest terms for what we saw.

#205 BC: So if anyone saw that name then they would know exactly what kind of strata, they could visualize it really, without even looking at it, in their heads.

LW: Yes. And actually, that's what all oilfield geology is about. One man found some oil in the Beaver Hill formation. Well, here's a Beaver Hill formation over here, why isn't it giving oil. This might be higher than this is the trouble. And they're looking for it to see why they don't get it, or if they can find it at a higher point.

BC: This is why having some standardization really meant the work was much easier, if they knew the name. . .

LW; Oh yes. So all these publications that are put out on the geology, such as the recent bulletins, they use these names and people know what they're talking about.

BC: You were with the Canadian Stratigraphic for how long?

LW: I think it was 17 years, it might have been 18.

BC: And then where did you go?

LW: Then I became a consultant.

BC: You went on your own?

LW: I went with a man named Blake Brady, as a consultant.

BC: Was he a Canadian?

LW: Yes.

BC: Tell me about Mr. Brady, how did you meet him and how did you get into a partnership?

LW: Mr. Brady was quite a promoter. I had another one like him in my 25 people. I knew just what to expect but I wanted to get out and be a consultant anyway. I knew things wouldn't work out.

BC: You didn't think they'd work out with Mr. Brady?

LW: No, I didn't.

BC: Oh, why did you not think they would?

LW: He was just a . . . you might say he was a promoter with all that that signifies to you. He was not a student, looking for the details. So that broke up within a year. I was out looking for a job.

BC: How big was this organization that Mr. Brady had?

LW: There were only 3 of us I think. Brady and Gil Raasch and myself. Gil was a man that I brought up to Canada from Illinois. He was a paleontologist and he worked on the Illinois Survey for a number of years and then he came up here at my invitation and he worked in the Strat Service for a few years. Then he broke off and became an employee of Shell

and then he became a consultant. He is now a consultant in Calgary. Probably our best friend, we're best acquainted with him. The three of us then were working on the . . . what did we work on, I can't remember. Anyway it was a big deal.

- #269 BC: Yes, it says here, the section on sample logging and subsurface, 50,000' of samples by Brady field parties on Operation Poutang???. Is that in northeastern British Columbia?
- LW: Northeastern B.C. Well, it never really developed so I don't know much about it. We logged a few holes and . . .
- BC: Would that be northeastern B.C., around the Peace River area?
- LW: The Peace River area. But he had a proposal that would develop into a big thing but didn't develop.
- BC: So you left him rather quickly. Did your friend Mr. Raasch go too?
- LW: Yes, he was not long afterwards.
- BC: Then what did you do Mr. Workman?
- LW: I interviewed 50 oil companies in order to get a job.
- BC: What year would this be?
- LW: It would be 1958. Just a minute now till I get these straightened out. I started in '51, it would be '68, I'd been there 17 years, '68.
- BC: Yes. And why was it necessary for you to interview so many companies? Was it a downturn in the industry at that time?
- LW: It wasn't very good. They didn't know anything about me.
- BC: After all your years up here.
- LW: As a geologist working to find oil, I was a logger. So I finally got work with the Freeport Sulphur Co. and I was with them a couple years and then I worked for the American Oil Co. for some time. Oh yes, I did 2 well sitting jobs, that is working on the rigs, for others.
- BC: Where were they?
- LW: Up in the northern Alberta, I believe they were up above Slave Lake. I can't think of the name of the territory.
- BC: Would the fact that you were an older geologist at that time, would this be against you, because of all the pension schemes and things like this?
- LW: Might be. When I was working for American, they didn't have a manager. An engineer was temporarily the manager. I liked the fellow and I said, why don't you become the manager and he said, I really don't want it because there's lots more involved than I can handle. Finally they got a manager from the States and I forget his name and this man was so far above anyone that I had ever seen or heard of in the way of use of every device in locating oil that I can see why this other fellow wouldn't want to take the job on. He knew that this man was going to be called to do the work but they had to go through this formality because it was a time when it was required, you must have a Canadian if you can find him. If you can't find him then you can call on an outsider.
- #347 BC: What was the outsiders name that they finally brought in, do you remember?
- LW: I just can't think of his name now.

BC: But this is not when you were with Can Strat?

LW: No, this is consulting. It was a couple of years after I'd been consulting. So the geologists now, being acquainted with seismograph, chemicals, computers, so many things that didn't come into my preparation. That may have been it, they wanted people who were younger.

End of tape.

Tape 2 Side 2

BC: Looking through these journals, it's rather like looking through a who's who of the oil industry in Alberta. I wondered if perhaps we'd just take you first journal there and maybe by going through you can recall some of the people.

LW: Oh yes. The first article was by Stanley J. Davies. Stanley was an honorary member of the association. He was an engineer primarily and he was the city engineer of Calgary for awhile. While he was having a controversy with the City, having to do with some sort of pipelines he called me in for consideration, so we worked together on this situation. He lost his attempt to stop the pipeline building I think it was. Anyway, the attorneys for the other side were too good to overcome them. Here's F. G. Fox. I think he went to Carleton College after his leaving Hudson's Bay Co. I think he's over there yet. Joe Irwin, who wrote about the Savannah Creek structure was one of those old timers who was highly respected. He came from the United States. He made quite a successful job of oil developing.

BC: Who was he with?

LW: He was a consultant. Bill Easton, the next man, he used to work with me in the Illinois Survey. I don't know what happened to him after he was here for a short time.

BC: Quite a few Americans came up for a short time and then went back down.

LW: Yes. He wrote about the formations in Montana, which . . . here's Fox again. I'll pass that one over, I don't know Lyle ??? especially. Here's Blanchette and Tory. Tory has an article and Blanchette has an article. They were geophysicists.

BC: Did you know them well?

LW: Not well, I just knew them from their articles.

BC: What about the people that are the officers. I notice in the front of that there's the presidents report, it gives quite a few of the people's names.

LW: Presidents Review.

BC: Yes, Mr. Gallup for instance, do you recall anything about W. B. Gallup?

LW: Oh yes, Bill Gallup with Royalite was a very personable man, you might say he represented the old west. He was especially interested in the Turner Valley pool. He would wear his big western hat, he always had something to say about anything that turned up. His speeches were well taken. I think he was president in 1954. Carl Olson was editor. Olson is now living just south of here in Washington, in . . . not Tacoma. . .

BC: In Spokane perhaps.

LW: Spokane, he's living in Spokane, been there for several years. After he left his work on the news bulletin he went to Australia and worked there, from Brisbane, for several years.

BC: He went over when they were discovering oil in Australia?

LW: Yes.

#059 BC: Was he a geologist too?

LW: Yes. And a good one. Ken Norris, I remember him but I can't say that I can say much about him. J. C. Sproule was one of the old timers who was like Crickmay. Very critical, very well versed and very capable of standing on his feet and saying something that was important. Bill Gussow was one who, I forget who he was with but I think it might have been Cal Standard. He had a theory of the formation of mountains that would have these mountains come up pretty fast. Lots of us disagreed with that. I think he's still writing, he's still speaking and I think that that theory was not very well taken. A. J. Goodman was with . . . I can see him at his office but I can't remember his office. But he was a very modest capable person. They always called on him to do the work. Jack Webb. Jack was a tall stately sort of a person who was with Dome.

BC: Did you have much to do with Mr. Webb?

LW: Oh yes, he was one of those people that we called upon for advice and help. Abbott, a quite approachable person.

BC: What was his first name, Mr. Abbott?

LW: What's his first name, Earl.

BC: Earl Abbott, yes. And who was he with do you remember?

LW: It seems to me it was Hudson's Bay but I can't be sure of that. You'll come across him, those fellows, those were like the people that came out of my class at University of Chicago. They all, in those days, took high places. When we were early in the game those fellows became really important as time went on.

BC: When you came up here in 1951 there were many Americans up here, many more Americans in the oil industry than there were Canadians.

LW: I suspect.

BC: Did you ever have a feeling of being a foreigner, quote, in the Canadian oil patch?

LW: Not after I got up here. But before I came I wondered, what do they do on the streets, how do the police act, how do the people act. I really expected to find something different crossing the border but I never did and I never got anything different up here.

BC: What had you sort of thought you might find?

LW: I didn't know. It was just the fact that one doesn't pay much attention to Alberta in Illinois. You begin to wonder, that's a foreign country up there among the mountains and what does one do and how do they act different. The only thing they do different is they have out and some other words that I can't remember just now but there are different pronunciations.

#120 BC: Who would you say, in your time in the petroleum industry impressed you the most, of the people that you were in contact with, or influenced you the most?

LW: I think Jack Webb was the most gentlemanly person in the whole outfit.

BC: Could you illustrate that with an incident?

LW: No, I can't.

BC: Or an anecdote.

LW: I wouldn't say there was one person the most. Jack Goodman was one of the most thoughtful and helpful. Ted Link was the most . . . you might say, he was head of the parade because that's where he always was, he was always up front, ready to give his jokes and prove that he was right, which he always was. I notice here Terry Story. Terry Story with Western Leaseholds, when I was there, has an article in the last bulletin.

BC: Did you know Mr. Story very well?

LW: Oh yes.

BC: Tell me about Mr. Story?

LW: He was a rather little fellow, sort of a busybody. Thinking things out ahead of the other fellows, wanting to show them that he's right. Some of them are right, some of them are wrong, but always out there thinking ahead. His article here in the last of the bulletin is one of that type.

BC: Can you think of any particular incident where he wanted to get out ahead of everyone and say, here it is?

LW: No, I can't. Those incidents go right past, as in a parade. Now let's see, if you want anymore of these, let's see what we've got. I'll pass over a few I don't know very well. Here's A. L. Chocette, he's a brother of the Chocette that worked with us. He was with Sinclair and since in later years, he was influential in developing the ski resort out on Kananaskis Road.

BC: What about the Chocette that worked with you, could we talk about him?

LW: He's a consulting geologist, now sitting on wells.

BC: What was his first name?

LW: George.

BC: What can you remember about George?

LW: George was a sort of a heavy set congenial man. He did a good job with us and went to well sitting because to get away.

#174 BC: Wanted to get away from Can Strat, wanted a change. Yes. Did you find after a certain time with Can Strat that you found it was repetitive perhaps?

LW: It's awfully repetitive. It's really a drudge. But there's nothing exciting about it, certain people couldn't hang on there. You've got to have a certain type of mentality day after week after month after year looking through that microscope, putting down the same or slightly different things.

BC: You didn't find it a drudge or did you?

LW: Oh yes, just like washing dishes. But it was a job and when things worked out, there were highlights and that made it seem worthwhile.

BC: Can you think of a highlight or highlights?

LW: Well I like to see our cores displayed in the core study group that came to a place every once a year, to look at cores that have outstanding characteristics in them. People would like to see what we had described and then compare them to what they had understood it to be. It was interesting to be considered part of the executive committee to suggest and receive suggestions on how the association should run. It was interesting to sit in the

Petroleum Club and have a good time while drinking a glass of something, talking. It might be geology, it might be various other things. It might be a dance. It was interesting to visit all the various companies and talk about our work with the head man there, have them come and see us and all that sort of thing. So it wasn't always a drudgery, it was highlighted by these other incidents.

BC: The fact that you did so much teaching, did you find that gave you a welcome change?

LW: Oh yes. It didn't hurt me a bit.

BC: If you found it a drudge, as a geologist with a Masters, why did you stay there for so long?

LW: I've been accused of changing jobs so often. Just twice.

BC: Yes, that's right. You're 25 years with one and 17 years with the other. So you really would have retired out of. . .

LW: That's my nature, that's all. I don't like to get out and see 50 companies in order to get a little job.

BC: Is that when you decided to retire, when you found that you had to prove yourself to 50 different companies?

LW: Shortly afterwards. I consulted for perhaps, 4 years and just like in Turkey, I didn't find any new oil, I found the old oil and gas. That was not happy, that was not a pleasant situation so it was about time to retire. But doing the consulting at \$50 a day one could make enough money to build this house. Otherwise we'd probably be in Calgary yet.

#239 BC: I was going to ask you, that was one of the things, for instance, because you were 52 when you came up to Can Strat, you would not have too much time in any kind of a pension fund. Which they certainly have now.

LW: I didn't have any.

BC: Yes, so this would be quite a thing for someone, all those years in the industry and then retire.

LW: I think I had 2 years in the pension fund. I do get something from it though right now.

BC: This would be quite a decision, it wasn't necessarily, do I want to retire but can I afford to.

LW: Really, that's one thing that I never worried about, what happens about money. Of course, I had to take care of money but if I wanted to go someplace and do something that would be outside of the usual routine I'd do it. And that's the way we do around here. If we want to go out to Wells Grey Park we say, let's go to the park, so we go. Or we go to Victoria. We probably have seen all the roads around here, even the little ones. We travel quite a bit, always on a new road if possible. That's our attitude, don't worry about it, maybe we'll make out tomorrow.

BC: So you didn't have that worry obviously of. . .

LW: I've been lucky. I haven't had the Depression. When we were in the Survey we had a decrease of 15% during the Depression, the 30's and yet they're screaming bloody murder of having to take a lower wage around here. They just don't know. They'd rather strike, which is not our attitude, we'd rather work than strike.

BC: Although you spent a great many of your working years in the United States and were

born an American, I think it's very interesting that you decided to retire in Canada. What made you decide that?

LW: We were out with Gil Raasch and Mrs. Raasch one wintery day, travelling along the road towards Fairmont Hot Springs. As soon as we got out of Banff and got past Eisenhower the mountains began. Gil Raasch almost stood up, he said, this is it. Well, that's the way we feel about British Columbia, this is it. We want to see this, we want to be in it. And this is quite a difference from Calgary and Urbana, Illinois. Both of them prairies, flat, you could see miles. So we want to see it and take the new roads and see what else we can see.

#300 BC: It's a marvellous attitude. When you're up here you have really, quite a Calgary colony up here have you not, of ex-oil people?

LW: About half of them.

BC: Are there any of the people here people that you worked with during your oil career?

LW: No, there aren't. But I found people who worked in Turner Valley.

BC: Is that right, living up here?

LW: Yes. And I noticed that Joe Gloody??? of Imperial was going to live here but he changed his mind. So none of the rest of the oil people have I seen.

End of tape.

Tape 3 Side 1

JW: The editorial situation, I am now publishing the newsletter of the Cedar Heights development. It consists of a few pages each month but it doesn't amount to much. Someday somebody will take it over and make something of it.

BC: I'm sure it's a splendid thing to have and of course, it keeps you in touch with the whole of the district. You were one of the early people to come to Cedar Heights. You came here in '72 would it be?

JW: '73.

BC: So you've been here 10 years just about.

JW: Yes. When we came we camped out for a couple of months while our house was being built. Then the contractor had other business that he thought was more important and so he didn't get anything done. So we said, okay, we'll come in and live in it anyway. So with no walls and with the wind blowing through, we set up our bed in the dining room here and the contractor decided maybe he'd better finish it.

BC: Isn't that wonderful. Did we finish going through the names in your journal there?

JW: No. I was going to mention Warren Hunt, who has an article in here. Warren is a person who is independent thinking and he sometimes gets off quite the wrong direction. So he's always having some arguments with the rest of us. But that doesn't stop him, he's still an independent thinker and it's interesting to listen to him and watch him work.

BC: Was this part of what you tried to do with your journal, to have it a journal of open thought?

JW: Yes, yes. His surface geology, mapping as an exploration tool, that's all right but I don't

know what else he brought up that we disagreed with. Anyway he's still working, he's still talking and still active.

BC: Can you remember any of his arguments that were rather controversial?

JW: Let's see. I remember he was quite against the professional engineers society and he had an article in about that one time.

BC: You mean having the geologists part of that?

JW: Yes. A number of us are still against it.

BC: Why were you against it?

JW: Because the engineers extract a good amount of money for practically nothing that they do?

BC: In what way?

JW: They are supposed to supervise the activities of their membership so as to keep them from doing unethical things. But I don't think there's much supervision going on, I'm not sure. Maybe there's more now than there was when I was in it.

#041 BC: Did you feel that having the professional geologists and geophysicists part of the professional engineers weakened the geologists role?

JW: I thought it was rather subsidiary to the engineers. The engineers have a prominent role and the geologists have a less prominent role in the organization. I think they have been attempting to give them a more prominent role recently. Here's one by Jim Law of Cal Standard. Jim was a very quiet and capable person whom we looked to quite a bit. Ralph Edie, he's with Anderchuk and Edie Associates. He was instrumental in putting down a proposed bylaw to require that meters be put in all houses, water meters.

BC: Where was that?

JW: Calgary.

BC: They don't have them you know.

JW: No, but he was the boss, he was the one that did it.

BC: He was the one that was trying to get them metered you mean?

JW: No, he was the one who. . .

BC: That kept it against.

JW: Against it, he accomplished it. Anderchuk and Edie are probably the most consultants in Calgary, except J. C. Sproule perhaps.

BC: Can you remember any particular incidents involving Anderchuk at all?

JW: Anderchuk is sort of a . . . no, I can't think of any incidents. Actually, their consulting business is all private so we don't know much about their work.

BC: Where did they gain their prominence and their reputation?

JW: They are just recognized as outstanding. Here's J. P. Fitzgerald Moore who's probably the most interesting personality in the geology profession. He's the head of Shell geology. He's got a red beard and he's got the most delightful sarcasm you have heard and he can speak on any subject. We went out on a field trip with him to Turner Valley to study wild flowers and we lost him for awhile and we found him out behind the school playing a flute. But his sarcasm and his analysis of a situation is perhaps best of all the geologists.

BC: Do you consider him a very good geologist?

JW: Oh yes.

BC: Yes, what was his article on that he was writing there?

JW: An International Abstracting Service for Geology. Floyd Beech was a consultant with a wide experience. J. W. Porter, Jack Porter with Canadian Superior right now is probably head of the geological department.

#087 BC: Do you remember much about him?

JW: No, I don't remember much about him.

BC: You met most of these people through their writings?

JW: Yes. That's right. Here's Helen Bellier, Fox again.

BC: There's a picture of the group of you up at the top there. Perhaps if you looked at the picture you could talk about the different ones.

JW: J. C. Scott was president. He and I both ran for president and he called me up one day and he said, congratulations, I said, thanks. Well, he didn't say congratulations for what. What happened is that I lost.

BC: Oh I see, he had a sense of humour too.

JW: I can't remember incidents for these people, I just can see them and be glad that I was one of them.

BC: Looking back on your geological career, were you happy in the direction you took in geology?

JW: Yes. . .

BC: What made you decide to do that kind.

JW: . . .but I decided I was a very poor geologist.

BC: What made you say that?

JW: That's the way I've come out at the end of it.

BC: In what way.

JW: There's J. P. Humphreys, used to work for us.

BC: Oh yes. When you say you felt you were a poor geologist.

JW: Well, I should have found oil some places. I should have found oil in Turkey, I should have found oil in Calgary.

BC: Do you think that is really the fault of the geologist though, or is it the fact that you have a certain land and if it isn't there, it isn't there is it?

JW: You don't know, maybe it's there yet. There's one are that I found for gas over in eastern Alberta.

BC: Who was that for?

JW: This was for Freeport. I brought that out and the manager says, oh yes, we know about that, that's underneath this military reservation. I think it's being drilled now and it's probably one of the big gas regions of the province. I suppose other people have the same feeling that one should have accomplished more when he went through it.

#128 BC: Did you enjoy your work in the oil patch?

JW: Oh yes.

BC: What was the most enjoyable part of it do you feel?

JW: These people. All of whom I recognize in this photograph.

BC: What is there about the people in the oil patch that makes them special do you think?

JW: This man's good, this man's not so good, and this man, he's so funny and this man, he's so witty and this man is so sarcastic. And they're all friends. It's really a wonderful association.

BC: Is there anything else that you'd like to put on the tape Mr. Workman, that I haven't asked you about?

LW: I don't think of anything. I'll think of it later.

BC: That's all right. I'll come back again and we'll do a second.

LW: No, I think it's pretty well covered.

BC: I really want to thank you for spending this time with me, it's been a delight to meet you and share a little bit of your life in the oil patch.

LW: You're entirely welcome, thank you.