Who were those men who wandered into the Canadian Western Gas Company offices on Saturday, the 17th day of December, 1927? And what were they doing?

To be sure, they weren't "inadequately trained and unscrupulous men posing as petroleum geologists" - the types the American Association of Petroleum Geologists excluded from membership. They were the leading oil and gas explorationists of their day and by sundown they had formed the Alberta Society of Petroleum Geologists.

Over the next 75 years these men and the men and women who followed them directed the course of the society that became the Canadian Society of Petroleum Geologists and assured the public that oil would be found. Characters abound in their midst. Stories of their exploits, of the bears they encountered, the politicians they tackled and the geological feats they performed fill this paper. No boring stats!

From 11 men in a boardroom in Calgary to thousands of explorationists across Canada and around the world, the society that represents and serves Canadian geologists has a proud story to tell.