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HOUSTON REFINERY

"It Strikes Us This Way"

No. 106

Thursday, April 25, 1963

TO ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

Shell Oil Company First Quarter Report

BEST YET....UP 22 PERCENT OVER 1962

Consolidated net income of Shell Oil Company and all wholly owned subsidiaries amounted to \$46,595,000, or 77 cents a share, in the first quarter of 1963, Monroe E. Spaght, President, announced today at the annual shareholders' meeting. This is the highest first quarter net income in the Company's history, exceeding the 1962 period by 22 percent. Net income in the first quarter of 1962 was \$38,267,000, or 63 cents a share.

A seven percent increase in refined product sales and improved operating efficiency contributed to the record results, Mr. Spaght said. Automotive gasoline sales were seven percent higher than in the first quarter of 1962.

Shell plans a continued high level of capital investment in all phases of the business, as well as extensive commitment of funds to research and development and to exploration for crude oil and gas reserves.

"There are reasonable grounds for predicting that prices for the year 1963 should at least equal their 1962 average," said Mr. Spaght, "and even though net earnings for the next three quarters may not show as large an improvement over 1962 as those of the first quarter, we are quite confident that the present steady progress will be maintained."

Copies of the First Quarter Report will be available within the next few days in the Employee Communications Section, Personnel and Industrial Relations Department, Room 132.

Negotiations

SHORT MEETING YESTERDAY - BACK AGAIN TOMORROW

The letter to all supervisors (dated April 24) said it: Separate sessions with the Conciliator during the morning were followed by an "off-the-record" joint meeting of reduced committees for an hour and one-half. Meetings of the reduced committees are scheduled to resume at 1 PM tomorrow, Friday, April 26.

Operatin' Briefs

From Thermal Cracking comes the report: Dubbs 9 distilling shut-down continues on schedule.....And from Utilities, boiler No. 10 still down for maintenance.

Process Control

NEW COMPUTER BEING INSTALLED AT CAT. CRACKER

A complete computing system that tracks the minute-to-minute changes in the operations of a process unit is being installed at the

(Over)

Refinery's cat. cracking unit. Built by General Electric, the 412 Process Control Computer System has been used to monitor and even control power plants and some chemical process units by other companies. Although this system is new to Shell - it's the first to be installed at a Shell refinery - a computer has been used before by Shell in pilot plant operations at Emeryville, California.

The equipment for the system will be housed in the cat. cracker unit control building. When placed in service, the computer will record data concerning almost every conceivable facet of cat. cracker operations. The computer then uses this information to make instantaneous calculations of unit operating conditions at the touch of a button by operating personnel. This information will then be used to guide the most efficient operation of the unit.

MUCH of the equipment that is a part of the new computing system at the cat. cracker occupies space in J. W. "Hoss" Matthews' office. Hoss, with many years as Operating Assistant at the cat. cracker, is a human computer when it comes to laying cat. cracker lore on the line. The two should have many interesting conversations.

Farewell Party

HANK ANDERSON, RAY LOPEZ NEW YORK-BOUND

Over 100 members of the Research "family" gave a Texas-size send-off to Hank Anderson and Ray Lopez, Tuesday evening, April 23, at the Ellington Officers Club.

Max Nager's description of the "daily grind" in New York was almost enough to make them change their minds, but after Dick Bannerot, Mike Coman, and Bill Bailey made with the gifts - and speeches - they saw there was no backing out.

Highlight of the evening was the self-revealed prowess of Hank in the field of poetry. His "Ode to a Native Houstonian" and "Ode to All Texans" (printed below) will undoubtedly grace the Halls of Researchdom for some time to come.

ODE TO ALL TEXANS

Here's to the natives of the Lone Star State,
 Those who're really native, and the Johnnie-come-late.
 You people are just wonderful, and your place-names are great.
 Listen:
 Port Neches, Nacogdoches, Waxahachie, Alice,
 Lampasas, Falfurias, San Benito, Dallas.
 Corsicana, Santa Anna, Texarkana, Frio,
 San Augustine, Abilene, Palestine, Del Rio.
 But the name that fills with glowing pride, every Texan true
 Is that gem of Bailey County, good ole' Muleshoe!

Odds & Ends

BIRTHDAY BELLES & BEAUS -

April 25 - E. O. Kindschy

April 26 - Herb Benson

April 27 - Ernie Harris

April 28 - Elizabeth Hechler

DID YOU KNOW: Each day the United States uses about 10 million barrels of oil - or about 20 barrels for every American each year....This info - and more - is contained in the booklet "What's Your Oil I. Q.?", now available at your SHELLETTER news stands.

RECUPERATIN': ...We're happy to report that Ray Diamond is out of the hospital and recuperating at home.