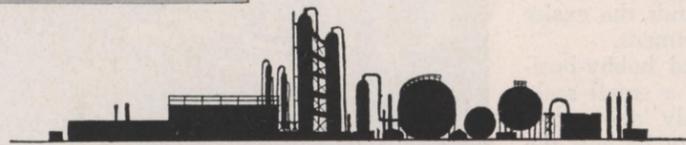


shellegram



SHELL OIL COMPANY
HOUSTON REFINERY

SHELL CHEMICAL CORP.
HOUSTON PLANT

Vol. 23, No. 11

HOUSTON, TEXAS

NOVEMBER, 1958

Refinery's Don Miller Heeds Call for Substitute Teachers

The Refinery, along with other Ship Channel industries, recently answered the Pasadena school system's call for help in a fashion which once again demonstrated the company's great interest in cooperation and education.

Management offered the services of an employee to serve as a substitute teacher for two days, and Researcher Don Miller volunteered to become that substitute. The need for extra substitutes in mathematics classes arose when full-time teachers attended a two-day state conference in Austin.

Don, who taught five classes each day at the South Houston High School, called his experience "interesting and very enlightening." This was his first step into a high school classroom as a teacher, although

he did a small amount of part-time college teaching at Washington University while working at Wood River.

Don's classes consisted of two in applied science, two in physics and one in biology.

Currently Group Leader of the Catalytic Cracking Chemical Engineering Group, Don came to the Refinery just about a year ago from Wood River. He was first employed by Shell at that Illinois Refinery in 1940 and has also worked at The Hague and at Norco. Don is a graduate of Carnegie Tech.

Pasadena school officials indicated they were well pleased with the results of this experiment in civic cooperation which was made necessary by the shortage of regular substitute teachers in the critical science fields.



Refinery Researcher Don Miller explains the function of a force board to a group of senior physics students at South Houston High School. Last month on loan from the Refinery, Don served two days as a substitute teacher. Students (l to r) are Jerry Barnes, whose father works in A Dept. at Chemical and who is a finalist in this year's National Merit Scholarship contest; Sonny Ables, the son of E. C. Ables of the Refinery Gas Dept.; Bob Fay; David Howard, son of D. E. Howard of the Refinery Boilermaker Shop; Joan Fugman, and Tom Church, whose father is M. Church, Chemical Technological Dept.

Credit Union Officials Attend Houston Meet

The Shell Refinery Employees Federal Credit Union named approximately 200 other credit unions in the Houston area in celebrating International Credit Union Day, Oct. 15.

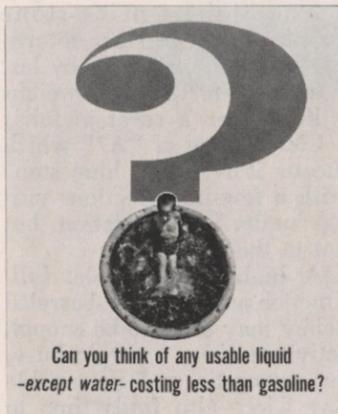
The first Credit Union in the United States was organized in 1909 by a group of department store employees in Boston. There are now more than 20,000 Credit Unions in this country.

Each one serves a specific group of members, and these members own and operate

their Credit Union through elected officials just as your Credit Union operates. All Credit Unions were organized for the same purpose—to help people help themselves through saving together and borrowing from each other at reasonable interest rates.

Your Credit Union is now in the 21st year of service. During this period, the savings have grown to the Sept. 30, 1958, figure of \$2,318,016.29. The Credit Union has loaned more than 16 million

See CREDIT UNION, Page 2



Can you think of any usable liquid
—except water—costing less than gasoline?

One Hundred Merit Fellows To Be Named

One hundred fellowships will be offered in 1959 under the Shell Merit Fellowship Program for High School Science and Mathematics Teachers.

Since the Program was inaugurated in 1956 by the Shell Companies Foundation, Inc., 250 fellowships have been given teachers of physics, chemistry and mathematics. The number of fellowships was increased from 60 to 90 and then to 100 during the first three years of the Program.

The full-term summer seminars will again be held at Cornell and Stanford Universities. High school teachers of physics, chemistry and mathematics with five years or more of experience may apply. Fifty teachers will be selected by each university. Recipients of the fellowships receive allowances for travel, tuition, living expenses and \$500 in cash to offset the loss of potential summer earnings.

Shell employees having requests for information about the Program or knowing teachers who may be interested in the seminars should have them write for detailed information and application forms to

Dr. Paul DeH. Hurd
School of Education
Stanford University
Stanford, Calif.

What's Inside

Page 2 — Ray Clerc Works With Diamonds and Watches.

Page 3 — Read About How Chemical Products Are Used in New Cars.

Page 4 — All About Frank Schindler Retiring From Volunteer Fire Dept.

Page 5 — Chemical Plant 10-And-Over Party in Pictures.

Page 6 — Pictures Taken at SERA Style Show.

Page 7 — A Story About Craft Training at the Refinery.

VRO Pump Is Important Chemical Plant Advance

Twelve pumps of a revolutionary design have been installed in the Chemical Plant. The pump is designated the VRO (vertical restricting orifice) and has been described as one of the more notable improvements in industrial pump design in recent years.

The pump was conceived and developed by the Engineering Development Department. The job of correlating ideas and pump design went to V. F. Anderson, Development Engineer on the job.

The VRO pump is designed to meet the process and maintenance requirements of a growing Chemical Plant problem. According to recent figures, the Houston Plant has some 1100 pumps that vary in every conceivable way. These variations have required the plant to purchase 30 different makes of pumps, 85 types of packing, 57 types of mechanical seals, and approximately 2,550 different spare parts of about 20 types of alloys. With so many differences, the ordering of pumps or parts is a difficult one.

A study of this information pointed toward the need for a pump that would meet five basic requirements: (1) maximum interchangeability of parts; (2) standard mounting dimensions; (3) simple installation and removal procedure; (4) simple maintenance procedures; and (5) moderate capital cost.

With these goals in mind, Anderson began studying dif-

ferent pump designs as they would apply to the needs in the Plant. What he came up with may replace about 80% of the centrifugal pumps now in use.

The VRO has six main parts. These are the impeller, (which moves the product through the line), the case, case cover, seal a venturi orifice (a device that restricts the flow from the pump into the line) and the electric motor. Each of these parts is easily accessible, which will make repair far simpler than it is with other models.

Because of the compact design, the pump can be mounted in the pipe through which the material flows, with minor pipe supports. This type of mounting eliminates brick or concrete foundations necessary on conventional pump models.

The VRO design permits replacement of a defective pump with a spare from "off-the-shelf" with the result that operating time losses are considerably reduced. Repairs to the defective pump will then be made in the shop under favorable working conditions. In addition the simplified design and interchangeability of the VRO pump avoids the need

See VRO PUMP, Page 2



V. F. Anderson, right, Engineering-Development, talks with J. N. Russell, Operator No. 1, about VRO pump recently installed in G-300 Plant.

Refinery Researcher's Hobby Proves Diamonds Are a Clerc's Best Friend

Ray was in his workroom "puttering around" Mrs. Clerc told us when we dropped in for a visit.

We found Ray in his workroom, true enough, but we felt called upon to disagree with his wife as to what he was doing. We just didn't see how anyone could be "puttering around" with all those diamonds spread out on the bench.

A Senior Research Chemist at the Refinery during the day, Ray Clerc spends many of his nights as an expert diamond appraiser and watch repairer. Ray, however, does not engage in either of these activities as a money-making business but simply as a hobby.

Ray began developing these two skills early in life, repairing his first watch at the age of nine in his father's jewelry store in Ambridge, Pa. Recognizing the boy's innate ability, the elder Clerc provided Ray with expert instruction in watch repairing and diamond appraising. Ray later attended the Western Horological Institute for a short period.

Is Pittsburgh Graduate

But at the same time he was becoming interested in diamonds and watches, Ray was also becoming interested in science. This interest took him from a home-lab in the basement of the jewelry store to studies at the University of Pittsburgh where he received a degree in chemistry, with help from his diamond training. Ray helped finance his education by dealing in diamonds and other jewelry.

After finishing school and coming to work for Shell 15 years ago, Ray went out of the diamond business, but continued to repair watches in his spare time. At his well-equipped bench at home he now repairs an average of one watch a week.

About a year ago, Ray was able to make the necessary

contacts with a Houston diamond importer to allow him to go back to dealing in the precious stones. Ray does not, however, buy and sell diamonds for profit.

A potential client, for example, tells Ray he wants a diamond engagement ring, so Ray visits the importer and picks up a number of stones falling within the price range the potential bridegroom says he wants to pay. Ray does not buy the diamonds from the importer, but simply borrows them.

Recommends Best Buy

At home he examines the diamonds for their color (the bluer the better), looks for flaws and checks the weights. Each diamond he receives is priced by the importer, so Ray recommends to his customer which of the diamonds is the best buy.

In an effort to place diamond appraising on a scientific basis, Ray has worked out a series of curves for rating the stones he examines. One side of the scale represents the cost per carat, while the other represents the actual weight of each diamond.

He assigns a series of letter values from "AA" for the best to "D" for yellowish to each stone, as well as a numerical rating from "one" for perfect to "ten" for poor to show the quality of the diamond. Flaws, which lower the quality of one of these gems, are such things as graphite streaks or specks, or crystal imperfections that give a cloudy appearance to the stone.

Does Not Mount Stones

This evaluation allows the customer to decide which diamond he wants, and Ray returns the others to their owner. Since he is not equipped to mount the stones in rings, Ray takes the selected diamond to a manufacturing jeweler.

When it is mounted, Ray

sells the ring to his client for the cost of diamond and mounting plus his expenses. Finally, he pays the importer for the diamond and sends the excise tax to the government.

Ray's diamond hobby-business is on such a small scale he averages only about one sale a month, but he gets the satisfaction of knowing he has provided a valuable service for someone.

The highest-price stone Ray has handled since returning to the diamond hobby last year went for \$550. It weighs a little over a carat and has a Clerc rating of "A7" which means it is a fine blue stone with a few imperfections visible under magnification but not to the naked eye.

A highly responsible, full-time job and a double-barreled hobby may seem to be enough activity to keep a person busy, but energetic and personable Ray Clerc also finds time to act in dramatic productions of the Pasadena Little Theater, to serve as a leader of a Great Books course, to be active in the American Chemical Society and to help rear one son and four daughters.



Ray Clerc prepares to turn on his electrically-operated watch cleaning machine at the well-equipped work bench in his home. Spread out on the bench are boxes containing some of the many tiny parts required in watch repair work.

Shell Wives and Daughter Earn Degrees at U. of H.

The climax of many hours in the classroom and long periods of study at home came recently for two Shell wives and one Shell daughter when they received degrees from the University of Houston.

Earning master's degrees in education were Mrs. J. C. Phillips, whose husband works in the Thermal Cracking Dept., and Mrs. Eva Joy Crumpler, the daughter of I. G. Loomis, Refinery Carpenter Shop. Getting her B.A. degree 20 years after she first started college was Mrs. G. L. Cross, whose husband works in the Refinery Treasury Dept.

All three women are school teachers, and they completed work on these degrees by going to school at night and during the summers.

Mrs. Phillips, who teaches



Mrs. Phillips

Mrs. Crumpler

the sixth grade in LaPorte, put in two years of college work before her marriage in 1935, but did not return to school until 1951. In 1953 she received her B.S. at the U. of H. and began teaching in LaPorte. Shortly thereafter she began work on her advanced degree.

The Phillips have four children, Dan, a senior industrial engineering student, and Don, a sophomore majoring in personnel work, both at the University of Texas; David, a sophomore at LaPorte High School, and D'Anne, a seventh grader.

Mrs. Crumpler, who also received her undergraduate de-

gree at the University, is now in her third year of teaching history and English at South Houston Junior High. Her widow, Mrs. Crumpler has a daughter, Cheryl Joy, who is four years old.

Mrs. Cross, who teaches in third class at St. John's Protestant School in Houston, majored in English for her degree. She completed two years of work at Phillips University, Enid, Okla., before her marriage and one more year while married. She attended Denver University briefly but did not go down to serious work toward her degree until about two years ago.

The Crosses are the parents of two sons, Stephen, 15, and David, 10.

All three of these hard workers credit members of their families for assistance in this task, not only by helping out at home, but also by providing sideline cheers and encouragement when the educational road seemed to be long and too difficult.

VRO Pump-

(Continued from Page 1)

for a complicated stock of spare parts required for conventional pumps.

Thus far, field tests have demonstrated the flexibility of the VRO and under the present plan, VRO pumps will replace the older models when they become uneconomical to operate.

Falls are the second most frequent source of accidental death in the United States, according to the National Safety Council. They cause nearly 21,000 deaths a year. No. 1 accidental killer: motor vehicle accidents.

30 Years Service



R. R. Cooper
Treating (Refy.)



D. W. Goldsmith
Cat. Cracking (Refy.)

Credit Union-

(Continued from Page 1)

dollars. Of this total amount loaned, only \$11,991.50 or .075% has been lost through bad loans. This excellent loss experience results from the fact that each Credit Union borrower realizes that the money belongs to his fellow workers.

The Board of Directors of your Credit Union has accepted with regret the recent resignation of Sam Walker from the Credit Committee. He has been replaced by Cleve O'Toole.

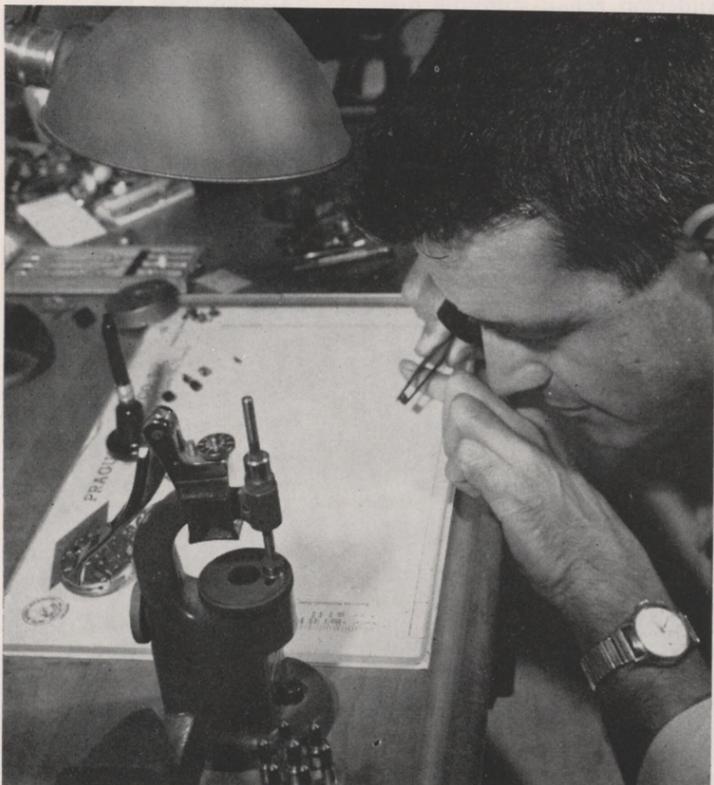
25 Years Service



H. A. Dufresne
P&I (Chem.)

J. K. Lane
Eng. Field (Refy.)

G. E. Martin
Eng. (Chem.)



It takes a mighty close examination to find out just how valuable a diamond really is. Here Refinery Researcher Ray Clerc examines one of the precious stones through a magnifying glass. Those tiny stones spread out on the table are worth much more than their size might indicate. The implement in the foreground is a staking tool used to put balance staffs in the watches Ray repairs.

New Cars Made With Shell Chemical Products

From road level to roof top—inside and out—the 1959 automobiles carry with them, as part of their makeup, numerous products made at the Houston Chemical Plant and other Shell chemical installations.

In all, about 16 products made by Shell Chemical are sold to the auto industry.

The new car rolls on tires made of synthetic rubber manufactured at the Torrance Plant. Rubber from this plant is also used in various mechanical parts such as gaskets.

From the viewpoint of safety, one of the most important things on any car is the brakes, and many new cars are using brake fluid that contains Houston Plant-produced hexylene glycol.

EPON (R) Resins play an important role in several phases of auto-making. Because of the strength afforded by this product, it is used in making tool dies from which parts are fabricated. As a surface coating, EPON Resins are used in the formulation of prime coats for body paint and in body patch kits.

Many of the car manufacturers are advertising paint that needs no waxing for several years. Glycerine, acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl butyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, diacetone alcohol, or ethyl methyl ketone—all Shell Chemical products—may be used in these paints. Besides its use in enamels, acetone is used in lacquers.

The interiors of the latest models make abundant use of Shell Chemical products. Chemicals are all about you as you lean back to sample the comforts of the newest in interior design. The simulated leather upholstery is covered with a vinyl coating that may contain MEK, MIBK, mesityl oxide, EAK, SBA or acetone.

The increased use of glass in the 1959 automobiles not only gives the driver a wide-open, modern look, but also provides greater visibility for the driver and passengers. Here, too, the Houston Plant plays a part as ethyl alcohol is used in the manufacture of safety glass.

Naturally, the new car needs fuel which will be provided by Shell Oil Company. The Houston Plant also plays a role in moving these cars, through the manufacture of ethyl chloride which is used in tetraethyl lead, important gasoline additive.

Lubricating oils, so important to efficient operation of the auto, may contain IONOL or one of the sodium sulfonates made at the Martinez Plant. The Houston Plant also provides a lubricating oil component in propyl alcohol.

From bumper to bumper, your new car contains many products you helped manufacture, making your ride on the road more enjoyable and comfortable mile after mile.



Luxurious body paints may contain any one of seven products produced at the Houston Plant. EPON Resins are used in body solder and play an important role in making parts.



Approximately 13 products manufactured at the Houston Plant plus three produced at other locations go to automobile manufacturers. These products extend in use from tires to the final coat of paint.



New grill, head lights and body design for '59. To such cars go synthetic rubber made at the Torrance Plant used in tires and gaskets.

Efficient operation of such sleek autos as pictured above may depend on lubricating oils containing additives made at the Houston and Martinez Plants.



E. M. Maxwell (left), Shell Pipeline Corporation employee, tells about the early days in the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Dept. during departmental retirement ceremonies for its first chief, Frank Schindler (second from right). Others in the picture include (standing) Wade Modrall, Refinery Machinist Ben Royall and President H. A. Willis. Seated is Guy Morrison of Shell Pipeline. All but Willis are original members of the Fire Dept.

Two Shell Grades of Gasoline Give Motorist What He Needs

Shell Oil Company established a new concept in gasoline marketing two years ago when Super Shell with TCP* additive replaced the old premium brand.

Why did Shell continue with two grades when some of its competitors were introducing third grades?

Basically, the answers to this are: The new gasoline blend developed by Shell scientists satisfied the requirements of virtually all cars, and it cost the motorist substantially less than competitors' third grades.

Esso Standard Oil Company was the first (May, 1956) to market a new third grade. Two other affiliates of Standard Oil Company (New Jersey) — Humble Oil and Refining Company and Standard Oil Company (Kentucky) — and Cities Service Oil Company and Gulf Refining Corporation complete the three-grade group. The majority of gasoline marketers, however, have followed Shell in introducing new, upgraded gasolines in place of their old premium brands.

Price and performance were, and continue to be, primary considerations in Shell's long-range marketing, and rank at the top in importance for value-conscious consumers. In addition, TCP, which has contributed to Shell's favorable position in gasoline sales since its introduction in 1953, is a key factor underlying the Company's gasoline performance advantages.

Super Shell Is Cheaper

As for price, Shell dealers were able to sell Super Shell at retail for only one cent more a gallon than the premium grade it replaced. This was possible because large capital expenditures were not required for new pumps and underground tanks at service stations and additional storage capacity at refineries and bulk terminals.

These multimillion-dollar facilities would have been necessary before the first gallon of a new third grade could be pumped into the customer's gas tank. Companies marketing third grades, having these

large expenditures, raised the price of their new gasolines three cents above their former premium grades, which are now their middle grades.

The companies that introduced third grades made their top grade about three octane numbers above their former (now middle) premium grades. Super Shell was made one to three octane numbers higher than the premium grade it replaced, depending upon the previous existing premium octane level in particular areas.

Good in Most Cars

The new octane number requirement adopted for Super Shell met the power requirements of 99 per cent of the cars on the road, assuring them top anti-knock performance under high-speed, high-temperature operating conditions. Meanwhile, the top of the three grade gasolines, costing three cents per gallon more, satisfied only one-half of one per cent more cars.

A study completed recently by Shell indicates that even less than one-half of one per cent of today's cars can take advantage of the extra octane numbers a motorist pays for in a third grade gasoline. Adjustments made in the timing of automobile engines to increase the octane requirement of cars tested by Shell resulted in no gain in acceleration power and mileage.

Shell found that "power timing" adjustments, which are made to try to take advantage of the excess anti-knock quality of third grade gasolines, actually dropped acceleration power by five per cent and reduced mileage three per cent in the test cars.

Since TCP additive was introduced Shell gasolines have had many advantages, such as control of spark plug fouling and surface ignition. At the

outset some competitors disputed the value of this phosphorus-based compound.

Others Adding Phosphorus

Since then, however, phosphorus compounds have been added to approximately 65 per cent of the nation's premium gasoline, including that of all marketers who disputed the value of phosphorus compounds. All of the three-grade marketers are now using phosphorus compounds either in their top or top and middle grades.

Modern, high compression automobile engines place greater importance on TCP than ever before. Indications are that the trend toward higher compression ratios is slowing down, but is not at an end. One reason for the slowdown is that compression ratios much above 10:1 produce problems yet to be solved.

One of the most serious problems in some new cars is piston pounding, which sounds like a broom running along a picket fence. Combustion chamber deposits and high compression engines team up to cause the noise. The deposits get hot enough to start multiple ignitions after the spark plug fires.

Building up during city-type driving, the deposits glow when the engine is accelerated and cause pounding. A phosphorus additive, which Shell provides with TCP, gives the only effective control for this new engine phenomenon.

*Trademark Shell Oil Company

20 Years Service



M. E. McNeil
Dispatching (Refy.)

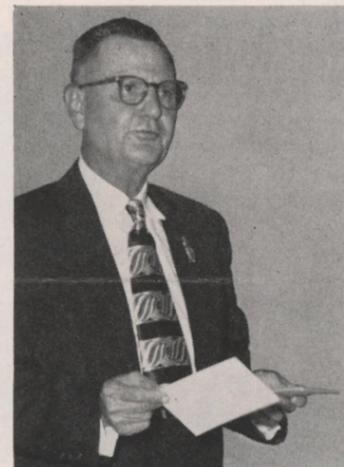
Frank Schindler Honored On Fire Dept. Retirement

A record of more than 20 years of service as a volunteer fireman came to a close last month when Frank J. Schindler retired from active duty with the Deer Park Fire Dept.

One of the co-founders of the organization and its first chief, Frank is an employee of the Refinery Welding Shop with more than 17 years of Shell service to his credit. Having served as fire chief from the 1950 founding until 1955, Frank was presented at the retirement ceremonies with a plaque making him life-time honorary fire chief.

Some fifty firemen, ex-firemen and friends gathered in the fire station to honor Frank. Present and making short talks were a number of persons who joined with Frank in getting the organization underway nine years ago.

They included Refinery Machinist Ben Royall, who is the only original member of the department still on the active list, and Shell Pipeline Corporation employees E. M. Maxwell and Guy Morrison.



Frank Schindler reads a brief message of thanks to his fellow volunteer firemen during ceremonies marking his recent retirement at Deer Park.

Tom Skeahan Earns Praise

Tom Skeahan of the Refinery Welding Shop recently received high praise for his work in his Air Force Reserve unit at Ellington Air Force Base.

A staff sergeant in the 446th Troop Carrier Wing, Tom is in his fifth year as a member of this unit of the Reserves.

The organization's Communications Officer said in the letter of commendation that Tom "displays an enthusiasm for his job that is certain to impress and set an excellent example for all airmen with whom he comes in contact. He gets along extremely well with those with whom he works and secures the cooperation and loyalty of his subordinates whom he guides and directs with understanding and tact."

Tom was specifically praised for the method in which he conducted an airborne radio operator training course during the recent two-week active duty tour.

Nearly four out of every five wells completed in this country during 1956 were drilled by small companies and independent operators.

Maxwell gave a brief history of the department and outlined Frank's contribution to it, pointing out the growth in equipment from the two wheel cart and 500 feet of hose donated by the Shell Oil Company to the current \$600,000 investment in modern equipment.

Of the early days and the department's retiring member Maxwell said, "Not only was Frank Schindler the only experienced fire fighter among us, but he was a natural leader with initiative and drive in organizing and building what is now one of the best departments in the entire nation in cities of this size."

In addition to his nine years service in the local volunteer group, Frank previously served with departments in Schulenberg, Gonzales and Cummins, making him eligible for retirement under state laws governing volunteer fire departments.

A native of Weimar, Frank worked as a barber in several Texas towns for some 13 years including a final stint as manager of the shop in one of Corpus Christi's largest hotels. He came to work at the Refinery in May, 1941.

The Schindler family includes his mother, wife and two sons, Gary, 11, and Ronnie, 5.

During the official business meeting following the retirement ceremonies, a number of Shell employees were elected to office in the Deer Park group.

Organizational officers include Vice-President C. M. Wolters, Refinery Instrument Shop; Secretary W. L. Galle, Chemical P&R Dept.; Chairman O. L. Chappell, Chemical Fire and Safety, and B. W. Farmer, Refinery Dispatching, who is a member of the Executive Board.

Departmental officers are First Assistant Chief P. J. Bond, Chemical Engineering-Field; Third Assistant Chief J. L. Beeson, Chemical Engineering-Field, and Capt. A. W. Freitag, Chemical P&R.

Norco Finishes Major Project

A multimillion dollar octane improvement project was completed in November at the Norco Refinery.

The project, costing about \$14,000,000 was designed to enable the refinery to continue manufacturing gasoline with octane levels as high as those of Shell competitors. It involves construction of several major operating units, the principal one being a platformer capable of high severity operation which can upgrade 16,000 barrels a day of gasoline components to high octane levels.

Other units include a hydrodesulfurizer to remove sulfur and other catalyst contaminants, a fractionating column to produce light and heavy catalytically cracked gasoline, a feed stock preparation column and a depropanizer column.

Chemical Employees Enjoy Two More Service Parties



Service received with a smile. Left to right are W. A. Moorman, E. A. Janquart, L. Waddell and L. G. Utecht.



Helping to lighten the table are L. H. Griffin, R. H. Marsh, E. Kincade and A. E. [unclear].



Barbecued beef and chicken and all the extras composed the menu at Milby Park. Around the table, left to right are E. D. Stanley, R. O. Bryce, T. A. Mielke, A. Janecka, E. W. Clark, J. T. Stulping, L. C. Folly, W. W. Hargrove, and C. Mitchell.



Retired employees J. J. Brown and J. H. Hunt chat with L. Lacy. Lacy organized the 1958 service parties.



C. L. Martin, C. V. Ferguson and Doris Winner attended San Jacinto Inn dinner that was followed by attendance at rodeo.



These service club members formed one of the larger discussion groups at the Milby Park barbecue. They are (l. to r.) R. H. Marsh, L. J. Kendall, H. R. Griffin, L. C. Garrett, I. M. Shore, W. H. Berkley, D. P. Kirk, J. L. Tipton, B. L. Stanley, L. J. Langley, J. D. Lee, L. V. Ashe and C. R. Carter.

About 489 Chemical Plant employees attended the second and third Service Club parties of the year. One of the events combined a barbecue at Milby Park and a football game, and the other consisted of a dinner at San Jacinto Inn and attendance at the Pasadena Championship rodeo.

At the park, 400 employees were served all they could eat from a menu of barbecued beef and chicken, potato salad, baked beans and an assortment of relishes. To accompany the food, an assortment of drinks was provided in ample supply.

Prior to eating between four and five o'clock, many of the Service Club members watched a televised football game on sets especially provided for that purpose.

At San Jacinto Inn, long famed for its bountiful servings, 89 employees consumed close to eighty pounds of shrimp and an equal amount of boiled crabs, fried fish, chicken and oysters, hot rolls, with it all topped by dessert.

A total of 597 employees attended the first three Ten-And-Over parties this year.



Serving about 400 service club members kept serving lines busy. Above H. R. Foster, W. B. Gloger wait their turn while M. A. Elledge, A. M. Isbell and J. H. Cook get their plates filled.



P. A. West, S. Reese and J. C. Odom pass through serving line.



Football . . . Football . . . Football. Service Club members at Milby Park watch televised game-of-the-week on sets especially brought to the park for this purpose. Later in the evening these men attended the Rice Institute vs. Texas University game.



J. W. Hyde, Plant Superintendent, J. L. Beauregard, L. E. Gamble, M. L. Wright, and L. L. Jones partake of barbecued delicacies.



The prospect of large quantities of seafood brings smiles from W. W. Walker, W. L. Kowalski, G. H. Carter, W. R. Hightower, D. J. Brown, B. E. Rodgers, B. C. Hart, and M. M. Miller.

Fashion Show Attracts 300

Some 300 SERA members and guests gathered on Oct. 20 at the Houston Executive Club for the annual style show and dinner.

Co-Chairmen for the event were Pat Meaux and Charlene Cotton, both of the Refinery P&IR Dept.

Battelstein's models presented the latest in fall fashions with Julia Orr doing the commentary. Entertainment was provided by Charles Lively, pianist, and a dance team from the Fred Astaire studio, Mr. K. Cullinan and Miss C. Orman.

Door prizes included \$15 and \$10 gift certificates compliments of SERA which were won by Sally Pierce of the Refinery Treasury Dept. and Margaret Jelson of the Chemical Plant P&IR Dept., and two pair of hose and a Kay Windsor dress compliments of Battelstein's which were won by Mrs. L. P. Bassinger, whose husband works in Chemical's Shipping Dept., and Mrs. H. H. Jaenecke, mother-in-law of Don Irby, Refinery Drafting Section.

10 Years Service

- Refinery**
ENGINEERING-FIELD
- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| R. F. Allen | W. E. Kleiber |
| H. E. Eckles | G. J. Kuntz |
| E. R. Goerlich | M. C. Pitchford |
| C. F. Harris | W. C. Reed |
| J. T. Hoke | J. E. Rikard |
| R. E. Kennedy | H. D. Stanford |
| W. R. Alford, Therm. Crack. | |
| W. G. Barnett, Dispatching | |
| F. B. Basham, Research | |
| L. R. Carl, Utilities | |
| R. T. Castleberry, Therm. Crack. | |
| C. A. Churchill, Utilities | |
| J. I. Graves, Lube | |
| W. F. Green, Dispatching | |
| R. S. Hickman, Gas | |
| J. R. Jones, P&IR | |
| J. T. C. Jordy, Purch.-Stores | |
| C. F. Magee, Utilities | |
| J. W. Mitchell, Treating | |
| T. D. Murray, Refy. Lab. | |
| M. W. Oakes Jr., Dispatch. | |

- Chemical**
ENGINEERING-FIELD
- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| J. M. Baldwin | N. F. Smith |
| J. L. Coleman | R. D. Snell |
| V. L. Daugherty | B. J. Steakley |
| L. D. Heinze | M. B. Vaughn |
| J. J. Holt | A. L. Weeks |
| I. D. Junek, Stores | |
| B. M. Nelson, Operations | |
| N. L. Plaehn, Operations | |

Burns Named To Lead Meet

H. S. M. Burns, President of Shell Oil Company, has accepted the presidency of next year's meeting of the World Petroleum Congress.

As Congress President, Mr. Burns will preside at the more important functions planned for the meeting.

The Congress, the fifth to be held in the last quarter century, is scheduled for New York between May 30 and June 5, 1959, and is expected to draw 5,000 to 6,000 executives, scientists and technologists from 50 countries

Shell Handy Oil

Shell Handy Oil has almost endless household applications. It is recommended for lubricating household appliances, automobile body hardware, small electric motors, light, high-speed machines, guns and other sporting equipment, door hinges, bicycles, and other equipment in shop, home, office and garage.



Two scenes at the annual SERA Style Show give an idea of the activities which took place. The model at the left is just coming in to show a new fall creation while the spectators' eyes are still focused elsewhere. Above, the whirling dance team of Mr. K. Cullinan and Miss C. Orman provides entertainment.



In the picture at left are Style Show Co-Chairman Pat Meaux; Julia Orr, fashion coordinator at Battelstein's; and door prize winners Sally Pierce, Margaret Jelson, Mrs. L. P. Bassinger and Mrs. H. H. Jaenecke. Interested spectators watch one of the models in the picture at right



Three general scenes at the successful style show sponsored by SERA indicate the large number of persons who attended the function to enjoy getting a look at the latest in fall and winter fashions.

Avoid Slips That Strain Friendships

Two million slips of the mind or hand will strain two million friendships during this Christmas season, friendliest time of the year.

Mistakes in addressing and mailing will send two million Christmas cards astray this year, according to postal authorities. And many properly mailed cards, lacking good taste or failing to meet standards of Christmas card etiquette, will cause the recipient to feel more like Scrooge than Bob Cratchitt.

Every Yule greeting card should achieve its purpose, substituting for a friendly greeting in person, if every sender will follow a few simple rules for Christmas card mailing and etiquette.

The following do's and don'ts will help make your cards memorable as well as available.

DO—be sure your card expresses friendliness. Whether an elaborate engraved card, a handwritten note, a photograph of family or home, it should express the warm sentiment of Yuletide.

DO—give an imprinted card a special meaning for relatives and close friends through a written message in addition to the printed name.

DO—sign your complete name when it's not imprinted or engraved. There are many Jims and Marys.

DO—put Dad's name first on a family card. Follow with Mother's and then the children according to age and regardless of sex.

DO—send a card to husband and wife even if you know only one, unless it's a semi-business card. Then it can be sent to the business friend of the office.

DO—sign husband-wife cards as you wish. It can be May and Jim Smith, Jim and May Smith, the James Smiths or Mr. and Mrs. James Smith. All are correct.

DO—address envelopes in handwriting, carefully and legibly. A typewriter should not be used to address cards.

DO—use postal zone numbers in mailings to large cities.

DO—recheck addresses more than a year old.

DO—use a four-cent stamp to insure forwarding or a return to sender.

DO—put a return address in upper left-hand corner. And give careful heed to the following:

DON'T—send a stiff, formal card, especially to close friends and relatives.

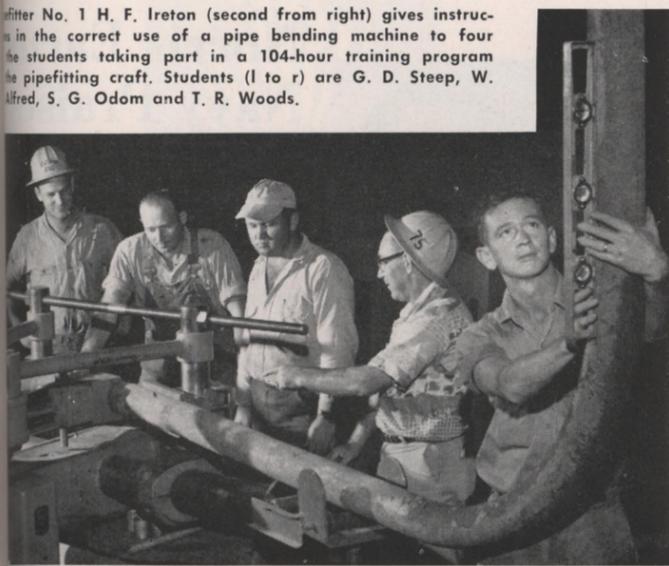
DON'T—include names of grown sons in family cards. They should send their own cards.

DON'T—use washable ink for envelope addressing. It smears if exposed to rain or dampness.

DON'T—worry about color ink to use. Any color is acceptable.

DON'T—wait until the few days before Christmas mailing. Mail cards at least a week before Christmas.

Pipefitter No. 1 H. F. Ireton (second from right) gives instructions in the correct use of a pipe bending machine to four students taking part in a 104-hour training program in the pipefitting craft. Students (l to r) are G. D. Steep, W. Alfred, S. G. Odom and T. R. Woods.



Craft Training Program Important In Developing Top-Notch Craftsmen

School days started again this fall for children all over the country, but in the Houston Refinery's Engineering Field Dept., education is a continuous process 12 months of every year.

Shell craftsmen and their helpers went to school right through the summer to learn how to do a better job and thereby benefit the Company as well as themselves.

There are two main aspects to craft training—classroom and on-the-job training on specific subjects, and craft qualification procedures. These programs are coordinated by Cleve O'Toole, working directly under Shops Master Mechanic W. J. Snow.

The majority of the formal courses are taught by Refinery personnel. For example, Henry Ireton, Pipefitter No. 1, is currently instructing a group of six first class Pipefitter Helpers. Ireton's students are receiving 104 hours of classroom and on-the-job instruction in mathematics, the reading of drawings and the handling of pipefitting tools and materials.

Don Chrismer, of Engineering-Technical Services, just wrapped up a 48-hour course in mathematics, blue print reading and sketching for some 12 boilermakers, machinists and blacksmiths. O'Toole is currently teaching a 48-hour metallurgy course and L. O. Glover, a course in instrumentation.

Shell employees who have previously served as instructors include J. T. Bishop, T. B. Brown, H. J. Cannon, R. N. Franklin, D. E. Johnson, F. B. Harrison, F. H. Wells and numerous others.

Such instructors play a vital role in the continuous training program that helps provide the Refinery at all times with top-rated craftsmen who are among the best in their respective fields anywhere in the country.

From time to time, other courses are presented by experts from outside the Company. An example of this type of training was the program held last year to acquaint some

15 employees with the operation of the air-conditioning system in the new East Research Building. An engineer from Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Co. conducted this two-hour program.

Other relatively recent sessions include three hours of instruction in fundamentals of janitorial techniques given by a representative of the Germalene Chemical Co., and a four-hour course in bearing preventative maintenance conducted by a Fafnir Bearing Co. rep-

the on-the-job and self-teach variety with craft foremen supervising the learning and certifying its completion after observing the individual student operate certain equipment or solve specific shop problems. More formal tests in such things as mathematics and blue print reading are also administered to persons training for possible movement to a higher classification.

The broad scope of these training activities is indicated by the fact that in the past two



Engineer Don Chrismer teaches a class in mathematics, blue print reading and sketching for boilermakers, machinists and blacksmiths. In the class on front row are J. D. Wolchick, C. Bailey, L. C. Henson. Second row: G. L. Swain, E. R. Crowfoot, J. S. Locklin. That's L. M. Neel in the back row.

representative for some 120 employees of the Machine and Electric Shops.

The other important facet of this training activity is the craft qualification program in which employees complete a series of instructional steps qualifying them for promotion to the next higher classification.

Much of such training is of

years some 395 students have taken part in formal classroom training programs of various lengths.

This figure not only proves that craft training is a major educational undertaking, but it also shows that employees are provided with numerous opportunities for self-improvement in their crafts.

Hard to Beat Hard Toes

J. H. Massingill doesn't have a broken foot.

That may not sound so unusual since there are some 2,700 other persons at the Refinery who come in the same category. But few of these other persons have had a 100-pound pump element fall rarely on the toe of their shoe. Massingill, like so many other Refinery employees, wears metal-toed safety shoes so there is a secret to his unbroken foot.

In the picture below, Massingill displays the boot that protected his foot. The pump element on the machine is the culprit in the story with a happy ending. It hit his shoe with such force that one of the four impellers was bent.

A General Helper, Massingill was working in the Machine Shop, trying to unload the heavy pump element from a hand-cart when it fell off onto his foot. It peeled the leather off the shoe and gave him a jolt, but that was all.

Massingill is certainly thankful that he was wearing his safety shoes, but he is also aware that the accidental fall of the element is something that should never have happened. Protective devices certainly help in holding down the number of injuries, but the best way to keep from being hurt is to avoid all accidents in the first place through alertness, safety consciousness and constant attention to every phase of the job at hand.



contaminants that cause engine corrosion are removed from Shell Gasoline by double refining. In addition, Shell Gasoline assures freedom from lead in fuel systems.

Oil men spend just about as much money in the 20 or 30 days it takes to sink a well, as they do to produce the oil over the 20 or 30-year life of an oil well.

John Moorman Is Oil Man for Day

John Moorman, son of W. A. Moorman of Engineering Field, Chemical Plant, participated in the Oil Men and Women for a Day Program during Oil Progress Week last month.



John was one of four scholastically outstanding seniors from Galena Park High School to take part in the program. He visited a Houston natural gas transportation company and then was the guest at lunch at the Shamrock Hotel. John is president of the Science Club and vice-president of the Math Club at his school.

Researchers Appear in Drama



Refinery Researchers provided a large share of the cast for "Time Limit," the most recent production at the Pasadena Little Theater. All dressed for a rehearsal of the play with the Korean prison camp background are in the back row Bob Griffith, Max Nager, Dave Emerson and E. O. "Kindsch" Kindschy. In the center are Bill Dubois, Bud Geiger, Shirley Emerson (wife of Dave) and Pete Ross. Seated in front are Noah Dorman and Al Grossman.

During the three-year Korean War, 33,629 American service men were killed in battle. During the same period, about 84,000 people were killed in home accidents.

In 1957, 2,525,000 people were injured in traffic accidents in the United States. This figure is nearly equal to the total population of Louisiana.



shellegram

SHELL OIL COMPANY HOUSTON REFINERY SHELL CHEMICAL CORP. HOUSTON PLANT

JAKE KOBLER, Editor
(Refinery)

R. L. BURGET, Associate Editor
(Chemical Plant)

Staff Photographers: Sam Davis, Al Locke

Published monthly for employees of Shell Oil Company, Houston Refinery and Shell Chemical Corporation, Houston Plant. Contributions of articles and photographs are welcomed. Address all communications to EDITOR, SHELLEGRAM, Shell Oil Company, P. O. Box 2527, Houston 1, Texas.

15 Years Service



B. J. Booker
F&S (Refy.)

A. Brown
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

D. B. Burns
Lab. (Chem.)

T. N. Butzke
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

V. M. Calhoun
Aromatics (Refy.)

M. A. Christian
Eng. Field (Refy.)

E. F. Coburn
Dispatch. (Refy.)

M. U. Fail
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

G. M. Horton
Oper. (Chem.)

J. J. Jones
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

J. R. McDonald
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

J. S. Morris
Eng. Field (Refy.)

R. L. Murdock
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

H. R. Pyle
Refy. Lab (Refy.)

E. L. Sampson
Eng.-Field (Chem.)

H. L. Shores
Shipping (Chem.)

B. L. Stanley
Purch.-Stores (Chem.)

R. Tanner
Eng. Field (Refy.)

E. A. Thomas
Eng. Field (Refy.)

R. Van Matre
Eng. Field (Refy.)

E. G. Wooley
Oper. (Chem.)



Receiving door prizes at the second of three Refinery Service Club parties this year are (seated) J. Towers, C. J. Jimenez, A. Velasques, and (standing) B. M. Garcia, J. S. Gonzales, G. Obregon.



Attending the second Refinery Ten-And-Over party of 1958 and receiving door prizes are R. S. Riojas and T. Rocha in the back and F. V. Gonzales, A. Del Peral and Y. R. Leon in the front.



Retired employees at the second Ten-And-Over party of the year are seen with Refinery Manager John Tench. In the front are M. C. Rodriques and E. G. Samarripa. In the back are P. H. Murillo and J. C. Valdez.



At least once each year a Refinery representative personally delivers the monthly retirement check to each pensioner. This year the arrival of E. G. Samarripa's check coincided with the service party, so Refinery Manager John Tench had the honor of handing Samarripa his check.



Master of Ceremonies Joe Casas speaks to the group assembled for the annual party for Refinery employees with ten or more years of service. Seated at the head table are J. C. Valdez, P. E. Keegan, John Tench, M. C. Rodriguez and E. G. Samarripa.

Norris Earns Navy Praise

The excellent job turned in by Refinery Automotive employee J. S. Norris during a recent two-week Naval Reserve training program has earned him a highly complimentary letter of commendation.

His commanding officer commended him for his leadership and guidance of the men working for him and wrote that because of his "extraordinary efforts" the unit was able to operate aircraft that under normal circumstances would not have been available.

An Aviation Machine Mate First, Norris has been a member of the Navy Reserve ever since completing active duty in 1947. He spent six years in the Regular Navy during World War II, seeing duty in the South Pacific. He has been a Shell employee for more than five years.

One particularly commendatory portion of the letter about Norris read: "Your untiring efforts and devotion to duty were far beyond normal expectations. Your work was performed in an outstanding and workmanlike manner. You were always ready and willing to perform any task and worked long hours under extreme pressure that often resulted in great fatigue. These unselfish efforts contributed greatly to the success of the squadron during this training period."

Shell's reserve policy which made it possible for Norris to take part in this two-week training period without loss of pay or vacation time also came in for praise from the commanding officer of the Dallas Air Station who expressed the Navy's appreciation for this liberal policy.

Second Party Honors More Refinery Vets

The second Refinery Service Club party of 1958 featured good food and good fun at the Santa Anita Restaurant on Saturday, October 4.

Sixteen of the eligible 26 members of this Ten-And-Over group attended the party which was the second of three celebrations given each year in honor of employees with ten or more years of Shell service. The final party of the year will be reported in the December issue of the paper.

Five pensioners are members of this Service group, and four of them were able to attend the celebration to renew acquaintances with friends they had not seen in a long time.

Joe Casas served as Master of Ceremonies at this event, doing an excellent job of introducing the party-goers all around and keeping the event moving along at a steady and enjoyable pace.

DIELDRIN KILLS PESTS

Formulations that contain dieldrin for use outside the home provide an effective control of adult mosquitoes, flies, sowbugs, earwigs and other pests. They can be sprayed or dusted on walls, window screens, under porches and any damp, dark place. Dieldrin is manufactured by Shell Chemical Corporation and distributed by insecticide formulators under their brand names. The product label will indicate if dieldrin is contained in the formulation and will give directions for use.

SHELL OIL COMPANY
P. O. Box 2527
Houston 1, Texas
Return Postage Guaranteed

Sec. 34.66 P. L. & R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Deer Park, Texas
Permit No. 1