

shellegram



SHELL OIL COMPANY
HOUSTON REFINERY

SHELL CHEMICAL CORP.
HOUSTON PLANT

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HOUSTON, TEXAS

DECEMBER, 1959



Teachers Spend Day At Refinery

The Houston Refinery played host to 31 teachers from the Pasadena Independent School System on Friday, November 13, as Business-Education Week was commemorated with a day-long visit at the Refinery.

Earlier, on Tuesday, November 10, nine Refinery employees spent the day visiting classrooms in Pasadena and South Houston schools as the first part of the exchange program.

Teachers Take Tour

Purpose of the two-day exchange program was to familiarize each group with the objectives and activities of the other.

The teachers, representing the elementary, junior high and senior high school level, visited various units around the Refinery, listening to discussions of Refinery operations. At a luncheon in the Refinery cafeteria, Economics and Scheduling Manager H. D. Estes spoke on "The Economic Dimensions of a Refinery." The teachers were told also of the type of training and education needed by young men and women coming into the oil industry. Taking part in these discussions were Refinery Manager John Tench, Refinery Superintendent A. J. Wood, and Treasury Manager R. L. Lucas.

Shell Men Go To Schools

The nine Shell men who returned to the classroom for a day saw first-hand the current educational methods of preparing students to go out into the business world. In addition to observing classroom activities, they often addressed the students themselves, explaining how the courses in school related to the knowledge needed in industry.

Attending junior and senior high schools in the Pasadena and South Houston systems were H. D. Estes, Economics and Scheduling; B. S. Baldwin, Technological; B. R. Nelson, Treasury; J. Tagg, Treasury;

See REFINERY, Page 3

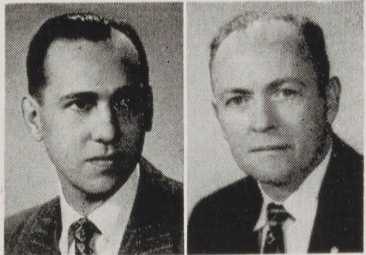


"Not Believe In Santa Claus? You Might As Well Not Believe In Fairies."

THROUGH the eyes of a two-year-old Santa is a mighty wonderful man. David Glasscock, son of Chemical Plant's B. J. Glasscock, and Janice Fortune, daughter of Chemical Plant's W. L. Fortune, must be wondering about the mysteries of Christmas as they gaze at old St. Nick.

Robertus, Cassidy In New Refinery Lab Assignments

C. A. Robertus has been appointed Assistant Manager



C. A. Robertus C. E. Cassidy

of the Refinery Laboratory, with C. E. Cassidy succeeding him as Chief Inspector of the

Laboratory, according to a recent announcement by Refinery Manager John Tench.

Both appointments were effective December 1.

Robertus will supervise the activities of the Inspection Division of the Laboratory. A. P. Garner, also an Assistant Manager in the Laboratory, will continue to supervise the Technical Division as well as to act for the Laboratory Manager in his absence.

See ROBERTUS, Page 3

Chemical Plant Hosts Teachers

Eighteen teachers representing the Pasadena school system visited the Chemical Plant, November 13, as part of the activities of Business-Education Week. They were repaying earlier visits to the schools by 14 members of the Houston Plant's staff.

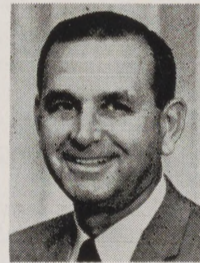
When they arrived at the Plant, the teachers assembled in the Cafeteria for a brief orientation by Plant Manager Glenn Purcell. This was followed by a general tour of the manufacturing facilities.

Upon completion of the tour, the teachers met in the Training Room to hear H. A. Dufresne, Manager, P&IR, explain the general organization of the Plant and the functions of the various departments. The visitors were then divided into small groups and visited one of seven departments to get a closer look at specific operations.

The day's activities ended

See CHEMICAL, Page 3

H. A. Dufresne To Head Local Personnel Group



H. A. Dufresne

H. A. Dufresne, Manager, Chemical Plant P&IR, has been elected to serve as president of the Houston Personnel Association during 1960.

Organized approximately 20 years ago, the Association is made up of 325 key personnel people representing 135 companies and institutions in the Houston area. Basically, its objective is to help the membership keep abreast of new developments in the field of personnel administration.

Dufresne has been an active member of HPA for 10 years

See DUFRESNE, Page 2

Follow Shell's Own Christmas Story
Pages 2, 6, 7 and 8



John Tench



Glenn Purcell

"Best wishes for your merry Christmases and your happy New Years, your long lives and your true prosperities." These words of Charles Dickens express to all Shell families our sincere wishes for a joyous Christmas season.

FORREST THOMAS

J. W. Williams Elected Prexy Of Civic Club

J. W. Williams, Aromatics Department, was recently elected president of the Pecan Park Civic Club. Formerly, Williams served on the club's board of directors. Active in both community and church activities, Williams is a member of the St. Andrews Methodist Church in Pecan Park.

Williams began his Shell career in July 1936 at the Refinery, and is currently a shift foreman at Aromatics, a position he has held since January 1956. Williams transferred to Aromatics as an operator at Platform No. 1 in 1952, moving from a similar assignment at Distilling.

L. R. Durrett Has Article Published

The November issue of "Analytical Chemistry," a national publication of the American Chemical Society, carries an article bearing the by-line of L. R. Durrett, Chemist, Refinery Laboratory.

The subject of Durrett's contribution is "Determination of Solvent Impurities In Waxes and Lubricating Oil Stocks By Gas-Liquid Chromatography."

The article discusses an analytical method developed in the Refinery Laboratory as part of their contribution to process control.

The method has been in routine use for approximately 1 1/2 years and has helped operations considerably, according to the Lube Department, because of its greater speed and reliability.

Durrett has already received a number of requests for reprints of his article from all over this country, and one request from Germany.



"Christmas Comes But Once A Year"

"JUST ONE MORE PACKAGE" — R. B. Mann, Refinery, plays the role familiar to many a Shell man during that last-minute rush. Placing that last package in his arms is Mrs. Mann, while daughter Bonita and son Donald watch.

Credit Union Annual Meeting Offers \$1,000 In Door Prizes

The annual meeting of the Shell Employees Federal Credit Union will be held January 28 in the Refinery Cafeteria starting at 5:00 p.m.

Included in the order of business for the evening will be determination of the dividend rate to be paid to Credit Union members for 1959. Reports from the Board of Directors, Finance Committee, and Supervisory Committee are also on the agenda.

Door prizes amounting to \$1,000 will be offered to Credit Union members who attend this meeting. A big first prize will be a television set. A home air conditioner awaits the second-place winner, while third place will be an auto air conditioner. To conclude the door

A stopped school bus should represent an automatic stop signal to cars from all directions. Motorists will avoid the hazard of youngsters rushing to or from the bus by waiting until the bus leaves.

prizes, ten \$10 share prizes will be awarded.

All members are urged to attend.

Shellegram To Change Service Picture Policy

Beginning with the January 1960 issue of the SHELLEGRAM, service anniversary pictures for employees reaching 15 years of Company service will no longer be published.

This change follows a trend already established by the SHELL NEWS and by other Shell employee newspapers. In recent years the number of employees reaching this 15-year milestone has increased at such a rapid rate that it now becomes prohibitive to continue with the former policy.

So, beginning with the January issue, service anniversary pictures will appear in the SHELLEGRAM for 20, 25, 30, 35 years service and up in five-year intervals. Names will be printed for the ten and 15-year service group.

Dufresne —

(Continued From Page 1)

and during that time has held many responsible positions. He was formerly chairman of the arrangements committee, has served as treasurer, and this year was the organization's vice president. Installation of the new officers takes place at the Association's annual Christmas banquet.

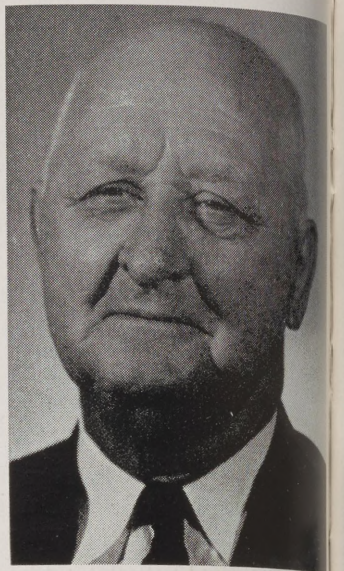
No significant changes are planned in 1960 by the new president. High point in the year's activities will again be the Association-sponsored Southwest Conference on Industrial Relations. This affair has won national recognition by annually bringing together some of the country's best known management and labor leaders to discuss recent developments in Industrial Relations.

Magness Leaves Refinery For Life Of Retirement

Retiring from the Refinery on December 1 was C. M. Magness. At the time of his retirement Magness was a Pumper No. 1 in the Utilities Department.

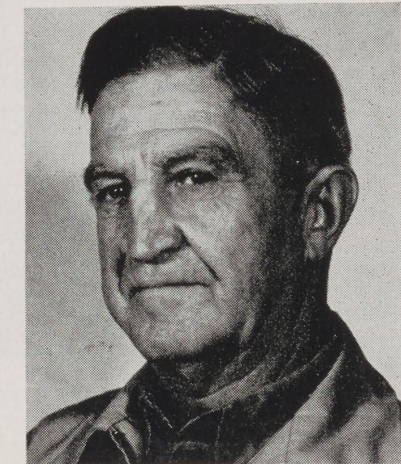
Magness began his Shell career in May 1929 as a painter. On September 1, 1929, he transferred to the Utilities Department as a pumper at the Cooling Water System. The remainder of his career was spent in the Utilities Department.

A resident of the Heights, in Houston, Magness has made no definite plans for his retirement, though he plans to continue living in Houston at his 824 W. 14th address.



C. M. Magness

Retiree Cage Nixon Dies Following Long Illness



Cage Nixon

Cage Nixon, who retired from the Refinery over nine years

ago, died on November 26 following a prolonged illness. The many friends he made during his 21 years at the Refinery extend an expression of sympathy to his family at this loss.

Hired in January 1929 as a laborer in the Refinery Engineering Field, Mr. Nixon transferred to the Pipe Shop as a helper in March of 1932. In July 1936 he became a Pipefitter No. 1 which was his classification at the date of his retirement on May 1, 1950.

At the time of his death, Mr. Nixon was 69 years of age. His home was at 1044 Avenue D, Channelview.

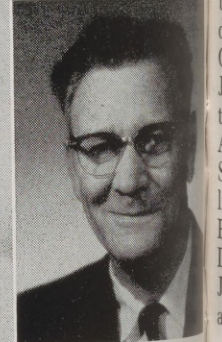
30 Years Service



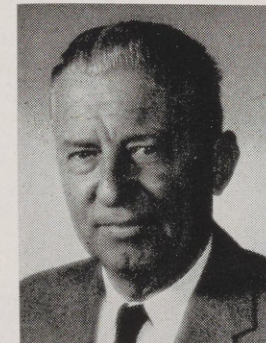
A. L. Burrow Operations (Chem.)



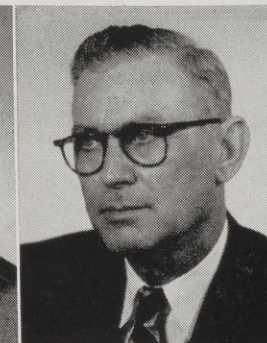
H. W. Fisher Operations (Chem.)



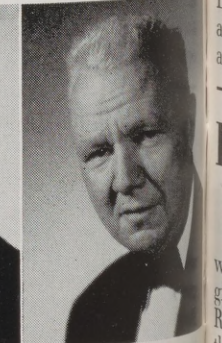
C. R. Gates Thermal Crack. (Refy.)



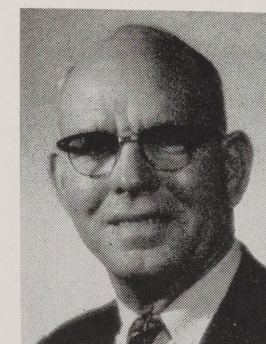
A. A. Handrick Lube (Refy.)



R. L. Hardin Thermal Crack. (Refy.)



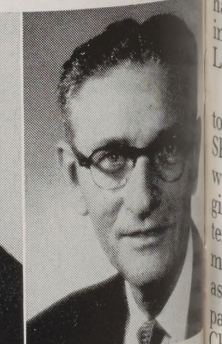
E. B. Madden Thermal Crack. (Refy.)



J. H. O'Farrell Dispatch. (Refy.)



C. F. Spraggins Lab. (Refy.)



J. J. Staton Eng. Fld. (Refy.)

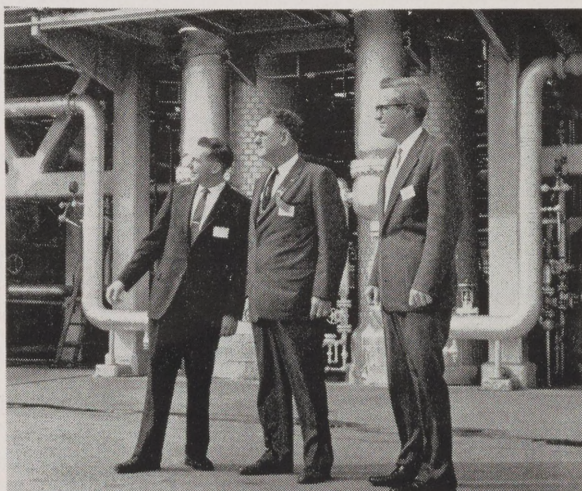
Every time a trigger is pulled on a gasoline hose in any part of the United States, it sets in motion a movement of liquid that may reach 1,500 or 2,000 miles back to an oil field.

Moving millions of barrels of crude oil and products daily requires integrated systems of pipe lines, tankers, barges, railroad tank cars and trucks. Over the years, the oil industry has developed such systems to operate so efficiently that oil can be transported more economically than any other product.

This efficient transportation is one of the reasons why the oil industry continues to provide consumers with gasoline at a reasonable price. If improvements in oil transportation had not taken place over the last 30 years, the average consumer would pay at least three cents more for every gallon of gasoline he buys today.



J. W. MATTHEWS, REFINERY CATALYTIC CRACKING, explains Refinery operations to this group of Pasadena school teachers who visited the Refinery during Business-Education Week. This picture was taken in the control room at the Catalytic Cracking unit during the general tour of the Refinery.



CHEMICAL PLANT Industrial Hygienist O. M. Banks stands with V. W. Miller, Superintendent of Schools in Pasadena, and B. M. Richardson of Pomeroy elementary school during the plant tour.



ENGINEER J. L. MERIAN prepares to take this group of teachers on a tour around the Chemical Plant.



POINTING out various units at the Chemical Plant to another group of teachers is R. C. Manning, Research Chemist.

Chemical—

(Continued From Page 1)

with a luncheon in the Plant Cafeteria.

Plant personnel, who visited the schools earlier in the week, were given the opportunity to see our present educational system in action. They visited various classes and participated by talking to the students about the American business system and discussing the application of certain academic subjects in modern business.

Plant personnel who visited the schools were: from the Industrial Chemicals Division — C. H. Plomteaux, Plant Supt.; J. H. Laws, Ass't. Supt. Operations; G. M. Seaman, Chief Accountant; R. J. Gasperi, Senior Engineer; F. M. Stribling, Senior Engineer; K. W. Hansen, Area Engineer; J. L. Lemmerond, J. G. Schuren, P. Britton, and R. J. Pesl, all Research Chemists.

From the Plastics and Resins Division — C. W. DeLong, Manager, Technical; W. C. L. Rodgers, Manager, P Dept.; and G. H. Bonsall, Ass't. Manager, Technical.

Robertus—

(Continued from Page 1)

A graduate of Rice Institute where he received a B.A. degree in Chemistry in 1943, Robertus joined Shell here at the Houston Refinery in August 1946 in the Refinery Laboratory. Through the years he has held various positions of increasing responsibility in the laboratory.

For Cassidy, the promotion to Chief Inspector comes in a Shell career which began as a water boy in the Refinery Engineering Department in September 1929. His first assignment in the Laboratory was as a tester. His most recent assignment was Assistant Chief Inspector, a position he assumed in 1946.



ALL IN THE FAMILY — For Refinery's B. E. Norwood, the visit he made to Jackson junior high school during Business-Education Week had special significance. His daughter, Diane, is an eighth-grader at Jackson. Here, Norwood and Principal T. F. Cloud, Jr., look over one of the text books used by Diane.



BACK TO SCHOOL — Chemical's J. P. Britton listens to a lecture by Mrs. Pauline Waggoner during a Spanish class at Jackson junior high school in Pasadena. Britton was one of 14 Chemical Plant employees who returned to the classroom for a day during Business-Education Week.

Dixie Gault Married To O. E. Ditsworth

Dixie Lynn Gault, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. D. Gault of La Porte, was married recently to Oscar E. Ditsworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. O. Ditsworth of Lufkin. Wedding vows were exchanged in the parsonage of the First Baptist Church in Alto, Texas.

After a wedding trip to Dallas and Denton, the couple returned to Lufkin where they will make their home.

The father of the bride is employed in the Refinery Engineering Field Department.



Mrs. O. E. Ditsworth

Refinery—

(Continued From Page 1)

J. P. Thomas, P&IR; G. A. Martin, Aromatics; B. E. Norwood, Effluent Control; T. E. Lackey, Engineering Services, and B. Fogleman, Catalytic Cracking.

New Insurance Rate Will Reward Careful Driver

All Refinery and Chemical Plant automobile owners will be vitally interested in a new development in the Texas Insurance Regulations, which becomes effective January 1, 1960. For, beginning the first of the year, all automobile insurance policies will be written subject to the provisions of the much talked about Texas Safe Drivers Insurance Plan.

This new plan is designed to reward the accident-free, traffic violation-free driver with lower insurance premiums. Higher premiums will be levied on those drivers who have had accidents or traffic convictions during the three years prior to the date of application. The plan is mandatory to all eligible insured and basically works as follows:

A point system has been established whereby those drivers with no points qualify for the lowest insurance rates. Points are assigned for each automobile accident involving the applicant or any resident operator which results in (1) property damage in excess of \$25.00, (2) bodily injury, or (3) death. Certain exceptions are made when it is legally determined that the applicant or resident driver was not at fault.

Traffic violations will also result in the assignment of points to the applicants record and a corresponding increase in his insurance rate. Again certain exceptions are made as in the case of such minor violations as overtime parking.

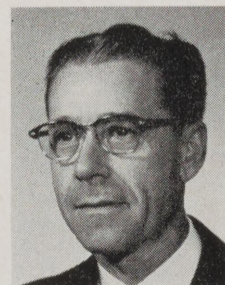
The total of these points accumulated during the three years prior to the date of ap-

plication will determine the rate to be paid. An applicant with no points will pay only 80% of the rate otherwise applicable, while a driver with as many as six points will be charged 200% of the authorized rate. This makes it more obvious than ever that it pays to be a careful, safe driver.

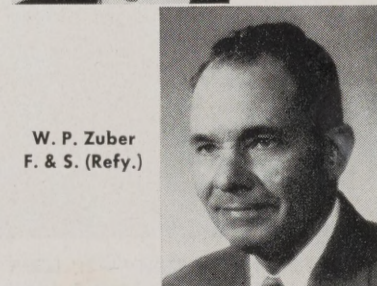
Sometime prior to renewal of his present automobile insurance, the applicant will be asked to complete an insurance rating form. The information on this form will reflect a 39-month-driving history of the applicant, his wife if she drives, and any other licensed operator in his household. This information is then forwarded to the Texas Department of Public Safety for verification. False submission of information will subject the applicant to the penalties of fraud.

This new concept in automobile insurance is due largely to the demands of the insurance buying public. It provides a means for the good driver to reap additional benefits for his concern for the health and safety of himself and others. Being a safe driver now means money in the bank.

20 Years Service



J. W. Brown Eng. Fld. (Refy.)



W. P. Zuber F. & S. (Refy.)

Hospital Volunteers - Angels In Pinafores



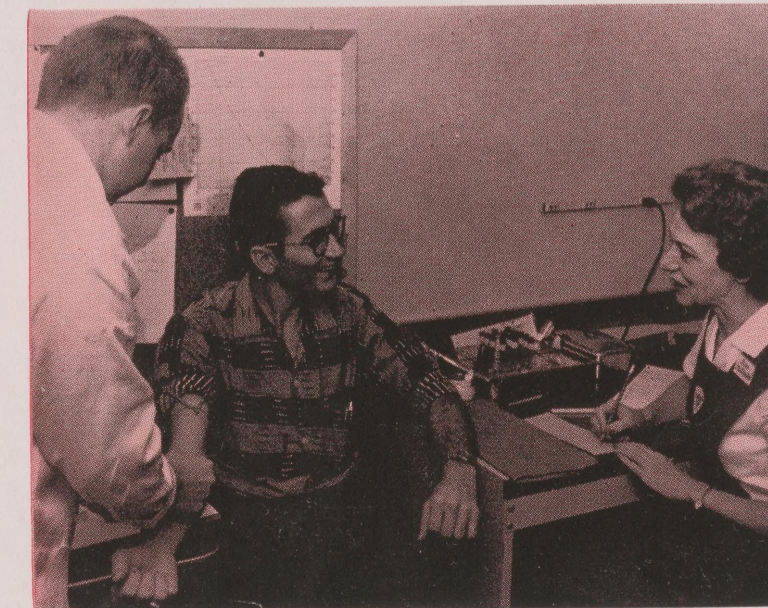
LOOKING over the list of activities for the day are these St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital volunteers. Seated is Mrs. John Tench, president of the St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital Auxiliary, while standing are Mrs. C. J. Clark and Mrs. A. J. Wood.



GETTING A PRESCRIPTION filled in the hospital pharmacy is one of the many duties performed by hospital volunteers. St. Luke's volunteer Hilda Chevalier picks up medicine for a patient in this picture.



COMFORTING expectant fathers is one of the pleasant tasks of Mrs. M. A. Rogers. According to Mrs. Rogers, she hasn't lost a "Pappa" yet.



"EASY WITH THAT NEEDLE" - St. Luke's volunteer Ety Mathews makes notations as patient undergoes blood test in hospital laboratory.

In Houston's Texas Medical Center patients come from all parts of the world for medical care. Large, efficient hospitals, equipped with the very latest in both equipment and talent, perform medical miracles on an around-the-clock schedule.

As a visitor or as a patient in one of these hospitals, your attention is surely to be drawn to the women in brightly colored pinafores who scurry about the hospital with endless enthusiasm and vigor.

For these ladies their contributions to the welfare of the patients and to the hospital as a whole is embodied in one word—service. As volunteer hospital workers they undertake diverse duties directed toward the giving of service both to the patient and to the operative and administrative branches of the hospital. Anyone familiar with the life of these hospitals will quickly tell you that these ladies more than live up to this objective.

A closer look at the hospital volunteers at St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital, Methodist Hospital, Texas Children's Hospital, and Hermann Hospital reveals many Refinery and Chemical Plant ladies as members of these volunteer organizations.

One of these ladies holds an important office. She is Mrs. John Tench, wife of the Refinery Manager, who is serving both this year and next as the president of the St. Luke's Hospital Auxiliary. All perform their assigned or chosen tasks in a quiet and efficient manner on regular schedules.

As one veteran nurse stated it, "These volunteers give the patient that little extra something that money can't buy."

St. Luke's Auxiliary Has Many Shell Ladies

On a tour of the hospital, one might well encounter Shell ladies whom you know.

Take a trip to St. Luke's, for instance. As you enter the main lobby of the hospital, one of the first people you might encounter is Hilda Chevalier, steno-secretary in Refinery Administration. And if Hilda isn't on duty, then you might find Ety Mathews of the Refinery P&IR working at the Information Desk. These two ladies spend Sunday evenings at this station, and the jobs they perform during their 3½ hour tour of duty are numerous.

As the initial information point for people coming into the hospital, Hilda and Ety answer an endless stream of questions in the course of a Sunday evening.

Other parts of the hospital find Shell people busily engaged in their volunteer activities.

Mrs. Tench, besides serving as the president of this group which now numbers approximately 350 volunteers, works each Wednesday at St. Luke's. Her



GETTING this little girl to stop crying looks like a tall order for Texas Children's Hospital volunteers Sally Pierce and Vernell Hohensee. But these Refinery employees have become experts at doing just that. Their Wednesday evenings are spent entertaining the young patients at Texas Children's Hospital.



MRS. B. B. DORRELL, a volunteer with Methodist Hospital, shows an incoming patient to his room.

weekly routine including in the Chaplain's Office in the mornings and television sets to patients in the afternoon of the volunteers is Mrs. A. J. Wood, wife Refinery Superintendent, who works managerial Service which is a general dispensary of packs, instruments and other hospital supplies often substitutes in television rental, also.

The Gift Shop in \$ is one of the many activities operated by Refinery, and there you may find Refinery Resurrection Esther Ando.

Another busy station is the Floor Hostess desk. These ladies constantly busy directing visitors and for the needs of the patients on their floor performing their services for this important job is C. J. Clark, whose husband is in Operation Chemical Plant, and Mrs. A. P. Peterson, who is in the Refinery Engineering Field.

Besides the hours given by the volunteers, the St. Luke's Auxiliary through profits from the Gift Shop, television, and vending machines, supports its host big financial way. Organized in 1954, with an annual average of 343 members, the Auxiliary has provided over \$59,000 from the abandoned sources. This money has been used for things as a mobile x-ray unit, and regulations to the Good Shepherd Fund for charts, and for the Chaplain-training program.

Volunteers Entertain Children's Patients

Adjacent to St. Luke's Texas Children's Hospital where another volunteer group contributes mightily to the life of the hospital. The Women's Auxiliary of the Children's Hospital lists between 400 members, and, like St. Luke's volunteers, they cover the same scope of hospital activities.

The young patients at Texas Children's have come to love the attentive, warm-hearted care they receive from the pleasant pink pinafores.

Two Shell employees Pierce and Vernell Hohensee, don their pinafores on Wednesday evenings, as their hours at the hospital are spent entertaining the little patients. While Vernell is a steno-secretary in Refinery Administration while Vernell is a stenographer in the Refinery. Whether it's reading a book or with toys, these girls are ready for whatever brings a note of happiness into the children's lives.

Here, too, Texas's volunteers contribute toward their financial needs. By operating the Snack Bar at the hospital, the Auxiliary makes available more than \$500 each month for the Charity Fund. What a top to consider that it takes \$10,000 to maintain a charity patient in the hospital for one year. How quickly realize the demanding financial needs of this fund. Like St. Luke's, TC also operates rentals for the hospital, and the profits way back into the Welfare Fund for charts and their families.

M. H. S. C. Has Dignity To Volunteers

Next door, at the Methodist Hospital, over 300 ladies make up the Methodist Hospital Service Corps,

another volunteer group active in the interest of their hospital and its patients. Two Shell ladies, Mrs. M. A. Rogers, wife of the Refinery Process Superintendent, and Mrs. B. B. Dorrell, wife of the Refinery Dispatching Department Manager, spend many of their hours in the service of the hospital.

Last year the service corps at Methodist gave 26,000 hours to the hospital in volunteer work. Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Dorrell spend their hours at the Admitting Desk, where as volunteers they are among the first to greet the incoming patients.

There are a lot of details in checking a patient into the hospital, such as arranging for a room, contacting the doctor, and escorting the patient to the assigned room, and as volunteers these ladies are kept constantly busy.

Organized in May 1947, the letters of the insignia on the uniform worn by the volunteers, M. H. S. C., Methodist Hospital Service Corps, carry a much deeper meaning — MINISTERING, HELPING, SERVING, CARING.

Hermann Volunteers Are Youngest Organization

The most recently established volunteer group is located at Hermann Hospital, but for an infant organization, these ladies have already assumed essential duties throughout the hospital.

Organized in June of this year under the guidance of Mrs. C. R. B. Hopper, the group became active in the hospital in August. Approximately 75 members comprise the Hermann Hospital Volunteers, and one of these is Ann Kaiser, wife of the Refinery's H. K. Kaiser.

Hermann Hospital boasts of the largest maternity ward in the city — in the delivery rooms more than 6,000 babies are ushered into the world annually — so it's little wonder that the maternity section was the first place to get the services of the volunteers. On the maternity floor the volunteers do such things as run errands for the mothers, take care of flowers, gather information for birth certificates, operate the baby picture service, comfort expectant fathers, and aid in the dismissal of patients.

The volunteers are also active in other areas of the hospital. They operate the Bookmobile (and welcome book donations), the Toy Cart (toy donations are needed), as well as placing volunteers in the diabetic clinic, Gift Shop, and Chaplain's Office.

These hospital groups are constantly seeking more volunteers to enlist in their very worthwhile endeavors. Every woman has special talents which can be used, and after talking with these ladies about their work, one is convinced that their reward is great, also.



WHEN MRS. DIANE HALE, wife of Refinery P&IR's W. E. Hale, checked into Hermann Hospital to welcome little Kimberly into the world, the hospital volunteers were there to make the stay more enjoyable. One of those volunteers was Mrs. Ann Kaiser, wife of Refinery P&IR's H. K. Kaiser.



THE INFORMATION DESK at St. Luke's is a busy place, and two Shell volunteers serve at this important station on Sunday evenings. Seen here answering just a couple of the many questions they get during an evening are Hilda Chevalier, Refinery Treasury, and Ety Mathews, Refinery P&IR.



NOT only do the volunteer groups give of their time and service to the hospitals, but financial assistance, also. Sally Pierce and Vernell Hohensee display a gaily decorated Christmas stocking which was sold by the volunteers this year to raise money at Texas Children's Hospital.



THESE METHODIST HOSPITAL VOLUNTEERS are among the first to greet incoming patients. In this photo Mrs. Rogers and Mrs. Dorrell take information from a newly-arrived patient.



"WORKS FINE" — Keeping track of the rental television sets is another chore for St. Luke's volunteers. Here, Mrs. Tench and Mrs. Wood check one of these sets for a patient.



THE TROPICANA DRIVE-INN was the scene of the final Chemical Plant Service Club party. Among those who attended were (l to r) B. L. Coatney, C. Gaddis, A. Brown, V. Harris, W. C. Young, Foreman W. Visinsky, O. E. Edwards, G. Washington, R. Stridic, J. Holt, W. Washington, D. Faultry, F. Douglas and L. Alexander, all of Engineering Field.



"THAT WAS A LONG TIME AGO." These small groups seem to enjoy recalling yesteryear. P&IR's J. R. Lacy chats with V. Harris of the Engineering Field, while J. Holt, O. Young and Foreman R. Williams gather around Chemical Plant Superintendent C. H. Plomteaux to reminisce.



CUTTING the first piece of cake is Retiree S. Johnson. Gathered around Johnson are W. Washington, F. Douglas, J. Holt, Chemical Plant Manager Glenn Purcell and C. Gaddis. Gaddis received the first piece of cake as the member with the longest service.

SERA NEWSBRIEFS

SHELLWOOD IMPROVEMENTS, PLANS ANNOUNCED

Six new barbeque barrels were recently built and placed on the Shellwood grounds. Materials are now available to complete 14 more. Anyone interested in helping build these barrels should contact W. E. Lain at the Chemical Plant Boiler Shop.

A committee was recently appointed by SERA President J. C. Minter to explore various possibilities for expanding and making more attractive for members, the facilities at Shellwood. Appointed to serve on this committee are Gloria Schamerhorn, and W. E. Lain, Chemical; Otto Bopp and J. B. Floyd, Refinery; and Fay Hilliard, Business Manager of the SERA, also from the Refinery.

The Shellwood Ground Rules have been revised and will be ready for distribution to members sometime after January 1, 1960.

CHEMICAL ENGINEERING LEADS SHELL BOWLING LEAGUE

The Chemical Engineering bowling team is currently in first place in the Shell Mixed Bowling League. Close behind are the Cavaliers, Motor Lab, Risers and the Credits.

Winners of the Thanksgiving Turkey Roll were J. F. Lee, Refinery; H. B. Jarrett, Refinery; M. Manis, Refinery; S. J. Cegielski, Refinery; J. E. Rikard, Refinery; and G. Schamerhorn, Chemical.

The 24-team league bowls each Thursday evening at the Meadow Creek Lanes.

MONTHLY BRIDGE TOURNEYS HELD AT ST. AUGUSTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

SERA Duplicate Bridge Tournaments are held on the third Monday of each month at the St. Augustine Catholic Church in Meadowcreek Village, beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Winners of the November tournament were T. L. Keelen, Chemical, and Mrs. Allie Bowden.

RESULTS OF NOVEMBER GOLF ANNOUNCED

The November tournament for SERA golfers was held November 28 at the Hughes Club, with the following winners:

Flight 1 — L. C. Dickey, Refinery	Net score of 69
Flight 2 — G. C. Anderson, Chemical	Net score of 71
H. E. Barfoot, Refinery	71
T. D. Cochran, Refinery	71
H. L. Willcoxon, Refinery	71
Flight 3 — R. L. Robertson, Chemical	Net score of 71

Chemical Holds Final 10 & Over Party For Year

Forty-six Chemical Plant employees gathered at the Tropicana Drive-Inn for the final Service Club party of 1959.

Club members enjoyed a day of entertainment and fellowship and all they could eat from a menu of barbecued beef, chicken and ribs plus all the trimmings. To pensioner S. Johnson went the honor of cutting the first piece of cake for C. Gaddis, the member with the longest term of service. Gaddis has been with Shell over 26 years.

Earlier in the month the group had attended one of two All-Star baseball games.

Refinery Men On "Air Rodeo" Winning Wing

Two Shell employees were members of the Houston 446th Troop Carrier Wing (Reserve) which recently won first place in the Continental Air Command Troop Carrier Rodeo. The event was staged at Ellington Field and attracted 14 reserve carrier wings from all over the United States.

The two-day competition in precision air drops matched crews from the numerous wings, all flying C-119 "Flying Boxcars."

Captain L. C. Tuggle served as navigator on two of the five missions flown by the local wing, while Sergeant T. A. Skeahan was a standby radio operator. Tuggle is an Engineer in the Refinery Engineering Office, while Skeahan is a Welder Helper No. 1 in the Refinery Engineering Field.

In receiving the first-place trophy, the Houston reserve wing was cited for overall proficiency in parachute drops by General A. F. Kalberer, deputy commander of the Continental Air Command. The Houston wing made the highest accumulated team score for the five sorties flown, in which a 260-pound bundle was parachuted as close as possible to a pin-pointed target on the ground.

Burning household rubbish requires a place away from buildings, low-hanging branches and wires, fire authorities point out. And the area should never be left untended, even temporarily, if children are in the vicinity.

Chemical Plant Sons Help Deady Win Football Title

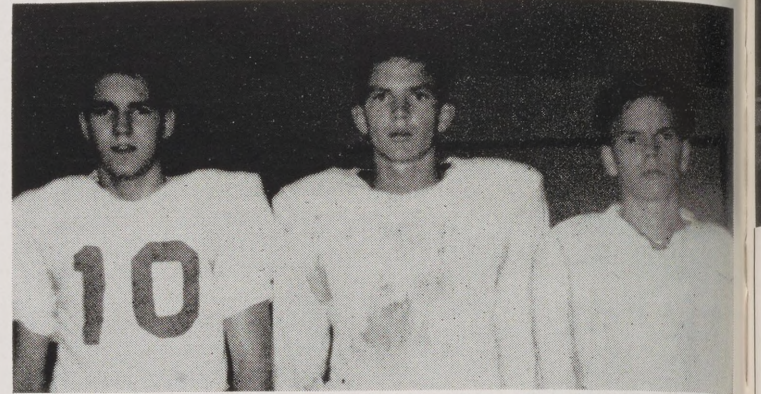
For 30 years Deady junior high school in Houston had tried unsuccessfully to win a district football championship. This fall Coach L. S. Hurst's Hornets finally turned the trick, and three Shell sons had a lot to do with bringing that long over-due trophy to the Deady showcase.

Vic Ashe, son of Chemical

District and All-City football teams.

One of Ashe's receivers was Ronnie Robb. The starting left end for the Hornets, Robb was considered an outstanding performer on defense, also.

Rounding out the trio of Shell sons was Ronnie Fitzgerald. Primarily a defensive specialist, Fitzgerald was



THESE THREE Chemical Plant sons helped bring Deady junior high school its first district championship in the history of the school. From left to right are Vic Ashe, Ronnie Robb, and Ronnie Fitzgerald.

Maintenance Foreman L. V. Ashe; Ronnie Robb, son of Instrumentman R. E. Robb at Chemical; and Ronnie Fitzgerald, son of Chemical Plant Operations' F. P. Fitzgerald, are the three boys who helped make the championship possible.

Quarterbacking the Deady Hornets was Vic Ashe, a rifle-armed young man who has great things predicted for him in the way of a football future. In directing the Deady offense, Ashe went to the airways with 113 pass attempts, and completed 53. His passing accounted for 792 yards gained, and included nine touchdown tosses. Ashe scored 52 points himself during the season. At the end of the season he was chosen on the mythical All-

halfback for the champions.

All three boys plan to enroll at Milby high school next year.

The season record for Deady this year included seven wins, one loss and one tie. The one loss came in the city championship game against Long junior high school. The city champs defeated Deady 11-6 in that game, but Deady's lone score came on a 22-yard touchdown pass by Ashe.

Motorists who smoke while driving are creating a hazard for themselves. Not only does prolonged smoking behind the wheel cause eyestrain, but handling a cigarette or pipe in traffic often diverts the driver's attention enough to get him into trouble.

"I Knew In A Moment..."



"... IT MUST BE ST. NICK." A visit to the department store where Santa had his local headquarters was a must for the children of J. A. Nepveux, Refinery. Gathered around Santa, letting him know what they expect under the Christmas tree on Christmas morning are Bill, age 4; Steve, age 5; Patti, age 1; and age 3; and David, age 8.

Credit Union Open House Attracts Good Turnout



Cutting the ribbon to mark the official opening of the Shell Employee's Federal Credit Union's new home in Deer Park are J. B. Harkness, president of the Credit Union; J. E. Crossland, a charter member of the Credit Union; and Jimmie Walker, mayor of Deer Park. The Open House was held November 14 and attracted over 200 guests.



Among the guests who inspected the new quarters was Chemical Plant Manager Glenn Purcell. Here, Purcell signs the guest register with a souvenir pen given to him by Brunelda Lopez of the Credit Union staff. Looking on are W. H. Berkley, Chemical Plant, and D. C. Barfoot, Refinery. Berkley is a director in the Credit Union and Barfoot is a member on the Credit Committee.



The electronic bookkeeping system now being used by the Credit Union to maintain the records of the members' accounts is demonstrated by Darlene Farris. The Refinery's R. C. Jones and Mrs. Jones are the interested observers. At the left is Ann Fielder of the Credit Union.



Vivian Tucker, a Chemical Plant retiree but now a member of the Credit Union staff, sits at the loan interview desk and explains some of the many services now offered by the Credit Union to a group of guests. R. R. Russell, Refinery Research Laboratory, and his family are being conducted on a tour of the building by K. F. Marr.



Coffee, cookies, and soft drinks were offered to the guests during the Open House. Although inclement weather continued throughout the day, good crowds such as the one seen in this picture continued to arrive. In the foreground, J. E. Garrison, Credit Union vice-president, reaches for a refreshment. C. W. Bevell, Chemical Plant, K. F. Marr and Mrs. Garrison can also be recognized.



"Where do I go to open an account?" One-year-old Bobby Maurice, son of R. W. Maurice, who was the architect for the new Credit Union building, was prepared for the cold weather when he accompanied his parents on the Open House visit.

"Twas The Night Before Christmas"



"THE STOCKINGS WERE HUNG . . ." Gathered around the fireplace, Chemical's H. V. Smith reads to his three sons, Gregg, age 4, Steve, age 9, and Rick, age 12, while Mrs. Smith listens.

Turnbuckle Four — Today's Answer To Driving Needs

By L. J. Langley,
Engineering Field
Chemical Plant

Each year fast on the heels of fall comes that grand old American tradition of "Let's go see the new cars."

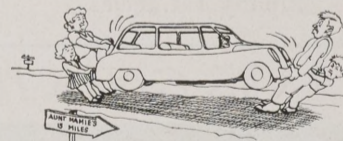
The 1960 automobile year should be a banner one for the enthusiasts. In addition to the usual chrome-shiny Detroit models, we have the advent of the "Big 3" into the so-called "compact" car field.

Now, compact cars have been described in many ways. Descriptions that range from the one offered by the companies that make them, "Just what we've always needed" to that offered by the companies that don't, "The American buying public isn't ready for them yet." However, the consensus seems to be that the compact car, according to advertisements, is a composite of the best features found in small and large automobiles. A compromise that retains the comfort, performance, and appearance of bigness with the economy of the small foreign car.

Even to us brain-washed automobile buyers, this seems to be an engineering impossibility. The ingredients of the two mix just about as well as two women at a party wearing identical dresses. Take a couple of "for instances":

1. Small car fuel economy and plenty of power for quick starts and freeway traffic—the more horsepower you use, the more fuel you use.
2. Easy parking and handling in city traffic plus comfort and stability at highway cruising speeds—you need a light, short-wheelbased car for city driving and a long heavy car for high speed driving on our new turnpikes.

Our compromise car then would have to get into fast moving traffic in a hurry; carry Mom, Dad, and the kids



comfortably at speeds in excess of 60 miles per hour; get 30 miles to the gallon of gas; weigh less in the city and grow longer and heavier for that trip to the country to see Aunt Mamie. So, it looks like our automotive engineers have finally found the secret of the "flying carpet."

We can't quite believe it, but who knows? The Turnbuckle 4 goes on display tomorrow; "Let's go see the new cars."

Parents who drive children to and from school should park well away from the school. This eliminates congestion around school entrances which could conceal a child about to run into the street.

Social Security Rate Increased

The Social Security tax rate on payroll earnings will be increased to 3% beginning in January 1960. This means that employees, and employers alike, will be paying an extra 2% over the 2 1/2% rate paid in 1959.

This new rate will apply for the first \$4,800 in earnings for each employee, the same total covered in the 1959 scale.

This increase follows the provisions of the 1958 amendment to the Social Security Act passed by Congress, which outlines a gradual increase in the rate of taxation until 1969.

The 3% rate will apply until January 1963 when the rate will rise to 3 1/2%. Beginning January 1966 the rate will rise to 4%, and in 1969 the rate will go to 4 1/2%.

The constantly increasing rates are necessary to meet the benefit payment obligations of the Social Security Act. There are presently 13 million drawing Social Security benefits.

Under the new tax rate, employees and employers will pay a maximum of \$144 in 1960 per employee, an increase of \$24 over the maximum payment of \$120 in 1959 when the rate was 2 1/2%.

To provide you with information about...

Public Issues Affecting Our Industry

By J. G. Jordan
Vice President, Marketing

How can gasoline price wars be prevented? How can reasonable profits for service station dealers be assured?

These are two of the major problems facing oil marketers and, consequently, everyone in the oil industry.

All of us are striving to solve these problems, but, unfortunately, there are no easy solutions.

There are some — principally dealer groups — who believe that these problems can be solved by laws permitting suppliers of major brands of gasoline to set the resale price of their gasoline.

This is called resale price maintenance or, more commonly, fair trade.

A bill pending in Congress would legalize fair trade on a national basis. Forty-six states permit fair trade now, but gasoline is being fair traded in only four — New Jersey, Pennsylvania, North Carolina and Connecticut.

Every oil company employee has a double interest in the possible extension of fair trade: (1) As a consumer, you will want to consider how it might affect gasoline prices and (2) As an employee, you will want to examine what effect it might have on your own company and industry.

I am convinced that fair trade will not cure oil marketers' problems because of any one or a combination of the following reasons:

(1) Fair trade's legal status is questionable.

Under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 1890, the courts have held that it would restrain competition to permit a supplier to set the resale price of a product bearing his brand name. In 1937, Congress adopted the Miller-Tydings Amendment to the Sherman Act permitting resale price maintenance agreements between manufacturers and distributors in those states where such agreements are authorized. However, of the 46 states which subsequently passed laws permitting fair trade, 16 have found this type of law violates their respective constitutions. These states are Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Georgia, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, New Mexico, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, Utah and West Virginia. In addition, four states — Alaska, Missouri, Texas and Vermont — have never sanctioned fair trade.

What's more, all interested Federal agencies, including the Council of Economic Advisors, the Departments of Justice, Commerce, Agriculture and State, the Federal Trade Commission and the Bureau of the Budget, have gone on record as opposing the proposed Federal fair trade legislation.

(2) The retail side of oil marketing is too large and highly complicated to permit effective administration and enforcement.

It's up to a supplier whether or not he wants to fair trade. What happens when some fair trade in a certain locality and others do not? Any supplier observing the fair trade price invites those not fair trading to declare "open season" on his dealers and their volume.

The major-brand gasolines come under fair trade provisions and the unbranded gasolines (those not carrying the supplier's name) do not. What happens when a supplier runs both ways at once — and supplies his gasoline to service stations who sell it under his brand name as well as to independent service stations who don't? I estimate that 75 per cent of the independents' supplies are originating from major company refineries.

To enforce fair trade, the supplier must file suit against his dealers found charging less than the agreed resale price. The minute a manufacturer files against a dealer, he endangers a relationship of trust, confidence and cooperation he has developed over a period of years.

General Electric tried fair trade on some appliances for five years, filed 3,000 suits and was reported to be spending a million dollars a year trying to enforce it before they gave it up.

(3) Fair trade can seriously damage the status of major gasoline brands, perhaps even lead to their liquidation.

I fear fair trade could wipe out major brands in some cases since unbranded gasolines do not come under fair trade provisions.

Consider the history of independent service stations in New Jersey. When fair trading was discontinued in that state in 1950, there were about 270 independent stations. This number had dropped to about 165 by 1956 when fair trade was resumed. With the advent of fair trade, their number started increasing again — and rapidly. By the end of 1957, there were almost 300 stations selling unbranded products and now there are almost 600. These stations are selling about three times as much unbranded gasoline as was sold prior to the resumption of fair trade in 1956. You can make your own predictions as to the next sequence of events and their effect on companies such as ours.

(4) Fair trade could be a step toward more rigid legislative controls.

Imposing a Federal system of price fixing for retail gasoline sales would be a definite step in the direction of Federal regulation of dealers, large and small. This, in turn, could be conceivably followed by Federal regulation of other aspects of dealers' operations, such as wages and hours. Whether one favors or opposes such an extension of Federal authority, it is involved in the consideration of fair trade.

Well, if we don't fair trade, where does this leave us? What are the alternative solutions?

1. We can continue to follow the present prevailing practice — wherein the dealers and jobbers have complete freedom of retail price determination.
2. There are a few — with whom I wholeheartedly disagree — who suggest that some form of complete governmental controls of all levels of pricing would be the answer.
3. We can encourage every marketer — supplier, jobber and dealer — to take a hard look at his marketing philosophy and then ask himself: "Am I part of the problem or part of the answer?" If he answers the question honestly and finds the answer embarrassing, then maybe he should think about making some changes.

I am not suggesting that any set of changes could lead marketers into a situation that is all "cake and ale" — but I do have the conviction that the right of individual businessmen to compete and to make their own individual decisions is the bedrock on which our American business system has been built.

This free market may not be perfect, but it certainly has provided more things for more people than any other system in history. Any attempts to tamper with the free market system by restricting freedom in pricing would violate the fundamental premises of our system — and in my opinion — would serve only to injure rather than improve.

"Let Us Go Into The House Of The Lord"



J. H. MARSH, CHEMICAL PLANT, and his family will be in church Christmas as will most Shell families. Scenes such as this will be repeated many times Christmas Day.

Gasoline for Winter

Even in coldest weather Shell gasolines assure easy starting, fast warmup and good mileage. Gasoline must turn to vapor before it can be fired in a car's engine, and winter temperatures make vaporization more difficult. So just before cold weather sets in, Shell adjusts its gasolines' volatility (ability to vaporize) to match the temperature.

Both Super Shell and Shell Regular gasolines also contain a special additive that bans the formation of ice on delicate carburetor parts in cool, damp weather. The additive coats the throttle plate with a thin film that prevents ice crystals from getting a foothold. This gives freedom from start-and-stall driving because ice can't choke the carburetor.

Stop whenever you approach any vehicle transporting children whether it's a school bus or not. It's better to yield the right-of-way than to yield a child's life.

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Pay Poll Tax— Exercise Vote

American voters will decide many things during the year 1960.

Highlighting this big election year will be the presidential race. But besides deciding on a President, Texas voters must choose one senator and 22 congressmen to represent the Lone Star state in our nation's capital.

On the state government level, a full slate of positions must be filled, beginning with the office of governor, and including lieutenant governor, state senators, state representatives, supreme court justices, an attorney general, railroad commissioner, land commissioner, and a comptroller.

As citizens we have a voice as to who will eventually fill these important seats in our government—that is we have a say if we have a vote.

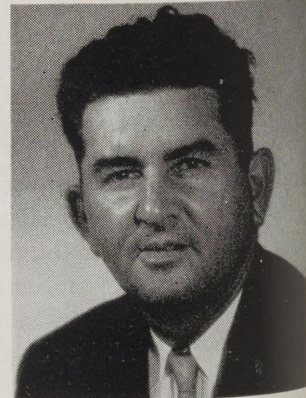
Among the requirements in Texas to be a qualified voter is "paying your poll tax." A poll tax costs \$1.50 and can be purchased until January 31, 1960.

For the first time this year Poll Taxes may be paid by mail. Most of the major grocery stores will have application blanks which can be completed and mailed to the Tax Assessor along with the appropriate fee. The Poll Tax receipt will then be returned by mail to the applicant.

During the month of January poll tax stations will be established at both the Refinery and Chemical Plant where you can pay your poll tax if you haven't already done so. The times and places will be announced later.

The right to vote is a rare privilege, but one which carries with it obligations. As citizens it is our duty to "get out the vote" on election day, choosing the candidate we feel most qualified to lead our government.

15 Years Service



E. Sprouse
Eng. Fld. (Refy.)

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