



# shelletter

## HOUSTON REFINERY

"It Strikes Us This Way"

No. 99

Wednesday, April 3, 1963

TO ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

### NEGOTIATIONS

Regarding news or meetings....there's neither...No news 'cause no meetings are planned at this time....

....Up Chemical Plant way, the folks with a nose for news simply pick up their telephone and dial "111". Then, a nice, friendly feller answers on the other end and immediately begins filling in the caller on the latest....Lots of people down here know about this Bell telephone information service - and have been using it. To call from the Refinery, we have to stick a prefix of "6" in front of the "111" to get into the Chemical Plant telephone works with our outside phones. So what are we saying right now? Just this: That likeable chap at Chemical says, "Go ahead...feel free to use our information system". So, now, those of you who didn't know about it....do...DIAL 6-111.

### OPERATIONS

Up and runnin'....the HVI unit in the Lube Oils Department....as the phenol unit shut-down continues. And in Utilities, work continues on boiler No. 9.

### CBS-TV TO REPORT ON AGRICULTURAL CHEMICALS

(Following is a Head Office Management Letter dated April 3, 1963, and signed by R. C. McCurdy, President of Shell Chemical Company.)

I would like to encourage each of you to view the CBS-TV Reports program tonight, April 3, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. CST. Tonight's program, "The Silent Spring of Rachel Carson", will be a discussion of the use of pesticides and agricultural chemicals. Since Shell Chemical Company is a leading manufacturer of these products, I urge you to take this opportunity to familiarize yourself further with some of the questions that have been raised in Miss Carson's book. She has presented the growing dangers of these pesticides to man and his environment.

No one questions the seriousness, nor the intelligence with which Miss Carson has dealt with the subject. However, her book is a one-sided presentation citing mainly the mis-use of pesticides. A large body of scientific and research data citing their benefits to mankind has not been presented. It is possible that both sides will be heard tonight since CBS has announced the program "will present the views of industry, prominent scientists, farmers and government experts, along with those of Miss Carson".

Because of the controversy on this subject, we believe that you would appreciate information prior to the program on the chemical industry's point of view. Therefore, these excerpts from a statement by the Manufacturing Chemists Association and the National Agricultural Chemicals Association on the public use of chemicals may be of interest to you, your family, and your neighbors.

"In waging his battle for survival, man has developed an extraordinary technology. Part of his achievement is the development of chemical products such as pesticides and fertilizers designed to meet the urgent and accelerating needs of society. These products exist only because of urgent needs, and today there is no available substitute for them. In America, with the help of these chemical aids, the battle against starvation and disease has been waged most effectively. It is only in the areas of the world where these tools are used that starvation and epidemic disease are not a clear and immediate danger.

"It is unfortunately true that in no phase of man's existence can all risk be eliminated. This is as true of the use of chemicals as it is of the use of atomic energy, or even of the automobile. But where the need is so vital, and where men are aware of the risks and are determined to reduce them to the absolute minimum, a great deal can be done.

(Over)

"The chemical industry is aware of the risks. It has spent many years of effort to bring them as near to elimination as possible. It will continue this effort, for the risks involved in using these chemical tools are far less for mankind than the risk of doing without them.

"The Chemical industry considers the safeguarding and improvement of our environment to be an absolute obligation of all segments of the responsible community including the chemical industry itself."

/S/ R. C. McCurdy

(The program may be seen in Houston over Channel 11, KHOU-TV, beginning at 6:30 p.m.)

SAFETY

Another month and another winner.....presenting in the Safety Slogan spotlight for April... Wilbur Knowles.....Wilbur's slogan: SAFETY IS GOOD FOR LIFE. Louisiana-born Wilbur came to us in 1957. Normally, he works as a Draftsman in the Engineering Office, but for the last few months he's been in Utilities, helping furnish the power to keep the Refinery running. Wilbur attended school at Centenary in Shreveport and Oklahoma University. Before joining Shell, he and his family called Oklahoma City "home". The family includes his wife, Frances, a daughter, Sandy, presently a junior at the University of Texas Medical School in Galveston where she is preparing for a career in nursing, and one son, Reggie, a first grader at San Jacinto Elementary School in Deer Park. And "home", now, is Deer Park. The winning slogan was only the second entry turned in by Knowles in our slogan contests.....However, Wilbur's safety record - both on and off the job - speaks well of a man who knows and practices SAFETY as a way of life. Like his slogan says.....SAFETY IS GOOD FOR LIFE.

Reports are already filtering back to Safety Slogan Contest Headquarters that our young safety-conscious, baseball fans are busy grinding out slogans for the May contest. Remember, this is the month when only the school age sons and daughters will be eligible to enter.....So you parents pass the word along.....Free tickets to a Houston Colt .45 baseball game await the winners. Entries will be accepted throughout the month of April, and we'll be announcing the winner the first week in May. So get those baseball thinking caps on.....and send those young 'uns on up to bat.....

ODDS AND ENDS

TAGGED: Some folks were last-minute shoppers when it came to buying their 1963 auto license tags.....There was one Refinery feller who beat the deadline.....only to mount one of the license plates upside down on his car....and his wife got a traffic ticket for it!

BIRTHDAY BELLES & BEAUS:

April 3 - Jim Offield

SERVICE SYMBOLS:

15 Years - L. F. Grove (April 3)

DID YOU KNOW: That small operators account for three-fourths of the wells drilled in the U. S. each year.

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