



shellegram

SHELL OIL COMPANY
HOUSTON REFINERY

SHELL CHEMICAL CORP.
HOUSTON PLANT

Vol. 20 No. 2

HOUSTON, TEXAS

February 1955

Chemical Plant Slates Series Of Plant Days

A series of Plant Open Houses are being held at the Chemical Plant on Saturdays to enable employees and their families to become better acquainted with the operations of the Plant.

Safety Main Topic

Safety is the main topic of the series of Plant Day being held each Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. through February 26. They began January 29.

This series of Open Houses reflects Houston Plant's rapid growth. The Plant now employs over 1500 people; too large a number to adequately accommodate in a single Open House. The tour groups have been divided along departmental lines so that everyone will have an opportunity to inspect the Plant.

The agenda for each of the Open Houses consists of a tour of the Main Office, Warehouse, Shops and the First Aid Building, followed by a bus tour of the manufacturing area. A visit to the Refinery Cafeteria for refreshments concludes the tour.

Family Affair

Since this is a family affair, the Chemical Plant lunch room is being converted into a Nursery for the small children each Saturday during this series. The children are supervised by adults under the guidance of the Plant Nurse.

Chief Draftsman George Harlan is the coordinator for Plant Day plans, and guides and photographers are Plant employees who volunteered their services.

Shell Increases Offshore Holdings By 53,000 Acres

Shell Oil Company has increased its offshore holdings by leasing from the Federal Government almost 53,000 additional acres of land off the coast of Louisiana. These oil and gas leases are from 20 to 45 miles off the mainland and are in waters from 20 to 90 feet deep. In its constant search for oil, the Company is going out farther and down deeper.

In addition, the Company acquired at the same time, 25,000 acres of sulfur leases in the same general areas as the oil and gas leases.

Shell's interest in additional offshore leases is based on sound experience and a successful offshore drilling history. On previously leased offshore land, the Company has completed 84 wells (as of October 1, 1954) with a total production of over 12,000 barrels of oil per day and approximately 12 million cubic feet of gas per day.



L. J. Hallmark, center, Houston Refinery's new Personnel and Industrial Relations Department Manager, takes a walking tour of the Refinery with D. J. Carter, left, and R. P. Kastner, P & IR Department's new Personnel Supervisor and Assistant Manager respectively.

Hallmark Succeeds Moore As Manager of P & IR

L. J. Hallmark's promotion to similar position with the Houston Manager of Houston Refinery's Area of Exploration and Production Personnel & Industrial Relations Department is one of a series of moves up the ladder from within the Company announced by Refinery Manager John Tench.

Assistant Manager of the Refinery's P & IR Department since 1949, Mr. Hallmark replaces T. H. Moore, who is being transferred to Head Office as Assistant Manager, Industrial Relations Department.

Replacing Mr. Hallmark as P & IR Assistant Department Manager is Rex P. Kastner, who was formerly assigned to the Organization and Salary Department in Head Office.

P & IR's newly-created position of Personnel Supervisor was filled by Dan J. Carter on January 17. Mr. Carter comes to Houston Refinery from the Calgary Area of Exploration & Production where he was Personnel Supervisor.

Mr. Hallmark, after receiving an M.A. degree from Sam Houston State College in 1941, joined Shell at Houston Refinery as a General Helper in 1942, becoming a Fire and Safety Inspector later that year. He was appointed Training Supervisor in 1944, the position he held until his promotion to Assistant Manager.

A graduate of Cornell University, Mr. Kastner joined Shell in the Wood River P & IR Department in 1948. After completing work on his M.S. degree at Cornell in 1949, he served in the Norco Refinery P & IR Department from 1950 to 1952, when he was transferred to Head Office.

Prior to coming to Houston Refinery as P & IR Department Manager in 1953, Mr. Moore held a

SERA Membership Drive On

With more to offer members in part in the Fishing Derby, the way of facilities and activities than ever before, the Shell Employees Recreation Association

launches what it hopes to be its most successful annual membership drive on February 11. The barbecue, which features a delicious barbecue plate, games, dance, movie and free rides for the kiddies, is free to members and their families.

Rapid progress is being made on the development of the club's property on the south bank of Clear Creek. Ready now for family picnics, additional tables and barbecue pits are being built. By this Spring, a large club house will be ready for dances and parties.

Employees have until March 1 to turn in these cards to their payroll offices. Deductions will be made from the March 11 hourly checks and from the March 15 staff checks.

In addition to the yearly day-long barbecue and other regular activities, the SERA offers this year the recreational facilities of a 50-acre club site on Clear Creek near Friendswood. It is expected that this feature will attract a record number of members.

The money collected by the SERA for dues is allocated for the various activities. The amount collected for dues is matched by the Company, with that money going toward the development of the property.

Members are also entitled to participate in the Gun, Skeet and Bridge Clubs; the Tennis and Golf Tournaments and the softball and bowling leagues.

Moreover, members may take



D. G. Stephenson, Pipe Shop, obligingly provides his back as a desk to enable B. R. Cole, Machine Shop, to sign up for pay-roll deduction of his 1955 membership dues in the SERA as J. C. Bowen, Pipe Shop, waits his turn in line to sign up.

Anacortes Building Continues on Schedule

The construction of Shell Oil Company's sixth and newest refinery, now being built at Anacortes, Washington, is progressing on schedule. The 800-acre site, over half of which was wooded land, has been cleared and graded and concrete foundations for the major refinery installations have been poured.

Equipment for the major processing units—including crude distillation, catalytic cracking, catalytic reforming and catalytic polymerization—is arriving and the units are now being erected.

Over one-half of the refinery's tankage is in construction. The exterior of the administration building is complete and work has started on the stores building and machine shop.

As much of the underground work as possible was completed before the winter weather set in. The water lines are underway and work has commenced on the roads and sewer system. In addition, thirty per cent of the piling for the wharf has been driven.

Shell Sponsors Newscast On KTRK-TV Channel 13

Shell Oil Company is now sponsoring a 15-minute television news- and weathercast on station KTRK-TV, Channel 13.

The show, called "Shell Reporter", is presented from 10 to 10:15 p.m. Monday through Friday. Commentary is by Ray Conway, a veteran of 10 years of news announcing on Houston radio stations. He switched to television and went to KTRK as news director when the station began operations late in 1954.

all
(t):
nie
ze,
(t):
ar-
er.
nt.

o 1:
me
id-aid
rida
gan
unte

, B.
itley,
n, J.
Mort
e, B.
l of t
r, L.
? Bon
chel,

. R.
the P
g, K.
d J.
lant.

Houston 1, Texas
P. O. Box 2527

U. S. POSTAGE
Sec. 3466 P. L. & R.
D. A. T. D.

REPORTERS' ROUNDUP



Yarotsky Passes Bar Examination, Trains Sights on U of H Law Degree

When Marvin Yarotsky receives his law degree (L.L.D.) from the University of Houston in June, it will be the culmination of four and one-half years of night school and study.

It will, moreover, be his third degree as he already possesses a Bachelor's and a Master's in Chemical Engineering.

A Shell employee since 1944, Marvin is a Technical Assistant in the Thermal Cracking Department.

Any similarity between Chemical Engineering and Law may be purely coincidental to many folks, but to Marvin the possibilities are many for one with experience in both fields.

"I'm interested in working on patents for Shell," Marvin says, "and perhaps doing liaison work between Engineering and Contract Departments."

Marvin passed the Texas Bar Association Examination in the Fall and is entitled to hang out his shingle even though he will not receive his degree until June. In Texas, 72 Law School credits are a requisite to taking the Bar Exam; 88 credits are required for a L.L.B. degree.

A native of Hillside, New Jersey, Marvin joined Shell at Houston Refinery in 1944 after he received a Bachelor of Chemical Engineering degree from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania. He was on military leave from 1944 to 1946, and upon his release from service he enrolled in Columbia University, where he obtained his Master's



For the past four and one-half years, this has been a familiar scene for Marvin Yarotsky.

Shellegram Reporter Snaps Wheatley Star

When Wheatley of Houston squared off against Waco for the

NOW HEAR THIS!

Now hear this, all "Old Salts!" James MacFarland, Carpenter Shop, who skips Garden Villas Sea Scout Ship 16, is in dire need of those old "blues" and "whites" you have stashed away in moth balls. He can be reached at Refinery Extension 552 or OL-1584 at home.

Negro State Schoolboy football title, Shellegram Reporter Gip Gibson was on hand to take pictures of Wheatley's star back Jimmy Bingham. The reason: Jimmy's brother is a member of the Engineering Field Department at Houston Refinery. And Jimmy didn't let our roving reporter down. He scored a key touchdown as the Houstonians won the state title. The photo shows Jimmy being downed after getting off a long gain.



Shellite's brother reels off long gain.

One Chance in 75,000

Lube Employee, Wife Solve \$400 Puzzle

R. W. Dawson, Lube B, and his wife had but one chance in 75,000 of winning . . . and they made good on it!

And for three hours of work, they won \$400!

The \$400 was the prize for winning The Chronicle's recent crossword puzzle contest; the three hours was spent working the puzzle, and the Dawson's joint entry was one of 75,000.

It was the first time they have ever won a puzzle contest although Mrs. Dawson says they had entered about six previous contests.

R. W. was not too optimistic about their chances of winning, but Mrs. Dawson had high hopes. When the good news came, Mrs. Dawson said she was not so much stunned as she was skeptical that some of her friends were playing a joke on her.

Mrs. Dawson hopes to be able to use part of the prize money to visit her relatives in North and South Carolina and Alabama during her husband's vacation this year.

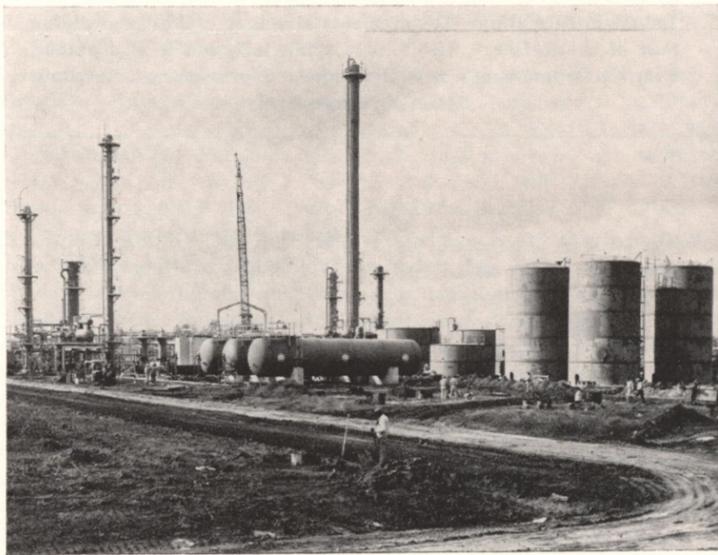
The Dawsons, who live at 3021 Earl in Pasadena, have three children: Randy, 6, Dan, 4, and Becky, 3.

R. W. has been a Shell employee for four years.



Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Dawson made good on one chance in 75,000 and received \$400 for three hours' work on a crossword puzzle.

Shell Norco Chemical Plant More Than Half Completed Plant to Cost About Eight and One-Half Million Dollars



Work is progressing on schedule at Shell Chemical's new plant at Norco, Louisiana. The storage area at the right will provide tankage for chlorine and other products. The distillation column, which is in the center of this photo, is 150 feet high.

Houstonians Helping To Put Norco Plant On Stream

A number of Houston Plant and are R. E. Jackson as Treasury Refinery employees have gone over Manager, John Sorice from the to Norco to help with the construction and start-up of the new Plant. Refinery to the Stores Department at Norco; D. K. Peterson as Chem-

C. C. Brothers, W. A. Gabig and ist; J. T. Arterbury as Operation K. O. McDonald were among the Shift Foreman; J. W. Cunningham as Technologist; and W. J. worked on the Engineering design Gritus as Senior Clerk in P & IR and construction. Others who went Department.

Shell Chemical Corporation Norco Plant, which went under construction early in 1954, is now more than half completed. The Plant, the Corporation's first east of the Mississippi River is being built at an estimated cost of eight and one-half million dollars.

Produce Allyl Chloride

It will produce allyl chloride which will enable the Corporation to increase its glycerine output 25 million pounds a year; epichlorohydrin, a vital component EPON* resins; and D-D, a fumigant.

Occupying more than 100 acres the Plant is being constructed on the site of the old Diamond Plant, famous for its sugar corn and is located just west of Norco, Louisiana. As a by-product, it will use propylene manufactured at Shell Oil Company adjacent Norco Refinery.

No Cooling Towers

The new plant is unusual in that it will have no cooling towers, the usual symbols of chemical plants. The cooling water system which has been approved by state and local boards, will use water from the Mississippi River. The water will be circulated through the cooling system and then returned to the river.

The buildings and other facilities at the Norco Plant have been planned out to accommodate future expansion. The warehouse, treatment plant, process site and administration buildings are so positioned that later expansion can be made without re-locating existing facilities.

shellegram
SHELL OIL COMPANY HOUSTON REFINERY SHELL CHEMICAL CORP. HOUSTON PLANT



FRED WICHLEP, Editor

JO KELLEY, Associate Editor



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.

*Registered trade

"Cheaper, More Convenient, Safer"

Refinery Pilots 'High' on Air Travel

What outdoor enthusiast hasn't dreamed of spending his weekends hunting and fishing in Mexico or Florida.

To a growing number of Refinery employees, this dream is a reality.

Heavy traffic, great distance and limited time are no obstacles to these Shellites, for they pilot their own planes.

These men find it's cheaper, more convenient and, in many instances, safer to fly than to drive an automobile to their favorite hunting and fishing sites.

According to information supplied by The Shellegram's reporters, Refinery employees who are owners or part-owners of their own planes include Clarence Sharpe

and D. E. Stewart, of the Instrument Shop; Pat McDowell, Pumper-Gauger in Dispatching; C. W. Cargill, Molder in Lube C, and R. E. Tucker, No. 1 Operator in Gas.

Based on a composite of their expenses over a period of years, the cost of operating a plane ranges from three cents per mile for the lighter, single-engine craft to 18 cents per mile for the heavier, twin-engine planes, with the average running somewhere between those two figures.

Typical of the long-distance outdoorsmen, Sharpe speaks of a fishing and hunting weekend in Mexico as if it were in his back yard. By sharing expenses, Sharpe and his friends enjoy outdoor life hundreds of miles away for about the

same cost of an automobile trip to a nearby hunting site.

A Shell veteran of 20 years of service, Sharpe's interest in aviation began in 1925 with his first plane ride, and he became a qualified pilot in 1936. After returning from World War II duty as a Merchant Marine skipper, he bought his first plane, a Cub Cruiser. He's now the part-owner of a five-passenger Stinson-Reliant, which he houses at the Pearl-land Airport.

Stewart has owned or been the part owner of 18 airplanes from December, 1946, to the present time, and his present craft is a twin-engined Cessna. He became interested in aviation at the ripe, old-age of eight. He says that he built model air planes and "hung around airports begging rides" until he was old enough to start taking lessons. After receiving his license in 1946, he and his brother found it very expensive to be renting planes continually, so they bought an Army surplus BT-13.

Uncle Pioneered Aviation

McDowell caught the flying bug from an uncle, who pioneered aviation in Tennessee. Despite several exciting experiences while flying, he insists that it's safer and more convenient than driving a car. Once he had to make an emergency landing on a shell road because of a faulty priming line. Pat said he wouldn't have been bothered at all if his wife and baby had not been with him at the time. He's owned several planes.

Enjoys Scenery

Besides using his plane for fishing trips, C. W. Cargill enjoys the beautiful scenery that can be seen while flying. He has a Piper Clipper which seats four persons and which he keeps in his hangar two miles east of Genoa where he also has his own flying strip.

His longest trip in his plane was to Atlantic City, New Jersey, and back, which amounted to 3000 miles.

One of the Refinery's newest plane owners is R. E. Tucker. He bought a single-engine, two-place Luscombe 8-A in July. A Shell veteran of over 17 years, Tucker said he has been interested in starting flying as a hobby for many years and "just finally got around to it." He also said he is looking forward to many hours of pleasurable flying time.

Offer This Advice

All of the Refinery plane owners contacted were unanimous in offering to employees interested in flying this advice:

1. Learn to fly from an approved flying school. The Civil Aeronautics Association will be happy to recommend one.
2. Join a flying association that will enable you to rent a hangar and buy gasoline at a cheaper rate than non-members have to pay.

Shell will again provide 50 per cent of Pratt & Whitney's greatly increased JP-4 (jet propulsion fuel) needs. Pratt & Whitney, long a leading supplier of piston engines, is building the J-57 jet engines which will power the Boeing 707, the first U.S. jet transport.



"Will you be my Valentine?" This provocative question is posed by pretty Jean Williams of the Chemical Plant's Technology Department. The line will form to the rear, fellows!



Sherry Diane McDowell, who was three months old at the time this picture was taken, waves bon voyage as she prepares to step into the cockpit of this Piper J-3 for her first airplane ride. Sherry Diane is being assisted by the plane's pilot, Shellite Pat McDowell, who also happens to be her father.



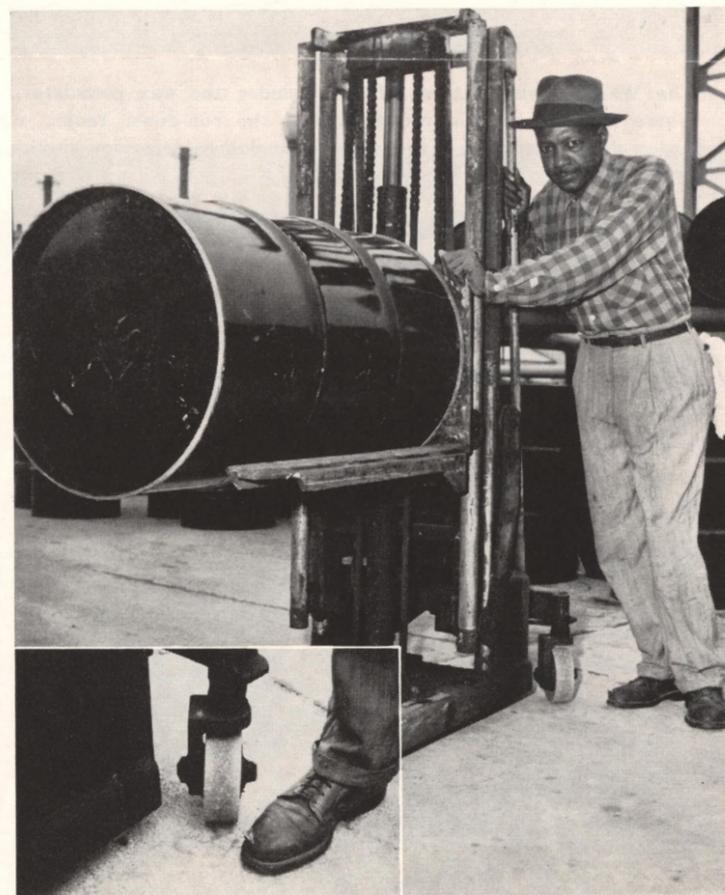
D. E. (Gene) Stewart, Instrument Shop, is pictured in front of this UC-78, one of the 18 planes he has owned or partly owned in the past nine years. A First Lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol, Stewart has flown a 1000 hours and never has damaged a plane in any way — a commendable record.

Gasoline Only Slightly Higher Than It Was 30 Years Ago

The cost of living in the United States has soared since 1925. The price of food, for example, has risen 72.9 per cent and house furnishings, 65.8 per cent. There has been one notable exception to these rising costs. The price of today's gasoline—including taxes—is only slightly higher than in 1925.

Because of constant oil industry research during the same period, the quality of gasoline has been boosted at least 50 per cent. This means that two gallons of gasoline purchased today actually do the work that three gallons did in 1925.

Dave Thomas Escapes Serious Injury Thanks to Safety Shoes



What's the use of wearing safety shoes? Ask Dave Thomas, Engineering Field. He knows their value through experience.

Incidents frequently occur around a refinery that cause employees to be thankful for wearing the proper safety equipment.

For example, Dave Thomas, Engineering Field, recently escaped a possible serious foot injury while moving a drum of oil on a barrel lifter.

One of the rear guide wheels of the lifter struck an object, causing the other rear wheel to swerve across Thomas' right foot.

The total weight of the lifter and the drum was about one thousand pounds, but you couldn't prove it by Dave. He didn't feel a thing—thanks to his safety shoes.

The extent of the damage: the outer leather of Thomas' safety shoe was cut. A thousand pounds of weight failed to even bend the steel reinforcement of the shoe!

Houston Refinery's a Big Help

100 Tons of Finished Wax Produced Daily By Refinery

By
MARX ISAACS

The bees can't do it all!

A very high percentage of the wax you encounter in every day usage is "paraffin" wax, which means it originally was present in a particular type of crude oil.

At Houston Refinery, wax is one of the end products

from the processing of East Texas crudes. The wax finishing unit, in the northeast corner of the Lubricating Oils plant area, was completed in 1949 and is the only Shell producer of marketable waxes in the United States.

Houston Refinery produces about 100 tons of finished wax per day, which is an appreciable percentage of the total production of petroleum waxes in this country. So when you light a candle, or wrap your lunch sandwiches, there is a good chance that the wax you're using is a Shell product from Houston Refinery.

You are probably familiar with many of the uses for wax. Most people know that candles and "paraffin" wax. Sealing home-made preserves and jellies consist mainly of wax; that wax is used in paper wrappings for breakfast cereals, bread and candy; that it waterproofs and strengthens milk and ice-cream cartons. Many are also aware of the part wax plays in shoe, furniture and floor polishes.

Tremendous Number of Uses for Wax

What some readers may not realize is that wax is a highly important material for waterproofing of many fabrics, even rain-coats; for impregnating matches and for insulation of electrical equipment such as cables, condensers and batteries. It is largely wax which makes leather goods soft and flexible. Wax is a major ingredient of cosmetics, hair creams and ointments. The list of diverse uses for wax could go on almost indefinitely, when made to include such other applications as the almost-invisible films that protect sheets of steel or tiny precision mechanisms from corrosion and fruits and vegetables from shrinkage and waste.

Many lube oil stocks are made here for eventual compounding into Shell motor oils such as the familiar X-1 and Golden Shell. These components contain dissolved wax which must be removed to improve the quality of the motor oil before it is sold to the motorist. Otherwise, at low temperatures, the wax would solidify and be deposited in the motor, seriously interfering with the oil's performance as an efficient lubricant.

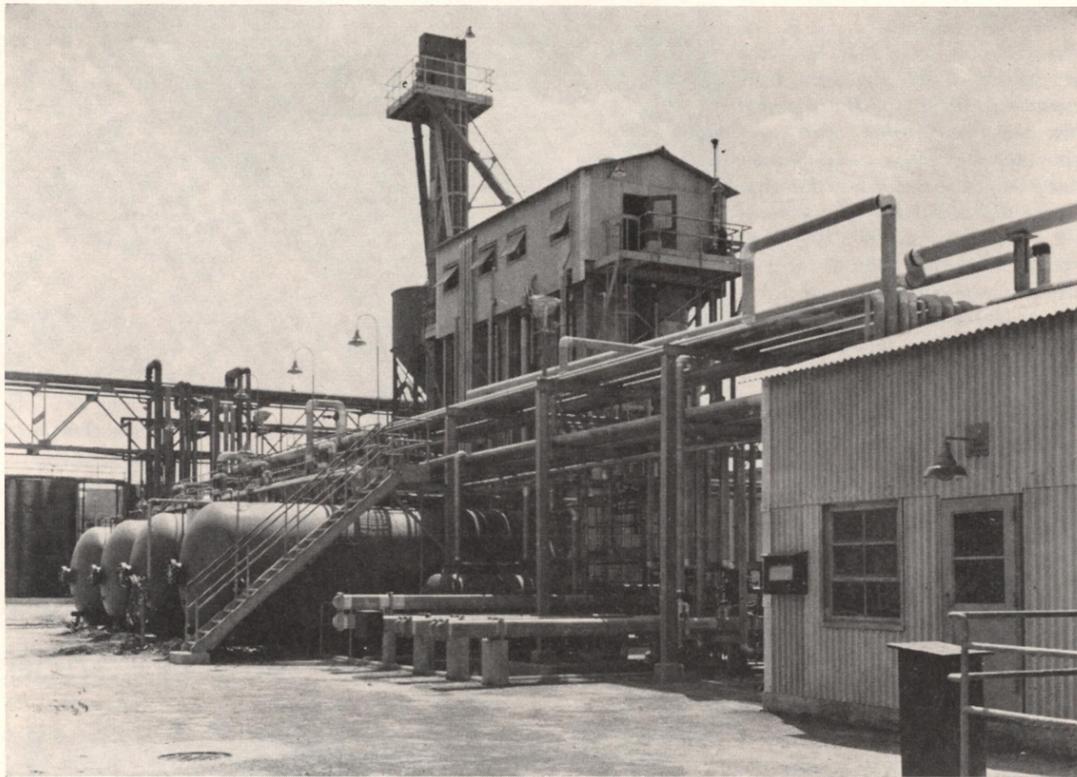
The MEK (methyl ethyl ketone) dewaxing unit at the lube plant is designed to remove wax from motor oil component stocks. This is accomplished by dissolving the oil in a solvent (MEK and toluene mixture), chilling the solution and filtering out the wax that separates. The crude wax is scraped from the filters and purified, first by removing the oil it still contains, at the MEK deoiling unit. Final purification takes place at the wax finishing unit, where the melted, deoiled wax is filtered through a special kind of clay to remove any objectionable coloring matter and yield a pure white product.

Most of the Refinery's wax production is shipped in ten-pound blocks, or slabs, produced in the wax molding building adjacent to the finishing unit. The molten wax flows into metal molds and is cooled; it requires about two hours to solidify before being removed as slabs, which are then packaged in cardboard boxes or burlap bags (ten to twenty packages) for shipment in box cars. A large amount is also shipped in tank cars and tank trucks. A small percentage of total production is shipped in expendable drums, for customers who prefer to receive it that way.

Quality of Shell Wax Carefully Tested

Shell wax is made in a number of different grades, for a variety of applications. The numerical grading system is based on the melting point, or temperature at which the wax changes from solid to liquid. Thus, 138-140 grade wax melts at between 138 and 140 degrees Fahrenheit. Melting point is a prime factor in establishing how the wax can be used by the customer. It varies according to the motor oil stock from which the wax is recovered and the conditions of separation and purification.

As with all Houston Refinery products, the quality of every wax must be carefully tested while it is being made and before it is shipped to customers. The Control Laboratory checks properties such as gravity, melting point, flash and fire points, etc. Performance properties, such as blocking point, gloss and gloss retention, sealing strength, scuffing resistance, etc., are determined by the Research Laboratory.

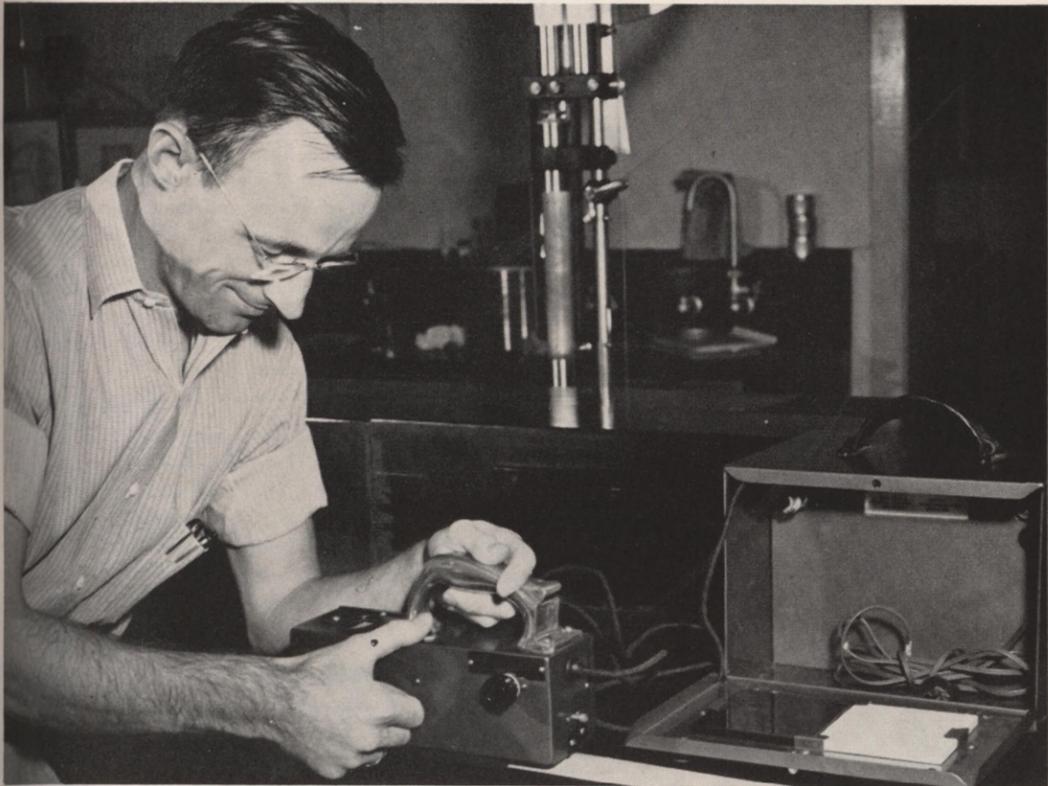


The Wax Finishing Area, above, includes the wax percolator, where raw wax is received and where finished wax is produced, and the run-down tanks, where the wax is sampled and brought to the laboratories for checking of properties.

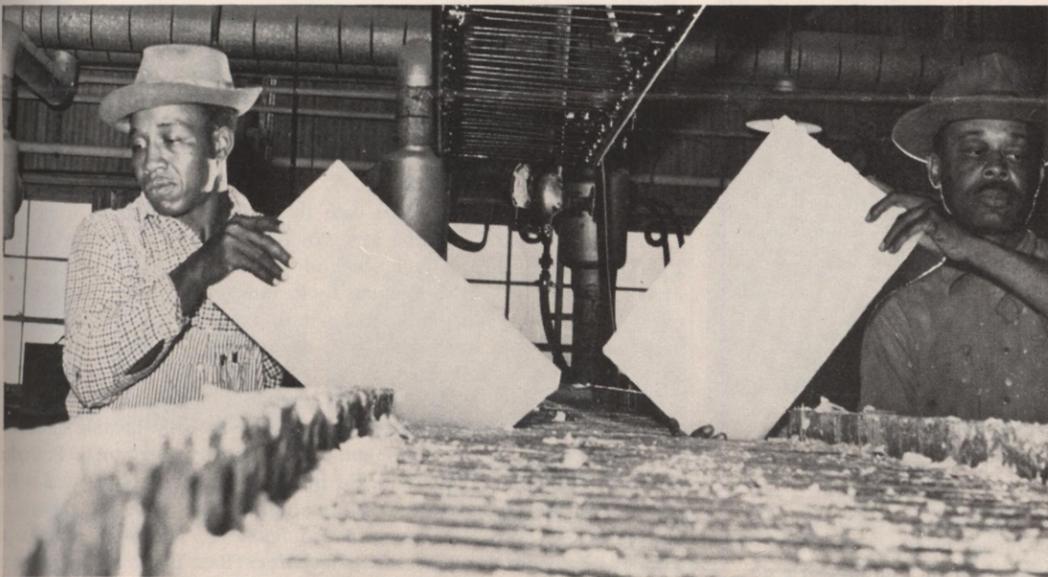


Carol Ann Nash, Research Stenographer, loads her grocery basket with products which contain wax or have wax-treated wrappings and containers. Since Shell produces a large percentage of the total production of petroleum waxes in the United States, it's a good chance that many of the products in Carol's grocery basket contain Shell wax manufactured at the Houston Refinery.

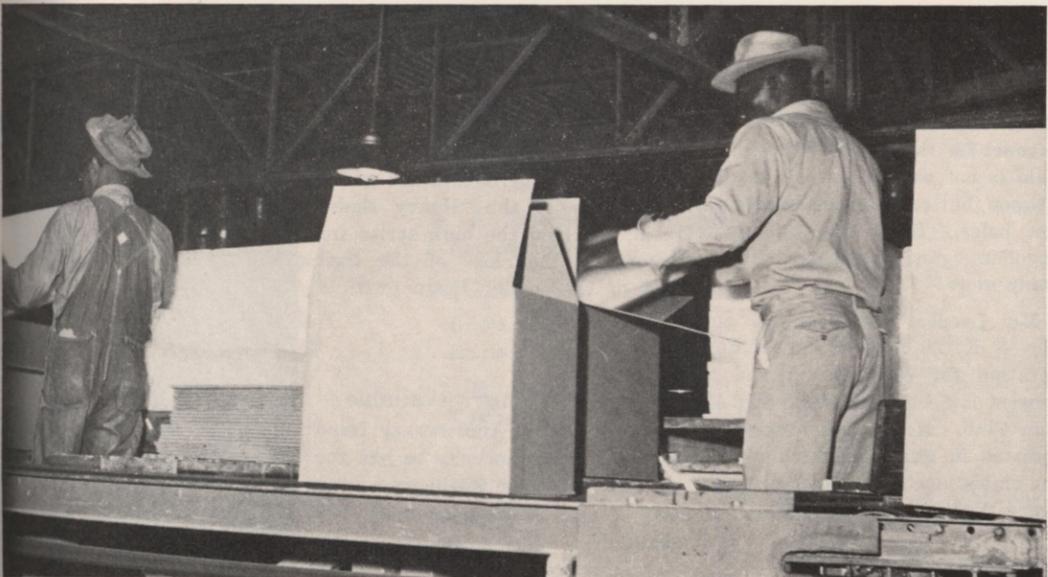
To the Bees . . .



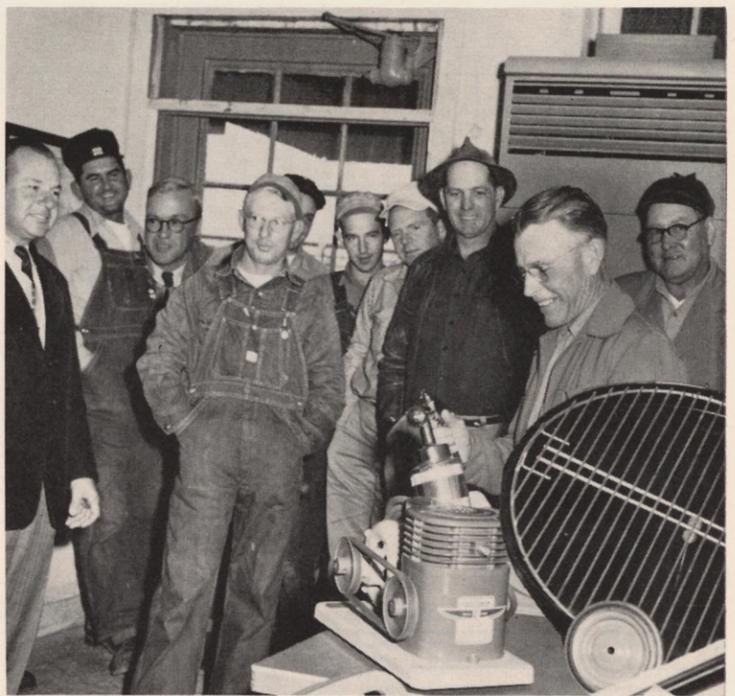
D. M. Bartay, Research, uses a Glossmeter to check this strip of wax treated paper for gloss.



Here D. B. Jones, left, and A. Gross place the wax slabs in cartons for shipping. After the cartons have been filled, they are placed on a conveyor belt which carries them to a machine which seals the cartons. The cartons are weighed and loaded into a box car for shipment.



R. Alexander, left, and L. Patterson remove wax slabs from one of wax plant molding presses.



R. E. Holmes admires the paint sprayer outfit and portable barbecue pit that was given him by his friends in the Dispatching Department upon his retirement from Shell service.

Ray Holmes, 30 Year Veteran, Retires

Upon the completion of over 30 years of Shell service, R. A. Holmes, Dispatching, retired on pension on January 1.

Mr. Holmes was first employed by Shell as a Painter in the Car Department at the old Arkansas City, Kansas, Refinery in 1923.

He moved to Houston in January, 1936, as a Car Repairman, the position he has held ever since.

"I'm looking forward to taking about a six-month vacation," Ray said when asked of his retirement plans, adding: "Then I'll spend some time working on my farm in Northern Oklahoma. I'm also looking forward to doing a lot of fishing."

Mr. Holmes is married and has a grown daughter.

Mr. Holmes (his many Shell friends know him as Ray) was born in Hutchinson, Kansas, and attended school in Winfield.

Personnel Changes

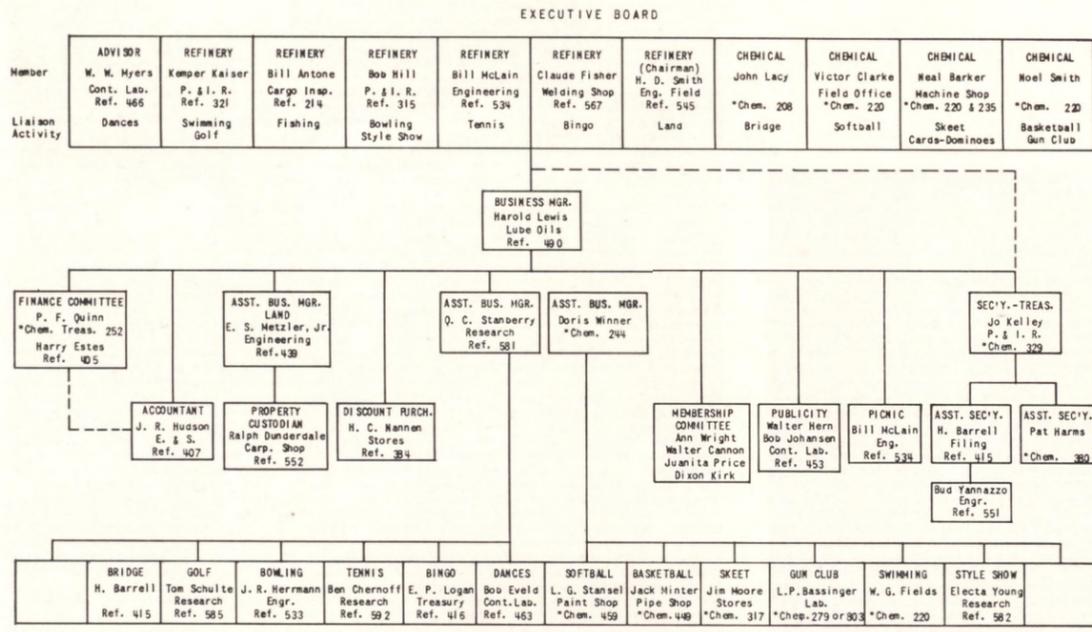
REFINERY

- J. C. Card.....Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2, Thermal Cracking (Cleanout), to Rigger Hlpr. No. 2, Engineering Field.
- B. E. Clark.....Machinist Hlpr. No. 2 Eng. Fld. to Carpenter Hlpr. No. 2
- B. J. Dubcak.....Lineman Hlpr. No. 1 Eng. Fld. to Truck Driver No. 2.
- F. T. Fulgham.....Pressureman, Thermal Cracking to Lineman Hlpr. No. 2, Engineering Field.
- A. Hampton.....Operator No. 1, Cat. Cracking, to Tester No. 3, Control Lab.
- R. C. Hoffman.....Clerk, Lube, to Clerk, Treasury.
- H. G. Hummel.....Fireman, Utilities, to Tool Room Man, Engineering Field.
- H. W. Jeter.....Dockman No. 1, Dispatching, to Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2, Thermal Cracking (Cleanout).
- T. J. Lyons.....Fireman, Utilities, to Gen'l Hlpr. No. 1, Gas.
- Betty McCambridge.....Clerk, Operating Pay Roll, to Clerk, General Accounting.
- M. M. McDonald.....Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2, Thermal Cracking, to Machinist Hlpr. No. 2, Engineering Field.
- J. M. McKinney.....Fireman, Thermal Cracking to Loader, Lube C.
- R. U. Melten.....Toolroom Man, Eng. Fld., to Gen. Hlpr. No. 1, Effluent Control.
- W. E. Meyer.....Dockman No. 1, Dispatching, to Gen. Hlpr. No. 1, Thermal Cracking.
- Carol Ann Nash.....Operator Duplicating, Treasury, to Stenographer, Research.
- B. J. Roberts.....Gauger No. 1, Dispatching, to Gen. Hlpr. No. 2, Eng. Field.
- J. D. Topping.....Boilermaker Hlpr. No. 2, Eng. Fld., to Machinist Hlpr. No. 2.
- W. E. Womble.....Electrician Hlpr., Eng. Fld., to Car Repairman, Dispatching.
- W. C. Dorflinger.....Clerk, Treasury, to Clerk, Lubricating Oils.

CHEMICAL

- J. T. Arterbury.....Shift Foreman, G, to Shift Foreman, Norco Plant.
- G. E. Beatty.....Eng., Engineering, to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- J. L. Beauregard.....Senior Eng. Inspector, Eng., to Senior Eng. Inspector, Engineering-Development.
- C. J. Benoit.....Gen. Hlpr. No. 2, Eng., to Gen. Operator Hlpr.
- W. H. Berkley.....Eng. Inspector, Eng., to Fire & Safety Inspector, P & IR.
- H. G. Braxton, Jr.....Military Leave to Chemist, Laboratory.
- J. L. Campbell.....Clerk, Treasury to Clerk, Engineering.
- R. L. Coppage.....Eng. Engineering to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- J. W. Cunningham.....Technologist, Tech. to Norco Plant.
- E. M. Davis.....Eng., Engineering to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- H. J. Derr.....Eng., Engineering to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- W. E. Derrick.....Eng., Engineering to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- S. L. Finneran.....Sr. Eng., Engineering, to Sr. Eng., Engineering-Development.
- L. M. Ford.....Gen. Hlpr. No. 2, Eng. to Gen. Operator Hlpr.
- F. L. Fredrickson.....Eng., Engineering, to Eng., Engineering-Development.
- S. Q. Gentry.....Rigger Hlpr. No. 1 (B), Eng., to Instrumentman Hlpr. No. 2, Engineering.
- L. M. Glover.....Truck Driver No. 2/FAO No. 2, Eng., to Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2, Engineering.
- R. V. Goette.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- R. J. Haak.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- D. R. Hayes.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- L. A. Hilton.....Gen. Hlpr. No. 1, Engineering, to Operator Hlpr., A Dept.
- J. Hudig.....Senior Technologist, England, to Senior Technologist, Tech.
- C. Kendrick.....Military Leave to Carpenter Helper, Engineering.
- H. L. Nicholson, Jr.....Analyst Stock, Stores, to Ventura Plant.
- A. L. Petersen, Jr.....Chief Eng. Inspector, Eng. to Engineer, Engineering.
- D. K. Peterson.....Chemist, Laboratory, to Norco Plant.
- W. B. Rhoden.....Sr. Eng. Inspector, Eng. to Sr. Eng. Inspector, Engineering-Development.
- T. E. Royall.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- W. R. Schaar.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- C. M. Schneider, Jr.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- W. A. Scruggs.....Engineer, Engineering, to Engineer, Engineering-Development.
- H. V. Smith.....Technical Assistant, P&R, to Chemist, Laboratory.
- R. G. Sproston, Jr.....Engineer, Engineering to Engineer, Engineering-Development.

S E R A. ORGANIZATION CHART - 1954 - 55



Chemical Plant: HERE AND THERE Of TV, Picnics, Lemons, Bowling, A Farewell Party

The next morning after a recent "This Is Your Life" television program, many people were talking about the wonderful story of the displaced Polish girl, Helen Ostranski, who had led a very tragic life but had finally come to the United States and found a new home. Joe Valcik, an Engineer, had an interesting angle to add to the story. Johnny was stationed in Frankfort, Germany from November of 1941 to June of 1946, and he knew Helen, who was living there at that time. In fact, Helen was a waitress in the Mess Hall, and her husband, Freddie, was her boss. Being Polish, Helen could understand Johnny when he spoke Czechoslovakian, so they became friends. To be sure, Johnny was quite surprised when he saw Helen and Freddie on television.

Technological Department members spent two swell Sundays at the new SERA grounds. The first time they went down for a family barbecue. Bob Hanning was the chief chef, and what delicious barbecue it was! After everyone had their fill, the group burned up a little energy by playing volleyball. The following Sunday the Tech. crew donned their work clothes and went out to build picnic tables. They put together some thirty tables to be used for family picnics at the grounds.



Play ball . . . volleyball that is . . .

J. J. Jones has a lemon tree in his yard and what a tree it is! Lemons that weigh a pound and are four inches across have grown on it. The tree is three years old and stands about six feet high. Mr. Jones makes pies and lemonade from most of the 150 lemons it bears each year. They can get almost a half cup of juice from one lemon "so you know they are large, even though we Texans do like to brag," says Mr. Jones, a Boilermaker.

The Chemical Plant bowling league did a change of pace from their regular team competition on December 30 by holding an exciting New Year's Doubles tournament. Prize money went to H. P. Graham and Rex Brown, of Eng. Field, for high double series (1150) and to W. Schaer and Roger Coppage, Eng., for high double game (421). Strike and collect tickets were sold as an added feature. The total collection was \$12.60. Four attempts were made before Rex Brown rolled—the first strike and the money. Others whose names were called and who missed were Bob Haak, Engineering, Johnny Word, Engineering Field, and Charlie Chambers, Shipping.

A farewell party, held jointly for J. E. Condon and H. L. Nicholson of Stores, was attended by some sixty Stores Department folks. A choice of steak, seafood, or turkey along with excellent service was enjoyed by the group at "R's" restaurant. Fred Gerbode took on the Master of Ceremonies job and "Barry" Bradshaw filmed some fine motion pictures of the event. There was dancing for the group after the meal.

Dot Carlson, wife of Franz Carlson of the Technological Department, is a 200 bowler and then some. Early in the Fall season, Dot earned her 200 lapel pin when she rolled a 200 game, and that same night also rolled a 207 game. A member of the "Heavy Ends" team, she held the high series for women at the close of the first half of the winter league with a score of 628.



Dot Carlson

Hugo Lueders' Attic Arsenal

By RICHARD BEE

Most attics are storage places for infrequently used articles, and are homes for spiders and other creatures. The attic of Hugo Lueders, a Number 1 Operator at S Distillation, doesn't fall into any of these categories. It is an arsenal of old and new U. S. Military rifles, (35 in all), ranging from an 1822 model to modern pieces.

Hugo's hobby since 1942 has been collecting and restoring these rifles and their accessories to their original working condition. As a result of this hobby, Hugo has remodeled the attic of his home, at 7013 Schley, in Pecan Park, into an attractive display room for his collection and his many books and magazines of reference material on weapons.

Interesting Origins

Since guns have always played a very important part in American History many of these rifles have interesting stories as to their origin and use. Hugo's favorite and most prized rifle, an 1860 Linsey, two-shot percussion musket, is a single barreled muzzle loading rifle that fires 2 shots



From his collection of accessories, Hugo displays the curious looking trowel bayonet, which is often used to dig fox holes.

dian while trying to reload an old single-shot rifle. It was put into vented by Mr. Linsey because his brother had been killed by an In-

continued because sometime both shots fired at the same time. Another model, an 1855 Maynard Tape Primer is the great grandfather of our modern day cap pistols. It has a roll of caps that turns when the rifle is fired and replaces the spent cap, thus enabling the rifle to be reloaded faster. This model was invented by a Dentist, of all people.

Many Accessories

Many of the accessories for these rifles are as interesting as the rifles themselves. The trowel bayonet for the model 1873 Springfield is not only a curious looking weapon, but can be used in digging fox holes. Hugo has triangular bayonets, ram rod bayonets and many more.

Mr. Lueders has been an employee of the Shell Chemical Corporation for seven years and at present is Secretary of the SERA's Gun Club. He advises anyone interested in guns to attend one of the club's meetings, which are held every Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.



In his Attic Arsenal, Hugo admires his favorite gun from his collection of some thirty-five weapons. It is an 1860 Linsey.

Accidents don't pay—ask the man who had one!

SHELL SERVICE BIRTHDAYS



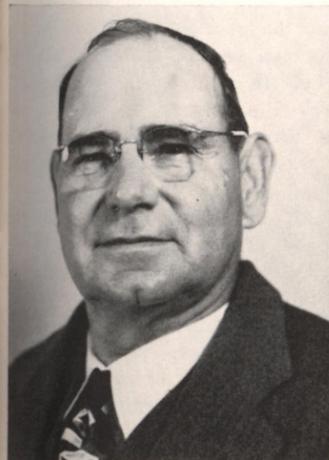
25 YEARS
B. L. Allen
Utilities



25 YEARS
J. T. Griffin
Control Laboratory



25 YEARS
H. H. Hall
Dispatching



25 YEARS
M. W. Hendricks
Thermal Cracking



25 YEARS
M. C. Radford
Dispatching



25 YEARS
J. E. Stowers
Engineering



20 YEARS
L. A. Gruber
Thermal Cracking



20 YEARS
O. C. Hickman
Thermal Cracking



20 YEARS
G. E. O'Neil
Automotive



20 YEARS
O. M. Sechler
Laboratory, Chemical



15 YEARS
B. G. Post
Research



CHEMICAL

Sept. 4: Richard Franklin, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Stribling (Engineering).

Sept. 22: Fred Monroe, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. M. Newton (Boiler Shop).

Oct. 1: Stephen Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. D. McLendon (Tool Room).

Oct. 14: Elaine Carol, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Falk (A Department).

Oct. 15: Donald Gene, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Ressler (Pipe Shop).

Oct. 16: Linda Diane, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Berry (G Department).

Oct. 22: Susan Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Klarquist (Laboratory).

Nov. 9: Mary Catherine, daughter of L. B. Celusniak (Machine Shop).

Nov. 11: Mary Kathryn, daughter of J. B. Phillips (Electric Shop).

Nov. 19: Diane Elizabeth, daughter of R. B. Stewart (Welding Shop).

Nov. 30: William Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Fulton (E Dept.).

Dec. 9: Ralph Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Winkler (Machine Shop).

Dec. 10: Karla Jean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Starr (Pipe Shop).

Dec. 13: Russell Lynn, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Martin (P & R).

Dec. 17: Linda Elizabeth, daughter of D. W. Miles (Automotive).

Dec. 19: Evelyn Louise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ehler (Eng. Field).

Dec. 27: Deborah Jean, daughter of W. L. Henry (Riggers).

Dec. 18: Jimmie Ellaine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bivin (Electric Shop).

Dec. 30: William Arthur, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Morgan (P & IR).

Jan. 4: Randolph Franklin, son of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Sorrells (Insulator Shop).

Jan. 10: Michael Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Willis (A Dept.).

Jan. 17: Rhonda Denise, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Summerlin (Boiler Shop).

Shell's Houston Tax Representative Retires

D. B. Matthews, Shell's Houston Tax Representative since 1950, retired January 1 after 31 years of service, and has been succeeded by V. D. Overman, formerly a tax representative in the Houston area. Houston Refinery and Chemical Plant are included in the territory covered by the Tax Representative.

Mr. Matthews joined Shell at St. Louis in 1923 and became a tax representative there in 1930. In 1939, he moved to Houston as tax representative and became supervisor of financial taxes in 1941. He served with Shell Pipe Line Corporation in Houston during 1948 and 1949, becoming assistant tax manager.

Mr. Overman was first employed by Shell in 1941 as a production clerk at Tulsa and advanced through positions of increasing responsibility there, being appointed a tax representative at Tulsa in January, 1953. He became a tax representative at Houston in March, 1953.

Ten Year Anniversaries

REFINERY

R. Alexander
Engineering

J. M. Bennett
Lubricating Oils

M. F. Hannusch
Engineering

F. B. Harrison
Engineering

E. E. Kulhanek
Thermal Cracking

H. H. Moos
Thermal Cracking

E. A. Zalesak
Engineering

CHEMICAL

B. Faircloth
Engineering

C. B. Malone
Engineering

W. E. Nelson
Engineering

D. W. Stephens
Stores

H. F. Thomas
Engineering



... these new employees and welcomed them to Shell?

CHEMICAL Engineering

J. Evans, Laborer
H. S. Gonggrijp, Jr. Engineer

Treasury
R. B. Smith, Jr., Clerk
J. L. Shirley, File Clerk

REFINERY

Control Lab
W. D. Hargett, Chemist

Engineering
J. L. Barrett, Clerk
J. Tagg, Engineer

Research

J. E. Nichols, Jr. Lab Assistant
Treasury

Betty Lee Lewis, Stenographer
Margie Watson Nelius, Stenographer

G. C. Brittian Expires

G. C. Brittian, a Shell employee for twenty-three years, died on Dec. 26, 1954. He had worked as a Welder at both the Refinery and the Chemical Plant, and held several certificates form the Industrial Welding and Testing Laboratory. A native of San Augustine, Texas, Mr. Brittian was sixty-two at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Alice I. Brittian and three children.



Brittian

If Largest Hotel Stored Oil

The world's largest hotel, if converted into a mammoth storage tank, would hold only enough oil to supply the nation for about 10 hours. As an oil tank, the hotel would hold 3.4 million barrels. The United States requires over 8.3 million barrels a day for its domestic and foreign demand.

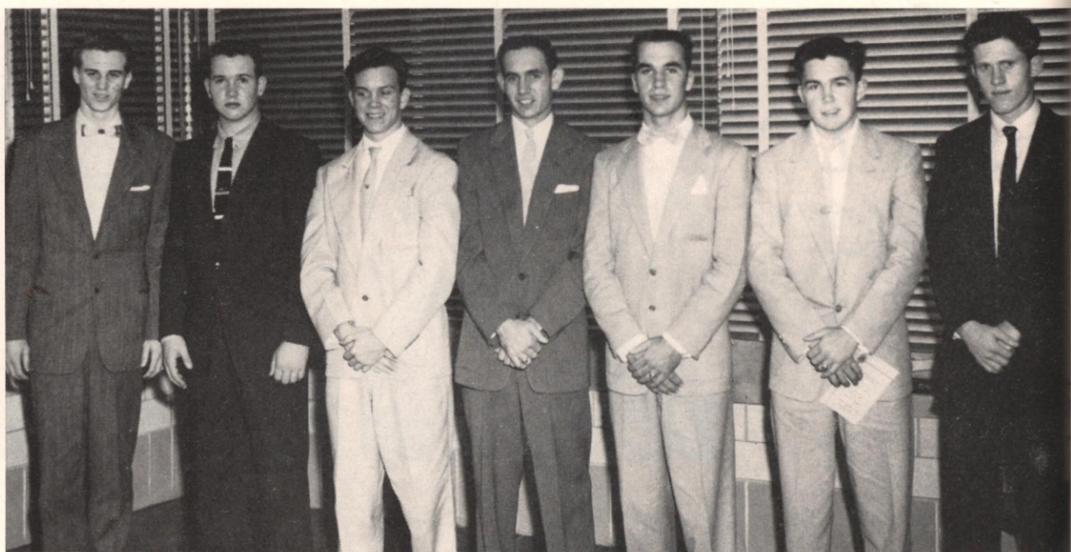
Safety Posters Ask: What's In It For Me?

A new series of 24 Safety posters began appearing on Refinery bulletin boards last month. The series points up to the individual employee the importance of avoiding injury by working safely, and is appropriately entitled, "What's In It For Me?" That question will be answered each week by a poster giving a different reason for working safely.



Shell Engineeress, Pat Stallings, Posts Mayor's Edict

Pat Stallings, Houston Refinery Research Engineer, uses the traditional "woman's hammer" to post the first placard announcing National Engineers' Week. Houston's Mayor Roy Hofheinz lends moral support after signing a proclamation designating February 20-26 as National Engineers Week.



Hail the Champs Deer Park Wins State Grid Title

The Deer Park High School football team which won the State Class A title was honored with a banquet at the school on January 10. The seven Shell sons who were on the Deer Park "A" team are pictured above. Left to right order they are: Marshall Smith (son of Refinery Pipefitter G. A. Smith), Benny Stephenson (son of Plant Electrician N. Stephenson), Penny O'Neal (son of Refinery Gas Dept. Operating Assistant S. P. O'Neal), Jimmy Carpenter (son of Refinery Distillation Department Manager W. A. Carpenter), Luther Cain (son of Refinery Machinist L. F. Cain), Hubert Taylor (son of Refinery Welder H. Taylor) and Colin Dunn (son of Refinery Pumper-Gauger E. E. Dunn). Young Carpenter, star quarterback for the Deer, was named to the All-State squad. He was also placed on the All-District squad along with the Cain youngster. The other Shell sons also received praise from the various newspapers for their outstanding play during the year.



Instrument Shop personnel who recently completed a course in Industrial Instrumentation at the Pasadena Vocational School are pictured above in an informal get together in the Shop's Training Room with their instructor, Refinery Instrument Engineer Ben Stanton, standing. The students are, left to right, front row: L. E. Milholland, T. Huffman, H. L. Simon, E. R. Smith. Back row: C. A. Janac, C. F. Pack, W. T. Mehrkam, M. Muscarello. Not in the picture. B. Byerly, J. A. Sullivan, R. E. Spencer, H. L. Mize.



Receives First Training Check

Lt. Col. J. A. Thomas of the U. S. Air Force Reserve and the Refinery Drafting Room, right, receives from Sergeant H. C. Roads, USAF, the first check issued to a member of the Air Force Reserve Unit in Pasadena for participation in a specializer training program.



Represent 69 Years of Service

In August, 1939, O. R. (Buddy) Felten, pensioner; R. H. (Doc) Coombs, Treasury, and Dr. R. H. Waser, pensioner living in California, became the first Houston Refinery employees to receive Twenty-year Shell service awards. Felten, left above, recalls fond memories with Coombs by paging through back issues of The Shellegram during a recent visit to the Refinery. Buddy was a Zone Supervisor and had 33 years of service when he retired in 1951. Coombs has 36 years to his credit. Together, they represent 69 years of service.



Jim Walker Scores For Deer Park Firemen

Jim Walker, Refinery Lube, sets sail for a long gain for the Deer Park Volunteer Fire Department football team. But La Porte's Firemen won the classic struggle by a 39-13 score.

Return Postage Guaranteed

F. O. Box 2627
Houston 1, Texas

MELVIN L. RENQUIST
1906 LOCKLAINE ST
PASADENA, TEXAS

PAID
Deer Park, Texas
Permit No. 1