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HOUSTON REFINERY

"It Strikes Us This Way"

No. 59

Wednesday, December 26, 1962

TO ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

HOLIDAY MESSAGE

(The following message was received by Refinery Manager L. T. Wilson from Monroe E. Spaght, President of Shell Oil Company.)

"Let me send to you and through you to everyone of your staff my sincere thanks and admiration for the magnificent job you are doing. May each of you and your families enjoy the blessings of Christmas and a Happy New Year."

/s/ Monroe E. Spaght

NEGOTIATIONS

At the request of the Conciliator, representatives of the Company and Union are meeting this afternoon in Houston.....No news to report from the other locations.

OPERATIONS

It seems that "newsy" items took a holiday...cause there's not much to report from operations today....or at least that's the last word from our huge staff of correspondents in the field. More cold weather in sight...so the weatherman told the veterinarian, it's "unfit for outdoor operations"....But the drop in temperature isn't likely to slow the pulse rate of the Refinery, which at the last measure was in the mid 140,000's per day....Necessary maintenance around the units goes right along....like down at the Alky Plant where work centers around C-109 (Ammonia Booster Compressor)....and in Aromatics where the Feed Prep was down for a short while Monday to clean a couple of coolers....and at the Cat. Cracker as one of the spiraxial blowers (whatever that is) is down for a look-see by someone who does know.

...AT THE CHEMICAL PLANT

The following quote from the most recent issue of the Houston Chemical Plant's NEWS BULLETIN: "As we begin the fifth month of the strike, all units are operating at high or record rates and Plant maintenance is being continued at a most satisfactory level."

SAFETY

Here's something to think about..."Know when most accidents occur?" Well, it's doing the normal, everyday routine on the job. And that fact comes from our friend in the white hat, Louie G. Why is this the case? We know how to work safely...and we take pride in working up a good safety record. As Louie points out, we become so familiar with our routine jobs...they require so little time...that we are prone to sometimes take chances and fail to take the necessary precautions for our safety. To prove his point, Louie lists a few "chances" that could very easily result in an accident to the un-safety minded - or his companions.....Working without a hard hat... Failure to wear goggles and other protective clothing when working with chemicals... Not observing traffic signals...Using tools improperly...Using damaged tools.... Doing small jobs on machinery and equipment without proper precautions and working in areas without first getting approval....These are all chance-taking practices, and each time they are performed the more certain you can be that the odds are stacking up against the offender.

(Over)

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And a reminder that next Monday, December 31, is the last day for submitting entries in the January Safety Slogan contest....Look for the winner to be announced on Friday, January 4.

ODDS & ENDS

FOUND: Down at the Main Gate where the north winds blow, the gents in uniform report finding two items: a brown and yellow scarf, and a black pigskin leather glove (left hand only).....so if you're the owner and your left hand will fit the glove - and your neck will fit the scarf.....drop by and claim your lost goods.

BIRTHDAY BELLES & BEAUS:

December 26 - R. R. Lambert

December 27 - Jack Kennerty

SMALL ENVELOPES: Deke Lucas called our attention to a fact which may or may not be important to you in your way of doing things....Small envelopes cannot be mailed after January 1, 1963. The Post Office will require all envelopes to be a minimum of 3" high and 4 1/4" long anytime after the first of the year.

USED TREES: A note to the bargain hunters....The Editor has received info on good authority that there are places in town where early '63 Christmas shoppers may purchase at drastically reduced prices used '62 Christmas trees. If interested,..... why?

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