

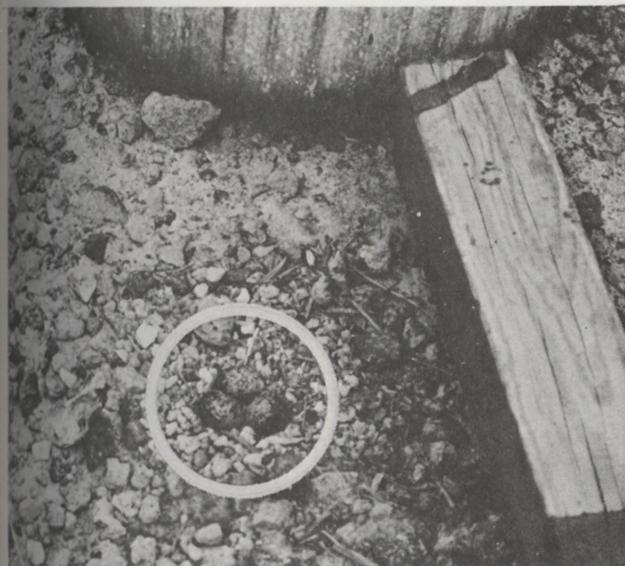


# Shellegraph

Houston Refinery

Vol. 37, No. 24

Friday, June 23, 1972



Ecology-minded employees didn't want anyone to run over this kildee nest and the three eggs, so they put a large can and a piece of wood nearby. The mother bird had her own plan for keeping people away; as soon as anyone approached she tried to lead them away from the nest and would not pose for this picture.

## EMPLOYEES TO ENJOY 6,755 WEEKS OF VACATION TIME OFF THIS YEAR

Imagine a five-week tour of Europe with stops in quaint little towns, or an around-the-world cruise, or a non-stop paint-up fix-up campaign around the house. For the more adventuresome of the longer service employees, travels to exotic places are made easier through use of their five weeks of vacation each year.

Many of the employees working at the Refinery who are eligible for five weeks will be exploring new places, while others will be spending the time relaxing around familiar places. These people, about 54 per cent of all employees here, have been with the company twenty years or more and together have 4,575 weeks or more than 87 years of vacation.

About 18 per cent of the employees have between 10-20 years of company service and will earn four weeks of time off this year.

Approximately 150 employees or about 9 per cent have 5-10 years of service and will be enjoying three weeks of vacation this year. About 15 per cent of the employees have two-weeks of vacation. They have worked for Shell from 1-5 years. Only 45 new employees have to wait until sometime this year to get their first two-week vacation.

All together, employees at the Houston Refinery will have earned 6,755 weeks or more than 129 years of vacation time in 1972.

## ROBERT W. BRAY ASSUMES DUTIES OF REFINERY SUPERINTENDENT

Robert W. Bray, has assumed the duties of refinery superintendent succeeding J. D. Ramsey whose transfer to the Norco Refinery was announced earlier.

Bray, who was previously chief engineer at Wood River, began his career at the Houston Refinery after receiving his B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1949.

Following assignments in engineering, utilities, technological, and thermal cracking, he was transferred to Head Office, New York, in 1958 as senior engineer.

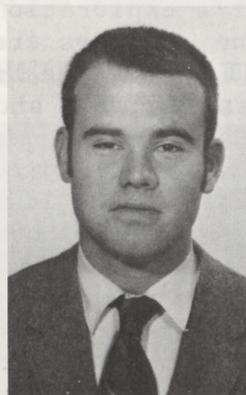
He went to Wood River in 1960 as manager Utilities. In 1965 he was named chief engineer, and transferred to the Anacortes Refinery. He

Bray was transferred from there to the same position at the Wilmington Refinery in 1968. He returned to Wood River in 1969.

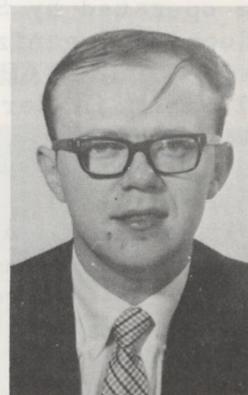


## Consolidation

### BURKE BAKER, VIC YESAVAGE TRANSFER TO BELLAIRE RESEARCH



Baker



Yesavage

Burke Baker, III, and V. F. Yesavage, research engineers, MTM Research--Houston, are being transferred to the Chemical Engineering Department, Corporate R&D - Engineering, Bellaire Research Center.

Burke worked at the MTM Process R&D Laboratory during the summers of 1963, 1964 and 1965. After obtaining his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, he joined the lab in 1969.

Vic joined the MTM Process R&D Laboratory in November 1968 after obtaining his Ph.D. in chemical engineering at the University of Michigan.



Six Shell employees, Johnny Campo, Charlie Clements, Don Bailey, Lefty Bishop, Claude Cassidy and Edward Johnson, were on this 1942-43 baseball team sponsored by the Refinery. The team played in the Industrial League and was "the best team we ever had since I've been here," said Don Bailey.

### SHELL'S LARGEST SULFUR RECOVERY PLANT COMING ON STREAM IN MISS.

Shell's Thomasville Plant, the largest plant in the country for the recovery of sulfur from hydrocarbon's, is coming on stream.

The multimillion dollar facility, located in central Mississippi near Jackson, will process about 100 million cubic feet of sour gas a day to produce 1,250 long tons of sulfur (a long ton is 2,240 pounds) and 55 million cubic feet of sweet gas. A contract was signed recently for sale of about 50 million cubic feet of the gas to Mississippi Chemical Corporation's Yazoo City Plant.

The plant uses the Claus process for sulfur recovery, where hydrogen sulfide is converted to elemental sulfur by partial combustion with air in the presence of a bauxite catalyst. It is the fourth plant of this type operated by Shell's Exploration and Production Organization. Others are the Person Plant in Central Texas, the Bryans Mill Plant in Northeast Texas, and the Goodwater Plant near Goodwater, Mississippi.

Feedstock for the plant will come from four gas wells in the Thomasville Field in the Piney Woods area. Downhole tubular goods (the in-hole equipment needed to carry the gas from the producing formation to the surface), the wellhead equipment, and the flow lines (these carry the gas from the well to the gas plant), are constructed of special steel which makes them resistant to the corrosive effects of the hydrogen sulfide contained in the sour gas.

At the Thomasville Plant, the sour gas is passed through a separator to remove any produced water present in the gas as a liquid. The produced water, along with some process water from the plant and water used for sanitary purposes, is disposed of underground by injection into a saltwater-bearing sand at a depth of 4,500 feet. This disposal system has been designed to prevent contamination of any usable waters.

After the initial separation process, "acid gases" (carbon dioxide and hydrogen sulfide) and water vapor must also be removed

before the gas is ready for sale and use. Out of the 100 million cubic feet of sour gas fed into the plant daily, 50 million is sold as dry, sweet gas, 5 million is used as fuel and 45 million is converted to sulfur or removed as water or carbon dioxide.

Don played with the team about eight years and later managed. The '42-43 team finished second in the league after playing teams from other companies in the area and out-of-town. Oldtimers will recall the old baseball field on Highway 225 which was built by Shell for the team.

The acid gases recovered from the sour gas serve as the feed stream to the sulfur recovery plant. In this plant, a carefully controlled amount of air is mixed with the acid gases to burn one-third of the hydrogen sulfide to form sulfur dioxide.

This same chemical reaction is used indirectly to generate all electrical power required at the Thomasville Plant. The heat produced by the reaction converts water to steam which, in turn, powers turbines to drive electrical generators.

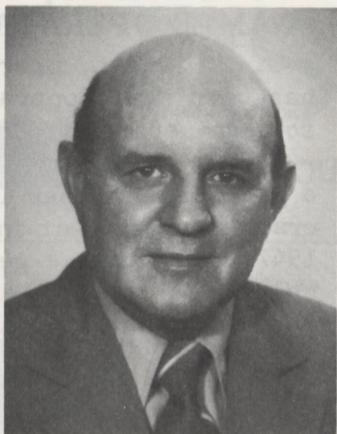
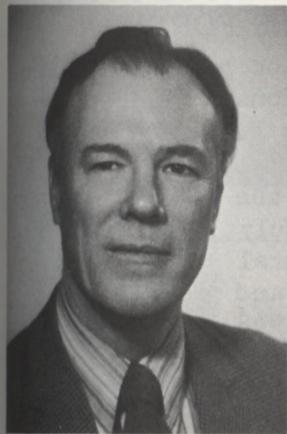
Safety and environmental matters were of major concern in the design of the plant. Should a leak of sour gas occur in the plant area, it would be detected by a 10-point monitor and alarm system. Ambient concentrations of sulfur dioxide in the vicinity of the plant will be continuously monitored at three locations outside the plant. All or any of the plant processes can be remotely shut-in from the plant control room.

The sulfur plant is designed to maximize sulfur recovery and minimize both air pollution and waste of natural resources.



When George Cousins retired, Oscar Champ presented him a shrimp caller made out of the top of a plastic bottle. He also received other necessary shrimping equipment.

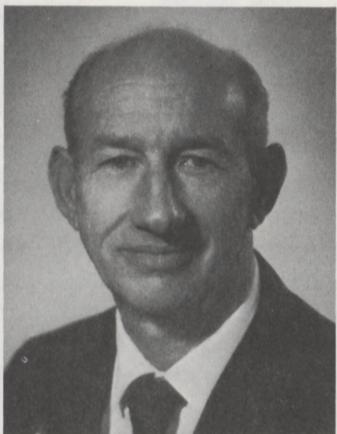
SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES



30 Years  
W. P. Bryan  
Tech

30 Years  
J. C. Grissom  
Utilities

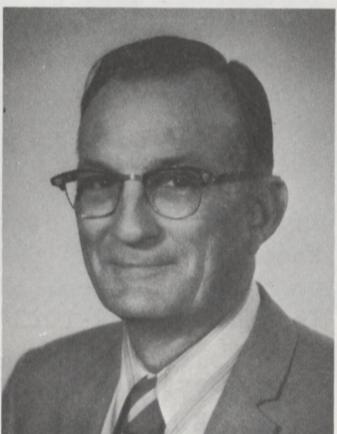
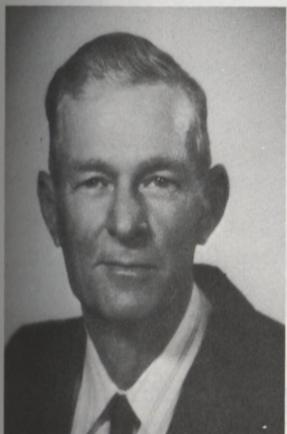
30 Years  
B. L. Jones  
Research



30 Years  
C. A. Schaeffer, Jr.  
Utilities

30 Years  
W. H. Shields  
Eng. Field

30 Years  
W. O. Wicker  
Eng. Field



25 Years  
M. H. Alston  
Eng. Field

25 Years  
Q. L. Berry  
Refinery Lab

25 Years  
E. W. Herrington  
Stores

LUBE HOLDS TWO DINNERS TO HONOR EMPLOYEES FOR SAFE YEAR



At the Lube parties were Mr. and Mrs. Jack Mitchell, Mrs. and Mr. R. T. Garbs, Mr. and

Mrs. W. Wingfield, Mrs. and Mr. C. C. Barnes and Mrs. and Mr. W. J. Austin.



Honorees included Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Sims, Mrs. and Mr. R. A. McCafferty, Mr. and

Mrs. G. H. Cook, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Gunn and Mrs. and Mr. G. O. Williams.



Granville Callaghan said farewell to fellow carpenters and was presented a camera, boots and a new hat to use at new Arkansas home.

**In Utilities**

**W. E. STRAIT, OPERATOR NO. 1, NAMED OPERATIONS FOREMAN**

W. E. Strait, operator no. 1, utilities, has been named operations foreman, effective July 1.

Willie began working as a pipefitter helper in the cracking department in July 1947. He became a general helper at the boiler and powerhouse in March 1948 and moved to operator no. 2 in August of that year. He became an operator no. 1 in January 1953.



**OIL FACT**

A refinery with 100,000 barrel capacity can cost \$125 million to build.

**CLASSIFIEDS**

FOR SALE

Boy's Schwinn "Pea Picker" bicycle, original cost, \$85, excellent condition, \$25. Telephone: MI 4-0623

1962 Chevrolet Belair, 4/d, good work car, \$125. Telephone: 487-1368

1964 Chevrolet 1/2 ton long W/B, 6, stepside pickup, good running condition, \$350. Telephone: 487-0805

1971 yellow Toyota Corolla. Very good condition. Asking \$1550. Telephone: 422-6050 (Baytown) or 336-5629 (Liberty) after 5

Garage Sale: Go-cart engine, 14" deluxe wheel covers, toys & clothes--June 29, 30, July 1. 1014 S. Johnson, Pasadena.

1971 green Volkswagen, very good condition, Telephone: 336-5629 (Liberty) or 422-6050 (Baytown) after 5

Chair--blue, green fabric, 40" wide, 10" arms, recently reupholstered, \$30. Telephone: 477-1943

Set of 4 Autolite shocks, new for Econoline, \$25. VW tape player radio, \$25. New Econoline rear bumper, \$20 complete, 44 magnum 94 Winchester, \$95. VW bus luggage rack, \$25. Sell, swap, trade, etc. Telephone: 479-1772

19' Shasta camper trailer, self contained, air cond., heated, electric brakes, 1965 model, \$1895. Telephone: 946-7704

1971 350 CB Honda, like new, two crash helmets, windshield & luggage rack, \$695. Telephone: 472-2735

16' Skeeter bass boat and tilt trailer; 55-horse power Evinrude motor with power tilt, troll motor and sonar depth finder and other extras. Ready to go. Telephone: 472-6382

Starcraft deluxe camping trailer. Fiberglass (no rusting), two-tone, luggage rack, sleeps 4-6, hard top travel cover, 500 lbs., hitch weight 28 lbs., load cap., 400 lbs. Light, easy to pull--great for beach. Very good condition. \$450. Telephone: 479-1023

Danish Modern living room suite, \$300. (His & hers chairs, ottoman, couch, 2 octagon commodes, coffee table.) Blonde ash modern dining table (banquet size) & 6 cane-back chairs, \$75. Gulbransen console piano & bench--blonde, \$450. Telephone: 487-2042 or 472-3167

Trailer hitch, heavy duty "safe-pull", factory made for '68 Dodge Charger. Bolts to frame & bumper. \$10. Telephone: 479-1023

Decca portable stereo, \$25. 6x9 foot red area rug, like new, \$30. Telephone: 771-8887

5 shot full choke, pump 12 ga. shot gun, ideal bird & duck gun, less than 1 box shells shot. Cost \$115. Sell for \$75 including 1+ boxes of shells. Telephone: 473-4616

Lennox 4 ton condenser unit. Compressor has bad valves. \$50. Telephone: 941-0349

'70 VW, radio, htr, air, 1 hp. 3 stage jet pump, 82 gal. tank, auto water softener, 9x15 tent. Telephone: 692-1698

WANT TO BUY  
Side to side (across the bed) tool box for pickup. Telephone: 479-1772

PERSONAL

Ruby and I would like to say "thank you" for your friendship extended to us during the many years. Your hospitality and generosity will always be remembered. We would like to extend to you a most hearty welcome to our home when you are in Waller, Texas.

Harry J. McKeown