 Houston Refinery

# Shellegraph

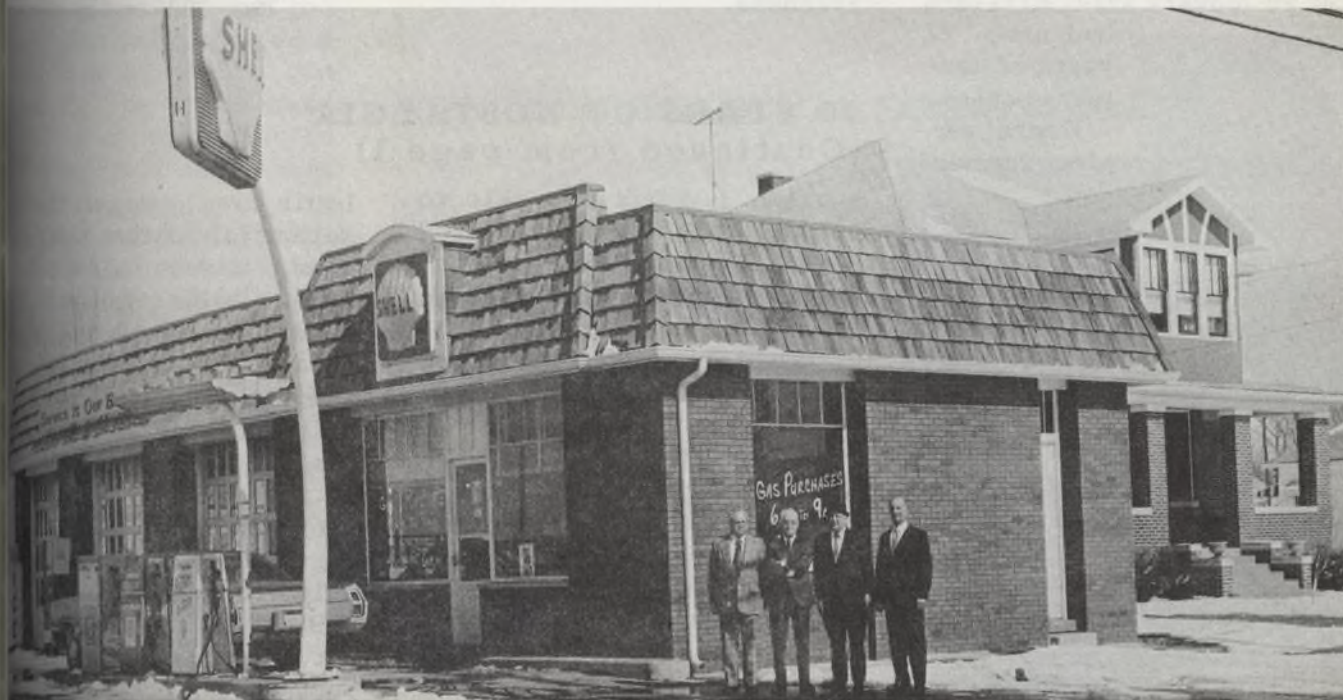
Friday, June 28, 1974

Vol. 39, No. 25

STATION PHOTO OPENS DOOR TO 46 YEARS OF NOSTALGIA



Station then . . .



Station now . . . Same station, same people, 46 years apart: left to right, Harry Roberts, who now operates his own machine shop in St. Louis; John Cargiat, retired; Louis Bertetti, who operates a radio shop in Benld; and John Fassero, present vice-president of the jobbership. In background at right: the Fassero home.

Got a minute? Or two? This story's a little involved, and it gets a bit kinky here and there. There's nothing all that important about it, but if you've got a minute or two . . .

Remember back in January when the SHELEGRAPH ran a 46-year-old photograph of a Shell station across the top of page one?

The caption under the photo said: "This scene will undoubtedly evoke many pleasant memories of 'the good old days'

to all employees who remember when filling stations, such as the one above, were all the rage. Modern and up-to-date was the word in 1927 for this filling station in Benld, Illinois, a small town then, and a small town now."

Bob Griffin of the publications section of Head Office Public Relations spotted the photo, noted the reference to Benld, Illinois, and called F. J. "Corky" Cordera over in Two Shell Plaza. Cordera's with Shell Development - in

Research Organization and Facilities.

"Hey, Corky, aren't you a native of Benld?"

"Born and raised."

"Well, here on my desk I have a photograph of a Benld Shell station taken in 1927...."

"Know it well," Cordera said, "Station's still there. Only one in town. Worked there a couple of times myself when I was a kid. Still operated by the same Shell jobber. The jobber lived right behind the  
(Continued on page 2)

### AN ACTIVE EMPLOYEE AND THREE RETIREES DIE

George Henry Harral, Jr., 52, died June 17.

Harral was an operator No. 1, Distilling, and had 20 years of company service at the time of his death.

Funeral services were held June 20 at the Forest Park Chapel with burial at the Forest Park Lawndale Cemetery.

He is survived by his wife, Vannie M., who resides at 8218 Minnesota in Houston.

Everett L. Williams, 63, retired pipefitter No. 1, Engineering Field, died June 15.

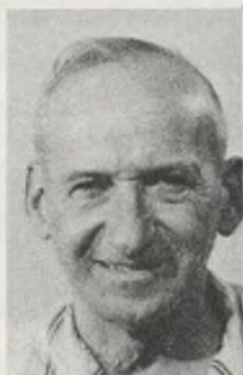
At the time of his retirement in January 1974, Williams had some 27 years of company service.

Funeral services were conducted June 18 at Forest Park Chapel in Houston.

He is survived by his wife, Pauline, who resides at 2204 South Memorial in Houston.

W. D. Murtishaw, 69, retired operator No. 1, Gas Recovery, died June 18. At the time of his retirement, Murtishaw had 20 years of company service.

Funeral services were held at the Art Simpson Funeral Home in La Porte with burial at Grandview Cemetery.



He is survived by his wife, Meryle L., of 755 Lobit in La Porte.

W. E. "Bill" Mathews, 81, retired assistant craft foreman, Engineering Field, died June 23. At time of his retirement in January 1952, Mathews had 24 years of company service.

Funeral services were conducted June 26 at the Griffin-Leggett Funeral Home in Little Rock, Arkansas. Burial will be in the Little Rock National Cemetery.

Mathews is survived by his wife, Fadie Mae, who resides at 113 Underwood in Hot Springs, Arkansas.



### A REMINDER . . .

With the change of hospitalization carriers, a number of hourly employees failed to enroll in the new hospitalization insurance program that became effective on June 1. If you have failed to return the enrollment cards which were mailed to your home and you wish to continue your hospitalization coverage, you should contact the Employee Relations Department to complete the enrollment cards.

### PROVIDENT FUND NEWS

The following is the Provident Fund valuation:

- Equities Fund  
June 5, 1974 - \$2.489
- Shell Stock Fund  
May 1974 - \$50.411

### 46 YEARS OF NOSTALGIA (Continued from page 1)

station. Might be able to see his house in the picture. House is still there, too. Matter of fact, my family used to live right next door."

"Would your house have been a white frame?" Griffin asked. "Right."

"Well, the corner of your house is in the picture, too."

Cordera filled in some of the background. The Shell jobbership in Benld is Fassero Oil Company. It was founded by Ben Fassero in 1919, only a few months after the completion of Shell's nearby Wood River Refinery in September 1918. And it's still in the Fassero family.

Closely tied to the Fasseros was - and is - another Benld family, the Bertettis. Various Fasseros and Bertettis have, over the years, either leased the station, worked at the station, or otherwise been involved.

Enter Bill Gibson, editor of the Wood River Refinery's WOOD RIVER REVIEW. Learning of the Fassero/Bertetti/Cordera story, Gibson takes a copy of the 46-year-old photograph and does a little research. He finds, amazingly, that the four individuals posed in that photo are still alive, well and living in the greater St.

Louis area. He gets them together for another photo session, almost half a century later. The station's the same, although modernized several times in the interim and the people are the same.

That's about it. But there was one loose end to be tied up. How did the Pasadena photographer get the photo that he gave to the SHELLEGRAPH editor in the beginning?

Simple. One of those Bertettis we mentioned earlier, John W. Bertetti, is now a resident of Pasadena, having retired in Texas after a career as a chemical engineer with another oil company. Not long ago, he vacationed in Benld and visited his old friend the Fasseros. They showed him the photograph, noting that they planned to have some prints made to pass around to the appropriate people for their times' sake.

"Tell you what," said John Bertetti, "I know a photographer back home in Texas who'll make prints for me, and I'll send some back to you."

That's right, it was a Texas photographer from Pasadena who gave the SHELLEGRAPH editor the 1927 version.

Got all that straight? Or have???



"I know I suggested that your mother take up a hobby, but I was thinking along the lines of needlepoint or bird watching....!"

### ENGINEERING FIELD STAFF MOVEMENTS ANNOUNCED



R. B. Morelan



J. F. Lieder



O. O. Hawkins



C. V. Washmon

Morelan and Lieder promotions recently announced by Engineering Field.

Rex B. Morelan, engineering foreman, was promoted to engineering supervisor with responsibility for maintenance in Distilling and Solvents & Coating.

Morelan hired in at the Kansas City Refinery as a laborer in November 1935. In November 1947, he transferred to staff as an inspector in Engineering Field and became zone foreman, Engineering Field, in August 1955.

J. F. Lieder, pipefitter No. 1, was promoted to engineering foreman replacing Morelan.

Lieder hired in as a pipefitter helper No. 2 in March 1948. He became a permanent pipefitter No. 1 in August 1953.

Other realignments of responsibilities include:

O. O. Hawkins, engineering

supervisor, who will have responsibility for maintenance in Thermal Cracking and Alkylation.

C. V. Washmon, engineering supervisor, who will have responsibility for maintenance in Dispatching and Docks.

### JOHN PRATT HONORED AT FAREWELL PARTY

Some 70 employees were present at the farewell party held in honor of John G. Pratt, refinery manager, Houston Refinery. Among them was Johnny Williams, operations foreman, Gas Recovery, who is shown giving Pratt his best wishes.



Pratt has been appointed to undertake a special assignment as project coordinator - OP-III. He will be the focal point integrating technical support overview and forward planning.

### TOWELL PROMOTED TO MANAGER CHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Gordon D. Towell, staff engineer, Operations West, was recently transferred to

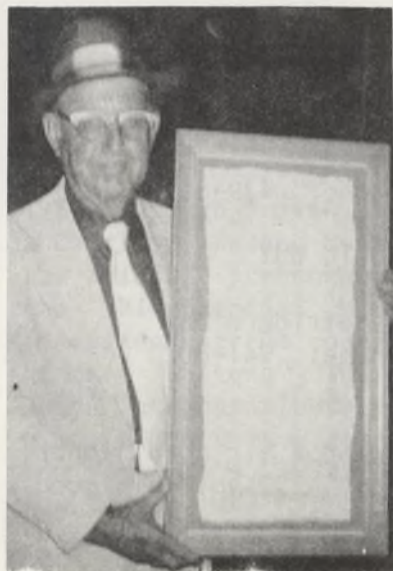
Shell Development-Corporate Laboratory manager chemical engineering. Towell was graduated from Michigan University with a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and then received



M.S. and Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from the University of Michigan.

He came to Houston Research Complex Corp. R&D Engineering on special assignment in June 1972, transferring to Houston Refinery, Technological, as staff engineer in August 1972. In September 1973, he went to Operations East until he received his present assignment.

### ENGINEERING FIELD EMPLOYEES, RODGERS AND HARGROVE RETIRE



Noble F. Rodgers and Clarence Hargrove proudly display their plaques showing the names of their many friends and co-workers in the Engineering Field group.

**TREASURY EMPLOYEES HONORED FOR WORKING SAFELY**



*Bob and Ina McClure, top, l-r, smile as they enter the room. Jack Miller shares a conversation with Charlie and Judy Walker. It was great to see Mary and M. Breaker at the party. Mary has been off for some eight months due to surgery. Below we find a couple of retirees and their wives: Mary Perry, Nona and French Arnold and Bob Perry.*

**CLASSIFIEDS**

**FOR SALE**

Year old 10'x16' tent. Used three times. \$150 item for \$75.

Telephone: 472-4203

1968 Ford Stationwagon in very good condition. \$750.

Telephone: 472-4203

Vally-Hi pickup cover used three months. Cost \$275; sell for \$175.

Telephone: 472-1967

Two lots in Peach Creek Oaks Estates near New Caney, Texas. Developed. Had mobile home on them. Garden spot, 9'x10' x8' utility house, community water, paved road in front. \$3,400.

Telephone: 689-3612

1973 Sidewinder 14'5" with 1974 Evinrude 135 hp motor, plus extras. \$2,850.

Telephone: 479-1956 after 5

15' fiberglass boat, electric starter, remote controls, windshield, back-to-back seats, tilt trailer with 2 new tires, plus spare wheel. Zerk fittings on wheels, 60 hp Evinrude. All in excellent condition. \$795 or trade on 18' boat.

Telephone: 471-0868

New Decca electric guitar with amplifier. \$100.

Telephone: 664-9135

Spanish style end table and coffee table (new). \$25. 3 end tables and 3 coffee tables like new. \$15 each. King-size headboard. \$20. Metal frames for regular and for single bed. Early American dinette set - table with leaf and 4 chairs like new. \$40. Marble top bathroom sink. \$25.

Telephone: 645-4644

Almost new 7-piece dining room suite. \$50. Used 36" gas range. \$35. Two end tables. \$7.

Telephone: 472-7190

Sears washer and dryer, matched set. Next to top model. Used 3 years. \$150. One new J-78 belted tire. Original equipment. \$25.

Telephone: 479-8637

**WANTED TO BUY**

Small refrigerator.

Telephone: 941-8025

Used window air conditioner. 1-2 ton, 220 volt in good condition.

Telephone: 471-0868

**FOUND**

One gold band earring; classic style. One blue headscarf. Eyeglasses in case-bifocal. Claim at the SHELL EGRAPH office.

**PERSONALS**

My heartfelt thanks to all my friends at Shell and in the Utility Department for their kindness and generosity shown me at my retirement party. May God bless all of you and take care of you. Remember the latch is always open at "Baldy's Roost" at Lake Burn.

- Baldy and family  
Gilbert D. Baldwin

Please accept my heartfelt thanks for the wonderful party scroll and gift. A special thanks goes to Mrs. C. Weir for the delicious and beautiful "Rocking Chair Cake". My happy association with one of you, along with your thoughtful and most generous expression of friendship, will forever be remembered. Mr. Dixon and I also again wish to thank everyone who was so kind to both of us during my illness.

- Earl W. "Dick" Dixon