



shelletter

HOUSTON REFINERY

No. 23

Monday, October 5, 1962

TO ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

A turnout of nearly 200 supervisors gathered in the Hash House last evening to get the "latest word" - and they closed the evening with a steak dinner that brought smiles of satisfaction. The "latest word" was passed along by Harry Walker, who reviewed our accomplishments to date, not only here at Houston but at the two other struck Shell refineries at Norco and Wood River, and at the Houston and Norco Chemical plants. Harry reported Wood River to be running at a balanced rate of about 125,000 barrels-per-day, while Norco is steaming along at full capacity in the 120,000 barrels-per-day range. Jack Kelbaugh discussed labor relations, giving a report of the negotiations and summarizing the major issues as they stand at the present time. (A bulletin was sent to all supervisors yesterday on this subject.)

Everyone was quite pleased with the turnout for the meeting, particularly since it came with such short notice. Wanting to wait until after Wednesday's scheduled meeting with the Conciliator and Union before completing plans for a Refinery get-together, it was not until late Wednesday afternoon that the decks were cleared for our meeting.

Two more meetings with staff employees are planned for the next two Thursday evenings, October 11 and 18. In this way we hope to make the gathering available to everyone, regardless of the shift you may be working. The next two meetings will follow the same general format as the first one, with a steak dinner to top off the evening. The meetings will be open to all staff employees who have not already attended, but are on a strictly voluntary basis. You will receive your letter of invitation in the next few days.

OPERATIONS

Maintenance work grinds to a halt at Flasher 1 today, as the unit is starting back up . . . Over at the Distillate Hydrotreater, the men in white suits are topping off the catalyst bed with screened catalyst as that turnaround goes merrily along its way . . . At Aromatics, circulation on the Benzene Extraction system was begun today . . . And Ben Norwood reports that the amount of vent gas collected in the west property flare system is at an all-time low - indicating both good operation and maintenance attention to relief valves.

CAT. CRACKER CAPERS

If our Cat. Cracker folks seem unusually proud of themselves and their Big Cat today . . . they have good reason. Yesterday the boys reached an all-time high gross feed rate of over 60,000 barrels-per-day -- and they've held that rate (even raising it a little) for the past 24 hours. Although we're not out to "bust all records," it comes as a nice little bonus when our efficient operation carries us to new heights.

UNITED FUND

Our Refinery United Fund Drive has topped the \$20,000 mark -- this afternoon Campaign Chairman John Harkness reported \$20,623 in the UF sack. This represents the contributions of 672 employees and that means 21 employees are yet to be heard. When they sound off - our 1963 Refinery total should be something for all of us to be proud of . . . So if you are still listed among the "uncounted" - step forward . . . lend that helping hand. Houston and Harris County are counting on us.

(over)

SAFETY

Remember the new safety slogan "HEADY ADVISE - THINK TWICE"
The Mystery Man walks . . . by day and by night . . .

ODDS & ENDS

P. & I.R. reminds you: Off-duties should be turned in on absentee employees -- just like the procedure says . . .

OCTOBER is First Aid Month, and the Houston-Harris County Chapter of the American Red Cross is holding certified Red Cross first aid courses at schools and other locations throughout the county free of charge for the general public. Our own Hubie Miller will be an instructor at one of the locations. The classes begin Monday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. Five two-hour sessions will be held to complete the course. If interested, call Hubie, or the Red Cross, CA 7-1151, for the location nearest you. A bulletin on the Employee News Center in the Hash House lists the various locations where the course is offered.

LOST: One gray coat sweater by Doc Harrison - who says he'll have a hard time explaining this one to "Mama". Doc says he left it in the Hash House after the meeting last evening. Also lost: one set of keys with about seven keys aboard. If found call T. N. Menefee, extension 375.

SOLVED: The case of the unknown signature . . . and Dr. Ben sleeps peacefully again. And whose signature? Why - Ron Reper, of course! Overheard in the Hash House: Big game hunter Jack Englishby - trying to peddle "license to kill" at half-price. Jack says he doesn't figure to come across any elk or bear here in Deer Park - particularly after the season opens. . . . AND what could prove more embarrassing than for a "gasoline maker" to be caught - out of gas. It can happen, though, (and has) if these automotive gas burners around the refinery aren't filled up with Shell's best ever once in a while. So maybe you had better check that gas gauge the next time you hop behind the wheel - and if you're low. . . fill up at the Garage.

#

SAFETY

Remember that new safety slogan . . . HEADY ADVISE -- THINK TWICE. The Mystery Man hits the trail this week in search of new merchandise. . . . Hoping in a silver dollar and club membership with the correct answer when he asks.

HOUSTON REFINERY

