



shelletter

HOUSTON REFINERY

"It Strikes Us This Way"

Wednesday, December 5, 1962

50

ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

There's a date to mark on your calendars - December 17...even underline it, 'cause it's important! That's the date of our gala Christmas party gathering. It'll be held at the San Jacinto Inn..... and y'all come, because every staff employee is invited. The hours for the get-together will be from high noon til 6:30 p.m.....we s-t-r-e-t-c-h-e-d out the hours so all of you, regardless of the shift you may be working on the 17th, will have the opportunity of attending. Food will be served at 1:00 p.m. for the early birds - with another serving line starting at 4:00 for those coming later. The serving will be buffet-style, with cold hors d'oeuvres to whet the appetites. Most of you know the reputation of the SJ Inn for their fine seafoods and chicken - so we won't have to tell you of the treat you have in store....Also, you'll get a chance to bid a farewell to John Tench, and extend a personal welcome to Leonard Wilson.....So make your plans, now, reserve a couple of hours on the 17th...and be our guest. We'll have more to say about this party in the days to come.....just so no one forgets.....

OPERATIONS

...Lookin' over the Operatin' end of the business....Distilling Unit-3 (located, naturally, in the Distilling Department) called a "time out" last night for repairs to an exchanger....And over in Thermal Cracking, Dubbs 7 furnace settled down to rest when it was decided that the furnace would not be needed to supply heat for Cat. Cracker feed for awhile....The wax business keeps bustlin', with task force teams arriving almost daily at "Ace" Griffin's Health Studio for core body-building sessions.

NEGOTIATIONS

...At Norco, it looks like there might be a meeting tomorrow, called at the suggestion of the conciliator.

C. B. CATOE, CLIFFORD SUDDUTH DIE

It is with regret the SHELLETTER reports the death of two long-service Refinery employees, C. B. Catoe and Clifford Sudduth. Mr. Catoe, an Electrician No. 1 in the Engineering Field Department, died Monday, December 3, following an extended illness. He had been with Shell for more than 19 years. Mr. Sudduth, the victim of an accidental gunshot wound, died yesterday, December 4, in a Pasadena hospital. Classified a Machinist No. 1 in the Engineering Field Department, Mr. Sudduth joined Shell over 20 years ago. An expression of sympathy is extended these Shell families by their many friends at the Refinery.

SAFETY

Louie's thinking about winter precautions...and here are a few tips for that cold weather ahead: In operating areas where freezing temperatures might be expected, the operators should check their fixed firewater systems. For example, sprinkler control valves should be in normal closed position with bleeders open to drain sprinkler headers.....Quick Acting Hose house bleeders are to be opened and any bleeders on turret nozzles should be open.....Safety shower control valves should have control valves "cracked" to permit a trickle of water to flow to prevent freezing.....At the Docks, the sprinkler systems are closed with block valves at the bank of the Channel and drain valves opened.

The new safety slogans have been posted in locations around the Refinery.....and the Mystery Man is preparing to march out on his first mission of December.....The boss noted a "slight" inconsistency in the printing of the December slogan in the SHELLETTER and on the bulletin boards...

(Over)

seems the SHELLLETTER of Monday had one word slightly wrong. So for any other "eagle eyes" who caught the runaway Remington typewriter in error....we set forth now, here, for all to read and memorize....the official not-in-error, slogan for December:

BE SAFE BECAUSE YOU MAY BE SOMEONE'S SANTA CLAUS

INTRODUCING.....LEONARD WILSON

Ever hear of a baseball pitcher breaking his arm throwing that "high hard one"? Well it happened to Leonard Wilson, our new Refinery Manager...and the freak accident closed once and for all his career on the baseball diamond.

A native Californian, raised in Los Angeles, Leonard headed north after high school for Oregon State College with a baseball scholarship in his pocket and the dream of an engineering degree. But once on campus, he discovered that baseball and engineering didn't mix too well...and engineering won out. He graduated with a B.S. degree in Geology in 1933.

It was there at college that he met the future Mrs. Wilson. Fay Clark was riding in a horse show and Leonard was one of the judges. She received a "perfect ride" evaluation from every judge....except Leonard, who docked her a point for "something or other". The Wilsons have two daughters - Ann, now Mrs. Peter A. Neisser and the mother of two girls with a home in San Francisco; and Susan, a 15-year old high school junior. Horseback riding is a fond hobby of Fay and Susan, while Leonard shares his wife's enthusiasm for golf. Fishing is a favorite pastime of Leonard's, and he and retiring Manager John Tench, close personal friends for many years, have whiled away many an hour alongside streams in California.

The first few years of Leonard's Shell career were spent in California. (It was here that he experienced the broken arm incident while playing with a Shell semi-pro team.) For five years during World War II - from 1940 until 1945 - he was on military leave, serving a good part of that time with the 75th Infantry Division as it fought its way across Europe. V-E Day found Lt. Col. Wilson deep inside Germany.

He returned to Shell in 1946 as a Senior Technologist at the Martinez Refinery, and the resumption of a career that was to lead him to a variety of assignments and two tours outside the USA. In 1955 he joined Shell Oil Company of Canada, Ltd. as Manager of the Montreal Refinery, and followed up this assignment with a two and one-half year stint as Director of Refining and Supplies with Compania Shell de Venezuela in Caracas from 1957 to 1959. From 1960 until the present, he served as the Manager of the Norco Refinery.

Leonard is no stranger to many Houston Refinery Shellmen. As mentioned earlier, he and John Tench are long-time friends....And back in 1935 he was L. J. Snyder's replacement at a Shell Refinery in Coalinga, California.

So, again, welcome to Houston - Leonard, Fay, and Susan Wilson.

ODDS & ENDS

TECHNOLOGISTS' PARTY: Refinery Technologists and their wives are planning a Christmas party at the Ellington Officers Club - Tuesday night, December 18. The dinner starts at 7:30 p.m. No band planned, but a good get-together is expected, with the probability of visiting with Mr. deRidder and others. Anyone who would like to join the group for the gathering is welcome. The folks running the show ask that names and money (\$5.00 per couple) be turned in by no later than Friday, December 14 - to anyone in the Tech Offices.

ADD still another record for retiring Manager John Tench: longevity at the Houston Refinery. John ruled the roost from January 1955 until December 1962 - a total of seven years and 11 months. This topped Phil Fosters previous mark of seven years and five months, spanning a period from August 1943 to December 1950.

BIRTHDAY BELLES & BEAUS:

December 4 - Tommy Billingsley, John Cornell, E. R. Elliott

December 5 - John Herrmann, James Crawford, John Gwyn, David Krouse, Robert Addison

