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A number of combination Shell credit card guides and 1968 wallet calendars are now available free of charge. These handy wallet cards let you know the various establishments, in addition to your Shell Service Station, where you may use your Shell credit card to charge goods. On the other side of the card is a colorful 1968 calendar. These cards may be picked up from the receptionist in the Administration Building.

SHELLEGRAPH



HOUSTON
REFINERY



No. 268

Friday, December 22, 1967



CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS---Adorning the Administration Building entrance are three of the Treasury Department girls. They are, from left to right, Melba Newby, Dale Estlinbaum, and Betty Regan. On the canopy behind the girls, a wreath surrounds the Shell pecten, and lighted decorations encircle the canopy. Among the other preparations for the Holiday Season are a 15-foot decorated Christmas tree in the building's lobby, a wreath and lights above the Clock House entrance, and a 35-foot decorated tree at the Refinery's main entrance at the La Porte Highway.



CHRISTMAS CORSAGE --- Head Stenographer, Expansion-Construction, Mrs. I. W. Byrd, receives a Christmas corsage from Refinery Manager Leonard Wilson at the Supervisors' Christmas Party held on December 6, at the Houston Executive Club. See page 2 for additional pictures of the party.

PROVIDENT FUND NEWS

Here are the latest Provident Fund valuations:

Equities Fund:

November 5, 1967 - \$1.877

November 20, 1967 - \$1.899

Shell Stock Fund:

November, 1967 - \$63.404



RESEARCHERS READY FOR HOLIDAY SEASON---Two Research girls are adding the finishing touches to the Research Laboratory's Christmas tree. The girls are, at left, Linda Wright, and, at right, Joan Tinker. There is also a tree in the Refinery Cafeteria and in the new Construction Building lobby.



MERRY CHRISTMAS --- In the photo at right above, G. L. Boatright, P&IR, right, presents Engineering Services Manager S. S. Braun with a Christmas remembrance at the Supervisors' Christmas Party. L. H. Case, Technological, is behind Braun. In the photo at left above, Mrs. E. H. Tharp, Treasury, presents name tags to L. A. Gruber, right, Effluent Control, and to G. O. Williams, Lube. Standing behind Mrs. Tharp is J. R. Lamb, P&IR, who helped with the party arrangements. In the picture below, a group of hungry Supervisors wait for the dinner bell to be rung. Toward the end of the dinner, Refinery Manager Leonard Wilson expressed his appreciation for the work done by the group and wished them the best for the Holiday Season and for the coming year.



FROM HOLLY TO JOLLY, OR, HOW CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS CAME ABOUT

This year when you're trimming the tree, filling Christmas stockings or hanging mistletoe - give a thought to where you got your favorite Christmas custom: Chances are it goes farther back in history than you realize.

In fact, Christmas itself, many historians believe, may have had its origins in ancient Greek and Roman festivities to observe the midwinter change of seasons.

The use of greenery at Christmas also grew out of ancient Greek and Roman customs. Holly, for example, was a favorite decoration of the Romans, who made lavish use of green boughs and garlands to honor Saturn, their god of agriculture.

While the birth of Christ was celebrated on various dates as early as the third century, the observance wasn't officially sanctioned until a century later. According to a researcher at the Shulton company, Pope Julius I authorized an investigation to determine Christ's probable birth date, which led to the selection of December 25th. On that date, in 353 A.D., the feast of the Nativity was first observed in Rome.

You may kiss under the mistletoe, but the ancient Druids, who called the plant "all heal," believed it had the power to miraculously cure disease and counteract poisons.

It was in heavily-forested northern Europe that decorating Christmas trees began. Saint Boniface, an eighth century monk who converted the pagans living in what is now Germany, convinced them to stop worshipping Odin's sacred oak and, instead, to adorn fir trees in their homes in tribute to the Christ Child.

A fourth-century bishop of Turkey, Saint Nicholas, was the real-life predecessor of Santa Claus. According to legend, he dropped a bag of gold coins down a chimney into a stocking which a poor girl had hung by the fireplace to dry: hence our custom of hanging Christmas stockings.

A French legend tells how the Christmas rose came into being. A little girl accompanying the shepherds on their way to see the Christ Child, was sad because she had no gift to offer. The angel Gabriel appeared, and taking pity on the child, caused a beautiful white rose to spring from the ground. Overjoyed, the little girl plucked the bloom, which she took as a gift to the Infant Jesus.

The rose, together with the poinsettia and desert flower, continues to play an important role in the holiday season. In many countries of Europe, people still believe that all the trees break into blossom for a few moments at midnight on Christmas Eve. The most popular flowering plant for Christmas is the poinsettia, brought to the U. S. more than 125 years ago from Mexico by Dr. Joel Poinsett.

One of the most revered Christmas customs is the reenactment of Christ's birth with a creche or Nativity Scene. This custom was popularized in the 13th century by Saint Francis of Assisi. At a time when few books were available, and most people couldn't read anyway, Saint Francis dramatized the Nativity in 1224, to help the people of Greccio, Italy, understand the meaning of Christmas.



OUT WITH THE OLD---The tree near the Refinery's La Porte Highway entrance was recently dug out and moved to the flag pole island in front of the Administration Building. Here the tree is being lifted by a crane out of the ground and onto a truck. Another tree--about 35-40 feet tall--was placed in the location of the old tree. The new tree was decorated with lights and Christmas ornaments as was the old tree by the flag pole.

THANK YOU AND BEST WISHES

The SHELEGRAPH staff would like to take this festive time of the year to thank all of the many Refinery employee contributors of material for the paper during the past year and to wish them, and all other Houston Refiners, the best of health and joy at this season and in the years to come.



NEW TREE FOR REFINERY---The large tree for the Refinery entrance is on a truck awaiting to be planted by the La Porte Highway Refinery entrance. Refinery Engineering Field Department employee R. L. McBride, at left, and one of the men from the nursery admire the cedar tree.



IN WITH THE NEW---The new tree for the Refinery's entrance is being planted. The tree was decorated with lights and ornaments for the Holiday Season and will provide additional greenery the year around at the entrance. The tree is about 35-40 feet high.

SHELLEGRAPH

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT'S SAFETY PARTY



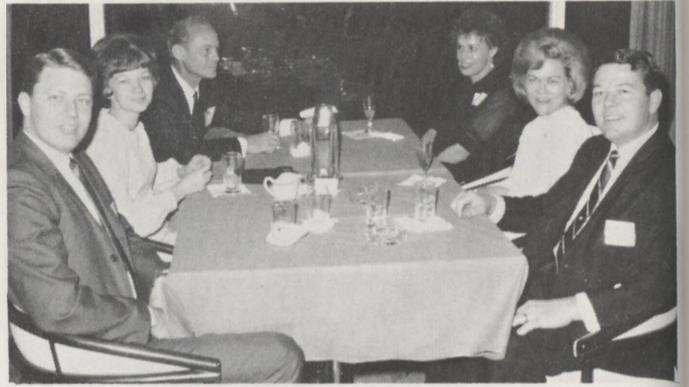
SAFE WORKERS---Refiners who attended the Treasury Safety Party earlier this month included, from left to right, Pat and Ed Walichowski and John Hannan. Walichowski is in the Industrial Engineering Department whose members were also recognized for a year of work without a disabling injury. Hannan is a member of the Treasury Department, personnel of which were also safe workers during the year.



SAFETY PARTY---Some members of the Treasury Department who attended the group's recent Safety Party included the personnel in the picture above. They are, from left to right, Murphy Jordan, G. D. Flanagan, and Jack Bell.



REWARD FOR BEING CAREFUL --- Mr. and Mrs. Murphy Jordan, at left, and Mrs. and Mr. Jack Bell, at right, were among the Refinery persons honored for working safely for a year without a disabling injury. For their efforts they were treated to a Safety Party.



TIME OUT FOR A PICTURE --- This group of Safety Party attendees took time out from the activities to also have their picture taken. They are, from left to right, Larry and Maylene Moore (he is a former Oil Movements employee and is now working in the Prudential Building at Shell's Data Service Center), Roger and Dorothy Bell, and Dee and Clark Callihan.



PARTY PEOPLE --- Others who attended the Safety Party were, left to right, Alicia Sanchez, Bob and Ina McClure, Carl and Peggy Shelburne, and Robert Sanchez.

CLASSIFIEDS

FOR SALE

1965 Mustang. Radio, V8, power steering, air conditioned, green color. Car is only 2½ years old and is in very good condition.
\$1400.00
Telephone - 946-9031 after 4 p.m.

Cabin - Big Thicket Lake Estates - between Liberty and Livingston (Hwy. 146). 640 sq. ft. cabin; 2 lots (50' x 120' each); cedar siding outside; unfinished inside (partitioned off); partially furnished; plumbing; electricity (three 220 connections); water; hunting and fishing; lots cleared. Will take \$3,800 total. Have over \$4,500 invested.
Telephone - GR-2-3590

1965 Chevrolet Corvair. 2-Dr. Sport Coupe, radio, heater, top condition.
Telephone - RE-4-4423 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m.

Good Used Motorcycles - 60 cc and 100 cc's (Twin) Yamaha 1966 & 1967 Models. Priced right.
Telephone - JA-2-5812 Weekdays