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U. S. POSTAGE

Vol. 18 No. 5

HOUSTON, TEXAS

May 1953

Shell Carves Caverns for Propane Storage

Caverns carved from underground salt formations in West Texas will soon add about 150,000 barrels to Shell Oil's propane storage capacity.

Seasonal Fluctuations

The Midland Area is creating the two huge cavities in the Wason Field to help meet the seasonal fluctuations in propane demand. Demand for propane, which provides heat and fuel for both home and industry, rises in winter and declines in the summer.

The new underground storage will permit production to be maintained at maximum levels, with excess production being stored until needed.

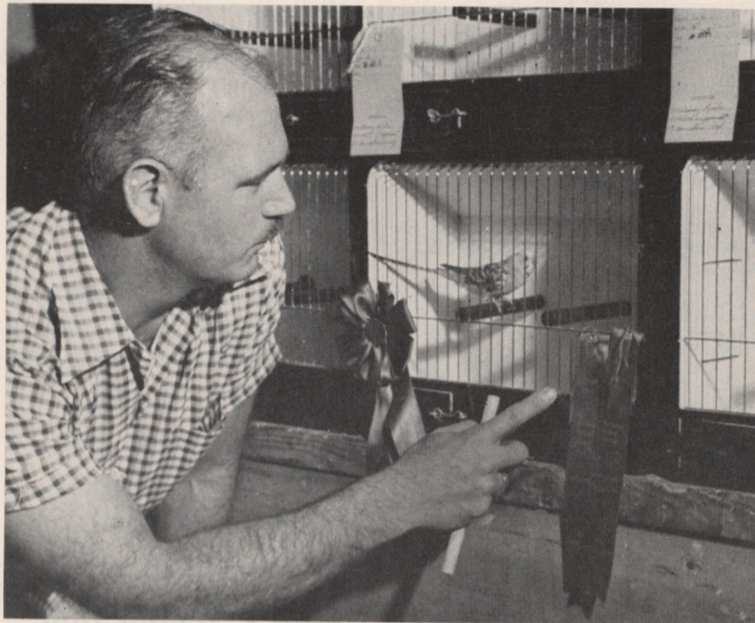
Form Caverns

Construction began last fall when several wells were drilled into the underlying salt formation. Since then, fresh water has been pumped steadily through the well tubing into the formation to dissolve the salt and form the storage caverns. More than six barrels of water must be circulated into the cavern and back to the surface to remove one barrel of salt.

Close to 100 per cent of the propane stored will be recovered, according to Shell engineers, who point out that the process is not only economical but safe as well, since the caverns are immune to both fire and lightning.

Dance Sees 294

147 people attended the SERA dance April 20 at the End-of-Main. Cole Nelson's orchestra provided music and Tisch McCarley was emcee.



PRIZE-WINNING PARAKEETS are the hobby of D. C. Lisle, cat cracker Operator No. 1, who has over 200 normal and rare ones in his aviaries. Read more about this unusual hobby on page five.

Shell's TCP Additive Boosts Power, Mileage, Performance

Something new is being added to Shell Premium Gasoline exclusively this month that will give your car up to 15 per cent more power, more mileage, and from 50 to 150 per cent longer spark plug life. The remarkable new fuel ingredient is known familiarly as TCP, and is considered by many as the biggest development in motor fuel since the introduction of tetra ethyl lead 31 years ago.

TCP, or tricresyl phosphate to use its proper name, is the product of more than five years of intensive Shell research to eliminate a major cause of engine failure. In normal engine operation, some of the metallic lead contained in leaded gasoline deposits out in a fine film on each spark plug. The deposits increase until eventually they short-circuit the plug and prevent it from igniting the fuel in

the cylinder. TCP renders harmless these deposits and reduces their short-circuiting ability, and thus keeps all plugs firing efficiently.

The additive, which Shell originally developed for the air force, has been used successfully in navy fighters and air force B-36 bombers for the past two years. Meanwhile, Shell engineers at Shell Oil Company's Wood River research Laboratory have been testing it extensively for automobiles. These tests, plus other investigations conducted by the Southwest Research Institute in Texas show that gasoline containing TCP consistently restores power and mileage lost due to fouled plugs and gives greater reliability in spark plug performance.

Shell will begin selling Shell Premium with TCP this month in (Continued to Page Two)

SERA Picnic June 13th Features Continuous Meal Servings, New Rides

Continuous serving of barbecue dinners from 12 noon until 6 p.m. will be featured at the SERA picnic June 13th. This will permit people who arrive in the middle of the afternoon to eat at their convenience.

Swayze to Cater

Don Swayze has been selected to cater the picnic. He will serve barbecue, beans, potato salad, pickles, bread, etc. Free coffee will be available all day, and beer and soft drinks can be purchased throughout the day.

All SERA members and their families are entitled to free tickets to the Galveston Park barbecue. Any person listed as a dependent on a member's income tax is entitled to a free ticket. Single members may reserve one date ticket free.

Reserve Tickets

Tickets must be reserved in advance through the ticket committee before June 5. Tickets will be put in envelopes where they can be picked up at the picnic grounds. Advance reservations are necessary so the food committee may anticipate the amount required and notify the caterer.

Adult and child guest tickets may also be reserved. Tickets for guest children (12 years or under) are \$1.50 and adult guest tickets \$3.00. Extra guest tickets will be available at the picnic ticket booth.

Free Features

Children's tickets feature free rides and free drinks as well as the meal.

A midway of children's rides and concessions will be set up along the road. A merry-go-round, ferris wheel, real live ponies, boat rides, little car rides should keep the kid-

dies busy. After the free tickets are used up, more may be purchased.

Use Tickets—Not Cash

Only SERA tickets will be accepted for rides and concessions. Booths will be set up to change your money for tickets. Members are requested not to attempt to pay cash for these things, as cash will not be acceptable.

Surprise Entertainment

Special added attraction this year will be surprise entertainment at 5:30 p.m. at the speakers stand. This will be held just prior to the door prize drawing.

Beer, soft drinks, ice cream, popcorn, snow cones will be sold on the grounds all day.

Ample parking space is available on the grounds.

Games, Dance Set

Adult games, chipping and casting contests, children's games will provide amusement during the day, and a dance will be held in the main building from 7 to 10 p.m.

A nursery will be provided for children under four years of age. It will be operated from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. A public address system will be set up at the speakers stand so parents and children who get separated in the course of the picnic can be paged.

Safety Facilities

Parents are urged to keep their children away from the creek. However, a qualified life guard will be on duty at all times during the picnic to guard the river and shore line.

A first aid stand will be maintained with competent personnel on duty to take care of any minor

(Continued to Page Three)



PICNIC COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN make final plans for the June SERA Picnic at a meeting in the shops training room. These are the people whose hard work will spell success and a

day full of fun for the members of SERA and their families at the outing.

Fay Hilliard Heads New Standards Section

Fay Hilliard will be in charge of the new Standards Section of the Engineering Department. The Standards Section will be concerned with Material and Equipment, Installation, Design, Specification and Procedure Standards relating to Engineering Department functions.

Representatives from each department will be appointed to form a general standards committee to meet every three months.

A steering committee will pass on merits of specific suggestions. Committeemen are T. S. Lighthouse, E. J. Newton, L. J. Snyder, and Fay Hilliard.



REFINERY

April 2: Michael Lewis, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Patterson, (Gas Department).

April 10: John Keith, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Boudoin (Automotive).

April 23: Rodney Alan, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Vann (Lube C).

April 25: J. T. Morant, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Morant (Labor).

April 29: Michael Gibson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ben Post (Research).

May 4: Pamela Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed L. Schlesinger (P&IR).

CHEMICAL

Jan. 7: Lubby Darry, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lubby Worsham (Labor Dept.).

Jan 21: Louis Bill Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis B. Celusniak (Machine Shop).

Feb. 7: Kitty Ellen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert L. Brittan (G Dept.).

Feb. 15: James Lee, son of Mr. and Mrs. James F. Brackman (A & B Dept.).

March 4: Michael Ray, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. McLendon (Machine Shop).

March 6: Gary Wayne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Morgan, Jr. (Pipe Shop).

March 11: Timothy Stephen, son of Mr. and Mrs. Theodore O. Krefl (A Operations).

March 13: Richard Earl, son of Mr. and Mrs. Freddie E. White (Eng. Field).

March 18: John Andrew, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert C. Roeder (Pipe Shop).

March 31: Gary Wayne, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill E. Rodgers (Pipe Shop).

March 31: John Layton, son of Mr. and Mrs. William L. Wheelock (Stores).

April 4: Sterling Paul, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Curlee (E Dept.).

April 17: Charles Edward, son of Mr. and Mrs. Comer Adams (Labor Dept.).

April 17: Darlene and Marlene, daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Larcom E. Yelvington (E Dept.).

April 23: Patricia Rae, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ray O. Mysinger (G Dept.).

April 27: Joseph Michael, son of Mr. and Mrs. George G. Velten (Laboratory).

May 5: William Joseph, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lew R. Beason (Research).

Expresses Appreciation

The family of Nelse Alexander wishes to express appreciation to the many Shell employees who were so thoughtful during Mr. Alexander's illness and at his death. He was a member of the Research Department.

Personnel Changes

REFINERY

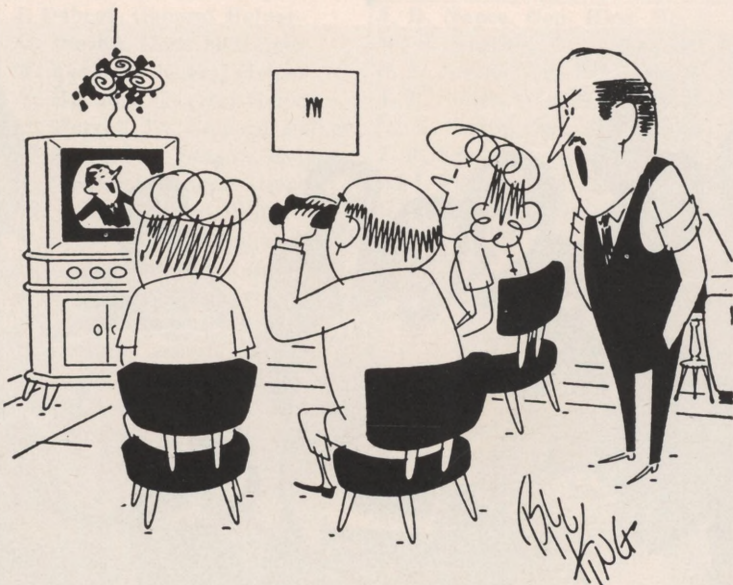
FROM	TO
Dispatching	
G. Shelton General Hlpr.	Loader
Lube	
J. S. Laramore Welder No. 1	Operator Hlpr.
Treasury	
Electa H. Tharp Steno., Res.	Steno-Clerk
Engineering	
G. W. Anderwald General Hlpr.	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
H. D. Armstrong General Hlpr.	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
S. M. Bear Boilermaker Hlpr. No. 1	Mach. Hlpr. No. 2
B. N. Campbell Truck Driver No. 2	Mach. Hlpr. No. 2
W. G. Goen Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 1	Mach. Hlpr. No. 2
B. Keeling, Jr. Boilermaker Hlpr. No. 2	Mach. Hlpr. No. 2
J. J. Kindla Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2	Lineman Hlpr. No. 2
W. R. McClain Electrician No. 1	Asst. Foreman Elect.
W. E. Mitchell General Hlpr.	Boilermaker Hlpr. No. 2
A. F. Orsak Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 1	Lineman Hlpr. No. 2
J. S. Parker General Hlpr.	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
V. Sanford, Jr. Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2	Lineman Hlpr. No. 2
F. C. Trent General Hlpr.	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
E. E. Wilhelm General Hlpr.	Carpenter Hlpr. No. 2

CHEMICAL

Engineering	
L. M. Glover Loader	General Hlpr.
C. E. Griffin Operator Hlpr.	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
B. A. Jones File Clerk—Treasury	File Clerk, Engineering
W. Lewis Rackman/Loader	Truck Driver
T. F. McQueen Boilermaker No. 1	Sub-Foreman, Labor
W. E. Stephens Tool Room Man	Machinist Hlpr. No. 2
R. E. Webb General Hlpr. No. 1	Pipefitter Hlpr. No. 2
Operations	
A. M. Graham Operator Hlpr., C Dept.	Operator Hlpr., G Dept.
W. F. Key Chemist, Laboratory	Technical Asst., P&IR Dept.
R. V. Mattern Technologist, Tech.	Technical Asst., A Dept.
J. D. Nance General Operator Hlpr.	Operator Hlpr., E Dept.
Research	
R. B. Walters Technologist, Tech.	Chemist, Research
Shipping	
W. V. Anderson Operator Hlpr.	Loader
M. L. Horton Steno., Treasury	Clerk
P & I R	
R. W. Ward Sub-Foreman Labor, Eng.	Gateman No. 1
Technological	
R. W. Jones Chemist, Laboratory	Technologist
E. H. Van Vooren Tech. Asst., P&IR Dept.	Technologist
Treasury	
M. L. Sturdivant Jr. Clerk	Jr. Opr. Duplicating

How Pension Plan Operates!

- Q. Who administers the Shell Pension Plan?
 - The Pension Plan is administered by Trustees appointed by the participating Shell Companies. The Trustees serve without remuneration.
- Q. Do employees pay any of the cost of their pensions?
 - No. The Pension Plan is supported solely through monthly payments by the participating Shell Companies.
- Q. What do the Trustees do with the money paid into the Trust by the Companies?
 - The Trustees invest available funds in income-producing securities to increase the assets of the Trusts and to meet future obligations to retired employees. Money once contributed to the Trust by the participating Companies may not be returned to them.



"Oh, all right, Hammond- we all know you're used to your nineteen inch screen!"

Service Birthdays

REFINERY

FIFTEEN YEARS

G. W. Amonett, Engineering
L. Hayes, Automotive
A. J. Lueckemeyer, Automotive
J. C. May, Control Lab
J. C. Miller, Engineering
C. Obregon, Engineering

TEN YEARS

E. C. Boswell, Engineering
A. Brooks, Engineering
C. B. Catoe, Engineering
M. R. Drew, Utilities
C. L. Goehring, Engineering
A. Grant, Engineering
H. A. Halik, Effluent Control
H. Lilie, Engineering
W. R. Lynch, Fire & Safety
A. C. Preiss, Engineering
V. E. Smith, Engineering

CHEMICAL

FIFTEEN YEARS

Hubert Ray Foster, Operations
William George Hall, Laboratory

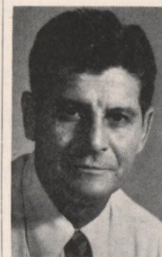
TEN YEARS

S. P. Adams, Engineering
F. H. Parker, P&IR
S. M. Schultz, Jr., Engineering
Otis Lee Willis, Engineering

SAM COSTA

Sam Costa is a native Houstonian who celebrates 20 years of service this month. He has been well-known for his baseball playing in this region.

Mr. Costa's Shell career began in May 1933 when he came to Houston Refinery as a General Helper.



He came a Bus Driver in Automotive in September 1933, and was promoted to a Clerk in the field office in June 1939. He presently holds the position of Senior Clerk in Engineering.

Military service took Sam to Central Europe. He was a sergeant in the 805th Field Artillery Battalion and served from April 20, 1942 to October 11, 1945.

At present golf and baseball are Mr. Costa's chief interests in his field of hobbies and sports.

DAVID SMITH

A Senior Technologist in Cracking, David B. Smith marks 25 years with Shell this May. He was employed at Wood River in March 1933, he started as a Gauger in Distilling. He became a Junior Chemist in the laboratory at Wood River in May 1934. Houston Refinery was his next stop in December when he was made a Junior Technologist in the Technical Department. New York saw his first assignment as vice from March 1948 through December 1949. He went to the Cracking Department as a Senior Technologist in April 1951.

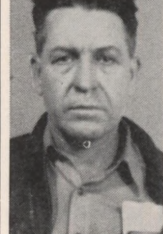


Mr. Smith, his wife Bernice, and their two children, Sally Dee and David, 15, have their home at 2205 W. Main in Houston. He is chairman of the Supervisory Committee of the Credit Union and works in the St. Stephens Episcopal Church. His hobbies are collecting pictures, bowling, bridge, and keeping up with both local politics and family activities.

Claud L. Daniel Dies

Mr. Claud L. Daniel suffered a heart attack at 2 a.m. April 29th, and died in Pasadena Hospital at 5 p.m. April 29th. He was buried in Kansas.

A veteran of 23 years Shell service, Mr. Daniel was a Shift Foreman in catalytic cracking.



Born in Centralia, Oklahoma, he attended Northeastern State Teacher's College in Tahlequah, Oklahoma. First employed as a Pipefitter Helper in January 1930, he went to the Cracking Department shortly thereafter as a Gauger. He became a No. 1 Operator in 1934 and a Shift Foreman in October 1936. Mr. Daniel transferred to the catalytic cracking section in May 1947.

Survivors include Mr. Daniel's wife, Mrs. Flossie Daniel, and two married daughters.

Classified

FOR SALE: A 14' boat, Sea King 2 horsepower motor, trailer, trailer hitch, 2 life belts. Being sold because of sickness in family. Can inspect at 10124 Donald Drive. Price \$150.00 complete.

MU-1353 Mrs. J. J. Morgan

FOR SALE: 4" x 5" Busch Press MAM Camera with Range Finder Flash Gun and Film Pack Adapter. Six months old.

W. M. Ratliff, Chemical Plant
8511 Weir Drive Houston, Texas

SHELL'S TCP—

(Continued from Page One)

Houston and 15 other cities as soon as necessary blending facilities can be installed, will be available nation-wide. Newspapers, magazines, radio and television, posters and point-of-view advertising will be used to introduce TCP to the public.

Shell Premium with TCP sell for only one-half cent more than other premium gasoline without the new additive. A slight cost to the motorist that will be repaid many times over in increased power and mileage and reduced spark plug costs.



MARIE MARSCHALL, Editor
JO KELLEY, Associate Editor



Published monthly for employees of Shell Oil Company, Houston Refinery, and Chemical Corporation, Houston Plant. Contributions of articles and photographs welcomed. Address all communications to EDITOR, SHELEGRAM, Shell Oil Company, P. O. Box 2527, Houston 1, Texas.



REFINERY

Miss Anna Elizabeth Dorn of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, with the WAFS at Ellington Field, became the bride of Vivian Lake Orren of Radford, Virginia, in ceremonies performed April 28, 1953, in Houston, Texas. The bridegroom is a member of the Lube C force. The couple is at home at 5102 Vinetta Avenue in Houston.

Proven Reserves Up To All-Time Peak

The proven reserves of both oil and gas in the United States rose to all-time peaks in 1952, in spite of the year's record production of both resources.

33 Million Barrels

Proved reserves of liquid petroleum totalled 33 billion barrels by the end of the year, up about three quarters of a billion barrels over 1951's former peak. Meanwhile, proved reserves of natural gas approached 200 trillion cubic feet, an increase of almost 6 trillion cubic feet over the previous year.

Reserves and Production

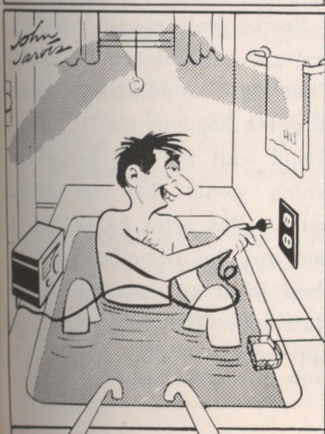
These increases were achieved despite the production of record quantities during the year. The 1952 output of liquid petroleum went up 60 million barrels to a new one year high of 2.5 billion barrels. Natural gas production climbed 673 billion cubic feet to a record 8.6 trillion cubic feet for the year.

The reserves figures, provided jointly by the American Petroleum Institute and the American Gas Association, represent only the known supplies buried in the ground which are recoverable under existing economic and operating conditions.

Total production of oil in 1952, including natural gasoline and benzol, set a new record with a 2.5 per cent increase over 1951.

The refining phase of the oil industry set a new operating record in 1952. Refinery runs averaged 3,670,000 barrels daily during the year. The forecast for 1953 is even higher.

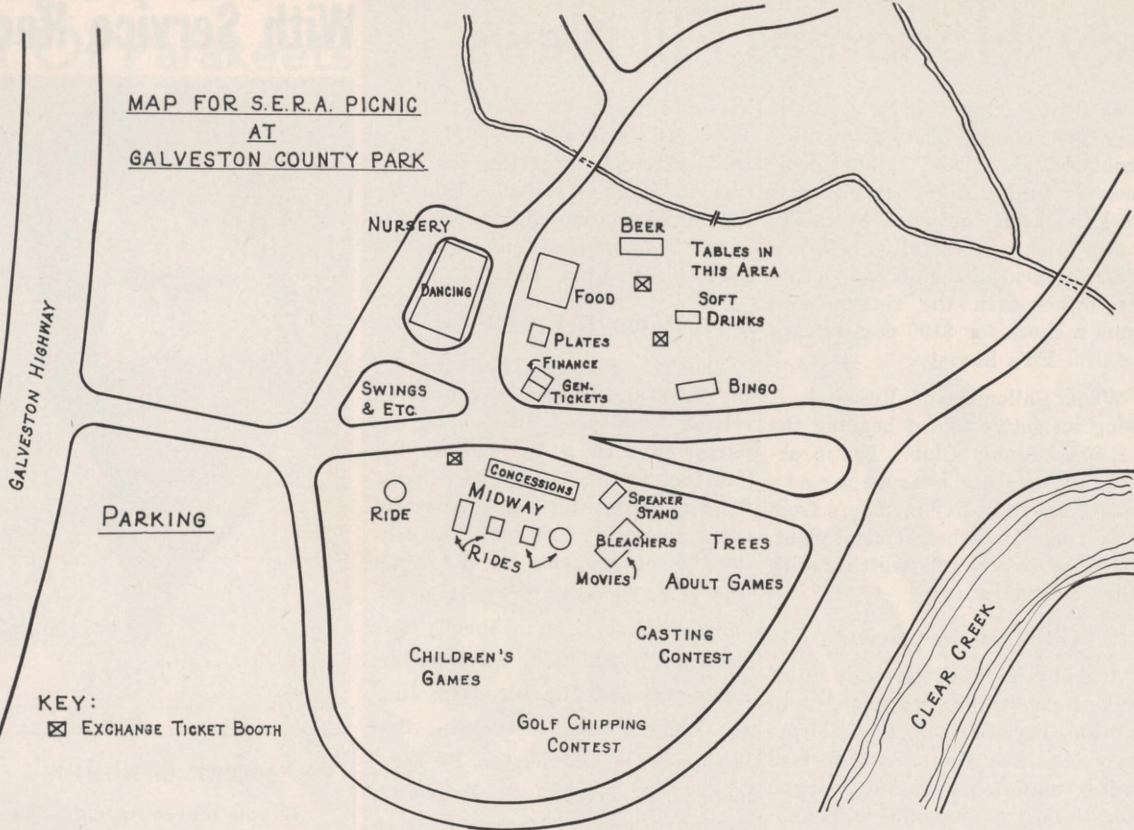
HEARTH ACHES



"They said this week's program would be a real shocker!"

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

How To Find What You Want At SERA Picnic!



PICNIC DIRECTIONS—This map has been made to help you find what you want at the Galveston Park SERA picnic. Several of the locations have been changed

from last year to make it more convenient. Easiest way to get to the picnic grounds is to follow the Freeway to Webster and turn left.

Picnic---

(Continued from Page One)

cuts and bruises or emergencies that might arise. A sign will be posted showing the location.

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help in many of the booths for a short time during the picnic. Committee chairmen have things all planned, but they still need your help during the actual picnic. Members and wives are urged to volunteer their services for even an hour. Please call Kemper Kaiser at 321, Marie Marschall at 316 at the Refinery, or at the Chemical Plant Bill Negrotto at 303 and Juanita Price at 378.

Learn Bridge, Compete In SERA Tournament

A chance to learn bridge and a chance to compete in a tournament if you already know bridge are offered by the SERA Bridge Club.

Spring Tournament

A spring tournament lasting two or three sessions is scheduled soon. If enough new players join, prizes will be awarded on a handicap basis as well as on straight scores.

Beginners who want to learn more can call Fred Greenwood, bridge chairman, at 493. If enough are interested, a bridge class will be started.

Shift workers may be interested to know that the playing ends between 10:15 and 10:45 p.m., so that they can play on all but 4 to 12 shifts.

Everyone Join

The Bridge Club meets each second and fourth Wednesday of each month at the Shell refinery cafeteria annex at 7:30 p.m. All SERA members and their partners are cordially invited to join in the sessions. Fees of fifty cents per player are used to award prizes each session.

HELP us keep your correct address by turning it in to the P&IR office.

Cathodic Protection Electrically Saves Buried Pipe From Leaks, Corrosion

A leaky faucet can be annoying, but imagine the problem if you had acres of buried pipe, as at Houston Refinery, and these pipes began to leak.

If you ever dug a cave as a kid and discovered a rusty old buried can in the process, you know how metal will rust and corrode in the ground.

Corrosion Attacks

Shell has the same problem of corrosion with the pipes they bury in the ground. Corrosion attacks and eats holes in the pipes, causing leaks.

Shell tried various methods of preventing or slowing down this

corrosion, and finally found the answer to be cathodic protection.

Cathodic protection is a means of protecting pipe from corrosion by the use of electrical currents.

Counteract Corrosion

Electrical currents are set up between the ground and the pipe by nature, causing the metal to dissolve; cathodic protection is a man-made counter-potential. The natural currents involved in corrosion are small, but one ampere per year (110 watt light bulb has 110 amperes) dissolves approximately 20 pounds of pipeline metal.

Metal originally comes from the ground in ore form, and when metal is put back into the ground, the differences in the various soils around it set up a direct electrical current which tends to dissolve the metal and return it to its original state.

Control Tendency

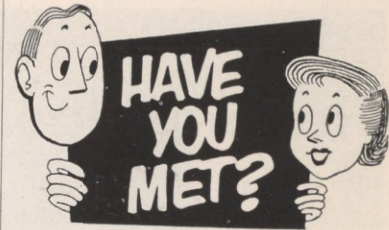
Engineers can control this tendency by setting up more currents, planned to equalize the natural currents so no (or very little) corrosion can take place. These currents are tied in to the network of underground pipes.

In 1938 at Houston Refinery, direct current generators were tried for this purpose, but were found unsatisfactory. In 1940 cooper-oxide rectifiers were designed which met the demand for providing the desired electrical current. With their installation, the curve for leaks stopped climbing and stayed constant.

Holsteyn Konws

Derk Holsteyn, Cathodic Protection Engineer, has had much to do with the installation of cathodic protection and he could tell you all the whys and wherefors of currents, solution potentials, voltages, etc.

Biggest value we know—SERA membership for \$3 a year!



... these new employees and welcomed them to Shell?

REFINERY

Treasury

- J. L. Burns, Clerk
- Ina G. Foster, Jr. Clerk
- Betty L. Lewis, Stenographer

CHEMICAL

Engineering

- R. F. Morehead, Jr. Engineer
- A. C. Murphy, General Helper
- D. H. Pennington, General Helper
- L. D. Ressler, General Helper

Treasury

- J. M. Tinkle, Jr. Clerk

Sterling Pipe Line Ups Shell's Oil Throughput

Early in February, the mounting crude oil production of eastern Colorado and western Nebraska began flowing through the new Sterling Pipe Line System.

Shell Pipe Line Corporation is part owner of the 12-inch multiple ownership line which will move crude produced in the Denver Julesburg Basin to Gurley, Nebraska.

To Wood River

At Gurley, the crude will enter the larger Platte line for the trip east to Wood River, Illinois.

The current capacity of the Sterling line is about 40,000 barrels a day. Shell, which has leased more than 2 million acres and is already producing from a dozen fields in the Basin, will increase its initial throughput of 4,000 barrels a day to an anticipated 6,600 barrels by the end of the year.

60,000 Feet

Shell Pipe Line constructed approximately 60,000 feet of gathering lines to move Shell production into the Sterling System.

Accredited Service Info

Q. Your qualification for many of Shell's benefits is governed by the length of your "accredited service". What is meant by "accredited service"?

A. "Accredited service" means regular, full-time service at a regular and stated compensation, but includes those periods of leaves of absence which are:

- (1) With pay,
- (2) Without pay due to sickness or disability of the employee, not exceeding one year,
- (3) Without pay due to causes other than sickness or disability, not exceeding thirty calendar days,
- (4) Due to war or national emergencies.

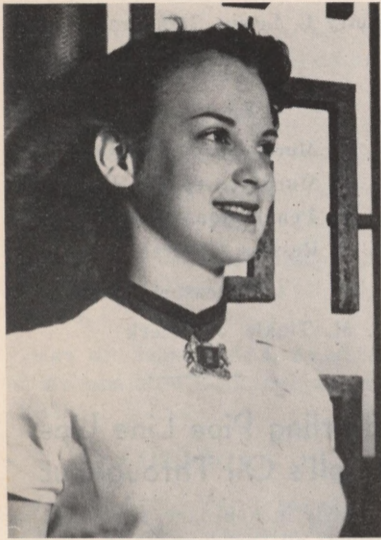
HOSPITAL BED WANTED

R. F. Smith, Cracking Department clerk, is recovering from polio and is well enough to go home on weekends to see his family. But he needs a hospital bed while he is home. If any of our Shell employees have a hospital bed they could loan him, please notify Elsa Graham at Ref. 483 or Marie Marschall at Ref. 316.

Reporters Column

Honors, Honesty, Honorees Fill News

It's always nice to find beauty and brains in one combination. Holly Hilliard, daughter of the Fay Hilliards, has been named valedictorian of the Deer Park graduating class.



Holly Hilliard

Holly was a member of the annual staff, helped organize the student council, and took part in the senior play. Math and sciences are Holly's favorite subjects, and she will continue her subjects in the fall, probably at Sophie Newcomb, where she has received a scholarship.

To Good Health

Rascœe Falvey Smith, a clerk in the Cracking Department, is reported to be improving. He was stricken with poliomyelitis in September 1952. J. M. Smith of the Insulators has been off sick in Mississippi since December and is doing better now.

Honoring Mrs. C. L. Pugsley, Mrs. A. M. Flint, wife of the P&IR department manager, entertained wives of the Personnel Department men and the P&IR women employees at a coffee in the Flint home Saturday morning, April 18th.

AA Rating

J. M. McFarland's Sea Scout troop brought back a rating of AA in First Aid from a recent weekend at Camp Strake. The Refinery carpenter's troop, Ship 16, qualified for the rating by life saving work, survival cooking, signaling and use of compass.

National Honor Society membership has been awarded Dennis Boatright, son of Mr. and Mrs. Glenn Boatright of P&IR. Dennis is a junior at the high school in Pasadena, which makes the honor signal since mostly seniors make the coveted roll.

Proverb Proved True

Honesty pays — plenty — found Jim Ed Deaton, 12-year-old son of

J. E. Deaton, Operator No. 1 at the poly gas plant. The young Boy Scout found a lady's wallet near Jackson Junior High School a few weeks ago. It contained \$101. The wallet was successfully returned after several attempts to locate the owner.

Wade Callender of Research is doing an active job of heading the S.E.R.A. Tennis Club. He is arranging monthly tournaments among the fifty-five members from the refinery and the chemical plant, and plans to schedule matches with other companies.

Children to Cheese

A group in Research made up of Dick Hunt, Bill Stevenson, Jam Samson, Gus Carlson, Isaac Dvoretzky, and Ray Clerc, have formed an informal discussion club to argue everything from juvenile delinquency to curing cheese.

Have you heard the effects of radioactive dust which may have drifted in here from atomic bomb discharges in Nevada? It definitely registers on a Geiger counter and is giving the Research photographers trouble with their color film.

Dr. Wm. A. Bailey, Jr. arrived in April to be welcomed by Research as its new director. He has been very busy getting acquainted with the Research program.

It Goes Thataway

Plastic name plates and flow arrows are soon to be installed in Utilities on seldom used lines, which promises to make tracing of these lines much easier.

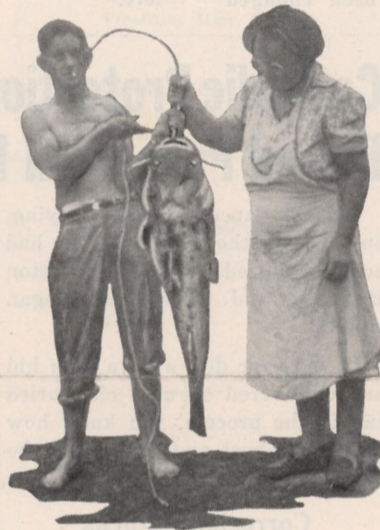
Horsing Around

"That's a wonderful animal," thought pipefitter D. W. Dial when he bought a horse recently to plow on his farm. Anticipating a wonderful plow horse, Dial put the

horse to work—or tried, that is. The horse refused to comply, and Dial's attempts at getting the creature to work all failed. Until he put blinders on him! Now the horse is happy, and plows up the ground with great fervor.

Honor Retired Pals

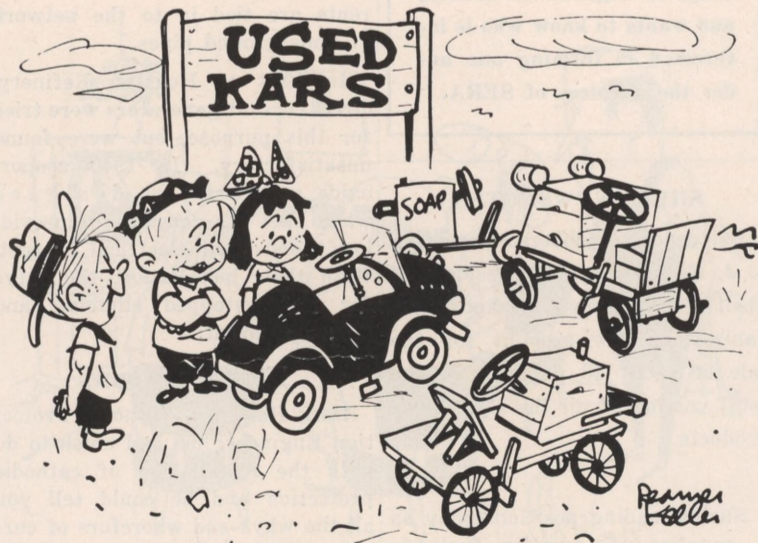
The Ten & Over employees of the Treating Department honored retired employees from that department with a banquet at the San Jacinto Inn April 15th. Credit for organizing this very successful event goes to P. H. Ulmer.



40 Pound Proof

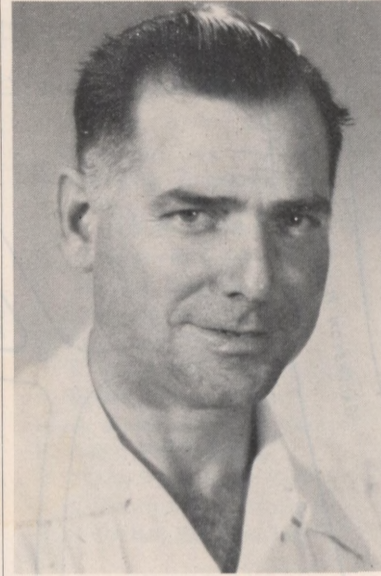
A 40 pound catfish with a photograph to prove it is the luck of G. D. Copeland, Cooling Water Operator. He certainly takes the edge off the mother-in-law joke, since he and his mother-in-law caught it.

One birthday is good enough for them both! Miss Candice Roberta Cathey was born on her mother's birthday last August 2nd. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs.



"It's a late '51 model, driven a few careful blocks by a small boy whose feet didn't even reach the pedals"

Jack Taylor Racks Up 24 Years With Service Record Absence-Free



C. J. Taylor

Not even a hurricane can stop C. J. "Jack" Taylor from coming to work and in the 24 years since he started work for Shell in 1929, Jack has not missed a single day due to illness or for other personal reasons.

A hurricane, stalled ferries, a cold haven't managed to stop Jack who declares he isn't trying to set records, but just likes the way his work brings him.

A Shift Foreman

The Dispatching department Shift Foreman first began his career as a Labor Pusher. He came a gauger at Main Oil and pumper there also. In 1948, he was made Shift Foreman.

Jack lives in Channelview, in the old days before the Pasadena tunnel, he sometimes had to drive all the way to Houston and back when the Lynchburg ferry ran aground.

Two Children

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have two children, a daughter 20, Catherine Jean, and a boy 15, Jack, Jr.

Building boats, fishing, working in his shop, taking pictures with his movie camera keep Jack occupied away from the job.

WHERE IS HOME?

If you moved recently, be sure your new address has been turned in to the Personnel Department. Your Shellegram, Shell News, and other important material are mailed to the address you last reported. These will be returned to the sender if your address is not correct.

Gremlins Tangle Carraway

By Marion Smith

Once in a while a horde of impish little Gremlins will gleefully gang up to put a double hex on one suffering mortal. This is the sad story of what befell Nelson Carraway, who was once a strong man.

Gremlins Begin

The Carraways had bought a new house off the bus line, so Mrs. Carraway had been driving Nelson to work. One day on her way home someone banged into their Plymouth. From then on things began to happen.

In spite of a stiff increase in

Woodrow W. Cathey of the Pipe Shop.

Barbecue Dinner

The Shell Employees Social Club stag party at Leroy's Place April 18th attracted some 200 members, including many new to the club. Card games, dominoes were played and barbecue and beverages were served. Credit for the event goes to W. T. Bratton, chairman, Johnnie Johnson, secretary, and Sammie Lee Richardson, business manager.

INDUSTRY NEWSNOTE

When Colonel Drake drilled the first oil well in 1859 to a depth of 69 1/2 feet, his hand-made tools represented an investment of \$76.50. In contrast, the cost of a recent rig for a 7,500-foot well in the Mid-Continent area was more than \$112,000. Back in Drake's day, this would have bought equipment enough to sink 1,464 wells.

Biggest value we know—SERA membership for \$3 a year!

repair cost, Carraway finally persuaded the insurance company to let him have the car repaired at a certain company which could do the time on the job. The repair was fast but the insurance check was slow, and for four days Carraway commuted afoot and with the aid of commuting friends between the motor company and the insurance office. The motor company was hard-hearted: no check, no car. Finally they agreed to lend Nelson a car to call for the check.

Gremlins Busy

Then the Gremlins got busy. On his way at last in the parrowed car, Carraway suddenly jumped a curb to avoid a collision. No brakes. Harassed, he hiked off to make a fresh start. He hiked off to a filling station to get enough gas to get under way. No go. Dead battery. Gnashed his teeth he called for a wrecker and everything was fine until the woman motorist had a wreck with the wrecker.

Gremlins Don't Rest

Pretty well pooped out, Carraway last got to work for a 4-12 shift. That night he decided that instead of going home on the 11:30 bus he would wait for the overtime bus which would take him directly home. But after he had let the bus go, the Gremlins pulled their joker and canceled the overtime trip. They didn't let him out until 3:30 a.m.

HELP us keep your correct address by turning it in to the Personnel office.

"Feather Fever" Spices Life With Garage Full Of Parakeets



PARAKEET PAPA and two babies carry on a conversation adding up to "I'm hungry, pop" for the parents feed the babies pre-digested food and the right one is hungry.

"Feather fever" accounts for the garage full of parakeets and a family happily sharing a hobby at the home of Dorsey C. Lisle, cat tracker Operator No. 1 at Houston Refinery.

"Once you've got the feather fever, you never get rid of it," says Lisle who started as a boy raising pigeons and finally graduated into raising rare parakeets.

Aviary of 200 Plus

Over 200 parakeets chatter away as the 12-year Shell veteran leads guests through the parakeet aviary, enthusiastically explaining the differences in marking and color of the various birds.

Parakeets, whose official name is Budgerigars or Australian Shell Grass Parakeets, are small hook-billed birds native to Australia. In the wild state, the bird is green, but it is now bred in many different combinations of color. Swiftly becoming a popular household pet because of its beautiful color and affectionate nature, a parakeet can be taught to speak with a limited vocabulary.

Rainbow of Color

In a rainbow of color possibilities, some of the Lisles' parakeets are different shades of blue, green, yellow, and even white. Some of these colors may be combined in a single bird, such as the blue bird with a yellow face. Wings may be black, gray, or cinnamon colored.

A very careful study and application of genetics becomes an integral part of raising "rare" parakeets, for only by controlled breeding with the proper types can a bird-raiser produce what he would like to have.

A "rare" parakeet is one that is different in genetical set-up, either in color or "sex-linkage", from the normal parakeet. A "sex-linked"

parakeet is one that carries the color-factor (or color gene) on the sex chromosome.

Among Houston's Largest

Mr. Lisle has one of the largest aviaries in Houston, and never tires of his fascinating hobby. Returning from the Dallas fair where he won ribbons for his pigeons in October 1948, a friend persuaded him to buy two normal parakeets. The parakeets were an instant success with the Lisle family, and within a few weeks the Lisles bought a dozen more which became the basis for their flock.

Discovery of a Rare

Discovery of a baby cinnamon cobalt blue hen in the nest with some normal ones started the Lisles on the trail of raising "rare" parakeets.

Normal parakeets sell for about \$7.00 each retail, and an average pair of rare babies is worth about \$35.00. The more unusual types of rare birds may run as high as \$125.00.

Mr. Lisle has special cages for individual breeding when he wants to be sure of parentage. Others he keeps in open cages.

Confusing Sight

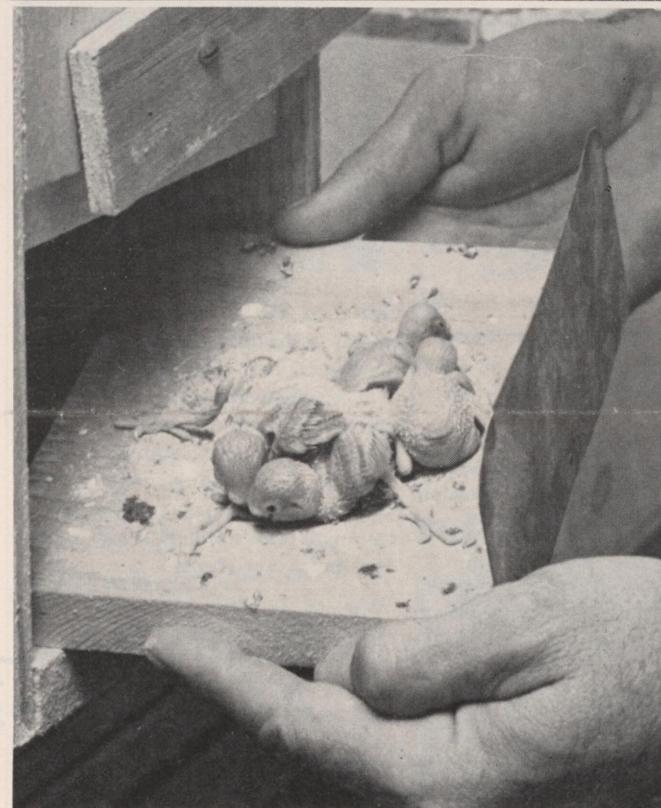
A nest of young parakeets is a confusing sight to the uninitiated—for some of the baby birds may be half grown while others in the same brood are just hatched. This may be explained by the curious habit of the female parakeet who lays an egg every other day, but continues sitting on the eggs from the time when the first egg is laid until the last of the brood is hatched. The birds will lay all year, but Mr. Lisle holds his nests to three a year because he believes this produces stronger birds.

Identified For Life

When the young birds are about a week old, Mr. Lisle slips a seam-

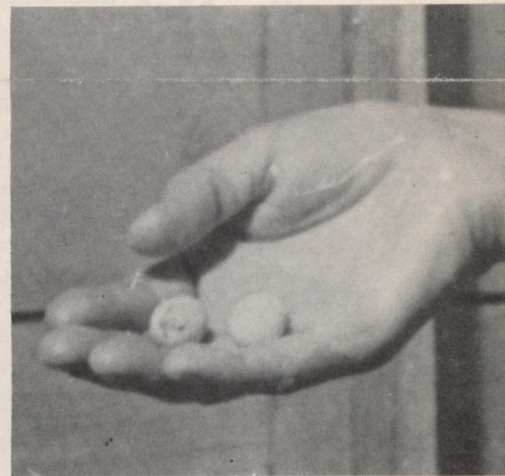


OVER 200 PARAKEETS fill the aviaries at D. C. Lisle's home. He has blue, green, yellow, white.



DIFFERENCES IN AGES in this parakeet nest are caused by the fact that the female starts sitting immediately after the first egg is laid.

FROM 5 TO 12 EGGS the size Mrs. Lisle holds may be laid in each set by the female parakeet.



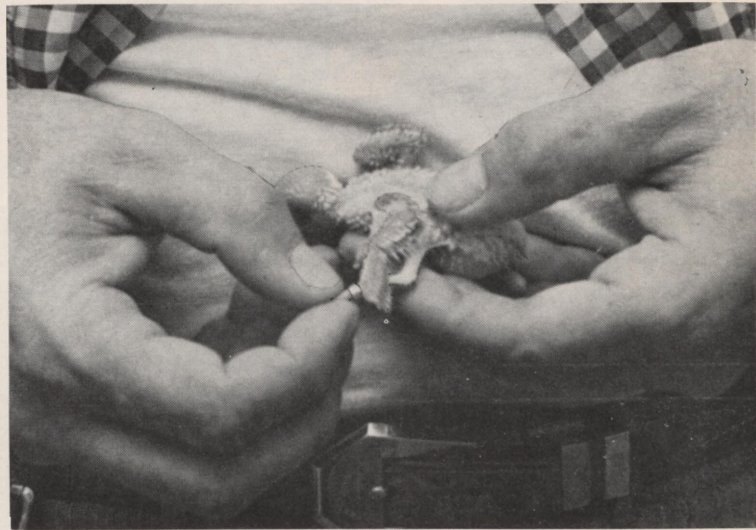
BANDED FOR LIFE when the birds are only a week old, the seamless band gives certain identity.

les band over each bird's foot, identifying the bird for life according to the parakeet breeders association, Lisle's personal code the year, and a serial number. This information is then filed in a card index so that at any time the bird can be identified according to father, mother, date of birth, etc. In spite of these careful records, Mr. Lisle recognizes most of numerous parakeets in the aviary on sight.

Food for the birds is a mixture of canary seed, millet, and, in winter, oat groats. Mr. Lisle supplements the birds' diet with greens and a food mixture of his own. Each bird will eat a pound of food in a couple of weeks. The birds shell the grain themselves before eating it. Babies are fed by the parent birds with pre-digested food.

Prize Winners

The Lisles entered their first parakeet show at Shreveport recently, and won a first and two second prizes at the open show by the Southern Budgie Society. Larg-



er than the national parakeet show, the Shreveport contest featured 408 breeding parakeets with over 500 total entries including pets. Eight southern and midwestern states had entries.

Locally, the Lisles take an active part in the 3B's or Better Budgie Breeders of Houston. Mr. Lisle is second vice-president. His correspondence with other parakeet breeders has made him friends all over the United States. The children, Jeanine, 13, and Bert, 5, both share their parents' interest in the parakeets.

Next contest on the list is the

local parakeet show May 24th at the Ripley House, open to the public from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Teaching To Talk

Naturally, with the fast-growing fad for parakeets as pets is an increased interest in teaching the little birds to talk. Teaching a parakeet to talk is a process of taming and patience. First the bird is confined to a cage until he will sit on the trainer's finger and stay there. Then the bird can be removed from the cage if desired. Sometimes it is necessary to clip the feathers slightly on one wing

(Continued to Page Eight)

CHEMICAL

Yelvingtons Have Pleasant Surprise

Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Yelvington were blessed with twin girls on the 17th of April. Darlene and Marlene are really healthy young ladies. Darlene (left) was born at 9:26; she weighed 6 pounds 4 oz. and Marlene was born at 9:35; she weighed 6 pounds 13½ oz.

The Yelvingtons had not been definitely told that they would have twins, so it was a wonderful surprise. However, woman's intuition isn't often wrong. Wise Mrs. Yelvington bought two of everything in the way of baby clothes.

The twins have two older sisters, Patricia, 11, and Arpamay, 4.

Mr. Yelvington is an operator in E Department. He has been with Shell since January of 1948. Lancom, who is taking his vacation to become acquainted with the new members of his family, really has his hands full. Mrs. Yelvington is recuperating in Memorial Hospital. We hope the Mrs. will be home soon.



Stores

The Stores Department had a large showing at the SERA dance, April 20th. It was a "Real Crazy Ball"—all the Cats were in attendance. "Pete" said: "All the girls in the Paul Jones wanted him." Can you believe that? It was a big nite and part of the next day. Every one arrived at Fred Gerbode's "This Is It", then on to the ball. Then after the affair was over all the crowd went to Del Stephen's for breakfast.

Bill Wheelock took his vacation so he could go fishing with his son before school started.

Joe Lee is looking forward to the "Father and Son" banquet this summer.

Can you think of anything any funnier than John Connolly planting grass? Keep it up John.

Don Dalrymple is trying to find some shirts that will glow in the dark like Fred Gerbode's imported shintz ceremonial shirts. Good luck Don.

Lillie has a new car—it sure is a honey. In fact that is the color.

If you are a wrestling fan, be sure to watch for Riger Rusk vs. Bull Curry the first Friday after this news reaches you.

See you all next time.

Treasury

Well, it is almost vacation time again. As for Harry Morey, Mr. Morey's vacation time has already come. He is from a nice stay at the country. He reports a nice time in such a short time. We hear that Harry has a project up on the farm, and his father-in-law are building a chicken coop. The Morey's son really did enjoy his visit. Tom made him very comfortable in the clever baby's bed, made up of a Cedar Chest and lots of blankets.

We are glad to have Ken Br. The back with us after a long illness. Best of luck, Ken, we missed you.

Say, if anyone needs any information on fishing, there are a lot of fishermen in Treasury Department that may be able to help you. I have heard that Court Mabee can catch any size or kind. On his last fishing trip a good time was had by all, but as for the catch it wasn't much.

Barbara Jones is officially SE property of the Engineering Department. We really miss her, but we want to wish her luck in the new position.

The Frontier Fiesta went off in a big way. At the bowling here recently Marianne Elliott and Barbara Jones looked especially cute all dressed to go to the Fiesta. They had on frontier pants and Marianne had on her fancy Te boots, size 4.

Laboratory

Gerry McKinley spent his vacation painting his home. Don Morgan remained in Texas on his vacation. Dan Burns insists that the way it always is—a Yankee comes down here for a while, but doesn't want to leave, even for a short time.

George Matacek drove back home to Chicago for his vacation with the intention of getting a set of new tires for his car.

Bob Jones moved over to the Tech Department and Bill Key came a Technical Assistant in the P&R Department on May 1. Back of luck to both of them in their new work. Dick Snedden took Bob's place as Laboratory Shift Supervisor.

WANTED: Your correct address for the Shellgram and P&R file.

Engineering Has 3000 Tracings Microfilmed



Three thousand prints from the drafting room files were put on microfilm recently. The Microfilm Service Corp. had a full crew working on the prints, the filming of which only took a few days. Carl Magaziner is placing the print for filming, Eunice Tyer, our Ozalid operator is assisting him.

Biggest value we know—SERA membership for \$3 a year!

Here's the Dope



Labor

The Labor Department is picking up some new men, W. Singleton, L. Elliard, G. Tatum, C. Joseph, W. Washington, and Marton Woods are the latest additions.

The Ford cars must have something on the ball. Douglass (Playboy) Faulty and R. Stradic are both proud owners of new Fords. I can't leave out J. Holt, he is not at all late riding around in his Rocket 88.

H. V. Willis is a little on the quiet side, I don't hear much talk about the guy, what is the matter—are you playing it cool.

All of the fellows are wondering how it is that J. F. Robinson can reach town before anyone else does. Who knows, maybe it is because he has a passing gear in his truck.

A good deed was done by E. P. Barrett for himself—he joined the church. We are all happy for him.

Shell Social Club gave a stag barbecue on Saturday. The entertainment was wonderful and everyone had a nice time.

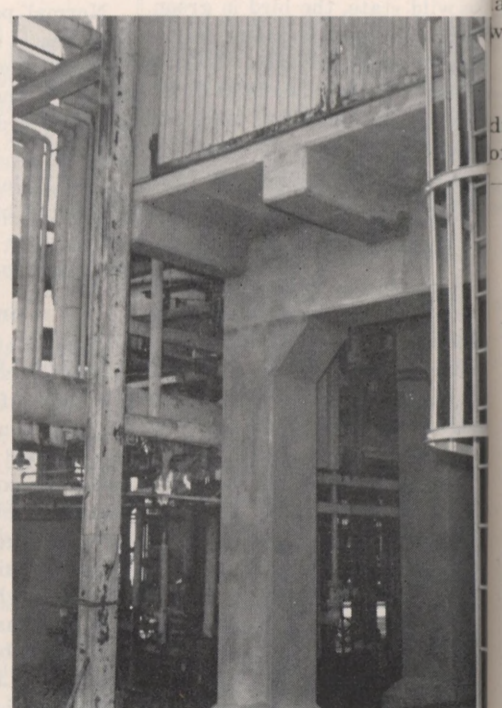
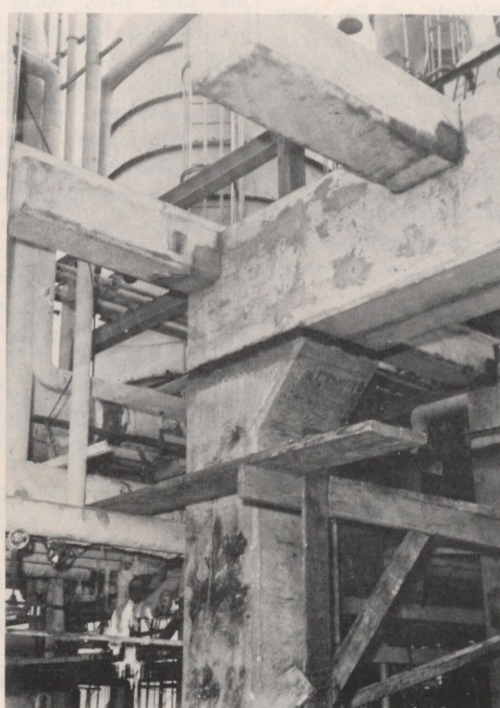
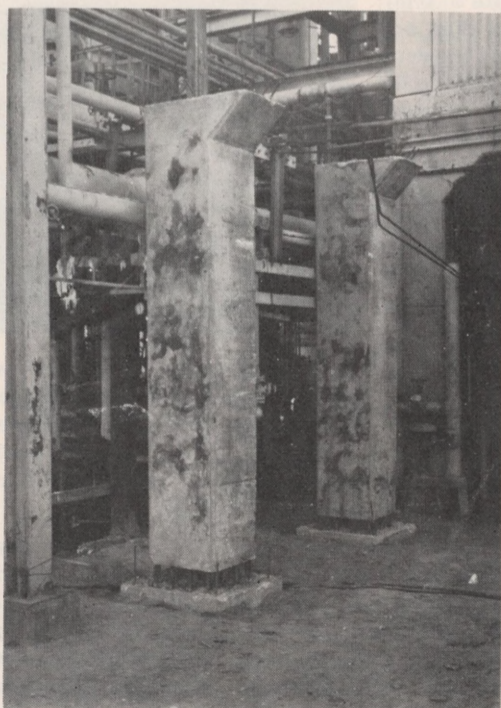
Would You Like To Have An Art Club? Here's How

Anyone who would be interested in starting an art club should contact Vic Anderson, Shell Chemical—Extension 443.

A possible program can be arranged with lectures on past and present artists. Exhibitions of living artists can also be had in

painting and sculpture. An exhibition of works done by club artists. Lectures on methods and mediums now used in art with demonstrations.

If enough people are interested we can have a fine club and a great deal of fun. Hope to hear from you soon.



AN EXTENSION to the centrifuge building at G Plant has recently been completed. The reinforced concrete structure was unique in that it was pre-cast, with all joints between structural members made by a special grouting method which places the steel under tension when set. The method of connecting the pre-

cast members is both simple and economical. It was designed by Mr. M. H. R. Cogan and a patent has been applied for by Shell Development Co. This method of construction is well adapted to structures built within confined locations.

AROUND THE OFFICE IN FIVE SECONDS

Mr. E. S. Martin, G Department Manager, has earned the name of Traveling Man. He seems to be taking up traveling seriously, just recently returned from California, followed by a quick trip to New York.

Bill Burke is a new member of the G Department Group. He is at present working as Technical Assistant on Plants M, H, and S.

The Shipping Department will really miss Bettye Millard, who is leaving Shell to join her husband. Mr. Millard is in the Air Force and will be stationed in Florida. Mona Horton will be the new face in Shipping. Best of luck to you Mona.

Seen around the office these days the mail clerks, Joyce Tinkle and Beverly Daniel in high heels. They look very nice and neat.

SERA has had another dance. Glad to see the Chemical Plant turn out. Doris Wilmoth, Dorothy Ballard, Joyce Tinkle, Barbara Jones, Juanita Price were just a few of the lovely ladies who were there. Fun and a good time was had by all. We are looking forward to the next one.

Electrical And Instrument Shop

Our main concern this month is on behalf of "Enright" McCard—have you noticed the gray hairs lately?

H. Rogers recently signed a "Construction" bulletin and began turning out some "Manual Labor" for a change—or so someone said. Sorry to hear that D. N. "Red" Gaither has been dieting due to high blood pressure. What's the matter Red, fish not biting?

A hint to the wise, when riding a motor cycle never take street directions from "Squeaky" Thurmond. Straight ahead, means there is a 90 degree curve just ahead. For further details contact F. U. Nunn.

At a recent "G" Plant shutdown every one seemed surprised to see our own Instrument Foreman waltzing around in a pair of coveralls. Boy! Things must be getting rough on the outside.

We find L. V. Ashe still circulating around the shop. Wonder when he will lose those trousers.

HELP us keep your correct address by turning it in to the P&IR office.

Annual Manufacturing And Technical Meeting



AT NOON HOUR, lunches were served by the swimming pool (left). Morning coffee breaks gave old friends a chance to get together (right). (L to R) Rus LeRoy, New York; Bill Key, Lab.; Don Melstrom, Research; Don Church, Tech.; Harold Row, Tech.

Every year a Manufacturing and Technical Meeting is held for the purpose of exchanging new processes and techniques used in different Shell Chemical Plants. A great deal of important information is acquired at these meetings, but aside from the material gained the different plants became better acquainted. There were 125 men present. They represented all Shell Chemical Plants, Shell Development, Shell Oil of Canada, and Shell Oil Company. There were 24 Houston employees present. The meeting was held at Litchfield Park, Arizona, about fifteen miles from Phoenix. The Wigwam, a very nice resort, served as the living quarters for most of the group. Everyone was impressed with the excellent facilities that the Wigwam offered. After the all-day meeting sessions, which incidentally were held in the auditorium and Sunday School rooms of a church, there was time for sports and relaxation. H. E. Hughes and V. W. Wilson had an interesting time playing night golf. They had everyone believing that they played night golf in Arizona, until they confessed that it was a well-lighted putting green. A wagon ride to the open desert for a Steak Fry was one of the pleasures the group enjoyed.

Most of the men came back with a nice sun-tan and a more up-to-date picture of what is going on in different Shell Chemical Plants.

WANTED: Your correct address for the Shellgram and P&IR files.

News Release On Selection Of Names For Jury Service In Harris County

This is a news release from the Houston Chamber of Commerce. I am proud to say that Shell men always meet the responsibility of Jury Duty. However, there are some facts contained in this article that might interest you.

A small, very special room in the Harris County Courthouse has as its main occupant, a wheel that spells all the rights and liberties of free Americans—a wheel that can justly be called FREEDOM WHEEL.

YOUR name is in this wheel—if you are qualified to be called as a possible juror in Harris County! Yes, this is the Jury Wheel—the instrument from which the names of men who will be called for Jury Service are pulled!

Right now the Jury Wheel holds approximately 317,317 names. Whose names are these? They are the names of men who have paid a poll tax; men who are old enough to rate a poll tax exemption; or men who have property on the county's rendered or unrendered tax rolls. Perhaps there may be a few women's names in the Jury Wheel—BUT ONLY IN ERROR! Women are not allowed to serve on juries in Texas.

Your name, if you qualify as listed, may be pulled from the Jury Wheel and you may be notified, by postcard from the Sheriff's office, to appear at a certain district courtroom on a certain Monday morning for empanelization.

From this point on—from the

time you receive notification until you are seated in the jury box—your actions are important to you and to your fellow citizens.

If you believe in the liberties and freedoms so many Americans have fought and died for throughout the entire history of our nation, you report promptly at the specified courtroom to be empaneled. There are a few EXCEPTIONS—there are a few men the law automatically exempts. Men such as clergymen, telegraphers, undertakers, law enforcement officers, and others, are not asked to serve on juries.

However, you, Mr. Average Citizen, report as ordered. You hear your name called by the clerk, and answer along with about 200 or 500 other men. You listen to the judge as he explains how your name happened to be pulled from the Jury Wheel. You listen as the judge explains that you must be a freeholder or a householder in order to serve.

The judge explains: "A freeholder is someone who owns, partially owns, or has an interest of any kind in any sort of property in the State of Texas. A householder is any man who heads a household by supporting anyone in it—usually a married man, or a man with dependents. Even if your wife works, you are still considered the head of your household."

You listen again as the judge certifies that you are a citizen of the United States and of Harris County.

Then, you hear the judge, in crisp, direct words, telling in language that's plenty easy to understand, exactly WHY you have earned the privilege of serving on a jury. You have earned this rare and precious privilege because others have died to give it to you, Mr. American Citizen.

You have earned the right to FREEDOM because you have been a part of the gigantic forces that make America the most unshackled nation in the world.

You sit up straight and your ears hear the judge finish his speech with the words, "I will now hear excuses!"

If you have a conscience, Mr. Average American Citizen, you are shocked to see an uncommonly large number of your companions rise to plead with the judge to be

Elk City Gas Plant

Shell Oil's Elk City gas plant in Oklahoma will soon undergo its second major enlargement since going on stream in February 1951 in order to keep pace with the expanding production of the Elk City field.

The new expansion will increase the plant's daily gas processing capacity from 150 to 220 million cubic feet. The original plant, designed to process 100 million cubic feet of gas a day, was enlarged to its present capacity in June of 1952.

Actual construction of the new facilities will begin as soon as the necessary materials are delivered.

A. P. Hebert Has Excellent Record For 7 Years



AN ADDITION to our list of employees with good attendance records. Mr. A. P. Heberts, Machinist No. 1, has had seven consecutive years of service without an absence. We are very happy to put his name among those at the top of the list.

excused from service.

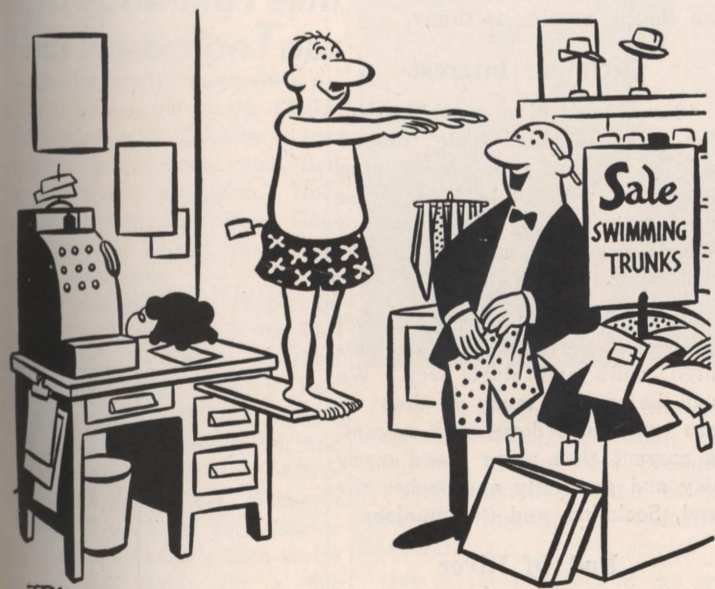
You would be more shocked if you could hear the pitifully feeble excuses some of these men give for DENYING THEIR RIGHTS AS FREE MEN!

In a government "of the people, by the people, for the people"—who is to govern if these people themselves refuse?

Jury Service is your American privilege. Serve when called!

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS!

It takes a large number of people to make the Picnic a success. Anyone who would like to help for a short while on the day of the Picnic please contact Bill Negrotto, 303, Juanita Price, 378, or Jo Kelley, 472. Thank you! We'll see you on June 13th.



TOM HENDERSON

"How do they feel?"

Baseball Builds Boys, Believe Fans Of East End Little League Teams



RAY JULIAN . . . manages boys team

By Ivan DeWalt

The citizens of Houston's East End are doing something about juvenile delinquency—they are preventing it with character building through providing active baseball clubs for boys 10 to 12 years old.

Accomplishments of Team Work

In the belief that an active athletic program will bring out an inherent competitive spirit and show the accomplishments gained only through cooperation and team work, the fathers of the East End founded this program with but one objective—"to aid the boys through proper guidance and recreational functions to grow to manhood with a better understanding of the responsibilities and character which goes into the making of a good, solid, and dependable citizen."

Once such father, Ray Julian, Refinery Inspection, plays an important role in this program as manager of a Dixie Little League ball club.

Industries Help

The team consists of 15 players. The boys range from 10 to 12 years with five boys in each age group. The Dixie Little League is formed from boys living in Pecan Park, Manchester, Oak Meadows, and Oak Forest, with four competitive teams. Various industries and groups in the area sponsor the teams and furnish the necessary uniforms and equipment.

Ray's team has won the championship two years in a row, with Ray at the wheel last year. Ray, as manager, is responsible for the training, selection of players, and general conduct of the team.

Shell Sons On Team

The team is looking forward to another championship this season, and Ray would be especially

pleased to win since this will be the last year of participation for his son Dennis, who will soon be 13. Dennis, playing pitcher and third base, has been an active member of the league for four consecutive years.

Center fielder Donnie Henderson is also the son of a Shell Refinery employee. His father is J. W. Henderson of the Tin Shop.

The parents of East End are making men of boys while they play.

Parakeets---

(Continued from Page Five)

if the bird has a tendency to be wild and fly. The taming usually involves about a week.

Up To 150 Words

Vocabulary building is accomplished by repetition of words. Most birds learn first their name in a combination such as "pretty boy" or "pretty Joey" and go on from there to a possible vocabulary of 150 words. But a good average vocabulary is 60 to 80 words. Phonograph records are marketed with repetition of words for parakeet training. Males make better students than females, and early morning or late afternoon seem to be the best class times. After the bird has learned a few words, he will pick up words from normal conversations carried on near him. (Beware for little birds have big vocabularies!)

Hope To Develop Strain

The Lisles' goal is to develop a strain by selective breeding. And some day they hope to produce a champion from this strain.

But while they are waiting for the champ to come along, Dorsey and Margaret are going to go right along enjoying to the utmost life spiced with "feather fever."

Neighborly Interest?

If you are interested in what is happening at other Shell locations, come by the P&IR department where papers from the various locations are filed in the Shellegram office. You are free to read them and return them at your leisure.

Fish Derby Underway, Varied Prizes Offered

Unlimber your tackle, because the annual SERA Fishing Derby started May 1 and lasts until October 1, 1953. The derby is open to all SERA members and their families.

Any Salt-Water Fish

Any kind of salt-water fish is eligible for a monthly prize, but entries must be made within two weeks from the date the catch is made. Pictures of your catch should be turned in whenever possible.

Monthly prizes in the form of gift certificates will be awarded for the biggest speckled trout, redfish and flounder. Any salt-water fish other than trout, redfish, and flounder may be entered in a miscellaneous division. Most outstanding fish in this division will also win a monthly prize for some lucky angler.

Prizes Stack Up

A single contestant may not win more than two prizes each month, but he may enter the contest each month. If no entries are turned in during any one month, the prize will be added to that of the following month. Any winner may let his prizes accumulate until the end of the contest, at which time he will be awarded a gift certificate covering all of his winnings.

Flounders may be gilled, but all other fish must be taken with some type of hook and line.

Entry Blank Headquarters

Entry blanks may be obtained at the Chemical Plant from Rip Collins, Labor Office; Dixon Kirk, Instrument Shop; Noel Smith, Pipe Shop; and Jo Kelley, Personnel.

Refinery members may contact Ray Diamond, Platforming; H. D. Smith or Walter Cannon, Instrument Shop; Woody Myers, Control Lab; Ann Wright, Treasury; or Harry Sandland, Research. For any information, call Sandland at Ref. 390.

HEARTH ACHES

"Do I think you'll get the house painted before fall? That depends on what kind of fall you have in mind!"

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

Democracy Is What We Make

"Democracy Is What We Make It", says Ann St. Pe, who won first prize and a \$15 cash award for her essay in a recent contest. Ann is the daughter of Lawrence St. Pe of the Dispatching Department. The essay has been entered in state competition.

The 16-year-old Pasadena High School senior submitted the winning essay in a contest sponsored by the Pasadena Post of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, in cooperation with the Creative Writing Club of Pasadena High School. Should she win in state competition, her essay would go into national competition. The essay follows:

Liberties Never Dreamed Of

"Centuries ago, in a small, then insignificant room a few stately and dignified gentlemen gathered together to determine the rights and privileges of generations to come. During the years that have passed since that day, people all over the United States have enjoyed liberties never before dreamed of by inhabitants of other countries.

"The people of Russia, hearing of the Democracy that exists in America, disbelieve because to them those freedoms represent their dreams. To people who are told what to read, where to work, where to live, who to worship, and who to vote for, it is a form of Utopia.

Only Angels Exist

"To people who have no idea how it feels to wear shoes, who have no roof over their heads and who eat so seldom that a piece of bread is considered a luxury, it is a place where only angels could exist. What are these liberties to those who live within the realm of those heaven-sent luxuries? They are the common, ordinary everyday civil rights that we take so very much for granted.

FREE!

"How many of us Americans, as we claim to be, fully realize how lucky we are. How many of us have ever stopped and thanked the Power that made us free? FREE! That is a small word, but in its four letters is contained everything we can dream of. I am not speaking of material objects. I am thinking about the right to worship as we believe, the right to walk on either side of the street we choose, the right to sing when we want, talk about what we feel like talking about, and laugh when we find something is funny.

Declining Interest

"How long will be be able to enjoy these so-called little things? At the present rate of declining interest it will not be long before we must realize what sort of Utopia we HAD, and by then it will be too late.

"We will not be able to go back and erase the next fifty or hundred years and start over. We will be caught, more so than we are now, in a downward current, a current that gains speed every day and gradually approaches the end, Socialism and Communism.

End Of River

"The end of the river will mean the destruction of every privilege

we consider a part of routine and destruction of every right could hold dear, and the tearing down of every American idea established.

"Whose job is it to see that same liberties are secured for children and their children's children? It is your job, yours, his and hers. It is everybody's. We must educate ourselves, our children, and then our friends and relatives. We must voice opinions.

"Do not let communists have floor. Knock them off their feet with the American way of life and sharing. Be honest, true and religious. By all means, do not gripe about poll tax. Rather be glad you have a vote to pay for.

Do Something

"Do not bother to tell me about the mess in Washington. Instead spend your time kicking out the corruptions we find there. Do not bother to tell me how crooked this Senator, this Governor, this gambler or that business man. Just help me and every other American to wipe out those who destroy the future for a few pleasures of today.

Price For Liberty

"Forget to cheat on your income tax report. Forget to charge your neighbor for second-hand car he may buy from you. Forget to "fix" that dollar speed ticket. We all have to pay a price for liberty. Our brothers and sons are paying it with their lives on the battlefield in Korea. They are doing their part, and if we want to hold what they are fighting for, we each have to do our part, though it may be.

"Liberty does not come cheap. Indifference is the downfall of any organization. Let us not let it the downfall of our nation."

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