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HOUSTON REFINERY

No. 14

Monday, September 17, 1962

TO ALL STAFF EMPLOYEES

OPERATIONS

Here it is, the fifth week since "you know when," and operations are "... running smoothly." Steam air decoking of the heaters at Distilling 1 has been completed, and a perspiring Don Lanning says that it had to be one of the hottest jobs in the Refinery ... Inspection of the DU-1 heaters indicates a little preventive maintenance will be needed prior to bringup to insure a good length run after the unit goes into operation. Down in Lube, more of MEK went into orbit this weekend as Dewaxing came on stream ... and the "count-down" for the remaining Lube Oil units continues. The Docks are back in full swing, now that temporary repairs have been completed.

CAFETERIA

"Where Oh Where Did Our Little Boxes Go" was the off-key lament heard shortly before noon today from deep in the heart of Homer's Hash House. Seems there's a shortage of boxes for carry-out lunches to the operating units ... and not being jugglers by trade - the Cafeteria Catering Service needs the old boxes returned. So Homer says: "Save the old box and we'll pick it up when we bring you the next meal." Sounds fair enough.

SAFETY

Here's the composition of our fire crews on each shift: two Fire and Safety Inspectors; six Refinery Laboratory employees; Engineering Field Supervisor; two instrument men; all available staffhouse residents. All Fire and Safety personnel who are off duty will be called if an alarm is sounded on the 4-12 or 12-8 shifts, or on Sunday ... Continuing training classes for our fire fighters are being conducted by members of the Fire and Safety Department. Fire crew members scheduled to attend these classes will be notified in advance by the Fire and Safety Department ... and an added note to the users of fire water ... Call Cooling Water Tower 1 & 2, phone 386, and let them know before using this water.

Apparently the word - or words - got out pretty fast. The Silver Dollar Mystery Man is batting close to 100% when he asks the question; "Do you know the Safety Slogan for this Month?" Four more employees fired fast replies and are now each a silver dollar richer. Our "on the ball" club members now include George Nuss ("You finally asked me."), Roger Bell ("Why, of course. Any good Thermal Cracking man knows the answer to that one."), J. R. Jones ("You got one dated the year I was born?") and Pete Gilliam ("I know the answer ... now just wait a minute.") And their winning reply in each and every case ... DON'T DARE - USE CARE.

EFFLUENT CONTROL

We are trying to work the amount of oil being recovered daily from the Thermal Cracking blowdown pit and the oil-water separators down to a "record" low level -

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but so far the volume looks about normal. Doc Harrison wonders aloud: "Jiminy Crickets! This can't be necessary." Ben Norwood agrees. So do "Doctor" Wood, "Investigator" Vaughn, "Rough and Tough" Kennerty, and "Aggrevated" Mueller. . . . the second verse of their song goes something like this:

. . . Be sure pump bleeders are closed . . . watch tank water draw-offs . . . do not drain oil to the sewers . . . report contributing sources of oil to the B.O.P. operator, phone 318 . . . also call 318 to report Thermal Cracking unit dropouts . . . Remember, it is necessary for the B.O.P. operator to cut in fire water to the quench tower for additional cooling of the oil to prevent an excess of vapors in the pit . . . And another number to call - 397 - the separators; let the operator know when more than a normal amount of oil is entering the sewer system. And Ben concludes with a solo: Let's make October a record month for low oil recovery . . . We can do it'.

NEWS FROM OTHER LOCATIONS

The following "Technical Problem" was met head-on and solved by Shellmen at the Norco Refinery . . . "One of our fractionation experts has been puzzled for a long time that a certain column hasn't been measuring up to its full performance. He said he finally found the answer the other day and got it straightened out. Seems like there were some molecules stuck cross-ways on one of the trays. Operating personnel have been cautioned about allowing molecules to enter this column in a prone position" . . . unquote.

UNITED FUND

. . . A reminder - that the 1963 Houston and Harris County United Fund Drive is not far away. This is our once-a-year opportunity to give to the support of health and welfare agencies in our area. There'll be more about our drive in the near future.

ODDS & ENDS

HANDLE TOOLS WITH CARE. Whether it be metal, wood - or flesh - a tool designed to cut will do just that. Also, tools should be cleaned after use, then returned to their proper storage place. And while you're cleaning those tools, take a look around your immediate area. How's the housekeeping? It's a good idea to keep the work area clean as well as the tools we use.

AFTER Tuesday, Sept. 18, no multilith work will be turned out by our Duplicating Section. If an emergency arises and you need this particular type of reproduction work, call R. L. Lucas, extension 300.

FROM P&IR: There has been no change in the procedure for reporting off duties. The off duty report should be sent to P&IR on the first day of an employee's absence - and another report sent in when the employee returns to work.

AND a final note today to all who asked about Charlie Cutler . . . ain't nothing tops a first-hand report - so just ask Charlie - he'll be back at his old stand at Cat. Crack Gas on the 8-4 shift tomorrow.

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