



shelletter

HOUSTON REFINERY

"It Strikes Us This Way"

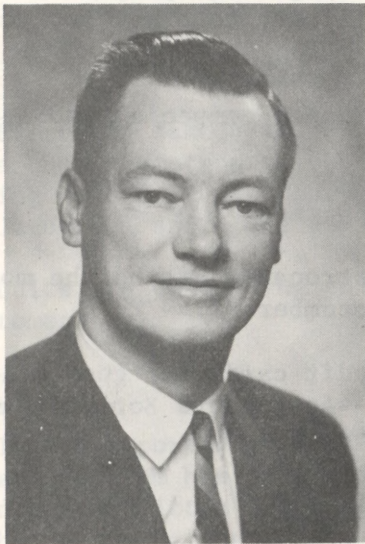
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Tuesday, February 4, 1969

CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS

At press time this morning there were no new developments in the current contract negotiations between the Company and the Union. Negotiations remain recessed subject to call.

TOM GRAHAM NOW IN NEW POSITION AS REFINERY SUPERINTENDENT



Tom Graham, formerly Manager T & S (Houston) is now on the job as Houston Refinery Superintendent. A complete story of his transfer appeared in the January 24, issue of the SHELLETTER. For those of you who haven't met him yet, we hope that this picture will help you and Tom get acquainted.

LEMONS AND GARNER NAMED TO NEW STAFF POSITIONS

J. L. Lemons, an Engineering Foreman in the Engineering Field Department, has been appointed an Engineering Supervisor in the same department, and L. W. Garner, an Inspector in the Engineering Services Department, has been appointed an Engineering Foreman in the Engineering Field Department.

Johnny joined Shell in October, 1942, as a Laboratory Technician in our Houston Research Laboratory. After a variety of research assignments in the Research Laboratory he was appointed to his position of Engineering Foreman in Engineering Field in April, 1959.

Pete joined Shell in June, 1949, as a Pipefitter Helper in the Engineering Field Department. He progressed to Pipefitter No. 1 in January, 1956, and held that classification until he was appointed as an Inspector on January 1, 1968.

WELCOME TO SHELL

Mr. Randall L. Heller, Jr.
Research Chemist
Research Laboratory

Miss Carol J. Cavender
Research Chemist
Research Laboratory

SHELL FINDS REMAINS OF 1500 YEAR OLD TREES AT NORCO

The following item from Norco Refinery's employee publication may be of interest to Houston Refiners:

"No doubt you will recall the forest of huge cypress stumps that we unearthed a few months ago when we dug the settling pond on our North Property. Well, we sent a sample of wood from these old cypress trees (*Taxodium distichum*) to our E & P Research Laboratory in Houston to try to determine their age.

"This morning we received a wire that, according to the radioactive carbon test, which they conducted, these trees were born in the year of 460 A.D. -- about 1509 years old. Boy, oh, boy what beauties these old Bald Cypress trees must have been as they towered above the bayous, lakes and marshes so long, long ago."

(Over)

ASTRONAUT JOKES ABOUT PLATFORMATE

A funny thing happened on the way back from the moon--Astronaut Frank Borman joked about platformate and Shell's mileage test.

On December 26, one day before the historic six-day circumlunar mission ended, Borman and Gerry Carr in Houston ground control were discussing the mileage they were getting from the service propulsion model engine in Apollo 8. The following conversation was heard world-wide:

BORMAN: We shouldn't complain about the fuel usage on the SPB engine because we're sure getting a lot of miles to the gallon out of it.

HOUSTON: Roger, Frank. Frank, we'll enter you in the Shell road test for that.

BORMAN: Yeah, but we don't have any TCP. What is that? TCP? That's the problem. If we only had that we'd probably use only half the fuel.

HOUSTON: Oh, you mean platformate.

BORMAN: That's right, platformate. I, if you'll get the people to spread out a big one of those banners around the target area we'll try to break it, you know, go through it.

HOUSTON: Okay, Frank. We'll call some of the paper companies and see if they can find a roll big enough.

BORMAN: It won't take a big roll, just about 30 feet.

The half-million-mile flight that took three astronauts around the moon for the first time ended on target in the Pacific Ocean on December 27.

Shell wanted to send each of the astronauts credit cards for good mileage on earth also, but good mileage must be natural to them--Astronauts Borman, James Lovell, and William Anders already are Shell credit card customers.

RETURN THOSE BORROWED KEYS--PLEASE!

Employees checking out any key from the Plant Protection personnel at the Main Gate are asked to promptly return the key. The keys at the Main Gate are for emergency use only and must be returned as soon as possible. Don't inconvenience someone else who may need the key you have failed to return.

BE "KIND" TO YOUR HANDS

No matter how tough or rugged our hands are, they aren't tough enough to stop wood and metal slivers, glass, or other sharp objects from piercing the skin.

AS LONG AS OUR SKIN REMAINS UNBROKEN, it's an envelope which keeps germs from entering the body. Once the skin is opened, germs get in and multiply fast. We then have an infection, and the result can be amputation of parts and even death. To aid in the prevention of the above, gloves should be worn while working. Below are some suggested types of gloves and their use.

1. Rubber gloves are worn by electricians and should be tested regularly for pinholes.
2. Rubber, plastic, or synthetic rubber gloves for work with oils, grease, solvents, and other chemicals protect against burns, irritation and dermatitis.
3. Leather work gloves are more durable. They resist sparks, moderate heat, chips and rough objects, and provide some cushioning against blows. Generally speaking, they're heavy duty work gloves. A welder requires a better type than the ordinary leather glove.
4. Cotton or fabric gloves are suitable for protection against dirt, slivers, chafing, or abrasion. They aren't heavy enough for use with rough, sharp, or heavy materials.
5. Coated fabric gloves for use with moderately concentrated chemicals.
6. Mittens are satisfactory where there's no need for finger action.

CLASSIFIEDS

WANT TO TRADE: 1955, 16 h.p. Scott-Attwater outboard motor for a 5 h.p. to 10 h.p. outboard motor. Telephone - 462-2114.