

shellegram



SHELL OIL COMPANY
HOUSTON REFINERY

SHELL CHEMICAL CORP.
HOUSTON PLANT

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May 1955

Refinery Launches Four - Phase Construction Program



Refinery employees Starr, Tuggle and Wilke, shown above in left to right order, were the pilot, navigator and co-pilot, respectively, of the C-46 which brought to Harris County its first shipment of the Salk vaccine. They are members of the San Jacinto Air Force Reserve Wing.

Platformer; San Jacinto River Water Supply Tie-In; Four Storage Tanks, Additional Boiler To Be Constructed

An important, four-phase construction program has been launched at Houston Refinery. The program includes:

- A second platformer and hydrodesulfurization unit for the upgrading of straight run naphthas to high octane gasoline components.
- A treating plant, pumping station and distribution system for water from Lake Houston.
- Four 250,000-barrel tanks for product storage.
- A 650-pound boiler with a capacity of 250,000 pounds hourly to take care of plant growth.

All parts of the expansion program are underway and are expected to be completed by the end of 1955, with the exception of the Boiler, which is due to be finished by March, 1956. On the basis of competitive bids, the contract for construction of the Platformer was awarded to Procon and for construction of the tanks to General American. Bids are being reviewed on the additional boiler.

Platformer to Increase Octane Number of Shell Gasolines

The new Platformer unit, which will increase the octane number of both Shell premium and regular gasolines, will supply the growing demand for Shell high octane gasoline. Gasolines made by thermal cracking may also be upgraded.

To be located on a plot adjacent to the present Platformer, the new platformer unit will add 16,000 barrels daily to the refinery's catalytic reforming capacity. In conjunction with the new platformer, a hydrodesulfurization unit of the same capacity will be built to serve as a feed preparation unit platformer. This process will reduce the sulphur content of the platformer feed and thus will improve the performance of the unit.

Still in conjunction with the new platformer, revisions will be made to (1) other units from which the platformer feed originates; (2) the cooling water tower serving the present platformer, and (3) the distilling facilities.

Construction of interconnecting lines and additional product tanks will also be a part of the platformer program.

Shell has three similiar platforming units located one each, at the Wood River, Martinez and Wilmington refineries. A fourth is under construction at the Anacortes refinery.

Water System to Deliver Five Million Gallons of Water Daily

Construction also began this month on a treating plant, pumping station and distribution system that will deliver to the refinery five million gallons of water daily from the Lake Houston reservoir, beginning in December, 1955.

Shell's use of the water from the Lake Houston reservoir will help to maintain current water table levels, retard the rate of ground settling and provide a source of water for future expansion of the refinery and Chemical plant.

The refinery gets its water from shallow wells of 500-foot depth, which supply the boiler feed-water and domestic needs, and deep wells of 1200 to 1500 foot depth, which supply make-up water to the cooling towers. The river water will be used to supplement the deep wells.

Facing a possible water shortage due to the increased industrial and residential development of Greater Houston during the past ten years, the citizens of Houston voted bond issues in 1950 and 1953 to

(Continued on Page Eight)

K. B. Field New Treasury Manager Series Of Personnel Moves Announced At Chemical Plant

Announcements of five personnel moves to the Torrance Plant and one move to Martinez were made in April by Glenn Purcell, Plant Manager.

W. C. Bevil has been assigned to the post of Treasury Manager at Torrance. K. B. Field will assume Mr. Bevil's duties as Treasury Manager here.

L. D. Wareham goes to Torrance as Department Manager Operations, Copolymer Plant from Assistant Manager of G Department. Mr. Wareham's transfer started a series of moves within the Houston Plant.

M. S. Johnsen was transferred from Assistant Manager, Utilities to replace Mr. Wareham, G Department, and J. H. Valcik moved up to Assistant Manager, Utilities from his former position as Maintenance Engineer.

A. H. Andregg, Assistant Chief Chemist, left in March to take over the job of Chief Chemist. It was announced only a few days

before press time that W. D. Kenny of the Denver Plant will take over Mr. Andregg's former duties.

E. E. Stringfellow goes to Torrance as Shipping Department Manager from his previous position here as Assistant Manager, Shipping. J. C. Sims has returned to Houston from a short stay in New York. Mr. Sims will be a Supervisor in Shipping.

C. E. Myers, Payroll Supervisor, was transferred to Torrance as Treasury Supervisor. Intra-Plant

(Continued on Page Three)

Shellites Deliver First Salk Vaccine Supply To Houston

The pilot, co-pilot and navigator of the C-46 which brought the first shipment of the anti-polio-myelitis Salk vaccine to Harris and nearby counties are Refinery employees.

First Lieutenant Roland W. Starr, Instrument Shop, Captain Ralph E. Wilke, Machine Shop and L. C. Tuggle, Electrical Engineering, were the pilot, co-pilot and navigator, respectively, on that historic flight. The three Shell men are members of the San Jacinto Reserve Wing, located at Ellington Air Force Base.

Lieutenant Starr was assigned to pilot the C-46 since he was one of the first officers in the San Jacinto Reserve Wing to be "checked out" to fly the big ship. The co-pilot's assignment was given to Captain Wilke for training purposes. Captain Tuggle, who was spending his monthly training weekend at Ellington, volunteered and was chosen to be the navigator.



Bevil



Field



Johnsen



Valcik

What's Inside?

Inside this month's issue, you'll want to read about the SERA picnic on page 2 . . . And on page 3 there's an article on the Chemical Plant's HTH Unit . . . A series on the Refinery's crafts opens with the Blacksmiths on Page 5 . . . And on page 6 read about the many Shellites who participated in the Boy Scout Exposition.

SERA Picnic Slated June 4 At Galveston County Park

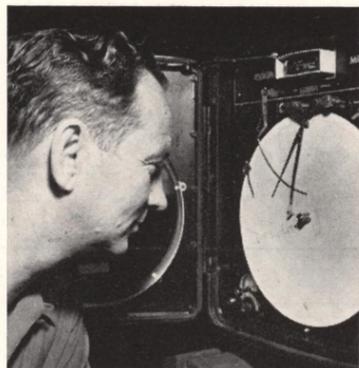
Barbecue, Games, Beauty Contest, Talent Show Slated

All roads lead to Galveston County Park in League City on June 4.

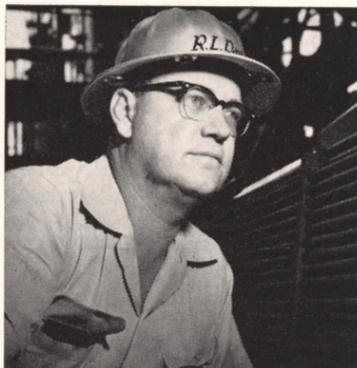
At least that's true for some 5,000 SERAers, who'll attend the annual Picnic-Barbecue at the spacious park.

From 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. a full schedule of activities is in store for members and their guests—rain or shine. Showers during last year's picnic failed to spoil the fun.

In addition to all the games, barbecue and talent show, a bathing beauty contest will reappear on this year's agenda after an absence of several years. Around 15 feminine SERAers are expected to compete for three prizes, and it looks like the judges are really going to have a tough time deciding the top three places.



Bailey



Davis



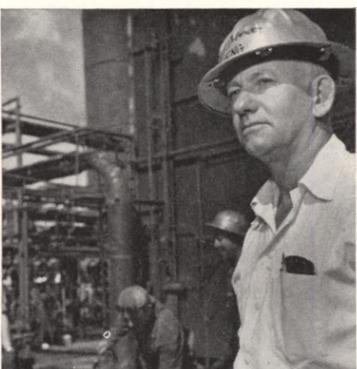
Gibson



Hay



Kennerty



Newsom



Nowlin



Theiler

PICNIC SCHEDULE

- 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Midway - Rides
- 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Bingo - Concessions - Refreshments
- 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Nursery (Age 4 and Under)
- 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Serving Barbecue
- 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Adult Games
- 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Chipping Contest
- 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Children's Games
- 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Casting Contest
- 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Amateur Show
- 6:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. Beauty Contest
- 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Prize Drawings
- 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Free Dancing
- 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Free Movies

Ticket reservations have been mailed to the homes of members, who will pick up their tickets at the park.

SERA PICNIC CHAIRMEN

- | | |
|--|--|
| GENERAL CHAIRMAN
W. T. McClain | M. B. Milburn |
| Assistant General Chairmen
Dixon Kirk
George Nuss | Lights and Power
J. W. Dickens
Johnny Sanderson |
| Finance
B. J. Gibson
W. J. Lennox
H. C. Nannen | Ground Service
Rip Collins
Ralph Dunderdale |
| Health and Safety
B. J. Landry | Children's Rides
R. H. Coombs |
| Tickets
Bonnie Adams
Juanita Price | Entertainment
Elaine Stovall
Noel Smith |
| Barbecue
George Summerlin | Movies
John Lacy |
| Master of Ceremonies
Kemper Kaiser
Emmitt Nelson | Parking
M. C. Roberts |
| Children's Games
George Dulany | Adult Games
Ray Gasperi |
| Ground Facilities
Russel Hand | Golf Chipping
W. T. Ingram |
| Concessions
Ed Walichowski | Refreshments
Bill Rodgers
L. W. (Buddy) Hatcher |
| Bingo
Walter Cannon
Ronnie Cheshire | Nursery
Lamona Faye Cherry |
| Public Address System
R. B. Mann | Casting Contest
John Connolly |
| | Beauty Contest
LaVerne Wunsch
Fred Wichlep |

Eight Refinery Men Promoted To Engineering Field Foremen

Eight Refinery employees have been promoted to Foreman in Engineering Field in the last two months.

L. O. Hay was promoted to Machinist Foreman on April 1, replacing L. I. Deal, who was transferred to Shell's new Anacortes refinery.

The other promotions became effective March 1, and these additions to the refinery staff include D. C. Bailey, Instrument Shop; R. L. Davis, Boiler Shop; V. T. Gibson, Paint Shop; R. J. Kennerty, Jr., Labor; J. V. Newsom, Welding Shop; R. Nowlin, Machine Shop and H. M. Theiler, Tool Repair.

Shell Employees Display Good Citizenship During Elections

Shell employees once again gave an outstanding demonstration of good citizenship by taking an active part in the Harris County city elections that were held in April.

In addition to the many Shell men and women who fulfilled their civic responsibility by voting for the candidates of their choice, a number campaigned for the various city candidates.

As a result of the balloting, eight Shell employees were either returned or elected to office. These eight join an already large list of Shell employees who devote their free time to serving their communities.

The number of Shell mayors was increased to four with the election of E. R. Meeks, Thermal Cracking Department Foreman, to the office of Mayor of Lomax, a smaller, but progressive community between Deer Park and La Porte. I. L. Smith, Refinery Control Lab Chief Inspector, is a Lomax Alderman whose term in office has another year to run.

In addition to Mayor Meeks of Lomax, the other Shell mayors are E. E. Dunn, Refinery Dispatching Dept., who was reelected as mayor of Deer Park in the April balloting; J. B. Harkness Refinery Control Laboratories and M. D. Burgin,

Cat. Cracking Dept., who as mayor of Shore Acres and La Porte respectively, do not face reelection for another year.

Besides Dunn, three other Shell employees were elected to office in Deer Park. Alderman P. Sadler, Refinery Control Laboratory Tester, was reelected to Position 4 on the Deer Park Council. F. A. Ward, Chemical Pipefitting, was elected to Position 5, and J. Royall, Refinery Machine Shop, was reelected City Marshall.

By winning the Position 4 and races, Shell employees now hold four of the five Positions on the Deer Park Council. Jim Waller, Lube Dept. Operator, and Jim Martin, Refinery Control Lab Tester, are Aldermen of Positions 1 and 2, respectively.

In Pasadena's city election, Troy I. Crawford, Lube Dept., was elected Finance Commissioner. Allen G. Thurman, Chemical Pipefitting, was elected Water and Sewer Commissioner, and Tom Jones, Refinery Control Lab, was reelected Street and Bridge Commissioner.



SERA picnic chairmen listen attentively as Chairman Bill McClain outlines procedures to be followed on Saturday, June 4 when the annual barbecue will be held at Galveston County Park.

Chemical Plant Here & There:

**J. W. Peters Wins Bay City Golf Meet;
M. O. Leach's Son Takes Essay Honors**

J. W. Peters, a Pipefitter who has been a golfing fan for five years, took top honors in the fifth flight of the Bay City Country Club Invitation Amateur Golf Tournament held on April 3rd and 4th at Bay City. He shot an 82 and an 80 for a total of 162 which topped his closest opponent by two strokes. His fine shooting paid off, because he came home with a set of McGregor irons, valued at around \$115.00.

topic was "What Civil Defense Means to Me." Gary, a Pasadena High School student, is a member of the Creative Writing Club. He is a senior and is eighteen years old.

* * *

J. A. Perry, Shift Foreman in E Department gave a Coffee Kitty Party recently. Out of the goodness of his heart, he took the money he had collected in the coffee kitty for several months and invited the faithful of his shift . . . all nineteen of them to Tomek's. The group had good steaks and better companionship remarked one of the guests. Those who attended the free party were: Joe Arrington, C. W. Holliman, C. R. Wheeler, John Hosel, W. A. Prescott, W. P. McNeal, Walter Fields, C. N. Shoemaker, C. L. Walter, W. C. Ubernosky, W. E. McCord, R. L. Vinson, W. C. Tompkins, W. H. Holley, C. C. McCullough, H. G. Sealey, Bill Cummings and the man who took the tab . . . J. A. Perry.

* * *

Mrs. Margaret Painter, wife of Pat Painter of the Shipping Department, is one gal out of 10,000. Her name was pulled out of the big prize winning barrel at the Do-It-Yourself Show. She was the winner of a new 3/4 International Harvester Air Conditioner. Margaret went to the show with some friends and when she was notified of winning she really didn't believe them, because she had never won anything in her life before.



Gary Leach

Gary Leach, son of M. O. Leach of the Engineering Department received the top prize in an essay writing contest which was recently sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Auxiliary. The

Plant Personnel Moves Revealed

(Continued from Page One)

changes took place to fill his position also. C. G. Mabee takes the duties of Payroll Supervisor and W. J. Lennox steps up from Accountant to Supervisor Utility Accounting replacing Mr. Mabee.

N. H. McKay, Jr. has been promoted to the position of Chief Technologist at Martinez. Neil was formerly a Senior Technologist here.

Mr. Field is a veteran of twenty-nine years service with Shell, and will complete his thirtieth year in December this year. His most recent position was that of Treasury Manager at Dominguez Plant. A native Californian, Mr. Field was first employed in San Francisco as a junior clerk. He worked in many positions with Shell, in Personnel, and as a traveling auditor with head office and was an Office Assistant for Shell Development. He served in the armed service for three years and was at Dominguez as Treasury Manager from May of 1952 until the present time.

Also a Shell veteran, W. C. Bevil is a twenty-five year man. Bill, who was born in Warren, Texas, took his first job with Shell Oil in their Head Office then located in San Francisco. In 1944 he transferred to the Chemical Division and was made Chief Clerk. He moved to Shell Point as Office Manager in December of 1945 and came back to Texas in July of

1947 as Office Manager in Houston.

Les Wareham is a native Houstonian, one of the few seen at Shell. He was educated here and attended Rice Institute where he received a B.S. in Chemical Engineering. Most of his Shell service, which began in 1946, has been spent in Houston, but he went to New York for a few years as a Technologist. Les had been Assistant Manager of G Department for three years.

Marvin Johnsen, who has been at the Houston Plant for eight years, is a native of Nebraska and graduated from the University of Nebraska. He has a degree in Chemical Engineering. He was first employed with Shell in Emeryville as a Junior Chemist in 1945.

John Valcik takes over his first job in the Operational Departments as Assistant Manager of Utilities. He isn't unfamiliar with the Utilities routine, however, because he was Maintenance Engineer for their section for a good while. John also is one of these rare native Houstonians. He graduated from Rice in 1944 with a B. S. in Electrical Engineering and was employed by Shell in November of 1946.

Ernie Stringfellow has worked for Shell for eleven years; all of them at the Houston Plant. He was employed with Shell Oil in October of 1944 as a Shipping Clerk and worked in the Chemical Division. He had been Assistant Department Manager of Shipping since January 16, 1952.

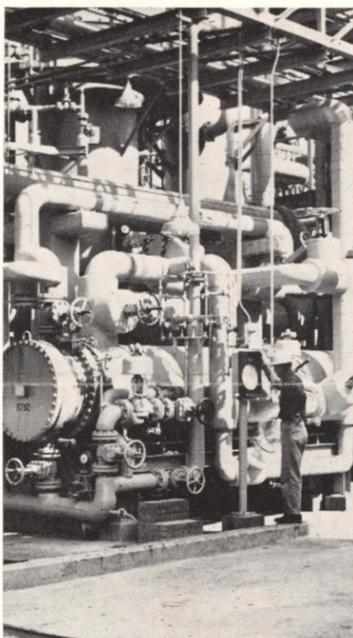


Operator J. J. McDermott enters reading in log book. With him is J. G. Matthews, Shift Foreman

HTH Unit's Success Exceeds Design According To Six Months Report

A High Temperature Chlorohydrins Unit (known as the HTH Unit) was constructed in the Chemical Plant to replace the former Plant G Chlorohydrins hydrolysis equipment which had become a source of high maintenance cost and product loss. The HTH Unit, original in process design, was placed in operation at the end of October, 1954 and has since given proof of results considerably exceeding design. The process design was the outcome of the combined efforts of the Houston Chemical Plant's Laboratory and Technological Departments. The engineering design, layout and installation was undertaken by the Chemical Plant's Engineering Department.

Care in the selection of materials of construction was of prime importance. Among the materials selected were: stainless steel 316 ELC (extra low carbon) for welded piping and Hastelloy-C for certain valves, piping and pumps exposed to highly corrosives process materials. Other materials used in the appropriate services were alloys such as Chlorimet-3, Alloyco-20, Durimet 20, Duriron and Monel. Haveg, a plastic type piping for certain tanks, and steel were also used. For paving in the areas most likely to be exposed to corrosive materials, acid



The compact unit is evidence of careful layout and construction. Operator J. E. Blankenship, is reading the chart.

resistant brick was used, in less exposed areas the concrete surfaces were coated with Cielcrete.

The installation of miniature instruments set in a console located in the control room was used. The console was designed by S. L. Finneran, who is in the Engineering Development Department. The

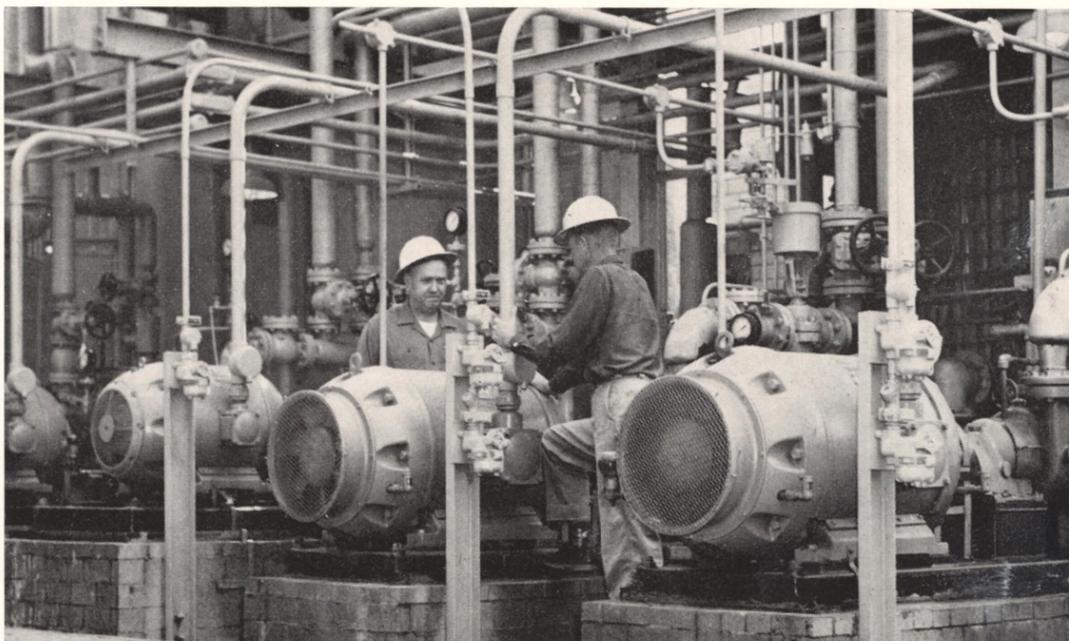
console is the first installation of this kind in the Chemical Plant, and it provides a combined instrument panel and operator's desk. In a 6' 8" x 2' 6" space the console can accommodate up to 36 control instruments. Conventional instrumentation would have taken from four to six times the space required by the console.

The foundation design for the Plant equipment required special design consideration to provide for wind load and impact as they had to be installed on, or tied to, two existing massive 36' 0" x 4' 0" thick concrete tank foundations.

Accommodation and accessibility of the numerous control manifolds in the confined unit area was a problem which was successfully overcome by a carefully designed layout.

The efforts and close co-operation among the employees of the Laboratory, Technological Departments and the various sections of the Engineering Department can be given the credit for the success of the installation. Special mention is made regarding the efforts of the Field construction group for the efficiency displayed during their contribution to the installation.

The project engineer was M. H. R. Cogan, who was assisted by H. E. Breaux.



Pumps used to drive the unit and feed are checked over by E. L. DeTuttle and Blankenship.



Bill Cummings cranks up prior to taking his family for a ride.



The Cummings family drives merrily along in ancient auto.

Shellites Contend Horseless Carriages Here To Stay

Antique automobiles never die—thanks to the supreme efforts of a growing number of citizens who are dedicated to the restoration and preservation of America's sturdy automotive pioneer—the Horseless Carriage.

Whether they be members of certified horseless carriage clubs or simply interested individuals, these ancient auto fans go to great lengths to locate the antiques and then spend considerable time and money on restoring them.

Because of the enthusiasm of these ancient automobile fans, thousands of Americans have become horseless carriage conscious. For who doesn't enjoy seeing one of these relics speed down the highway at 20 or 30 miles per hour?

To learn more about this fascinating hobby and about the people it has under its spell, The Shellegram interviewed three Chemical Plant and two Refinery employees who are typical horseless carriage enthusiasts.

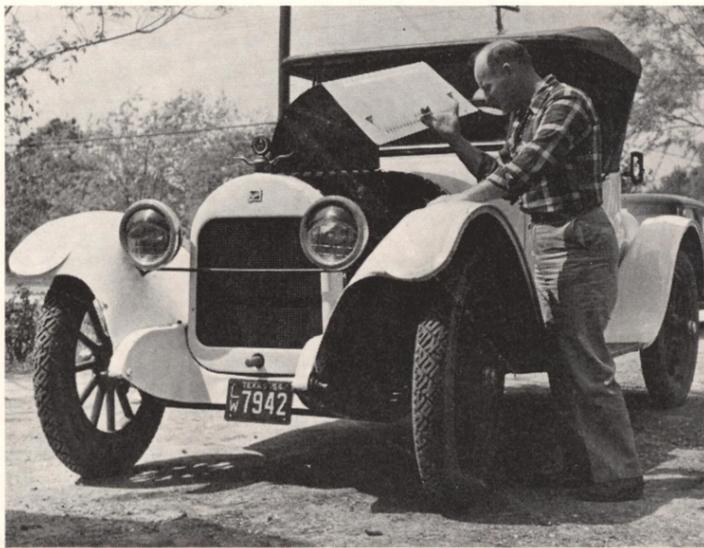
They are Bill Cummings, Assistant Manager of the E Department; James Ellis, Instrumentman No. 1, and George R. Mulvaney, P & R Operator, all of the Chemical Plant, and D. A. Hampton, Control Lab Tester No. 2, and Sam Davis, Research Department Photographer, both of the Refinery.

Bill Cummings began restoring automobiles while in his teens, and his interest has never lessened. He presently owns a 1922 Ford Touring car which he bought last year in Channelview for \$50. He hasn't begun restoring this one yet, but that doesn't stop Bill and his wife and their four children from frequently joy-riding by themselves and occasionally with groups in parades.

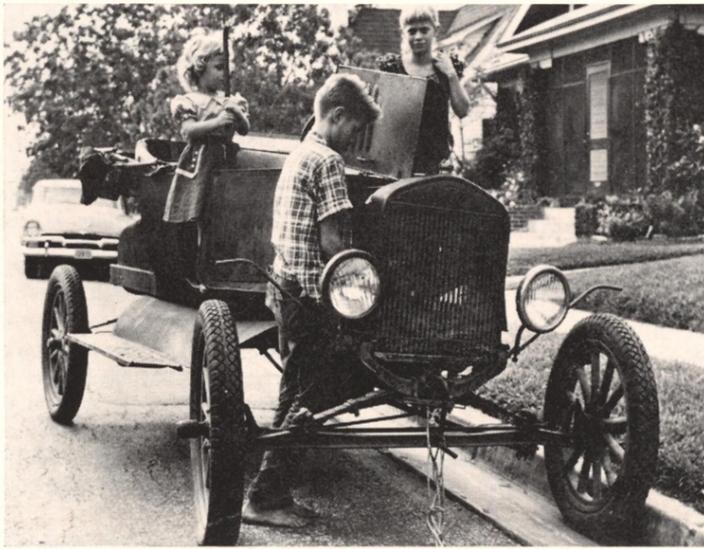
It's easy for Bill to recall his most interesting experience as an antique automobile hobbyist because it had a permanent influence on his life. In 1940, he met, courted and proposed to his wife in a 1918 Model T.

George Mulvaney and James Ellis jointly own their present car—a 1925 Ford Touring car. They located this relic last year in Bremond, Texas, and promptly paid \$100 for it. The co-owners expect that the value of this car will be around \$500 by the time they are finished completely rebuilding it.

George began to take an interest in this hobby



D. A. Hampton checks under the hood of his 1917 Buick.



Frank Davis prepares to take his sisters for a spin.

about three years ago. He said that he likes to work on all types of cars, but is now concentrating on the antique ones. He enjoys recalling the experience that he and James had after they had assembled their present car and attempted to drive it for the first time. George says they had to push the car for two miles and tinker with practically every gadget on it before it finally started.

James says "it's a good question" how he got started in this hobby, but he's been at it for around 10 years. His most pleasurable experience with this hobby came in 1946 when he took a 3,000 mile trip through Oklahoma, Kansas, the snow-covered mountains of New Mexico, and Old Mexico in a 1922 Ford without experiencing any mechanical difficulty.

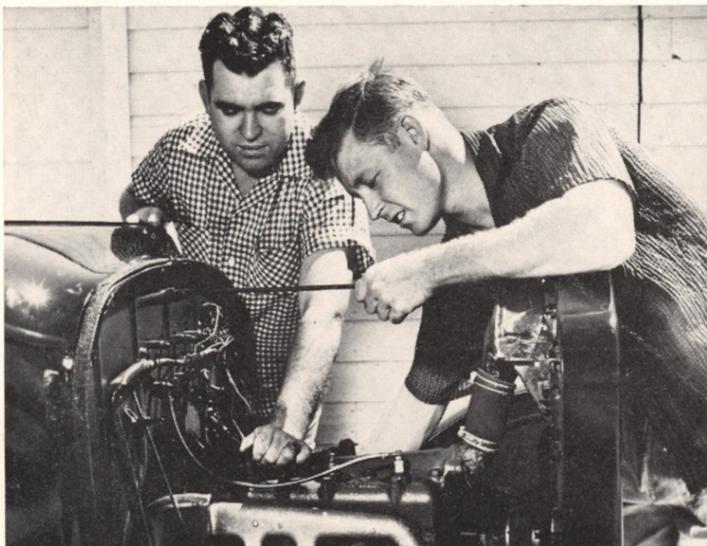
D. A. Hampton is a comparative newcomer to the antique car clan, but he has gone in for it in a big way the past 15 months. A member of the Horseless Carriage Club, his present pride and joy is a 1917 Buick which he bought for \$100 last year in Naples, Kentucky. He is going all out to restore this automobile and figures that it will be worth around \$1200 before he is completely finished.

He recalls finding the Buick in an abandoned barn, and he had to cut down two trees growing in the doorway before a wrecker could pull out the car, which was practically submerged in junk and undergrowth. He then towed the relic 300 miles home.

Another active member of the South Texas Horseless Carriage Club is Sam Davis, who presently owns a 1924 Ford, which he located in Sealy, Texas. Although the auto only cost Sam \$15, he has had the body and motor completely overhauled and estimates its restored value at \$600.

Besides having the relic as a museum piece, Sam uses it to teach his son, Frank, mechanics and auto work. Frank, incidentally, wants to use the car to take a driver's test at school, but his teacher doesn't know how to drive a Model T.

His most interesting experience came several years ago while driving from San Antonio in a 1912 Dusenbergs—without licenses, mufflers and other similar accessories. He says the noise (265 Horse Power) was terrific, and he thought he was in trouble when stopped by police at 2 a.m., but the officers only wanted to know the make of the car.



James and George make adjustment on the motor.



James Ellis, left, and George Mulvaney add fender to antique.

First In A Series . . .

. . . The Blacksmith Shop

Blacksmiths Have Come Long Way Since Village Smithy

The Village Smithy may have gained immortality in Longfellow's poem, but the muscular gentleman would be left 'neath the shade of the spreading Chestnut tree if he had to compete against Houston Refinery's blacksmiths.

The refinery's two blacksmiths and their two helpers ply this fascinating trade in a shop that is complete and modern to the last detail. It, like all the refinery's other shops, is located in the air-conditioned Central Shops Building—a vastly different setting from the one described in Longfellow's epic.

But what in this atomic age does Houston Refinery need with a Blacksmith Shop?

Plays Key Role

Actually, this shop plays a key role in the operations of the refinery and its work might be broken down into two phases.

The first deals with a process known as heat-treating, whereby various types of steel are correctly tempered for refinery use. For instance, pump shafts, piston rods, tools, chisels, special stud materials and many other items are prepared by this method to give satisfactory results.

But where the Village Smithy had to rely on a crude forge to prepare steel, the refinery's blacksmiths have thermostatically-controlled furnaces where steel is heated to its correct temperature and then cooled by one of three methods—air, brine or oil—then is reheated and tempered to the specified hardness.

The other main phase of the shop's work concerns the forging of metals into various specified shapes, such as tools, clamps, rings and many other forgings that are necessary in the daily operation of a refinery.

Faster, Easier Today

And where the Smithy of by-gone years had to toil with a sledge hammer for hours in order to forge a piece of metal into a given shape, the refinery blacksmiths can do the job a lot easier in a

matter of minutes with a steam hammer.

While the refinery has had a blacksmith shop since early construction days, it has had the modern heat treating facilities only since 1948 when the Central Shops Building was completed.

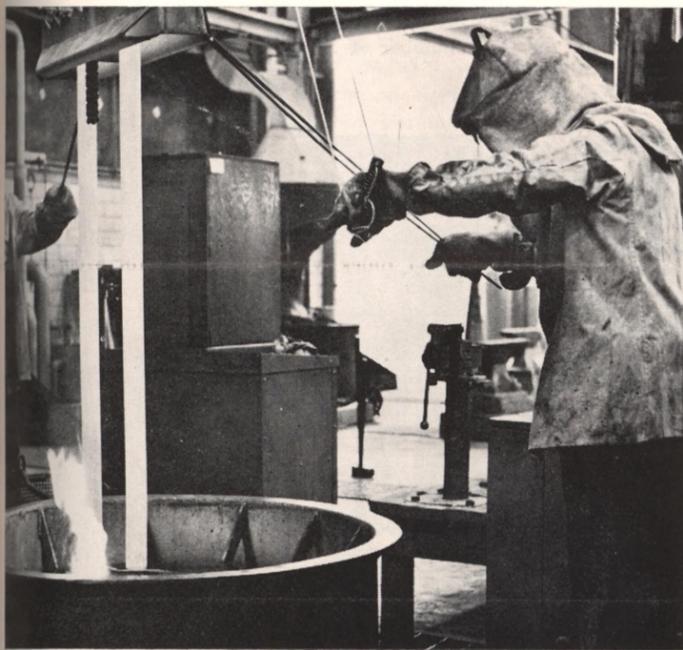
With all of the modern equipment at his disposal, today's blacksmiths have to keep well posted on the development of new alloy steels. But no matter how modern the equipment of today's blacksmiths, there is still a strong, common bond between them and the Smithy that Longfellow wrote about. And that is pride in their work—for which there is no substitute.



D. B. Brady, a horse shoeing blacksmith before he joined Shell in 1948, is shown testing the hardness of a tool known as knock-out punch. He still shoes horses in his time off.



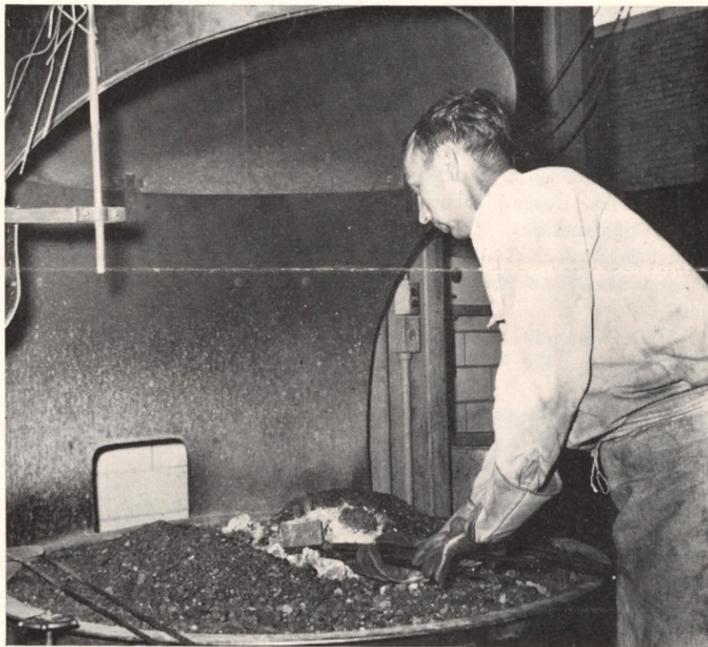
1. Blacksmith D. B. Brady, right, and Helper W. T. Lange, looking like Men from Mars, prepare to raise the steel out of furnace after it reaches the specified temperature.



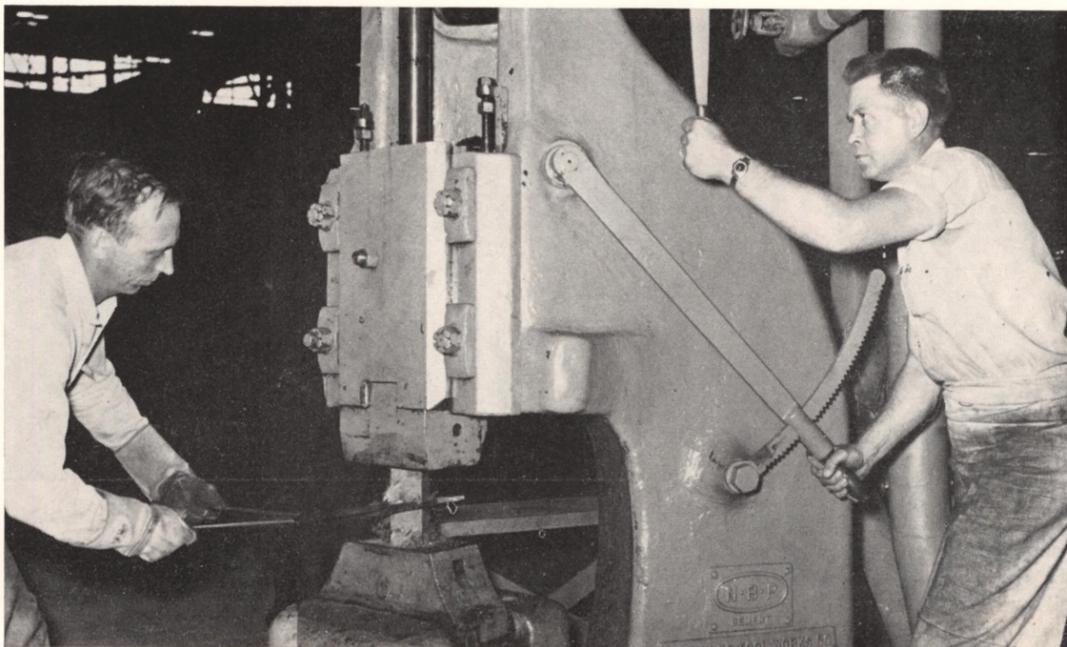
2. Brady and Lange guide the steel into the next stage of the heat treating process, which is the oil quench, one of three methods used to cool the steel by blacksmiths.



3. The steel is lowered into the oil quench to be cooled to room temperature. After it is cooled, the steel will be taken back to the shop's furnace where it will be tempered.



Blacksmith C. H. Shelton removes a piece of steel from the forge prior to bringing it to the steam hammer where it will be forged into shape. Operation of steam hammer is shown below.



Shelton holds the steel in place while Helper L. C. Henson operates the steam hammer. The Village Smithy had to use a sledge hammer to forge, and it required more time and energy.



REFINERY

Jan. 30: Randall L., son of Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Parrish, Dispatching.

March 19: Catherine Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Pack, Instrument Shop.

April 17: Lea Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Hudson, Thermal Cracking.

April 24: David Allen, son of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. Hornburg, (Welding Shop).

CHEMICAL

Nov. 11: Richard Narlay, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Noble (Laboratory).

Feb. 15: Marion Frances, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Butler (Pipe Shop).

March 6: Vera Josette, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. T. Beaird (G Department).

March 17: David Matthew, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Hefley (E Department).

March 23: Georgia Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Malone (A Department).

March 23: Bonnie Jayne, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Shive (Machine Shop).

March 31: Susan, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Russell Jobe (Head Office Construction).

April 2: Darlene C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rex Brown (Boiler Shop).

April 3: Kenneth Shane, son of Mr. and Mrs. K. W. Hartman (Technological).

April 4: James Ross and Gerald Taylor, twin sons of Mr. and Mrs. V. C. Coeran (Lab).

April 4: Lezlie Elaine, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. P. Bassinger (Laboratory).

April 6: Marsha Lee, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Emery (Machine Shop).

April 10: Tess Ellen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Dykes (Engineering).



Troop 618 Scoutmaster Jack Cleveland, Chemical Plant Tool Room, with Scouts John Saxon, left, and son Floyd Cleveland inspect their handiwork. Their project was an electrical booth, and it was one of the most interesting in the Exposition.



Left to right: Bob Hyde, Refinery Engineering, Troop 128; Committeeman, Harold Lewis, Lube, Den Mother Mrs. F. A. Ward and Committeeman B. L. Dickerson, Chemical Plant Instrument Shop, representing Shell Oil Company's Pack 268.

Shellites Participate In Annual Boy Scout Exposition

The annual Sam Houston Area Council Boy Scout Exposition was held in the Sam Houston Coliseum on the evenings of March 11 and 12, and from all reports, it was one of the most successful in history. Large crowds filled the Coliseum on both nights to marvel at the hundreds of scout-constructed booths, covering a wide range of crafts.

A share of the credit for the success of the exposition must be given to the large number of Shellites who devoted many hours of

their time to the event. Around 50 Refinery and Chemical Plant employees—in various capacities—helped the scouts to plan and build their booths, and approximately 100 Shell sons—representing some 100 different scouting units—actually participated in the exposition.

To attempt to list all of the Shell employees and their sons who took part would run the risk of inadvertently omitting some of the hardest workers. However, The Shellegram had a number of photographs taken of the event. Of course, it was impossible to locate and photograph all of the Shellites present, but these pictures give a good indication of the large number of Shell folks who participated.



Joe Frohman, Chemical Plant Technologist, Troop 646 (Project First Aid) left and L. C. Moore, Refinery Boiler Shop, are pictured in front of Troop 166's Exposition woodworking booth.



Shown in front of Cub Pack 481's handicraft exhibit are Howard Hughes, Chemical Plant Assistant Superintendent-Technical, and Richard Wright, of Chemical Plant Research.

Golf Winners Awarded

There was a four-way tie for first place in the low handicap division of the SERA's April golf tournament, which was unreeled on April 16 at Hughes Club. P. Guggell, Refinery Control Lab; W. Ingram and Jack Minter, both of the Chemical Plant Pipe Shop, and Larry Williams, Refinery Utilities, each fired a 69 to cop high honors, and they each were awarded three golf balls.

The high handicap competition was won by R. Witman, Chemical Plant, Research, who shot a 62, and won the prize of four golf balls. J. Simpson, Chemical Plant Stores, and L. J. Dukes, Refinery Control Lab, tied for second, each with a 65, and won three golf balls apiece.

The next SERA golf meet is scheduled for June 25 at Hughes Club. Sixty-six participated in the April event, and all members are invited to compete in these monthly tournaments, Committee Chairman John Carney, Thermal Cracking, announced.



Here is a group of Shell men who for years have helped to fill the need for adults in scouting. Left to right, they are James McFarland, Refinery Carpenter Shop, Sea Scout Ship 16; Walter Hern, Refinery Control Lab, Southeast District Neighborhood Commissioner; Gene Grace, Refinery Engineering, Cub Pack 655; Ray Cryer, Chemical Plant P&R Department, Post 110; Roy D. Plaisance, Refinery Civil Engineering, Post 76, and John Anderson, Refinery Tin Shop, Post 110, all of SE District.



The highest award possible to be won by a booth during the Exposition was a Blue Ribbon, and that's just what was won by Cub Pack 47 for its woodworking booth, shown above. Shellites pictured with the Cubs of Pack 47 are Mrs. W. W. Gable, on the left behind the youngster, and Mrs. E. D. Polk, on the extreme right. Mrs. Gable, whose husband is in Refinery Inspection, and Mrs. Polk, whose husband is in the Refinery Electric Shop, are Den Mothers of this Blue-Ribbon Cub Pack.

REPORTERS'



ROUNDUP

Here's a round-up of contributions from our various Refinery Reporters. A list of these correspondents may be found on Page Eight under The Shellegram's masthead. Employees may report news items to their departmental reporters or directly to the editor.

MACHINE SHOP — Foreman L. I. Deal's friends in the Shop presented him with a set of Samsonite luggage and a Masonic ring prior to his transfer to Shell's new Anacortes Refinery.



L. I. Deal bids farewell.

the get together in the Shop, "and I hope to be hearing from you." He said he would miss his friends in Engineering Field and throughout the Refinery, and the feeling is mutual.

* * *

LABOR — Safety meetings like the one recently conducted by Labor Foreman J. W. Alden are a solid reason for the outstanding record of the Labor Department, according to Reporter Gip Gibson. Besides demonstrating the proper equipment to wear when handling the various kinds of chemical solutions, Mr. Alden stressed the point that a help-your-fellow man attitude helps make the Refinery a safer place to work.

Reporter Gibson said that the men of the Labor Department were very much impressed by this meeting, and they resolved to continue their fine safety record.

* * *

LUBE B — J. B. (Red) Evans left to work in Bagdad, and according to Reporter Jack Gray, that makes two former Lube B men working in that part of the world as Fred Driskell left to work in Arabia some eighteen months ago. Both men were No. 1 Operators . . . R. L. (Slim) Dawson was welcomed aboard by the permanent men at Lube B recently after having been temporary for about a year . . . Troy Crawford, former Shellegram reporter, won the race for Pasadena Finance Commissioner and is still being congratulated by his friends.

* * *

ALKY-GAS — This past April Fool's Day was no joke for V. W. Callaway. Indeed, it was one of the happiest days of his life as he moved from a small apartment into his brand new, \$16,000 home at 309 Gulf Street in Pasadena. A camera bug, he can't be blamed if he shoots up several reels filming his new house.

* * *

CARPENTER SHOP — Ernest Harvey McCurdy, son of Mr. and Mrs. E. S. McCurdy has completed basic training in the U. S. Air Force and is presently stationed at Cheyenne, Wyoming. Ernest, the older of Mr. McCurdy's two sons, attended Milby High School before enlisting in the Air Force in January. He will be 18 on June 30.



Foreman Alden demonstrates the proper use of safety equipment to the Labor group.



Ernest McCurdy

Dudley Ellis Expires

The many Refinery friends of D. B. (Dudley) Ellis were saddened to learn of his passing on April 11. His address at the time of his death was Route 1, Box 172-A, St. Amant, La. He was a member of the Dispatching Department at the time of his retirement last year.

April Birthdays

The following six names were unintentionally omitted from the list of employees celebrating ten years of service with the Company in April.

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| E. L. Applegate | J. Brinac |
| Engineering | Engineering |
| J. C. Bess | A. J. Hale |
| Engineering | Automotive |
| W. M. Bostick | E. B. Hawkins |
| Engineering | Automotive |

MAY SERVICE BIRTHDAYS



25 YEARS
A. L. Keeney
Utilities



25 YEARS
W. O. Miller
Dispatching



25 YEARS
C. E. Battestin
Fire & Safety



20 YEARS
M. S. Callaway
P&R, Chemical Plant



20 YEARS
D. E. Fowler
Engineering



20 YEARS
Elsa Graham
Technological



20 YEARS
L. N. Harling
Thermal Cracking



20 YEARS
W. H. Jones
Engineering



20 YEARS
F. D. Macy
Engineering



20 YEARS
M. J. Woody
Lubricating Oils



20 YEARS
A. L. Tilley
Engineering



20 YEARS
F. B. Wischhusen
Lubricating Oils



15 YEARS
C. R. Dukes
Lubricating Oils



15 YEARS
L. R. Grounds
Gas



15 YEARS
J. T. Munson
Dispatching



15 YEARS
E. R. Nichols
Gas

Shell Bus Club Reduces Rates

Shell Bus Club rates will be substantially reduced, effective May 21, officers and directors of the club announced. Rates for Houston members will be reduced from \$5 to \$3.50 per pay day and for Pasadena members from \$4.50 to \$3 per pay day.



Refinery Installs Car Rinse Booth

A car rinse booth recently was installed in the southeast parking lot of the Refinery to enable employees to rinse off their cars. Automatically operated, this car rinse will help remove deposits from the automobiles.

In order that as many employees as wish may use this booth and in order to avoid possible congestion, the following procedure for its use has been suggested:

1. Entrance be made from the north side.
2. Shift into low gear and proceed through at approximately three miles per hour.
3. Do not stop.
4. Be sure water spray shuts off after car passes through.

Lehwalder Appointed Distilling Department Assistant Manager

D. C. Lehwalder, Technologist in the Lubricating Oils Department since 1953, has been promoted to Assistant Manager of the Distilling Department.

He succeeds J. B. Moyers, who has been transferred to the Catalytic Cracking Department as Assistant Manager.

Mr. Moyers, Distilling Department Assistant Manager since 1947, is succeeding E. H. Covington, who has been transferred to Head Office - Technological Department. Mr. Covington was made Assistant Department Manager of the Cat. Cracking Department in January of 1954, when the Cracking Department was split

into two separate departments—Thermal and Cracking.

Bowling Tourney Set

The annual Shell bowling tournament will be unreeled May 21 and 22 at the bowling alley used by the Chemical Plant teams at 75th and Lawndale. Tournament officials have issued an invitation to all employees to come out and witness the competition.

In making this announcement, the officers and directors asked that non-members consider the numerous advantages of joining the Shell Bus Club, including fully insured rides; heated busses in the winter; safe and dependable transportation; clean and comfortable seats and available transportation for all three shifts.

Consider Advantages

Club President J. C. Brewer, Cargo Inspection, asked all Shell employees to carefully examine the advantages of bus transportation over driving to work. He said the Shell Bus Club insures employees on all shifts a safe comfortable ride to and from work every day without either the bother of fighting traffic or the worry of missing your ride due to illness on the part of the car pool driver.

Areas presently covered are Canal, Harrisburg, Telephone Road, Lawndale, Mason Park, Pecan Park, Park Terrace, Galveston Rd., Forest Oaks, Oak Meadows, and all of Pasadena, including Red Bluff Terrace.

Any Shell employee is eligible to become a member, whether living on a present route or not. If enough people in any area are interested in joining, the route can be changed to accommodate them, Club President Brewer said.

Applications Available

Application blanks for membership in the Bus Club can be obtained from any of the officers, directors or drivers. Bus Club stock is \$3 per member.

In addition to Brewer, the officers and directors are R. D. Johnson, Thermal Cracking, Vice-President; H. G. Giebelstein, Alky Plant, Secretary-Treasurer. Refinery directors are C. D. Young, Treating, W. O'Sullivan, Control Lab, C. Townsend, Electric Shop and W. F. Scott, Boiler Shop. Chemical Plant directors are L. Stevens and R. W. Smith, Instrument Shop.



Charley Murrell receives a movie camera and projector.



Oscar Derrington, left, is presented a power saw and drill.

Murrell, Derrington Retire On Pension

Before Charley Murrell started to work at Houston Refinery in 1935 he asked one question:

"Are you sure there's enough work here for two Tinnars," he asked, aware that the refinery already had one Tinner employed at the time.

Assured that there would be enough to keep him busy for some time to come, Charley cast his lot with Shell, going to work that same day in the Tin Shop, where he remained until his retirement 20 years later on March 31.

Tin Shop Foreman since 1947, Charley leaves what he terms "the best job and the best people in the world" to join the ranks of Shell pensioners.

"I hate to leave my friends," Charley said, "but I am looking forward to all of the time my retirement will allow me to fish, paint and travel."

Besides his home at 200 South Virginia in La Porte, Charley has a cabin near Harlingen, Texas where he and his wife intend to

Oscar Derrington has become full-time farmer since his retirement from Shell on April 1 after 29 years of service.

But farming is nothing new to Oscar, for he has been living on his farm near Dayton for a number of years and commuting to the refinery.

Oscar's long career with the company began in 1922 at the Wood River refinery where he was first employed as a laborer. He transferred to Houston refinery in 1931 as a Pipefitter's Helper in Cracking Cleanout. Two years later he transferred to the Utilities Department, where he remained for the rest of his company service—21 years. He was first a Fireman then a Water Tender and was promoted to Operator No. 1 in 1944. A native of Mount Vernon, Illinois, Oscar held the split rate Operator No. 1-Srft Foreman.

spend about half their time "soaking up the sunshine and fishing."

FRED WICHLEP, Editor
JO KELLEY, Associate Editor

REFINERY REPORTERS
H. J. McShane, Automotive; Bob Eveld, Control Lab; Sam Orr, Cat Cracking; Edna Heyen, Dispatching; C. B. Maley, L. A. Gruber, Thermal Cracking; H. W. Sims, Economics & Scheduling; Jo Schneider, Drafting; Bill Whitehurst, Industrial Engineering; Gip Gibson, Labor; B. J. Lander, Fire & Safety; C. Brown, Alky-Gas; C. G. Scott, Cat. Gas; D. J. Baggett, Lube A; Jack Gray, Lube B; B. J. Walker, Lube C; Dan Harbough, Lube Office; Lew Wright, Boilermaker Shop; Joe Hinton, Carpenters Shop; Willie Childs, Instrument Shop; E. G. Griffin, Machine Shop; R. C. Dunn, Paint Shop; J. Bales, Welding Shop; Bill Telschow, Stores; Marx Isaacs, Tech; Charlene Cotton, Treasury.

CHEMICAL PLANT REPORTERS
Jim Baldwin, Machine Shop; Richard Bee, G Department; P. M. Bell, Carpenter; Jack Brown Welding Shop; Barbara Caver, Engineering; J. W. Dickens, Electric Shop; J. W. Eberman, Utilities; Fred Gerbode, Stores; Helen King, Shipping; Virginia Lowery, Research; M. D. Meyer, Paint Shop; D. H. Randt, Pipe Shop; Elaine Stovall, Engineering; W. C. Tompkins, E Department; Don Weaver, Research, Lubby Worsham, Labor.

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Refinery Construction Program Announced

(Continued from Page One)

supplement the city's water supply by damming the San Jacinto river, which flows some 25 miles from the city. This dam and reservoir project was completed in 1953 and now supplies industrial users.

The water from the Lake Houston reservoir flows through an open canal to a purification and pumping station at Galena Park, on the north side of the channel, and then is pumped to the south side in two 30-inch steel lines, which terminate on the south side in a 60-inch header system.

Shell will build a 24-inch concrete pressure pipe line to an open reservoir to be located on the western part of the refinery property.

A pumping station and chemical injection facilities will be built adjacent to the reservoir, which will have a million gallon capacity. The pumping station will pump water through a 24-inch concrete distribution system to the east property well water system, which supplies make-up water for the cooling water towers. There will also be a 14-inch line to supply make-up water for west property cooling towers.

Now under construction on the southwest part of the property, covering 25 acres in area, and scheduled for completion around the end of the year are four 250,000 barrel tanks. To be used primarily for furnace oil, these new tanks will increase product storage by one million barrels.

About twice as large (capacity-wise) as any present tank at the Refinery, each one will have a cross-sectional area 3/4 acre. With a height of 46 feet, each of the new tanks will be about six feet taller than the usual 120,000 barrel tank. Over 3500 tons of steel will be used to construct all four.

Due to the increase in steam requirements in the refinery during the past year because of normal expansion and the new construction program, a 650-pound boiler will be installed as part of the facilities at the No. 2 Power Plant.

TEN YEAR BIRTHDAYS

REFINERY

- M. L. Andre, Research Lab
- Q. L. Bess, Engineering
- E. R. Evans, Lubricating Oils
- R. E. Hambrick, Engineering
- V. M. Harrison, Engineering
- T. P. Hopkins, Gas
- E. S. McCurdy, Engineering
- R. U. Melton, Effluent Control
- H. E. Powers, Engineering
- H. G. Rothell, Engineering
- K. Stuart, Engineering
- W. H. Wells, Engineering

CHEMICAL

- Z. C. Brewer, Operations
- W. W. Coots, Operations
- R. C. Evans, Operations
- R. C. Gentry, Operations
- J. A. Johnson, Engineering
- A. V. Kelley, Engineering
- C. H. Partin, Operations
- R. R. Pomeroy, Engineering
- H. W. Smith, Operations
- R. E. Thurmond, Engineering
- E. W. Townsend, Engineering
- W. A. Prescott, Operations