



Asphalt/gasoline production at or near all-time highs

The Wood River Refinery has been busy! As Shell's largest producer of asphalt and motor gasolines, the increasing demand for these products has put pressure on the men and machines of Wood River to crank out record or near record outputs.

Last May a new asphalt converter came on stream which doubled the previous asphalt capacity of the refinery. It was none too soon because Shell's asphalt salesmen were busy placing orders.

"Early this year the marketing people came up with what I thought were very optimistic projects for asphalt sales," said Don Belliss, process manager of Lube Operations. "But they were right!

Top ten

"Last year was the record to date in our asphalt production, and yet this year it looks as if we'll make almost one-and-a-half times as much as in 1975. I understand that puts us into the 'top ten' of all asphalt plants in the world ... certainly the largest of any in Shell world-wide.

"Our engineering people had a schedule to get the new converter on stream before the asphalt season, and they kept to it. I'm sure glad they did, because I don't know what we

would have done without it."

En route to the record year, the Asphalt people achieved some very big monthly outputs. August, for instance, saw over a million barrels being shipped out ... the first such "million-month" in Wood River's history. September wasn't quite that high, but it was a good month also.

A whole year

Jack Cherry, asphalt foreman, said, "When I came over here to Asphalt in 1955, we turned out 350,000 barrels for the whole year. To the best of my recollection, we didn't hit the million mark for a year until about 1960 ... and thought that was quite an achievement. Now we can do it in one month!"

Not only can the refinery make more asphalt per day than ever before, but also, because of the four 250,000 barrel storage tanks built recently on West Property, the refinery can make asphalt virtually year around.

Belliss said, "It used to be that when cold weather came and customers stopped buying asphalt, we had to shut down the equipment. Now we can continue to make it all year and store it for the next season. That not only means better utilization of the equip-

ment, it also makes it easier for us to keep up with the huge demand in the summer months."

Gasoline output

In late September, Bill Thompson, Manager Manufacturing Operations - Oil, sent the following telegram to the refinery superintendents of Shell's eight refineries:

"The summer operating program for our refineries called for record production of motor gasolines. Never has such a high production level been maintained over a three consecutive month period. Our compliments to your staff in not only meeting a very ambitious target, but actually exceeding it."

This had particular meaning to the people of the Wood River Refinery because although it is only one of eight Shell refineries, it produces about one-fourth of all the motor gasolines.

Arab embargo

During the June-July-August period this year, Wood River produced motor gasolines at a rate that was second only to that of mid-1973: the period immediately before the Arab embargo and resultant crude / products shortages.

Major contributors to Wood



A shiny new asphalt converter (left) came on stream last May to complement four smaller converters (background), and the refinery's asphalt capacity doubled. From left, Asphalt employees Bill Briggs and Clarence Woolfolk (operators) and Red Cherry (foreman) were among those who played a big part in the record production.

River's near record gasoline production this year were the large conversion units - the two Cat Crackers and the Hydrocracker. CCU-1 went through a scheduled shutdown this spring in preparation for the summer push, and it turned out the timing was just right. Warren Saunders, refinery superintendent, said, "We wanted to make certain a big gasoline producer like this was in good shape coming into the gasoline season."

"After a 3½ year run, CCU-1 was due for a shutdown ... so better before the season than in the middle of it. Cat Cracking personnel are to be congratulated for their excellent contribution to the effort. The same goes for the Hydrocracker, Cat Reformer, and Al-

kylation people, too."

The Hydrocracker, the other major maker of motor gasoline, came down for maintenance on October 7, 1976. "This concluded a run of 291 days," said Ivan Baumgart, process manager of Aromatics West. "We believe this to be a record run for any Shell hydrocracker."

Be prepared

The normal peak-demand gasoline season is coming to a close, but looking toward next year, Saunders said, "We plan to have our major gasoline facilities in good shape to handle our customers' demands for the coming year."

"Demand was at an all time high in 1976, and we expect that to continue in 1977. We'll be ready for it."

Shell successful bidder in first Atlantic offshore lease sale

Shell and its co-bidders were the successful bidders on 12 offshore tracts in the first Federal Atlantic Offshore Lease Sale, held in New York City in mid-August.

Shell and its co-bidders paid \$183,404,000 for the 12 tracts, which are located 60 miles off the New Jersey shore in water depths ranging from 200 to 240 feet. Shell's net share of these bonuses was \$79,807,863.

After the lease ...

In all, a total of 154 tracts were offered at the sale. Oil companies bid on 101 of these tracts, with high bids totalling \$1.1 billion. The total money exposed at the sale was \$3.5 billion. Shell and its co-bidders bid on a total of 38 tracts, exposing \$574 million.

"We obviously feel encouraged in being able to acquire these 12 tracts," said R.L. Ferris, vice president Southern

E&P Region. "This sale," he continued, "comes at a time of declining domestic energy reserves. To say that more sales just like it are badly needed would be the biggest understatement of the year."

Ferris added that the industry and the government have been preparing for this sale since the 1960's and stressed that the sale itself marks only a beginning effort in the area. "Acquisition of the tracts

doesn't mean a thing until we find out if oil or gas is present in commercial quantities on those leases."

Ferris also emphasized the tremendous lead times that will be involved following this lease sale. He noted it may take several years before the first barrel of oil or cubic foot of gas comes ashore as a result of the sale. He said that it will probably take six months be-

fore Shell has an exploratory drilling rig active on any of the acquired tracts.

Since last December, Shell and its co-bidders have spent \$122.7 million for nine tracts in the offshore California lease sale and \$275.8 million for 29 tracts in the Gulf of Alaska lease sale. Including the current sale, Shell and its co-bidders have spent, altogether, almost \$582 million for offshore leases.

Offshore search starts in Alaska...successful in California

After millions are spent on leases for the opportunity to try and find oil, millions more are spent to pursue that search ... and if successful, millions more to develop what you've

found and get the products to market.

It takes more than just money, too, it takes a lot of hard work by a lot of people ... and it takes time. Here are

how two such efforts are developing:

Alaskan search

As operator for a four company group, Shell is beginning exploratory drilling for oil and natural gas in the Gulf of Alaska. The drilling program is expected to last several years.

A Sedco 706 semisubmersible rig was scheduled to start drilling in some 600 feet of water in early September. The location is on the Outer Continental Shelf (Tract 42) some 15 miles off the southern coast of Alaska, between Cape Suckling and Cape Yakataga, and about 40 miles west of Icy Bay. This is the initial well to be

drilled on tracts offered in the April 13 federal offshore lease sale in Anchorage. Tract 42 is one of 29 tracts won by Shell and co-bidders. Shell has 59 percent interest in the lease.

California find

Off California, a wildcat exploratory well has encountered approximately 120 feet of oil-bearing sands. The well, in 659 feet of water 15 miles south of Long Beach, has found the sands in multiple zones between 2850 and 3350 feet.

Any commercial significance of the indicated hydrocarbons cannot be determined until additional drilling and testing are completed.

Drilling is planned to continue at this location to a total depth of about 8000 feet. This is the first of several exploratory wells planned for this general area, where Shell and its partners obtained nine tracts in the federal offshore lease sale last December.

The well is located on Tract 262 in San Pedro Bay. This tract and adjoining Tract 261 were acquired by Shell and a group of partners for a combined bid of \$71.2 million, and both are on the same geologic prospect currently being evaluated.

Shell owns 50 percent interest in the two leases.

America's Bicentennial

You celebrated the 4th

Now celebrate the 2nd

VOTE November 2, 1976

Sports and shorts

Coming events

Mark your calendars for the following special events occurring in the near future:

SRA Fall Dance, Friday, November 5, Firemen's Hall - Collinsville

SRA Awards Banquet, Thursday, December 2, Round Table Restaurant - Collinsville

Shell Christmas Party, Thursday, December 16, East Alton / Wood River High School

SRA Golf Champs

The Refinery Lab golf team, winners of the Premium League, defeated the "Maxfli's", winners of the Super Shell League, to become this year's refinery team golf champions. Playing for the championship team this year were: Charlie Barnett (captain), Joe Dana, Bill Lamkin, Mac McCormick, Sandy Sandbach, Warren Saunders, Paul Schutz, Bob Sims, Roy St. Pierre, Winston Wallace, and Bob Woods.

Members of the Maxfli's were: Max Clark (captain), Jack Calderwood, George Chaffee, Jack Cherry, Randy Fickert, Penny Horton, Larry Jones, Art Kellar, Bob Lewis, and Dave Miller.

Third period fishing winners

The third and final period for this year's SRA Fishing Contest has concluded with these top prize winners:

Bass		
C. S. 'Cookie' Janssen	Retired	7 lb 10 oz
Clay Romani	Dispatching	5 lb 13 oz
Bluegill		
John Pavlotich	Retired	12 oz
Bob Leckrone	Eng Office	11½ oz
Jack Kornegay	Eng Office	11 oz
Crappie		
Bob Garner	Alkylation	1 lb 7 oz
Andy Corsere	Tinners	12½ oz

Grand prize fishing winners

The SRA Fishing Contest ran from March 15 to October 15. Top winners for the year win jackets for their skills. This year's champions are:

Bass		
C. S. Janssen	Retired	7 lb 10 oz
Bluegill		
Bob Ralston	Electricians	1 lb 0 oz
Tom Madden	Maintenance	1 lb 0 oz
Crappie		
Walt Wozkiewicz	Retired	2 lb 14 oz

Photographer of the year

Top winners in the SRA Camera Club's year-long competition for best photographer ended thusly: 1. Peter Curran (retired), 2. Joel Harmon (sr. chemist), 3. Rich Heinz (instrumentman).

Duplicate winners

Wood River's SRA duplicate bridge enthusiasts held their annual Martha Kimmel Memorial Tournament at the refinery cafeteria on Sunday, October 18. Winners were the partnership of Bob Gray (chemist in the Refinery Lab) and J.D. Metcalfe (Research Lab retiree). For those who are interested, the SRA Bridge Club holds forth every Monday evening with bridge competition.

World-Wide Bridge Tourney

The eleventh annual Shell Bridge Tourney is under way. Eligible are Shell employees, retirees, and their family members. The event is being held locally at the refinery cafeteria on Sunday, November 14, at 1:30 pm. Interested players need only show up.

Blood brothers

During 1976 the following people have reached various gal-lonage milestones in blood donorship. They are:

One Gallon

Lester C. Books	Charles Modrovsky
Freddie W. Brown	George Perrin, Jr.
Edward W. Cannon	Felix E. Powell
Kenneth J. Darte	Marvin Rahn
Allen E. Depping	Loren E. Randol
Pete Dochwat	William R. Smith
Larry L. Ferrari	Robert Woods
Roy L. Goeway	

Two Gallons

Marc P. Brown	Fred B. Hess	Robert B. Moon
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Four Gallons

Richard F. Sunkel

Want extra copies?

Each month the printer runs a number of extra copies of the *Wood River Review*. A group are kept on file, but others ultimately are thrown away. If you'd like a few extras of a particular issue, don't be shy. Contact Ruth Holliday ... she'll mail them to you.

Anniversaries



Joe Lanzerotte
Eng. Office
40 Years



Tony Allaria
Eng. Office
35 Years



George Bain
G. Mechanic
35 Years



Jim Becker
Cracking
35 Years



Mike Bokeske
Refinery Lab
35 Years



Everett Bourland
Insulator
35 Years



George Grizio
Pipefitter
35 Years



Ray Hamilton
Compounding
35 Years



Luther Kinser
Refinery Lab
35 Years



L. McCormick
Cracking
35 Years



Richard Prough
Refinery Lab
35 Years



Mike Sandretto
Insulator
35 Years



Charlie Schafer
Utilities
35 Years



Emil Schneider
Lubricants
35 Years



Harold Sherer
Compounding
35 Years



Tony Sitko
Eng. Office
35 Years



Jane Thatcher
Administrative
35 Years



Bob Watson
Cracking
35 Years



Emmett Winkle
Refinery Lab
35 Years



Charlie Cech
Technological
30 Years



Ray Jones
Lube F & E
30 Years



Walt Lengacher
Gas
30 Years



Ken Paddock
Distilling
30 Years



Margaret Stroud
Financial
30 Years



David Anderson
Yardman
25 Years



Boedy Boedeker
Truck Driver
25 Years



Bill Copley
Machinist
25 Years



Leon Crawford
Pipefitter
25 Years



Tom Ditterline
Dispatching
25 Years



Pete Dochwat
Compounding
25 Years



John Fields
Pipefitter
25 Years



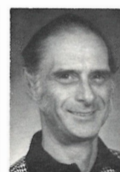
Dean Fleming
Carpenter
25 Years



Ray Fralix
Boilermaker
25 Years



Al Frisse
Yardman
25 Years



Glen Galeener
Alkylation
25 Years



Roy Goodson
Machinist
25 Years



Sam Hunter
Aromatics West
25 Years



Quint Nungesser
Safety
25 Years



Everett Nussman
Machinist
25 Years



Bob Parsh
Pipefitter
25 Years



Jerry Ross
Refinery Lab
25 Years



L. Schoenleber
Maintenance
25 Years



Pete Sidar
Yardman
25 Years



Herman Steinebach
Pipefitter
25 Years



Don Waters
Maintenance
25 Years



Warren Wille
Yardman
25 Years



Jack Williams
Pipefitter
25 Years

You can light all the people half the time ...

Some days, opening the morning mail can be a pleasure. That's particularly true when the mail includes a brightener like the one received recently by Head Office Public Affairs. It was written by a literate gentleman in Alexandria, Virginia. In part, here it is:

"It was with great interest that I read your edition of 'Shell Reports' on Solar Energy ... Not being a scientist, either by profession or hobby, it would be difficult to dispute any of the conclusions reached in your report, should I even desire to do so. However, there is one matter I must bring to your attention, lest it lower your credibility among less sympathetic readers.

"On its first page, your re-

port states: 'And, there is the simple but obvious fact that half the time -- because of day and night -- half the earth receives no sunshine at all.'

"This fact was too simple and too obvious for me to believe. After extensive research, utilizing a flashlight and a baseball, I have concluded the following: half the earth receives no sunshine *all* of the time.

"I realize that my findings are only preliminary, and that the term 'half' is merely an approximation. However, should you determine that further study in this area is warranted, I would be pleased to forward on to your solar energy research engineers my flashlight and baseball."

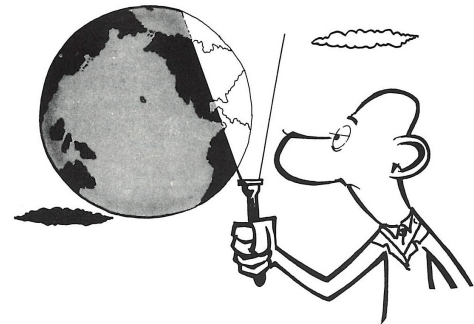
The people in Public Affairs,

having neither flashlight nor baseball readily available, forwarded the letter to one of Shell's resident experts in solar energy, Marshall E. Doyle, manager external activities, Shell Development.

Doyle, after due consideration, came up with a clarification which probably is unique. Here's his reply:

"We have received, and read with considerable interest, your letter We appreciate your support in our efforts to find alternative energy sources and trust the trouble we have put you to in researching some of our statements will not dim your desire to continue such support.

"Of this I am certain -- if half the earth receives all the sunshine for all the earth half the



time, then half the time, half of the sunshine will fall on the half of the earth where half of the people are writing sentences which half of the people can't make half sense of.

"We apologize for creating

sentences that even we can't interpret."

Let's see, now. Half the time, half the earth....

Well, back to the old flashlight.

That little nipper... inflation

Over the past few years American consumers have been bombarded with a variety of headlines reporting shifts in the "rate of inflation". Numbers as high as 12 percent were reported during 1974, whereas government economists have been forecasting an inflation rate of 5 percent or 6 percent recently.

But what do these numbers mean to *your* budget ... or the

businessman planning for the future?

In simple terms, with an inflation rate of 12 percent each year, the cost of everything you buy would double in about 6 years. With an inflation rate of 5 percent a year, it would take 14 years for prices to double.

Five percent sounds a lot better than 12 percent, but it still means, for example, that a

person who is 50 years old today would have to look forward to prices being twice as high by the time he retires at age 65.

Big government spending plays a big part in the inflationary spiral. Let's not get relaxed about an inflation rate of 5 percent. Do you remember when, during the early 1960's, an inflation rate of more than 1 percent a year was cause for alarm?

At that rate it takes 70 years for prices to double. Care to let your legislator know your preference?

Classified Ads

Barbie Doll clothes. Perfect for Christmas. Only 50 and 75 cents per set. 618-254-4275.

1971 Ford LTD. Four-door sedan. Power steering and brakes. Air. Only 57,000 miles. H. F. Eberhart. 618-656-2060.

Snow tires and wheels. Set of two. Size A78 x 13 for a Pinto. \$20. Walt Roberts. 618-259-6162.

The following paid advertisement from Tiffany & Co., the famed Fifth Avenue jeweler, appeared in the May 13 edition of *The New York Times*:

"Who owns the free enterprise system?

"Do the big corporations own it? No.

"Does the government own it? No.

"Do the bureaucrats own it? No.

"Do the rich own it? No.

"OK. Who owns it? Here's who:

"Farmers, businessmen, professionals, government employees, corporate employees, members of labor unions, and all owners of corporate and government securities.

"In short, everybody owns the free enterprise system.

"So since we all own it, let's stop trying to beat it to death. Instead, let's treat it with the respect it deserves."

Annual Pensioners' Dinner set for December 4

The tenth annual Shell Pensioners' Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 4, and all the arrangements have been made.

All Wood River pensioners

are invited to attend. The group gathered over 300 people for last year's event -- largest of any pensioner club in Shell -- and a big turnout is anticipated again this year.



PLANNING COMMITTEE for this year's Pensioner Dinner are retirees (from left): Walt Stark (Ref. Lab. '73), Charlie Wentz (Eng. Ofc. '69), Paul Hofmeier (Alky. '74), Cliff Davidson (LOP '74), Jake Jacoby (Gas '74), and Fred King (Machinist '61).

What better way to spend an afternoon with long time friends ... and seeing folks you haven't visited with in a long time? The pensioner who came the farthest to attend last year lived in Boulder, Colorado. Can you top that?

The big party room at the Lewis and Clark Restaurant in East Alton has been reserved from 11 am to 3 pm. A sumptuous, all-you-can-eat buffet

will be served promptly at noon. Other refreshments will be available.

Following the meal, refinery manager Art Williams will discuss refinery and industry activities over the past year and outline some of the major new developments on tap for the near future.

Please take note: unlike previous years, each pensioner will **not** receive an invi-

tation through the mail. Below is your reservation form.

If you plan to attend the Pensioner Dinner on December 4, clip the coupon below, fill it out, and mail it along with your \$5 payment to: Paul Hofmeier, 117 West Second Street, Roxana, Illinois 62084.

Please ... deadline for reservations is November 27th! Remind your Shell pensioner friends to be there. See you December 4th!

'How I drove to Athens, Berlin, and Paris over a weekend'

Illinois is in America ... and America is in Illinois. Tis true. Look on your map. America, Illinois, is located in the extreme southern tip of Illinois just a few miles northeast of where the states of Missouri, Illinois, and Kentucky join.

And thus is played the name game. You might be surprised in looking at a map of Illinois (or any other state) at the unexpected proximities of familiar named places and things. Italicized are the names of Illinois towns.

State your name

For instance: as far as Illinois is concerned, *Maryland* and *Nevada* are only about 85 air miles apart; *Vermont* and *Virginia* only about 17; and rather than sharing the same border, *Oregon* and *Washington* are separated by some 90 miles ... with *Oregon* being north — not south — of

Washington.

You can jump in your car and drive from *Brooklyn* to *Denver* in less than 30 minutes, but the trip from *Brooklyn* to *Manhattan* will probably take you four hours.

Hankering for wider travels? Grab your *Passport* (it's southeast of *Effingham*) and take off for such exotic places as *Athens*, *Berlin*, *Brussels*, *Geneva*, *Glasgow*, *Marseille*, *Warsaw*, *Bogota*, *Rio*, *Rome*, *Naples*, *Venice* ... and many more. You can probably hit them all in a week-end.

East is east

While you're at it, don't miss *Orient* (it's a few miles south-east of *DuQuoin*) and the land of *Rising Sun* (where else but to the east, on the Indiana border).

It's comforting to see that *Havana* and *Cuba* are in close proximity, but a little surpris-

ing to note that *Babylon* is just up the road, too.

We talked about cities, but barely touched upon the "countries" you can visit without leaving the state. Try *Belgium*, *Denmark*, *Scotland*, *Holland*, and *Norway* if you'd like. Or the "Mediterranean islands" of *Crete* or *Malta*. Or *Bolivia*, *Panama*, *Peru* ... and *Jamaica*.

The city fathers of *Lebanon* assure us that there is absolutely no guerrilla warfare going on there, and all is safe for your visit. Alas, you say ... "with all this traveling, how you gonna keep 'em down on the farm after they've seen *Parree*?"

Might be something to that, but you see in Illinois, *Kansas* is only 14 miles down the road from *Paris*, so the commute wouldn't be all that bad.

Places are things

Enough of these travels! What other combinations can we find?

It's well over 200 miles from *Carbon* (near *East St. Louis*) to *Diamond* (just south of *Joliet*), and that's hard to explain since, chemically speaking, the two are one and the same.

Iron and *Mineral* are at opposite north/south ends of the state, while *Energy* and *Oilfield* are somewhat closer together.

Liberty, *Equality*, *Independence*, and *Enterprise* are in the *Blood of America* ... all six are towns in the state of Illinois.

Bourbon is just a straight shot south of *Champaign* (pardon our spelling), and both aren't that remote from *Boos*. *Birds* is anything but in the *Bush* ... in fact, they are over 100 miles apart ... as the *Mal-lard* flies.

While the *Shepherd* is by the Illinois River near Hannibal, Missouri, "his" *Lamb* is way across the state on the Ohio River near Cave-in-Rock State Park.

Want to get philosophical? *Low Point* is almost exactly *Midway* between *Hope* and *Joy*. (Check it out!) All are Illinois towns.

Got a favorite?

The possibilities go on and on. You can, no doubt, come up with many more. If you've got a particularly good one, let us know. But we leave you with one more:

A good formula for the *Union* of a marriage includes *Unity*, *Harmony*, and *Fidelity*. Now that's what I call living in *Paradise*!

No ... *Paradise* is just off Interstate 57 a few miles south of *Mattoon* in Coles County....

SRA Board election set

The various activities enjoyed throughout the year by SRA (Shell Recreation Association) members are coordinated by a Board of Directors. Approximately half of the positions on the Board are currently up for election.

All SRA members are urged to cast their ballots either on Thursday, November 4, or Friday, November 5. Ballots will be available both days at these locations and times:

Main and South Gates: 7:15 am - 8:15 am
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm
Cafeteria: 11:15 am - 1:00 pm

SRA members will be asked to vote for two Women's Representatives, two Maintenance Representatives, two Operations Representatives, and two Staff Representatives. Those who have been nominated are listed below. Those with an asterisk (*) by their name are current Board members running for re-election.

Women's Representatives (elect two)

Judy Blackburn	Lubricants
*Dottie Taylor	Employee Relations
*Arlene Tutt	Maintenance
Donna Yates	Purchasing

Maintenance Representatives (elect two)

*Bob Bevforden	Tinner
*Ed Meiners	Insulator
Bob Travis	Electrician
Don Wiegmann	Boilermaker
Gary Williams	Insulator

Operations Representatives (elect two)

John Martin	Alkylation
Bill Tester	Cracking
*Weldon Tucker	Refinery Laboratory

Staff Representatives (elect two)

Tony Allaria	Engineering Office
Howard Green	Maintenance
Darrell Ottwell	Engineering Office
Ray Thrasher	Engineering Office
*Ray White	Financial



Mileage Marathon revisited

The Mileage Marathon that began in 1939 at Wood River is no longer ... as far as Wood River is concerned.

What began as a friendly gasoline mileage bet among a handful of Research Lab employees grew into an annual family affair, complete with spirited competition and a big picnic. In the next to the last Wood River competition two years ago, mileage re-

cords were set which got world-wide attention.

Having moved to Houston, Research's mileage-makers are resurrecting the Mileage Marathon on the Texas flats this year ... on Saturday, November 6. Competition will be held in only the "Sportsman" Division — essentially the family car class.

It is open to all Westhollow research employees and any former Marathon entrants,

regardless of where in Shell they are now working. A special invitation has been extended to members of the Houston area news media ... to see how they fare against Shell's experts.

The picture above was taken at the 1951 Wood River event. Do you realize that even the youngsters in knee pants are now in their thirties?

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