

YOUR SAFETY FLAG

While recently visiting many of our stations for the first time, I was thrilled by the sight of Old Glory and the new safety flags flying from shiny flag poles. They symbolize the fine spirit of the men—who everywhere are so friendly, co-operative, and loyal. I was made happy as a “green hand” to feel that I was being accepted as one of them.

There was a depressed atmosphere around certain stations where the safety flag had just come down because of an apparently needless ac-

cident elsewhere in their Division. It brought to mind the inescapable fact that a thoughtless action by one per-

son sometimes can put a whole organization “in the dog house.”

Be that as it may, the steady reduction of lost-time accidents—reaching a new low of only one per month over the whole system

during the past few months—is a record of which all concerned may well be proud. It should inspire every one of you to keep your safety flags flying!

(Signed)

H. H. ANDERSON



THE GO-DEVIL

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My Name

WELL folks, here I am again, and this time with a brand spanking new name, and boy howdy what a name—"The Go-Devil."



"GO-DEVIL"

I can picture myself tearing along through the entire system, bringing to every Shell Pipeliner the news and excitement which is happening all along the line. I hope to scrape out any and all news which may have developed, and in my wake leave a clean system through which will flow a high-gravity tender of close fellowship and good will.

IT was G. L. Shanks, Valuation Engineer, who entered the name "Go-Devil" in the "What is My Name" contest, and he will be awarded a five dollar prize by the judges who considered this suggestion the most appropriate of the names submitted by the many persons who entered the contest. The name "Go-Devil" is fitting from the point of view that (1) A go-devil is definitely associated with pipe line operation; (2) it is descriptive of the mission to be served by the pipe line magazine, and (3) the name is distinctive and catchy.

GEER'S QUICK ACTION SAVES BAKER'S LIFE

Quick first aid treatment by A. L. "Buck" Geer, Electrical Maintenance Supervisor, West Texas Area, undoubtedly saved the life of O. K. Baker. Right-of-Way Agent of Shell Oil Company, when the latter stumbled into a nest of rattlesnakes and was bitten four times, on May 28th, while on an inspection trip near Seymour, Texas.



A. L. GEER

With the added difficulties of losing the way, running out of gas, and driving with a profusely bleeding and very sick man in the car, Geer kept cool and alert and managed to get Baker to the hospital for professional care within 35 minutes of the time of the accident. The doctor who took over the case stated that the first aid administered by Geer was the best he had even seen on a snake bite case. Official commendation has already been given Geer for his prompt and correct work, and appreciation surely goes to him from the entire Shell family.

Details of the accident read like a Saturday serial at the neighborhood movie—action and drama being packed into 30 minutes. Geer tells the story thus:

"Baker and I drove south from Seymour to Bomarton, where we left the highway and being on unfamiliar country roads soon were lost. After wandering around 30 or 40 minutes, we found the pipe line right-of-way where the point of damage was. I hooked a test set on the telephone to call the office while Baker walked down to a little stream about 100 yards from where I stood. In a moment, while the phone was ringing, I heard several screams from the direction in which Baker had gone. I jerked my test set from the line and ran toward the creek. Baker was running toward me (Continued on Page Eight)

TO W. F. Byrne, goes the credit for the title layout and theme, along with C. N. Bissell and S. N. Shields, who assisted in the designing and lettering.

PIPELINERS FIGHT FLOOD PROBLEMS

Heavy rains which continued unrelentlessly during the past three weeks in parts of Oklahoma and Texas, which normally have no rain at this season of the year, have caused dry river beds and trickling streams to flood thousands of acres of country side. These flood waters, the highest in memory of many pipeliners, have seriously hampered and imperiled our pipe line operations. In order that the flow of "black gold" might not be stopped, the men along the pipe line and the telephone and telegraph systems have kept twenty-four-hour vigil at the river crossings and in the lowlands and have been required to suffer many personal inconveniences—these are the men whose day-in and day-out efforts are seldom heard of, but who, nevertheless, are the men who regardless of weather make it possible for the system to continue operating. Their splendid work in this flood emergency has been most commendable.

The thought was recently expressed that many of our men in the offices and along the pipe line seldom realize what is going on "behind the scenes" to keep crude oil moving to the refineries and to make it possible to pick up the telephone receiver at any time during a 24-hour period and talk with distant points along the pipe line. The floods now pouring over our facilities serve to make all of us conscious of some of the problems with which these field men are confronted from day to day.

Red River Crossing Goes Out

Red River, at the point of our pipe line crossing, reached its highest flood stage in many years and for several weeks has imperiled all of our facilities. Saturday, June 14, the main line crossing gave way to the flood waters, necessitating the loop line to carry the load across the river. This loop was laid in 1928 in order to meet just such an emergency—now after 13 years it is well serving its initial purpose. All telephone and telegraph facilities were previously washed away. Temporary camp facilities had been set up at Red River for the men who have been assigned there to keep close watch on conditions so as to be ready to take whatever action is necessary in event of a break in the line—the river had come within ten inches of the

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T & T Have Their Troubles

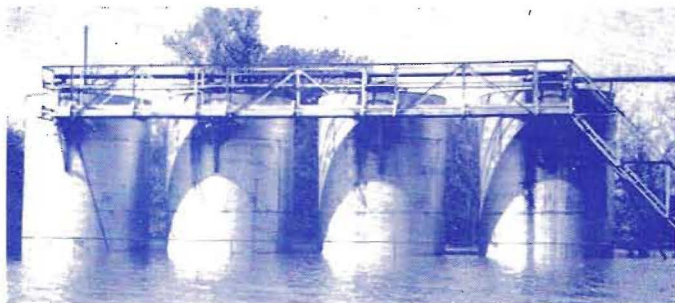
By W. C. Putnam, Wire Chief

"River, Stay 'Way From Our Door!"

That's what J. E. Brookman, District Telephone Maintenance Supervisor, must have been saying for two days before it happened. However, at 8:15 Saturday evening, May 24th, the Red River, swollen from heavy flood waters, failed to heed our warning and washed away seven of our poles and wire. By 8:45 Brookman was picking up Jess Dudley, Maintenance Foreman, and four of his men and headed toward Red River. Meanwhile, Carl Power, District Telephone Maintenance Superintendent, had been notified at Haskell, Texas, of the trouble at Red River and started about ten o'clock to help Brookman make temporary repairs if and when possible.

At the break of dawn on the 25th, Brookman, Power, Dudley and his men did yeomen duty and managed to make temporary repairs by stringing 3000 feet of rubber covered wire on trees of every size and description between pole 35-3 (Last pole on Texas side to stand), and 34-32 pole which withstood this first onslaught of rushing water. The hardest job of all was stringing about 1000 feet

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Tanks mounted on 8-foot piling in Deep Fork River Bottom.

Mid-Continent

On Monday evening, June 10th, a farewell party was given O. A. Vertreese and family by Shell Employees in the Cushing District at the Armory in Cushing. A basket dinner was served and a musical program was rendered, supplemented by group singing of old-time songs. About 200 or more were in attendance.

Farewell gifts were presented, among which was a Mix-Master and a beautiful set ring was presented Mr. Vertreese by those employees who worked under his direct supervision during the past years. Mr. Vertreese resigned June 7, 1941, to engage in other lines of endeavor after 15 years' service with Shell Pipe Line as Maintenance Foreman and Construction Foreman in Oklahoma and Texas.



Graduating from Meeker High School, Meeker, Oklahoma, in the 1941 class are three students, sons and daughters of Pipe Liners. Left to right: Opal Passmore, daughter of A. H. Passmore, 2nd Class Station Engineer at Cushing, Okla.; Warren Arthur, son of H. J. Arthur, Ray Station Engineer, and Marjorie Moore, daughter of James A. Moore, Ray Station Engineer.

On Wednesday, June 4, 1941, Margaret Maurine Jones and A. Orlin Crownover, were married at Pittsburg, Kansas. Mr. Crownover lately entered the service of Shell Pipe Line Corporation as Surveyor at Cushing Office.

"GATOR" HUNTER

Chief Engineer A. F. McBride of Cleveland Station has turned mighty nimrod. He recently used his trusty 25-20 rifle to dispatch two fair sized alligators found cruising in the bar-ditch next to the station fence. One specimen measured 6-foot--6-inches and weighed 150 pounds. When "Mc" was asked if he liked alligator steaks he replied "No, but I am going to have book covers and bill-folds on the market soon. And I mean the gen-u-wine articles too."

"Doc" Brown Uses Sleeve Dresser As Laryngoscope

At a recent safety meeting in East Texas, General Chairman E. H. Spier was becoming concerned about the absence of his secretary Jack H. Brown, as the meeting hour arrived. Jack never misses a meeting, always being on time with a carefully prepared set of minutes. This was an outdoor meeting, and dark was approaching--still no secretary.

Finally, Jack appeared with an expression of peace, confidence and satisfaction on his countenance. Then he told the reason for his being tardy.

It seems that just at the time to depart for safety meeting, a neighbor called for help in doctoring his cow. Bossie was down and out, suffering plainly from asphyxiation and suffocation. All attempts to hold open the bovine's jaws were both dangerous and futile, until Jack had an inspiration. He quickly secured a small set of pruning hooks from his house and a four-inch dresser sleeve from the station near by. Using said sleeve as a laryngoscope he thrust the hooks safely through Bossie's buccal cavity, bringing to light the obstruction which proved to be a fair sized piece of sassafras root. In a few minutes the cow had recovered, the neighbor was happy, Jack H. Brown, D. V., was on his way to Regular Safety Meeting, Chapter No. 22.

MISS BECKER GOES TO WASHINGTON

This is not an advertisement of a sequel to the recent moving picture "Mr. Smith Goes To Washington," featuring Jimmy Stewart, who Caroline really thinks (??) is still in Washington. We wonder if this had any bearing on her decision to leave Head Office and take up residence in the Nation's capital, where she will continue to serve Mr. High as secretary. Her close business associates and many pipe line friends have expressed their regrets at seeing her leave the pipe line family, but wish her every success and happiness in her new position.

SAFETY RECORD

Days Without Accidents

Mid-Continent Area	238
Telephone and Telegraph	207
Texas-Gulf Area	151
West Texas Area	1

PIPELINERS FIGHT FLOODS— (Continued from Page Three)

gate valves at the river crossing at the time of this writing.

Normally a small rambling rut through the sands of West Texas, the Pecos River is now a raging flood, spreading over much of the countryside. These waters caused disruption of operations on the Taylor Link-McCamey lines for several days.

Mid-Continent Not Missed

In the Mid-Continent Area the Washita River left its banks near the pine line crossing and spread over Paul's Valley.



Flood water rushing down U. S. Highway No. 77 at Paul's Valley, Oklahoma.

Oklahoma, and vicinity, blocking all traffic through the town. Some of our men, together with their cars and trucks, were marooned in the town for 40 hours. Highway 77, which runs through the town, was impassable.

The boys from Key West, Oklahoma.
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Deep Fork River Bottoms

T & T HAVE THEIR TROUBLES— (Continued from Page Three)

of wire out across the water covered bottoms to pole 34-32.

To start, Brookman had hired the best available boat and motor in Wichita Falls to do this particular part of the

Last picture taken of T. & T. Red River crossing tower which location at height of flood was 400 feet out in channel. The tower was washed away as were 27 of the poles on the south side of the river.



job, but odd as it may seem, this boat with its powerful little motor was of absolutely no value to them because of the peculiar water currents caused by the water swirling around trees. The boat could not be made to do its owner's bidding and finally was discarded. Since the boat could not be made to perform, our men (Brookman, Power, Dudley and his men) had to wade in water and mud that was more than knee deep, and at times armpit deep, to drag 1000 feet of wire out to pole 34-32.

Due to the excellent co-operation of all the men on the job telephone service was restored temporarily at 3:45 p.m., May 25th, just 19 hours and 45 minutes after the line had gone out of order.

But this was not the end for more flood waters were on the way down and at 5:30 p.m., June 2nd, Old Man River rose up and washed away three more poles north of 34-32. This time, however, only Brookman, Power and one extra help lineman took on the job of temporary repairs, and between dawn and 8:30 a.m., of June 3rd, when telephone service

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West Texas Area

On Saturday afternoon, May 24th, twenty-seven Pipe Line employees and their families gathered at Big Spring City Park and enjoyed a basket supper, under sponsorship of the Big Spring Safety Chapter, which includes Westbrook, Garden and Robert's stations, and Colorado office.

The P. R. Shaffers, who are being transferred to Eunice, New Mexico, were honored with two social functions. First, on the evening of May 20th, about 25 fellow employees gathered on the Pecos river for a steak fry. After eating, several speeches and responses were made and the Shaffers were presented with a set of glasses. On Saturday evening the 24th, the members of the McCamey Country Club, including both Shell employees and townspeople, honored the Shaffers with a dance and refreshments at midnight.

T & T HAVE THEIR TROUBLES—

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was again restored, these three "stout fellows" had strung in another 2000 feet of wire across the treacherous water covered river bottom flats to pole 34-28. Lost time on this case was only 15 hours, nine hours of which was spent waiting for the pitch dark night to wane into daylight. This a job well done!

Still no rest for the weary. Old Man Red River was not to be denied. At 10:00 p.m., June 6th our temporary repairs had washed away again. Brookman and Power were again called for night duty, but this time the river had done its worse and when daylight finally came on Saturday, the 7th, both Brookman and Power saw that all poles leading from the Texas bank to the "H" fixture and our 85-foot steel tower away out in the bottom had been washed away. By 2:00 p.m., Saturday, both the "H" fixture and the tower between the Texas and Oklahoma banks fell and disappeared into the muddy red waters of Old Man River.

At the time of writing, June 12th, high water still have restricted any attempt at repairs. But with the help of Tim Gregory, Maintenance Foreman in Oklahoma, and his men, previously given in preparation for the next attempt, the lines should soon be repaired.

Twenty-seven poles were washed away not including the "H" fixture or the steel tower.

Telephone and Telegraph

C. B. "Bruce" Cowling, Telegraph and Telephone operator at the McCamey office, until March 6th, when he answered the call of "Uncle Sam" to report to Fort Bliss, Texas, is now in training at Fort Warren, Wyoming.

R. V. "Eddie Cantor" Forester, Telegraph Engineer, Houston, reports a third daughter in his home, Susan, born February 20, 1941.

Pipe Liner Presents Diplomas

E. H. Conn, District Telephone Maintenance Supervisor, with headquarters at Goodrich, Texas, presented the diplomas to the graduating class of the Goodrich High School, May 23rd, as president of the School Board of Trustees. Mr. Conn has been president since September, 1939, and from March 3 of the same year until his present appointment, he was a member of the board.

The night of the Houston flood Bill A. Littell did not get home. We are wondering if he just used the high water as an excuse, especially since his wife is away vacationing in St. Louis.

Mr. and Mrs. J. W. LaBoon (T&T) announce the arrival of a son, Bruce, June 14th.

J. K. Alfred, H. O. Engineering Department, "had" a 6½-pound boy at 6:30 a.m., June 6th. The doctor arrived at about 6:35 a.m.



Group of Head Office Pipe Liners who gathered in Accounting Department on May 15th to extend good wishes to Harry Phelps, who returned to St. Louis to engage in a business venture.

Snapshot Saga Of Shell Club's Fishing Party

Houston Pipe Liners and other Shell Club members "set sail" for Bettison's fishing pier on the coast early on the day of May 17th. Our first view shows some of them embarking on the "Eva" for the pier, shown in the second picture, looking top to bottom. Our heroine enters the story in the third shot and we see her angling from the pier, face hidden with a sun-shade; then a close up of the red-fish tugging on the line, giving a strong tussle with his 11½ pounds. And finally, now facing the camera, we see our heroine is none other than Mrs. S. B. Bean, whose husband is in the Engineering Department of Head Office, and who really made the big catch of the day.

PIPELINERS FIGHT FLOODS—

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say that when the Deep Fork River leaves home and starts to wander, they, too, have troubles in performing their regular duties. From reports, it is probably appropos to say that this time the river not only left home, but that it has been on a tough "binge."

A number of persons in the Mid-Continent pipeline family were forced to leave their homes by the onrush of flood waters. These are always unfortunate experiences, and their fellow employees have expressed hope that those victims of the flood have suffered no serious loss of personal property.

No reports have been received from other flooded points along the pipe line, however, the cloudburst throughout Texas and Oklahoma have converted most of the otherwise dry lands into veritable lakes.

Even after the flood waters recede, the troubles of the pipeliners are still not over. In the wake of the muddy waters will be left considerable damage to be repaired, replacements to be installed and tons of sediment and debris to be cleared away, but there is definite satisfaction in knowing that no problem or job is too big for the pipeliner.

MENU AT RED RIVER CAMP

Breakfast—Bacon and Eggs

Lunch—Eggs and Bacon

Supper—Bacon and Egg Hash



GEER'S QUICK ACTION SAVES BAKER'S LIFE—

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and trying to remove his shirt. He said he was bitten four times by rattlesnakes. We started walking toward the car, and on the way Baker was unable to climb a fence and fell over it. I assisted him to the car, and he told me I'd find a snake bite kit in the glove compartment.

"As I was opening the kit and making preparations to administer first aid, Baker explained what happened: 'I was walking down the side of the creek looking for signs of oil damage. I wanted to cross, and when I found a narrow place about three or four feet wide I jumped to cross. While in mid-air I saw a large rattlesnake directly in my path, coiled and ready to strike. As I landed he struck me just above the right ankle, and I made another leap forward, only to see the spot where I would land was literally covered with snakes. I attempted to throw myself to one side, but being off balance, I fell among the snakes. Attempting to protect my face, I threw up my left hand and was bitten between the thumb and first finger. The snake still hung on. I was shaking him off and almost simultaneously two other snakes struck, one striking my left cheek and the other my left arm. Finally I struggled to my feet and ran toward the car.'"

Geer describes his first aid treatment saying: "Baker instructed me to make an incision near each fang mark with the scalpel with which the kit was equipped, encouraging me and stoically urging me to make the cuts deep, none of which would bleed. After making all the incisions and still bringing no bleeding, I applied the suction pump to all cuts to start it. Baker held his cheek to keep the venom from the bloodstream while I applied a tourniquet on his left arm and pulled it as tight as possible. Baker became quite ill, and placing him in the car, I started to Seymour, but lost the way and had to retrace our course, but with Baker's help, I found a road which took us to the highway.

"At this time I made a tourniquet of my handkerchief and placed it below his right knee. Baker was very ill and bleeding profusely now from all the incisions, so I held him near the right window in an effort to keep him from fainting.

"About six miles along the way, we saw J. H. Brooks, who was working on a tractor. We stopped and asked him to get in and help Baker. Brooks asked no questions but left his tractor running and jumped in. As soon as he was in the car, he was instructed to loosen the

tourniquet on Baker's arm for a few seconds, which he did.

"As I drove along I noticed we were running out of gas, so while stopping at Bomarton for gas, I instructed Brooks to call the Baylor County Hospital, informing them of our patient's condition and requested them to have a doctor and snake-bite serum waiting our arrival. Brooks did so; I stuck a dollar bill in the station attendants's pocket, and we were on the way once again. No further mis-

A DEPARTING WORD FROM R. B. HIGH

While I am looking forward to my new assignment in Washington, and appreciate the opportunity to do my bit in a larger field, I sincerely regret the necessity of leaving my many friends in the Pipe Line Organization.

Many improvements in our facilities and operations have been made during the past three years to meet changed transportation requirements, which have only been possible by the closest co-operation of my co-workers. This co-operation has been given by all employees along the entire system in the most meticulous detail and I cannot overlook this opportunity to thank each of you, individually and collectively, for the results achieved. I feel that I can promise this same wholehearted co-operation on behalf of the staff to Mr. Anderson for the future.

I regret that I will not have the opportunity to see personally the men in the field, so that I might thank them for the exquisite desk set and clock which has been presented to me. Please accept these written words, therefore, as an expression of my sincere appreciation to all for this token of your friendship.

(Signed)

June 13, 1941.

R. B. HIGH.

happened and when we arrived at the hospital, Dr. C. E. Johnson was ready and waiting with anti-venom injections."

Many friends of Baker in Shell Pipe Line Corporation and Shell Oil Company rejoice in the fact that he is now well on his way to recovery.

Editor's Note: Appreciation from the entire Shell Family goes to Mr. Brooks for the part he played in this incident.