

Plain Talks

GULF STATES UTILITIES CO

DECEMBER, 1956



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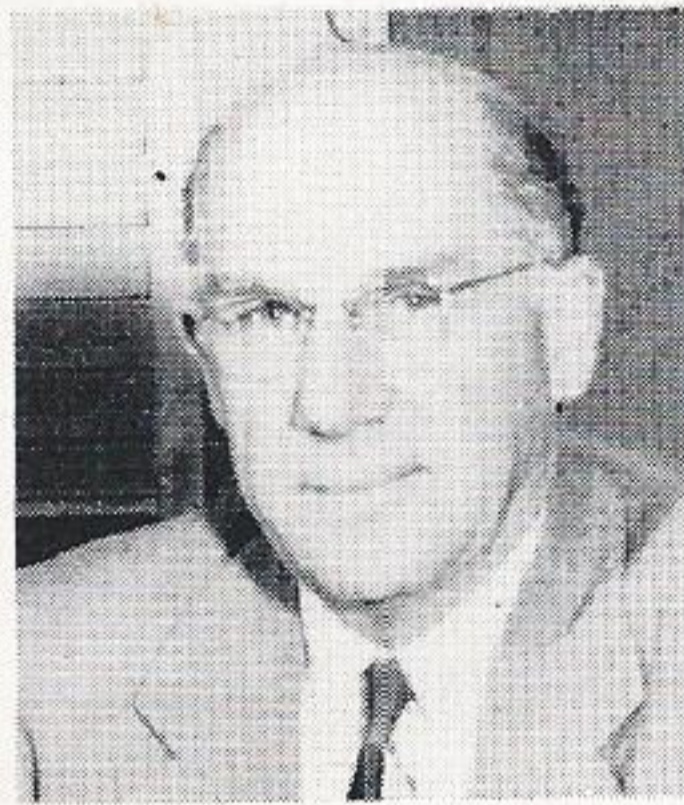
Plain Talks

December, 1956

Vol. 24, No. 12

A magazine for employees of Gulf States Utilities Company

PLAIN TALKS is issued by the Advertising Department, Gulf States Utilities Company, Lock Drawer 2951, Beaumont, Texas. Kenneth Sutton, advertising director; James S. Turner, supervisor of publicity; Tommy Read, associate editor; Jasper F. Worthy, contributing editor, Baton Rouge.



**. . . To All Gulf Staters
and Their Families**

Christmas, as no other time, strengthens our love of family, our bonds of friendship and our spirit of good will toward men. This is the season to enjoy the blessings of health and happiness and to spread cheer to those less fortunate.

Your record through the years proves that it is habitual with you to observe the Golden Rule in your day to day contacts with the public we serve. I am proud to be one of you.

My sincere best wishes to all Gulf Staters and their families for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Roy Nelson

Roy S. Nelson

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OUR COVER



Christmas being a time of joy and good will toward our fellow man, the PLAIN TALKS staff decided to use a full color cover to add a little extra sparkle. The humorous picture that was our final choice, we have to admit, is not our work — we wish it could have been.

We think the cover design lends itself perfectly to the Christmas spirit.

Company Parties Mean CHRISTMAS Is HERE

Every year about this time, people's thoughts turn to the rapidly approaching season. Everybody hurries about buying Christmas gifts, addressing cards, planning parties, selecting food for the holiday feast, and doing a thousand other things that must be done before that happy—and most reverent—day.

Our company has helped employees and their families celebrate with par-

ties for many Christmases, although the hard work and planning has been done by the various employee clubs in each division. There are gifts for the children, fun and refreshments for all.

PLAIN TALKS has compiled a schedule of all these parties. If you have misplaced your invitation or are in doubt about when and where your department will have its party, here they are.

FOR LAKE CHARLES DIVISION:

Date	Place	Department
Dec. 11	Riverside Station Meeting Hall	Riverside Production and Sulphur
Dec. 17	New LaGrange High School Cafeteria	All other departments
Dec. 20	U.S.O. Hall	All Colored Employees

FOR PORT ARTHUR DIVISION:

Dec. 19	Service Center Auditorium	All Departments
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FOR NAVASOTA DIVISION:

Dec. 17	Cleveland Fireman's Hall	Huntsville, Conroe and Cleveland Districts
Dec. 21	August Horst Country Club, Navasota	Navasota, Calvert, Franklin, Somerville and Madisonville

FOR BEAUMONT DIVISION:

Dec. 17	Service Center	Beaumont Accounting
Dec. 17	Blue Bonnet Cafe, Silsbee	Silsbee District
Dec. 18	Service Center	Beaumont Engineering and Sales
Dec. 19	Little Mexico Hall, Orange	Orange District
Dec. 20	Service Center	Beaumont T&D
Dec. 21	Service Center	Beaumont Production
Dec. 21	Liberty Office	Liberty and Gulf Districts
Dec. 22	Service Center	All Colored Employees, Orange and Beaumont

FOR BATON ROUGE DIVISION:

Dec. 15	Winbourne Elementary School Gymnasium	All Division White Employees
Dec. 19	New Guide Baptist Church	All Division Colored Employees

Those nickels and dimes which perked up Beaumont Gulf Staters during coffee breaks over a period of years last month did a much bigger job of "Perking up" 16 health, welfare, educational and character-building organizations in the Beaumont area.

A check of the non-profit shop's bank account last June revealed a healthy balance, with all bills paid or accounted for. What to do with the money? The Coffee Shop Committee, composed of Elsie Davis of Industrial Sales; H. C. Hansen, of the Corporation Department. Jeanette Goodnight of Customer Accounting and Robert L. Wynne, Jr. of the Statistical Department, agreed that the Gulf Staters who had paid in the nickels should decide in the accepted American way—by the ballot.

The voting was held and the final count indicated that the majority wanted the money to go to several worthy causes in Beaumont. The funds were allocated on the basis of the number of votes cast for each organization. Checks were mailed out last month, with a letter explaining that the contribution was from the folks at Gulf States who wanted to help them carry out their programs.

Letters of appreciation have been received from nearly every recipient. Lack of space makes it impractical to print all the letters, but as Christmas nears, we think this excerpt from the letter received from the Sisters at the St. Therese Hospital tells the story better than we could.

"... This was a very God-like and generous gesture on the part of all concerned, and we are very grateful to you for thinking of us. This was certainly a wonderful idea your group had, and I am so glad that your heart was filled with so much kindness, by giving to Welfare, Charitable and Educational purposes. Again, many thanks for your great generosity. God bless and be with you all.

Sincerely:

Sister Mary Philip and Sisters

Gift List

The Beaumont organizations which benefited from the generosity of some Gulf Staters are the Central Nursery, Boy's Haven, Cerebral Palsy Foundation, National Muscular Dystrophy Research Foundation, Inc., United Appeals, Salvation Army, Beaumont Rescue Mission, Damon Runyon Cancer Fund, Jefferson County TB Hospital, Municipal Hospital, Hotel Dieu Hospital, Baptist Hospital, St. Therese Hospital, St. Elizabeth Hospital Building Campaign, the Live Wires Club, Lamar College, and Free Coffee.



As a step in the Company-wide program for better control of files and records, the Record Committee has prepared and is now distributing a manual describing practices for the handling and distribution of material and its filing. Ruth Stine, supervisor of records, is shown presenting Mr. Nelson with the first manual. The practices described in the manual have been in use in the Executive Group and have proved successful in cutting down individual effort and eliminating paper work and confusion. While it may be some time before Ruth Stine can get around to all the offices of the Company, it is recommended that these practices be studied and adapted to operation and put into effect wherever written or printed material of any kind is being handled or filed.

Beaumont Coffee Fund Surplus Is Donated To Local Agencies



Letters of thanks have been received from the health, welfare, character-building and educational groups helped by the Beaumont Coffee Shop financial contributions last month. Here members of the Coffee Shop committee read over the "thank you" notes. Clockwise, they are Elsie Davis, System Industrial Sales; Bob Wynne, Statistical Department; H. C. Hansen, Corporation Department and Jeanette Goodnight, Customers Accounting.



Center of attention here is the automatic typewriter of the new Central Information System at Neches Station. The "wonder brain" was the main object of discussion during a visit to the station last month by three French engineers, most recent in a growing list of foreign visitors to the plant. From left to right are Gustave Pilastre of Bourdeaux; Jean Foulquier of Nantes; Howard Garrison of the Panellit, Inc.; A. M. Melancon, supervisor of standards who served as interpreter for the French group; Pierre Senechant of Paris; Henry Klutz, system turbine engineer and R. K. Wilkerson, plant superintendent.

Three French Engineers Visit Neches Power Station

Three French engineers, Jean Foulquier of Nantes, Gustave Pilastre of Bordeaux, and Pierre Senachant of Paris, all employees of Electricite de France, government-owned firm which serves about half of that nation, visited Neches Station November 16 to inspect the central information system at the power plant.

The tour was conducted by William Gurney, superintendent of results for the company; R. K. Wilkerson, plant superintendent at Neches Station; and Newah Melancon, standards supervisor in System Engineering, who acted as interpreter. The Frenchmen visited Gulf States as guests of J. J. Morrison, executive vice president.

Many Interested In Brain

Engineers from many nations have visited Beaumont to see the new system since its installation. Japan, Italy, Mexico, Brazil and now France have all sent representatives to see the electronic marvel in operation. Besides these countries, engineers from many systems inside the United States have come to study the performance of

the computer and calculator.

Eliminates Many Individual Readings

The central information control system, as pointed out in November Plain Talks, eliminates thousands of individual gauge and meter readings which formerly were taken around the clock by individual employees. The system automatically scans and records the readings and decides on the most efficient operating schedule for the power plant system. Prior to installation of the new system, 28,100 readings were made at Neches Station every 24 hours.

In addition to deciding economical operation, the central information system gives advance warning if any piece of equipment shows a tendency to malfunction.

French Study Atomic Power

According to Mr. Senechant, the French power plants still burn coal, gas and oil but supplies of all three are dwindling. France has a pilot atomic power plant near Marseilles, but it is not yet on a commercial basis.

Our Happiest Yuletide Poem - - -

"'Twas the night before Christmas
when all through the house
Not a creature was stirring,
Not even a mouse . . ."

For well over 100 years, the happy poem that begins thus has been part of just about every American's Christmas— but its modest author never dreamed or intended it so.

He was a shy, scholarly professor, Clement C. Moore, in New York City, and he wrote the beloved lines in 1822 just to amuse his own children one Christmas Eve. They were delighted, and so was a family friend, who sent it to the editor of her home-town paper with no name signed to it.

In the years that followed, many newspapers reprinted the poem anonymously; it was not until 1837 that the author's name became known. In the 1850's, the poem began appearing in school books. Professor Moore never sought or received royalties.

The poem has been printed in multi-millions of copies, translated into almost every language and into braille. An artist of a century ago drew a Saint Nick from Moore's description— ("His eyes, how they twinkled! His dimples, how merry . . . And the beard on his chin was as white as the snow . . .") and gave us a Santa Claus which has endured these generations.

Sympathy

PLAIN TALKS joins his many friends throughout our system in expressing sincere sympathy to **Joseph E. DeJean** on the accidental death of his brother, Jack, who was killed on December 5 while performing his duties as a member of the Florida Department of Wildlife and Fisheries. Mr. DeJean, supervisor of advertising, attended funeral services which were held in Port Barre, Louisiana.

A thanksgiving theme written by Ruby Lea Milton, daughter of Wilson L. Milton, Baton Rouge T & D Substation Department, entered in a Baker High School contest, was selected to be read before the student body. Due to space limitations, we were unable to print the theme in the last issue, but the feelings expressed still hold true for the Christmas spirit.

Reby Lea follows in the footsteps of older sister Barbara, (Plain Talks-March, 1956) who was an honor graduate at Baker High School last June.

Ruby's theme follows:

Exactly what is Thanksgiving?

According to **Webster's Students Dictionary**, thanksgiving is "the act of rendering thanks especially to God, a prayer expressing gratitude, a public acknowledgment or celebration of divine goodness and mercies, and a day set apart for such acknowledgment or celebration."

Can this word have so many meanings each one as important as the next?

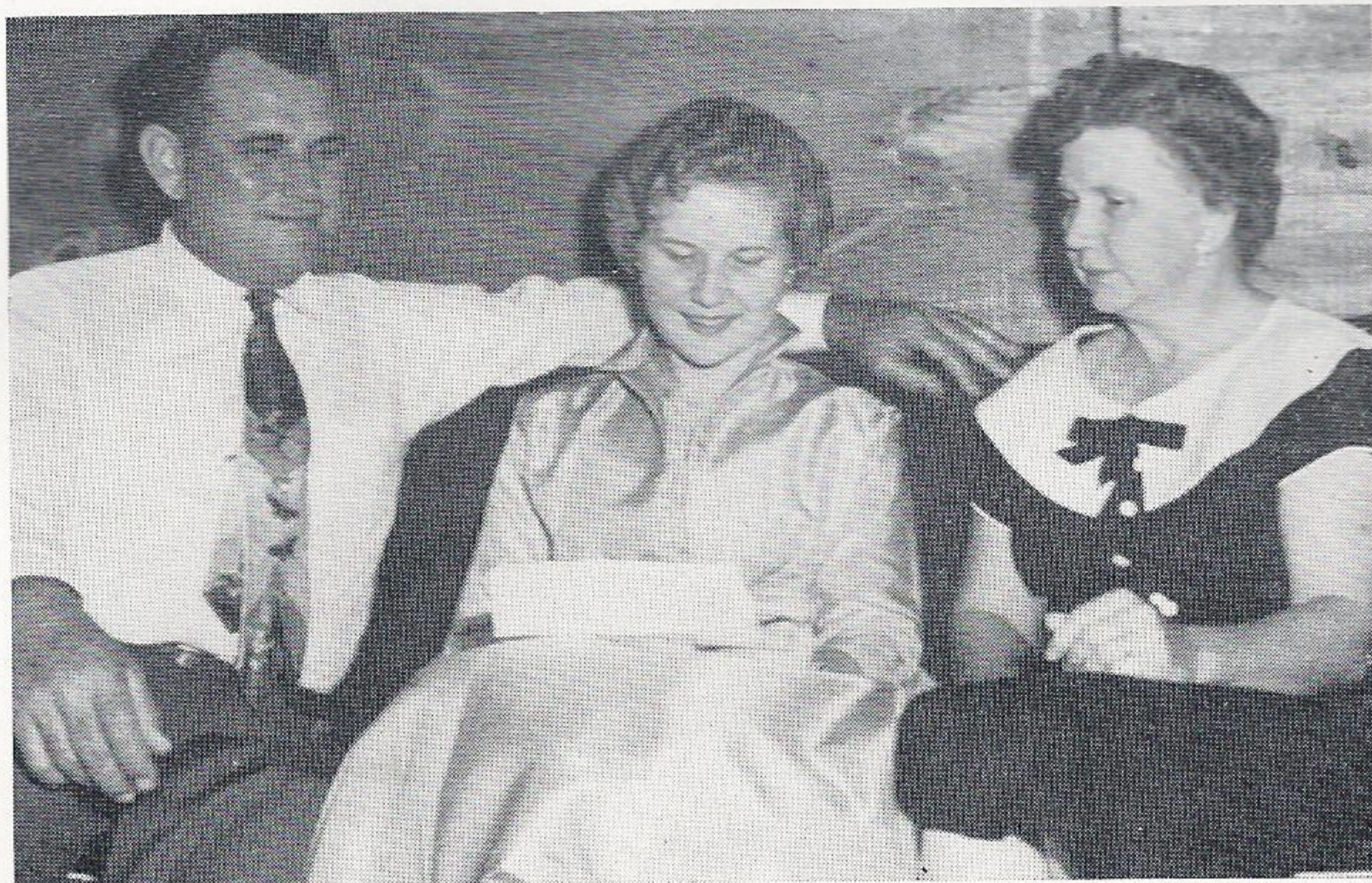
A majority of people would probably say, "When I think of Thanksgiving, I can see a table full of food with a turkey stuffed with my favorite dressing as the centerpiece and all my aunts, uncles, cousins, and intimate family members getting together for a great time." Or, "To me Thanksgiving is just getting off from school for a week of relaxation with no worries whatsoever, plus the turkey dinner and company to finish off the week."

But have any of these people ever stopped to think about the real meaning of Thanksgiving? No, if they had, they couldn't pass this event off so lightly but instead would do just what the word says, "give thanks." Let's go back and find out just what brought about this particular holiday.

We all, at one time or another, have heard and probably studied about the pilgrims who came to our country from England on the "Mayflower." Why did they come? They had been ruled and told how to worship for so long that they probably would have done almost anything to escape it all. So they boarded the Mayflower and came to the New World, not really knowing what they should expect, but hoping for the best.

These people settled at Plymouth Rock in Massachusetts and tried their luck. Can't you imagine their happiness and joy when they found the soil was fertile enough to grow crops? They

Ruby Lee Milton, Baton Rouge High School Senior, Writes Prize Winning Theme



Ruby Lea Milton, 16 year old highschool senior in Baton Rouge, is reading her prize-winning Thanksgiving essay to her parents. Her father, Wilson L. Milton, is employed in the Baton Rouge T&D Substation Department.

faced many hardships waiting for their first harvest.

God must undoubtedly have been with them through it all, and they surely must have felt His presence on the day that they found their first try at growing crops was a success. They called this day "Thanksgiving," and that was just what it was for them. They thanked God for being so generous and good to them.

When one thinks back over these things, how can he just think of food and having a good time on Thanksgiving? There is another side to it, a side with a deeper meaning.

To me Thanksgiving means all these things and more. I owe my very being to God. It would be impossible to have Thanksgiving without Him. Were it not for Him, there would be no turkey, no aunts, uncles, and cousins; there would be nothing. We owe this one day a year to Him. We really should make every day a day of thanksgiving, but if everyone would stop on this particular day and make a list of everything he had to be thankful for, there would not be enough pencils and paper in this world.

Thus to me Thanksgiving means briefly, "giving thanks to God for everything that is His," and believe me, it is **everything!**

Sixty-five Teachers Attend Annual BE Day

Some 65 teachers from Beaumont area schools toured Neches Station and heard a talk on "Your Electric Utility Industry" by Vice President E. L. Robinson, general sales manager, during our company's observance of Business-Education Day, November 9 and 12.

After assembling at the Beaumont Service Center, the teachers were welcomed by L. M. Welch, division manager. Mr. Robinson's talk, illustrated by slides followed. The sound film "Eager Minds" explaining electricity and some of the work of an electric utility company was last on the service center agenda.

Following guides Bill Thomson, Fred Tenholder, and H. C. Sandefer, the teachers boarded buses and were taken to Neches Station.

Gandy H. Hall, Price Bradshaw, R. H. Henckel, N. F. Black, L. L. Landry, W. K. Haynie, Jr., and J. R. Wheeler escorted groups of the teachers through the power plant and explained its operation. Arrangements for the Neches Station tour were made with Plant Superintendent R. K. Wilkerson.

After the tour, the teachers were taken to the Harvest Club as our guests for luncheon.

W. T. Buckley Awarded High Honors

W. T. "Bill" Buckley, Beaumont Plant Accounting, last month received two high awards for community service.

The highest honor for volunteer service in Boy Scout work—the Silver Beaver Award—was presented to Mr. Buckley at the Trinity-Neches Boy Scouts Council's annual meeting last month.

The other award, Beaumont's "Most Optimistic Citizen" of the year, was given by the city's Optimist Clubs. The award, a highlight of Optimist Week, was presented at a joint meeting of the Evening Optimist Clubs and the Opti-Mrs. Clubs.

Mr. Buckley was chosen for the "Most Optimistic Citizen" honor on the basis of his more than 33 years of activity in Boy Scouting and for his other civic activities. The award was given to him for the Optimist Clubs by Mr. W. H. McMullen, executive of the Trinity-Neches Boy Scout Council.

Active In Scouting

Going through the ranks as a Boy Scout, he has been active in leadership roles ever since winning his Eagle award in 1926.



Kelsey Lamb, president of the Trinity-Neches Boy Scout Council, congratulates (left to right) Mr. Buckley, Lee A. Taylor of Colmesneil, and E. W. Tubb of Woodville, two other recipients of the Silver Beaver Award. Mr. Buckley has been active in scouting for 33 years. Altogether the three have contributed 77 years of volunteer work to the Boy Scouts.

Live Wire Club Plans Recreation Area Near Silsbee

The Live Wire Club is negotiating to lease 20 acres of land on Village Creek for a club and recreation area for Texas Gulf Staters. Proposed site is three miles west of Silsbee.

Negotiations with Southwestern Settlement and Development Corp., a division of East Texas Pulp and Paper Company, for the land have been under way for several months. Facilities at the site will be patterned along the lines of the Flying Red Horse Club and several others in the area.

Texas employees not yet contacted by the Live Wire Club who wish to have the organization explained to them can contact Don R. Clawson in the Engineering Department.

Dues have been set at five dollars per year deducted from pay quarterly.



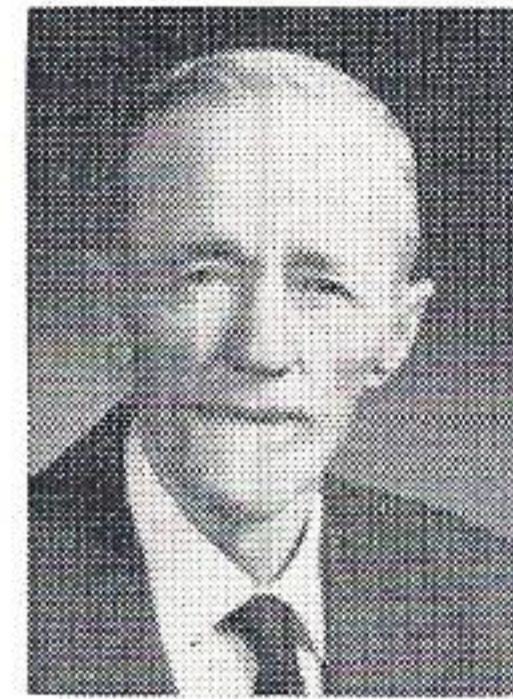
D. A. Spell of the Lake Charles garage is making plans for his share of speckled trout and redfish for the coming season come chill winds or high water. As a result of his fishing spirit, he wanted to be able to stay with the sport when most people head for shelter. He designed a cab for his boat which allows him to keep warm and dry in bad weather. Mr. Spell, who recently finished the boat remodeling job, has taken his family and several friends for cruises on Big Lake. In the picture, he is finishing up the cabin on his boat.

SERVICE AWARDS

30 Years



C. W. Choate
Local Superintendent
Anahuac



C. L. Potter, Sr.
Distribution
Beaumont



H. J. Hebert
Distribution
Port Arthur

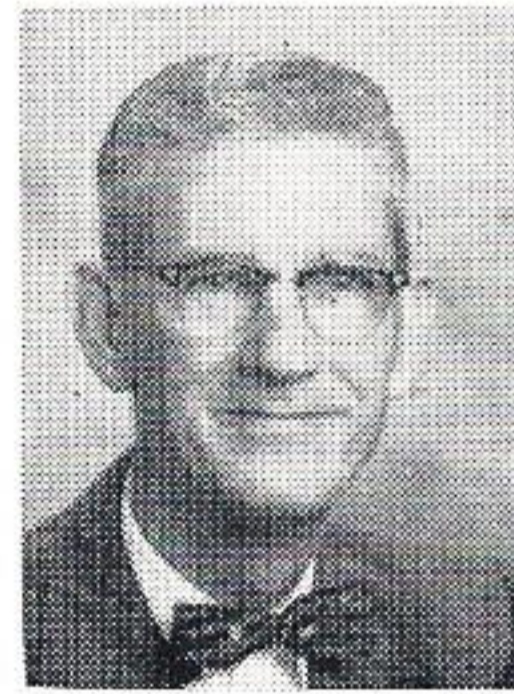
20 Years



C. J. Gary
Sales
Lafayette



S. T. Cooper
Distribution
Calvert



H. L. Berly
Engineering
Beaumont



C. J. Bonura
Engineering
Beaumont



A. D. Bonnette
Distribution
Sour Lake

10 Years



Hope M. Barnett
Accounting
Lake Charles



L. D. LeFluer
Distribution
Lake Charles



Mildred O. Nunez
Accounting
Lake Charles



C. A. LeBlanc, Jr.
Accounting
Lafayette



P. A. Broussard
Distribution
Lafayette



R. P. Smith
Distribution
Baton Rouge



C. J. Rome
Distribution
Lafayette



H. P. Trahan
Distribution
Lafayette



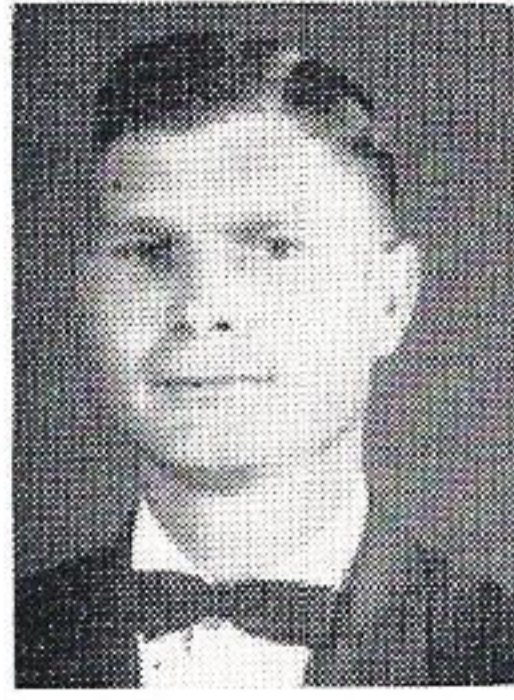
M. Heichelheim, III
Distribution
Lafayette



Allie C. Gloria
Accounting
Lake Charles



J. S. Chambers
Distribution
Baton Rouge



G. P. Guins
Distribution
Zachary



H. C. Norton
Distribution
Baton Rouge



E. A. Cowart
Gas
Baton Rouge



J. C. Melancon
Distribution
Baton Rouge



O'Dell James
Distribution
Port Arthur



J. J. Boutte
Distribution
Port Arthur



S. A. Jones
Accounting
Anahuac



R. D. Hereford
Production
Beaumont



G. H. Naquin
Production
Baton Rouge

Colored Division

30 Years



Jake Davis
Distribution
Baton Rouge

20 Years



S. L. Arceneaux
Distribution
Jennings



Julius Ross
Bldg. Maintenance
Beaumont

10 Years



Landry Sprull
Gas
Baton Rouge



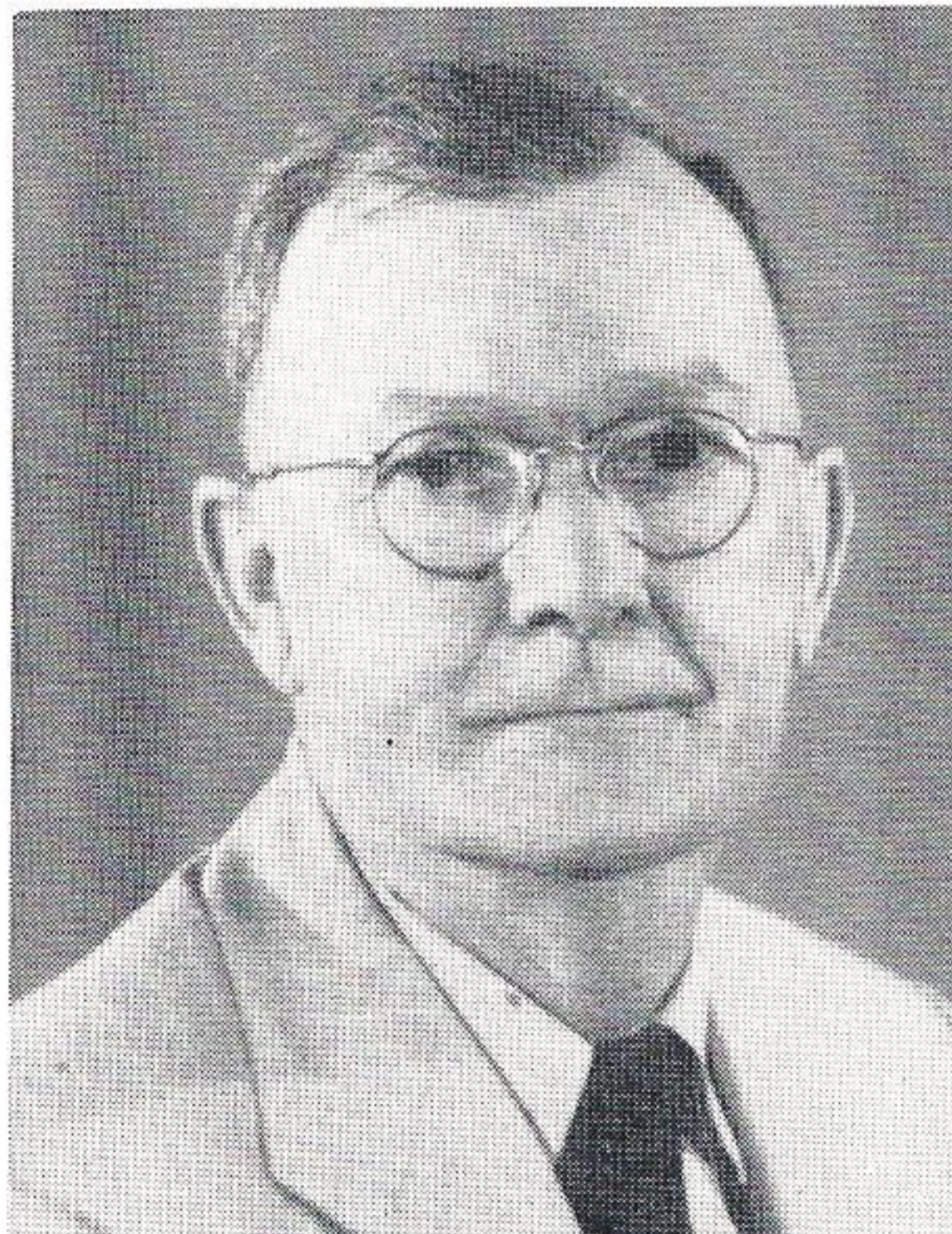
Frank Wilridge
Distribution
Lake Charles



Lemorie Slocum
Water
Lake Charles



L. M. Haynes, Baton Rouge, Becomes Annuitant



Leroy M. Haynes retired from active service as a Baton Rouge Gulf Stater on December 1, completing 12 and a half years with the Company.

Mr. Haynes was employed March 8, 1945 as a mechanic in the Baton Rouge garage department.

Born in Meridian, Mississippi in 1891, Mr. Haynes began in the automobile repair business when he was 14 years of age and has continued in the same work for 51 years.

second child — they also have a daughter. Mr. Adams is employed in the Baton Rouge T&D Line Department.

Van B. Hereford, Jr., Beaumont Accounting, became a father November 21. A girl weighing nine pounds 11 ounces, she was born in Conroe. Grandfather of the girl is **V. B. Hereford**, superintendent at Conroe.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Griffin are parents of a daughter, **Brenda Sue**, born October 26. Mr. Griffin is in the Navasota Meter Department.

Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Butler have a son, **Neiland Leroy**, born October 31. Mr. Butler is in the Beaumont Line Department.

gulf staters in the news

Wyatt Bell, residential sales representative in Liberty, served as manager of the 44th Trinity Valley Exposition. The Exposition, held during the middle of October, is jointly sponsored by Liberty and Trinity counties.

John Cornelius O'Brien of Beaumont has been named a pledge of the North Texas State College chapter of Delta Sigma Pi, international professional business fraternity. Mr. O'Brien is the son of **Cornelius M. O'Brien** who is employed at Neches Station.

Jim Braswell, Customer Accounting, and **Fred Tenholder**, Commercial Sales, are among new officers elected for 1957 by the Beaumont Young Men's Business League. Mr. Braswell will serve as treasurer and Mr. Tenholder, third vice president. **Randy McAlpine**, sales superintendent for the Beaumont Division, is the outgoing president of the Y. M. B. L.

We have a new author in our ranks, **O. G. Floyd**, director of commercial heating and cooking sales, penned an article describing how we set new records for commercial cooking loads during the past few years. The story was published in the November issue of the Hotpoint Company's Commercial Current News, along with Mr. Floyd's photograph and byline. PLAIN TALKS offers sincere congratulations to Mr. Floyd.

J. L. Osburn, Silsbee District Maintenance, will have the job of wiring what is supposed to be the tallest Christmas tree in Texas. The 50 to 60 foot tree, which will be sponsored by the citizens of Kountze, will be in honor of friends and relatives unable to be home for Christmas. Mr. Osburn will be aided in his task by local Kountze electricians.

Munger T. Ball, member of the board of directors, was named chairman of the Jefferson County Chapter of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. His election took place at the annual meeting of the local chapter, November 26, in Beaumont.

Howard E. Buschmihle, serviceman in the Baton Rouge Electric Service Department, has a daughter, **Cathryn Jan**, born October 23. She weighed six pounds 11 ounces.

Mr. and Mrs. Hank Rouse have a daughter, **Kathryn Ann**, born September 24. Grandfather of the little girl is **R. N. Rouse**, Beaumont Accounting.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert C. Faggard have a son, **Alfred Markham**, born October 17. Mrs. Faggard is in Beaumont Accounting.

A son, **William Edward**, was born to **Mr. and Mrs. John A. Prejean**, November 10. This is the third child for the Prejeans. They have two boys and one girl. Mr. Prejean is employed in the Electric Department in Baton Rouge.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Mayeaux announce the birth of their third son, **George Michael**, November 16. Mr. Mayeaux is a line foreman in the Electric Department in Baton Rouge.

Mr. and Mrs. Russell R. Gautreaux announce the birth of their third child, **Gregory Brent**, on October 20. Mr. Gautreaux is in Baton Rouge Production.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert J. Furlow announce the birth of their second son, **James Michael**, October 10. They also have one daughter. Mr. Furlow is in Baton Rouge Production Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Prothro have a son, **John Gary**, born November 7. The boy weighed ten pounds three ounces. Mr. Prothro is in the Beaumont storeroom.

Mr. and Mrs. Bobby White have a daughter, **Debra Jean**, born November 17. Mrs. White is a former employee of the Beaumont Distribution Department.

Mr. and Mrs. Claude D. Adams announce the birth of a son, **Carl Robert**, on November 21. This is the Adams'



Trying the new storeroom scales in the Port Arthur Service Center are Helen Powell, Loraine Dunham, Jo Anne Matus and Gloria Powell. From the girl's trim appearance, the scales get regular use.



W. L. Sutton, user sales manager for General Electric in Baton Rouge; E. L. Robinson, vice president and general sales manager for Gulf States; W. S. Leake, user sales department manager of Louisiana-Mississippi territory for General Electric; and C. B. Barron, division sales superintendent for our Baton Rouge Division discuss the program at the recent Industrial Productivity Forum, held in Baton Rouge. The program was presented by Gulf States and General Electric Company.

A. G. Delaroderie Wins Slogan Contest



A. G. Delaroderie, Baton Rouge Electric Department, came up with the winning safety slogan in the recent contest.

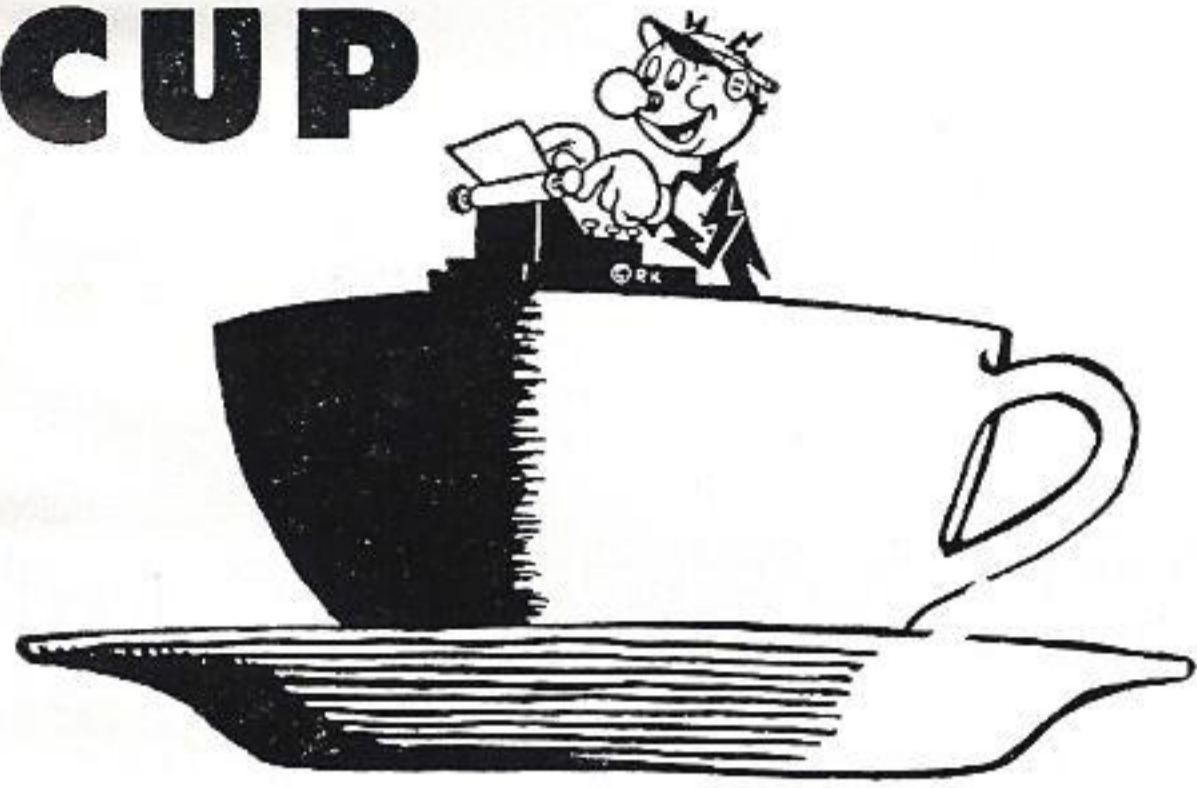
"Red Hot" is the new phrase to use when you see a fellow employee ignoring a dangerous hazard or approaching any danger area unaware.

Mr. Delaroderie has been notified of the judges decision and has received his \$25 Savings Bond, stated Frank Jones, safety director.



LoMac CARTNEY

over the COFFEE CUP



CONROE

Santa is on his way! There will be 24 youngsters and their parents attending the party to be held in Cleveland, Texas. Two of the kiddies just barely will make it, 'cause their parents, **Mrs. Jerry Lee Presnall** and **Mrs. Van Hereford**, V. B. Hereford's daughter-in-law are expecting a visit, not from Santa, but from a certain bird in the very near future.

On November 1, 1956, our local office clerk and PLAIN TALKS reporter, **Mrs. "Pet" Weisinger** was installed president of the Conroe Jaycee-ette Club. This club with thirty members, is considered the most active women's club in Conroe. They are the right hand of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, and are constantly engaged in civic projects such as the March of Dimes. Also, **Mrs. Weisinger** and her husband, **Louis**, have been named County Chairman and Co-Chairman of Montgomery County for the 1957 March of Dimes to be held in January. PLAIN TALKS congratulates them.

CLEVELAND

Roy Hudspeth, district superintendent from Cleveland and **Brent Powledge**, district serviceman, Cleveland, have returned from a recent 10-day hunting trip in Colorado.

They reported a most enjoyable time and brought back evidence of good hunting in terms of deer.

BEAUMONT

Edaleen Bean is back at work in the Billing Department after vacationing with her sister in Fort Benning, Georgia.

Clara Lackey, also of the Billing Department, and her husband, **Nelson**, toured the Middle East on their vacation — Middle East United States, that is. States covered in the tour were Kentucky, Tennessee, and Indiana.

Beatrice Rogers, Billing Department, spent her vacation caring for the children of her sister who was in the hospital with polio.

Jo Ann Criswell was honored by her co-workers in the Billing Department with a bridal shower. She will become the bride of **Cecil Cain** on January 11.

Wanda Mericle, Beaumont Accounting, married **James Fiorenza** in Saint Anthony Church on September 20.

Congratulations are in order for **Betty Ann Cooper**, former employee in the Beaumont Purchasing Department. She was married to **Thomas Burke Johnston** of New Orleans on December 1.

Texans who have been telling **G. A. Bossley**, who is a turbine engineer at Neches Station, that Cajuns couldn't understand a real Frenchman if they heard one were proven wrong recently when three Engineers from France came through our plant to watch our "Wonder Brain" in action. Except for technical terms, he made out fine. Voila!

It is good to see **C. C. Kuritz**, who is an equipment operator at Neches Station, back at work again after being off over a month due to a back injury.

J. V. Lasyon is building a beautiful new brick home in Nederland and expects to move in it in the near future.

On Thursday, November 15, 1956 at 10:00 some of the Neches Station employees' wives wrapped gifts for our annual Christmas Party. They were as follows: **Mrs. R. K. Wilkerson**, **Mrs. W. A. Whitten**, **Mrs. L. L. Landry**, **Mrs. R. F. Clark**, **Mrs. H. G. Fitzgerald**, **Mrs. T. A. Sandidge**, and **Mrs. H. G. Zahn**. **Gail Van Cleve** and **Hazel Collins**, who work in the office at Neches, also helped. That afternoon at 1:00 P. M. several more of the employees' wives met at the Assembly Hall for a party. Some of the wives played bingo while others tried their skill at cards. The refreshments were delicious, thanks to **Mrs. G. G. Hall**, **Mrs. R. H. Henckel**, **Mrs. C. R. McGrew**, and **Mrs. P. Bradshaw**. A good time was had by all.

LAKE CHARLES

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Buller are now on vacation. They are spending five days with Mrs. Buller's Uncle in Waco, Texas. The remainder of their vacation will be spent fishing and relaxing at home in Lake Charles.

Luther Riser had what we call, "Good Luck Shrimping." He only pulled in 46 lbs.

Joe Skipper of our Engineering Department is going to school again. He is going to night school at McNeese State College. He is working toward a degree in Physical Education.

Another Apprentice Linemen's School has been organized in Beaumont. **R. W. Derby**, Lake Charles line foreman, is one of the instructors. Attending from Lake Charles line crews are apprentice linemen **Forrest Miller** and **John T. Gilmore**. It is a two weeks course.

Sonny Hortsman spent part of his vacation in Oklahoma visiting his Parents. He attended the Oklahoma-Texas football game in Dallas with his girl friend the weekend of October 13.

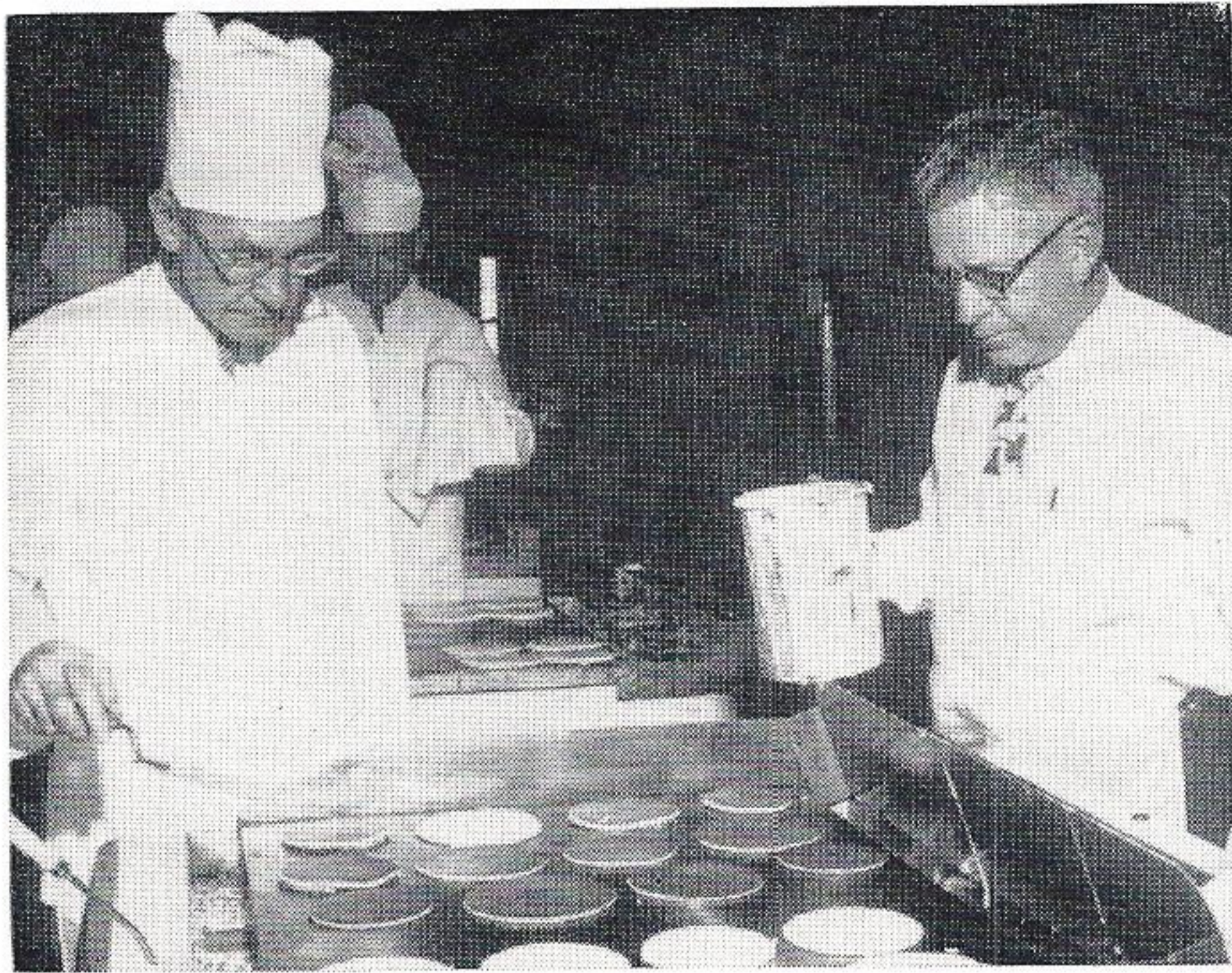
Mr. and Mrs. Stan Trahan and **Mr. and Mrs. Sam McDaniel** visited the State Fair at Dallas and the Prison Rodeo at Huntsville the weekend of October 13.

Welcome to: **Wayne Cloyd**, Electric Department; **Melvine Foreman** and **Carol May**, Accounting; and **Jimmy Mere**, Accounting.

BATON ROUGE

Miss Coleen Bolton, mail clerk in the Baton Rouge Customer Accounting Department, was married to **L. A. Donaldson**, Thanksgiving, November 22 at St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Baton Rouge. Miss Bolton joined Gulf States last Summer. Mr. Donaldson is the son of **Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Donaldson** (he's service supervisor in the Electric Department). Miss Bolton is the daughter of the late **O. K. Bolton**, long time Gulf Stater.

Miss Betty Ann Landry (PLAIN TALKS, October, 1956) and **John Watkins Huber** will exchange marriage vows December 26, at the St. Aloysius Catholic Church in Baton Rouge. Miss Landry is the daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Landry** (he is industrial sales engineer in Baton Rouge).



The annual Kiwanis Club pancake derby in Baton Rouge has gone all electric. During last month's popular affair, Gulf Staters Lester Landry, right, and Dolph McKowen, not shown, set up the electric equipment and also helped turn out flap jacks by the stack. Both are commercial sales representatives. R. O. Wheeler, superintendent of the Gas Department, and C. B. Barron, sales superintendent, also took turns at the griddle. Both are Kiwanians. A record crowd enjoyed the all day parade of pancakes, a la kilowatt.

John L. Gallup has been in the Baton Rouge General Hospital for an operation and won't be back at work for a couple of weeks. Louisiana Station Gulf Staters and friends throughout our system wish him a speedy recovery.

Seems like the 1956 DeSoto is taking the spot light at Louisiana Station. We understand that Superintendent **R. H. Lawton** and Chief Engineer **A. H. Demers** each have a new one.

In the new car field **H. G. Dupuy** has a new Pontiac and **J. L. Warmack** a new Buick.

LAFAYETTE

A very Happy Birthday to: **Cifroyen Richard, Nat Broussard, Charles Gary, William Sheets, Joyce Fournet, John Landry, John Rost, Jr., Frank Sonnier, E. Rauschenberg, Harrison Carlin, and Cynthia DuBois**, who celebrate birthdays this month.

Employees who recently enjoyed vacations were: **E. Rauschenberg, Bernard Wiltz, Elmer Sudderth, Robert Compton** and **M. M. Miller**.

Everyone was glad to see **Russell Bonnet** back on the job after a brief illness. Russell is utility man.

Sympathy is extended to: **Luther Gallet**, Lafayette serviceman, on the death of his sister; **Bernard Wiltz**, on the death of Mrs. Wiltz's brother; and **Frank Sonnier**, on the death of Mrs. Sonnier's brother.

Mr. and Mrs. Chester R. Farmer announce the birth of a son, **Stephan Paul**, who made his appearance on November 14. Chester is a line crewman.

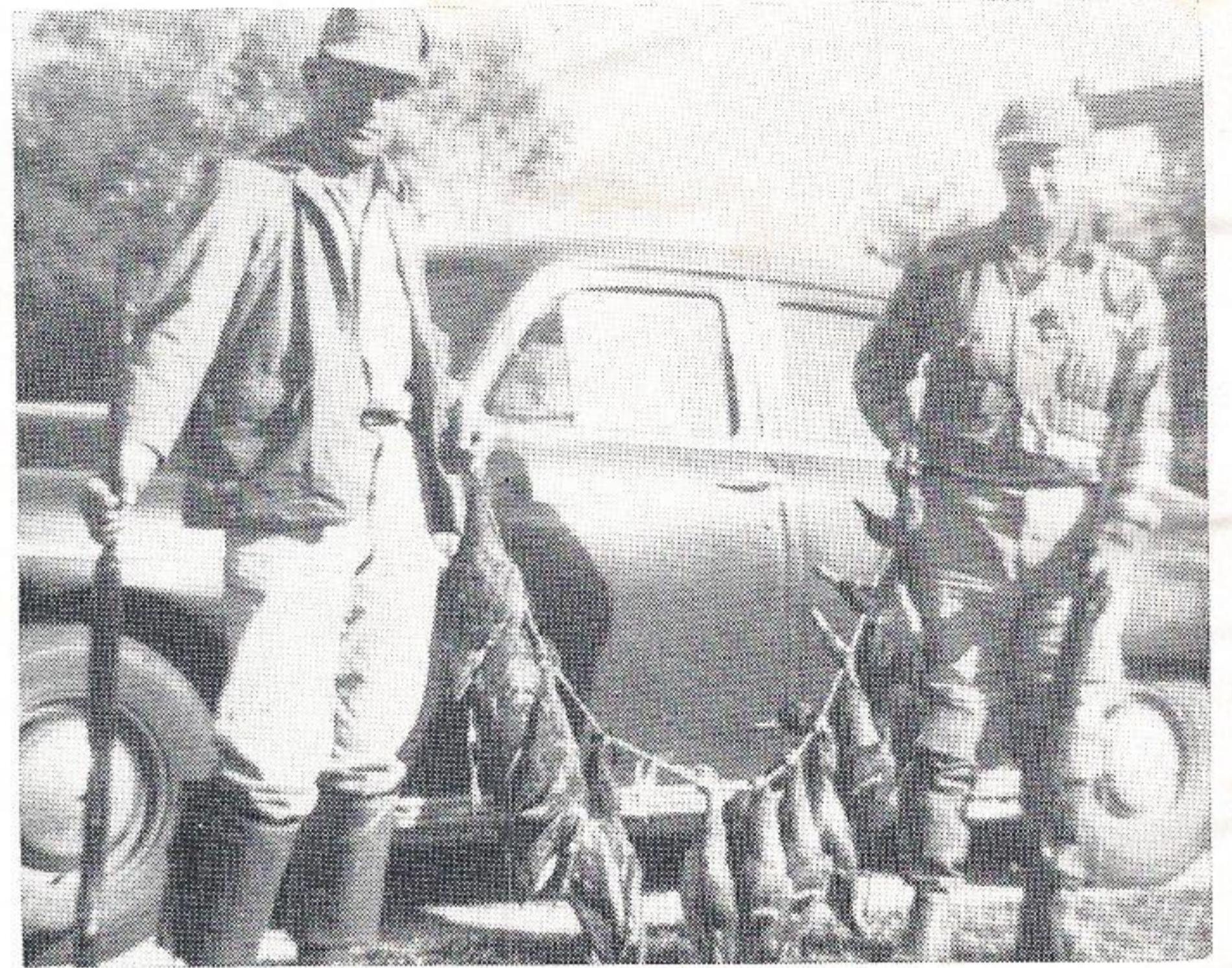
Rose Marie Mouton and **Cynthia DuBois**, departmental clerks, watched the L. S. U.-Tulane game in New Orleans on December 1.

Rose Marie Mouton proved that office girls have other talents when she modeled a very chic and stunning outfit on the local TV station recently.

Miss Jeanette LeBlanc enjoyed the Thanksgiving holidays with her fiance, **Harry Smith, Jr.**, who is a dental student at Loyola University in New Orleans. Miss LeBlanc is a customer's clerk in the Lafayette office.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank LeMire have ed to a new location at 417 West Convent St., Lafayette. He is accounting supervisor for the Lafayette office.

A farewell party was held for **Priscilla Hebert**, former T & D Department clerk and Plain Talks reporter,



Lee Broussard and **Roy L. Jowers**, both of the Beaumont Meter Department, are all smiles after what looks like a very successful duck hunt in November. Location of their blind could not be obtained for PLAIN TALKS.

who resigned to start a family. A large diaper bag filled with baby needs was presented to Mrs. Hebert by her co-workers. After the presentation of the gift, refreshments were served to the party members. Plain Talks thanks Mrs. Hebert for her help and welcomes new reporter **Cynthia DuBois**.

Miss Florine Wimberly, daughter of **Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Wimberly** of Church Point, became the bride of **Edgar Daigle**, son of **Mr. and Mrs. Jack Daigle**, also of Church Point, on Thanksgiving Day, November 22. The marriage was performed in the Sacred Heart of Mary Catholic Church in Church Point. The groom is attending S. L. I. and expects to graduate in June in Business Administration. Mrs. Daigle is a customer's clerk in the Church Point office.

Lafayette says "Hello" to new employee **George W. Taylor**. George is a native Texan who came to Louisiana in early childhood and who is now working in Lafayette on the line crew.

Congratulations to **Paul Broussard, Corbett LeBlanc, Jr., Horace Trahan,** and **C. J. Rome**, who celebrate their ten-year anniversary with Gulf States this month.

Dr. Bruce Mitchell, son of **Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Mitchell**, has returned to Lafayette after completing his medical studies at General Hospital, Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He is now serving as Anesthetist at the Lafayette Sanitarium. A. B. is the Lafayette storekeeper.

GROWING with Gulf Staters



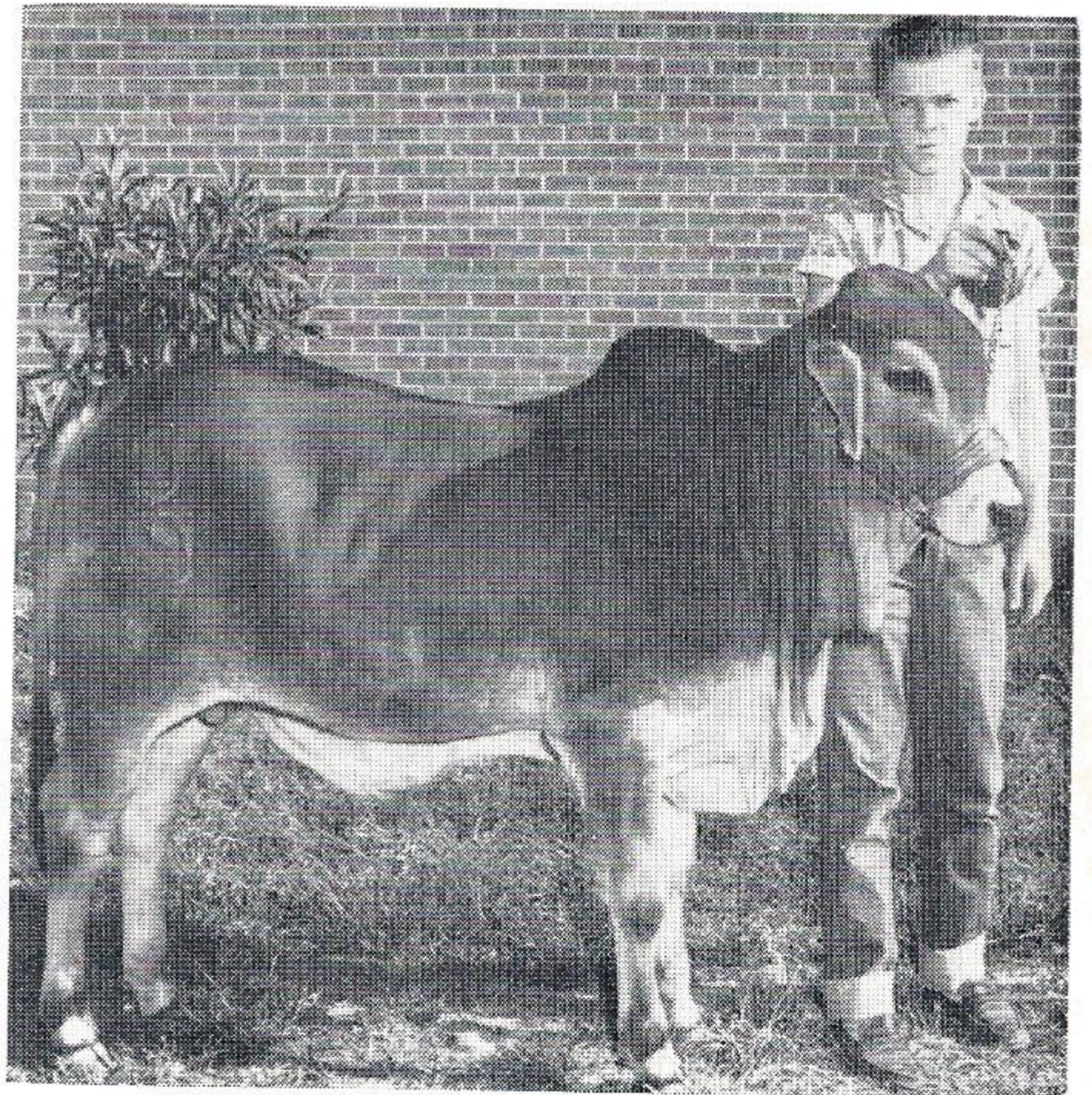
Rebecca Lynne Lopez, daughter of Lt. and Mrs. Charles R. Lopez, was born February 8, 1956 in Tucson, Arizona. Lt. Lopez, now in the Air Corps, worked for Gulf States during the summer of 1955, as a junior engineer. He is now stationed at Bergstrom Air Force Base in Austin.



Ronald Wayne Rice is hopefully looking forward to his first real Christmas. Ronald, son of George N. Rice, Jr. of Beaumont Accounting, is two and one-half years old.



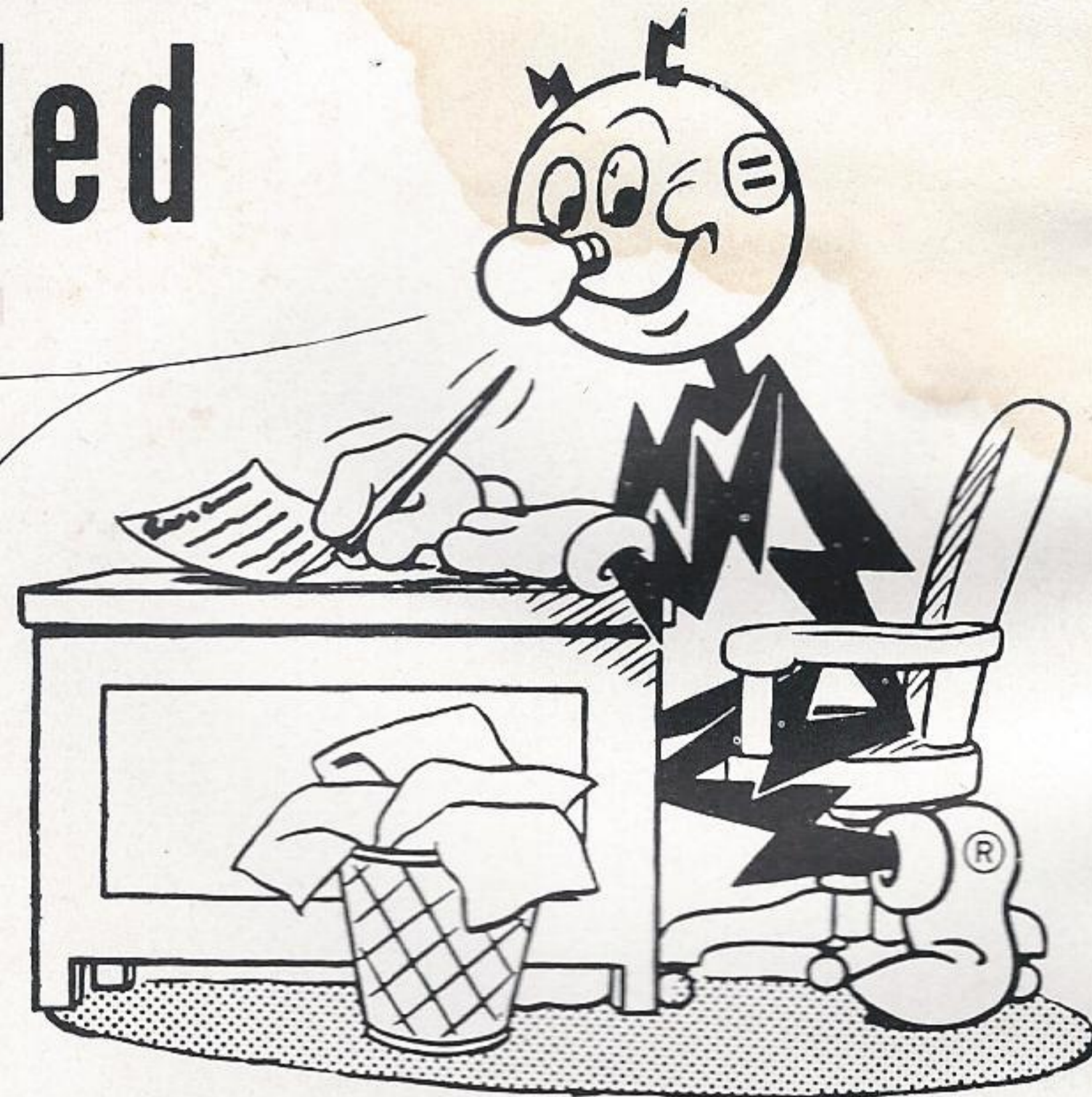
Martin Ray Mayeux, in back, and younger brother J. L. Mayeux, Jr. double up on one of the entries in a recent Baton Rouge horse show. They are the sons of J. L. Mayeux, Baton Rouge T&D Department.



Frank Robinson, Jr., son of Cleveland Commercial Salesman Frank Robinson, displays his reserve champion bull. He was awarded the championship at the recent Trinity Valley Exposition in Liberty.

It's Been Extended

Don't Wait A Minute Longer - - -
The Safety Department Has Extended
the deadline to January 15. Get
those entries in now while
you still have a chance at
these wonderful prizes.



Tell us "Why I Want My Dad To Work Safely", and get a chance
at some of these prizes.

HERE THEY ARE - - -

		FIRST PRIZE	SECOND PRIZE
GROUP 1	1st Grade thru 6th Grade	\$100 SAVINGS BOND	\$25 SAVINGS BOND
GROUP 2	7th Grade thru 9th Grade	\$100 SAVINGS BOND	\$25 SAVINGS BOND
GROUP 3	10th Grade thru 12th Grade	\$100 SAVINGS BOND	\$25 SAVINGS BOND

And here's what you do to enter - - -

Write an essay on "Why I want My Daddy to Work Safely." In case Mom works for the Company, you can write about her. We know you want your Mom and Dad to work safely. We know you want them back home every day safe and sound. Will you write and tell us why their safety means so much to you? We know you have many reasons, so let us know what they are.

All you have to do is write us your ideas. Up to 150 words for you 1st through 6th graders, up to 250 words for you 7th through 9th graders, and up to 500 words for those in the 10th through 12th grades. Words in the title not counted.

An impartial group of judges will determine the winners. Your entry will not be identified to the judges and their decision will be based on what thoughts you express and how you express them.

Now . . . let's go to work. Read the following rules, then put your ideas on paper and mail those essays.

RULES OF THE CONTEST

1. Only children of regular Gulf States Utilities Company employees may enter. Children of employees of the Safety Department or staff of PLAIN TALKS are not eligible.
2. Group 1—No less than 50 words nor more than 150 words.
Group 2—No less than 150 words nor more than 250 words.
Group 3—No less than 250 words nor more than 500 words.
3. Any kind of writing paper may be used. Pen or pencil is permissible. The essay must be in your own handwriting on one side of the paper only. Put your name, address, age and group number at the end of the essay along with your Dad's or Mom's work location.
4. Entries must be mailed to the Safety Department, Gulf States Utilities Company, Beaumont, Texas.
5. The contest period is from September 15, 1956 through December 15, 1956. Entries received after December 15 cannot be considered. All entries become the property of Gulf States Utilities Company and cannot be returned.

Contest winners will be announced in the January issue of PLAIN TALKS magazine.

