



ESSO FLEET NEWS

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ETMU and Company Begin Negotiations

Contract negotiations between representatives of the Company and the Esso Tanker Men's Union began May 4. The Union formally cancelled the present contract as of June 30. At the first meeting, held in the Port of New York Office, the Company agreed to a Union proposal that this year's contract talks be held at the Statler-Hilton Hotel, New York, with the Company paying 75 percent of the cost and the Union 25 percent. Costs of accommodations for any future negotiations off Company property will be shared equally.

Negotiators for the Union are Charles E. Gallagher, President; Howard Schulman, Attorney; Edward Derry, Port Representative, and Executive Council members Stephen Piatak, Chief Cook; Joseph S. Rose, III, Bos'n; Anthony P. Senna, Chief Cook, and John M. Jones, AB. Messrs. Jones and Senna replace Samuel W. Royal and Frederick Eimans, who have resigned from the Council. Company negotiators are Captain M. Breece and A. McKenzie, Manager and Assistant Manager, respectively, of the Port of New York Office; Port Captain A. Larson; Port Engineer T. J. McTaggart; Port Steward D. A. Hodges and L. H. Earle, Labor Relations Assistant. It is reported that the talks are progressing satisfactorily.

No State Tax Withholding For Seamen at Present

Upon advice of legal counsel, the Company will not, for the time being, withhold state income taxes from the wages of seamen who reside in Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York and Vermont - states having tax withholding provisions. The tax will be withheld, however, from a resident of the District of Columbia. Counsel also advised that later in the year the confusion as to whether an employer can legally withhold state income taxes from the wages of seamen may be clarified. Some states require withholding on non-resident seamen for work done within the state. Others require withholding on the entire wages of resident seamen, and New York also includes the value of furnished board and lodgings in the tax liability.

There is a possibility of legislation or a court ruling deciding the question of whether seamen's wages are exempt from state withholding taxes.

"Esso Shreveport" Returns To Tie-Up After Drydocking

The removal of the Esso Shreveport from the tied-up fleet to Merrill-Stevens' shipyard in Jacksonville on April 8 for eight days of drydocking, cleaning, painting and shell plate testing caused considerable speculation. Primary purpose of the examination was to check the condition of the bottom plating (as typical of all the tied-up ships) to determine how much work would be required to put a vessel back in service if an unexpected demand for tankers should develop next winter.

Outstanding Turnaround Made by "Esso Florence"

One of the most exceptional turnarounds ever made by an Esso ship was accomplished April 23 at Norfolk by the Esso Florence. She set new Norfolk records for time in berth (15 hrs.58 min.) and time from sea buoy to sea buoy (20 hrs.30 Min.). The previous lows of 16 hrs.31 min. in berth and 21 hrs.54 min., sea buoy to sea buoy, were established by the Esso New York on April 6.

What makes the ship's performance truly outstanding is the fact that she discharged seven grades of cargo (kerosene, jobber gas base, Varsol, Essoheat Medium and three grades of gasoline), while the previous records were made during the discharge of four grades. And the Esso Florence only missed by 2 bph. tying the best previous discharge rate - 17,317 bph. - also set by the Esso New York on April 6.

Deck officers during the Esso Florence's record-breaking performance were Rupert W. Gwaltney, Master; Thomas A. Jacobs, Chief Mate; Robert F. Stap, Second Mate; Howard Hodgson, Third Mate, and John F. Riley, Jr. Third Mate. Pumpman was Willard W. Mitchell and Maintenance Mechanic/Second Pumpman, William E. Bailey.

Personalities

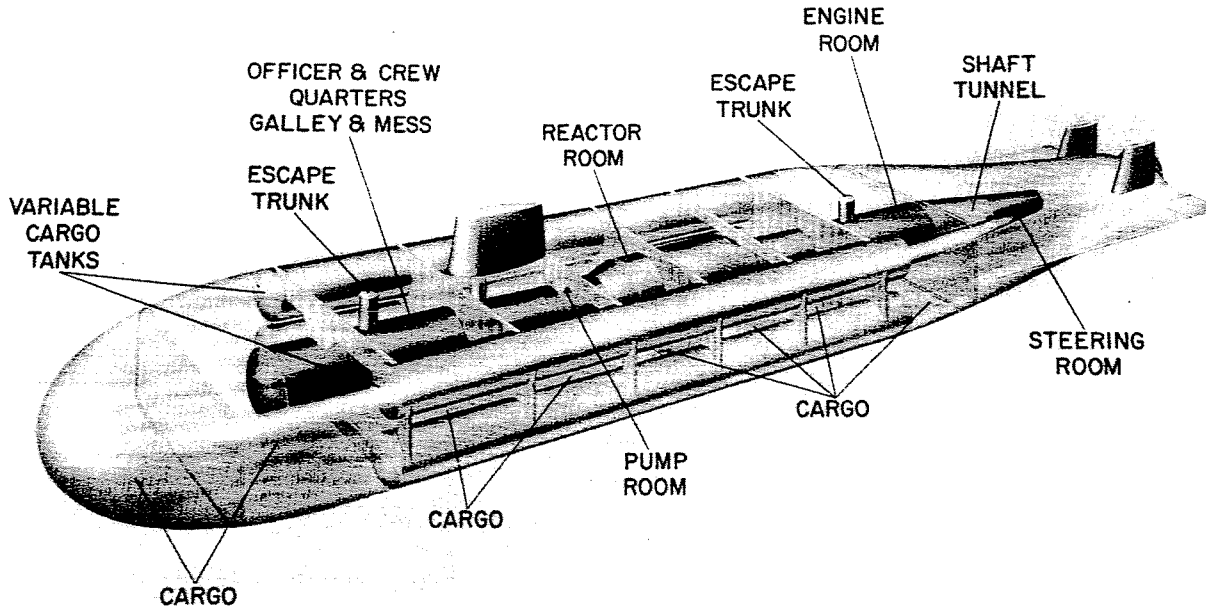
Former Purser/Pharmacist's Mate ARTHUR W. SPRAGUE, whose Company service totals 34 years, has accepted a position in the Ships' Payroll Section at 156 William St. ... JOSEPH WEAVER, who was senior Purser in the fleet, was presented with a gold wristwatch by members of the Esso Huntington's crew when he left the ship on April 30. Mr. Weaver served aboard that vessel since her conversion to a lube oil ship in 1957 and previously he and many members of the Esso Huntington's crew were shipmates in the Esso Brooklyn. ... DALE N. BAKER, ex-Purser in the Esso Havana, writes that he received a "happy surprise" on May 2 when Captain William N. Sims presented him with a "good luck wish" and purse on behalf of the ship's officers and crew. Mr. Baker extended his "sincere appreciation to the Esso Havana boys".

FWT BERNARDO CASTRO retired April 16 and First Assistant Engineer EDMUND E. SCHOONMAKER joined the annuitant ranks May 1. Before his retirement Mr. Schoonmaker was Advisory First Assistant aboard the Esso La Salina.

M. G. GAMBLE, E. L. STEWART and J. A. BRADY are new shoreside annuitants. Mr. Gamble, who retired May 1, was General Manager of Jersey's Marine Department and President of Esso Shipping Company from 1945 to 1958 and a Consultant to the Jersey Board during the last year of his 39-year Company career. Mr. Stewart, with 38½ years' service, was Special Assistant to the President of Esso Tankers, Inc. on his retirement April 1. He devoted nearly all of his working life to planning and supervising the construction of tankers for Jersey affiliates. Mr. Brady, retiring May 1 with 38 years of service, was a "finance man" from beginning to end. His last position was Special Assistant to the Comptroller of Esso Tankers, Inc.

Jersey Dividend, Earnings

The Jersey Standard Board of Directors has declared a quarterly dividend of \$.55 a share, payable June 10 to shareholders of record May 11. The Company also announced that earnings for the first quarter of 1959 totaled \$167 million, an increase of 14 percent over the first three months of 1958.



Contract Let for Submarine Tanker Design Studies

A contract has been awarded to the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics Corp. to prepare sketches and test models of a nuclear powered submarine tanker, such as the one shown above. Models of the tanker, which is expected to be 20,000 dwt. and have a speed of 20 knots, will be tested in the Stevens Institute of Technology model basin. If the problems of design, manning, safety and navigation can be overcome, according to a spokesman for the Maritime Administration, an undersea vessel of this type would be immune to bad weather and would have greater protection in wartime.

Section Chiefs to Visit Ships, Discuss Problems

P. J. McEwan, Chief of the Seagoing Personnel Section, and J. W. Bennett, Ships' Payroll Section Chief, left New York aboard the Esso Gettysburg last week to begin a month-long series of visits to Company ships. Working from the Baton Rouge Agency Office, Messrs. McEwan and Bennett will meet vessels at Texas and Louisiana ports to observe the effects of, and discuss problems connected with, the new payroll procedures and allocation of clerical work aboard ship. They expect to go aboard most of the ships in the fleet during their trip.

Obituary

HENRY A. MEYER, who completed nearly 35 years with the Company before his retirement in 1957, died May 9 at his home in Miami, Fla. Funeral services were held May 14 in Roselle, N. J. Mr. Meyer is survived by his wife and 11 children. He began his seagoing career in December, 1932 as Wiper in the F. Q. Barstow and sailed as Chief Engineer for 11½ years before his retirement. ... Funeral services for JOSEPH A. CLARK, who died May 8 in Curacao, N. W. I., were held May 13 in Saddle Brook, N. J. Burial was in Calvary Cemetery, Queens, N.Y. At the time of his death Mr. Clark was a Repair Inspector with Esso Tankers, Inc. He served in the fleet from 1924 to 1941, advancing from Oiler to Chief Engineer, and before joining Esso Tankers, Inc. he was a Repair Inspector with the Marine Department and Esso Shipping Company. He is survived by his wife and son.

Steward's Department Notes The Port Steward's office is continually investigating the merits of new and improved varieties of foods for the fleet. Under test aboard several vessels at present are "portion cut" steaks, a different brand of pork sausage, prepared meat and cheese ravioli, a new assortment of cold cut meats for night lunches and better preserves and jellies. Should these viands be deemed pleasing to the taste and friendly to the digestion, they will be made regular stores items.

Messmen assigned to the Esso Washington and Esso Gettysburg will be interested to note the installation of electric dish washing machines when the vessels return to service after their annual overhaul. The Washington rejoined the fleet on May 16 and the Gettysburg is scheduled for early June.

Port Steward D. A. Hodges recently coordinated an unusual "mass transfer" of crew members from one ship to another. He arranged transportation for about 20 unlicensed men from the Esso Gloucester, which had just entered a Mobile, Ala., shipyard for overhaul, to the Esso Zurich, preparing to leave Jacksonville, Fla., after her annual repair period. For convenience, the move was made by chartered bus and the men are being paid the difference between first class rail transportation and bus fare. Leaving Mobile at 8 o'clock on the morning of April 29, the group ate "on the road" and arrived in Jacksonville at 7 p.m. the same day. "Everyone agreed that it was a very enjoyable trip," reported Mr. Hodges, "and the weather was perfect."

New Atlas Auto Tire A new automobile tire, the Atlas Bucron, went on sale at Esso dealers on May 15. Made of Butyl synthetic rubber, developed by Esso Research, the new tire was hailed as a sensational advance after extensive tests. The Atlas Bucron gives a smoother, quieter ride, is squeal-proof and has exceptional stopping power and skid resistance.

On the Sick List	The following were reported on the sick list since the last issue of ESSO FLEET NEWS:
USPHS-BALTIMORE, MD.	Theophile Stubbe, AB, <u>Esso Newark</u>
USPHS-BRIGHTON, MASS.	John P. Gomes, Wiper, <u>Esso Jamestown</u> , and Jose M. Lopes, OM, <u>Esso Florence</u>
USPHS-STAPLETON, S.I.	Antone P. Lobo, UM, <u>Esso Lexington</u> , and Rudolph Taylor, UM, <u>Esso Washington</u>
At Home	George S. Mathis, AB, <u>Esso New Orleans</u> ; Siro Plebani, OS, <u>Esso New York</u> ; Mitchell McEwan, Oiler, <u>Esso Lexington</u> ; Joseph C. Belangia, FWT, <u>Esso Florence</u> ; Billie E. Harkleroad, FWT, <u>Esso Scranton</u> ; Joseph J. Annapolin, Wiper, <u>Esso Gettysburg</u> , and Salvador F. Razo, Wiper, <u>Esso Bangor</u>

We are happy to report that the following have been discharged from the hospital: Robert C. Heyman, AB; Peter J. Jablonski, DM; Albert Garcia, OS; William H. Bricka, Wiper; Luca DeStasi, OM; Clyde E. Rinker, POM; Samuel A. Sears, POM, and Andres Ortega, UM.