

ESSO FLEET NEWS

PUBLISHED BY THE MARINE DEPARTMENT, HUMBLE OIL & REFINING COMPANY



Vol. 8, No. 8

April 21, 1966

SELF-RENEWAL

In these excerpts from an address by Dr. John W. Gardner* you will find stimulating thoughts which, if you can act upon them, will lead you to a richer, more satisfying life.

Man is a contradictory creature. He can win against great odds and he can lose when everything is in his favor. He is beginning to feel safe in outer space but he doesn't yet feel safe with his fellow man. He is master of his physical environment but not yet master of himself.

Why do some people go to seed? Why do some men grow old before their time? We all know men who are old at the age of thirty—a friend of mine calls them young fogies. And all of us know men who remain young in spirit to the end of their days. How can we account for such differences?

I am going to outline for you some of the characteristics of self-renewing individuals.

Self-renewing people are versatile and adaptive. They are not trapped in the techniques, procedures, and routines of the moment. They are not fully imprisoned by fixed habits and attitudes.

How long is it since you have developed a new interest? How long since you've made a new friend? How long since you've gotten into an argument with someone of fundamentally differing views and come away thinking that the other fellow was right? It should happen occasionally even with the wisest of us.

**Dr. Gardner is Secretary of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. At the time he made this talk (before the General Assembly of Telephone Pioneers) he was President of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and a director of the New York Telephone Co. He is the author of 2 much-discussed books, EXCELLENCE and SELF RENEWAL.*

For the self-renewing person, the development of his own potentialities and the process of self-discovery never end. It is sad but true that most human beings go through life only partially aware of the full range of their abilities. It is even sadder, and perhaps truer, that self-knowledge, the beginning of wisdom, is ruled out for most people by the increasingly effective self-deception they practice as they grow older. By middle age, most of us are accomplished fugitives from ourselves.

One of the reasons why mature people learn less than young people is that they are willing to risk less. They do not like failure, and learning is a risky business. But the self-renewing individual doesn't mind a failure now and then as long as he is learning and growing. He is always exploring his own capacities, always trying new things.

How long is it since you have failed at anything? If it is long, you

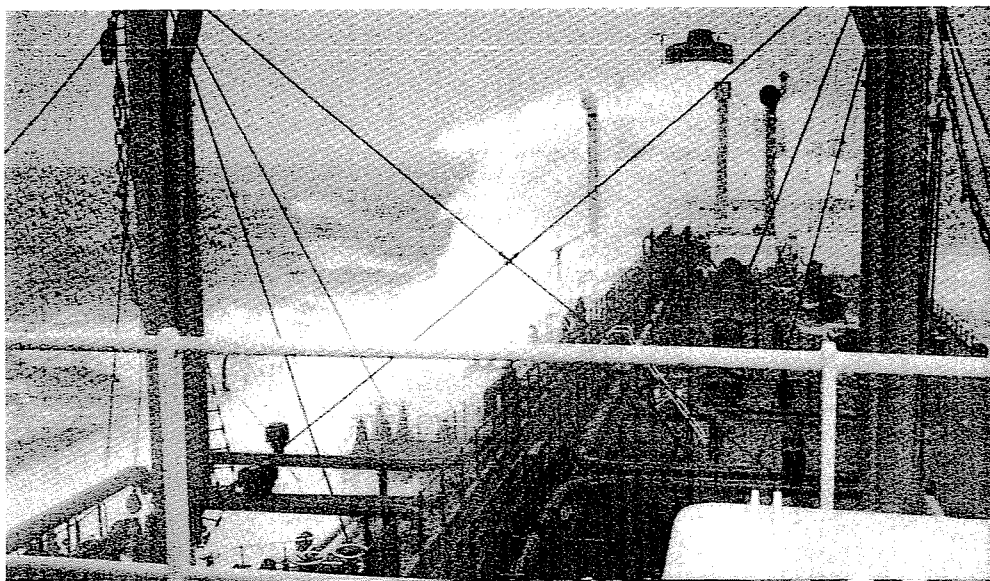
are in poor shape. If you are sufficiently adventurous, sufficiently willing to try new things, you will stumble fairly often. It is the price of growth.

Self-renewing people have mutually fruitful relations with other human beings. They are capable of accepting love and capable of giving it—both more difficult achievements than is commonly thought. And what has that to do with self renewal? The man or woman who is incapable of accepting love or of giving it is imprisoned, cut off from a great part of the world of experience.

The distinctive thing about our dealings with human beings is that we not only react to our environment, in some measure we *create* our environment. The person who craves a quarrel creates circumstances in which a quarrel is inevitable. People who meet friendliness wherever they go are probably doing much to produce that friendliness. Thus we really do create our own climate. The power of that truth to change our lives is seldom grasped.

Self-renewing people are highly motivated and respect the sources

This picture isn't very suggestive of spring—even though it was taken Mar. 31, 11 days after the season became official. But then, this was off Hatteras, where weather pays scant heed to calendar. The ship is the *Esso Washington* and the photographer who caught her after house wreathed in spray with a new Polaroid is Chief Mate Bert Christensen.



of their own energy and motivation. They have the priceless quality of enthusiasm. They know how important it is to believe in what they are doing.

Now obviously all of us cannot spend all of our time pursuing our deepest convictions. But everyone, either in his career or in his after-work activity, should be doing something about which he cares deeply, something that is related to his deepest values.

Life is an endless unfolding, and if we wish it to be, an endless process of self-discovery, an endless and unpredictable dialogue between our own potentialities and the life

situations in which we find ourselves. It is not a puzzle that has a solution. It is not a riddle that has a definite answer. It is not a game that has a definite point at which you win or lose.

We are engaged in an endless exploration of our own potentialities and the potentials of the circumstances in which we find ourselves. And by potentialities I mean not just intellectual gifts but the full range of one's capacities for learning, sensing, wondering, understanding, loving, and aspiring.

Now if someone were to ask me, "Why bother with all this? Why even try to be a self-renewing per-

son?" one answer — and a very good one — would be, "Just because vitality is better than stagnation, because growth is better than decay. As a self-renewing person you will live life more fully, and with greater awareness." But there's an even more meaningful answer. As a self-renewing person you will be better able to serve whatever values and ideals you cherish — whether they are religious values, devotion to loved ones or service to the community. And you will serve your country better. The renewal of this nation depends on the capacity for renewal of the individuals who make it up, and that means you and me and the family next door.

Baton Rouge Refinery to be Enlarged

The Company's Baton Rouge Refinery, already one of the 4 largest in the world, is to have still more capacity. Expansion and modernization of the No. 10 pipe still, a crude oil distillation unit, will increase the plant's processing capacity from 380,000 to 415,000 b/d.

The other 3 refineries capable of processing more than 400,000 b/d are the Lago refinery in Aruba, Iranian Oil Co. at Abadan and Creole's plant at Amuay, Venezuela.

Construction of the new Baton Rouge project is now in progress and completion is set for the first half of 1967.

RECENT RETIREMENTS

OILER JOSEPH P. DONOVAN, JR. joined the Company as Wiper in the *Fred W. Weller* on Sept. 17, 1947, after South Pacific service in the Navy during World War II. He advanced to FWT in Jan. 1949 and sailed as Oiler from April 1954 until his retirement, April 1. His credited service totals 18 years, 4 months.



A native of Massachusetts, Mr. Donovan is a resident of Hyde Park, a suburb of Boston.

SECOND COOK GERSON G. WOOLF, senior Second Cook in the Fleet, retired April 1, with 17 years, 10 months of credited service. Except for 3 assignments as Messman in 1949, he always sailed as Second Cook. His first ship was the *J. A. Mo-winckel*, in Jan. 1948 and his most recent, the *Esso Newark*.

Mr. Woolf is a native of Boston and lives in Mattapan, Mass.

FLASH - Esso Jamestown (Captain Harold L. Sholes, Chief Engr. William A. Dundon) enroute from New Haven to Baton Rouge, was diverted to Port Everglades April 19 to clear for a foreign voyage. She will load an MSTC cargo at Aruba about April 23 for discharge in the Far East - probably Guam or maybe Okinawa.

Original Licenses

IRVY H. EBANKS — Third Mate, 4/8/66

FRED H. LOYD, JR. — Second Asst. Engr., 4/7/66

Those Dues Deductions

There seems to be some confusion about union dues deductions on the new pay vouchers. There are 2 columns under "Deductions" on the voucher. One is headed "Current" and the other "Year to Date." When a dues deduction is first made, it appears in both columns. In following vouchers the same amount will appear in the Year to Date column but that doesn't mean there has been another deduction. It's the original deduction, which is carried forward to the end of the year. It only increases when another dues deduction is shown in the "Current" column.

TAFFRAIL TALK

ED COLE, who handles assignments and "dis-assignments" of Radio Officers, Chief Stewards and Cooks in the Seagoing Personnel Section, is doing "very well" after an operation, April 12, to remove a cataract from his left eye. He had one removed from his right eye three weeks before.

* * *

A 2-lb. box of candy with a note "Happy Easter — from the officers and crew of the *Esso Lima*" was left at the Seaman's Center in Baytown early this month. The result was about 50,000 calories

ESSO FLEET NEWS is published for the seagoing employees of the Marine Department, Humble Oil & Refining Co.: Joseph Andrae, General Manager; Sydney Wire, Assistant General Manager.

W. E. Gardner, Editor.

Contributions and suggestions are invited and should be addressed to The Editor, ESSO FLEET NEWS, Humble Oil & Refining Co., P. O. Box 1512, Houston, Texas 77001.

of appreciation. "It's the first time anyone has done anything like this for us," Mrs. A. V. Bloom, leader of the Center, said.

And speaking of generosity, 8 vessels in the Fleet have made donations of \$100 or more to the American Merchant Marine Library Association's 1966 campaign. The list is as follows:

Esso Florence	\$152	Esso Gettysburg	\$118
Esso Washington	151	Esso Lima	105
Esso Baltimore	129.50	Esso Dallas	101
Esso Lexington	119.50	Esso Scranton	100

There was a ripple of excitement aboard the *Esso Newark*, April 18, when the men heard that their next port after New Haven would be Aruba. "Haven't seen Aruba in a long time," was the general reaction. Actually, the loading port may be Aruba or it may be Amuay. The cargo will be jet fuel — part of the 3 million bbls. to be trans-

ported for the Government — for discharge at Searsport, Maine, about May 8.

OBITUARY

RAMON PINEIRO, retired Third Asst. Engr., died March 15, 12 days before his 70th birthday. Surviving are his wife Candelaria; 4 sons and a daughter, aged 31 to 8.



Born in Spain, Mr. Pineiro went to sea in 1917 as a coal passer and sailed with the Morgan Line and Gulf Oil before joining Esso in Oct. 1924 as Oiler in the *Loki*. Of his 28 years in the Fleet, he served 11 in the *J. A. Moffett, Jr.* and the last 6 before his retirement (Jan. 1958) as Third and Second Asst. in the *Esso Augusta*. He lived in Staten Island, N. Y.

Safety Awards

Marine Department Certificates of Safety were presented last month to the *Esso Chester* and *Esso Florence*, 2 of the 6 vessels which earned the

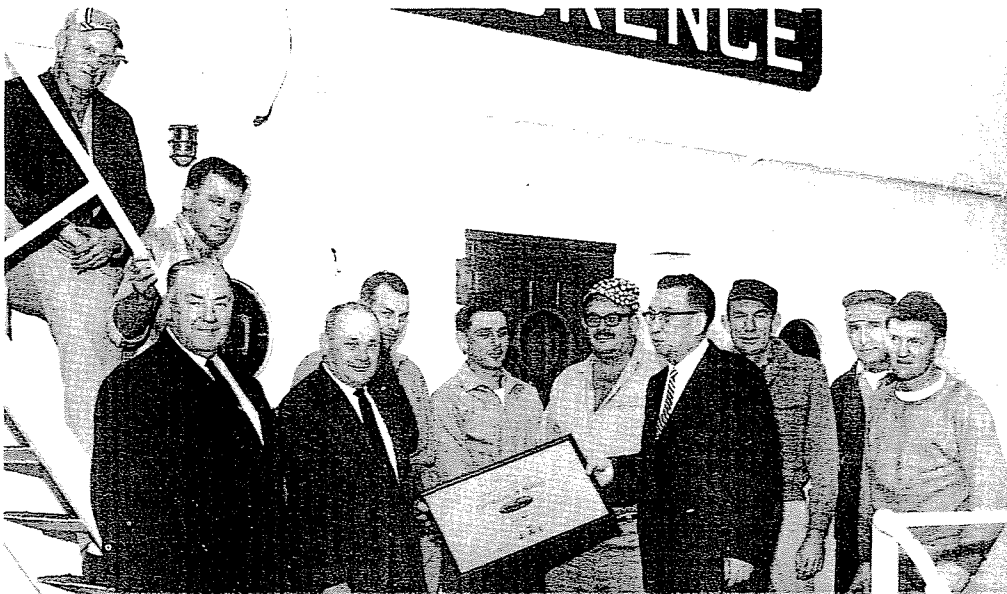
award for operating through 1965 without an accident resulting in lost time or sick leave. This was the 3rd consecutive year that the *Chester* has received the honor — and that's

a record no other ship in the Fleet has equaled. The *Chester* is also working toward a 4-year Jones F. Devlin Award and the *Florence* will receive a 2-year Devlin certificate.

ESSO CHESTER, New York, March 31, l. to. r.: Third Asst. Joseph J. Cabral; MM/2P Roy G. Stanley; Second Mate Albert M. Scara; Captain C. Paul Sperl (behind stanchion); RO Earle J. Schlarb; Chief Cook Joel R. Teixeira; Chief Steward Lester E. Eckert; AB Ian G. Harrison; Chief Mate Edward Crawford; Third Mate Edmund J. Sabowski; Second Cook Fernando A. Ferreira; A. Giallorenzi, Manager, New York Branch Office; AB Kolbjorn Hansen; AB Walter F. Hartis; Captain James A. Mercer; UM James B. Hedgepeth; OS Arthur W. Hawkins; AB Leo J. Grau; Third Mate Jack T. Stillman, and OS Vernon B. Parrott.



ESSO FLORENCE, Baton Rouge, March 12, l. to r.: OS James E. Hyman; Third Mate Oscar A. Jensen; Oiler Walter D. Borden; Captain S. V. Gardner, Manager, Baton Rouge Branch Office; First Asst. Richard E. Lewis; MM/2P Andrew L. Reis; Chief Mate Charles H. Parker; Captain Clarence S. Lee; Third Mate Walter L. Parker; AB Angel R. Meraz, and AB Ernest R. Gamble.



A Fine Hand at Handiwork

By AB BILL TYRA

Author of *Capitolizing in Baton Rouge*, *My Day at the Fair*, *Suez to Philadelphia*, and other articles.

One of the many talented men sailing in the Esso Fleet is FWT Donald Smith*, one of my shipmates in the *Esso New York* recently. His varied talents and works of art were so intriguing to me, I thought perhaps you might enjoy reading about them.

I spent several hours with Donald, watching him work and looking at his creations. "Creative" is the one word that best describes his hobbies. He is primarily a sculptor but his skills also include carving, painting and knot work.

Most of the materials used by this artist are obtainable aboard ship from salvaged waste and discards. He makes use of bits and scraps of paper, wire, lead, brass, wood — almost anything than can be transformed or re-shaped.

He displayed several figurines and 2 decorative wooden hammers carved from the core of a discarded mooring line reel. These curved center pieces are ideal for his carvings because of the texture, grain and absence of knots.

Another object was a carved wooden acorn that looked real

**Don joined the Fleet in Feb. 1947 and has been FWT since Feb. 1949. He is married, lives in Philadelphia.*

FWT Donald Smith and some of his artistic creations. Among them are paintings on black velvet, hand-made wooden mallets, whale's teeth, carved statuettes, hammered lead masks, a plaster brick and the skeleton for another statue.

enough to tempt the most discriminating squirrel. This was a "thinking piece," any small object that a person can hold in one hand and fidget or toy with while in deep thought — as a substitute for doodling, perhaps. Other than a chunk of wood, the only equipment Don uses in his carvings is a pocket knife and a piece of sandpaper.

In his metal sculpturing he uses anything malleable or bendable, shaping it with his hands into attractive, or sometimes unattractive figurines and statuettes. He showed me an assortment of his creations in lead and copper and explained his technique in making them. He holds a flat sheet of lead in one hand and raps and taps it with one of the wooden mallets until the lead is formed into whatever he intends it to be. Usually he lets the finished product corrode or oxidize for a while, giving it an appearance of being an artifact of a bygone era. Occasionally he uses black shoe polish to dull a lustrous finish, as he did the lovely lead figurine he gave me.

Another way Don expresses his artistic abilities is in plaster of Paris — a whitish powder with some of the characteristics of cement. The powder is mixed with water and applied with a spoon, stick and

brush to a prefabricated skeleton made of wire or other hardware. This is allowed to harden before other layers are daubed on until the desired form is achieved.

A different method Don uses is to cast plaster bricks by filling a milk carton with plaster. After it hardens, he removes the brick from the carton and carves it the same as a block of wood. To prevent chipping while carving, the plaster is kept wet by dunking it in a basin of water.

Donald also likes to work with whales' teeth and had 5 or 6 with him. On one he had just completed an engraving of a compass rose and had sketched a "Moby Dick" scene for another. Whale tooth art, or scrimshaw, is becoming a lost art, possibly because it is such a hard substance to work with. But hard or not, Don uses only his pocket knife and scrapes, scratches and scores until his design is etched into the tooth. He prefers to leave his ivories in their natural state, polishing them to bring out the rich creamy color but never painting them.

Just before I got off the *New York* for paid leave, Don bought a few yards of black velvet on which he intended to try something new in abstract painting. He was also learning to play a guitar.

As for future plans, he says he hopes some day to open a hobby shop in Nantucket, Mass. And I am looking forward to being on a ship again with Don, the man with many talents among many talented men sailing under the Esso oval.

