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**XMAS
1949**

UBOTIMES

After our first year of happy
association with the employees
of the company & their families,
my wife & I send to everyone
our best wishes for a Merry
Christmas & a Happy New Year.
W. W. Waddell



Christmas Greetings

UBOTIMES

THE HOUSE MAGAZINE OF
THE UNITED BRITISH OILFIELDS OF TRINIDAD LIMITED
TRINIDAD — BRITISH WEST INDIES

VOL. 2 No. 5

ISSUED QUARTERLY

DECEMBER, 1949.

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Around The Departments

Once again the festive Christmas Season is upon us and Trinidad will celebrate with the rest of the Christian world the Birth of our Lord. Christmas, despite the many changes which it has undergone in the course of the centuries, is still the most popular festival in the world. Essentially, it is the festival of childhood—the one day in the year that children dream of, the older folks plan for.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all!

* * *

Point Fortin was honoured on October 25th by a visit from Lord Listowel, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs. Owing to the limited time at his disposal, Lord Listowel was only able to remain in Point Fortin for a few hours but the opportunity was taken to show him the Hospital, Industrial Training School and Hostel, housing facilities, Clubs, etc., and he expressed himself as very agreeably surprised at the amenities he found here.



Lord Listowel, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, talking to Apprentice F. W. Hamid during inspection of the Industrial Training School. Also seen in this picture are Mr. J. B. Kay, Mr. J. Grant, Lord Listowel's Secretary, Mr. B. Sanders (Training Supervisor), and Mr. Foster (Government Petroleum Technologist)

Referring to the Industrial Training Scheme, Lord Listowel thought the Company had shown great foresight and enterprise and had provided an example for the rest of Trinidad to follow.

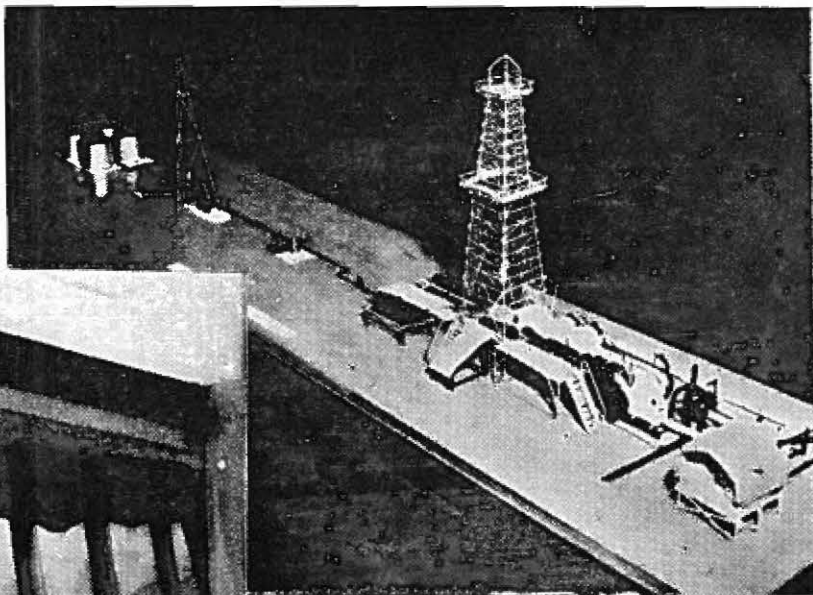
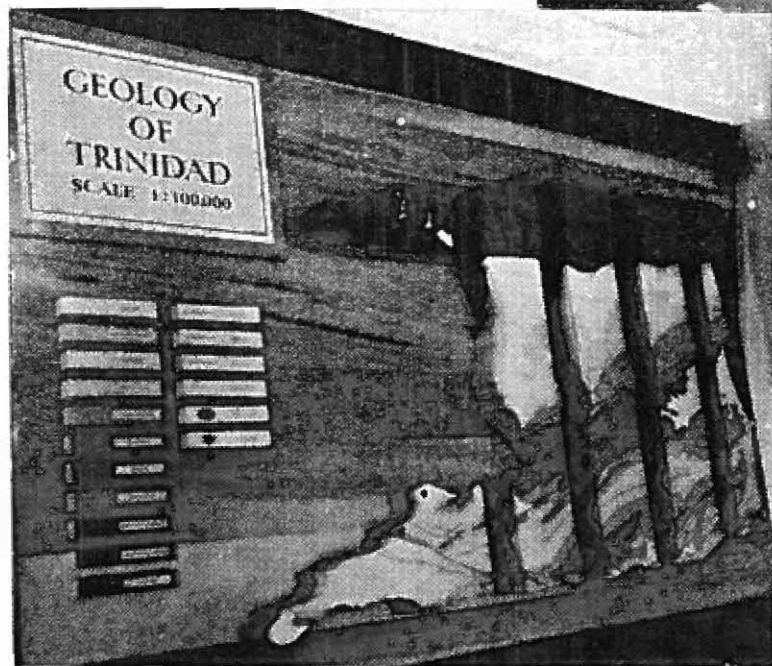
We regret to announce the death of Mr. H. Mercer of the Watchmen Service, and extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. O. Trotman and Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Tom, of the M. and O. Section, on the birth of a daughter (Ann Jacqueline) and son respectively.

* * *

Mr. F. Hackett of the M. & O. Section, was married recently to the former Miss Sybil Sotilleo of Fyzabad. The wedding took place at the Oropouche R. C. Church and a reception was afterwards held at the home of the bride's parents. Congratulations and best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. Hackett.

The model drilling and production wells made by Mr. J. P. Scott and the model showing the geology of Trinidad which were on exhibition at the 1949 Trinidad Trade Fair.



Recent Staff changes in the EXD include the transfer of Mr. P. A. Taylor to another Group area. Mr. C. A. Dimitriu has taken over the duties formerly assigned to Mr. Taylor and we take this opportunity of welcoming him to the Land of the Humming Bird. Mr. J. A. Dorenbos Jnr. has joined the Company as Mud Assistant and Mr. W. Prachner has returned from long leave.

We should like to take this opportunity of expressing our thanks to Mr. P. A. Taylor for the invaluable assistance he rendered as one of the Technical Editors of UBOTIMES.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Grant of the Refinery Engineering Section, on the birth of a daughter, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Bartholomew of the C. & C.E. Section, also on the birth of a daughter, and to Mr. and Mrs. T. Arismendez of the Materials Department, on the birth of a son. The latter has been named Ronald Wilfred.

* * *

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. C. K. Neckles of the Penal Engineering Department, on the recent death of his mother which occurred in Grenada.

* * *

His colleagues in the Labour and Welfare Department have asked us to extend their congratulations to Mr. C. McLean at having been selected to play

between the uprights in the football match against the touring British Guiana team and for the magnificent display of goalkeeping to which he treated the "fans".

* * *

The Trinidad Trade Fair for 1949 held in Port-of-Spain from October 1st to October 16th was notable for the stand furnished by Messrs. Shell Leaseholds Distributing Co., Ltd., and the Petroleum Marketing Co., (W.I) Ltd. At the outset it was intended that this stand should be something more than a glorified shop window. The Companies concerned wanted to show something that would be interesting and at the same time make the ordinary folk of Trinidad realise how important oil was to the economy of their island. With this object in mind, the stand showed, broadly speaking, the story of the production and refining of oil in Trinidad. U.B.O.T. Ltd. provided a geological map cut into sections which not only showed the geological make-up of the surface, but also clearly depicted what went on down under. A model pumping well, flowing well, and production storage station, made by Mr. J. P. Scott, a member of U.B.O.T.'s Drilling Staff, was also exhibited and proved a great attraction. Messrs. Trinidad Leaseholds Ltd. provided a model of a section of the Pointe-a-Pierre Refinery, also a flow chart with samples of all main finished products as well as a cross-section of a model oilwell depicting technical difficulties that Oil Companies have to combat. Our Aviation Department in Port-of-Spain provided a map of the Caribbean area with coloured lights indicating the airfields providing Shell Aviation Service. Trinidad's schoolboys were naturally very interested in the stand and with the kind co-operation of the Department of Education and Mr. J. B. Woolley of U.B.O.T. Ltd., and Mr. McMurrin of Trinidad Leaseholds Ltd., they were able to enjoy some very interesting lectures on the Oil Industry in Trinidad.

The Trinidad Press singled out the stand for special comment and the Management of the



The S.L.D. Co., Ltd., and P.M. Co., (W.I.) Ltd., stand at the 1949 Trinidad Trade Fair.

Trinidad Trade Fair stated that they were constantly being specially asked for the whereabouts of the Shell-Leaseholds stand.

Congratulations to all concerned on a job well done.

Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Taylor of the Erection Section, celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary on the 12th November in Port-of-Spain. They were the recipients of many expressions of congratulation from their numerous friends.

Daughters seem to be plentiful these days amongst employees in the M. & O. Section. Amongst those who received daughters as additions to their family recently were Mr. and Mrs. G. Santana (Narisia Anastasia), Mr. and Mrs. L. Brewster, and Mr. and Mrs. F. Johnson. The last named young lady has been named Janice and she was christened on 18th December. We are glad to see Mrs. Santana out and about again following her long confinement in the Company's hospital.

Mr. C. Drayton, popular U.B.O.T. left-wing footballer and member of the M. & O. Section, has announced his engagement to Miss Molly Hope, of Point Fortin. We are informed the marriage will take place next Easter.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. McIntosh of the Drilling Department, on the birth of a daughter (Ira), to Mr. and Mrs. S. David of the Refinery

Engineering, on the birth of a son (Steve), to Mr. and Mrs. B. Borroughs of the Machine Shop, on the birth of a son (Lennox), to Mr. and Mrs. L. McDonald of the Drilling Department, on the birth of a son (Alan Anthony), and to Mr. and Mrs. H. Bonnet of the Machine Shop, on the birth of a daughter (Ilean).

Mr. M. Griffith of the Drilling Department, has announced his engagement to Miss Ina Rowley of Point Fortin, and the wedding will take place on Christmas Day. Congratulations and best wishes.

Miss Hilary Harewood, the ten and a half years old daughter of Mr. A. F. Harewood of the Accounts Department has been awarded a Scholarship following the Government Exhibition Examination held in July last. Hilary thus follows in the footsteps of her two other sisters, Marjorie and Valorie who were awarded Scholarships following previous Examinations. Mr. Harewood must be very proud of his talented daughters and we wish them all success in their future careers.



Miss Hilary Harewood.

The results of the City and Guilds of London Examinations recently arrived and we were very gratified to see that several U.B.O.T. apprentices and ex-apprentices had won awards. The following successes were obtained:—

C. Andrews	Motor Vehicle Mechanics Course	1st Class Pass.
I. Tyson	" "	" " " "
N. Dollison	" "	" " " "
A. Neckles	" "	" " " "
A. Sealey	" "	" " " "
F. Alexander	" "	" 2nd Class Pass.

Two lads who took the Machine Shop Engineering examination unfortunately did not pass and it will be recalled that our Electrical apprentices were unable to sit the examination owing to the wrong papers having been sent. Congratulations to those who have won these high awards and better luck next time to those who failed or were prevented by means beyond their control from sitting the Examination.

Mr. Colin Hinkson, of the Materials Department, joined the Benedicts on October 8th last when he was married to the former Miss Phyllis Bailey of Tunapuna. The wedding ceremony took place at St. Charles' R.C. Church, Tunapuna, and after a reception at the bride's home, the couple honeymooned at Mayaro. Mr. Hinkson was presented with a gift from his colleagues in the Materials Department. We extend our best wishes to Mr. & Mrs. Hinkson for the future.

* * *

Another recent marriage in the Materials Department was that of Mr. Wilfred H. Hinds who was married to the former Miss Dorothy Jones on October 29th at St. Luke's Anglican Church, Corinth. The honeymoon was spent at Moruga. Congratulations and best wishes.

* * *

The Extra-Mural Classes in Point Fortin, conducted under the auspices of the Extra-Mural Department of the University College of the West Indies, are now an accomplished fact. Amongst the courses are Spoken English and Clear Thinking, Spanish, Science, Civics, and Dramatics. The Spanish class started on October 20th with an enrolment of 43 persons, including teachers, students, and members of both the Junior and Senior Staff and their wives. Persons seeking admission to the Extra-Mural Classes are requested to get in touch with Mr. I. F. Wilson of the Engineering Department.

* * *

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Mr. B. Reece of the Refinery Shipping Section which occurred on Saturday, 12th November. Mr. Reece was an old employee of the Company, having been with us for 16 years. The funeral service took place at Arouca and was attended by a large number of sympathisers. The deceased was a popular and well respected member of the Shipping Section's Staff, and will be greatly missed in Point Fortin. We extend our deepest sympathy to his widow and family.

On September 25th last the second Annual Artificial Respiration Competition was held in front of the Mahaica Grand Stand when eleven teams competed for the cash prizes and certificates. The "incidents" were (a) victim asphyxiated by chlorine gas, (b) victim asphyxiated by a fall of earth, (c)



U.B.O.T.'s successful candidates in the City and Guilds of London Examinations. L. to R.: F. Alexander, A. Sealey, A. Neckles, N. Dolison, C. Andrews and I. Tyson.

victim of electrocution, (d) victim "drowned" in shallow water. The four judges were Dr. N. W. Ahin, Superintendent E. Glaisher, and Messrs. B. M. Rostant and T. Upton. A crowd of approximately three hundred persons watched the competition, including a good number from the Penal Division. The winners were the Company Guard team (Team Leader — Estate Constable J. Scott) with a total of

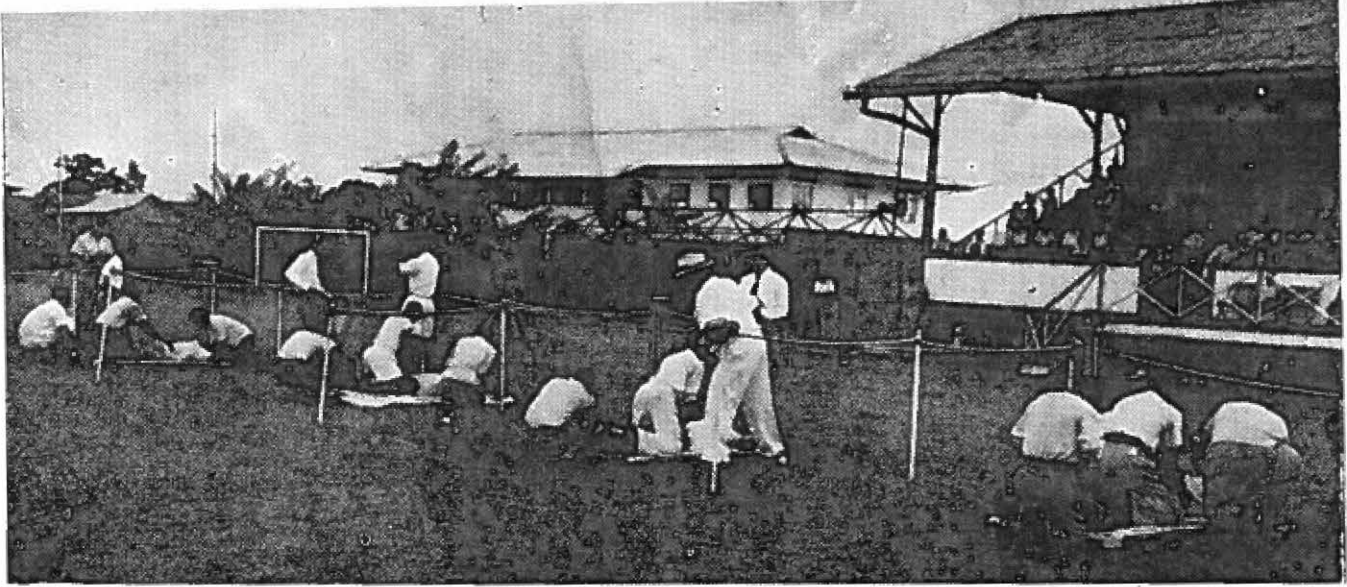
76.3 marks out of a possible hundred. The Penal Division "A" team (Team Leader C. Neckles) came second with 74.6 marks, and Workshops team (Team Leader A. Sylvester) were third with 73 marks. Materials, Electrical, Engineering, Penal "B", Point Fortin Boy Scouts, Refinery Distillation, Industrial Training School and Refinery Engineering followed in the order mentioned.

In general, the standard of the competitors was good and a little more attention to essential details would have produced higher markings. It is to be hoped that the competition will maintain interest in artificial respiration so that U.B.O.T. teams will be able to compete with and win against the Island's best.

In presenting the prizes to the successful competitors, Mr. W. E. Madden, General Manager took the opportunity to congratulate the Safety and Fire Officer, Mr. S. J. Riley, and his helpers, on the very instructive and entertaining display put on.

* * *

That long-legged bird seems to have been doing some stalking around the Accounts Department recently and congratulations are in order for Mr. and Mrs. S. E. R. Hall, and Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Yip Chuck on the birth of daughters, and for Mr. and Mrs. L. A. Eatson, and Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Small on the birth of sons.



The Artificial Respiration Competition in progress in front of the Mahaica Grand Stand.

Mr. J. Thomas of the Penal Division Production Department, was married to the former Miss Beulah Amarales of Palo Seco, on December 18th. Congratulations and best wishes.

* * *

Mr. Osborne E. Jones of the Production Laboratory, has just been notified that he has passed his final examination in Inorganic Chemistry taken with a reputable correspondence school in England. He has now been transferred to the Point Fortin Refinery Laboratory and we wish him all the best of luck in his new assignment.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Ramroop Chanka Singh of the Penal Division Office, to Mr. and Mrs. D. Bacchus of the Penal Division Engineering Department, and to Mr. and Mrs. R. Fraser of the Penal Division Mud Plants, on the birth of sons, and to Mr. and Mrs. V. Alexander of the Penal Division Drilling Department, on the birth of a daughter.

* * *



Mr. Carlton Williams, chosen to represent Trinidad against Barbados in the Inter-Island Table Tennis tour.

Congratulations to Mr. Carlton Williams, noted U.B.A.A. table tennis player and member of the C. & C.E. Section, on having been selected to represent Trinidad on the Table Tennis team which recently visited Barbados. Once again UBOT'S supply a player of inter-Island quality! Mr. Williams' many friends and well-wishers subscribed a purse which was presented to him before his departure on the tour.

* * *

The United British Junior Staff Club Annual Dance was a very gay and highly successful affair,

and was enjoyed by a large number of members and their guests. The Club was attractively decorated and supper was served during the evening. Dancing went on until the wee small hours and a very good time seems to have been had by all.

* * *

Messrs. K. G. Tait, R. C. Pearson and B. J. Stedman of the Engineering Department, have left on long leave. Mr. K. G. Tait was acting Chief Engineer during the absence of Mr. C. Bridgwood, and we take this opportunity of welcoming Mr. and Mrs. C. Bridgwood back to Point Fortin. New arrivals in the Engineering Department Office are Mr. C. Soverall, Junior Clerk, and Master Nazim Geetan, Office Boy, whilst Mr. Rafayet Ali has been promoted from Office Boy to Junior Clerk in the M. & O. Section.

* * *

We recently had an opportunity of welcoming Dr. Eric Williams, B.A., Ph.D., to Point Fortin when he spoke at the United British Junior Staff Club on "Education for the West Indian". Mr. W. E. Madden, General Manager, occupied the chair for the evening and a most enjoyable lecture was heard by a large gathering of members. As our readers will recall, Dr. Williams is a member of the Caribbean Commission and a former Island Scholar. The opportunity was taken to show as much as possible of Point Fortin to Dr. Williams during his visit and, like so many other distinguished visitors, he was very agreeably surprised at what he saw. We congratulate the Committee of the United British Junior Staff Club and the Committee of the Literary and Debating Section on the fine job they are doing in bringing such distinguished lecturers to Point Fortin.

* * *

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. K. Wiltshire of the Refinery on the birth of a son — their tenth child — who will be christened Randolph. Congratulations also to Mr. and Mrs. E. Frederick, and Mr. and Mrs. D. Guialdo, on the birth of daughters. The first young lady will be named Claudia.

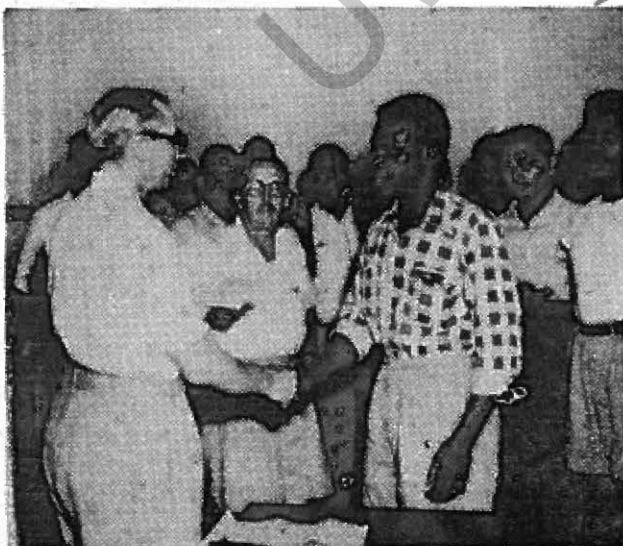
* * *

The Safety Pools Competition conducted in the last issue of UBOTIMES proved to be a very popular

feature and 360 completed entries were received by the Safety and Fire Officer. The judging resulted in a win for Mr. Cecil Harewood of the Materials Department who received a cash prize of twenty dollars. The ten consolation prizes of five dollars each were won by Messrs. Randolph Roach (Machine Shop), Ramroop Rati-ram (Oil Gauging), Cephas Francis (Company Guards), Ralph Mohan (Transport), Mohamed Ali (Refinery), John Allong (Refinery), Labon Alves (Materials), Roger Toussaint (Materials), Randolph Yearwood (Refinery), and Clifford A. Mapp (Penal Division).

In this issue we are running a Christmas Road Safety Quiz and once again the first prize is twenty dollars with ten consolation prizes of five dollars each. Go to it, men!

Sunday, 6th November, was a red letter day in the history of the Point Fortin Branch of the Trinidad Legion of the British Empire Service League, when thirty-one ex-servicemen of the Branch journeyed to the Memorial Park, Port-of-Spain, to attend the Service of Remembrance held at the Cenotaph. Previously, a rally of ex-soldiers was held at the Veterans' Club, Port-of-Spain, when banners were



Mr. J. Grant presents the twenty-dollar cash prize to Mr. Cecil Harewood of the Materials Department, winner of the Safety Pools Competition.

presented to the various branches of the Legion, Mr. V. L. Talma receiving the banner for the Point Fortin Branch.



Mr. W. Furlonge's party at the United British Junior Staff Club's Annual Dance. Included in the party are Mrs. V. Julien, Miss P. Furlonge and Mr. A. Ammon.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. H. Khan of the Penal Division Medical Department, on the birth of a son.

We extend our deepest sympathy to Mr. A. Dublin of the C. & C.E. Section on the death of his child which occurred on October 8th, and to Mr. D. Baccus of the Refinery Laboratory, on the death on November 7th, under tragic circumstances, of his niece.

Mr. A. Anasalam of the Company Guards, was married recently to the former Miss Rita Jordan of Point Fortin. The wedding ceremony took place at the Point Fortin R.C. Church. Congratulations and best wishes.

We have just seen an advance copy of the SHELL MAGAZINE of London, and were gratified to note that the front cover is allocated to Trinidad. It consists of the photograph of a portion of the old SHELL Service Station at Point Fortin and prominently features Mr. S. Critchlow who was one of the attendants at that time. The photograph was taken by Mr. Derrick Knight, M.B.E., A.R.P.S., and was displayed, with several other SHELL photographs, at an exhibition held in London last month by the Institute of British Photographers. Mr. Knight is a member of the Shell Photographic Unit and visited Trinidad several months ago. We congratulate Mr. Critchlow on being so photogenic as to win worldwide fame via the SHELL MAGAZINE front cover.

His colleagues in the Refinery Laboratory have asked us to congratulate Mr. Doyle Griffith, youngest member of the Laboratory Staff, on being selected to represent South Trinidad against the touring B.G. side.

The Gardening Competition, organised by the Labour and Welfare Department, to stimulate an interest in gardens in Techier Village, has now been brought to a successful conclusion with the final judging on November 12th. The first prize of twenty dollars was won by Mr. J. A. Lord, Drumming Shed foreman, who occupies Cottage No. 318; second prize of fifteen dollars was won by Mr. C. Griffith,

carpenter, C. & C.E. Section, Cottage No. 360, and the third prize of ten dollars was won by Mr. A. Cooper, steel erector, Erection Section, Cottage No. 358. The five consolation prizes of five dollars each were won by Messrs. L. Francis (Refinery — Cottage No. 23); W. Courtney (Labour and Welfare — Cottage No. 44); S. Saunders (P. & P.S. — Cottage No. 54); C. Joseph (Refinery Laboratory — Cottage No. 189), and F. Wilson (Refinery — Cottage No. 191). The following extract from the report of the Judging Committee (Messrs. J. B. Woolley, R. G. Tyler, and A. H. Davis) speaks for itself:

“The judges were greatly impressed by the amount of work and ingenuity which many of the gardeners had devoted to providing adequate even drainage for each plot, preventing washouts, excluding wandering dogs and poultry and enriching the poor soil, which is inevitable in any suburban development where levelling has been done. Even if one has a gift for growing flowers, gardening like anything else worth doing, requires work and thought whether one lives in Trinidad or Patagonia.

There was no doubt at all about the first prize. Mr. J. A. Lord is truly to be congratulated on his beautiful display, admirably set off by the impeccable cleanliness and tidiness of his paths and surrounds and his great bank of pot plants.

The second and third prize winners, Mr. G. Griffith and Mr. A. Cooper were also fairly easy to pick, but after that the judges' troubles began. Several new gardens were seen where the judges would much have liked to reward the work done and enthusiasm shown, but were unable to do so in fair-

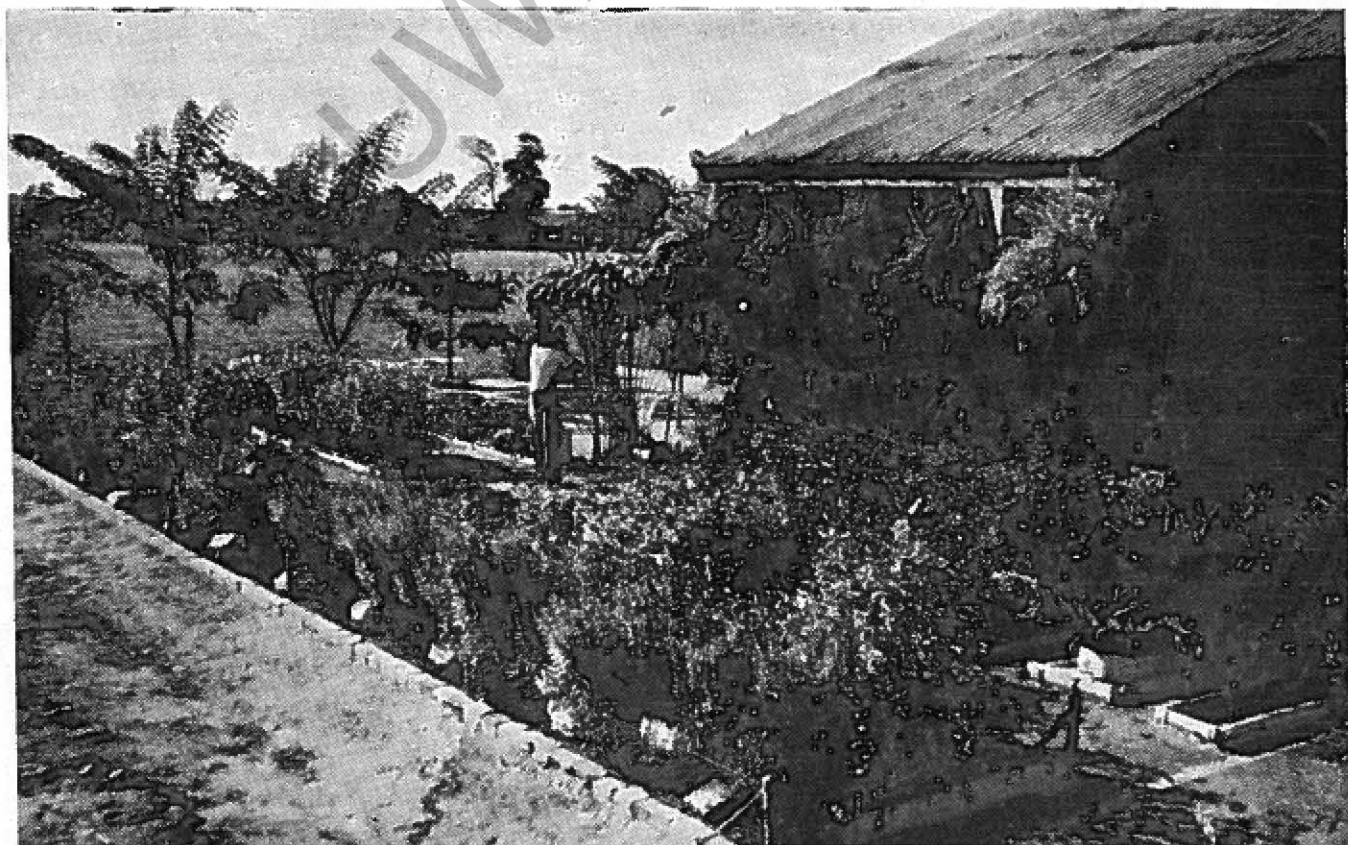
ness to those whose gardens were already established. They look forward to seeing these gardens next year.

The points the judges had in mind were clean surrounds and tidy paths, variety and colour in the garden, clean weeding, good displays of pot plants, neatness in lay out and fencing, and general evidences of work, care and ingenuity. The judges did their best to maintain a fair even standard of judging, but so close was the competition that several visits were necessary before a final selection could be made. To the winners they would say, congratulations, to others, come again next year and to all, let us make the gardens and front galleries of Techier truly Trinidadian”.

Unfortunately, there are still some residents who are not “pulling their weight” and it is hoped that the Techier Village Welfare Committee will be able to persuade those who are lagging behind literally to “put their house in order” and endeavour to be on the receiving end of the line when the next awards are made. We are asked to state that the Gardening Competition will continue and details as to dates, etc., will be issued shortly by the Labour and Welfare Department in conjunction with the Techier Village Welfare Committee. We are pleased to be able to reproduce a photograph of Mr. Lord's prizewinning gardening, and we think our readers will agree with us that he well deserves the first award. Unfortunately, the photograph does not do justice to the display of colour evident in the garden and we strongly advise you to go and have a look for yourselves!

Heartiest congratulations to Mr. J. A. Lord, Mr. C. Griffith and Mr. A. Cooper, and to the consolation prize winners on a really fine effort.

Mr. J. A. Lord's prizewinning garden in Techier Village.



Safety Officers In Training

By S. J. RILEY
(Safety and Fire Officer)

During a long leave recently spent in England, the author was privileged to attend one of the Safety Courses conducted by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, or RoSPA as it is familiarly called. These Courses are organized by the Society from time to time and the one which will form the subject of this article was the twentieth in the series and was held at Glyn House, Kingsgate, Kent.

Kingsgate is near Broadstairs, situated on the Kentish Coast and well known as a seaside and health resort. Little was seen of the beauties and amenities of the district during the period of our stay, as the course, which was claimed to take two years, was condensed into two weeks.

The Oil Industry was well represented at Glyn House, Trinidad, Egypt, Iran, Bahrein Island, Iraq, Tripoli and Syria all sent their envoys. Other industries represented were Sugar, Cement, Table Salt, Mustard, Motor Cars, Tramways, Washing Machines, Chemicals, Steel, Scrap Iron and Explosives. People from widely separated points of the globe, all with different safety problems, meeting under one roof, with one aim in view — to broaden their knowledge of Accident Prevention.

Glyn House, formerly a girls' school, is now run as a college for adults by the Y.M.C.A., and the Principal, Sir Wilfred Garrett, is well known throughout industry as a former H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories. Sir Wilfred still takes an active interest in all Safety problems and we were indeed fortunate in having such a sympathetic and knowledgeable person as our host.

At both the opening and closing sessions of this course, we had the pleasure of the presence of Mr. G. P. Barnett, H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories, as Chairman. Mr. Barnett gave some very interesting facts and figures regarding industrial accidents and spoke in high praise of the great work being done by all industrial firms, the Trades Unions and the Inspectors of the Factories Inspectorate in reducing the number of accidents.

When one gives a little thought to the fact that such an important and busy person as H.M. Chief Inspector of Factories finds time to make a long journey to address a gathering of Industrial Safety Officers, one is apt to think the great success of the Accident Prevention Campaign in England is, in no small measure, due to our illogical method of mixing all parties. A good example of this is the fact that an important Government Department such as the Factories Inspectorate joins forces with RoSPA, a voluntary organization.

We were very fortunate in having a large team of experts in Accident Prevention in charge of the various sessions. Space does not permit me to mention all the subjects given but the more important ones dealt with such diverse subjects as the Factories Act, Legal Problems, Inspection, Job Analysis, Mechanical Hazards, Chemical and Allied Hazards, Industrial Poisoning, Organization and the Organizer, Human Aspects, Psychological Factors, Electrical Hazards and Statistics.

Incidentally, Mr. R. J. Smith, of the Shell Refining and Marketing Company, London, was one of the lecturers.

There were special sessions dealing with protective clothing and equipment, but the emphasis was on making the process of the machine safe rather than dressing the worker in protective equipment. This has always been the British approach to a hazard and might, with advantage, be copied by many other countries. The difficulty confronting many Safety Officers today is that the only remedy offered by some people to prevent recurrence of a major accident is for certain protective equipment to be supplied, when perhaps a simple change in a process or a machine will make it safe and so eliminate the necessity for protective devices for the workman.

The lectures on the Psychological Factors of Safety were of great interest. People in Accident Prevention work are often disappointed when they have tried new ideas on the old hands and found it is not always possible to persuade them that there is a scientific way to handle men in their charge. You probably have heard the "old timer" say, "I've done it this way for the last 25 years, why should I change now?"

A plant or job is safe only when all the workers are Safety minded; and by that is meant everybody from the top supervisors down to the latest newly-engaged workman.

A final word regarding our own Safety Campaign. If everyone — Management, Supervisors, Foremen, and workers band together to utilise all the techniques, old and new, in our Accident Prevention work, we will all be rewarded in a manner so ably expressed by one of our American friends who said, "The end will be that the workman shall live to enjoy the fruits of his labour; that his mother shall have the comfort of his arm in her age; that his wife shall not be untimely a widow; that his children shall have a father; and that cripples and helpless wrecks who were once strong men shall no longer be a by-product of industry."



MALARIA CONTROL IN POINT FORTIN

The Rifle Range area of Point Fortin (above) was formerly a bad mosquito breeding ground. Mosquito control work, including clearing, drainage, and regular oiling, has now made it possible to build houses adjacent to the area. (Note levelled site for new housing project in background).

By **DR. N. W. AHIN**
(Chief Medical Officer, Medical Dept.)

PREFACE

Malaria is worldwide in distribution and the high morbidity and mortality rates associated with it, combine to make this disease one of the most serious medical and economic problems. The factors influencing its transmission are varied and its control is more complex than any other disease.

In many undeveloped areas where Malaria is endemic and large Industrial concerns operate, three aspects of Preventative Medicine feature prominently — (1) How can Malaria be controlled? (2) Cost of such control? (3) What Public Health improvements and economic benefits would ensue. The adoption of Malaria Control is a pre-requisite for the successful pursuance of Industrial activity.

Owing to the great diversity of factors encountered, methods of control must be adapted to local conditions. Any scheme that is to be successful, connotes a knowledge of the principles involved in the causation, transmission and prevalence of the disease. It is therefore necessary to be conversant with the epidemiology of Malaria, the biology and bionomics of the insect vector (anophelene mosquito) and the characteristics of the disease itself.

POINT FORTIN :

For some reason known only to Geologists, most oilfields in Trinidad are situated in unhealthy swamps or afforested, undulating country, where conditions are favourable to the breeding of the noxious mosquito.

Point Fortin is an endemic area. Prior to 1940, it was assumed, anyone proceeding to live or work there, would develop Malaria invariably. That unwholesome reputation may have been warranted before the era of Malaria Control, but a sober consideration of the achievements and results since inception, should convince the veriest sceptic, the assumption is no longer acceptable or merited.

EPIDEMIOLOGY :

Although two species of Anophelene mosquitoes are known to be vectors of Malaria in Trinidad, we are fortunate in being concerned chiefly with *A. Aquasalis*. This mosquito is mainly a clean, fresh water breeder but can adapt itself to minor degrees of salinity. Its breeding places are numerous, varying from seepage water collections to large tidal swamps, from domestic collections of fresh water to hoof-marks of cattle filled with rain water. It prefers grassy shade but will breed in open water collections.

The annual rainfall in Point Fortin averages between 70 and 80 inches. There are two rainy periods (June to September and November to January) which alternate with two dry spells (February to May and October). A close relationship exists between the rainfall and Malaria incidence. An increase in the disease rate usually follows a period of wet weather, after an interval of about three weeks — the period of intensive breeding and incubation period of the disease.

The prevailing wind is usually from N.E. to S.W. It is important in considerations of the range of



Larva collector examining water from a drain for presence of and identification of mosquito larvae . . .

flight of mosquitoes and invasion by non-indigenous vectors .

The terrain consists of undulating country intersected with ravines, combined with flat swampy land, through which sluggish rivers flow. Most of the area is covered with secondary jungle. Agricultural cultivation, cattle grazing and even crabholes constitute potential hazards.

Malignant Tertian and Benign Tertian are the two prevalent types of Malaria. Quartan Malaria is rare.

INSTITUTION OF MALARIA CONTROL :

The first recorded attempts at control were made prior to 1941. They were sporadic and not very successful. They consisted mainly of dusting swamps with Paris Green, oiling of water collections, screening of houses and treatment of cases by the methods then in vogue. Control was ineffective as it was limited in scope, unsystematic and not comprehensive.

In 1941 the seriousness of the problem was realised. Four salient facts emerged upon consideration of the problem — (a) What the problem was. (b) How could control be effected. (c) Cost. (d) Justification of the expenditure by the results. It was decided to institute systematic and comprehensive measures of control with adequate planning.

FINANCE : When formulating plans of such importance and magnitude financial considerations are paramount. It is to the credit of U.B.O.T., that budgets for capital and recurrent expenditure were and are always sympathetically considered. It may be recalled at this juncture, an initial outlay of approximately a quarter million B.W.I. dollars was necessary and the annually recurrent expenditure approached \$50,000 for several subsequent years, though this sum has been reduced recently, conse-

quent upon the effectiveness of the permanent measures.

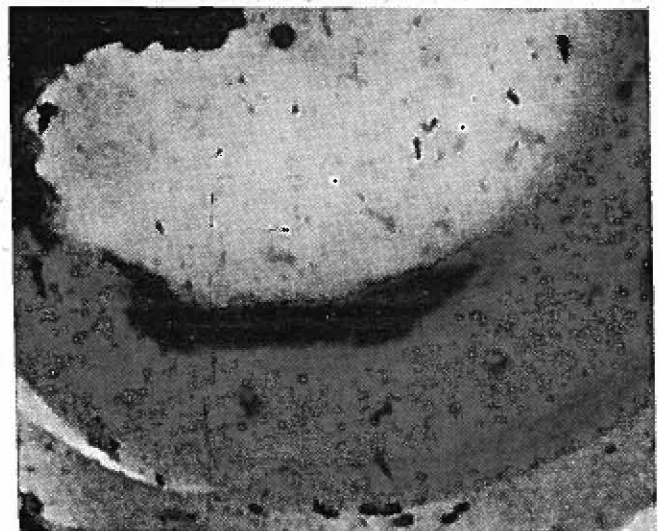
STAFF : Recruitment and training of the necessary personnel figured prominently in planning. Staff must be adequate as well as efficient. With progression of the scheme, the scope of the measures and the size of the area of control increased and of necessity, increase of staff proceeded *pari passu*. At present the field staff total 23, comprising Sanitary Inspectors, larvae collectors, oiling and drainage labour.

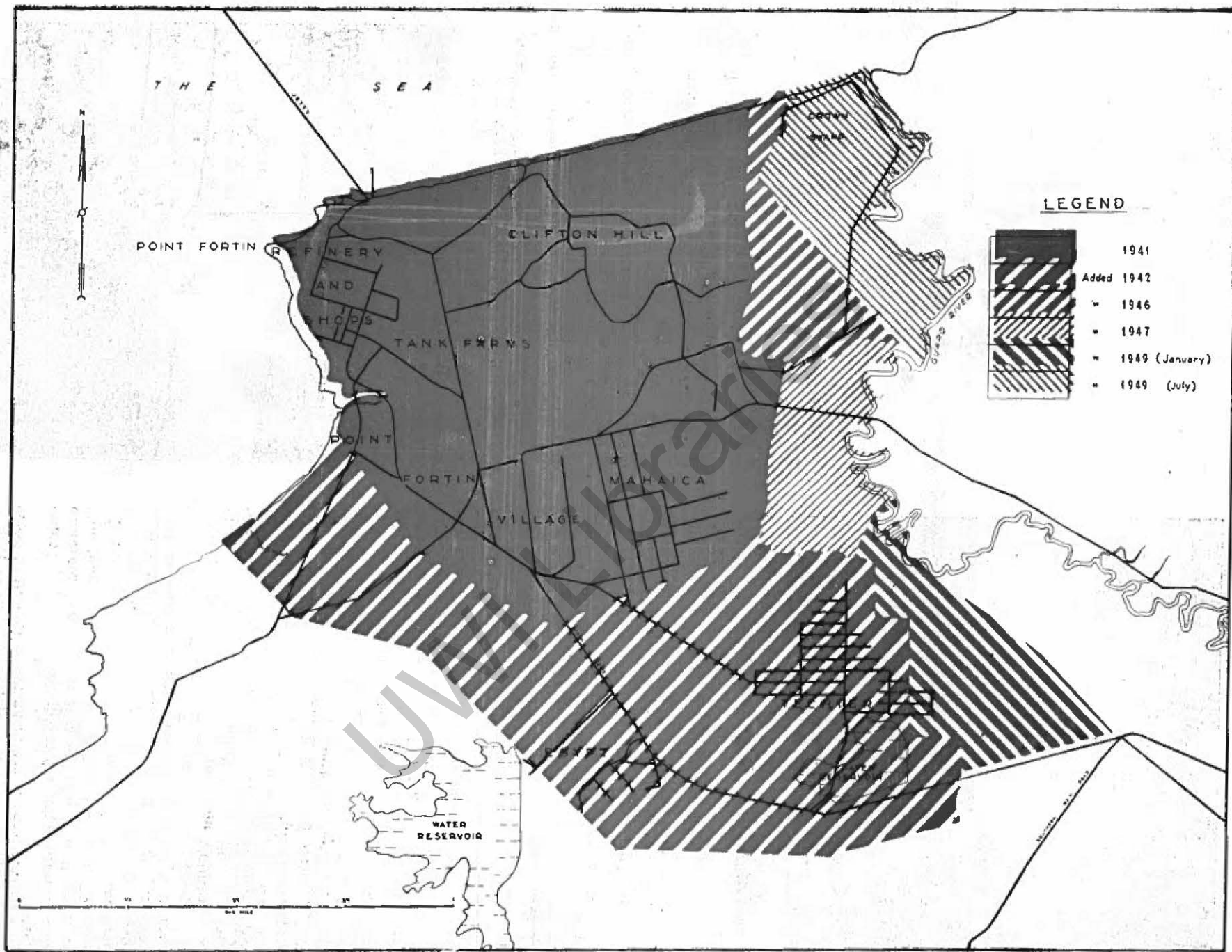
DATA AND STATISTICS : Regular and systematic collection of accurate meteorological and other statistical data are necessary. Routine systematic larval, mosquito and Malaria case surveys are conducted and the results charted. In this manner concentrations are located and enable the appropriate corrective measures to be devised and undertaken. Doubtless, some people may have been puzzled by the sight of queer coloured markers in various parts of Point Fortin, others might have pondered over the reason for having peculiar box traps placed in inconvenient spots in their houses by the Sanitary Inspector. More recently, curiosity has been aroused by the sight of a Lilliputian house-like contraption, containing a live calf as its apparently sole occupant. These are merely measures undertaken, with the sole object of locating, trapping, collecting and studying the pestilential mosquito.

AREA OF CONTROL : The area selected for control was at first limited to the Refinery, Office and Stores and the residential districts of Point Fortin Village, Mahaica and Clifton Hill — approximately one square mile in extent. As the scheme progressed, this was successively increased. Now an area measuring approximately two and a quarter square miles in extent is under direct and strict control.

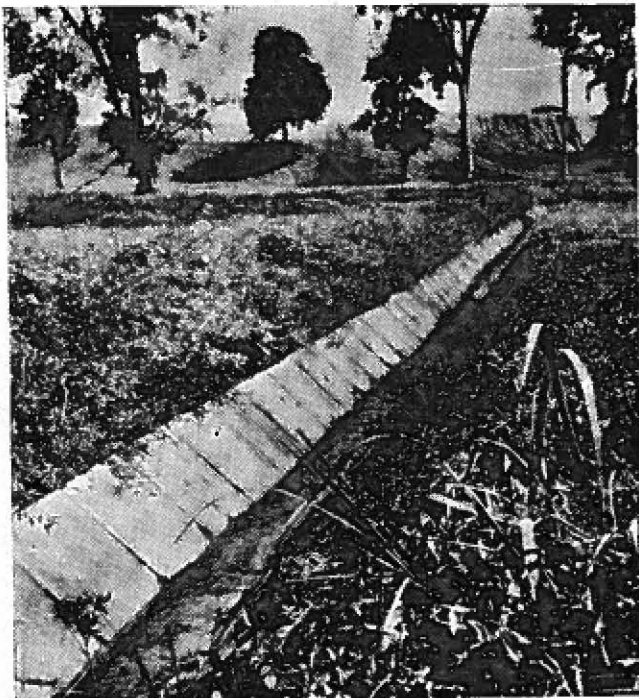
Egypt Village and the Tchieh Settlement were incorporated in 1942. In 1946, the swampy Rifle Range area (Crown Land), between the main camp

..... and this is what was found. The clove-shaped objects are larvae almost ready to develop into pupal stage of mosquito. The smaller objects are larvae in a less advanced stage.





Map of the Point Fortin area showing sections brought under control of the anti-malarial measures during the past few years.



Paved drainage ditch especially constructed for anti-malarial drainage work.

and the Techier river, was added. Following the increase in the incidence of Malaria at Mahaica during the latter part of 1947, the adjacent Crown Land to the East was taken over. Prolific and uncontrolled *Anopheles* breeding was taking place on land adapted to rice cultivation and market gardening, by illegal tenantry. Early in 1949 development of the Techier Village settlement necessitated further extension to the East and later the Crown swamp, west of the Guapo river, was added following an extension of Industrial activity to that area and discovery of intensive mosquito breeding there.

To summarise, any increase of Industrial activity or any new and menacing developments, likely to occasion the rise or spread of Malaria, involves re-orientation and extension of control.

METHODS OF CONTROL :

It is beyond the scope of this article to enumerate and describe fully, all the methods employed in Malaria control.

Generally they may be classified thus:—

ENVIRONMENTAL : (1) Against mosquito larvae. This would include all forms of drainage, clearing, brushing, filling, the use of larvicides and other miscellaneous measures. (2) against adult mosquitoes. Proper selection of housing sites and suitable preparation for drainage, screening, and spraying with insecticides.

INDIVIDUAL : Under this heading would be grouped, drug prophylaxis, curative treatment and sterilization of carriers as well as the use of mosquito nets, suitable clothing, insect repellants and propaganda.

At this stage it would be interesting to describe briefly some of the methods adopted in Point Fortin.

DRAINAGE : This could be defined as the sheet anchor of the scheme. Broadly, it is designed to remove all surplus surface water (necessary for the promotion of mosquito breeding) rapidly and efficiently. An elaborate system of concrete, stone pitched, earth and fascine or other subsoil drains, has been laid down for the purpose. Correlated with this, attention to the natural waterways (Guapo and Techier rivers) is necessary. This consists of cleaning, straightening, deepening and even alteration of course occasionally. Associated with drainage in some cases, there is the necessary provision of special gates to assist in controlling tidal flow. This drainage scheme involves much routine maintenance and expenditure and extensions are constantly necessary as new developments materialise.

CLEARING AND FILLING : are two ancillary measures which form an integral part of control. Much improvement can be achieved, by the conversion of useless and sometimes dangerous localities into healthy, clear areas, suitable for various projects. Examples are the Golf Course, the lagoon area between Techier and Mahaica, the Rifle Range and Mahaica itself. Complementary to the above measures, periodical brushing forms part of maintenance. Scrub and overgrown vegetation render location and treatment of breeding places difficult and afford cover for adult mosquitoes.

LARVICIDES : Larvicidal control is another most important feature of our system and aims at liquidating the mosquito larvae before they attain maturity. In this manner, it is possible to control breeding temporarily but effectively. To be successful however, it is necessary to apply the larvicide properly and repeatedly, at regular intervals. The whole control area is divided into sections, each of which

Another type of ditch used to drain swampy areas. This one leads into the Techier River.



is thoroughly covered by oiling gangs once weekly, on a rotational basis. The larvicide in general use is "Malariaol". An oily larvicide acts by forming a lethal film on the surface of the water to which application is made. In the main, this oily film blocks the respiratory apparatus of the mosquito larva, but a minor degree of toxicity also contributes to its demise. The quest for better larvicidal agents is the subject of constant research and experiment. The production of Malariaol H.S. with D.D.T. by U.B.O.T. is an example.

TREATMENT OF MALARIA: Effective treatment of the Malaria case and prevention of the development of carriers, form not the least important aspect of Malaria Control. All cases are proven by blood examination and thoroughly investigated to discover the source of infection. There is much ingress and egress of people within the area and the danger of an outbreak, resulting from the presence of carriers from outside, always exists, as long as there are *A. Aquasalis* in the area.

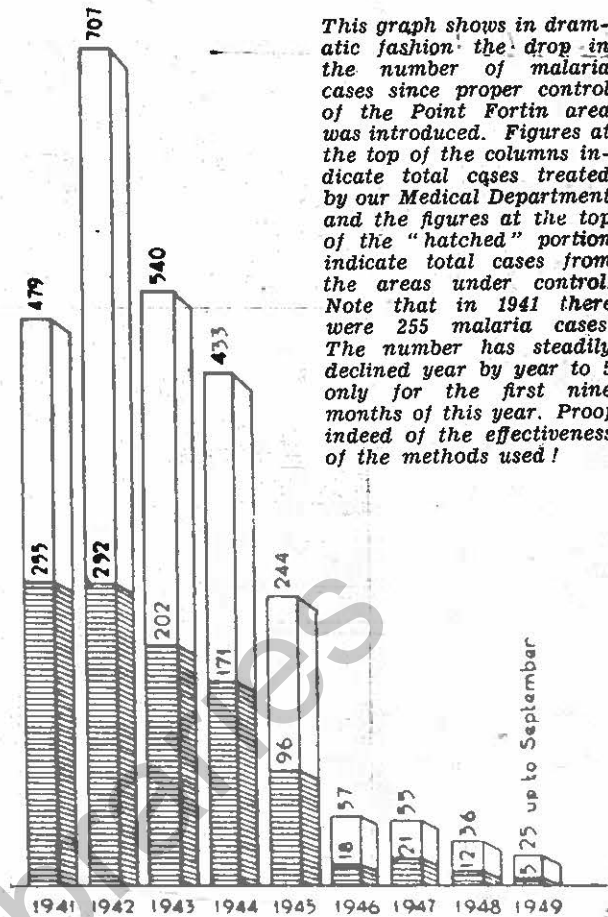
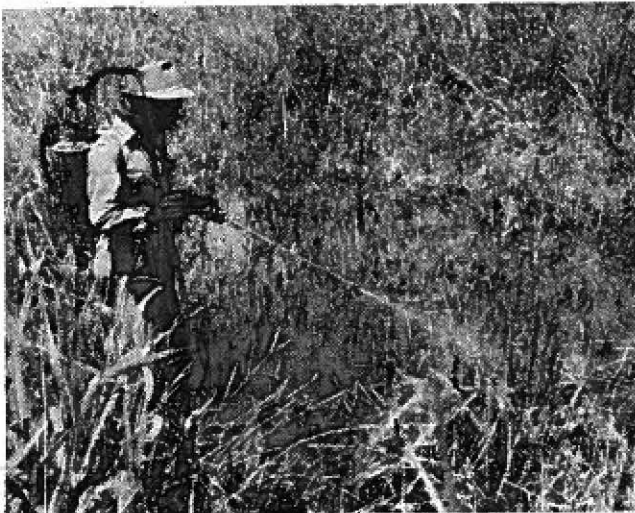
In conclusion, it might be mentioned, Malaria control measures are constantly being improved, improvised and the subject of experimental research. Problems of control often arise as a result of the unwitting efforts of man or animals. Vigilance and ingenuity must be exercised to devise effective measures to control such developments. Such circumstances as agricultural cultivation, depredations of wandering cattle, crabholes and domestic storage of water all require improvised and fresh methods of approach.

MALARIA STATISTICS :

Control measures had little effect during the first two years. The first appreciable results were apparent in 1943/1944 when the scheme began to get into stride. Thereafter the fall in Malaria incidence progressed rapidly.

It will be noted, the progressive decline in the incidence of the total cases has proceeded similarly

A member of the anti-malaria squad sprays a swampy area with Malariaol in order to destroy larvae.



This graph shows in dramatic fashion the drop in the number of malaria cases since proper control of the Point Fortin area was introduced. Figures at the top of the columns indicate total cases treated by our Medical Department and the figures at the top of the "hatched" portion indicate total cases from the areas under control. Note that in 1941 there were 255 malaria cases. The number has steadily declined year by year to 5 only for the first nine months of this year. Proof indeed of the effectiveness of the methods used!

with that in the area of control. This may be explained by the following factors — (a) progressive incorporation under control of areas previously endemic (b) Movement of population into the area under control (c) Effective treatment of cases and carriers both within and without the area of control. The proportion of cases occurring outside however, still continues to remain high, due to circumstances beyond our control.

RESULTS :

The results of Malaria control in Point Fortin would be assessed primarily and naturally by the marked decline in the Malaria rate. It would be unfair however to disregard the complementary reduction in the mortality rate of the disease, the raising of the standard of health and working efficiency as well as the saving of manpower and man hours.

As a corollary, it therefore could be assumed, the Malaria problem is being solved, control is effective and the financial outlay fully justified by the results.

En passant, it is agreeable to reflect upon the vision, determination and wisdom exhibited by U.B.O.T. Pursuance of the enlightened policy of social service and sanitation, albeit, at some financial expense, has resulted in great benefit to the employees as well as the Company.

The Geological Department



A geologist at work in the Trinidad bush. This picture gives a good impression of the difficulties under which geological surveys in tropical countries are carried out.

The Geological Department has the task of finding new reserves of oil and of helping the Exploitation Department with advice in developing our known resources. The science of geology has many branches of which geophysics, photogeology, palaeontology and petrography, are used in Trinidad. To understand the work of the department it is first necessary to explain briefly what geology is.

What is Geology?

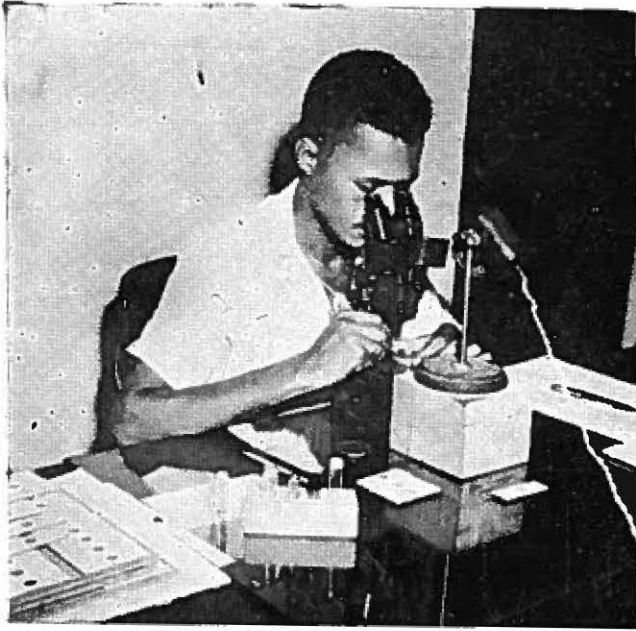
Geology is the scientific study of the earth. Economic geology deals particularly with the minerals found in the earth such as gold, iron, tin, coal and oil.

Oil comes from rocks buried deep in the ground. It is not found in veins or pools as is commonly supposed but exists in the minute spaces between the grains of sand in a sandstone. Once, hundreds of thousands of years ago, the sandstone was a sand

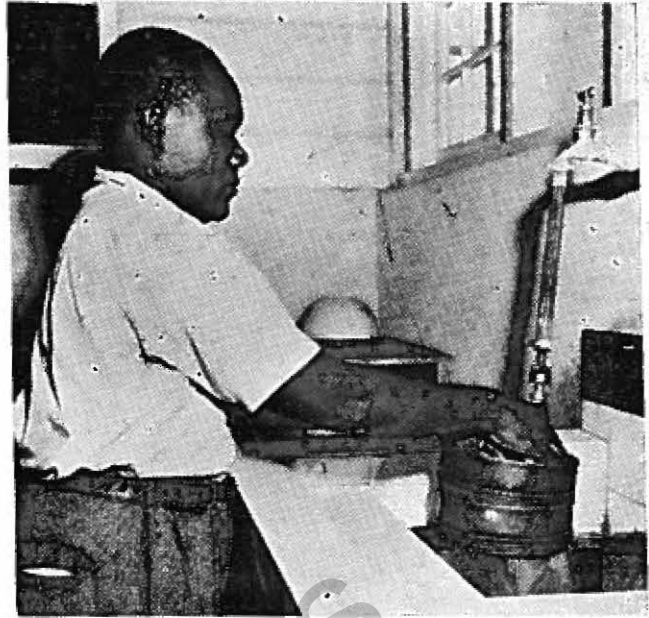
on the floor of the sea. Many animals died in the sea, and plants were washed into it by the rivers; the decay of this living matter produced the oil which we now find. As centuries passed the sands were buried by clay, more sands swept into the sea from the rivers and were buried in their turn until thousands of feet of sand and clay were hardened by compaction into rock — now called Sandstone and Shale.

In the course of its long history (perhaps two thousand million years) the earth underwent a series of mighty movements — of which the strongest earthquakes are but the gentlest example. The strength of these long continued movements has been sufficient to raise the floors of ancient seas and turn them into mountains so that on the highest peaks yet climbed by man the fossilised * remains of sea shells

* A fossil is the remains of a dead animal or plant preserved in the rocks by mineral action.



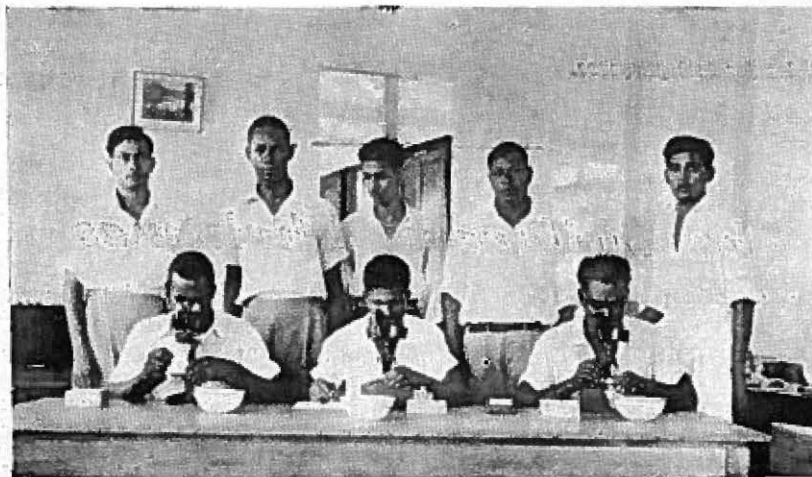
Mr. D. Hutchinson, Palaeontological Laboratory Foreman.



Mr. H. Duntin sieving samples prior to microscopical examination.

The samples received at the Lab. are of several types, augerhole and surface samples collected by field geologists and ditch and core samples from drilling wells. When the samples are received they are labelled either with the geologist's name and number or with the well number and depth and this information is recorded in a special register. The next step is to extract the fossils from the sample and this is done by "washing". The washing consists first of comminuting the sample in special jars containing water which are revolved mechanically between rollers. The broken down material is then taken from the jars and placed on the upper surface of a set of sieves the meshes of which increase in fineness downwards. A jet of water at high pressure is then directed on the sample and the fine residue containing the fossils is collected in the lowest sieve. These residues are dried on an electric stove and are then ready to be passed on to the technical assistants

via Mr. D. Hutchinson for extraction of the fossils. This next procedure, known as "picking the sample" is a very painstaking job. The fossils are usually smaller than a pin head in size and the work of separating them has to be done with the aid of microscopes. The magnification used is 30-35 x and even in this range they are often difficult to detect as fossils. The fossil content varies greatly from sample to sample, ranging from nothing to residues which consist almost entirely of fossils. Richly fossiliferous residues are passed on wholesale to the palaeontologists, while poor residues may have to be picked over for many hours before sufficient material is obtained for palaeontological diagnosis. Extraction of fossils from the residue is done either with a needle tipped with beeswax or with a small moistened brush. The fossils extracted are then placed in small receptacles called 'microslides' which are duly labelled.



Staff of the Palaeontological Laboratory.

Seated (L to R)

*Messrs. L. Harewood
C. Soverrall and C. Cross.*

Standing (L to R)

Messrs. C. Bissoo, J. Wilson, S. Joseph, A. Raphael and S. Odith.



The Chief Geologist, Mr. S. H. Jones, and Mr. T. J. Latus, geologist (left), discussing work programme.

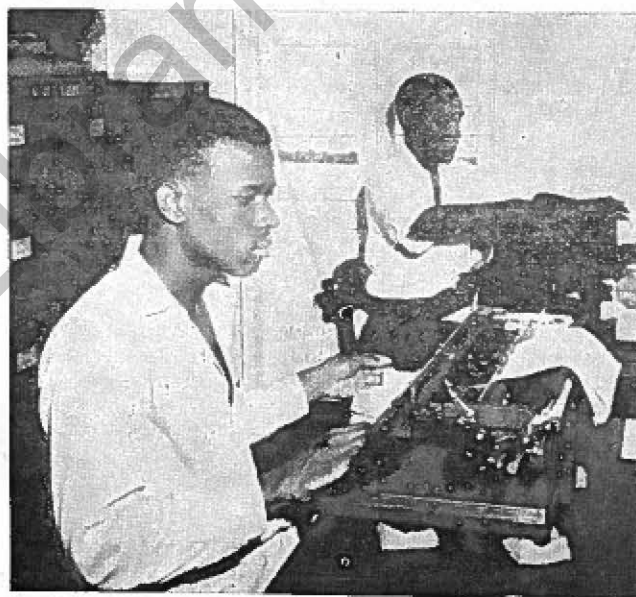
A blank 'determination sheet' is marked with particulars of the sample and submitted to the palaeontologist together with the microslide. The palaeontologist then proceeds to identify the fossils and fill out the determination sheet as his examination proceeds. From a study of the fossil assemblage identified conclusions regarding the age and environmental conditions of the deposit are made and these are passed on to the geologists. A permanent record is made in the form of distribution charts, etc., to which reference can be made when comparisons are required of the age, etc., of other samples.

It will thus be seen that the Palaeontological Section is a fundamental part of the Geological Department and that geological interpretations, which often lead to the expenditure of thousands of dollars in exploration drilling, rest in no small measure on the study of seemingly insignificant "bugs" which would escape the notice of the untrained eye.

J.C. and D.H.



Drilling auger holes for test purposes.



The Secretarial Staff. Messrs. P. ALLERT (left) and A. H. Collins (right).

The Children's Christmas

"SANTA CLAUS" is a variant of "Saint Nicholas," the patron and protector of children, who lived in the fourth century. He was rich, and devoted his wealth to the relief of the poor, yet so modest that he disliked being thanked: his benefactions were mostly anonymous. Thus all welcome gifts received from unknown sources came to be ascribed to Saint Nicholas.

Santa Claus was introduced into England as the secret dispenser of Christmas gifts as recently as the eighteenth century. The Christmas stocking is accounted for by the story that Saint Nicholas, on one of his midnight expeditions, climbed on a roof and dropped a purse down the chimney; which instead of falling on the hearth was caught in a stocking that was hung up to dry.

Spotlight on Sport

By N. C. SHRUBB
(Materials Department)

ATHLETICS :

On Sunday, October 2nd, the United British Athletic Association held their annual sports meeting, under very good weather conditions and before a large crowd of spectators. Competitors travelled from all parts of the Island to take part and numerous entries were received for most of the events. Some very thrilling finishes were witnessed after really hard-fought races, this being most noticeable in the short distances, where the judges were given an exceptionally busy time deciding the order of finish, one event having to be re-run, it being impossible to split the four leading competitors.

In the High Jump a really good performance was put up, the winner, Constable Ninvalle, clearing 5 ft. 10½ ins. to beat Constable Phillip and Roy Madoo by the odd half inch.

The one and three mile flat events were easy going for Constable Subero, who ran in fine style to win both distances.

SOCCER :

UBOT'S v B.G.

On the 8th November at the Mahaica Oval before a very large crowd, UBOT'S matched themselves against the B.G. touring team. Although rain had been threatening most of the afternoon, the kick-off was made at 4.30 o'clock with clear skies, and the ground, although a little slippery in places, was in good condition.

From the kick-off, the home side, having won the toss, were

soon on the offensive with repeated raids. The midfield play of both teams was of good standard, with both sets of half backs making fine openings, and finding their men with short passes.

With 10 minutes of play gone UBOT'S forced the first corner, which was taken by C. Drayton, but the ball was put behind. The ball was in the B.G. half for quite a while, and although our forwards were given plenty of openings, the advantage was not taken. The B.G. forwards were now beginning to settle down, and Lloyd and Carty were called upon to make a number of clearances, especially from the B.G. left wing, which was doing some fine work, and from which B.G. gained their first corner in the 25th minute.

Play began to speed up by this time with each team fighting for the opening goal, and in the 26th minute S. Drayton, after a great deal of interforward play, took the first goal-scoring shot, with the B.G. goalie out of position, but the left back managed to intercept the drive and save the situation. Play immediately changed ends, the B.G. forwards collecting the ball and making a very dangerous attack. With our backs out of position, McClean was called upon to make his first brilliant save by throwing himself on the ball at the feet of the B.G. centre forward. With only half a minute to go for half time UBOT'S gained another corner on the left wing, which C. Drayton forced the goalkeeper to clear



The U.B.A.A. team which held B.G. to a one-all draw.

L to R. front row. L. Brewster, S. Drayton, F. Hackett.

L to R. second row. R. Halls, D. Charleau, C. Maurice, D. Griffith, C. Drayton.

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Christmas Road Safety Quiz

RULES AND DIRECTIONS :

1. The Contest is open to all employees of U.B.O.T. Ltd.
2. Only one try per person is allowed.
3. The fifteen questions are simple ones and everyone who uses the roads should be able to answer them.
4. Take a sheet of paper and give an answer to each question as clearly and briefly as you can. At bottom of sheet fill in your name, registered number, and section, then place in an envelope addressed to the Fire & Safety Officer, U.B.O.T. Ltd., Point Fortin. The words "SAFETY QUIZ" must be written in the top left hand corner of the envelope.
5. The first correct or most nearly correct solution opened will be awarded **TWENTY DOLLARS**. The next most nearly correct solutions opened will be awarded **TEN CONSOLATION PRIZES** of FIVE DOLLARS each.
6. **ENTRIES CLOSE** on the 13th January, 1950, at 4.00 p.m.
7. The decision of the Company is final in all matters connected with this Competition.

QUESTIONS :

1. What is the Highway Code and what is its aim ?
2. Why is more care required when travelling faster ?
3. What do you understand by the term traffic ?
4. The Highway Code says if there is no footpath, it is generally better to walk on the right side of the road. Why ?
5. Is there any exception to the rule mentioned under question 4 ? If so, what is it ?
6. A boy riding a pedal cycle stops and picks up a friend whom he seats on the crossbar of his machine. Give two reasons why he should not have done this.
7. What should a cyclist do when he wants to turn into a side road on his right ?
8. All motorists, by law, have to observe the "STOP" or "HALT" signs. Does this equally apply to cyclists ?
9. In Trinidad, are you bound by law to carry a red light on the rear of your cycle ?
10. A person with a white stick is seen on the roadway. As a cyclist, what would you do ? As a pedestrian what would you do ?
11. On a narrow road, or when traffic is heavy, how should cyclists ride ?
12. A cyclist who has passed a "HALT" sign in a side road emerges on to a main road without stopping and collides with a car about to overtake a lorry at the junction. How many mistakes were made and by whom ?
13. When should the driver or rider of a vehicle signal ?
14. Mention three cycling acts that are illegal ?
15. Do your hand signals give you right of way ?

SERVICE BIRTHDAYS

35 Years



F. JACKIE
Oil Gauging Dept.

25 Years

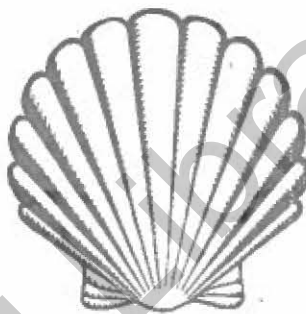


**F. THOMAS
EXD (Penal)**

25 Years



J. HAGLEY
Refinery (Plants Section)



30 Years



McD. WILSON
Refinery (Distillation Section)

25 Years



J. AUSTIN
Refinery (Engineering Section)

25 Years



W. WRIGHT
Refinery (Marine Section)

and still going strong!