New Clubhouse for Beirut, Recreation Centers for Line

Beirut Club Open Soon

The first floor and grounds for a tennis court and basketball court have been rented for the Beirut Sporting Club, and facilities will include a dining room and kitchen, bridge room, billiards and ping-pong tables, library, patio and bar. "We plan to take over the clubhouse from the contractor next month," says Mike Bassoul, president, "and it will take us another month to complete the courts and the inside decoration and furnishings."

At a general election held on February 20 three officers were re-elected for a second term: Mike Bassoul, president; Howard Wells, secretary; and Joe Jabbour, treasurer. Two additional members were added to the Executive Board, bringing the total to eight. Three elected new: Dr. Amjad Ghanma, Seashal Chamieh, Joseph Breidi, Jane Ringlund, Nicolas Habre, Mary Rubeiz and Don Murray. Out of a total of 216 members, 135 ballots were cast.

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Single or family memberships are available to all Tapline employees, with a special membership for those who live outside Beirut. Various rooms in the Clubhouse will be available for members' private parties, and if popular, daily luncheons will be served in the dining room. There is room to seat about 100 persons at special banquets.

Station Plans Completed

Within a month construction will start on the new Recreation Center in Turaif, with ground breaking following soon after in Rafha and Badanah. It is estimated that it will take a year to complete the structure which includes a dining hall and a kitchen, games room, theater, library, dark room for photography, card room, bakery and commissary. A similar center has been operating in Qaisumah for several months.

Tennis courts have been planned for the four desert stations, to be completed before summer. Work is well underway with company crews on the L-shaped recreation building for general employees at Turaif. It will be completed within 3 to 4 months, and includes a dining room, ping pong and billiards tables, and small auditorium. Similar buildings will be constructed in Badanah, Rafha and Qaisumah.

To All Tapline Employees:

This is the first edition of a new Tapline employee's publication which each of you will receive monthly. Its purpose is to bring together the employees of Tapline in four countries and of more than a dozen nationalities, into a closer understanding of one another and of the Company for which we work.

I urge that each of you regard this publication as your own, and that you participate actively in its development by passing to the "Editor-Tapline-Beirut," or to your station correspondent, any news, views or ideas which you think may be of interest to others.
NAME THE PAPER CONTEST

CASH PRIZE

From the sands of Saudi Arabia, through Trans-Jordan and Syria, across the mountains of Lebanon to the blue Mediterranean lies the Trans-Arabian Pipe Line. To out over 1000 miles, Tapline is starting a monthly newspaper. It’s for your employees so YOU NAME IT!

A cash prize of 150 Lebanese pounds (or its equivalent in other foreign currency) will be awarded for the winning name. In case of a tie the prize money will be divided.

The rules are few and simple:

1. Contest is open to employees of Tapline.
2. Contest ends at midnight, March 15. All entries must be in the mail by that time.
3. No limit to number of entries of each employee.
4. Each entry must be signed by employee.
5. Send entries to Editor, Tapline, Beirut.
6. Winners will be announced in the April issue of the paper.

Judges for the contest are: From Saudi Arabia, O. Bin Abdullah; Trans-Jordan, Mohamed Y. Ahmad; Syria, Mahmoud E. Fesseh; Lebanon, Jon Bayke; Ben Davies of Qaisumah representing the Americans; and J. Bobbitt of the other ex-patriates.

Inoculations Reduced

Since January 1, cholera and typhus shots are no longer mandatory for Tapline employees and their dependents living in Lebanon. For those living or traveling in Saudi Arabia, however, these booster shots are necessary at 6 month intervals.

Tetanus inoculations are required for employees connected with industrial and hazardous work, are optional for dependents, and office personnel must sign a waiver slip upon refusal to have the inoculations.

Immunizations for everyone still include Typhoid booster every six months, and Smallpox vaccine every 3 years. Children will continue to be given the triple vaccine of Diphtheria, Whoop

American Studying Arabic

It’s back to school again for many Americans in Lebanon and Saudi Arabia who are studying under the company’s new plan for teaching professional conversational Arabic. Men from Sidon and Beirut are learning privately in small classes from a course especially designed by Dr. M. Y. Van Wagener of the Sidon Training School. Matt Schoen had been invited to the course in Beirut on January 5 and he assisted in record keeping and class planning by Monas Dahabji. Three days a week for an hour and a quarter the language sessions are conducted by instructors Joseph K. Khamneh and Fawzi Jabir. It is planned as a long range program covering several years.

Most from Saudi Arabian stations are getting their instruction through the regular classes of Language Supervisory training and orientation at the Sidon Training Center. Wherever their work permits they travel to Sidon for the 6 week course. Those who have already finished this training are R. D. Robinson, Kenneth Pelcher, W. M. Christiansen and Paul F. Owens of Badanah; O. E. Ritter of Sidon; W. W. Pickert and Floyd A. Kender of Rafqa; Ben Davies and Sam Fisk of Qaisumah; John Strader and V. Birner of Tufind; and A. Thomas of Rafqa.

Local Business

Those Middle East calendars are available and those working in the industry.

Pin Presentations

Service Pins were presented to the following:

After the presentation the following Lebanese Tapliners posed for their picture with president Swigart: left to right: Salim Al-Ahmad, Rayne Breid. Dieu Sheheryar, Majid Salmon, Nouvartte Arevian, Joseph Heiser, George Hajjar, Michel Malouf, Dr. Amjad Ghanma, Toufic Meihi, Emile Ayash, Joseph Abboud, Dzovak Manoukian, Arouziag Keshishian, Elie Farah, Christine Reyi, Sanwal Kassir, Khatib: Akhtarian, Joseph Brobit, George Nune, Walid Hadibad, Reza Sadiq, Elias Breid, Michel Ansara, Elias Abbas, Janwil Sablin, Joe Sheba and Salim Kassir.

FIRST SERVICE AWARDS PRESENTED

Seventy-four Receive First Awards

In January ceremonies in Badanah and Beirut, ninety-five Tapline employees received Service Award Pins presented by Mr. C. A. Swigart, president of the Company. Those employees represent a total of 775 years of experience in the oil industry.

"Those who designed Tapline provided us with a pipeline facility which is modern and up-to-date in every respect," said Mr. Swigart, "but modern facilities do not in themselves guarantee a successful operation. We must also have qualified people to operate and maintain these facilities, and to a great extent the proper qualifications may be measured in terms of years of experience. Service pins are granted in recognition of that experience, and we should all be proud to wear them.{quote}

"The excellent record achieved by Tapline in its first two years of operation," he continued, "has shown that both the men and the facility have more than measured up to expectations. We are looking forward to many years of uninterrupted operations, pumping as much oil as possible at the lowest possible cost per barrel."

The Service Award Program provides for presenting a pin at the end of each 5 years of continuous service. Each star denotes 5 years, with a diamond replacing the stars at the end of 30 years. Employees transferring to Tapline from affiliated companies receive credit for past service. Hereafter pins will be presented by supervisors on the employee’s anniversary date, or as soon thereafter as possible.

Pin recipients enjoyed coffee and cake after the ceremonies. At the Alumni Club in Beirut Nouvartte Arevian, Medical; Michel Malouf, Medical; and Elias’ sons of Community Services choose their favorite cake at the buffet table.

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Eddys Returning

Mr. and Mrs. Eddy (he is Tapline's Political Consultant) are returning from the United States this week by way of Rome, Libya, and Cairo. They were stayed in Washington D.C. by illness for which Mr. Eddy was hospitalized.

Transfers on Line

Qaisumah and Turf are trading fortunes operating farms this month. John Arnold moved to Turf where there is a 3 bedroom house available for his wife and four children (twins last November), and John Bradley moved directly to Qaisumah after his long leave. Dan Hall also is at Qaisumah — as head of the garage, transferring from Sidon.

Booster Pump

For Qaisumah

Amman has started work on installing a new section booster pump in Qaisumah which will take some of the load off the Nariya station.

Heavy Rains

in Desert

An unusually heavy rainfall brought trouble in the form of washed-out roads to Beersheba. But it promises to be a boon to Rafha. The winter rains in Beersheba are attracting many ducks, and hunters are busy caddying guns.

Breadi

Speaks

Before Army

The Oil Industry was the subject of lectures given by Joe Reid of Personnel first before the officers of the Naval Academy of Lebanon, and then for the officers of the Lebanon Army on February 28. He is to return to work as a senior clerk upon completion of his year's study in June.

Jenner on Route

To Sumatra

New address of V. E. "Jenner" Jensen is Talaje to Mr. O. T. Sawyer, Accountant, whose wife passed away February 21, and to Nahum Ranas of Sidon, who sent for his son, Kamal, on February 21.

May Festival

Chairman

For the record consecutive year Medea Wallace, wife of Don Wallace of Personnel, has been selected as chairman of the annual Folk Dance Festival to be held May 22 on the AUB playground. Nearly 20 schools from Sidon, Tripoli, and Beirut will participate in this year's festival presenting dances from all over the world.

See Son on Guam

Traveling outward on leave home, John and Irma Strader of Qaisumah stopped at Guam Island to visit their son, Sgt. Dale Strader. "The Army rolled out the red carpet for us," says Irma, "and we were able to have our baby live with us for three weeks. We were the first parents to visit a soldier son on Guam."

From Guam the Straders continued east to Honolulu where they visited friends of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Blomquist of Sidon, and met the father of Mrs. Art Olson. After spending Christmas in Kansas, they returned to Beirut by air in time for John to take over his new duties as Operations Foreman at Qaisumah.

New Arrivals

Miss Beverly Arrowmith, fiancee of engineer R. C. Thompson, arrived in Beirut last week from Beverly Hills, California. The couple plan to be married some time in March.

Jensen Returns from Trip

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Sympathy

Maida Wallace, wife of Don Wallace of Personnel, has been selected as chairman of the annual Folk Dance Festival to be held May 22 on the AUB playground. Nearly 20 schools from Sidon, Tripoli, and Beirut will participate in this year's festival presenting dances from all over the world.

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