Famed Distance Swimmer
Makes Visit To Beirut

(Cont'd. from Page 1)

By A. A. Krause

Several pros were recently awarded to Sidon Terminal mooring masters M. Nesheim and (right) A. Odegaarden by Captain J. R. Jones, Terminal superintendent, (center), Mr. Rutherford, formerly with Esso Transport Company, Ltd. of London, received his 10 year pin. Mr. Odegaarden, formerly with The Texas Company (Norway), received his 15 year pin and Mr. Odegaarden, (right) Renee Yared, Norah Bezjian, Joe Jabbour, David Sambar and Ray Bader to celebrate the occasion.

Christmas Day mattress up and down the Line will serve a special dinner on the house for employees. With proceeds from their monthly causality parties, Tapline personnel will entertain the station's younger set at a children's party. Santa Claus is scheduled to appear and will present each youngster with a gift as well as cookies and candy.

Sidon Terminal personnel will be entertained at Tawas Hotel with half the terminal's complement attending the night of December 21 and the remainder on the following evening. Christmas parties are scheduled at the Sporting Club for Beirut employees. Personnel of General Services, Security and Medical will attend the party slated for December 21. And, on December 22 employees of Administration, Accounting, Communications, Engineering, Relations, Legal, Personnel and O & E will be entertained.

The afternoon of December 22 the Sporting Club will give a party for the children of its members. During the festivities Santa Claus will visit the party and distribute gift packages to the small-fry. Two movie films are also to be shown as part of the entertainment program.

To see off the old year and welcome in 1954, the Sporting Club has planned a banquet and dance for New Year's Eve. Dancing will start at 9:30 PM and a buffet dinner will be served at midnight.
A man of action is Jaap Hobbel and his past experiences read with the intrigue of the latest adventure story—and a true one at that. Jaap (Dutch for Jim) is a native of Holland and a college graduate in radio, mechanical and aeronautical engineering.

In 1957 he enlisted in the Netherlands army and became a radio operator after the German invasion and the battle of the Nether-lands Forces in May 1940. He joined the Nether-lands underground movement, heading a sabotage group. Until the capitulation of Germany, Jim and his group were active in the sabotage of German in-stallations, passing information to the Allies and rescuing Allied airmen who came down in German occu-pied territory. As could be expected under such circumstances, casualties of the group ran extremely high. Recalled into the Nether-lands army in 1943, Jim was first assigned to General Headquarters at The Hague and was later transferred to the East Indies. While there he followed a versatile career of gunnman, tank commander, reconnaissance pilot, intelligence officer and commander of large combat units, winding up as a high ranking officer on the Staff of the Commander in Chief of the Nether-lands Forces.

While serving in the latter capacity, Jim was in charge of numerous construc-tion and repair pro-jects that eventually were turned over to the Indo-nesian civil government. Among these projects were a radio communications system of more than 600 stations; a broadcasting system of 17 stations with 22 studio buildings and 47 transmitters; radio facili-ties for long distance com-munications; as well as building and repair of hydro-electric plants.

During his tour of duty in the East Indies, Jim managed to spend several months on Bali, “Island of the Tropics,” from which he gathered various kinds of desert plants from the Jordan desert bordering the Persian Gulf. These species range from wild asparagus to ancient myrrh.

The Kelleys’ interest in unusual plants was aroused many years ago when they were living in the Tropics. “During the first few years we collected and preserved specimens for our own pleasure,” related Mrs. Kelleys, “but soon we requests began to come in for us to send special plants, birds, butterflies, and even butterflies for sale. Our first outside request was for a complete type of “homemade,” or air plants, of Southern Brazil and Central America. This was followed by a request for flowers of various palms of the Tropics, then roots of the highly aromatic sprays orchids of Western Venezuela. Many birds they were asked to procure, two in particular impressed Mrs. Kelley. One was the large Toucan with its rainbow-colored bill, the second was the Holzan, an im-measurably poetic bird with six inch spires in its wing joints.

“However, our rarest of finds was a white vam-pire bat, a species that occurs once in a million.” On their search for beetles in Central Columbia, the Kelleys came across one as large as a man’s fist known as the Rhinoceros beetle. Another was the Hippopo-tamus beetle then so extinct an institution paid $1500 for a pair. Pursuing their plant collecting in Central Columbia, Jim and Mrs. Kelley found some of the largest rare plants and flowers. They also gathered two kinds of flowers that were exceptionally uncommon. One of these was the “Palo Cruz,” or Tree of the Cross, having an annual rainfall of 500 inches. The other was the “Brownie,” a cone-shaped mass of silky petals with long spines, shading from flame to gold, and formed into a ball. One of these blooms alone made a complete bouquet. The other expe-rience was a massive, bell-shaped guachua, blossoms which grow only in two localities of Colombia at an altitude of between 2000 and 4000 feet and having an annual rainfall of 200 inches. Due to its size and ceramic, this flower will not thrive at an altitude of 300 feet above or below the aforementioned. “Not only difficult to gather, this beauty is almost im-possible to transplant.”

“John Kelley of Tufarf selects specimens of his extensive collections of flowers, plants and flowers. (Photo by J. C. Kelley)

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“Mrs. John Kelley of Tufarf selects specimens of his extensive collections of flowers, plants and flowers. (Photo by J. C. Kelley)
Turair, November 15, and J. Van Der Broeck arrived November 9 after home leave in The Netherlands. Jamal plans to spend part of his vacation in Cairo and Beirut.

In recognition of five years of service with the Company, drivers (left to right) K. B. Abdul Karim, Abdulla Sulaiman, Rashia Ibrahim and Dokhi Al Kairy were presented service pins by their supervisor, Al Alamed to Rafha on the line to Rafha on the line.

In a recent letter to Joe the Sporting Club quiz conducted on November 12. After fifteen days in Brussels, Mr. and Mrs. Davis turned from home leave December 1. Mr. and Mrs. Davis joined the eventful dinner party given for them December 5 by the Don Robinsons. The Currans explained for the U.S. December 8 and will by direct flight to New York. The Beckleys have taken an apartment in New York City.

What else took place that

Arriving on special assignments during November were Messrs. C. H. Pope, H. E. Cross and D. Olson and I. W. Deets were from Radanah. Other arrivals were Y. Zakhlite, Bahia. N. Ghattas, a teacher from long vacation, while Jamal Shakhtour of Relations will be with the Lebanon during November. En—

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Topline Tennis Team Places Third

The Tapline tennis team placed third in the annual tournament held near Dhahran with a final score of 6–2, 8–6. Aramco's team was victorious in this event.

The Tapline Tennis Association's tournament brought together the best players from Tapline's organized sports activities for the season, with the exception of bowling.

To reserve aces, price is to be presented at the Sporting Club's New Year's Eve dance to winners of various inter-club sports events which took place during the year. Scheduled to receive these awards are: Elie Wazir (Acctg.) for men's singles; Huda Badran (P&S) for women's singles; Mike Chehabdeh (Acctg.) for ping pong (men's singles); Huda Badran (P&S) for women's singles, and Mike Chehabdeh (Acctg.) for men's singles.

Reactivated this Fall, Tapline Tennis has played its first tournament November 30 against A.U. Petroleum Company and Tapline. Activities for 1953, with the line's organized sports activities in full swing, include: Herbert Seeley. Final scores brought to a close Tapline's organized sports activities for 1953, with the line's organized sports activities in full swing.

Scheduled to receive these winners of various intras-club sports events were: Ray Badran, Jane Ringlund, Raja Salibi, Sarkis Bikhazi, and Mike Chehabdeh. Committee members, W. J. Keane was not available for the photograph.

Available


Studebaker Champion Deluxe, 1951 model. Contact: Raja Salibi, Ext. 226.

Two Triumph Motorcycles, 1950 model, mileage 42,000 k. in good condition. Contact: Farid Siblani, Beirut Medical Department.

Zenith Radio - Phonograph, 1952 console model; also wide assortment long-playing (22-3-1 record). Contact: G. S. Aronson, Ext. 288.

Room Air Conditioner, Mitchell, 3/4 HP, 110 V, 50-60 cycle, 12 amp, fits in window, one and a half years old with 5 year warranty. Contact: E. C. Pace, Air Division.

Baby crib, maple, adjustable height, springs and mattress, both in good condition. Contact: E. C. Pace, Air Division.

Personnel Report

PROUD FATHERS

Beirut

Vladimir Bavloloff (Eng.) a son, George.

Maouedelhe Eshragh (Traffic) a daughter, Jana.

Hussein Khalilah (P&S) a son, Hasan.

Hassan Mabab (G.O.S.) a son, Mohamad.

Compiling five years of employment with the Company, November 8, 1953. He started his employment as a messenger on November 9, 1948 and advanced to his present position. He is now a member of the executive committee.

Alain replies: "You find it strange. Apparently Sarah is not aware that Howard is much more interested in business. In any case, he is now married to a businesswoman, and Engage in their plans with some enthusiasm."

ROYAL PARTY VISITS PIPELINE

Following his visit to Dhahran and other cities in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia, His Majesty King Saud bin Abdul Aziz arrived at Qa'imah, first Tapline station, January 16. The King and his party were welcomed to the station and the line by President Swigart and Manager, Chandler, Loker, Pinckney, Biddle, Strader and Dr. Zoloth. F. W. Oliger, W. Burleigh and George Mandis of Aramco Petroleum Company were present. At ten o'clock the following morning the royal entourage left for Badanah.

Abdullah Sbahi, Badanah reporter, maintains the following chronology of events which took place during the King's visit at Badanah:

January 21:

The first of the King's tents were set up on three kilometers east of Badanah. His Majesty arrived in the afternoon after a short hunting trip accompanied from Rafha. About three hundred vehicles of various kinds transported the party. That evening Amir Muhammad was greeted by local government officials. The King was invited to tea and coffee during which time speeches of welcome were given. At ten o'clock the following morning the royal entourage left for Badanah.

BASSOU AND WELLS RE-ELECTED TO TSC OFFICES

Election of the Tapline Sporting Club's officers and executive committee for 1954 was held January 20. An estimated 100 members cast their votes between 5:00 and 6:30 p.m.

While the returns were being computed by Chairman Ahmad Haddad, George Shubert and Joe Jabbour of the Election Committee, a general meeting was called to order by President Mike Bassou. As president for the past year, Mike opened the meeting with a message of personal thankfulness to the cooperation he had received from his fellow officers, committee members and the membership of the Club. Reviewing the club's activities in 1953, he reminded the audience that when they had realized their goal of a clubhouse and tennis court, Mike extended his appreciation of the benefit of the work done by Mrs. Howard Wells and Mrs. C. D. Mahoney.

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