31 Employee Houses Built On Line In '63

Completion and acceptance of 31 Saudi Home Ownership Plan houses in 1963 raised the number of S.H.O.P. houses built along the Line until the year-end to 129.

Tapline's Saudi Home Ownership Plan enables interested and eligible employees to obtain new, good quality and durable homes through a deferred payment program.

Of the 129 houses completed and accepted by the end of 1963, 48 are at Turaif town, 53 at 'Ar'ar town, 18 at Balhas (15) and Qaisumah (three).

Present plans indicate that Tapline Engineering will coordinate the completion of about 30 S.H.O.P. houses during 1964.

AWAD HAMAD IS ON A 4-MONTH BEIRUT COURSE

Awad Hamad, Assistant Local Company Representative, Tapline, arrived in Beirut Feb. 12 on a four-month familiarization and training assignment.

He is currently attending Arabic and English language courses at the American University of Beirut while receiving training at the company's Government Relations Department in Beirut headquarters.

Mr. Hamad had also received a special one-week training program in Beirut in November, 1961.

He had five years of service in Aramco's Identification Division prior to joining Tapline in September, 1959. His first job in the organization was that of a typist clerk.

TERMINAL SETS ALL-TIME HIGHS IN FEB. MONTH

A number of company records were set at Sidon Terminal during the month of February.

An all-time high was reached Feb. 7 when seven tankers were loaded with 1,881,263 barrels of crude ever lifted from Sidon Terminal in any one operating day. The previous record of 1,245,683 barrels had been taken aboard by six tankers on Dec. 27, 1962.

On Feb. 10, the supertanker ESSO DEN HAAG alone lifted an all-time record load of 650,297 barrels of crude, largest single cargo in Sidon Terminal's history. The former record cargo of 648,886 barrels had been lifted by an oil tanker, the ESSO SPAIN, on July 2, 1963.

Two other loading records were set Feb. 22 when the ESSO AUSTRIA took 574,661 barrels of crude oil from Sidon Terminal in 11 hours and 29 minutes — at an average of 48,135 barrels per hour and an unprecedented maximum rate of one hour, 5,602 barrels.

The ESSO DEN HAAG's record load is only 63,000 barrels less than the total amount of crude ever lifted by four tankers from Tapline's terminal on its first day of operations, Dec. 2, 1950.

Meanwhile, in 60 hours of continuous port operations between Feb. 6 and 8, Sidon Terminal loaded 1,841,060 barrels of crude, averaging an overall rate of 30,000 barrels per hour of operation. During short peak periods on both Feb. 6 and 7, the average loading rate of all four berths exceeded 125,000 BPH.
Information matter reported in this column is compiled from and based on reports recently published in the following magazines and periodicals: Petroleum News Service, Oil & Gas Journal and World Petroleum Review.

1963 Production

Last year, world crude oil production reached the impressive figure of 1,304 million metric tons, more than 7 percent higher than the year before. Production in all countries was 1,254 million tons in 1962 and 1,319 million in 1961. 1961-62, world production has virtually doubled over the past ten years, going up from 655 million tons in 1953, and last year’s percent increase was slightly above the average annual percentage rate of growth during the 1953-62 decade.

Taking the Free World alone, production increased last year by some 70 million tons, or 7 percent. As usual, the steeper rise occurred in the Eastern Hemisphere whose output has risen over two-fifths of the Free World’s total. In particular, the Middle Eastern countries rose in 1963 by another 21 million tons, more than the 16 million tons in 1962. In the Western Hemisphere, the main increases occurred in North America, with Canadian output up by 13 million tons and Mexican oil output by some 4 million tons. In the Western Hemisphere, the main increases occurred in North America, with Canadian output up by 13 million tons and Mexican oil output by some 4 million tons. In the Western Hemisphere, the main increases occurred in North America, with Canadian output up by 13 million tons and Mexican oil output by some 4 million tons. 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The U.S. is still by far the largest producing oil country but much of the growth in world production has been dramatically from the Middle East, 150 to 190 million tons in 1962 and 266 in 1963. In the past five years, the increase in volume is nearly the same as the average annual growth rate of 7 percent.

Exports of petroleum products from the U.S. are expected to continue their decline in 1964, falling to 172,000 BPD. The largest falls, of 25.7 percent, are seen in the export of distillates. On the supply side, EPA forecasts that the 1963 volume will average 8,322,000 BPD in 1964, or a decrease of 1.7 percent over estimated volumes during 1963. This is a smaller gain than the increase of 3.1 percent in 1963 and 2.8 percent in 1962. Finally, EPA predicts that domestic production of crude oil will rise by 1.3 percent to 7,980,000 BPD in 1964, or 2.6 percent over 1963. Imports, however, will expand 3.4 percent to 1,119,000 BPD. On this basis, production plus imports will total 9,099,000 BPD, or 1.7 percent above 1963.
Among the guests of H. H. Amir 'Abd Allah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz in Musaad (second from right) at the traditional breakfast of stuffed lamb were, from left, Ahmad Baluchi, The Company Representative—Pipe Line Area Robert E. Marsh and the Qadi of 'Ar'ar, Abdul-Rahman al-Khayal.

'Id al-Fitr Festivities

A Bedouin Tapliner's son, Badr Muhammad ibn Sadyan, sports an officer's dress for the 'Id.

Trays of meat and rice are ready for the Amir's guests on the morning of 'Id al-Fitr.

'Tawifs' sword dancers in action.

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'Ar'ar citizens leave the mosque after the early-morning 'Id prayer to attend the 'Ar'ar.

Dance to the drumbeat.

A Bedouin Tapliner serves coffee at the home of Laft Nayef.

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Qaisumah
Dr. and Mrs. Shukri Soulban
held a station-wide dinner party
on Jan. 25 to celebrate the
birthday of their daughter
Sheikh’s mother-in-law recently
announced her pregnancy with
their first baby boy, Mark.

Turaiif

Rafha

Badanah

Nine student-employees were awarded Certificates of Promotion on Jan. 25 for having successfully passed the first semester exams at Rafha’s Oil Terminal Technical School. The diplomas recipients are: S. Kassim, M. Khedhiri, A. Dahi, M. Muhan, E. Hadd, A. Daid, and M. Hadi, Sheikho above, from left, standing; Dahi, Muhammad, A. D. Oudaibed, Kowaidi, A. A. Hameed, A. A. Zitar, A. A. Fadush, and Dahi, and kneeling; Shek, M. S. Hayder, Hadi, and A. Sam. (Photo by Soussi).
An 88-knot-per-hour wind and five inches of hail whipped Rafha on the night of Feb. 2-3 as winter continued to bring freak weather, heavy rains and bitter cold to widely separated parts of Saudi Arabia.

A deluge of three quarters of an inch of rain was recorded in one hour during the night of Feb. 2.

One Quonset building was lost and the roof of an 11-room bachelor quarter as well as over 50 percent of the trees of Rafha station were blown away by the high winds.

Most mud houses in Rafha town were damaged during the night flurry.

At Uwaigilah, 3.6 inches of rain were registered that night.

Periscope reporter Saad Dabagh has submitted this excellent pictorial review of Rafha station, soon after it had borne the brunt of the raging storm.