

CHEMICAL STUDENTS MAKE A PROFITABLE TRIP

Whoever went on this inspection trip can call himself lucky, for the education received will never be too highly appreciated by the individual. On Wednesday, March 24, seven seniors and several juniors accompanied by Dr. C. C. Hedges, head of the department of Chemical Engineering, and Prof. M. K. Thornton, professor of Industrial Chemistry, departed from College Station, headed for Beaumont. About 9:45 a. m., the train arrived there and then one could see how jolly and congenial the party would turn out, since really for the first time all were assembled. Woodrow, with his everlasting sense of humor, Fuzzy Hamilton, with no less sarcasm, Major Ballard, discussing the merits of the Bryan girls above those seen in Beaumont. Landon figuring out the speed at which the molecule travels through a given space, Red Taylor wondering whether or not he had relatives in the city—he had, and Castillo, well he did the rest. Thus the party arrived at the Magnolia Refinery, where Mr. J. W. Newton, '11, assistant superintendent, received us in the most cordial manner. At the chemical laboratory Capt. W. W. Leach, who at present is chief chemist there, placed into our hands the entire laboratory. Carl M. Fabian, '19, was in it too, the bunch as well as he were glad to see each other. Mr. Leon Skeeler, '12, also an A. and M. man, holding a high office was so kind as to devote his entire time to us. Dr. Hedges divided the bunch into several small groups assigning each to a man testing the oils, so that every one could learn the technique used in an oil laboratory. As soon as one of the groups was thoroughly familiar, then is was assigned to another man and thus on the line, learning from the most simplest things on up to the more difficult, such as the determination of sulphur in sample of oil. Every test required skill. Next to the laboratories was the experimental still which is used only to devise new processes in the oil industry. The principle upon which our little still behind the Chemistry building is built, is based on the same principle, which all the refineries use. There is not one in the party who can say that he did not become familiar with all the routine work employed in an oil laboratory, thanks to the leadership of experienced men. At noon the company gave us a meal in their refractory, which is located just above the laboratory. We must admit that the cook's work was enough to make a fellow work for the company just for a meal a day. During the afternoon all jumped into overalls and went to the stills. If a man has heard a lot of talk about a refinery and has never seen one, he has not the ability to perceive yet what an enormous, gigantic plant it is unless he can see it with his own eyes, and then he doubts still whether it is an image or a reality. Mr. Newton showed us around and explained in detail the various processes employed. The company has its own sulphuric acid manufacturing plant, which is on the lead chamber process type. All saw in detail the construction of the receiving houses, pressure stills, steam stills, agitators, wax plant, packing and loading plant, and many other things which appear to be of minor importance but which are little details towards an efficient running of the plant. Everyone took notes, and due to the help

which Mr. Newton, Dr. Hedges and Mr. Thornton gave us our task was made easier. At five we returned to the laboratory, where we dressed and finished our day's work. Let it be expressed at this place, that all students and professors thank the company and its officials for the kind hospitality shown to us. Not one left the place without hoping that some day he could go through again.

That very day the trip continued to Port Arthur, where the Texas Company and the Gulf Petroleum Company plants were visited. The same kind reception was tendered us here too. The feat of the day was the visit to Port Arthur High school where Dr. Hedges made a talk about the College and Woodrow followed with his good line, emphasizing the supremacy of the College in athletics. It was gratifying to see what a prosperous and well managed city Port Arthur is. Good schools, good paved streets, good system and good everything.

On Friday and Saturday the Sinclair Refinery in Houston and the Texas Portland Cement Factory were inspected and on Saturday morning the Magnolia Provision company, thus becoming familiar with the manufacturing of vegetable fats, and oils.

Least but not last, let us express our gratitude to all the companies for their kindness. Especially the Sinclair Refinery for their courtesy of sending us a truck. Mr. Richards and Mr. Barnes of Port Arthur for their invaluable help.

The members of the party were: Dr. C. C. Hedges, M. K. Thornton, E. S. Wilson, E. Taylor, L. A. Ballard, R. Thrasher, R. M. Landon, M. A. Hamilton, C. A. Castillo; Juniors, Vanderberg, Barnes, Myers, Hamilton, Coffin, Smith, Easy and others.

RESERVE TEAMS RECEIVE SILVER BALLS

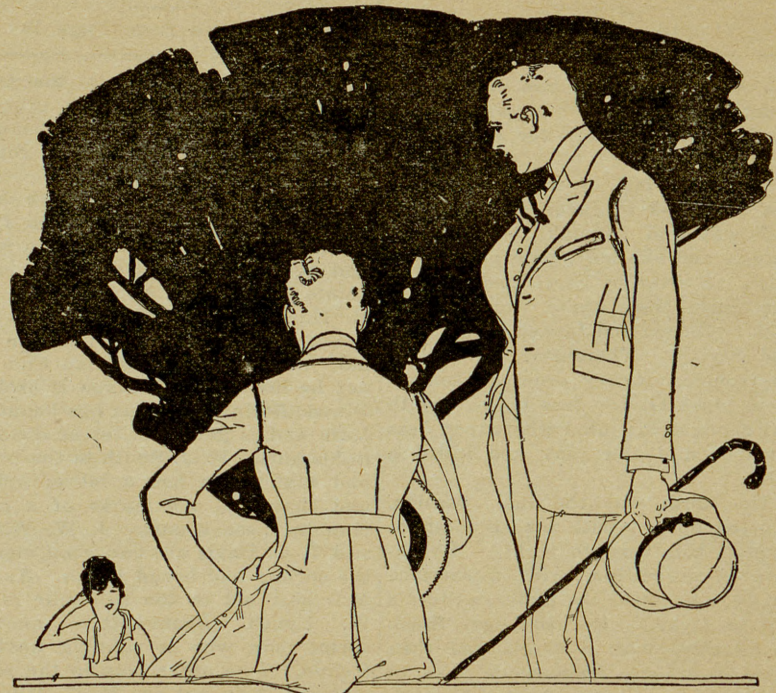
Silver footballs for the Reserve or Scrub team have been ordered for the following men and will be on hand soon: H. M. Adams, M. H. Anglin, W. L. Ballard, F. Buckner, N. E. Buescher, R. F. Burns, F. Buckner, B. L. Coker, W. L. Davis, T. C. Davis, O. H. Frazier, W. B. Hamilton, W. B. Hanna, O. Haney, L. S. Keen, C. M. Kimbrough, S. E. Leiper, R. H. Maxwell, J. C. Moore, W. B. Murray, T. J. McCarty, R. E. L. Pattillo, T. L. Parrish, R. H. Pare, W. Riley, W. E. Simpson, W. E. Winn, G. A. Davidson, J. Carmichael.

These balls are given as a mark of recognition for help in the development of the first team and are awarded to second string men in all sports. It is a matter of history that these silver balls usually become gold ones the following year, for the majority of the A. and M. athletes come from men who were scrubs the year before.

Silver balls for the scrub basketball team have also been ordered and will be on hand soon. Those receiving them are as follows: H. E. DeLee, L. S. Keen, J. P. March, F. G. Taylor, N. V. Jones and W. N. Roper.

W. Gristie Beasley, '14, Agr., formerly County Demonstration Agent at Stephenville, Texas, has been promoted by the Extension Service to the position of District Agent, and placed in charge of District No. 8, better known as the Brownwood District. Gristie has his headquarters at College.

Gristie is remembered for his football ability by the men of his time.



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