Alaska pipeline section okayed

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission’s (FERC) recent approval in principle of construction of the first 160 miles of the so-called “western leg” of the Alaska Highway pipeline system has been called a welcome development in efforts to secure long-term gas supplies for southern California.

The FERC decision helps to assure that southern California will have direct access to major new gas supplies on Alaska’s North Slope when the entire 4,800-mile pipeline system is built to bring the gas to the lower 48 states in the 1980s.

In announcing its decision in principle Dec. 28, the FERC said it hopes to make a final decision on the entire western leg proposal early this year. The commission separated its consideration of the pipeline’s western leg — on which hearings have concluded — from that of its eastern leg. (As proposed, the pipeline would split into the separate legs near Calgary, Alberta, in Canada.)

The FERC’s conditional approval covers construction of a 160-mile portion of the western leg between King Salmon, British Columbia, and Stanfield, Oregon.

The federal approval “brings us one step closer to approval of a pipeline system that will carry short-term gas exports from Canada to southern California over the next several years,” said Harry L. Lepape, president of Pacific Interstate Transmission Co., a SoCal affiliate involved in efforts to gain approval of the pipeline system.

News Briefs

"REPORT CARDS" MAILED

SoCal customers systemwide began receiving their first "report card" gas bills this month, following a test of the new format in San Gabriel Valley and San Fernando Valley divisions in December.

Called report cards because the new format allows customers to check how they're doing in energy conservation, the bills have resulted in more calls from curious customers.

Featured are a detailed breakdown of lifetime rates and comparison of last year’s usage versus this year’s over the same period.

UNITED WAY TOTALS UP

The 1979-80 AID-United Way campaign drive raised $50.5 million for Los Angeles-area charities. The first joint campaign for AID-UNA, which merged following SoCal’s annual drive, was 14 percent above last year’s effort and was the largest gain of any United Way campaign in the nation.

STOCK PURCHASES MADE

More than 1,350 SoCal employees who are members of the retirement savings plan have taken advantage of a new option effective Jan. 1 which allows them to purchase additional Pacific Lighting stock and/or government obligations through payroll deductions.
Credit Union elections set; 1979 dividend announced

Nominations for the board of directors of the Gasco Credit Union will be open until Jan. 11 for the offices vacated or having expired terms, according to Harry Young, credit union treasurer.

At the same time, Young announced that the credit union intends paying a dividend for the second half of 1979 on regular share accounts at the rate of 8 percent over annum.

The dividend totaling over $2 million was credited to members' accounts Dec. 31 and will be shown on statements to be mailed out by the middle of January.

Any $5 deposit made before the fifth of each month and left on deposit through the end of the month will earn a dividend for that month, provided the share account is still open on Dec. 31.

Young said.

In the yearly credit union election, ballots for nominations will be held in each of the following areas:

- Office 2, North Coastal area: Dale Myers, Susan Ramsay
- Office 3, Northern division area: Joy Hickman, Martha Nelson, Bob Bohnman, Richard Poole
- Office 4, San Gabriel Valley: Gordon Gauntler, Beverly Haupert
- Office 6, Orange County: Patty Ybarra, John Hopkins
- Office 7, Southern-Southeast: Paul Armantrout, Everett Byrd
- Office 9, 10, 11, Headquarters: Sam Rogers, Daniel Rodriguez, Roberta Rasmussen, Dorothy Dowling, Beverley Smith, Calvin Vincent.

SoCal faces

Gas News is published bi-weekly for Rita Sharp and other employees and retirees of Southern California Gas Co. Rita, a billing support clerk in Compton, has worked in Southern division during her seven years with the company.

GAS NEWS CROSSWORD

Across:
1. Flreated diamond dispute
8. King
15. Ex
16. Pipid
17. Compound
18. Scrap
20. Lilies
21. Reinforcer
24. Tic... Tic... Tic...
27. Sophisticated
28. Bito (Abbr.)
31. Diagrams
34. Relves
35. Ruler
38. Attributes
39. Short, quick ent.
40. Writer (pseudonym)
41. Resembling a closed water area
42. Relating to isadora and family
47. Italian port
48. Storehouse
49. Missouri
50. Course
52. Function
53. Illusion
55. Cup
60. Amer. Exped. Force (Abbr.)
61. Entertainer
65. Lawyer
67. Scalid
69. Stimulate
70. Dance

Down:
1. Spawn
2. To 30 megahertz ranges (Abbr.)
3. Educ. Assoc. (Abbr.)
4. Litter
5. 0.405 hectares
7. Uncouth in manner
8. Not important
9. So. St. (Abbr.)
10. Eye
11. Wanton look
12. Baseball stat. (Abbr.)
13. Educ. deg. (Abbr.)
14. Football game gains or losses (Abbr.)
19. Quirkened gallop
22. Queen
23. Riches
24. Recipe abbr.
25. Ger. expression
26. Frere (French)
28. Suspended
29. Hundredweight
31. One of the Fords
32. Pipes
35. Arrangements
36. From this time or place
41. Unit of heat
San Fernando Valley division boasts of a remarkable growth in population and industry in recent years that shows little sign of diminishing. Only a few decades ago, the valley was primarily an agricultural area, with miles of uninterrupted citrus groves and farms. Some of it is still rural, but the division's 410 employees headed by Division Manager Bill Miller provided service to 356,000 meters by the end of October. The headquarters in Woodland Hills is marked with a star. Covering portions of Los Angeles and Ventura counties, the division includes Aliso Canyon, SoCal's largest underground storage field. Nearby is an important water source, Van Norman Dam. The east valley features the film and television studios around Universal City, Busch brewery, and the Sepulveda Dam recreational area above Encino, along with Pierce College, Cal State Northridge and Rockwell's test facility near Chatsworth. The Renaissance Pleasure Faire in Agoura, just beyond winding Topanga Canyon, attracts thousands of visitors each year to an area that still has room for ranching. The Conejo Valley (named for ever-present rabbits) with Westlake and Thousand Oaks, is expanding the farthest western reaches of the division, which — divided by the old Southern Pacific railroad line — extends north past Simi Valley to Moorpark and the rustic hillsides.
LNG TODAY...

(continued from page 1)

initial deliveries is the end of 1983. But it more likely will be the middle of 1984. That is more realistic.

Are there other obstacles that could arise after the court appeals when financing is required?
MCKINNEY: Our financial people say the project can be financed under the present order. If that order is sustained, we can go out and get our long-term financing. The only question is how much we have to pay for it. We're looking at a terminal that's going to cost very close to a billion dollars by the time it's put in, more than a billion probably in 1984. So, we've got a lot of financing to get and the cost will be fairly important.

We now have federal government approval and the state approval sustained by the California Supreme Court. Both of these approvals were conditional — subject to further seismic studies at the site. Is there any chance that these studies could prevent us from building a terminal at that site?
MCKINNEY: No. I don't think so. There has never been a certificate or permit issued by a regulatory body that didn't have a set of conditions attached to it. You have to comply with those conditions before you can go ahead and construct the facility or operate it. We have literally a hundred or more conditions attached to this project — only a few of them are seismic-related. We have done enough work on-site that we know there are no major earthquake faults at the site. The major faults that we are designing against are from three to 12 miles away from the site. What we're finding as we dig on-site are very minor movements.

But we are finding faults.
MCKINNEY: Technically, any time the bed earth has been displaced, that is a fault — no matter how big it is. Ours are about one inch wide, which is in considerable contrast to, for example, the Palos Verdes fault that runs across a good part of the southern Los Angeles area from Redondo Beach over the northern slope of the Palos Verdes Hills and into Santa Monica and Wilmington and out through the Los Angeles Basin.

Long Beach honors. That fault is a mile wide, and people have been living on it quite comfortably for a long time. We don't have anything like that on the site.

Then it is not unusual that we're finding these series of faults?
MCKINNEY: That's right. When the word "fault," and especially the words "earthquake fault" are said, people think there could really be a serious disruption. That's simply not the kind of fault we have here. Also, we use the term "active fault" or "capable fault" as a method of age-dating faults geologists say have moved in recent times. The earliest, or the most recent movement we've had in anything that is out on the site was around 8000 B.C. Nothing has moved out there since then. Under the state regulations, we have to avoid by 100 feet any fault that has moved within the last 100,000-140,000 years, so there's really not much to be concerned about. I'm hoping that this whole seismic issue will be closed out by an order of the California Public Utilities Commission in May or June.

Who are the people who are opposing this project?
MCKINNEY: In numbers there are not very many. The Bixby Ranch Co., which is the 23,000-acre ranch to the west and northwest of our property, is one of our main opponents. They have a plan before the county to develop the ranch into 420 rather expensive home sites and they feel that our being there might somehow reduce their ability to enter into that development, or at least to sell it as well, so they have an economic interest. On the north and east of us is the Hollister Ranch, which has been subdivided into expensive 100-acre parcels that sell for someplace in the $100,000 range up in the mountains to $400,000 per parcel nearer the beach. Our access road, the one we have full legal rights to use, runs through the ranch and they are distressed and concerned about our invading their privacy, if you will. A third group opposing us is the Santa Barbara Indian Center, which has no legal case. The only meaningful thing its opposition has done has been to alarm officials of the state that there might somehow be some kind of an armed uprising. Those are our active opponents. The Sierra Club is also on record as opposing us because it has labeled our site a pristine, undeveloped area.

Are we not going to destroy the pristine atmosphere of this area or can we be compatible with that area?
MCKINNEY: We can be as compatible as possible in light of the fact that the state legislature requires us to be in a remote area. Therefore, the legislature has mandated it will be a land-use conflict. What we're doing with this facility in screening it from view, it will give less impact than almost anything else could build in this area, but there is no question there is a land-use conflict. However, the area is not pristine — the main line of the South Pacific Railroad between San Francisco and Los Angeles runs along the coastline at this point and is between us and the ocean and between the ranchers and the ocean. There is a U.S. Oil tank from a producing well right next to a property on the Bixby Ranch area and an tanker loading facility there at that same location, so oil tanks do occasionally come in contact with the normal activities. We warned all the other oil facilities in the area about the condition of the site and a lighthouse. While it is not pristine, it is not as the word, it is undeveloped and undeveloped.

Archeological studies at the site have shown there are no Indian buried sites, other significant finds. Yet the local Indians continue to raise their concerns. Will we be able to satisfy the concerns of the Native Americans and those of our project?
MCKINNEY: We certainly have tried and intend to keep trying. I was very encouraged to hear that the Chumash elders in the Santa Barbara area do not want the radical Indians involved in this issue. We have offered to acquire 50 acres on the coast, within the Point Conception, which is the area that we are interested in developing, and an area where we might use some other oil facilities, and to create a trail so the public could enjoy it. We have made an offer, an attempt to approach the Chumash elders to see if they will have something valuable that they can use. We offered them an area for many, many years so they could have legitimate access near the point itself which is apparently their sacred area. We're hoping that the reason will prevail and the Chumash will agree to this.

Some Indian leaders have talked a few times about taking up arms if we try to build any construction on that site. How like that?
MCKINNEY: What has been said for the first time is that they will oppose us to the end. Most of the Indians has been expressed in non-violent terms, such as laying their bodies down in front of equipment. There hasn't happened. The occupations have been peaceful. I don't think there will be any warfare of that sort up there. The local Indians don't want that kind of thing. They want us to leave. We will come to a time when we will demonstrate in some way, but we're not going to have the Wounded Knee kind of confrontation.

Does the question of the need for LNG arise?
MCKINNEY: Our opponents will always say that argument. That was one of the argu
only a few years ago, the gas company was issuing grave warnings that 700,000 jobs could be lost from gas shortages if we didn’t get LNG by 1980-81. What happened to change that and why do we still need the LNG when we seem to have plenty of gas for the immediate future?
MCKINNEY: I think that the immediate future is probably the key to this whole thing. The predictions that were being issued in 1977 when we were in the legislature battling attempts to keep LNG were made on the basis of how our present supplies were declining if we

"We’re about 99.5 percent certain, assuming we can hold on to our gas contracts..."

received no new gas supplies. That was a fact. Those supplies have declined in that way. However, our suppliers have had some success in attaching some small amount of new reserves each year which has helped reduce the rate of decline. It’s still declining. As a result of the Natural Gas Policy Act, we have had some temporary availability of supplies from the interstate markets. But that little bit of gas availability will not last. Some short-term supplies also have become available from Canada. The short-term situation has distinctly improved, but no new long-term gas has become available. Even the Mexican gas that is finally coming into market in relatively small quantities can be cancelled on very short notice. We’re still looking at LNG as being the earliest long-term gas supplies that can come into California.

It is easy to get trapped into arguing about what specific year does a crisis occur. If you look at the fact that the LNG projects are planned for 0 to possibly as many as 50 years, whether the gas is needed in the first year of its life or the third year to keep homes warm is immaterial. The key question is whether, over the life of this project, LNG will be essential. The answer has to be yes.

If you were an oddsmaker looking down the road at the hurdles this project still has to go through, what would you say were the odds of this project being built at this site?
MCKINNEY: You can never predict anything with certainty, but we’re about as pure as ivory can get at this point — about 99.5 percent certain, assuming we can hold on to our gas contracts.

I had known five to six years ago all the hurdles we were going to go through — and I didn’t know all of them — I would have given this project perhaps a five to 10 percent chance of succeeding. It’s a good thing we didn’t know them all at that time or we wouldn’t have done

We have done a tremendous job of overcoming some very sophisticated and not always truthful opposition. Had we not been able to successfully counter that kind of battle, we would have been through a long time ago. All the people who have been involved should take considerable pride in this. I don’t think we could have handled that kind of battle five years ago.

When these projects come on board, what will it mean to employees of the Southern California Gas Co. in terms of job opportunities?
MCKINNEY: It has three different levels of meaning to the employees of Southern California Gas Co. One is that during construction we will have some opportunities for temporary employees. We hope to borrow people from both PG&E and Pacific Lighting as they can fill some needs during that period. That will involve perhaps 50 to 100 people in California and perhaps that many in Alaska. Many of those will not come from within the company, however, because they will be specialists. But we will look to employees first.

The second level, in this interim period, involves beefing up our headquarters staff, which will tend to be more permanent. We are up to a total group of 55 people or so and will be increasing that to about twice that size. Again, before we go outside, we will always look to both parent organizations for eligible people and see if we can build from within. After construction, there will not be too many additional job opportunities. There will be about 75-100 operating personnel at Point Conception on a permanent basis, but we don’t know if those will be contract personnel or our own employees. If we hire our own people, obviously the gas company would be a prime source.

But the best job opportunity is that this will keep Southern California Gas Co.’s pipelines full and people who are working for the company fully employed.

Are other companies — particularly those who may have large energy projects planned — watching our progress to see if we can make it through the regulatory maze?
MCKINNEY: We are the favorite case study for most people who are looking at major projects of any kind in today’s environment. The General Accounting Office of the federal government considered our Indonesian project to be a classic case of delay and regulatory ambiguity. There has been no major energy project approved anywhere in the United States in many years. We will be the first of any consequence. We have had an effect. I think that Congress has seen what has happened to us and its members have become increasingly disturbed by the roadblocks and signal changes that have been thrown at us. This concern about delay has spread to other people as well.

The country will benefit as a result of our having gone through this even though it has been tough.
24 MANAGEMENT CHANGES

Larson, Phelps move in market services

Eighteen of 24 management changes announced recently were in Headquarters departments, while six took place in divisions and two new employees joined the company.

Two people were affected in market services moves.

Helen Larson, who has been on a temporary assignment as market services research assistant, returns to her regular assignment as market services research librarian, reporting to Dick Reynolds, and Les Phelps, who has been on a temporary assignment as market services assistant, is promoted to account executive.

In administrative services, Mike Guin, Vince Monaci, Ron Valles, and Bob Bakker move to new positions.

Guin is promoted from special events representative to supervisor of special events in nisk management, reporting to Dale Kysar. Monaci is promoted from fleet maintenance analyst to fleet administration coordinator, reporting to Bill Geiman. Valles, who has been on a temporary assignment as material services assistant, is promoted into this position on a regular basis. He reports to Wayne Brown. And Bakker is promoted from automotive maintenance specialist at Monterey Park to a temporary assignment as automotive supervisor at Pico Rivera, reporting to Don Yancey.

J.C. Hollman, who has been on a temporary assignment as industrial service representative in customer services, is promoted into this position on a regular basis. He reports to John Graham.

Promoted from assistant computer programmer to computer programmer, information systems, is Suzanne Pavloka. She reports to Larry Krause.

In distribution, Bob Fuller is promoted from technical assistant, San Joaquin Valley, to field procedures specialist, reporting to Loxelle Speckel.

Auburn Atkins, who has been on a temporary assignment as instructor in operations support, is promoted into this position on a regular basis. He reports to Gene Stacy.

In two accounting and finance moves, Tony Ciarrococ goes from cash operations supervisor to senior staff accountant in secretary and treasurer, reporting to Don Rodriguez. And Dave Trigg is promoted from senior staff accountant in secretary and treasurer to property and depreciation analyst in plant accounting, reporting to Larry Mason.

Moving in engineering services are Dennis Moore, Gary Pippin, and Gabie Amaro.

Moore is promoted from technical assistant in distribution, Orange County, to planning specialist in system engineering. Pippin is promoted from design drafting supervisor in engineering design to a temporary assignment as engineering support supervisor, reporting to Ken Gleisner. And Amaro is promoted from associate engineer to engineering in technical services, reporting to David Crain.

Three moves took place in LNG projects:

Bill Brown is promoted from supervisor of facilities design to design engineering manager, reporting to Maury Fullin.

Alan Willks is promoted to supervisor of plant engineering from staff engineer-design and Billy Brown goes from operations planning coordinator to operations engineer. Both report to Brown.

In division moves, in Southern, Larry Krause, who has been on a temporary assignment as systems and standards specialist in distribution, is promoted to district distribution supervisor at Compton on a regular basis, reporting to George Keons.

Dale Manis moves from instructor in operations support to a temporary assignment as field instructor at Alhambra in customer services. He reports to Jack Bones.

Dave Crawford is promoted to technical supervisor in planning in distribution, Northwest, after a temporary assignment in that job. He reports to Ray Rawd.

Jim Wayde, who has been on a temporary assignment as distribution construction supervisor at Juntia in Northwest, is promoted into this position on a regular basis, reporting to Glen Van Gordon.

John Oly, who has been on a temporary assignment as field service supervisor at Garden Grove in customer services, Orange County, moves to a temporary assignment as field instructor at 36th Street in customer services, Metro, reporting to Norm Williams.

Ron Williams is promoted to field instructor at San Bernardino in inland customer services after a temporary assignment in that job at Alhambra, San Gabriel Valley. Williams reports to Bill Lepper.

Joining the company are:

Karen Guppy, as associate reservoir engineer in transmission, underground storage, coming from Stanford University. She reports to Mary Melton. And David Moard, as associate engineer in engineering services, coming from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He reports to Dick Ashworth.

HELPFUL HINT NO. 60

Stress: ‘As sure as death and taxes’

We’re living today in a world in which stress is as sure as death and taxes. But the word ‘stress’ shouldn’t trigger an automatic negative response. Some stress, in fact, can be good for you. Stress only becomes bad when it is distress.

Stress can be produced by good things in your life as well as bad. For example, you come under stress when you learn of the sudden death of someone close to you, but you also feel stress after winning first place in a sporting event.

No matter what you are doing, you are under some amount of stress, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. Even while you sleep, your body must continue to function and react to the stress imposed by dreaming.

Stress comes from two basic forces — the stress of physical activity, and the stress of mental/emotional activity.

However, we create much of our own stress by making unrealistic demands of ourselves. Fortunately, doctors and psychologists agree, we can do something about stress — something other than popping a Valium or other prescription drug into our systems.

Managing stress effectively is a learned skill. So it follows that mastery of techniques which are useful in managing stress can help prevent heart attacks, achieve weight control, stop smoking and control blood pressure.

There are varying ways to experience stress physically. Most people feel muscle tightness, especially in the face or neck, and a lump in the stomach or nausea are common.

Much stress is experienced as a chronic, pervasive feeling of anxiety and inner tension. In cases of abrupt, specific and more startling stresses, the symptoms are less common but quite familiar — rapid pulse, dry mouth and sweaty palms.

Here are some steps to help learn stress management techniques:

1. Identify the kinds of stresses in your everyday life and how they affect you;
2. Do a self-evaluation to determine the extent of stress in your life and how it’s produced, then commit yourself to a change;
3. Become aware of the sources of your stresses so you can respond in a relaxed and effective way;
4. Using self-observation, record in a small notepad such external stress factors as frequency, people, places, events and physical things such as noise; and internal agents such as thoughts which stimulate anxieties or fears;
5. Learn about and develop the two basic skills which are of central importance in stress management — deep muscle relaxation and mental relaxation.
Q & A

Aren’t big gas company profits the primary reason for increased gas bills? After all, Pacific Lighting, which owns SoCal, has increased its dividends to the highest level ever.

First of all, the gas company does not make big profits. For every dollar the company collects, only 2.8 cents is profit. Compare this to the fact that the company spends 75.6 cents of that same dollar to purchase gas from its suppliers. Pacific Lighting has recorded higher earnings. And the gas company and other subsidiaries have improved their earnings. However, an increase in both gas company and Pacific Lighting profits is necessary if these companies are to have the financial resources available to bring in badly needed, new supplies of gas.

Not only do new supply projects, such as the liquefied natural gas project, cost hundreds of millions of dollars, but their costs increase due to inflation. The cost of the LNG project goes up an estimated $1 million a day from inflation alone. Just like consumers trying to finance a new home or car, the company’s “salary” — profit — must increase or the company will be unable to bring in the gas supplies needed in California.

How do customers know that the increase in their gas bills isn’t because of faulty meters rather than increasing prices? How accurate are the meters?

Last year, mostly as a result of the company’s periodic testing program, about 167,000 meters were tested. Of that, 97 percent were found to be accurate within allowable ranges of tolerance. (Meters may “run fast” up to 2.5 percent, a range established by rules of the California Public Utilities Commission.) There is always a chance a meter can be inaccurate, in which case the customer’s bill is sometimes adjusted accordingly. If the meter is found to “run fast,” the customer receives a refund. However, if a meter “runs slow,” resulting in an undercharge to a residential customer, we normally repair or replace the meter and do not retroactively adjust the customer’s bill. We will check a meter at no charge to a customer if he suspects it is faulty. However, in most cases, the meter will be found to be accurate.

OBITUARIES

Lorraine Hyta died Dec. 16 at the age of 53. She started with the company in 1962 and was employed as special analysis clerk in general services, Southern.

Archibald Lund, 70, died Dec. 9. Mr. Lund started with the company in 1928 and retired in 1975 as a senior appliance service maintenance man in San Gabriel Valley.

1-Call center moves into L.A. to protect underground lines

After three years, Underground Service Alert of Southern California, the one-call notification center designed to help contractors and excavators prevent accidents to buried utility services such as natural gas pipelines, expanded into Los Angeles County late last year.

The alert service now covers Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Imperial, San Diego, Santa Barbara, Ventura and Inyo counties.

SoCal is represented on the USA board of governors by George Hendrick, distribution maintenance analyst, Headquarters, who was recently re-elected chairman.

USA, which started in Orange County in late 1976, enables a contractor or excavator to call a single toll-free number to report the location of work he is planning. This information is passed on to all members of USA so they can take necessary steps to mark and protect their facilities.

Statistics from Orange County show a 12 percent reduction in excavation accidents over the three-year period that the service has been in operation. Membership in the non-profit alert service comprises more than 20 public agencies; electric, water and gas utilities; and pipeline firms which operate underground facilities in southern California.

NON-MANAGEMENT MOVES

Friend, Kay named as SoCal field collectors

Station Operator
Detweiler Anderson

Stock Secretary
Norman Kanai

Welder Pipeline Mechanic
Alfonso Robles

Special Clerk
Barbara Moore

Senior Clerk
Janet Bingham

Accounting & Finance
Janet Bingham

Utility Clerk
Jean DeCarlo

Chief Analyst
Northwest to SCV

Gregory Dunne

Dispatcher
Western to Metro

Beatrice Eshleman

HQ to Metro

Bernardina Guiterrez

San Gabriel Valley

Rosemary Jenkins

Southern

Sherry McWilliams

San Fernando Valley

Mantha Niles

NW to Southern

Ivyette Roberts

Accounting & Finance

General Clerk
Brenda Dillon

Gas News

Vol. 39 No. 1

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Editor: Conrada Pearson
Associate editor: Jack Armstrong
Staff writer: Carol Alther
Typesetter: Vincente Casteneda
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Gas News  Page 7
Hill plans return to native England as 13 set for early 1980 retirement

"I intend to return to England to live and get a part-time job," says Thomas Hill. "It's good to get out of the rut and reshape your life once in a while ... and it's also a good way to clean out your closets."

Hill departs as a meter repair supervisor in Headquarters after 26 years.

"I remember the good old days when ... gasoline was 10 cents a gallon," says Everett (Ev) Dickens. He retires as service technician in customer services, Eastern, after 39 years.

Dickens plans to enjoy more traveling and fishing.

George La Clear says that during his 38-year career he "always had good supervisors, enjoyed my work and good fellow employees." He departs as service technician in customer services, Southeast.

La Clear's hobbies include electronics, and making stained glass windows and clocks.

Jim Hamilton's 39-year career concludes as senior safety representative in industrial relations, Headquarters.

Immediate plans are to relax, play golf, and enjoy more traveling if gasoline is available.

"I plan to build a new home in Washington," says Paul Weldon who leaves as technical supervisor in distribution, Eastern after 29 years.

Weldon also plans to enjoy fishing off his back porch.

John Arvig joined the company in 1939 as a messenger and concludes his 41-year career as a service center supervisor in customer services, San Gabriel Valley.

Immediate plans are to move to the Midwest to be near his children and grandchildren.

"Seeing the country, taking a trip to the Caribbean and spending all the time I can with my family," are Ben Hogan's immediate and long-range plans after 34 years when he retires as lead janitor in administrative services, Headquarters.

Leaving the company after 36 years is Margaret Taylor, customer services representative in customer services, Northern.

Taylor says that the use of more modern technology is the biggest change she's seen at the company.

Eileen Schremp and her husband, Larry, plan to build a home in Calimesa. Then, as time permits, they would like to visit a few of the historical sites in this country.

Schremp retires as a records control clerk in customer services, Inland, after 33 years.

"Take up golf again and travel if gasoline prices permit," says Barbara Brennan of her immediate plans. She enjoys church work and visiting with the elderly in rest homes.

Brennan departs as a senior branch office representative in customer services, San Joaquin Valley, after 31 years.

Jack Davis, division superintendent in distribution, Northwest, retires after 41 years. Davis joined the company as a meter reader.

Immediate plans include traveling and taking archery courses.

Ending 34 years of service is George Weatherholt, pipeline assistant in transmission, South Basin division.

Weatherholt's retirement plans include becoming involved in new work interests, home improvements and travel.

Basil Bellefeuille's 43-year career ends February 1980 as appliance service representative in San Joaquin Valley.

Immediate plans are to remodel house and yard and improve his golf game.

San Gabriel Valley switches to Centrex

San Gabriel Valley division will switch over to the Centrex telephonic system, effective with the start of business Monday, January 28.

New four-digit extension numbers will be assigned for each phone station, Loretta Bowden, supply and support supervisor, said.

The solid state electronic switching Centrex system is the same as that previously installed in Metro, Eastern, Northwest, Southern, Western, and Orange County. It permits direct dialing to each station, and has features for conference calls and holding or transferring calls not available on the present equipment.

New phone numbers for the division will be issued for temporary insertion in the regular company telephone books until the next regular revision is published.

Gas News
P.O. Box 3249, Terminal Annex
Mail Location 1122
Los Angeles, California 90051

...sex and violence everywhere!