ON THANKSGIVING DAY, just passed, we Americans were led to consider our many blessings. Most of us were surprised to discover that our blessings were far more numerous than we had realized in the rush of the daily routines. So our thoughts ascended in gratitude.

With this festive occasion fresh in our minds and with the Christmas season approaching, we turn our attention from the pressures and vexations of modern-day living, and for a time we live on a higher plane where eternal verities and spiritual values are given more than usual consideration. We contemplate to one degree or another our purposes in life, and we are likely to take inventory of our progress toward the goals that we have set. This inventory usually brings the realization that we have again fallen far short. We determine to make up for some of our negligence during the coming Christmas season and resolve to set a new course for the new year.

As we ponder these thoughts, we come to appreciate more fully the fact that the spirit of the Christmas season has a much more profound and significant meaning than can be expressed by decorations, gay lights, and gaiety. It hails the birth of Jesus as the fulfillment of Isaiah’s prophecy: “Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel” (or “God with us”). Also, “...unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder.”

Thus, as the Christmas season approaches, there is a tendency to become more and more aware of the spiritual brotherhood of man, of the essentially spiritual foundations of our nation and of permanent world peace, and of the pleasure of doing for others rather than for ourselves. These manifestations of the spirit of Christmas have an almost universal appeal, even among those who profess other religions or recognize no Infinite Being at all.

Few persons would quarrel with the principles that were taught and practiced by the Christ — nor with the suggestion that they are just exactly what we, as individuals and as a nation, need every day of the year.

At any rate, “Christmastime” is nearly here once more, and we happily welcome it. To all Westerners and their families and to our other friends we wish the joys that come with the spirit of Christmas, and we wish you all success and happiness in the New Year.

N. B.
Western Has World’s Largest Oceanographic Fleet

Who would you expect to be the possessor of the world’s largest oceanographic fleet—the United States? Russia? Japan? Woods Hole? Scripps Institution? Logical, but not so. Western Geophysical Company, with 16 ships of its own and another 31 under charter at this writing, is the operator of the largest oceanographic flotilla.

True, Western’s studies are aimed almost exclusively at helping major oil companies locate potential petroleum-producing areas on the continental shelves. Nonetheless, this is oceanographic work, and of an important order, too. When Western applied its petroleum geophysical techniques to “deep ocean” studies of the earth’s crust for the National Science Foundation’s Mohole Project, significant contributions to oceanographic knowledge resulted.

Our Company’s vessels are not designed to appeal to the “tourist trade.” The only gingerbread on them is the kind that comes from the galley ovens. The architecture of today’s ships is the product of experience in most kinds of marine environment from the tropics to Alaska. The fleet’s sole reason for being is to serve as platforms from which Western Geophysical teams can probe the earth beneath the oceans.

Marine crews produce astronomical quantities of geophysical data. Seaworthiness and efficiency in recording and handling this information are the dominant factors that are considered in designing a Western vessel. Since the crews remain at sea 10 days or more at a time, however, there must be space for adequate facilities for their comfort—plus a good cook and adequate stores.
Distinguishing feature of the Western naval architecture is the long, spacious afterdeck, as seen at the left in the picture of the Western Geophysical II. The deckhouse has the captain's quarters, forward end; combination lounge and mess, port side amidships, and galley and stateroom beside it; and the instrument room, aft end. The pilothouse and radio room of Western's boats are forward atop the deckhouse, as illustrated by the Western Geophysical I below. Recording boats are easily identified by the huge reel, some 10 feet and some 12 in diameter, and capable of carrying up to two miles of thick cable. The two pictures at the bottom, taken on the Bayou Chico as it was being rigged at the shipyards, show the reel empty and then loaded with its huge cable.

Yet, in our clients' interests (which are very much our own), economy of operation requires that the ships be no larger than necessary for maximum efficiency. For example, our newest vessels, the Western Geophysical I, II, and III, are 105 feet long and 24.6 feet in beam, draw 7 to 8 feet of water, and weigh 188.68 gross tons. This has proved to be large enough for the work and the comfort of the crew, large enough for successful operation in the open sea, yet small enough for maneuverability near shore and in shallow bays. Among the other ships, lengths range from 86 feet to 125 feet.

Distinguishing feature of the Western naval architecture is the long and spacious afterdeck. Recording boats carry a huge reel, capable of handling as much as two miles of thick cable. This immediately identifies their role in the survey. The shooting boats' gear for preparing explosive charges and controlling detonation is not conspicuous, however.

Forerunners of today's fleet were three 36-foot cabin cruisers and a small barge, all built by Western a few years prior to World War II. One cruiser was a recording boat, one handled the shooting, and the third did the surveying. A drill, taken from a Western rig, was set up on the barge. The barge's retractable legs would be set on bottom—15 to 20 feet down in a shallow bay of the Gulf of Mexico—and the crew would drill and case a 40- to 50-foot hole. Regular land seismometers were lowered to the bottom from the recording craft. Although they were considered lightweight at that time, the seismometers weighed about 8 pounds each and stayed where they were placed.

It was not until the postwar years, however, that modern, high-production marine geophysics began to be developed. Western geophysicists steadily improved on earlier techniques and instruments. Improvements in the
facilities for over-water surveying necessarily followed, especially as oil company exploration departments turned their attention towards deeper water.

Today, of course, Western's marine crews are equipped with instruments specifically designed for the needs and problems peculiar to ocean prospecting. Latest innovation is the installation of systems to record seismic data digitally, as well as by means of the conventional analog system. With the development of recording techniques, a practical design for geophysical vessels began to emerge. Out of this evolution came the highly specialized architecture of the Western Geophysical I, II, and III, which recently were added to the fleet. Cost of these steel-hulled motor vessels, incidentally, is about $275,000 each. The cost of the vessel completely equipped with dual seismic instruments exceeds $400,000.

On these ships the pilot house and radio room are forward atop the deck house. At the forward end, the deck house has the captain's quarters. Behind this, a combination lounge and mess occupies most of the port side amidships, with a completely equipped galley and a four-man stateroom beside it. The instrument room is at the aft end of the deckhouse. Below the main deck are two eight-man bunk rooms, the hold for supplies, and the engine room where the two V-12 diesels produce 700 horsepower to drive the ship. Fuel tanks are in the bow, and the steering apparatus occupies the stern of the vessel. Twin screws provide propulsion.

The Western Geophysical I, II, and III cruise at 13 knots. Most of the other ships run at about 10 knots. Any Western skipper should feel right at home on a free-

How Western's new boats were built is a story in itself, but here are shots of some stages of their construction. Top—The hull is built next to the water, and here the bottom plate is being drawn up. Middle—When the bottom is welded up, long beams are placed under the keel and jacked up on end, and the hull is launched. Bottom—After a great deal of inside work, the hull is dry-docked for sandblasting, spraying, and other finishing and fitting. Lower left—An important step is the rigging of the instrument room, and here Western brought one of its highly experienced chief observers, Leonard Heyt (left), to supervise the installation and checking of Western equipment. Above left—These marks on the boat mean that it is now certified seaworthy. They can be placed on it only after Coast Guard inspection and approval and are the American Boat Association marks indicating various load lines.
Western vessels played tag with ice floes in Alaska’s Cook Inlet.

way during the rush hour, however, since he is used to moving by stops and starts from shot point to shot point all day long.

Western ships have cut the waters of many a sea since those small cruisers worked a few hundred feet from shore. Postwar activity began off California and then moved to the bays of the Gulf of Mexico. From there the ships worked out into the Caribbean and then on to such exotic water bodies as the Mediterranean, the Adriatic Sea, the North Sea, the Gulf of Oman, the Red Sea, the Tasman Sea, the Bay of Bengal, the Gulf of Guinea, the Great Australian Bright, and the Persian (Arabian) Gulf. Both coasts of North America, including Alaska, Central America, and South America; North, East, and West Africa; Australia; New Zealand; the Hawaiian Islands; the British Isles; and Western Europe have seen our ships.

Western vessels have played tag with hurricanes in the Caribbean and the Gulf of Mexico, with ice floes in Alaska’s Cook Inlet, and with coral reefs in several tropical seas. One of them even became “lost” in a sandstorm—quite a bizarre experience for any ship. This was in the Persian Gulf, far out of sight of land.

In addition to the three “Western Geo’s” the Company’s own motor vessels include the Bayou Chico, a 125-footer and longest of the fleet; the Black Creek, Cedar Creek, Bluff Creek, Oil Creek, Jackson Creek, and Red Creek; the Wayne Walker, Cynthia Walker, Linda Walker, and F. B. Walker; Miss Freeport; and the Haeremai Star. All these vessels were designed especially for seismic operations and are all steel with the exception of the supply boat, Haeremai Star.

Not included are a couple of houseboats serving a combination land and shallow-water crew in East Pakistan and two dynamite barges.

Ships under charter include one named Fiji and another named Valley Belle—and an interesting bunch of “girls” they must be, too.

Westerners John Paul Jones, Hillman Southwick, and Jay Fraizer took the pictures of the Western Geophysics and Bayou Chico before the boats left the shipyards, and R. D. De Journette and Bruce Mize obtained the ones from New Orleans. The others, in distant waters, were taken by Ugo Picchiani, George Dugas, and Neo Ferrari.
Geophysical activity in the North Sea has created a tremendous interest amongst the people of Northern Europe," wrote Supervisor Leo Dunn, London, when he sent articles about Western that had appeared in English and Scotch newspapers. (Unfortunately, he did not have copies of similar articles in the Norwegian, Danish, and Dutch newspapers.) What did these papers have to say about us? Following are excerpts:

The Middlesbrough Gazette in early April carried a picture of one of Western's new recording boats, the Bayou Chico, and its shooting boat with this caption: "The SEARCHERS.—Seismic survey ships are becoming regular visitors to the Tees now that a number of companies are investigating the North Sea bed in search of signs of oil or natural gas. Here, two of these vessels are pictured against Middlesbrough's Transporter Bridge."

The Journal of Commerce and Shipping Telegraph, Liverpool, a paper well read by all of the shipping interests in England, carried a two-column story about Western in its May 25 issue:

"Latest addition to the North Sea seismic survey fleet, the twin screw research vessel Western Geophysical II, was landed at Rotterdam on Saturday after a voyage across the Atlantic as deck cargo. She is due at Felixstowe today or tomorrow to be prepared for service with the North Sea fleet of the Western Geophysical Company of America, of Los Angeles.

"The ships drop depth charges which create sound waves when they explode. From these a 'map' can be drawn showing areas of the earth's crust in which oil might be expected to lie; the survey does not show the definite presence of oil, which can only be determined by drilling."

After several paragraphs on the subject always at hand where seismic shooting is new and thus seldom understood, fishing and explosives, the story returns to Western:

"The Western Geophysical II is the second of a class of 105-foot research vessels built for the company at the Burton Shipyard, Port Arthur, Texas. The Western Geophysical I is already operating off the Dutch coast, and the Western Geophysical III is expected to be delivered within a month for service in the Mediterranean. (Party 82 has it off the Italian coast of the Adriatic.—Ed.)"

"Mr. Leo J. Dunn, European manager of the Western Geophysical Company, claims that his company is one of the world's leading operators in the field of marine scientific research; it will have four research teams working in the North Sea this summer. Each team will consist of two ships—the Western Geophysics I and II; three other units of the company's fleet, the Bayou Chico, the Cedar Creek, and the Wayne Walker; and three chartered stern trawlers.

"Mr. Dunn said that when it was decided to build the 105-foot vessels, prices in the UK were not competitive. "The factor which really decided the case," he said, "was
that we wanted fast delivery, and no British yard could do the job in time."

"OIL—FROM THE NORTH SEA!" This headline in an Aberdeen, Scotland, newspaper is an example of the excitement and interest created by seismic exploration of the North Sea. The following all-cap paragraph is further evidence:

"IT IS AN OPERATION WHICH COULD MAKE ABERDEEN A BOOMING OIL TOWN IF THE PROSPECTORS STRIKE 'PAY SAND.'"

The story, evidently the result of a newspaper reporter's visit on board the Wayne Walker and interview of the shooter, opened with this rather startling lead:

"You can spit on it, stomp on it and shoot it," drawled the tall American 'danger man' as he casually hefted a canister of dynamite, 'And nothin' will happen.'...

"The boat is a part of the huge operation being carried out at present to hunt for the huge reservoir of oil thought to lie below the North Sea."

Most of the remainder of this rather long interview story, which brought in Western's Cedar Creek and "American oil companies" and "the black gold rush," was an explanation of marine seismic operations as viewed by men of the shooting crew, "danger men," and told by directly quoting them. It was indeed interesting.

Below a close-up picture of Western's Cedar Creek in the Sheffield (England) Telegraph of September 1 was this caption: "From (the) outside the Cedar Creek, one of many ships being used to search the North Sea for oil and gas, looks normal. Inside she is loaded with electronic recording and navigational equipment. Seismic soundings are made of the rock formations beneath the sea bed by exploding charges just under the sea's surface. Reflected energy waves are detected by instruments attached along the length of a 11/2-mile cable which trails behind the recording ship." The paper also had a picture, taken from the stern of the Cedar Creek, to show the immediate visual result of the explosion, the plume.

Dennis Dwyer, the Sheffield Telegraph's industrial correspondent, wrote a lengthy accompanying story of how Britain's energy situation would be affected by discovery of oil under the North Sea. The first part of his article was devoted to the social, economic, political, and financial aspects of the situation, in respect to the country and to the more than 30 oil companies involved. For firsthand information of the technical part of the search he went to sea—with Western Geophysical. His account may be basic ("Elementary, my dear Watson") to veteran and marine seismic workers; but the new land doodlebugs and the female contingent of the "Western Family" will receive a better understanding of what their marine colleagues and husbands are doing at sea from reading the following part of Mr. Dwyer's account:

"The surveying operations are being carried out... by the Western Geophysical Company of America, a firm which specializes in this type of work. Its experience includes years of study in the off-shore oil fields of Texas, Gulf of Mexico, South America and the Middle East.

"Western has four teams of ships in the area, headed by the Western Geophysical I and II, the Bayou Chico, and the Cedar Creek.

"When I joined the ship at Christiansand, a small port on the south coast of Norway, Captain 'Pink' Senseny, master of the Cedar Creek, greeted me with 'Boy! the weather's real bad out there. I hope you've brought plenty of sea-sick pills.' And on this occasion, 'Pink' wasn't joking.

"On the day following my arrival a 'fair' weather forecast came through and within a few minutes the ship was cruising slowly out of Christiansand. The first job was to put its crew aboard the shooting boat, which forms the second half of the team.

"As the shooting boat had more than 100,000 pounds of explosives on board, Norwegian regulations made it impossible for the ship to come too close to the shore and she anchored several miles out in the bay.

"The Cedar Creek acts as the recording ship and she carries a great deal of electronic equipment. A 10-foot high reel of thick rubber-covered cable is mounted in the stern.

"When the ships reach the 'line' to be surveyed, and this can be a course of 50 or 60 miles, the cable is unwound into the sea and trailed on the surface behind the Cedar Creek.

"Spaced out at regular intervals along the 11/2 miles of cable are groups of seismometers, small instruments capable of detecting shock waves in the sea, and these are connected back to the recording room on the ship.

"The job of the shooting boat is to stay positioned some 60-feet from the center of the cable, a tricky job in rough weather, and to release 50-pound charges of
explosives at regular intervals into the sea. These go off about 5 feet below the surface.

"The recording boat stops at 650-yard intervals down the course and at each stop an explosion takes place. Naturally enough, the shooting boat has to move from the area very quickly once she has dropped the charge.

"Waves of energy from the explosion travel down to the sea bed, which reflects them back to the surface of the water to be detected by the instruments on the cable.

"As the geological structure of the rocks below the seabed varies along the course of the line, the explosions are deflected in differing patterns, and these are traced and recorded at high speed on paper graphs and magnetic drums in the ship.

"The geographical position of each ‘shot’ is accurately located by two electronic surveying systems.

"At this stage the information means little to the people on board, and all records are sent back to the headquarters of Western Geophysical where they are there corrected and processed.

"Long cross-sectional diagrams are prepared from the recordings and are forwarded to the participating companies. The oil companies’ own experts then appraise the potentials of the areas surveyed.

"On the days when the ships are at sea, work starts at 5 A.M. and continues until the cable is wound in at about 9 P.M. The recording room continues for a couple of hours after this, for hundreds of readings have to be developed in the dark-room.

"While on the ‘lines,’ explosions take place every three or four minutes throughout the day, except for occasions when emergency action is needed to stop a fishing vessel or cargo ship cutting the cable in two.

"This sometimes requires the shooting boat to adopt a war-like attitude as she is free to go out and meet the threat—fortunately for international relations this does not often happen.

"Apart from these occasional periods of excitement, the surveying operations are long and tedious.

"The monotony of moving slowly through rough seas at six knots to stop every few minutes throughout the day is bad enough—but it was those few seconds spent waiting for the thud of each explosion that made me glad to get off the ship."

The thick cable trails behind the recording boat from the stern, with seismometers (hydrophones) regularly spaced along its length.
room in which he was concealed. The town's streets are narrow and winding; and when you turn corners, each view is like a post card—so picturesque.

After about 10 days in Felixstowe, we went by train back to London and on to Grimsby. There I had a glimpse of how cold and damp England can be in the winter. Our hotel was large and old; it was, no doubt, the finest in 1850. Our large room was heated by one small electric stove that one fed pennies to—it was on a meter! I personally am not too fond of English cooking except for the excellent fish and chips one buys at stands and eats from a bag like popcorn. Tommy readily changed to them though we had thought nothing would ever take the place of hamburger in his life. From Grimsby we went to Denmark.

Copenhagen is one of the most beautiful cities. We did not see too much of it, for it was raining off and on. I waited for Loren most of the time and baby-sat. Finally he was through; and since our boat did not leave until midnight, I could go. So off I "flew" for the National Museum; and though I was only there an hour or so, I'll never forget it. I saw real Rembrandts and a Rubens so real you felt the monk was alive. I have never seen art like that—not ever—and since one cannot possibly hurry through and past those paintings, I suppose I did not really see them.

Lemvig is one of the most beautiful spots I've ever seen, in this the most beautiful country. It is a quaint, very old town, built in a semi-circle around a beautiful fishing harbor. The streets are narrow, and they wind around so you can get lost a few blocks from where you started. Each shop is tiny but holds beautiful modern merchan-
disc. The prices are about the same as ours. When you shop for groceries, there is a meat shop, a cold meat shop, a fish shop, a vegetable shop with few fruits, a fruit shop with no vegetables, a cheese shop, a jam shop, and the like. But when you get to the bakeries, it is pure heaven. I'm getting fat—the Danish pastry is not known worldwide for nothing. But nowhere is it as good. And the bread is pure delight. A slice of bread, a piece of "ost," and a bottle of Tuborg—you'd better come on over.

We lived for two weeks in a hotel. It got rather tiresome; and even though everyone said there was nothing to rent, I decided that I'd take a look for myself. And now we sit in a beautiful, new, modern, three-bedroom house, high on a windy hill, with a view! We had to furnish it, but it is worth it. The yard is pure dirt, and Tommy has a ball with a wheelbarrow and a shovel.

The people are very friendly. Most under the age of 25 speak some English. It is difficult to talk with them, but they like to visit us and we like to have them. We have been asked to many homes, and everyone in Lemvig knows who we are. There hasn't been an invasion like this since one of a less friendly nature—the Germans. We hear many tales of the war.

Gale force winds are making work difficult. The seas coming into the bay here often have swells 15 feet high. This has been going on now since the last day of June. Local weather watchers say these strong winds are unusual for this time of year. No matter where we go, the weather is always unusual.

Well I must close. The wind is still blowing. I hope it stops soon.

CAROLYN HARSH

Having settled in Lemvig, Denmark, Carolyn and Tommy Harsh visit the dock at nearby Tyboron, where Western's Party 81 boats anchor. The empty water at the right tells a tale: The seas have calmed, and Party Manager L. T. Harsh and crew are working, somewhere in the North Sea.
PARTY 75—THE NORTH SEA...

RALPH PRINGLE and GARY WALTON, Reporters

After 31 days of bad weather, the sturdy Western Geo-physical boats, Cedar Creek and Wayne Walker, arrived in the port of Felixstowe, England, from Lagos, Nigeria. We imagine that after the excitement of this cruise the members of the Wayne Walker would never argue the virtues of the Bay of Biscay. In the midst of one of the numerous storms, one of the Wayne Walker's main fuel tanks was split, and she had to be towed into the nearest port, Gijon, Spain. After a short stay for repairs, the two boats again put to sea.

The navigating duties for the cruise were ably handled by the captain of the Cedar Creek, Philip (Pinky) Sen-seney. The engines were kept cooking under the watchful eye of Roy Berry, with the assistance of Ralph Pringle.

Upon our arrival in Felixstowe there were three smiling faces to welcome the fellows — Party Manager L. G. (Tony) Nelson, Supervisor Fred DiGiulio, and Observer Supervisor Ben Thigpen. Four days were spent in Felixstowe, where our navigating equipment was installed. Upon completion of this, the two boats put out into the notoriously wild North Sea. After 12 days of shooting and picking things off the galley deck, we took our break in Den Helder, Holland. Den Helder is a typical storybook village where a good many of the people still wear wooden shoes. As there is very little social life here, most of the fellows pushed off to Amsterdam. From all reports a good time was had by all.

The Cedar Creek, after several trips out to the work area, put into Rotterdam for some boat repairs. When we finished the prospect in Holland, we set our course north for Aberdeen, Scotland. The crew was a little dubious on the way to Aberdeen as there was a typhoid epidemic going through the city. Upon our arrival, though, we were assured by the harbor pilot that all reports were way out of proportion. In any event, the typhoid did not seem to bother the fellows too much. Our reception to Aberdeen was wonderful; the Aberdonians went out of their way to be helpful. Every day hundreds of people came down to the docks to look over the boats, and we had many interesting write-ups in all of the local newspapers.

In Aberdeen the Cedar Creek and the Wayne Walker parted company, the Wayne moving on to sunny Italy. While we were working out of Aberdeen, the North Sea lived up to its reputation—for days on end the wind whistled and the seas were terrific. The Cedar Creek went as far north as the Shetland Islands, where again we had to put in because of weather. We were the first American ship to put into the Shetlands since the war, and again our reception was “out of this world.” For example, many of the local fishermen brought over baskets of freshly caught fish. If we had accepted all that were offered, there would not have been room on board for the crew.

From the Shetlands we pushed off to the “Land of the Fjords and the Midnight Sun,” Norway. Our home base
up north was Stavanger, the principal town of Rogaland, with a population of 70,000, the fourth largest town in Norway. The sightseeing facilities here are first rate, and most of the crew took in some part of the beautiful countryside. After six weeks work we moved south to Kristiansund (Norway). Half the crew went on up to the capital of Norway, Oslo, while the other half visited the famed “Paris of the North,” Copenhagen, Denmark. When we pushed off to sea again, the stories of the men’s experiences flew fast and furious.

After two more weeks work out of Norway, we pulled into the charming little fishing village of Lenvig, Denmark, due to foul weather. Here in Lemvig there was an unexpected rendezvous with two other Western boats, the Bayou Chico and the Western Geophysical II. There was lots of talk about the old home town and many old friendships were renewed. We have now run the route, and the Cedar Creek is back in Holland.

Our crew was international. Recording Assistants John Weal and Allister Jones were hired in London, but their home is way “down under” in New Zealand. Our sections were handled by Paco Delgado from Las Palmas. We also had two other Canary Island boys on the recording boat, Jose Cubas, chef, and Claudio Lopez. Observer Ken Miller hails from Yuba, California. Assistant Observer Nick Gooliaff comes from the “Big Northwest” of Canada. Our co-ordinator, Vernon (Stretch) David, is from Mississippi. The only Yankee aboard, Gary Walton, comes from Warwick, Rhode Island. The shooting was handled by John Clingan, from Mississippi, assisted by Hadley Helton, from Louisiana; Roland Ford, from South Africa; and our other two Canary Islanders, Pedro Perez and Antonio Trujillo.

While were working out of Aberdeen, Party Manager Tony Neilson’s wife, Minnie, joined the Western clan for the summer; and Stretch David’s wife, Josefina, and their two sons, Vernon and Michael, met us in Stavanger, Norway. The two little David boys were welcomed members to our “Western Family” and helped boost our morale in the many foreign ports with their favorite question, “Do you speakle English?” Chief Com-

puter Augusto Brenda, of Pescara, Italy, was always on shore keeping our maps on the ready. Operations Supervisor Zane Baker visited the crew in every port; and while in Kristiansund we also had a surprise visit from R. L. (Bob) Nichols, who is in charge of Western’s marine office in Pascagoula, Mississippi.

As of this date the Cedar Creek is en route to North Africa with the recording and shooting crews standing by to join it on its arrival in Benghazi, Libya.

The summer of 1964 spent in the North Sea area will be a topic of conversation for many months to come by all Westerners who were there.

PARTY 81—LEMVIG, DENMARK...

CAROLYN HARSH, Reporter
L. T. HARSH, Photographer

The present Party 81 was activated in Felixstowe, England, in May. Party Manager Loren Harsh, wife Carolyn, and son Tommy came from Winnieboro, Texas. Coordinator T. C. (Cueball) Bouchillon, wife Ruth, and their children, Cary, Gary, Rebecca, and Annelle, were the only other family to accompany the crew. Ruth and children have since returned to Lake Charles, Louisiana, for school.

Due to the fact that this is a water crew, there is very little social life to report. We enjoyed visiting with Party Manager L. G. (Tony) and Minnie Neilson and Coordinator Vernon (Stretch) and Josefina David when Party 75 was here in Lemvig for one work period. At that time six Western boats were in this port, and for many of the crew it was like old home week on the Gulf.

The Western Geophysical II, a new recording boat, is operated by Capt. E. L. King, assisted by Capt. Floyd A. Primaux and Engineer W. H. Allen. Other Ameri-

With the Party 81 crew at sea, its party manager's wife, Carolyn Harsh, had to find pictures. Left—This is the market in Lemvig, Denmark, where she and son Tommy (center) do their shopping each Friday. Right—At the left is one of Lemvig's few modern buildings, and it houses the popular 'Cafeteria' where Westerners gather to visit. Tommy and friend Carson Anderson are in the left foreground.

WESTERN PROFILE
can personnel on this boat are Assistant Observer Claud Roundtree and Technicians Danny Stegall, Don Ware, Clifton Humphreys, and Jerry Griggs. Assistants A. P. O’Carroll, of Ireland; Bob Rasmus, of New Zealand; R. J. Fox, of England; and Kurt Pedersen, of Denmark; and Cook Egon Nelson, also of Denmark, complete the roster of the crew on Western Geophysical II.

The shooting boat is the Rijnmond IV, a converted Dutch trawler. The shooter is Jack Livesey, of Canada, who is assisted by Ray Smith-Taylor, of England, and Ove Bach, Kurt Kristensen, Villy Nielsen, and Victor Orts, all of Denmark.

Jerry Griggs, of Houston, Texas, was married to Susan Parker, of Middleborough, England, on September 2. She is now in Lemvig. We all wish them a very happy marriage.

Everyone agrees that Denmark is a choice spot. The people are friendly, and English is a second language, which is a big help as Danish is difficult. We have found Denmark to be one of the most beautiful of countries. The standard of living is high. The Danes love their home life, their families, their gardens. The movies are often American as are many of the TV programs. All in all, it is a good place to be.

PARTY 73—LOWESTOFT, ENGLAND

W. R. BUDD, Reporter

Unlike the Tenth Roman Legion that went north of Middleborough and vanished, Party 73 reached Aberdeen, Scotland, by land and the coast of Norway by sea. In July B. O. Scroggins and family left for London and W. R. Budd took over as party manager as the crew moved north.

Aberdeen became home for the Budd family, who had some adjusting to do in their semi-detached bungalow (duplex). No “frigd” (refrigerator) and shopping every day were some things that Sheridan Budd found very different. The children, Susan, Kelly, and Anne, were soon playing with the neighborhood kids.

Co-ordinator Ray Jones and Technician Victor Williams saw the “Granite City” of Aberdeen by foot until Victor dropped out complaining that 8 miles an afternoon was too much. Assistant Observer Gene Stevens, Technician Tommy Crenshaw, and Shooter Mario Brignoccoli, the last from Italy, preferred a car for sightseeing and mastered driving on the “wrong” side of the road.

Aberdeen had its own special appeal to Shooter Joe Gable, who came to Party 73 from Party 80 and was married August 12 in Aberdeen. Joe and Pat Gable had a brief honeymoon in Montrose, Scotland, cut short by the sailing of the Bayou Chico and Clearwater for Norwegian waters.

The British Empire is well represented on Party 73 by Assistants M. (Mac) McGregor, from New Zealand; Jeff Wifford, Gordon Owen, Julian Russell, S. (Budge) Wilson, William Hardy, John Briggs, and Doug Johnston, all from Australia; George (Sam) Stanley, from Canada; Craigwood Milne, from Scotland; and Bryan Painter, Roy Turner, and John Hall and Cook E. H. Wright and Shooter Tim Haigh, all from England.

The typhoid scare in Aberdeen was perhaps magnified somewhat in the newspapers; but after an unscheduled visit by the Queen one evening, the tourist trade picked up noticeably. The Aberdonians laughed at themselves with the joke that Aberdeen was the only place it could have happened. Why? Where else could you get 400 servings from one tin of corn beef?

I doubt that many people in the States will sympathize with the heat wave we suffered in Aberdeen last August—the temperature was over 80° several days running! As the working season in the North Sea draws to a close, Party 73 has come south, to Lowestoft, Suffolk (England), and finds the 65° to 70° weather very warm.
PARTY 82—PESCARA, ITALY...

W. C. CALLEDARE, Reporter

"A marine crew in Italy!"
"During the tourist season?"
"I'll go."

With these amazed phrases, Party 82 assembled its personnel and equipment to conduct a marine seismic operation along the sunny shores of Italy.

The recording boat Western Geophysical III made her maiden voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to join her sister ship, the shooting boat Wayne Walker, in the port of Pescara, Italy. On board the "Western III" are Capt. Rudy Lesso and Engineers Silas Kendrick and Veen Lee while on the Wayne are Capt. Sheldon Boudwin and Engineers Billy King and Joe Poulos.

At Pescara the business of loading powder and of going through customs formalities for location equipment were dispatched, and the party moved north to the shooting area.

Arriving in Italy for the key field positions were Assistant Co-ordinator Neo Ferrari, from Alaska; Shooter Carroll Smith, from the North Sea; and Co-ordinator Phil Murray, from Egypt. It appears that the factor of climate agreed with all three—two a little warmer and one a little cooler. To fulfill the important task of assistants arrived Solomon Jaber and "Shorty" Sherifat, from Abadan, Iran. They made their first trip from Rome to Ravenna, during which they came to the amazing conclusion that nobody in Italy speaks English. Party Chief W. C. Calledare came from the States to direct the crew.

From Western Ricerche Geofisiche Party 82 was fortunate to obtain Party Manager Ernesto Casati, Computer Gino Banzi, veteran marine Observers Pepino Di Blasio and "Shorty" Simoncini, and Shooter Angelo Margola. Angelo is an Italian champion parachute jumper in his spare time. Assisting on the recording crew are Giuseppe Cavaliere and Gino Mancini; and, on the shooting crew, Gabrielle Scordella, Aldino Luciani, Bruno Cavaliere, Giuseppe Gelli, and Mario Penso.

Preparing the dishes of lasagne verde, tagliatelle, bistecca, zuppa, and the like are the able Italian cooks, Giovanni Manara and Tony Astor, both old-timers on Western marine crews. As can be imagined, language has no barrier when it comes to complimenting a fine meal. Bon, good, OK are smile raisers to Tony and Giovanni.

As eight stevedores transfer powder from a truck to the Western Geophysical III for Party 82, Party Manager Ernesto Casati, Capt. Rudolph Lesso, and Engineer Silas Kendrick (lower right) watch. The men at the lower right include the driver for the explosives truck and three fire department employees of Pescara, Italy.
Marina di Ravenna, the temporary headquarters of Party 82, thrives as a fishing and commercial port, as well as a beach resort. As the tourist folder describes: “The watering place is crossed by a large parade, flanked with the pine forest which is the most fascinating and admirable feature of it.” Party Chief CALLEDARE comments that when he was here 11 years ago with a land crew, the parade (main street) was lined with only a few hotels and not a tent spoiled the natural beauty of the pine forest.

The port area has many restaurants serving the renowned “brodetto di pesce” (fish soup) along with such other fish courses as fried baby octopus, squid, mussels, shrimp, and flounder.

For an evening’s entertainment in Marina, many of the bars have billiards, ping-pong, and a soccer-type table game. Computer GINO BANZI and Party Manager ERNESTO CASATI are experts at billiards—both types, hand-thrown and cue-stick. Gino is the “king” of the two. Tennis and mini-golf also are available, and four dancing arenas are open for those able to do the twist, hully-gally, and other modern dances.

On breaks the “Americani” head for Venice, Rome, Germany, and other well-known places; the “Persiani” stay in Marina to enjoy the beach and night life; the “Italiani” entrain for home—Pescara, Ferrara, and Porte Garibaldi being among the home towns.

Of immense historical interest is the nearby city of Ravenna (6 miles), where many of the crew spent a day looking at the ruins and monuments. The colors of the mosaics in the churches were very impressive. The “Ente Provinciale Per il Turismo — Ravenna” lists 20 monuments worthy of a visit. These include mausoleums, palaces, basilicas, museums, cathedrals, and baptistries. Most of them date back to the fifth and sixth centuries, and their features include unusual mosaics, sculptures, and marble relief and tombs.

Those of us who traveled by car to Marina di Ravenna crossed, outside Rimini, a bridge built by the Roman Emperor Tiberio. The very narrow bridge, located on the main artery, has one-way traffic controlled by a stop light that causes havoc during peak travel hours. Plans are in the mill to build another bridge, but—

A recent TV newscast portrayed a small town near Rome that celebrated the 100th anniversary of its application for federal funds to build a road. They hope for results this year—but maybe Rimini has priority as their bridge was built by Tiberio (emperor from A.D. 14 to 37).

Party 82 became the first to congratulate PHIL MURRAY on his promotion to area instrument supervisor. We waved him goodbye as he departed for his first assignment in Libya.

PARTY 64—LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA...

GERRY STEINER, Reporter

Since the middle of February, when we began our work, the members of marine Party 64 have traveled the length of the west coast from Long Beach, California, to Strawberry Bay, Washington. The first office was set up in Long Beach under the direction of Party Chief R. C. (DICK) POWELL, who arrived from Party 31, Stockton, California, bringing with him his wife, DOROTHY. The computers were FELIX MORGAN, hailing from Billings, Montana, and RUINS KAMPE. MRS. KAMPE remained at their home in Santa Monica, California.

As Party 64 operates in the Pacific off the northwest coast of the United States, Jim Humerekhouse (left), Bill Skaggs, and Gerry Steiner are letting out cable at the start of a day’s work.
Also arriving from Stockton were Observer BILL SKAGGS; LARRY RIDGE, with his wife, LINDA, and their two children; and FRED and NEHOMA WILLIAMS and their son. The RIDGES left the party with three children, the birth of their daughter being the only one on the crew. MIKE MAYFIELD and VIRGIL SETTLEMIRE joined us from Bakersfield and Wasco, California, respectively.

Others from Montana included ROY MCCULLE, assistant observer, who left his wife COLLEEN in Bakersfield, California, where daughter TEDDY Jo is going to school; LARRY SWANSON, assistant observer, with wife Sarah and their daughter; and M. L. DILLARD, FRANK DELOZIER, shooter, wife Jo, and their daughter came from Party 68; and returning Stateside from Australia were JACK ALLEY and JIM HUMERICHOUSE.

The party’s work began off the coast of Southern California with the recording boat, Pacific Salvor; the shooting boat, Sea Monster; and the Pacific Retriever, which served as the utility boat and guardian of the cable.

Living conditions on the boats were entirely adequate. In fact, it seemed that most of the men on the boats found their clothes getting tighter, the cause of which must be attributed to the skills of the cook on the Salvor.

The arrival of May brought with it a migration north to Oregon. With the boats working along most of the Oregon and Washington coasts from such ports as Coos Bay, Newport, Astoria, and Westport, the office was located in Corvallis, Oregon, home of Oregon State University and located in the heart of the Willamette valley. This area of mountains, valleys, streams, and lakes supplied an ample opportunity for hiking, fishing, swimming, and water skiing. Nevertheless, on a Sunday afternoon BILL SKAGGS and MIKE MAYFIELD were more likely to be found on the golf course. REINIS KAMPE was often looking for a stream filled with crawfish.

Summer brought us warmer weather, as well as KERRY ADAMS, a summer employee coming from Party 31. He is now attending Bakersfield College, where he is majoring in business administration. In the office Assistant Computers CHUCK BAUER, a physics major at Loyola University, and BOB BAUER, of Long Beach City College, arrived from Los Angeles on the same day. Despite having the same last name, they are no relation.

Earlier GERRY STEINER had joined the crew as an assistant computer, after having completed two and a half years at the California Institute of Technology, with geology as his major. He is planning on returning to finish his education next fall.

To operate in Oregon and Washington it was necessary to add another boat to our fleet. A charter yacht, Sailfish, was brought from Seattle and was used primarily to accommodate the state fish and game observers, who accompanied us on all our work.

Our crew, while working from these four boats, was also making many friends up and down the coast. During the welcome breaks when the boat crew was in town, an afternoon picnic and softball game in Avery Park in Corvallis were fairly common. This city park was an ideal location for these outings, having plenty of room and convenient cooking facilities. Naturally, there were also many informal evening gatherings of party members in their homes.

One of the most unique happenings was the presentation of an inscribed, plated cow bell to DICK. Dick has plans for settling down with some cattle one of these years, and a cow bell seemed like an appropriate contribution to his “Bull Fund” on his twentieth anniversary with Western. He has promised that his first bull will wear it—at least for a while.

In August JIM HUMERICHOUSE was recalled to Australia; and VIRGIL SETTLEMIRE, BILL SKAGGS, LARRY SWANSON, M. L. DILLARD, and FRED WILLIAMS went to Morgan City, Louisiana, to work on some of Western’s Gulf crews. Party 64 is again working off the Southern California coast, with most of the above mentioned returning. Its office is now at Port Hueneme, California.

So long for now from Party 64, and best wishes for a very Merry Christmas to all Westerners.
PARTY 70 (Office)—NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA . . .

FRANCES SALVAGGIO, Reporter

It is that time of the year again when many yield to the call of the campus. Party 70, being no exception, saw the departure of two of its members. Computer JOE BOUDREAU has begun working on his masters degree at the University of Illinois while Assistant Computer PAM PEPPERMAN has returned to Northwestern State College at Natchitoches, Louisiana.

ANN BUCKINGHAM, daughter of Party Chief W. T. (Buck) and LOU BUCKINGHAM, is continuing her studies at Memphis State College School of Nursing. During the summer, on a weekend trip to Stafford Springs Dude Ranch, she taught Computer FRANCES SALVAGGIO the "ups and downs" of horseback riding. While there ANN had the opportunity of applying some remedies to sore extremities.

Assistant Computer MYRON JOHNSON, a recent graduate of the University of Southern Mississippi, was married to New Orleanian CAROLE BLANKE on October 31. This being leap year, I wonder—who popped the question?!!

A change of pace for Computer GENE SENAT occurred when he spent two weeks aboard the motor vessel Dantzler Cedar off the east coast of Georgia. For GENE it was a welcome assignment in breaking the monotony of the office routine.

PARTY 70 (Field)—MORGAN CITY, LOUISIANA . . .

BILL SCHOPENICK, Reporter
BILL ZALDIVAR, Photographer

Since the onset of the year, the Party 70 field crew has been working the waters off the coasts of Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, doing jobs as varied as the wind. At present we are working in deep water, and sometimes we may be as far as 100 miles from shore.

The party is headquartered in Morgan City, on the banks of the Atchafalaya River and home port for many Western Gulf crews. One of the events of the year is the Louisiana Shrimp Festival and Blessing of the Fleet. We were fortunate enough to be on break and enjoy the three-day celebration put on by this shrimping community. Not just the shrimp boats but all boats in port, which this year included ours, receive the blessing. (Details of this annual Morgan City event are in a Winations story.—Ed.)

The outward face of this party has undergone some changes due to expansion programs, but one old face that we can still recognize is that of Co-ordinator EVON RENICK, who still plays doctor, lawyer, chaplain, and so forth to the crew. After working hours he gives fishing lessons. These deep-water reefs can yield quite a few red snapper. Junior Observer MILTON BOUDREAU is one of the avid fishermen. One night when the "Boo Ray" victims were many and the Western fishermen had a lot of help, they brought in 206 of these fine fish. Of course, this brings a smile to Party Manager BILL ZALDIVAR's face as it keeps the grocery bill down. "With three boats to feed and supply, every little bit helps," he says.

The three boats are, of course, our fleet, The Toni Walker, from which we record; the Bill Walker, from which we shoot; and the Big John, from which we do everything else except, says the skipper, sleep. All boats participate in an old south Louisiana custom called "Boo Ray," spelled Bourraint, and played with wild abandon. It is an old French card game, introduced, it is believed, by the pirate Jean Lafitte to keep his men sharp and ruthless while they were on break. The shooting crew, headed by ANDY HIXENBAUGH, is challenging recording crew members RON RYAN, TOMMY PACK, and BILL SCHOPENICK. Sounds like a little world series, but really it is a free-for-all.

We send best wishes to all our friends everywhere—but now we must get back to work.

Le jeux sont fait.

In Party 70's home port, Morgan City, Louisiana, the photographer wanders along the Atchafalaya River and "shoots" its bridge.
PARTY F-81—CAMPOBASSO, ITALY . . .

VINCENTO PERRONE, Reporter
ROMANO TASSI, Photographer

At the end of July, when we of Party F-81 left the Adriatic coast for Campobasso (2,500 feet above the sea level), we were glad to head towards the chilliness of the mountains. We never would have thought then, however, that within a month, by the end of August, the wish for chilliness would have brought us to another wish . . . one for a coat! It seems incredible, but this is the situation in Campobasso while we are writing.

Party F-81 resumed operations at Campobasso after moving from Western’s Pescara headquarters, where the personnel gathered on the day of departure. The crew personnel is composed of Observer FULVIO GARGANO, Shooter SILVANO NATALINI, Assistant Shooter CARLO LUGINI, Drillers SERGIO BEZZI and CARLO PIVINTI, and Surveyor MENOTTI MADDI.

The road connecting the Adriatic zone to Campobasso is extremely meandering; furthermore, the railway crosses it perhaps 50 times in 45 miles. Each crossing is a level-crossing. The railroad and highway remind the voyagers of two battling snakes. The goal fully repays the inconveniences of the trip, however.

Campobasso is the capital city of a province by the same name. It is a city of moderate size but very hospitable and simpatica in which to live. Westerners have been here before (I believe this is our third visit), and some in our crew know it like their own town. The city has no amusements or spots to spend free days. Yet, for a very happy afternoon, one has only to ride to the Quattro Strade (Four Roads), about 10 miles from town. There is nothing particularly astounding in this place, except that at any time of day or night you can have here some of the best Italian raw ham (prosciutto). This delicacy is known for miles around, and the tourists just flock in to taste it. This
prosciutto is particularly all lean meat. The vendor slices it by hand with a foot-long knife. To enhance the taste, the slices should be somewhat robuste (thick). The prosciutto is then sandwiched in between two large crunchy slices of homemade brown bread. You can eat your sandwich either standing or sitting under the pergola. In the latter case, the prosciutto is served on a plate as an open-face sandwich. It goes without saying that the salty prosciutto sandwich should be accompanied by some local red wine.

The personnel in the office includes Party Chief Vincenzo Perrone and Chief Computer Romano Tassi, and Computers Vincenzo Albino and Donato Petrone. The field personnel includes the men mentioned at the opening of this report, plus the following: Donato Petrone, Pasquali Giglio, Alberto Tramontano, Carmine D’Ottavio, Pasquali Guglielmi, Francesco Madonna, Francesco Pasqualone, Raffaele Rivabella, and Riccardo Testa.

Our crew is currently operating in the vicinity of the area that two years ago was shaken by a notorious earthquake. The damages of the earthquake are still visible over the area, where many buildings are still propped up with wooden poles, waiting to be torn down. As a matter of fact, the aftermath of the 1962 earthquake was felt also by our Party F-81 after two full years. What happened was that the mayor of a small village perched up on top of a hill, worried by all the little earthquakes that our Shooter Natalini was producing while doing his job, ordered all seismic operations stopped. The crew had to suspend work for a few days until a committee of wise men from the village were convinced that Western earthquakes were not of the type that might cause damage to the village buildings.

To ensure that the local population does not panic, local authorities also asked us to distribute posters over the area announcing that our explosions did not cause any damage or create any danger. One of the Western’s posters appears on this page. This poster was pasted on a house wall in the village of Colle Sannita.

PARTY 32—KENEDY, TEXAS...

JERRY MURPHY, Reporter-Photographer

Since Party 32 last reported in the Profile, from Gonzales, Texas, the crew has made one move, of 60 miles, to the town of Kenedy, Texas. It is about 60 miles south of San Antonio, 90 miles north of Corpus Christi, and no miles from nowhere. Its population of approximately 4,000 exceeds that of the county seat, 5 miles away.

This country’s support comes from the oil fields, which seem to abound in all directions out of Kenedy, and from farming and the raising of flux, oats, maize, cotton, and corn at different seasons of the year. With all of these crops growing at one time or another, the permits are difficult to obtain and have all kinds of restrictions and instructions as to where to place the shot points.

Party Manager and Mrs. Roscoe Sullivan and their two daughters, Judy and Jill, left July 2 for Williston, North Dakota, for a visit with Van’s folks. They seemed to have had an enjoyable trip but were glad to get back home and rest up before returning to work.

Chief Observer T. J. Phillips and family visited in Laurel, Mississippi, and in eastern Tennessee on their vacation in the latter part of August. T. J. said that he thought it was cooler up in Tennessee than down here in Texas!

Jim Renick, our assistant observer, wife Linda, and daughter Kim are on vacation as this report is being written. They went to Lindsay, Oklahoma, and we are sure that they are having a good time.

Jim Ford, who replaced Joe Thomas when the latter was assigned to a Western crew in Perth, Australia, has taken up where Joe left off in trying to get permits in our

Left—Because of a severe earthquake in 1962 in the area, Party F-81 was asked by local officials to post this sign assuring the villagers that its explosions were neither damaging nor dangerous. Right—Colle Sannita is the town in which the posters were put on the walls of buildings. It is aptly named, for colle means hill.
working area. Jim plans his vacation for the latter part of September, when he will take his wife, Sharon, to New York (state) to see her folks.

When we were on one of our “spike” jobs near Cotulla, Texas, our driller, Rex Barton, wife Nell, and their children, Kay and Don, took a vacation and visited Marshall, Texas. They did not have much to say except that it was nice to get back home.

W. B. (Boots) and Susana Dungan moved to our crew from Springhill, Louisiana. Boots is our driller-mechanic, and he and Rex have been very busy drilling a lot of holes.

While the crew was spiking in Freer, Texas, Don Cain took his family home to Lumberton, Mississippi, on vacation. Don looks after the lay-out crew and was assisted this summer by Byron White, L. M. Clark, and Paul Wernli, all from Kenedy. Byron left in mid-September to return to the University of Texas, where he is majoring in mathematics.

Although Robert and Bernita White Killer (don’t take the last name literally) are relatively new to Western, Bob, as he is known to all of us, is an experienced seismic surveyor. The White Killers have announced that they are expecting a little papoose to join their family in mid-December. In the latter part of August, Linda Renick and Gay Murphy were co-hostesses of a baby shower for Bernita. From the report that reached us, everyone seemed to have enjoyed it.

Rodman Leonard Broadway, a local boy, is very enthusiastic about roping calves and competes here every Wednesday night.

You might say that Vernon and Mary Rabel are the newlyweds on Party 32. They were married the last of January of this year. Vernon is one of T. J.’s boys on the jug line.

The following boys also work on the jug line and all seem to be hot-rod or drag-racing enthusiasts: Ned Lann, Victor Trojack, F. R. Swoop, and David Hedtke.

Assisting on the drills are R. E. Blaschke and Earl Stewart, who seem to like their work and Western just fine. Kelly Clarkson came from Party 54 to join our drill crew. Kelly is very quiet but has caused quite a stir among the Kenedy girls.

“Veteran” Nuel Putnam, the shooter on our crew, is still talking of his Canary Islands “adventures.”

Jerry Murphy and wife Gay came to Party 32 from the Jackson, Mississippi, offices in early February. Jerry, the computer in the office, keeps up with the office work and is rushed at the month’s end, which seems to come around often. This summer he and Gay had to take their vacations in two separate places. She visited her folks in Jackson, Mississippi, and Haynesville, Louisiana, while he spent his two weeks in summer camp with Uncle Sam at Camp Bullis, San Antonio, Texas.

On August 8, we of Party 32 had our Safety Dinner. We all had steaks at the “Double S” Restaurant in Kenedy and had a pleasant evening with good food and good Southern congeniality. If you are ever in the Kenedy area, any member of Party 32 would recommend the “Double S.”

So long for a while from Party 32 and a “Merry, Merry, Christmas to one and to all!”

(Ed. Note—Since reporting, Party 32 had returned to Gonzales.)
Oct. 18 is a good day for Observer Supervisor Bernard J. (Ben) Niehenke and for Western Geophysical. On that day in 1934 Ben was hired for Western by President Dean Walling, then a party chief; and on that day in 1964 Ben was presented Western’s diamond and emerald 30-Year Service Pin by Vice President V. E. Prestine (right), thus marking a milestone of happy association for both the man and the Company. Though hired as a “job huffer,” Ben, a graduate in electrical engineering and geology, worked his way through college as a radio man, was an observer within eight months, and has been with recording crews ever since. Living on crews ended for Ben 19 years ago, when he was promoted to observer supervisor in the Los Angeles laboratory, but traveling to crews did not stop then. There is apparently very little that Ben does not know about what goes on inside a recording truck. His “trouble-shooting” has taken him to many places in the United States, Canada, Cuba, Jamaica, and all over Alaska (both as a territory and a state). On behalf of all Westerners, the Western Profile congratulates this 30-year “veteran” and hopes friendly and knowledgeable Ben Niehenke will continue to serve Western crews many more years.

NICHOLLS MOVE TO AUSTRALIA. Supervisor C. W. (Chic) and Bonnie Nicholls and children, Cyndi, 9, and Chuck, 3½, are now settled in Applecross (Perth), West Australia, where Chic is supervising Party 96 and the Perth Playback Center. Leaving Shreveport, Louisiana, late in August, the Nicholls family made a stop in Los Angeles, where Chic visited Western’s headquarters office before they flew on to Australia. Cyndi was delighted at the prospect of school in Australia and Chuck’s thrill was his trip on the jet plane.

POSTSCRIPT. “Three Generations” of Westerners were pictured in the September Western Profile—Joe and Anola Thomas; their son-in-law and daughter, Dalton and Hazel Taylor; and grandson, Randy Taylor. Since then we have learned that this family within the “Western Family” is even larger than we then knew. Dalton’s brother is Monroe Taylor, who is chief observer on Party 21 and has been with Western since 1945. Their mother had three grandchildren pictured in the June Profile—Randy in Party Pickings and Monroe’s two sons, Jerry and Joe, in Windstrip.

Also, the Thomas boys, Joe and Anola’s two sons, worked for Western from time to time during school vacations. Charles Ray, the younger, was married on August 8 to Donna Robinson, of Wichita. They are living in Denver, where he is employed by the FBI and she is teaching.

THE MOST RECENT NEWS of Party R-1, New Orleans, is that Mr. Stork paid another visit to Senior Seismologist Joe and Joan Saltmarsh. They are proud parents of a baby boy named Timothy Joseph. Joe and Joan have four other children, Glenn, Darlene, Cynthia, and Kerry, who are thrilled over the newcomer.

Summer arrivals in New Orleans were Party Manager L. W. (Spider) Webb and Computer Bill Chadwick. Spider, wife Margaret, and children Dennis and Carolyn came here from Port Arthur, Texas. Spider also spent part of the summer working in Florida. Bill arrived from Fairbanks, Alaska. He returned at the end of September to his wife, Pat, and children, who remained in Fairbanks.

Jerry Wristers, a former citizen of Holland, was naturalized and is now a citizen of the United States.

Supervisor Aart de Jong, Party Chief Jim Sickles, Chief Computer Bill Frommeyer, and Assistant Computer Velma Pfister had very enjoyable vacations this year. Aart and wife Margaret, with children Neal, Keith, and Stephanie, visited Six Flags, located near Dallas. Jim, wife Flora, and sons Kenneth and Steve spent part of their vacation visiting friends and relatives in California. They also visited Colorado and Utah. Bill and wife Margo took their children, Rosanne, Sharon, and Billy, to Crystal Springs Fishing Resort in the Ouachita Mountains of Arkansas. Their vacation spirit was dampened because of the children’s contracting the measles. Velma went to New York City, where she attended the
World's Fair. She had many exciting stories to tell about her trip.

Party R-1 includes Aart de Jong, Joe Saltamachia, Jim Sickles, Jim Arledge, Robert Scott, Spider Webb, John Hendricks, Vernon Champagne, Bill Frommeyer, Velma Pfister, Jim Scott, Defmar tom Dieck, Blaine Weber, Diane Willis, Jerry Wrisits, and Bill Chadwick. In addition to the above mentioned personnel, the recently employed are Mary Chase and Karl Schaefer.—Diane Willis.

WESTERN’S JORDAN STREET office in Shreveport, Louisiana, has a newlywed, a bride. She is the former Gaynell McGowan, assistant computer on Party 71-P, who became Mrs. Larry Diamond on November 21. Her husband is in his last year at Louisiana Tech, Ruston, majoring in mechanical engineering. The Diamonds are making their home in Shreveport.

Newcomers to not only Shreveport but the United States are Mrs. David (Maria) Scharf and Antonio, 8, and Anna, 7, the Scharf children. A party chief with Western Ricerche Geofisiche in Italy since 1955, Dave, accompanied by his family, came to Western of America and Shreveport last August and is currently working with Party 82 in the Jordan Street office. Neither Antonio nor Anna speak English, but both are learning rapidly from their friends at home and classmates at school.

Other Westerners who have joined the Jordan Street group on its various party office forces are: L. A. (Mickey) Hollier, Ron Walton, James Mundy, Jack Allman, Joe McFarland, and Billy Beevers.—David Lawrence.

THE HIGHEST RANK in Scouting was achieved by Bill Brooks, the 14-year-old son of Party Chief W. T. and Mary Lou Brooks, on September 11 when he was made an Eagle Scout by the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Bill started in Scouting three years ago, when his parents moved to Salt Lake City, and expended considerable time and effort to attain this award.

The stork made another visit to Party R-4 on August 18 when he presented Assistant Party Chief Tim and Rita O'Leary with a 5-pound baby girl. Little Sheila Frances joins two brothers and one sister in the O'Leary household.

Two members of Party R-4 have the honor of representing the Utah Geophysical Society as officers. W. T. Brooks was elected president and Tim O'Leary secretary-treasurer of the organization for the coming year.

Computer Ralph Knapp arrived in the office just in time to participate in Party R-4’s first move in over three years. We moved to a more convenient location, at 1537 South Main Street, in August. Our old location (behind the pop corn stand) will be remembered by the many Westerners who passed through Salt Lake on their way to far-off places.—Tim O'Leary.

PARTY 33 RECENTLY ACQUIRED a new supervisor when Ben Langston took over the reins after C. W. Nicholls and his family moved from Shreveport, Louisiana, to Perth, Australia.

Also headlining the news of Party 33 was the arrival of Sarah Jean Schuller, a 7-pound, 11-ounce girl, born September 11 in Shreveport to Party Chief Jerry Schuller and wife Sue.

The field crew, headed by Don Meek, who became party manager in June of this year, is presently on “spike” in Springhill, Louisiana, with headquarters in Mineola, Texas. Don was able to break away from his new duties as party manager to spend one week on vacation with his wife, Jo, and their three children. Visits to Jo’s family in Dallas and Don’s in Dimmitt, Texas, were squeezed in.

Also, going home to Mississippi to visit friends and relatives for a week's vacation were Driller George Little, wife

Antonio, 8, and Anna, 7, Scharf moved from Italy to Shreveport, Louisiana, late this summer when their father, Party Chief Dave Scharf, was transferred from Western Ricerche Geofisiche crews. Like their mother, Maria, they were born in Italy but are learning to speak English from friends and classmates at school. They are evidently very proud of their bicycles—in any language.

The former Miss Gaynell McGowan became Mrs. Larry Diamond on November 21. She is an assistant computer on Party 71-P in Shreveport.
Jo, and son Bucky. Party Chief Jerry Schuller left the office for a week to keep things running smoothly at home with the birth of his fifth child. To round out the vacation scene the writer spent a relaxing five days in the Great Smoky Mountains.

Gene Clark and his wife, Dixie, joined Party 33 after Gene's graduation from Arlington State College with a B.S. degree in mathematics. Both Gene and his wife call Longview, Texas, home.—Joe Walker.

ENTERING COLLEGE this fall was Faith Neilson, daughter of Party Manager and Mrs. L. G. (Tony) Neilson, of Houston. Faith, who graduated last June from the Robert E. Lee Senior High School in Houston, enrolled at the Stephen F. Austin College in Nacogdoches, Texas, and is majoring in drama and art. During the summer months when her mother, Minnie, is trekking around the world with doglegging Tony, Faith spends her time at Camp Windywood, Louisiana, where she is a counselor and horseback riding instructor.

STREVEPORT "YOUNG WESTERNERS" departed, seemingly en masse, for college this fall, some to finish the work for their degrees and one to begin it.

Those in their senior year are: Paul Ferguson, son of Supervisor and Mrs. J. G. Ferguson, Georgia Tech, Atlanta; George Fazakerley, son of Supervisor and Mrs. W. B. Fazakerley (Los Angeles), Centenary College, Shreveport, Louisiana; Phillip Jones, son of Gravity Meter Technician and Mrs. J. P. Jones, Centenary College (final semester); and Tommy Pack, son of Supervisor and Mrs. B. A. Pack, Louisiana Tech, Ruston (final semester—on graduation will enter U. S. Marine Corps, with second lieutenant's commission to be on duty for three years).

The juniors are: Dianne Dees, daughter of Party Chief and Mrs. J. A. Dees (father now in Australia with Party 87), Louisiana Tech; John DiGiulio, son of Supervisor and Mrs. F. J. DiGiulio, Spring Hill College, Mobile, Alabama; Carolyn Jones, daughter of Chief Observer and Mrs. Ray Jones, Louisiana Tech; and Linda Wardell, daughter of Party Chief and Mrs. R. H. Wardell (father currently with Party V-1 in Midland, Texas), Centenary College.

Howard Jones, son of Chief Observer and Mrs. Ray Jones, transferred this fall to Louisiana Tech for his sophomore year. After having most, if not all, of his elementary and secondary education in other countries, to which his father had been assigned by Western, Frank (Hank) Ellsworth, Jr., enrolled as a freshman at Georgetown University, Washington, D. C. Parents Frank and Chola are in Iran for several months where Frank is resident supervisor of Party 95.—Margaret Hale.

THE LEISURE TIME of Monika Boyles, Party 83 computer, New Orleans, was spent working out as a member of the Tulane Green Wave Summer Swimming Team. A native of Landshut, Bavaria, Germany, Monika was a member of her home-town team and Germany's National Swimming Team. She was the 100-meter and 200-meter breaststroke champion of Lower and High Bavaria, Southern Germany, and was second in West Germany.

After she came to the United States, Monika won the Mississippi A.A.U. championship in 1960, 1961, and 1962 for the 100-yard and 200-yard breaststroke, the 100-yard butterfly, and the 200-yard individual medley. She also won the Southern A.A.U. championship in the 100-meter breaststroke and held the record for this distance.

This past summer as a member of the Green Wave team, Monika tied for second place in the 100-yard breaststroke in the New Orleans Open Invitational Swimming Meet.—Bruce Mize.

SOMETIMES BABIES COME LATE, and sometimes news of them comes late. In the case of Robin Keith Johnston, it was the latter. The fourth son of Dave and Margarita John- ston, he was born March 24 in Basel, Switzerland, where Margarita was staying with her sister's family while Dave started his work in London and looked for housing for his family. The other three Johnston boys are David Wayne, 7, Thomas Kevin, 5, and John Brian, 2. Margarita is a former Western employee and was working in the headquarters
office in Los Angeles when Dave met her. Now all six Johnstons are living in London while Dave is interpreting for one of Western’s North Sea crews.

THE WORLD’S FAIR. Jim Rush, party chief of R-2, and wife Jane were a little tired when the accompanying picture was made by their son, Johann, after visiting the many exhibits at the New York World’s Fair. Jane and Jim drove up from Shreveport, Louisiana, spending several days with relatives in Akron, Ohio. Johann, a TV news photographer for station WVUE in New Orleans, flew up and met Jane and Jim at the Newark Airport. They say that the Fair was wonderful and want to return next year.

On the drive back they spent two days in Washington, where Johann visited with friends at the network news studios. One of his friends, Dan Rather, who is White House Correspondent for CBS News, took Johann to the White House where the young photographer took pictures of President Johnson signing a bill relative to the Poverty Program.
—Quinnette Kiper.

SWIMMING HONORS—BY THE DOZEN! Kate Ferguson, a 15-year-old sophomore at Byrd High School in Shreveport, Louisiana, opened the competitive swimming season in early May by winning the Louisiana High School Championship in the 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle events. Kate is the daughter of Supervisor and Mrs. J. G. Ferguson.

In meets sanctioned by the Southern Amateur Athletic Union (S.A.A.U.) throughout the summer, Kate swam with the Shreveport Swim Club and competed in the 15-17 age group, with occasional entries in open events.

In July she went to New Orleans to enter a meet that was held for the purpose of selecting a Louisiana All Star Team to compete the following week against the Mississippi All Stars. Both states selected three swimmers for each event; and as a result of the meet, Kate represented Louisiana in the 100-yard, 200-yard, and 400-yard freestyle events. She also was selected for the Louisiana All Star relay team, along with two girls from New Orleans and one from Baton Rouge.

In the meet with Mississippi the next week Kate took second in each of the individual events while the Louisiana relay team won both the freestyle and the medley races.

Two days later she won the 200-yard freestyle at the S.A.A.U. Junior Championship Meet. She was second in the 50-yard freestyle and third in the 100-yard freestyle. In the several S.A.A.U. meets in which Kate competed during the summer she took nine firsts, ten seconds, and three thirds in individual and relay events.

In the SPAR (Shreveport Parks and Recreation Department) competition within the city, Kate swam with the East Ridge Country Club team and was undefeated this year. The City Championship meet was held August 5, and she swam the 50-yard, 100-yard, and 200-yard freestyle races, setting a new city record in each event.

The East Ridge Country Club Swim Team closed the season August 28 with the annual banquet. After four years as runner-up, the team celebrated winning the city champion-
ship by the most convincing margin ever achieved by any team. Kate was selected the team's outstanding swimmer and received a handsome trophy to close her most successful season.—Margaret Hale.

"YOUNG WESTERNER" WEDS. Neal Hardin and Miss Mary Una Alagood were married August 22 in a double-ring ceremony that took place in the First Baptist Church, Marietta, Oklahoma. Neal is the son of Party Manager and Mrs. C. N. Hardin, Party 52. Following a honeymoon trip to Galveston, Texas, and New Orleans, the newlyweds returned to make their home in Norman, Oklahoma, where they will continue their studies at the University.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND in Morgan City, Louisiana, was a festive occasion for its residents, including the members of the Party 78 field crew and other Western crews based here. This occasion was the 28th Annual Blessing of the Shrimp Fleet. Each year it is better than the last.

This gala event has everything—street parades with floats; fireworks; boat races; a lavish stage show; ball, golf, and bowling tournaments; a ball, with its queens and retinues; a parade of boats, with prizes for the best decorated; and the Blessing of the Fleet.

The festivities started Friday, September 4, with a football jamboree. Saturday events included an art exhibit, a bowling tournament, and the Coronation Court and Ball. The highlight of the four-day holiday took place on Sunday morn-

One could almost say "You name it, and Kate's won it." In swimming, that is. The daughter of Supervisor and Mrs. J. G. Ferguson, Kate is the City Champion of Shreveport, Louisiana; the state's High School Champion; and the Southern Amateur Athletic Union Champion. Here the 15-year-old swimmer is shown in the pool of the East Ridge Country Club, whose swim team took the city championship. Kate was selected its outstanding swimmer.

Party Manager C. N. Hardin, wife Audie, and their son, Neal, form the right half of this wedding party. Neal was married to the former Miss Mary Una Alagood in Marietta, Oklahoma, on August 22. To the left of the bride are her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Alagood.
ing when Father Leon Cau, of Sacred Heart Church, and other clergy, slowly circling the Bay of Berwick, blessed all boats in port. A tradition of seafaring history, this ceremony asks for the safety at sea of the captains, crews, and craft engaged in fishing. Since oil has come to our community, there has been an increase in the number of boats blessed as those working in the petroleum industry are included in the ceremony.

Other Sunday events were: feasting on shrimp at the Hospitality Hall, where people could go in the morning and eat all of the free shrimp they wanted; in the afternoon a dozen or so beautifully decorated floats parading for the pleasure of the hundreds of people anxiously waiting along the streets; and at night dancing in the streets and fireworks for young and old alike. On Monday, the final day of the Festival, the speedboat regatta on Lake Palourde was held.

In addition to the King and Queen of the Shrimp Festival, there were many visiting “royalty,” all Louisiana “queens.”

All in all it was a full four days. If you attended, I am sure you will agree it was fun. If you did not, let me extend an invitation for next year—y’all come!—Rose Ann Squires.

ELIZABETH STRANGE DIES

It is with deep regret that we report the passing of Elizabeth Strange, wife of Western Vice President Booth B. Strange, Shreveport, Louisiana. Death came to Mrs. Strange November 4 after a prolonged illness. More details will be given in the next issue of Western Profile.

PARTY 21 crew members, wives, and guests gathered in the Hospitality Room of the Flame Motel in Sulphur Springs, Texas, for their Safety Dinner. After a fine steak dinner, the phonograph was turned up for dancing and just plain listen-

Jean (Mrs. Truman) Gilmore holds week-old Rita Joyce Gilmore at the baby shower given for them in the home of Corine (Mrs. Gene) Brannon. The baby is the first child of this Party 21 couple.

One of the big events of the annual Shrimp Festival and Blessing of the Fleet in Morgan City, Louisiana, is the water parade. The Vest

Western Profile
THEY SERVE

Service Anniversaries . . . October, November, December

30 YEARS
*Frazier, Jay H.
Nienkenke, Ben J.

27 YEARS
Crawford, Charles E.

21 YEARS
*Jones, Willis Ray
Satterwhite, Cleo W.

20 YEARS
Ferguson, J. G.

19 YEARS
Ewert, Dawson V.
Leake, A. R.
Rush, James W.
Towns, Mack E.

18 YEARS
Fazakerly, William B.
Frisbee, Donald O.
Hull, Lowell D.

17 YEARS
*Amato, John J.

16 YEARS
*Parr, Albert C.
Ryan, Gerald N.
*Tuft, Warren M.

15 YEARS
Dunn, Leo J.
Gerdes, Carl H.
Nicholls, Robert L.
Selzer, Edward
Thigpen, Ben B.

14 YEARS
*Adams, Dorothy S.
Mercer, Richard A.
Mittasch, Victor J.
Rothman, Bernard
Webb, John W.

13 YEARS
*Brents, Louie H.
*Dobson, Kenneth E.
Hollander, John E.
*Miller, William K.
*Moore, James A.
*Newman, Harry
*Riley, Wilbur W.
*Schacter, Percy

12 YEARS
*Anthony, Sonja
Brasher, Kenneth P.
Burstad, Marshall E.
Martin, Sam D.
Pañeco, Jose R.
Ross, Albert O.
*Walton, Ronald C.
*Willmuth, Charles S.
*Wilson, George L.

11 YEARS
Brown, Robert A.
*Butler, oe A.
*Goull, J. T.
Golden, Irving
*Hudson, William M.
*Huffine, Dieter H.
McDaid, Orville
*Prosser, Ernest A.
Saltamachi, Joe G.
*Woolverton, Owie W.

10 YEARS
*Brulotte, Cecil
*Jackson, David B.

9 YEARS
Brenda, Augusto
Larsen, Palmer L.
McNew, Billy D.
*Scharf, David W.
Scroggins, Billy O.
*Smith, Carrol M.

8 YEARS
*Hodgson, Daniel
Hirka, Bohdan
Linder, Alan D.
Picchiana, Ugo
*Thompson, James L.
*Turcotte, W. Harvey

7 YEARS
*Bennett, T. G.
*Freeman, Francis A.

6 YEARS
Birdsong, Don L.
Hendricks, John L.
Purcell, Everett

5 YEARS
*Brown, Dean R.
Christianson, James D.
Maez, Ignacio
*Taylor, Frank
Windsor, William R.

4 YEARS
*Bay, Fred K.
*Hunt, Barry
*Johnson, W. Gordon
Mielly, Paul F.
*Mundy, James B.
Orth, John J.
Shea, Daniel P.

3 YEARS
Anderson, Robert K.
*Diedrich, Otto
Durand, Real
Helton, Hadley P.
*Larson, Winston F.
*Macklin, A. W.
*MacNaughton, Daniel
Nilsen, Kenneth O.
Riva, John D.

2 YEARS
Cain, Donald F.
Dawson, John E.
Donovan, William L.
*Filyk, Orest
Gardner, Donald D.
*Gayoso, Jose
Gorrod, F. J.
Jenkins, James E.
McCown, Clyde R.
Riddell, Kathleen
Snyder, Warren L.
Walker, Joseph F.
Walling, Charles E.
Welch, F. T.

*Interrupted Service

CONTENTS
Vol. XI, No. 4, December 1964

Inside Front Cover:
President's Page

1 Western Has World's
Largest Oceanographic Fleet

5 Foreign Papers Report
Activity of Western Crews
In North Sea

7 A Westerner's Wife
Tells of Experiences
In North Sea Lands

9 Party Pickings

19 Windstrip

F RONT COVER
"... for we have
seen his star in the
west, and are come
to worship him." Thus
it was a star that
guided the wise men
to to the place where
Christ was born al-
most 2,000 years
ago. Ever since the
star has been one of
the symbols of Christ-
mas, and it is the one
that Westerner
Dorothy Adams chose to feature in design-
ing our front cover, the Christmas Star in
the Night Sky.

MARIANNE CLARKE, Editor

Published by and for the employees of
Western Geophysical, 933 North La Brea
Avenue, Los Angeles 38, California. Printed
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Geophysical Company of America.

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