Atlantic Refining Company Assists In South Louisiana Industrial Growth

South Louisiana has contributed materially to The Atlantic Refining Company's growth to a place among the top nine domestic U.S. oil companies. In turn, Atlantic has and continues to make substantial contributions to the growth of South Louisiana as one of this country's major petroleum producing areas.

Atlantic, a fully integrated company whose corporate roots extend almost to the beginnings of the oil industry itself, has been a member of the South Louisiana community since the early 1920s, when a small production office was established here.

In the ensuing years, Atlantic's staff and operations have grown with the importance of South Louisiana as an oil producing area. In 1961, with a realignment of organization, the present South Louisiana District was formed, with added responsibility and authority.

J. B. Harrison is district manager and headquarters for the more than 175 people employed in the district are in the Lafayette Oil Center.

First Well
Atlantic drilled its first South Louisiana well in 1925. Today, the company has 250 net oil and gas wells producing a daily average of 20,000 barrels of oil and 200,000,000 cubic feet of gas. The company's Bayou Sale Gas Processing Plant, some 10 miles south of Franklin in the heart of one of Louisiana's largest gas fields, produces a daily average of 62,000 gallons of propane, butane and natural gasoline. The wholly-owned plant is the largest of five Atlantic operates.

Through the years, Atlantic has made or participated in a number of major discoveries in South Louisiana. Its most recent was the Cotton Bros. No. 1 well in Bayou Bouillon Field, in the Atchafalaya Swamp, about halfway between Lafayette and Baton Rouge. Two rigs are actively engaged in the development of the field.

Atlantic's faith in South Louisiana's future as a petroleum province is exemplified by its active exploratory program here. During recent months, the district has had four seismic crews operating simultaneously.

Atlantic's South Louisiana District is an integral part of its world-wide oil and gas exploration and producing activities. With headquarters in Dallas and headed by W. Dow Hamm, executive vice-president, Atlantic's oil exploration program has moved around the world.

Venezuela currently is the company's major overseas producing area, and the company has exploratory programs underway in the Gulf of Sirte, offshore Libya, the Persian Gulf of Iran, in United Kingdom North Sea waters, and in the Timor Sea off the northern coast of Australia.

Organization
Organizational, the South Louisiana District is part of the company's North American Producing Department, also headquartered at Dallas. Louis F. Davis is vice-president and general manager. The Department reaches from the Mississippi on the east to beyond the Continental Divide in the west, and from the Rio Grande in the south to the Arctic Ocean and Alaska in the north.

During the first 6 months of 1965 the Department's crude oil and LPG production averaged 123,000 barrels per day, an increase of nine per cent, and gas production rose 12.7 per cent to 734,000,000 cubic feet per day, both figures representing new records for the company.

During the same period, Atlantic's two refineries, one at Philadelphia, Pa., and one at Port Arthur, Texas, had an average daily throughput of 200,000 barrels of crude oil.

The company's corporate headquarters are in Philadelphia. Robert O. Anderson, who was a recent Lafayette visitor, is chairman of the board and chief executive officer.