**NAVY HIGH COMMANDS CHANGE**

Monday to the tune of cocked hats, gold braid, full dress uniforms, gun salutes, ruffles and flourishes and much color, several high commands of the Fleet were shifted. Aboard the USS California, Admiral Harris Laning became Commander of the Battle Force, relieving Admiral Frank H. Brumby, who will in turn become Commandant of the Fifth Naval District at Norfolk, Va., with the rank of Rear Admiral. Before assuming command of the Battle Force, Admiral Laning was relieved as Commander Cruisers, Scouting Force by Rear Admiral T.C. Hart. Just prior to relieving Admiral Laning, Rear Admiral Hart was relieved as Commander Cruiser Division Six by Rear Admiral F.J. Horn.

Monday morning, aboard the USS Houston, Vice Admiral E. H. Campbell was relieved of Commander Scouting Force by Rear Admiral A.J. Hepburn who immediately upon relieving assumed the rank of Vice Admiral. After assuming command, Vice Admiral Hepburn transferred his flag to the USS Indianapolis. Vice Admiral Campbell, who will revert back to a Rear Admiral will become Commandant of the Twelfth Naval District at San Francisco.

Aboard the Saratoga, Rear Admiral Butler assumed the rank of Vice Admiral as Commander Air Battle Force and Commander Air Forces U.S.

Friday, aboard the Argonne, Rear Admiral W.T. Cluverius assumed command of the Base Force.

April 6, 1917:—Congress declared a state of war as already in existence on account of the hostile acts of Germany.

**PRESIDENT EXPECTED TO REVIEW FLEET**

President Franklin D. Roosevelt may go to San Diego, in June, to review the United States Fleet, which is expected to concentrate there on June 10, as a tribute to the exposition. It is estimated that about 130 war vessels will participate in this concentration, with a total personnel of 55,000 officers and men.

**MOTOR ACCIDENTS**

The following is quoted from a letter from Commander Battle Force; consider what it says and act accordingly if you are involved in a motor accident.

"In all cases where Naval Personnel are injured in motor accidents it is highly essential that prompt and accurate information on the following points be furnished the Commanding Officer of each injured person:

- (a) Within Command (Duty Status) or on authorized liberty.
- (b) Obviously intoxicated or no evidence of alcoholic intoxication.
- (c) Negligence or misconduct on the part of personnel or no evidence of carelessness or misconduct.
- (d) A condensed statement of the circumstances attending the injury. The remarks must be sufficiently clear to enable one to visualize the accident so that the injury may be correctly classified.

The shore patrol is particularly charged with the supplying of the above data but all boards or individuals investigating motor accidents should keep in mind the specific nature of the information required."

**WAR GAME CRITICS ANSWERED**

The Secretary of the Navy sent a telegram to the President of the Greater New York Federation of Churches, replying to the expressed fears of this organization that the war game which the United States Fleet is scheduled to play in the northern waters of the Pacific is "The shaking of a club to frighten Japan." Secretary Swanson's telegram stated: "Your telegram of February 4th, addressed to the President with respect to the announced maneuvers of the U. S. Fleet during the coming month of May, has been referred by the President to me for consideration and acknowledgement. It is apparent from your message that you are under a misapprehension as to the significance of these maneuvers and the areas in which they are to be conducted. It has been the custom for many years for the combined fleet to hold annual maneuvers, sometimes in the Pacific Ocean and sometimes in the Atlantic Ocean. The maneuvers this year are being held in accordance with this custom and will take place in the Pacific Ocean, in the vicinity of our own possessions in Alaska and our own possessions in the Hawaiian Islands. They will not be held in the Far East or off the coast of Japan or in Japan's front door as has been erroneously reported. In fact, the area of operations will be wholly in the eastern Pacific and none of our ships will approach within two thousand miles of Japan. I hope this explanation will allay any apprehension you may feel that these maneuvers jeopardize the friendly relations

Continued on page four

—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

...A weekly publication, published by the ship's company of the U. S. S. HOUSTON Captain W. B. Woodson, U.S.N., Commanding and Commander F. D. Manock, U.S.N., Executive Officer.

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Ensign C.J. Mackenzie, Ass't. Editor

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R.W. O'Brien, BM1c Jack Holt, S1c.

—: PRINTER :—

T. B. Razlaff, Sealc.

6 April, 1935

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**PEP TALK**

During the past month or so, in their contributions to the "Blue Bonnet," a good many men have shown considerable talent along literary lines. It has, therefore, been decided to have each Division or group of divisions be responsible for the publication of one issue of the paper.

The plan is for each division, beginning next week, to collect all the material for its issue and to edit that weeks issue. They will be assisted by the regular staff; but, the division is primarily responsible for collection of material and editing. Some of the divisions are too small to handle an issue by themselves; hence, it has been suggested that the following divisions will act as a unit: Engineers; Navigation and Comm.; First, Second; Third; Fourth; Fifth, and C&R. The Bo't's'n mates or leading petty officers of each division will draw for the week of their issue. Each division should elect one man to coordinate the material and act as editor-in-chief for that Division or group.

For more detailed information, see one of the staff.

The material should be in the form of poems; short-short stories; jokes; editorials; past history of the division, bringing out any achievement of that division as in regard to winning of cups, etc.; and any current news.

Right away the howl is going up that we have no talent; but that is not so as various contributions have shown. Let's get behind this and see which division can put out the best papers. Let's see who the big "scoops" are. Remember this is your paper so get busy getting your material together.

—: ✂ :—

Send in your Contributions!!

ODDS and ENDS

When the Navy recruit climbs into his hammock he can have pride in sleeping in a 100 per cent American bed with a background of 443 years. In the second letter that Columbus wrote Queen Isabella, he told of the Carib Indians weaving a net out of grass, which they hung between the trees for a bed. The natives called this bed a hamaca, and this is the origin of our hammock. The recruit's hammock is made of canvas. This word also has an ancient origin. In the early days, all sails and ropes were made of hemp. The Latin word for hemp was "cannabus" and from this, the old time English derived the word "canvas."

England is naming her new 9,000 ton cruisers after English towns. She will have a Southampton, Glasgow and Birmingham.

A destroyer lengthens itself from six to eight inches when it speeds up to thirty knots. This is due to the pressure of the water pressing in on both sides.

The largest fish ever caught by any method was a whale shark, weight 26,594 pounds, off the Florida coast in 1912, having been harpooned by Captain Charles Thompson, off Knight's Key. It was 38 feet long and had a girth of 18 feet.

Russia leads the nations of the world with active organized military forces of 830,000, and a trained reserve of 15,380,000 totaling 9.79 per cent of the total population, as compared with the United States percentage of 0.35.

When touched with a feather, nitrogen iodine will explode.

During naval target practice in the Pacific near Santa Monica, Calif., windows were broken by sound waves in Bakersfield, eighty miles inland. On the other hand, no sound from the guns was heard in Los Angeles, only twenty miles from Santa Monica while at Pasadena, ten miles farther inland there were slight repersussions and doors shaken. Dr. Beno Guttenberg, geophysicist of California Institute of Technology, explains this phenomenon with the statement that the sound waves travel in an arc similiar to that described by a shell. The

NEW SHIPMATES

In addition to many new faces among the enlisted personnel, the W.O. Mess has recently acquired three new officers: Carp. C. J. Kalb; Elec. E. H. Wallace and Pay Clk. D. E. Fay.

New men on board are as follows:  
Johnson, A. W., CSK  
Vendetti, N. J., SC1c  
Rizer, MM1c  
Senger, R. J., MM2c  
Taylor, R. J., Cox.  
Bitzelberger, T. J., Cox  
Black, E. P., F3c  
Small, A. J., S2c  
Whatley, C. D., S2c  
Wicker, R. E., S2c  
Campbell, W. M., S2c  
Drover, R. M., S2c  
Boris, J., S2c  
Chase, H. E., S2c  
Hansen, P. A., S2c  
Jackson, D. G., S2c  
Krecklow, R. A., S2c  
Lattiolis, B. J. S2c  
Micheal, E. D., S2c  
Shillito, A., Jr., S2c

We heartily welcome you to the good ship Houston and wish a pleasant and successful cruise.

We also welcome back Dembach, R. J., EM1c, who has been attending the Gyro School in San Diego; Myers, W., SC1c from the Cooks and Bakers School in San Diego and Zeitfuss, W. G., Bug2c, who has been to the Naval Hospital, San Diego.

course of the waves being curved by temperature changes in the stratosphere. A given set of conditions may cause the waves to be reflected sharply down to a small area on the ground far from the source of the sound.

A man falling from any altitude with a parachute pack attached never attains a speed greater than 118 miles per hour and does not lose consciousness.

No United States Man-o-War has ever mutinied or been in the hands of mutineers, while in other Navies whole squadrons and fleets have mutinied.

The Marine Corps has never experienced a mutiny of any description, and throughout its existance has always been conspicuous for its adherence to its motto, "Semper Fidelis."



# NOSEY NEWS by EV' BODY

This week was a most profiting week for the men of the press and we will have to unload to our hearts content of the doings of the lads ashore and a very good, etc., To head the column we must inform you that our prediction that Clymer would take the step was right and it happened last Sat. eve, well, how's about the stogies? Since St. Marie is back off of leave we are wondering who his toast of Broadway is since he knew so many while on leave. A well known seaman in the 2nd thought he was in the Charleston in Chefoo, when he discovered he was in that widely known "Stillwells" in L. A. and he was putting on a good show for the gang. Just ask him! There is some doubt as to why Snyder of the 1st changed from the 808 in L.A. to that bright spot in San Pedro. Mitchell, the leading stoker of the Golden Grainers was quite surprised when to his amazement we had just anchored at Santa Barbara and not Long Beach. We further learn that "Wirebrush" Robertson is not getting married, just collecting those pictures figuring that she might be among them. (You know what I mean, those Golden Grain pictures) And again our silent Truesdale from the "R" Division, "Frog" Godaire to you, took the sweet young thing home last Saturday night and had all the good intentions that goes with it in returning to the ship, but one of the ever prevalent bar rooms intercepted his path and he awoke in the lumber pile close at hand. "Dickey Boy" Arthur, who has several shades of nail polish, just swears that he is going to throw his powder puff at this column, now you wouldn't do that would youse??? Boyle, that young but old looking EM in our midst, just about decided that

the gas chariot is too steep and is in line for a swap. The best of the week comes when our lady killin' man, "DON" George, the fellow who gave away sweaters to the gals in Seattle, is all set to be a married man and has four youngsters already, good going George!!! And then there is that married man from the foc'sle who says "Why shouldn't I come back for breakfast, I have to eat somewhere." When the big story of the sea serpent in the Wilmington Channel broke, we naturally had to put our best slueths on the job to ascertain wheather or not the Whiffle Diddy had come to life. "Denny" Dembach looks mighty fine after that three months in Diego and I guess a wide swath should be cut in these parts before long with him loose on the beach. Of late, Smith, D.L., of the fantail, has consented to be the body-guard of the gals, especially those in the WAVE. From good authority we learn that Head of the ships service store is playing with fire these days. Why is it that all these shieks have to change their names with the gals on the beach, if so see Hildenberg and call him Colvin and see if he will answer. Terrible Terry says he is staying aboard for a while to cool off as his last affair was too torrid. What ho, he cried, and there we find our "Tobacco Chewin' Son of Arizona" Fraser bloomed into full manhood at the age of three days. What a man you are—now we will tell one! Why don't you send this paper home? We are wondering what "Gunner" Brown of the Gunnery Office would do if gossiping was prohibited. They say its sometimes good to see, but not good to remember what you have seen. Tell us Brown? "Old Sorrowful" Kincaid would like to know who that dirty "so and so" was that stole his magazine while he was in the arms of sweet and pleasant dreams the other day on the work-bench in the lighting shop. And then we find that Kennedy is just forcing Brown to go ashore with him, so that the gals won't be disappointed. Now youse guys should be careful, as the bulkheads do resound. Time - 8 to 7, Day-Wednesday; but wasn't that too bad that we stayed out to fire, oo-se-me? Lemansky who is planning on marrying very soon bought Susan a \$14 bottle of perfume and now wonders whether or not he should send her the

## BOXIN' THE COMPASS

Div. Off.: "Elliot, did I not tell you if you were again tempted to drink, you must say, 'Get thee behind me, Satan'?"

Elliot: "Yes Sir, an' I did, an' he got behind me and pushed me right into that bar room."

The new "Scullery Maid" (overburdened with dramatic speech) upon being told to call the ship's barbers to the evening meal, exclaimed: "What Ho', despoilers of the gigilo, come hither to thy vesprian hash."

If money could be borrowed as easily as trouble, some of our fast stepping sailors would be terribly round shouldered.

Pemental (attempting salty airs): "Yes, I took to the sea naturally. I was vaccinated with a marline spike."

Fraser: "It's too bad you weren't vaccinated with an auctioneers gravel. The world would have been the gainer."

Pinion says it is the hill which produces the echo, and here we have lived all these years thinking it was the—holler.

## Attention Golden Grainers

Male fur seals keep watch over their harem (10 to 50 females) from April to July without food, drink or rest.

## The Mugwump

This creature is said to be one of the extinct birds that lived in Missouri in days gone by, and it had a very peculiar habit of sitting on rail fences with its mug facing one way while its wump faced the other, and it also flew backward to see where it had been instead of where it was going.

## PERSONNEL

'Tis good news to learn that Fisher, S2c., of the 3rd Division is recuperating nicely from the emergency operation he underwent during the night plane attacks two weeks ago.

Abbot, MM1c., is up and around once again after slipping on a wet ladder and fracturing several ribs.

chit with the price on it. So thusly lads, we close our column for this week.

BASEBALL

On March 29, at Navy Field, Long Beach, the Houston ball tossers crossed bats with the Chicago, and this was a good game throughout with Hines taking the mound for us although it was his first day out this season. In the 7th, with the score standing 5-4 Chicago, the lack of condition told on Hines and he weakened. Spruell, the catcher, relieved him as there were no more pitchers. Sgt. Ross went in and caught, doing a fine job and proving that old age has nothing to do with good ballplaying.

Slough played a bang up game in the field, poling out a home run in the 3rd.

Box Score:

.....HOUSTON

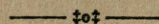
Player	Pos.	AB	H	R
Nickel	CF	4	0	1
Eggeter	SS	4	1	0
Slough	LF	3	1	1
Spruell	C	3	0	2
Davis	2B	3	0	0
Dainwood	3B	3	0	0
Ryan	1B	3	0	0
Vance	RF	3	1	0
Hines	P	3	0	0
Ross	C	1	1	0

CHICAGO

Player	Pos.	AB	H	R
Kronkiewicz	3B	5	0	0
Warren	C	5	2	1
Pabrazanski	SS	5	1	1
Cherry	1B	5	1	1
Hutchison	CF	5	0	1
Johnson	RF	5	1	3
Dahl	2B	4	2	1
Nelson	P	4	2	3
Norcott	LF	4	1	0

On Monday, 1 April, the team journeyed to Navy Field for a heartbreaking tussel with the well organized Salt Lake City outfit, and the boys set out from the start to take the Gull's scalp, with Johnson doing the twirling. Things looked fine for us until the fourth when Johnson had to leave the game with a badly wrenched arm caused from trying to bear down a little too hard on one of the SLC's heavy stickers, and with no relief moundsman available, the results of what looked to be one in the bag for us were only too obvious.

Final score: Houston 3 runs, 5 hits. Salt Lake City: 17 runs, 14 hits.



Send the BLUE BONNET home.

DEPARTING SHIPMATES

To the Alisex, via the USS Texas: McMURPHY, D. B., SM3c  
Robertson, J. L., S1c  
Beamis, E. H., S1c  
Hennessy, J. K., S2c  
J. T. O'Neil to the East Coast for transfer to FNR.

D. M. Diggins, CSK to the East Coast for discharge.

A. C. Alexander, FC1c, to the Ford Fire Control School, Long Island, NY.

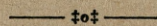
F. J. Mein, RM1c to the East coast for transfer to FNR.

B. Ellstrom, WT2c to Bremerton for discharge.

W. J. Lemansky, SC3c, to New London for duty.

Rudriques, Matt1c, to San Diego for transfer to FNR.

D. Wilkins, F3c to East Coast for discharge.



NAVAL MANEUVERS

The Home and Mediterranean Fleets of England will combine for extensive exercises off Gibraltar early in March.

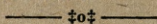
Germany's "pocket" battleships will operate in the Baltic with other types of war vessels.

Russia's new fleet will exercise this summer in the Gulf of Finland.

In July, Italy will stage the most elaborate naval exercise in her modern history in the Eastern Mediterranean.

France will send her First and Second Squadrons, with supporting flotillas and aircraft through maneuvers in the Mediterranean and Atlantic in the spring.

Japan's newly organized united fleet will take to Asiatic waters during July and August for exercises planned, it is believed, to extend as far as the mandated Marshall Islands. It will mark the first time that the Japanese have sent their fleet so far to the Southeastward.



CHIEF (PA)

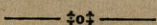
Three of our C.P.O. habitues received notification of their permanent appointments during the past week. These are:—

Berg, G. C., CY(PA)

Darr, L. E., CQM(PA)

Fiddler, W. H., CMM(PA)

Congratulations and good wishes are in order.

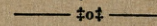


Send the BLUE BONNET home.

WAR GAME CRITICS ANSWERED

between this country and Japan as I can assure you there are no grounds on which to base such an assumption.

Sincerely yours,  
Claude A. Swanson,  
Secretary of the Navy."



ANSWERS

To Last Weeks Questionaire

(1) The Homeward-bound pennant is flown by men-o-war returning to the home land after a year or more of foreign service.

The length is determined by constructing it as many feet long as there are members in the crew, and one star for each officer.

(2) Supply ships are called Beef Boats; ships in the Special Service Squadron are called Banana Boats; while submarines are called Pig Boats.

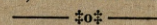
(3) The hospital ship, USS Mercy, a noncombatant ship, carried more guns than any ship in the Navy, but they were obsolete and were used for ballast.

(4) There are 11 departments and offices in the Navy Department:

- Office of Naval Operations.
- Office of Judge Advocate General.
- Bureau of Navigation.
- Bureau of Ordinance.
- Bureau of Engineering.
- Bureau of Construction and Repair.
- Bureau of Yards and Docks.
- Bureau of Supplies and Accounts.
- Bureau of Medicine and Surgery.
- Bureau of Aeronautics.
- Headquarters Marine Corps.

(5) In the old Navy, the MAA stowed all loose clothing and personal gear in a large canvas bag and once a month the bag was brought to the mainmast where the owners of all articles in the bag were returned their property along with a few lashes for being so careless. The term "lucky" was the sailors humorous way of referring to this unfortunate occurrence for the guilty.

(6) Kiska, Aleution Is.



WALTER WINCHELL

Walter Winchell got his start in the Navy. He enlisted in 1917 and was assigned to a secretarial role aboard the flagship Isis. He remained aboard until the cessation of hostilities, when he started putting his line in print.