



**HOW MUCH THE VETERAN  
WOULD GET**

Here are rough estimates of what World War veterans would get under the coalition bonus bill passed by the Senate Monday.

A veteran who has a \$1,000. bonus certificate against which no loans have been made would receive twenty \$50. bonds, for which he could obtain \$1,000 if he cashed them between June 15, 1936 and June 15, 1937. The same veteran would get \$1,030 for his bonds if he cashed them on June 16, 1937 or \$1,270 if he held them for nine years before asking cash.

The veteran who has borrowed the limit of 50 percent against a \$1,000 certificate would receive just half as much.

A veteran who borrowed the limit of 22 percent which was in effect before the 50 percent loan law of 1931, and who obtained no further loans after that law was enacted would be able to cash in for \$780., less varying interest charges unpaid before October 1, 1931.

The holder of a \$1,585 certificate, the largest issued, would receive \$1,550 in bonds and \$35. cash. If he held the bonds until maturity in 1945 he would be entitled to \$508. interest or a total of \$2,058 besides the \$35. cash.

**NEW AIRCRAFT**

According to a Washington date-line, Jan. 20, the Navy Department recently purchased 114 new bombers from the Douglass Aircraft Company of California.

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**ANOTHER HOUSTON BALL**

From the interest already shown it is evident the second HOUSTON dance to be held while in the yard, will be the biggest and most successful yet.

That is as it should be for our last dance proved beyond all doubt, when the crew of the good ship HOUSTON sponsor a dance they know how and in a most pleasing manner.

On Monday, Jan. 20 the Entertainment Committee and Division Representatives held the first meeting relative to the forthcoming dance.

The preliminary plans were discussed, committees appointed and arrangements are underway already for another gala evening.

Our first dance here might be termed as having been experimental to a certain extent, nevertheless it was such an outstanding success that the second is proceeding with complete and thoro understanding in every detail, assuring everyone a better time than ever.

It is planned to hold our next dance Friday evening, January 31, from 2100 till 0100, at the Veteran's Memorial Hall in Vallejo, the Hall being the unanimous choice off all, we feel.

The program of this dance shall be carried out in much the same manner as the first with the exception of the financing. It has been proposed to finance this dance by sale of tickets to the crew at the nominal price of \$1.00, this ticket admitting one couple. An additional GUEST ticket shall be available with the purchased ticket if you have a service of ex-service friend whom you wish to invite. Each

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**MERITORIOUS MAST**

The following named men were commended at Meritorious Mast for the outstanding performance at the fire in the Dispensary Navy Yard, Mare Island, California on 7 January 1936.

- W. A. Godaire, S.F.2c. USN
- L. C. Starck, S. F.3c., USN
- C. J. Sinclair, Sea.1c. USN

Your work in fighting the fire in rooms filled with fumes and smoke from burning drugs and chemicals for a period of one and one half hours is considered outstanding.

The following were commended at Meritorious Mast for their performance at the same fire as follows:

- E. P. Black, F3c. USN
- H. E. Bent, Sea2c. USN
- A. L. Jones, Sea1c. USN
- J. C. Pankowski, Sea1c. USN

Your work in acting as lead and otherwise assisting the men equipped with rescue breathing apparatus is considered outstanding.

**PERSONNEL**

**REENLISTED ON BOARD**

Dotterer, J. H., S. F.2c.

**RECEIVED**

Springer, J. E. Sea2c. NTS San Diego, California.

Hines, G. L. A. S. NTS San-Diego, California.

**TRANSFERS**

Bartholomew, G. R. A.S. to R. S. San Francisco, California.

Sheffield, H. L. Sea2c. to Naval Hospital, Mare Island, California.

Muller, H. E. Ptr1c. to U.S.S. AS-TORIA.

—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

A weekly publication, published by the ship's company of the U. S. S. HOUSTON, Captain G. E. Baker, U. S. N., Commanding and Commander P. K. Robottom, U. S. N. Executive Officer.

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JANUARY 25, 1936

★ ★ ★

## "DRY-DOCK"

Smoothly into dock she slides,  
Effortless the gates swing to,  
Out goes the water and  
The bottom comes into view.

The deck-hands note this  
With exceeding disfavor  
For to them, it means  
A period of hard, hard labor.

Despite this they always  
Turn to with a will  
And Soon the dock  
Resembles a great mill.

With scraping and painting  
They very busily engage  
Until the ship is fit for sea  
Whether new or overage.

So to the deck hands,  
Goes a lot of credit,  
For "E's" won for Engineering  
The Engineers are indebted.

So the lowly Seaman,  
Let oft their praises ring,  
While doing their work well  
Are often heard to sing.

Though not harmonious  
He sings from his heart  
With thoughts of his Navy  
The service from which he hates to part.

## AMMUNITION

Received and Stowed Aboard in  
Record Time

Early this morning, Saturday, all preparations were completed for receiving our service, and a small consignment of target shells from the Ammunition Depot.

At about 08:30 two yard cranes chugged their way up the dock, taking their respective places abreast the ship.

Soon the shell trays were being swung aboard, loaded with bright and shiny projectiles, this the result of two weeks touching up by members of the gunnery department.

In exactly two hours the last shell was on deck and in two hours more the last shell was stowed and secured in it's proper place.

Our gunnery divisions have once more demonstrated their ability and initiative in doing their job well.

Not a single accident, to mar their splendid work, occurred.

Well done, Gunnery Department.

## BASKETBALL

Houston Hoopmen Take Thriller  
From Apprentices

Thursday night the HOUSTON five took the court in Vallejo High Gym facing the Mare Island Apprentices, a reputedly strong squad in local circles.

The Apprentices were top-heavy favorites at game time, and did bear out pre-game predictions during the first half for the lead changed several times, with the yard men threatening to break loose continually.

The HOUSTON boys started slowly and cautiously due mostly because of unfamiliarity with the court. Being almost overcautious, they warmed up slowly, hitting their usual fast pace late in the half.

Willmuth and Mustain gave a stellar exhibition of good defensive play during the first half, their good work leading the rest of the squad to turn back repeated rallies of the opponents.

The second half started with the HOUSTON five clicking and soon they broke away from the Apprentices who had held them to a 17 to 16 score at the end of the first half.

The Kennedy, Willmuth and Stoddard combination worked well now with the score mounting steadily until the end of the game.

Jones and Ulrey worked well too, forcing the Apprentices to attempt their scoring well out from the basket.

High scoring honors were pretty equally divided between Willmuth-16 and Kennedy-15 for the HOUSTON while Bryton of the Apprentices scored 15.

The final score was HOUSTON 38 Apprentices 29.

HOUSTON SCHEDULE, SECOND  
ROUND, SERVICE BASKETBALL  
LEAGUE

Sat. Jan. 25-7:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs USS EVANS.

Tues. Jan. 28, 6:30 PM USS HOUSTON vs U. S. MARINES.

Tues. Feb. 4, 6:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs NAVAL OFFICERS.

Sat. Feb. 8, 8:15 PM USS HOUSTON vs USS PINOLA.

Thurs. Feb. 13 7:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs NAVAL HOSPITAL.

All games are to be played on the Navy YMCA court in Vallejo, and it is expected that our up and coming team will receive lots of the old HOUSTON support.

Since all games are in the evening, it is felt little difficulty will be found for those desiring to see our boys in action.

## ON THE RIFLE RANGE

During the past week the results of the Rifle firing were very encouraging. Of the thirty-four men to fire, seventeen qualified for Marksmen. The Marksman course is fired at a range of two hundred yards with a 120 out of a possible 150 being necessary to qualify for marksman.

Much credit is due to the Marines who assisted in coaching.

The men who qualified are as follows:

1st. Division—11 men fired the course.	
Andree, F. R. Sea2c.	137
Adams, W. L. Sealc.	127
Acuto, J. Sealc.	124
Barron, J. Sea2c.	121
Mers, R. L. Sea2c.	131
Blain, R. L. Sea2c.	121
Lt. (jg) Harris	137
2nd. Division—11 men fired the course	
Hennessy, J. K. Sea2c.	125
Hennessey, T. W. Sea2c.	131
Taylor, M. Sea2c.	123
Kirkpatrick, R. L. Sealc.	120
Taylor, F. B. Sealc.	120

To achieve success one must usually risk failure.

Failure does not hurt so keenly if we know we have given the best we have toward success.

HAVE YOU, completed your course for the next higher rating?



## NOSEY NEWS

by  
EV' BODY

As we approach the final month in Dear old Mare Island, all hands find themselves well supplied with activity, nevertheless our GG boys are finding time to talk over summer cruise dope that has been flying thick and fast of late. No matter how you figure it, we are pretty sure to be right with the rest of the Fleet when she heads South.

With another shindig in the offing many of our prominent heart weakeners are to be observed doing their stuff, with most of them reporting a fair dancing partner already dated up for that evening.

Who could those three generous HOU-  
STON sailors be, donating eighty odd skins to the local village.

This recent siege of good weather has softened our attitude toward this region, but we still don't like it. Tis nothing like Long Beach and environs.

Burwell says he would have made marksman on the range, on his first string, only someone switched his brand of smokes and the resulting case of nerves was a decided handicap. Since "Hawkshaw" Gardiner of the "F" has taken up slewthing in a big way he has been swamped with cases. On the case of the missing dungarees, (they were thrown in the trash can) he reports 15 excellent clues???

Recently the Goon was found in a local beer emporium having the most divine curl put into his hair. You should see it. We wonder if the gal was trying to remove the Yangtze marcel. The 0700 liberty just about creased the Beer parlor curl, but traces of it are still visible. "Muscles" Leslie is improving nicely after his recent mishap on roller skates. He intends to gurgle gallons of his muscle building chocolate (secret formula) just as soon as he is up and around.

It seems Campbell of the "N" felt that the Campbell clan was failing to hold the spotlight so he picked the Rodman Club to show his stuff. He is learning fast even though he was in the Army once.

It seems the packard dater from the focstle' division did not fare so well in last shore maneuvers. We are sure the gals did enjoy the beer though.

Wonder why Burgess was asking if he really did look ten years older.?

It is rumored about Baker of the Pent House, tried to shoot a snake while on the pistol range. Whether it was a snake or not we are sure Baker was somewhat upset.

Only because it is the accepted custom, we must say "Sayonara until next week."

### SEAMAN SUBMITS

#### PRIZE ANSWERS

What we consider to be the prize answers of the current quarter were recently submitted by one of our seamen in taking a Navy Training course assignment. They are as follows:

The patent instrument which is used for measuring the distance a ship travels is called a "COMPASS".

When electricity is diverted from its normal path by having both wires accidentally touch metal, the lead is said to be "EXPLOSIVE"

The rearward movement of a gun which occurs on firing is known as the "TRIGGER"

The objects, similiar in appearance to blank cartridges, which are used to ignite the firing charge of a gun are called "ONE POUNDERS".

GG N. 1 "I had great fun at the club last night. They had a beer drinking contest.

GG No. 2 "You don't say, who won second prize?"

### SICK BAY NOTES.

#### DANGEROUS DAN McCROBE

A bunch of germs were hitting it up  
In the bronchial saloon;  
Two bugs on the edge of the larynx  
Were jazzing a rag-time tune.  
Back in the teeth, in a solo game,  
Sat dangerous Ack-Kerchoo;  
And watching his pulse was his light  
of love—  
The lady that's known as Flu.

Service in the United States Navy is a priviledge for which only one man in sixteen can qualify!

MAIL THE BLUE BONNET HOME



"Honest Boats, all the hoes I ever seen is bent like this, so I fixed 'em all for yuh!"

--DOTS & DASHES--  
--HOISTS & FLASHES--

This week we say farewell to Bennington, PFC, USMC, a good radio-man and swell shipmate, the gang wishes you a pleasant cruise in 'Diego Benny.

We also want to wish Bratlien, Pvt. a happy cruise on the good ship HOUSTON.

"Screw-Face" Merrill says the trouble with us is we don't understand good music, like classic operas.

"Silent" Gene Willmuth is going out strong for wrestling, what a man.

According to "Pop" Mains, pro. wrestling is just a show, with guys like Londos and Man Mountain Dean as actors. In fact, he almost had me believing it was a sissys game.

I imagine a modern Sailor amuses himself with a yo-yo on a piece of string. If you don't know what a yo-yo is, see Mitchell, signal striker.

Was "Jew-Boy" Kahn's face red when they passed the word for Kahn, Radio striker, lay up to the radio-shack.

David A. Elder is turning printer on us now, a signalman, quartermaster and printer. What next, Dave.

Casanova Foreman is now operating the sewing machine on the bridge. He's our ace bunting repair man now.

Overheard the "Gork" in the flag plot saying: "You gotta be careful what you say up here now". Bulkheads have ears, but the Gork has a nice taste for engagement rings, reckon it wont be long now.

Next Thursday the V. O. (visual operator's) test is coming up and the gang is plenty busy studying the Communication instructions plus search light and semaphore. They expect to be in tops condition for it too.

NEW AIRCRAFE—Cont'd

Continued from page one

This new type will be of the Torpedo-Bomber class, low-wing monoplane type, capable of great speed and long cruising range.

WE'LL SEE YOU AT THE DANCE

SHIP'S DANCE

Continued from page one

GUEST ticket will admit one couple. Since the Dance is being held near the end of the month, the finance committee will distribute the tickets thru the Ship Service Store, where you may sign a chit for your ticket and pay for it on the followin pay-day. This method of distribution is most convenient in view of the fact that many of us wishing to attend, might otherwise be unable to do so.

The weather man promises fine weather all next week, that in itself being the harbinger of an enjoyable evening.

As before, 150 invitations are being sent out to young ladies in Vallejo and the near vicinity, so those of you not having a girl friend need not be troubled over the possibility of a shortage of dancing partners.

The thorough and painstaking efforts shown by the different committees assure us our second dance in the Bay area is bound to be another gala event long to be remembered.

All hands should make it a point to be on deck promptly when the festivities commence for this will be another HOUSTON success staged by the snappy HOUSTON crew.

DID YOU KNOW?

That 250 cubic feet are required to store one million silver dollars?

That a comma accidently placed in a tariff bill in 1874 cost the U. S. Government \$2,000,000?

That the President said: "There is, strictly speaking, no such organization as Tammany Hall".

That what is now called smoking was once, at an early period, termed "drinking tobacco".

That only two Navy men have freed themselves from a submarine by the means of a torpedo tube and reached the surface alive?

That a thunder storm only occurs about once every ten years at the North and South Poles?

That Aesop, son of Clodius Aesopus, dissolved in vinegar a pearl valued at \$40,000. in order to have the satisfaction of consuming the most expensive drink ever known?



Despite the many threats concerning the future well-being of this column's scribe, this week finds him still on the job even though some people claim he is becoming such a big rat they could put a saddle on him.

The past week found all the available men proceeding to the range to practice with the pistol. Many different methods of firing are displayed with truly amazing results, but the improvement shown sustains the theory that every man is a potential expert.

This week we received aboard private Bratlien, our new radio operator, lets hope his tour of duty aboard the HOUSTON is a pleasant one.

Now for the lowdown, commonly called the dirt, about the boys. There isn't so much this week, maybe it's because we don't get paid every week, but I like to think that it is because fear of exposure in the column has caused a distinct moral uplift.

As usual Goloaszewski, the "Brooklyn Butcher" made the news. It seems that he delights in tearing down fences and then in the remorseful mood which follows he plays little Dan Cupid and throws arrows about. For shame! Ski.

Jones, he of the island movement, is going about with tears in his eyes and a worried look on his face? Some girl Matthew?

Stockton, why didn't you tell the fellows you could write poetry instead of, saving it all for your girl?

When asked why he dosen't go ashore, Terpsten says he would rather stay aboard with his books and have a breezy time.

In order to save wear and tear on his brain (?) Ringheim makes copies of letters he receives from one girl and sends them to another. I'll have to try that. See 'ya at the Dance.