

**BOXERS AND WRESTLERS BOWL  
OVER MINNEAPOLIS**

Last Friday afternoon in the Admiral Leigh Gymnasium our boxing and wrestling teams came through in strong style to win over fighting Minneapolis teams. As the Minneapolis had previously swamped the Vestal, things seem to be looking up for the Rambler Ship. Maybe there will be a few champions on board after the smoke of the battles clears away.

Chick of the Houston in the 118 lb. class was awarded the first bout due to forfeiture by the Minneapolis. There were no entries in the 126 lb. class. Harvey of our ship won the 135 lb. class by taking a fall over Atwood. In the 145 lb. class the bout was given to Halier of the Minneapolis due to the Houston having no entry in this weight. Folta of the "R" Division won by a fall over Sullivan of the Minneapolis. In the 165 lb. class Fordemwalt of the 3d Division had quite a struggle in eeking out a 2 to 1 judges' decision over King of the Minneapolis. Miller of the Houston won by a fall over Richardson of the Minneapolis in the 175 lb. bout; and Henry lost to Schroeder of the Minneapolis in a surprise fall. This gave us a victory by a score of 5 to 2. Nice work wrestlers.

The boxing team followed closely the example of the wrestling team by going out and taking a 4 to 3 victory over the Minneapolis. The Houston won the 118 lb. bout and the 126 lb. bout by forfeitures; but lost the 135 lb. class and heavyweight bouts for the same reason. In the 147 lb. bout Aligo of the Houston outslugged

(Continued on Page 4.)

**HOUSTON SPONSOR TAKES  
MARRIAGE VOWS**

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Fitzallen Holcombe request the honor of your presence

at the marriage of their daughter

Elizabeth Adelaide

to

Mr. Henry Markley Crosswell, Jr.

on Saturday evening, the twenty-seventh

of November

nineteen hundred and thirty-seven

at half after six o'clock

St. Paul's Methodist Church

Houston, Texas

—o—

The Captain and Officers

U. S. S. HOUSTON

regret that they are unable to accept

the kind invitation of

Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Fitzallen Holcombe

to be present at the marriage

of their daughter on

Saturday the twenty-seventh of

November

And so we see by the kind invitation sent to our ship that the U.S.S. HOUSTON'S sponsor has taken the vows of marriage on Saturday, 27 November at Houston, Texas.

The Captain, Officers and crew sincerely offer congratulations.

Seaman Sam Says: The question why a man blames fate for accidents but takes full credit for a hole-in-one has never been solved.

**CHIEF PRINTER WHEELLESS IN  
RESCUE ATTEMPT**

(As described by the Long Beach "Sun.")

Despite heroic efforts of a sailor from the U.S.S. HOUSTON, 6-year-old George LeRosignol was burned to death in his home at 2115 East Sixth Street at 11:20 o'clock last night (November 18). The child's mother, Mrs. Mae Le Rosignol, who was dozing when the fire broke out, escaped. Her frantic calls to her son from the front porch of the burning building brought R. T. Wheelless, the sailor, who resides at 2117 East Sixth Street.

As flames poured through the roof and from windows of the three-room house at the rear of the lot, Wheelless ran inside. Only when he was nearly suffocated did he give up his rescue effort, witnesses said.

"I could hear the little boy moaning, but I couldn't find him in the heavy billows of smoke." Wheelless stated. "I was in the bathroom of my home when I heard Mrs. LeRosignol crying 'George, George.' I ran into the building but I couldn't do any good."

R. T. Wheelless is a Chief Printer attached to the Scouting Force complement at present aboard the U.S.S. HOUSTON.

—o—

**CRUISER WHALEBOAT RACES**

First enlistment ten and twelve oared whaleboat races will be conducted at 1415 and 1500, 3 December 1937. CHESTER, TUSCALOOSA, VESTAL, MEDUSA entered in twelve oared contest, all others in ten oared.

## —: THE BLUE BONNET :—

A weekly publication of the ship's company of the U.S.S. Houston, Captain G. N. Barker, U.S.N., Commanding and Commander C. A. Bailey, U.S.N., Executive Officer.

Editor, Lieut. (jg) E. A. McDona'd, U.S.N.  
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29 November 1937

## HONOR FOUNDER OF NAVY DAY

(Editor's Note): The following letter has been received from one of our many readers, in far off Coco Solo, whose ability to detect apparent errors is rather remarkable.

"To the Editor of the "Blue Bonnet":  
 U.S.S. Houston, Long Beach, Calif:

Dear Sir:

I have seen and heard of many remarkable men in my short career in the Navy but according to your article in the "Blue Bonnet" of 27 November 1937, in honor of the founder of Navy Day, Theodore Roosevelt seems to be the most remarkable of them all.

If you will take the time and trouble to re-read said article, you will notice, no doubt, that the letter of commendation to Mrs. Hamilton was signed, supposedly, by Theodore Roosevelt and dated 11 November 1922.

In checking on this article we find that Mr. Roosevelt died 6 January 1919 and therefore couldn't possibly have written the letter you published.

Just a Stooage."

(Explanation): "Teddy" Roosevelt whom most of us know as Colonel Theodore Roosevelt had a son named Theodore Roosevelt, Jr. Upon the death of his father he dropped the Jr. and on 11 November 1922 was the assistant secretary of the navy, on which date the letter to Mrs. Hamilton was signed. The present Theodore is also a colonel.

We trust the above explanation will entirely clear up the identity and question of dates to one and all of our many valuable and apparently interested readers.

HOUSTON OFFICER TO BE  
DETACHED

Ensign F. L. Barrows, 2d Division officer who has been aboard since graduation from the Naval Academy has received orders detaching him from the HOUSTON and directing him to report to Submarine School, New London, Conn.

He will be detached about the middle of December.

Lt. (jg) A. C. Ingels reported aboard on 19 June 1937 from the U.S.S. BREESE. He will take over the duties of 2d Division officer upon detachment of Ensign Barrows.

## BEAUTY IN DISTRESS

Dear Editor:

I am a very lonely girl who lives alone on the Pike. I heard the HOUSTON is going to have a ship's dance. Do you think you could get somebody to take me, I have enclosed a sketch of myself.



I am twenty-one, have blond hair and blue eyes. I have a 1938 Packard roadster and could meet my escort on the dock. I have just inherited my father's business, a combination liquor store and restaurant.

Please, do you think you could find someone who would like to take me to the dance?

Joy.

(Editor's Note): If there's any man interested, further information such as address, etc., can be obtained from the Editor.

## THE DYING AVIATOR

A poor aviator lay dying  
 At the end of a bright summer's day  
 His comrades had gathered about him  
 To carry his fragments away.  
 The airplane was piled on his wish-  
 bone;  
 His Hotchkiss was wrapped 'round his  
 head;  
 He wore a sparkplug on each elbow,  
 'Twas plain he would shortly be dead.  
 He spit out a valve and a gasket  
 And stirred in the slump where he lay,  
 And then to his wondering comrades,  
 These brave parting words he did say:  
 "Take the manifold out of my larynx  
 And the butterfly valve off my neck,  
 Remove from my kidneys the camrods  
 There's a lot of good parts in this  
 wreck.

Take the piston rods out of my sto-  
 mach  
 And the cylinders out of my brain,  
 Extract from my liver the crankshaft,  
 And assemble the engine again.  
 Pull the longeron out of my liver,  
 The turnbuckle out of my ear;  
 From the back of my neck take the  
 rudder,  
 There's all of your airplane here.  
 I'll be riding a cloud in the morning  
 With no rotary before me to cuss;  
 Take the lead from your feet and get  
 busy,  
 There's another lad needing this bus.

## SPORTORIAL

In the Central European Tennis Championships in Roumaina, Poland's crack doubles team of Kashmir Tarowski and Walentky Bratek were among those favored. Astonishment ran high when the pair answered a call to enter the court for a crucial match staggering noticeably. In his first attempt to serve, Tarowski fanned, sending his teammate into paroxysms of uncontrollable mirth. Many a time during the first and only set did the Poles bump into each other, fall flat on the court. When they had lost the set 6-0, officials tried to call the match off, nearly precipitated a brawl. Finally a member of the Polish Consulate tactfully admonished his countrymen, led them quietly off the court to bed.

The Panama Canal is considered the world's greatest engineering feat—cost of construction was \$338,000,000.

### WEDDING BELLS FOR LT. (jg) NELSON

Lt. (jg) E. R. Nelson, Jr., attached to Commander Scouting Force Staff aboard this vessel as a communication watch officer was married to Miss Edna M. Olson on 11 November at St. Marks Episcopal Church, Glendale, California. They were attended by Ensign and Mrs. T. F. Sharpe, also attached to ComSecoFor Staff. All hands congratulate them.

### WIT . . . AND WHAT HAVE YOU

Mother: "Mary, where have you been until 3 a.m.?"

Mary: "Walking, Mother."

Mother: "For goodness sake."

Mary: "Yes, Mother."

Long Beach Sal: "If wishes came true, what would you wish?"

Houston sailor: "Gosh, I don't dare tell."

Long Beach Sal: "Go ahead, sap, what do you think I brought up this wishing business for?"

"How come you don't go out with that red-headed dame any more?"

"I couldn't stand her vulgar laugh."

"That's funny, I never noticed it."

"You weren't around when I tried to borrow a buck from her."

An elderly lady complained to the telephone company that she was shocked by the loud profanity of workmen repairing lines near her house. The foreman was asked to send in a report, which came as follows:

"Me an Joe Brady was on the job. I was up on the pole and spilled some hot lead on Joe. It went down his neck and Joe said, "You really must be more careful, Bill."

### The Question?

1. Can humming birds walk?
2. How were the first submarines sent to the Asiatic Station?
3. What company is the largest user of trucks and automobiles in the United States?
4. What are the words for the distress, "SOS"?

(Answers on Page 4.)

### MESS COOK'S LAMENT

Prone on his bunk in the sick bay  
A mess cook lay nearing his end.  
The glaze in his eyes was revealing  
His spirit was ready to wend,  
Away to that calm, peaceful haven  
That's surcease from all earthly things,  
Where love is forever abiding  
And Boatswain's Mates have wings.

Hard by stood a glass of cascara  
To ease his last moments of pain  
Sounds from the ward room of gargling  
Like a fitting and mournful refrain,  
The white-aproned brethren had gathered  
To see that he shoved off in style,  
And tho' each fond heart was grief-laden,  
They auctioned his clothes off the while.

Soon came the hour of their parting  
Perhaps never would they meet again,  
So the last things they spoke of together  
Were dear in a mess cook's ken,  
They spoke of the losses of mess gear,  
And washing dishes in suds.  
And gazed in the eyes of the spuds.

He asked of his boys on his table.  
And doubts came to bring his distress;  
He feared his relief might be starving  
The laddies who scoffed on his mess.  
And the last words that came from those pale lips  
Before they grew mute . . .  
"I've made my last trip o'er the flight deck,  
Down the trail to the "Old slop chute."

So he lay there awhile just smiling  
His favorite tureen in his hands,  
While a QM, by means of a compass  
Got his bearing for those other lands.  
Through the loud speaker came mess gear,  
He waited, his face to the wall.  
"Pipe down" came the voice of the angels,  
And the mess cook answered the call.

### Little Ocko

Says . . .

Numerous happenings have taken place this past week and with our anchor cable secured to Berth George many of the boys are taking advantage of the extra liberty.

\* \* \* \*

Jock Machado, Flight Deck bossman, finally shook loose and went ashore. Just to walk about for exercise he told us, but we saw him and he was enjoying himself.

\* \* \* \*

Bert Ellstrom, WT1c was another flashing gigolo on the Pike. Dressed in natty civvies and using a taxi to escort his lady friends about.

\* \* \* \*

Stopped in at the Issuing Room and found our old friend Vendetti, SC1c long time ship's butcher, is now Jack O' the Dust. Van says that main ice box is the biggest trouble he's got that and Barnett, CCStd.

\* \* \* \*

Jim Wallace, GM1c in No. 1 Turret says that Westfield, movie maestro, may say "Good Morning" to him at least. Seems as though Jim has several months more time on the Rambler ship than Westy, but the movie man remembers the old round scuttlebutt and two chair barber shop so Wallace says he's O.K. Steve Sivak says he can remember putting the ship in commission and living out of a sea bag.

\* \* \* \*

Speaking of sea-bags: it seems Henry Nickles, our Sail and Needle expert, had some difficulty with some of those articles shortly before an inspection not long ago! Nick has, by the way, a full four years to do now, almost, having shipped over last Saturday a.m. Says it is quite a bother going up to the Exec's Office every four years to sign his name.

\* \* \* \*

Received a letter from an admirer of our column recently and he tipped us off to some mighty tender news items. If we get the goods for it will let you all in on it next week. Little Ocko says So Long 'till next time.

—o—

Student: "I'll stand on my head or bust."

Gym instructor: "Never mind, Miss Miller, just stand on your head."

## U. S. S. HOUSTON

Flagship of the World  
Moored to Pico Landing,  
Long Beach, Calif.

30 February, 1938.

Working Division - Bartenders in training (1st and 2nd teams).

Crew's Duty Section - None.

- 0900 Reveille. Awaken officer of the deck. M.A.A.'s awaken gently. Give out portions of cold tomato juice or beer, as desired.
- 0930 Turn to. String all boatswain's mates to yardarms.  
Detail new boatswain's mates for day.
- 0945 Send empty beer bottles to dock. Use crane.
- 1000 Reveille for working party that blew up the Second National Bank last night. Take inventory of blackjacks and machine guns.
- 1015 Mast report. Keelhaul "Goon" Jones who dropped \$1.50 of last night's swag.
- 1030 Instructions at table No. 5 in new end over end system of poker playing.
- 1100 Paymaster will leave ship with \$10,000,000.00 to bail out men caught in First National Bank holdup. Place men on report for improper performance of duty.
- 1200 Pipe dinner. Dutch lunch will be served at bar No. 2 for those desiring such.
- 1215 Hang the Commissary Steward.
- 1230 Receive 1,000 cases of beer on board. Use both cranes, if needed. Make proper tests for quality and quantity.
- 1245 Send rooting party ashore for Deforge who will fight a pistol duel with Chick. Tar and feather the winner.
- 1300 Detail working party to throw all cleaning gear over the side.
- 1400 Receive new 100 proof distilling plant aboard to replace ship's evaporators.
- 1415 Start operation of new distilling plant. M. M. Cromwell test as to quantity, PhM Mills test as to quality.

BOXERS AND WRESTLERS BOWL  
OVER MINNEAPOLIS

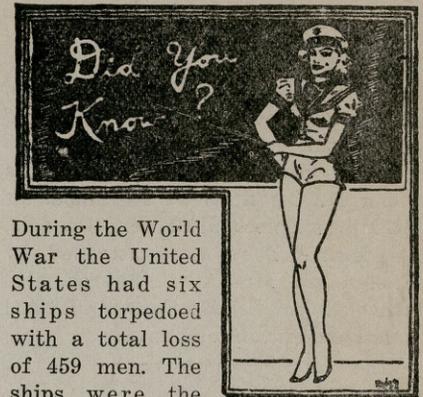
Rice of the Minneapolis. Harris, our fighting marine, took over the advantage in the last round to win over Burnam. Hill, the last Houston entry, lost to Harris of the Minneapolis in the 175 lb. bout. Good work boxers.

Due to the rest of the ships in our group being away during the month of December our next elimination bouts will probably take place in January. In the meantime bouts will be arranged with other ships.

- 1430 School call. CGM Weaver to give information and instruction in latest method of using nitroglycerin.
- 1500 Liberty for all hands able to walk or crawl to gangway.
- 1530 Bring CWT Mullane before ship's tribunal to investigate disappearance of keg of rum from aging storeroom.
- 1600 Strong-arm squad blackjack all those lying in ship's waterways. Throw these men over side.
- 1700 Pipe down tables for card players. Paymaster pay all hands needing cash for poker games.
- 1720 Pipe supper. Belay supper due to indisposition of cooks and poker games.
- 1930 Movie call. Do not throw butts indiscriminately as Sgt. Fabric was seriously burned during last night's movie.
- 2000 Give Officer of the Deck the rubber hammer test, using blackjack as proxy. Follow with test on quartermasters.
- 2200 All leave requests will be considered at this time.
- 2300 Muster working party for holding up Second National Bank. Shipfitter Godair instruct men in their duties.
- 2330 See that distiller is running full speed. Darken ship.
- 2400 Take off rat guards. Allow ship's rats to go ashore. Liberty for all watch standers.

I. M. NERTS,

Muse of the First Water.



During the World War the United States had six ships torpedoed with a total loss of 459 men. The ships were the ANTILLES, JACOB JONES, PRESIDENT LINCOLN, SAN DIEGO, MOUNT VERNON and TAMPA.

o o o

In the year 1810, the uniform of the navy consisted of blue jackets, scarlet vests and straw hats.

o o o

In Vancouver, B.C., it is unlawful to ride a tricycle more than ten miles per hour.

o o o

According to an old law in San Francisco, bootblacks must clip the hems of the ladies' dresses to the tops of their shoes - with suitable clips - while shining their shoes.

o o o

The U.S.S. Constitution "Old Ironsides" never lost her commanding officer, never lost more than eight men in any of her engagements, never went aground and she was in commission for more than eighty years.

o o o

Sixty centuries ago Egyptian priests made nightly weather forecasts from the summits of their temples. Nearly all of the nitrate of soda used in the United States is imported from Chile.

— 0 —  
THE ANSWER

(From Page 3.)

1. No. their feet are for perching only.
2. On the deck of a warship.
3. Bell Telephone and Telegraph.
4. There are no words. The letters were chosen in 1912 by the International Telegraph Conference.