

Volume II.

San Pedro, Cal. August 24, 1935

Number XXXIII

**SUCH POPULARITY MUST  
BE DESERVED**

There is no doubt that our local G. G. Club is quite popular; the letter quoted below will attest to this fact.

August 20, 1935.

Mr. R. C. Ball,  
U.S.S.HOUSTON,  
San Pedro, Calif.

Dear Mr. Ball:

We are taking the liberty of sending you under separate cover a case of GOLDEN GRAIN TOBACCO, which we sincerely hope will be the source of real pleasure to your members.

And we sincerely hope that it may be instrumental in the addition of many more satisfied members to your happy group.

Yours sincerely,  
Robert M. Napp.

Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.  
316 Commercial St., Los Angelus, Cal.

**BOXING**

Friday night at the Westside Auditorium the HOUSTON fighters lost their first fights; but, gained in return some valuable experience.

Small lost by a KO in the third to Arisaro. Carter lost by a close decision to Joe Nararro, a bad thumb prevented Carter using that pile driver punch to it's full advantage. Garcia lost by an "any ones fight" dec.

**PERSONNEL**

**UP THE LADDER**

The Blue Bonnet congratulates:—  
Ross, C.A. CFC(AA) to CFC(PA),  
Campbell, W.M. Bug2c. to Bug1c.  
Carter, E. Matt3c. to Matt2c.

**TRANSFERS**

Wommack, N.T. WT1c. to Naval Hospital, San Diego  
Wilson, E.S. Ye03c. to U.S.S.Riegel.  
Daniels, E. Sea1c. to Com. Eleven for assignment.

**THREE YEAR EXTENTION**

Abbott, L.T. MM1c.

**REENLISTED ON BOARD**

Stanton, C.A. MM1c.  
Garcia, H.L. Cox.

**C.P.O. EXAMS IN CRUISERS SCOFOR**

It is reliably reported that the date of exams for CPO's is tenatively set for 17 Sept, contingent on movements of Cruisers.

**NAVY TRAINING**

Questionnaires recently sent out to former Navy men, picked at random, yeilded more than 350 intresting replies. These replies showed 86 percent were working at skilled trades which they had learned in the Navy. The average salary of the artisans was \$165 per month. Ninety-seven percent said they felt their time in the Navy was well spent, and 83 percent felt they would do likewise if they had the same thing to do over again.. Ninety three percent thought Naval training of great value for civilian life, and 74 percent said they would recommend the Navy as a permanent vocation.

**NAVY GAMES LOCALE SET**

According to the press dispatches dated 21 August, the Fleet will hold it's 1936 maneuvers in waters off the western end of the Panama Canal.

Col. Henry L. Roosevelt, Assistant Sec. Navy, said, in making announcement, that the Heavy Cruisers will probably circle South America after the maneuvers, and the other vessels will visit Atlantic and Gulf ports. The last time Naval vessels circled the Horn it was done by Destroyer div. in 1907.

In making this announcement, he said that the Fleet would leave its West coast bases late in April. Upon completion of the maneuvers, visits by individual units to Northern Atlantic ports in mid-summer, followed by visits to South Atlantic and Gulf ports in late August and September, the Fleet would return to the San Diego-San Pedro area about the middle of October. Col. Roosevelt further went on to say, "Consideration has also been given to having one division of Heavy Cruisers, beginning in late September visit a few of the countries of South America, returning to the West Coast in December, 1936".

**HOUSTON IN SAILING RACES**

Anyone interested in learning to sail should take advantage of Ens. Jones' long experience and answer the daily "sailing call". A crew will be chosen from those interested to represent the HOUSTON in the SCOFOR sailing races.

## —: 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.

Ensign C. J. Mackenzie, Editor.  
Asst. Editor, R. C. Ball, Ch. Pay Clerk  
Associate Editor R.W.O'Brien, BM1c.  
Composing Editor J. Boris, S2c.

## CONTRIBUTORS

E. E. Jory, Sea.1c. A. D. Hall, MM1c.  
R. V. Hill, S. K.3c. Jack Holt, S1c.  
PRINTER, G.W.Baker, Sea2c.

August 24, 1935

★ ★ ★  
PEP TALK

## "WE'VE HAD A LETTER FROM THE BOY"

We've had a letter from the boy,  
And oh the gladness and the joy  
It brought to us! We read it o'er  
I'd say a dozen times or more;  
We laughed until the tears fell  
At all the fun he had to tell.  
He's in the Navy, wearing blue  
And everything is all so new  
That he can see in youthful style  
The funniest things to make us smile.  
He's working hard! Between the lines  
We gather that. The brass he shines.  
Without complaining, and the food  
He eats is very good.  
And so he laughs at all his chores.  
He says the maid who scrubs the floors  
Will have to leave when he returns  
Unless a better way she learns.  
"I've got it on the fairer sex,"  
Says he, "Since I am scrubbing the decks."  
"A sailor's life, dear Mom," writes he,  
"Is not the life you picked for me,  
And yet I'm getting fat and strong  
And learning as I go along  
That any life a man can find  
Is apt to grow to be a grind  
Unless the feller has the wit  
To see the brighter side of it.  
Don't worry for your sailor son,  
He sleeps well when his work is done."  
We've had a letter from the boy,  
And oh the gladness and the joy  
It brought to us. 'Twas good to know  
That he is facing duty so.  
Between the lines that he has penned  
His mother's bitter tears to end,  
I saw the manhood glowing bright  
And now I know his heart is right.  
Beyond the laughter I could see  
My boy's the man I'd hoped he'd be.

—GUEST—

In this poem Guest has shown the true joy a mother and father, for that matter, get on receiving a letter "from the boy". No matter how old you are or how long you have been in the Service, you are still "the boy" to the folks at home.

Are you the man "I'd hoped he'd

be?" Are you the man "who shines his brass without complaining" and "still has the wit to see the brighter side of it"? If you can answer both of these questions in the affirmative you have done a lot to justify those sacrifices the family made to make your path a little smoother. Above all, don't forget that mother and father who have done so much, write them regularly and let them know that their son is "the man they hoped he'd be".

—\*—  
Special Rules for Competition For the  
General Excellence Trophy

In order to stimulate interest and competition in all prescribed branches of athletics, a trophy will be offered by the Commander-in-Chief for General Excellence in Athletics in the Heavy Cruiser Unit.

This trophy will be awarded annually to the ship attaining the highest merit during the preceding fiscal year.

The following conditions will govern the award of the trophy: (a) A ship must have competed in events (exclusive of boxing and wrestling) whose first place points total at least 165. (b) The "points possible for each ship" will be the total of the first place points of the events which the ship has been able to enter. (c) The "points scored" for each ship will be the total of the points scored in all events entered. (d) The merit of the ship will be the percentage obtained by dividing the "points scored" by the "points possible for the ship".

In the event of ties in pulling or sailing races, the points involved shall be divided between the ships concerned. Points toward the General Excellence Trophy will be awarded in the various sports as indicated below:

## Pulling Races

(1.) Selected whaleboat crew 1st. 25, 2nd. 15, 3rd. 10, 4th. 5. (2.) First cruise whaleboat crew, 1st. 25, 2nd. 15, 3rd. 10, 4th. 5 (3.) Marine whaleboat crew 1st. 25, 2nd. 15, 3rd. 10, 4th. 5.

## Sailing Regatta

Class (a) Standard whaleboats, 1st. 50, 2nd. 30, 3rd. 20, 4th. 10. Class (b) Experimental whaleboats, 1st. 50, 2nd. 30,

## Boxing and Wrestling

For each entry in intra-Division eliminations, 5 points. For each Divis-

—\*—  
Continued on Page Four.

## EXHAUST PIPE



Communism, no longer holds the curb on ability to demonstrate. This week the entire division up and "turned to" by putting on various demonstrations of their own. Almost everything was on the list: How to set up Plane in 8hrs., change a motor in 48, also doing a lot of flying in the meantime. Even Religion was demonstrated on several occasions. Monday nite was "Budda nite". That nite, Gibson broke out all of his Chinese Gods and Idols and was among them for hours, asking Budda to make the "Man Made Bird" fly like a "Most Honorable Swan". Now that it flies "Hands off" he really does believe in it.

Reverend F. L. Noble, accompanied by his entire congregation, one O. E. Gibson, journied ashore and imbibed all that is Holy and Unholy.

The mighty Mr. Gregg, in his usual Super-style is searching for a Super Scientific religion to make his new clock engine run; everyone calls it a clock engine because he has to wind it so much. Looks like the rowing machine will get a rest on the morning watch now. To bad too.

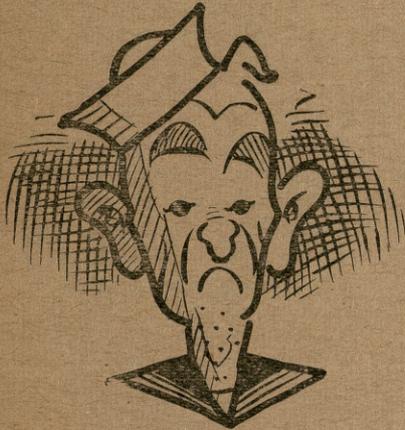
Now speaking on practical demonstrations, Rosecrans, the divisions beloved wood butcher and box maker has been showing the boys how to eat his meals in a "Off the Mantel" style. He claims it was due to a Perirectal Cyst located amidships on the keel, but we think that it is just to many "Gedunks".

The poorest demonstration of the week was made by our mess cook on the purchasing power of the American half \$. Upon coming aboard the other A.M. he threw a four bit piece upon the deck and bellered fer a new liberty card, Martin walked over and picked it up, thinking it was counterfeit, tossed it over the side; thereby finishing the act by his demonstration of efficiency.

—\*—  
The folks at home will enjoy reading the BLUE BONNET. Mail it.

## NOSEY NEWS

by  
EV' BODY



With SBPR, tender overhaul and athletics in the spotlight one would think our stalawarts would have a little time for cruising about—but—Sweaton, one of our recent additions to the "E" div. was certainly letting the world know about his abilities in the art of scooping the suds. And then Wallace, GM, spent the week end trying to find Glendale in a bar-room?? Could it be that Rainey is after 2nd. or maybe a new heart affair? You'll have to see him. Pierce, the gear shifter in one of our boats has great ambitions but we feel he should practice his dancing somewhere besides the center of the streets. Stanton, MMlc., the recent addition to the GG Club was having quite a celebration so we hear. "K" Boy Brown numbers among his many monickers, the title "Cave-Man", Wottaman??? One of our popular young corporals looking quite cute in those sky blue rompers. Why was it that Boatsie Obie slipped up so much to return with that large hole burned in his hat? We learn that J.P.Sharp has new interests and we were about ready to predict a new member for the GG Club. DeBri was listed slightly to port, and, we knowing he is a teetotler, investigated, only to find he has a new wrist watch. Our own "Jean" Willmuth insists the best cure for that cracked rib is tender care by the heart throb??? We recently learned that Bair of the 1st. is quite a coyote hunter in addition to being a heart breaker. Zainfield reports his "Dear" hunting trip was quite successful??? Our "Texan Fla-

sh" Farquhar, is the possessor of a rare personality, that of having the gals set 'em up for him, (What's the secret Tex?). Sivak admits he is quite a bus romancer, well who wouldn't be, says we? He just recently completed the round trip to N.Y. via bus route. Our ace sleuth "Headlock" Wellbourne is making short liberties now that he is a short timer??? We notice that our newest Exec's messenger is a rabid movie mag. addict, why he even has a Navy scrap book made up from said magazines? The good ship HOUSTON will have a new appearance when this overhaul period is over, but she'll still be the best afloat. It appears that Bogdanski of the "V" had his fair one parked on the curb at the hour of 0200. True to this column's predictions, Gamanche, Zietfuss and Gugglitti are joining the famous GG Club, and "Hen" Nelson, our dashing tailor is also taking the big step. Congrats, fellows, and don't forget the stogies. We learn that Dan of CQM has been doing some fancy painting while on leave. We wonder who the Marine was, found, reading a book on "How to Make Love", on the Navigation bridge? Don't worry soldier, it's not your technique that holds you back.

Well as all good things come to an end; so must this column, adios.

—\*—  
FIFTY-FIFTY  
—\*—

The Navigator and the Chief Engineer once had an argument as to who was the most indispensable in operating the ship; whereupon the Navigator agreed to take a try at the Engineer Officer's job and the Engineer Officer agreed to take the bridge.

After about half an hour's running, the ship stopped and and the Navigator crawled out of the engine-room hatch. His clothing was wet from perspiration, and his features were covered with grease and grime.

"It's no use," said the Navigator, "I can't seem to make the darded thing go again."

"Certainly not," said the Chief Engineer, "We're aground."

—\*—  
KENNEDY—What time should I come?

GIRL FRIEND—Can you come after supper?

KENNEDY—Sure, that is what I wanted to come after.

## WHEN A FARMER HIRES A HAND

When a feller's got a 150 acre farm, and nobody to work it but hisself, as the missus is too busy to lend a hand, I tell you, folks has got to admit us farmers has our troubles.

It happened thisaway. Last summer one of them sailor fellers came around looking for a job and, as help was scarce, I put him to work.

He was a right nice lad and willin' to work, but he got me so goshdarned mixed up, I ain't never got straightened out since. This man looked different than most farmhands. He had a big hairy chest and an anchor tattooed on each arm. He wore them blue sailor suits, and showed me a discharge he'd got from Uncle Sam's Navy.

That sailor had the darnedest names for things. Called the floor the "deck", said the windows were "ports", and the kitchen was a "galley". When I asked him if he knew where the woodshed was, he said, "Sure, it's aft of the superstructure". Right from the start he began calling me the "Skipper" and the missus the "first luff".

He wanted more baths than was good for him too. He rigged up a shower out in the barn, and used to take as many as two baths a day sometimes. Never seemed to know that one of them things every Saturday night was enough for most folks.

One mornin' I set him to plowin'. Instead of tellin' the hosses to "haw" and "gee," that darned fool yelled "port" and "starboard". When I seen that some of the furrows he plowed were all zig-zag, he said he couldn't do no different without a compass.

Long about dinner time the missus rings the dinner gong, but he keeps right on workin. I couldn't get him to quit until the missus rang the bell seven times more. He said he never "knocked-off" for chow until "eight bells".

One day I caught him foolin' with the harness. The crupper had slipped off and he couldn't get the hoss's tail back in again. He was so darned mad he cussed. "Hells bells", he snorted, "every time I try to get a clove hitch on this ruder, the danged plow puller shifts his helm".

That sailor used to get up early and brew himself some coffee before

—\*—  
Continued on Page Four.

### When a Farmer Hires a Hand, Con.

he'd do the chores. After a while I'd come walking down to the barn, and he'd yell to the hosses, "Stand by for old man's inspection".

Well, sir, he had his bedroom all decorated up with pictures of ships, movie actresses, seashells and the like. He even had a few clothes lines stringed around. Said he wanted to make the place look natural.

That navy feller was the loudest snorer I ever heard. Used to talk in his sleep too. He scared the missus half to death one night when he yelled in his sleep, "Hoist up the top sheet and spanker". Later on I found out he was a sleep walker.

One night I heard the darnedest commotion up in his room you ever heard. The missus made me get up to find out what was the matter. He had the window wide open and was tossin' one of them clotheslines out of the window on the ground and was haulin' it up again, and all the time he was yellin', "Fifteen and no bottom". When I asked him what he was doin', he said, "Makin' soundin's". I said "Gol ding it, go back to bed and start snorin'. If you must make soundin's, make them through your nose".

After a while I got figgurin' that that mebbe a bed didn't suit him, so I bought him a hammock to make him feel more at home. It didn't do no good. When he wanted me to sit up half the night and splash water against the side of the house so's he get to sleep, right then and there I fired that sailor.

Louisville's "Derby"

### ATHLETIC RULES CONT'D

ion Champion (individual), 10 points add'l. For each Unit Champion (Individual), 15 points add'l. For each U.S. Fleet Champion (individual), 20 points add'l.

#### Baseball

Division Champion (4 ships competing) 1st. 50, 2nd. 30, 3rd. 20. Divisional Champion (3 ships competing) 1st. 50, 2nd. 30. Division Champion (2 ships competing) 1st. 50. Unit Champion 1st. 15, 2nd. 10, 3rd. 5 add'l.

#### Basketball

(Same as Baseball)

#### Pistol

Highest ships' multiple, 1st. 50, 2nd. 30, 3rd. 20, 4th. 10.

### PISTOL TEAM NOTES

The Pistol match scheduled for last Sun. afternoon with the San Pedro Police did not materialize due to the absence of one of the law and order's team members. As they had an idea of the type of competition to be expected from our team, having seen them at practice on Sat. afternoon, it is easily understood why the match was not held. Nevertheless our team has been on the range at every opportunity, and Mr. Condit reports a fine improvement being shown. The latest additions to the team are Lt. Robinson and Ens. Burdick. The results of the match in Seattle were gratifying although our team didn't take any prizes. There were about 20 seasoned and experienced ship's teams entered, the HOUSTON placing 12th. This is a good start for a newly formed outfit, and since there is plenty of time before the fleet matches in the spring our team will have a chance to become a formidable foe on any range.

### DID YOU KNOW?

That the U. S. Flag is the third oldest of the National Standards, older than the Union Jack of Britian or the Tricolor of France.

That Germany's new super-zepplin, nearly completed at Frederickschafen, will be the largest in the world, 175 feet longer than the MACON was.

That the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge will cost more than ten dollars per person in California.

That the Naval Academy Rifle Team won the National intercollegiate shoulder to shoulder championship for the second successive year, this time with a record score. The United States Military Academy stood fourth.

That the Naval Academy has helped produce two motion pictures recently. Paramount has filmed a production called "Annapolis Farewell", and Warner brothers, produced a picture called "Anchors Aweigh".

That Lt. T. D. Hodding, Navy pilot aboard the aircraft carrier Saratoga recently won the distinction of being the first Navy flyer to make 1,000 landings in a plane on the flight deck of the Ship.

Boost HOUSTON Athletics!

### BASKETBALL

Another week of light training is behind our basketeers, and with the official season due to start soon after the first, more serious training will be in order soon. Our prospects are brighter this season, than ever before, and the HOUSTON has always had strong squads; but to produce a winning combination in basketball, the members of the team should be able to train together, which at present is not always the case. This defect could be easily remedied, for with the exception of holidays, the team does not leave the ship before 1430.

### BOWLING

Through the medium of the Blue Bonnet, the 2nd. Div. bowling team hereby challenges the teams of any division on the ship. Any division accepting this challenge have your team representative see Kirkpatrick Sealc.

### SCO FOR ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

Commander, Cruisers, Scouting Force has arranged the following schedules for determining the various Divisional athletic championships:

- 1 SEPTEMBER—20 DECEMBER—  
Basketball—Determination of divisional Champions.  
Baseball—Determination of Divisional Champions.  
Boxing and Wrestling—Determination of divisional Champions.  
Pistol.
- 5 JANUARY—1 MARCH—  
Basketball—Unit Championship.  
Baseball—Unit Championship.  
Boxing and Wrestling—Unit Championships. (Must be determined by 1 February, 1936).  
Pistol.
- 1 MARCH—1 MAY—  
Pistol.  
Pulling races.  
Sailing races.

All officers below the rank of Commander—except officers of the Medical, Dental and Chaplins' Corps, all personnel of the Marine Guard, and all petty officers except those of the Special Branch and Messman Branch, are expected to fire Course D-Pistol, as set forth on page 12, "Small Arms Firing Regulations, 1931."