



POLLYWOGS INCITE MUTINY

The past week has seen several attempts on the part of the Pollywogs to rise against the authority of the ancient and honorable shellbacks. The first of these incidents was brought about by the Shellbacks themselves in an attempt on their part to handcuff "Iron Man" Lee of the "E" Div. to the well deck hatch. Their attempt had succeeded to the point where Lee's legs were handcuffed, and Lee himself was draped around the hatch, when the searing flame of revolt arose in the breasts of several onlooking pollywogs, who forthwith turned to on Lee's tormenters and liberated him.

The success of this mutinous uprising evidently gave the Pollywogs confidence, because later Zainfield, 2nd. Div. Shellback, was found tied to a stanchion behind a catapult tower with his mouth taped to quiet his delirious moans.

Wednesday, Hollingsworth, a highly respected Shellback of the V Div. was ignominiously incarcerated in the Mezzanine in the Starboard hangar.

Since this outrage there have been several minor outrages on the part of the Pollywogs. There has been much speculation as to how far this thing will be carried. Your reporter has learned from a Pollywog agent that the Pollywogs expect to culminate these subversive activities by taking complete charge on the Great Day. This agent further revealed that prior to these open activities the Pollywogs had been doing some work in the dark. For a Shellback meeting in the after flag office, a week ago yesterday,

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NAVAL UNIFORMS OLD

While the origin of naval uniforms is lost in history it is known that as early as 1603 King James required his ship captains to wear scarlet liveries richly embellished with velvet, silk lace, and gold embroidery. By 1748, however, even the seamen were wearing standardized colors. The first American naval uniform, says Pathfinder Magazine, is believed to have been the green and white authorized by the Massachusetts council in 1776. The word uniform is derived from Latin words meaning "one" and "form."

POST OFFICE NOTES

First class mail from Panama is 3c per ounce or fraction thereof.

Airmail is 20c per half ounce or fraction thereof.

All Airmail letters should be weighed by mail clerk so that correct postage may be applied.

The arrival and departure of ships carrying mail to and from the U.S. is not yet known but more information regarding this will be obtained upon arrival at Panama.

Airmail leaves Colon, C.Z. every Wednesday and Saturday. Time of closing on board ship will be made later.

All letters, cards, etc., mailed in the Canal Zone or Republic of Panama, must bear the stamps in which place mailed. U. S. stamps are good on board ship only.

? HOUSTON TO VISIT HOUSTON ?

Slowly emerging from the status of "unreliable scuttlebutt" to that of "reliable scuttlebutt" is the rumor that the ship will make a visit to the city of Houston this summer. Your reporter has it straight from an officer who talked with a party in Houston just prior to departure on this cruise, that the party assured him that we would be in Houston, Texas during the latter part of August. Also, another senior officer was heard to remark that he was positive the ship would visit that city this summer. It will probably be hotter than blazes down in Texas in August, but of the city turns on the heat for us, as they did last time, the heat from the sun won't even be noticed.

NAVY MOTION PICTURES

Our new men and also most of our "plank owners" may be interested in learning how Navy Motion Pictures are purchased and paid for.

Each month, from twenty to thirty new pictures are selected and leased for the Navy, through the Motion Picture Exchange, Navy Yard, New York, for a period of four years. The cost is about \$60.00 per reel or \$600, on the average, per program. Two prints of each show are purchased, and then shipped around to the USS ARGONNE, who is the Fleet Exchange. One print is circulated thru the battleships and the other thru the cruisers. From the fleet one print goes to San Diego for exhibition by ships and stations there. It then works up the west coast shore stations, and then goes to the Asiatic Station. The

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—: 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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9 MAY 1936

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A GAME GUY'S PRAYER

Dear God; Help me to be a good sport in this little game of life.

I don't ask for any real place in the line-up, play me any where you need me.

I only ask for the stuff to give you one hundred percent what I've got.

If all the hard drives seem to come my way, I thank you for the compliment. Help me to remember that you won't let anything come my way that you and I together can't handle.

And help me to take the breaks as part of the game.

And help me to understand that the game is full of knots, knocks and trouble and make me less mindful of them: to get so the harder they come, the better I take them.

And, Oh God, help me to play on the square; no matter what other players do, help me to come clean.

Help me to study The Book that I know the rules and to study and think a lot about The Greatest Player that ever lived, and other great players of whom the Book tells.

If they found out that the best part of the game was helping the other guys who were out of luck, help me to find it out too.

Help me to be a regular fellow with the other players.

Finally, Oh God, if fate seems to uppercut with both hands, and I'm laid on the shelf in sickness or old age, help me to take it as part of the game, too.

Help me not to whimper or squeal that the game was a frame-up or that I had a raw deal.

When in the falling dusk, I get the final bell, I ask no lying complimentary stories, I'd only like to know that you feel I've been a good, game guy.

Author Unknown

WARDROOM NOTES

Lt Rice has received so many queries as to why he purchased an automobile just prior to departure from Long Beach, that he now has this stock answer. Quote: To me a dollar saved is a dollar earned. By owning a car, during the cruise my gasoline and oil savings will materially augment my earnings. Unquote.

Lt. Felt has presented the wardroom with a picture of the U.S.S. HOUSTON leaving San Diego Harbor on the last Presidential Cruise. The noteworthy feature of the picture is that the HOUSTON is flying the President's flag at the main, and also the flag of the C-in-C at the fore. The picture was taken by the Navy's Photographic Air Service of San Diego.

Ensign William C. Murphy, aviation gunery observer, has received his orders to Pensacola for flight training. Ensign Murphy will be detached at Panama on the 16th for transportation to New Orleans on a United Fruit steamship. During the month's leave preceeding the date of reporting at Pensacola, Ensign Murphy will become a "Golden Grainer". Ensign Murphy has had so many good laughs at our expense that we think it is only fair for the ship to have one at his. Last year during the cruise the ship was darkened. It was after dinner hour in the bunkroom, and Ensign Murphy was discoursing with considerable vehemence on some subject. The phone rang. The party called for Ensign Murphy. Ensign Murphy answered. The person at the other end (by name to relator unknown) said, "Murphy this is the Executive Officer (by the relator known to be untrue), What is the use of darkening ship if you are going to talk"? Stunned into silence was Ensign Murphy.

Lt. (jg) Harris, 1st. Division Officer, has orders to the U.S.S. CHAUMONT for duty, upon falling in with that vessel in June. Although he hates to leave the HOUSTON, Lt. Harris reports he is looking forward with keen anticipation to the watches on the CHAUMONT, whose bridge is equipped with a swivel back chair and a brass rail for the O.O.D.

C. P. O. CHATTER

It is noticed that Arneberg and Darr are trying to start a new haircut fad back in the quarters. Can't understand why they should have it cut so short. Both have been across the line.

Barnett is still after that pollywog McCallister.

No matter how hard we try it is impossible to keep Pappy Adcock awake during meal time, or any other time as matter of fact.

The Quarters' Sea Lawyer, Terrible Teddy McGovern, has Redding and Hicks stopped when it comes to arguments. Seems Mac never loses. He has caused Redding to give up and Hicks to throw regulations away.

It is reported that Sawdust Nelson fell in the washroom the other evening during darken ship and someone gave him a bath before he knew what was hapening and was laid up two whole days from shock and fright.

It is with regret we note our Flag Watertender, Bill Murray, is on the sick list. However, we sincerely hope to see Bill spry and giving out the old regulation growls in the near future.

Who said McCallister liked the sea? Another week and I'm afraid we would have to turn him over to Jack Vizard as a psycho patient.

LAST BUT NOT LEAST, LET'S GO EASY ON THE WATER.

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the Pollywogs had pepper loaded in the blowers. Needless to say the meeting broke up hurriedly.

It is not believed, however, that the Shellbacks are going to take this lying down. Interviews with several powerful leaders of this clan indicate that the Shellbacks are holding back so as to weld their already potent organization into a still more stinging lash before taking action. Nagle, "E" Div., who still suffers a stiff neck from the Lee episode, probably aptly expressed the Shellback attitude when he said, "There is a day of reckoning".

Note:— This paper is non-partisan.

Aviator:— "There I was forced down on that lonely isle with a lovely blonde."

Gob:— "What did you do for food?"

Aviator:— "Darned if I can remember."



**NOSEY
NEWS
by
EV' BODY**

The recently completed first leg of our present cruise, has left its mark on the HOUSTON in more ways than one. With all hands displaying plenty of pep and vigor, it does seem a happy realization that the various indications of weariness evident has not been caused by roaming the Pike, breathing innumerable odors always found close to the beach and the many other evils which befall our snappy Houstonites at times. With all hands displaying a healthy coat of tan, clear eye and cheerful spirit, true assets of all good American-men-of-warsmen, our short visit to this interesting port should be fully enjoyed. The action packed days of the past week have brought great results, interesting conversations about the decks bearing out this fact.

Neptunus Rex has come in for a great share of the speculative yarns in between conditions, etc.

With the entire ship's company fully assembled and really doing their part, the Engineering "E" has found a more wholehearted support than ever before. We still have a chance, shipmates, why not work hand in hand with our snappy engineers and add that hash mark.

The impending visit to Valparaiso is the most popular topic of the week. It seems very few Houstonites have visited this port. If each man carries out his schedule while there it should be some visit.

Yes sir! The "Bald Bullet" of the Exec's Office, (Davis) is expecting one of those urgent messages around Christmas, unless, to his surprise, his calculations prove to be correct. By the way— he is trying to get bacon and eggs every morning.

Church, one of our most popular ship's cocks, breaks into the news with the wry comment— "Shucking eggs on the high seas in the early morn is the only way to keep that figure".

"Take up thy bunk and run" is the favorite motto of many of our shipmates since those slightly wettish evenings recently.

And then Clymer comes forth with a statement which seems to have hit the nail on the head. "It took good old '17' to supply me with an opportunity to test my new whistle".

Brickler of the Focstle' insists we should all follow his advice and read "Ranch Romances". These watches pass so quickly. . .

'Tis a shame the way our new striker in the Pay-Office is being so vexed with freckles.

Did you ever hear of Rosebud, the muscle bound washee-washee man of the laundry, (Leslie to some). ? ? At an earlier date (?). he was known as the terror of the 118 lb. class in the muscle bending racket.

Many investigations fail to bring to light all the facts concerning the tale about the barbers and their cronies becoming Nudists?

Can yuh 'magine? Kennedy is growing a fuzzy wuzzy mustach hoping secretly the Royal Barber will overlook precious locks atop cranium.

A recent article appeared in this sheet stating the average man wasted 2 gals aqua per diem. Right says us. NO! says Wirebrush; you can't accuse me of such an indiscretion.

The dope is out that there will be a stores working party to the ARTIC on the 13th of this month. It's going to be hot for a lot of us but there will be a lucky few working in those nice cool ice boxes on the ARTIC. Of course the rest of us don't mind just so someone gets a break. Oh yeah? ? ?

That niosy but short lived commotion on the Well Deck several evenings past had all the earmarks of a grand and glorious visit from King Neptune soon. The writer's opinion—?

EXHAUST-PIPE



Now that the war is over, in looking over the performance of our new planes all hands are of the opinion that they are as good if not better than our old Corsairs. No trouble was encountered in either catapulting or cast recovery during the Fleet problem.

Now that we are nearing Panama, we have a feeling of regret in knowing that the time for Lt. (jg) Coates' transfer is due. It has been a real pleasure to have done duty with an Officer and Pilot as efficient and courteous as Lt. Coates. We all extend our best wishes to him in his new duties and may we be fortunate sometime in the future to be shipmates once again.

Gregg, AMM3c is to be transferred to the Air Station at Coco Solo on our arrival. We all know that Walter James will make good there. Best wishes Gregg. Perhaps when we all meet again you will be wearing your NAP wings.

Rosie is heard singing lately. His favorite song seems to be "Who's afraid of the Shellbacks". Careful Rosie a diet wouldnt do you a bit of good.

Ronnie Ardell, will have a lot to tell the folks back in Iowa, after he returns from this cruise.

Hollingsworth indeed is a man of iron. Witness his subsistance on orange peelings and syrup!

Pat Rearette seems to have postponed quite a few meals during flight operations.

Lt. (jg) Weller had just about mastered that climb to the flight deck when the war ended.

Charley Noble is wondering what sort of beer they have in Valparaiso, and what brand of whisky for a chaser. Nothing like Seagrams, Charley

Lieutenant: (Roaring with rage)- "Who told you to put those flowers on the table?"

Mess Attendant: "The Commander, sir."

Lieutenant: "Pretty aren't they?"

"THE COME-BACK COLUMN" by the "Goon"

During the past week the never to be forgotten Shellbacks have been trying to nominate a No. 1 Public Enemy by the results of their first attempt we would say that it proved a little unsuccessful. To date we understand that Boatsie Obie is the No. 1 Public Enemy. Also one of our own Pollywogs seems to be a grand stooge for the Shellbacks, none other than "Yap-Yap" Campbell, that mad dash of lightning from No. 1 Mess Hall.

Queenie of the Penthouse, Westfield to you who do not know his sea monicker, seems quite at home in his little den during the maneuvers. We hear that Westy once was a cow puncher and the song hit "Wha Hoo" makes him homesick. We all wonder if that record has two sides to it or not, judging from the amount of times it hits the either waves on the well deck, a missing survey is well in hand by now.

Has anyone noticed what a cribbage player we have in one "Shuck" Vizard, the head man of the sick bay. It seems he is not satisfied with a three to zero setback, but will gladly take the four to zero setback.

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other print is sent to the Special Service Squadron where after exhibition, it works up the east coast shore stations, and then is returned to New York.

Whereas, on the beach it costs on the average of \$.35 to see a show, in the Navy it costs but \$.35 per month per man. This cost is met on on various ships in various ways. On this ship the shows are paid for by profits from the canteen, profits from Ship's Service, and by an allotment from naval appropriations called "Recreation Enlisted Men".

The sound motion picture projectors are also expensive machines. The Navy also goes to considerable expense to train operators at the various sound motion picture schools. In fact, hardly any expense has been spared to make movies an enjoyable event. It must be remembered though, by those who have a tendency to gripe about shows, that there are not thirty good shows a month produced by the studios and therefore we must take the bad movies with the good.

OVERHEARD IN NO. 1 MESS HALL

Kimball evidently has a hard head. See Branam, the painter, for details.

Hollingsworth has taken a sudden liking for the mezzanine and orange peelings for breakfast.

Osborne is well snowed under with his new job as Ship's Service book-keeper.

Now that we are nearing the line all of the "ear-banging" Pollywogs are trying their best to work up a drag with the shellbacks.

The Ship's Service Store will have a complete line of silks, perfume, powder, etc. after arrival at Panama. Regardless of what a few people seem to think, the Store always has sold Panamanian merchandise far cheaper than it is possible for any individual to obtain it on the beach. If any man has some item in mind that he thinks is a little out of the ordinary, and the Store might not have, see Head about it.

Head, of the Ship's Service store reports that he is prepared to accommodate all potential baseball players. Baseballs can be had for \$.25, and gloves for around \$3.00.

ONE OF THE ENGINEERS SAYS:

He who thinks that cooperation is entirely one sided has evidently not heard the old proverb, "What's sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander".

We of the Engineer's force, in our endeavor to keep the white "E", have asked the deck force for their cooperation. Their response has been very gratifying, and we are daily appreciative of their efforts.

It is a well known fact that the Bos'n Mate's largest job is keeping his paintwork clean, and his decks white. This cannot be done as long as some of the black gang persist in lounging on the decks and paintwork in "Steaming Clothes".

Come on Engineers, let's do our part. Let's show our appreciation by an honest effort to lighten the burden of the "Deck Hands".

The folks at home will enjoy reading the BLUE BONNET. Mail it!

WRESTLING TEAM NOTES

This past week saw us off to a flying start with a lot of fine new material on the wrestling team. Of course you have not seen us on the well deck the past few days, but as soon as Condition II stops we will again be on the go. All weights are well represented this year and with the coaching of Wellbourne and Juul we should have a fine team. If our present schedule stays intact we should be able to take on a few of our sister ships and start on our way to a fleet belt or so. Our team as it stands now is as follows:—

Carlson, S2c.
Freeman, GM3c.
Stocton, Pvt.
Penny, S2c.
Duval, S2c.
Scott, S2c.
Chick, S2c.
Hardin, S2c.
Folta, S1c.
Beckwith, S2c.
Holt, S1c.—Trainer
Wellbourne, BM2c.—Coach
Juul, Cox.—Coach
Lt. (jg) Young—Coach-in-Charge.

FANTAIL BREEZES

The war had better finish this week because Tom Harrison, the well known "Bean Jockey" of No. 2 Mess Hall says if they don't stop he's not going to do more than twenty years.

If you don't believe the Battle Force can whip the Scouting Force just ask Henry, W. O., formerly of the Big Maryland.

It seems that they don't make the escape hatch leading to the M Division Compartment big enough. Tuesday it was necessary to open the whole hatch so that "Moe" could get out to go on watch.

Speaking of the amateur talent that the 3rd Division has, well up in front are Johnnie Katzman, better known as the Croonin' Coxs'n, and Singin' Sam Ashcraft.

Judging from the notes on the crews bulletin board, the Shellbacks think they are back in their school days.

Turn Out Unnecessary Lights!