



HOW ABOUT A WHITE "E"?

The new competitive year started at midnight July 1st. During the next twelve months the performance of the HOUSTON in general, and in Engineering efficiency particularly, will either put the coveted white "E" on our after stack or allow it to go to another heavy cruiser. To accomplish the first requires some very close cooperation on the part of all hands; that means every man-jack of us.

Our fuel oil allowance has been cut approximately 15%, as has that of some of the other ships of this class. That spells greater effort if we are to remain the leader in performance.

One of our sister cruisers has given the HOUSTON very close competition this past year and will be a serious contender for first place this year. For the first time it is possible for us to actually win the "E", as this year has officially been declared a competitive year and we are operating with the Fleet. We have shown what it is possible to do, by turning in the highest score every year since commissioning. We can't afford to rest now; not if we want tangible proof of our ability and efficiency.

Perhaps everyone is tired of this continual harping on a subject familiar to all. There is a reason. No one Department can hope to attain perfection without the complete backing of every other Department. To a great extent, fuel oil consumption at anchor depends on the amount of fresh water used. If we waste water—we are wasting fuel oil, indirectly. The amount of oil burned determines the score. The answer to that is

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HOUSTON ITINERARY CHANGE

Due to the fact that no dock will be available at Valdez, the HOUSTON will visit Kodiak and Afognak instead. The choice of ports in these islands is left to the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

—*o*

NAVAL NOTE

In a recent edition of a newspaper under a Washington date the following news item was noted:

"Secretary Swanson today cancelled plans to replace the heavy cruiser AUGUSTA, with the cruiser OMAHA as Flagship of the Asiatic Fleet.

Officials said the cost of providing extra quotas for the 7000 ton OMAHA was considered excessive, and she will remain with light Cruiser Division 3 of the Fleet.

Rear Admiral O. G. Murfin, now commanding Batship Div 3 of the Battle Force, will sail Sept. 6 to relieve Admiral Frank B. Upham as CinC of the Asiatic Fleet.

Admiral Upham will come to Washington in December to serve with the General Board."

—*o*

RATING QUOTAS OPEN

The following ratings are open in the Scouting Force:—

- BM1c, BM2c, Cox, GM2c, GM3c, TC1c, QM2c, QM3c, SM1c, SM2c, SM3c, FC1c, FC2c, FC3c, EM1c, EM2c, EM3c, RM1c, RM3c, CM1c, CM2c, CM3c, SF1c, SF2c, SF3c, SMM1c, SMM2c, SMM3c, Prtr1c, Prtr2c, Prtr3c, Ptr1c, Ptr2c, Ptr3c, MM1e, MM2c, WT1c, WT2c, Bmkr1c, Bmkr2c, Bsmth1c, Bsmth2c, Csmth1c,

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PARADE

After a day of feverish activity erasing the evidence of a stormy trip from the sunny South, the initial steps leading to one of the shortest parades in the HOUSTON'S history finally got underway at 1700 last Tuesday evening when assembly was sounded and the snappy landing party fell in for a thorough inspection. Of course the Engineers who happened to be detailed to the fourth platoon had a little trouble finding just where they belonged, aside from that, the troops were fit and rarin' to go so at 1800 the first boat load was on its way.

Upon completion of landing of the entire party, all units were organized and then marched at route step to the main street, there expecting to go on parade in a few minutes, but, alas, the Bellingham Eagles Band had not yet left Bellingham.

Since it is customary to have a band with a parade, the parade just stood at rest waiting, and what a wait—only one hour and fifteen minutes. Finally the raucous tooting of a horn heralded the rapid approach of a large bus well loaded with the music and its makers.

In short order the parade was again organized and off with a cute little girl of about six years leading. This was well and good, but the necessarily short step worked quite a hardship on our boys who are more or less used to a longer stride, but as the parade route was only ten blocks long, all hands stood up well.

Without a doubt the Eagles Band from Bellingham are really good

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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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July 6, 1935

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PEP TALK

It seems to be expected that the editor should write a Pep Talk for every issue. Some times he does and some times he just has an appropriate one written by someone else printed. This is one of the weeks he does. First I want to congratulate those men of the landing force for the excellent manner in which they paraded Wednesday. You certainly showed that it doesn't take a soldier to march.

However, some of your shipmates on the side lines did not make such an impressive sight. Some apparently forgot what honors the Colors rate and others rendered these honors in a very skip-shod manner. It was bad enough to have ones hat on the back of his head like "Joe College" but those "Frog" salutes were a little too much. Think it over, a little thought in things like this can earn a lot of respect both for yourself and for the service.

The first of July marked the beginning of a new fiscal year. It wiped the slate clean, so to speak, in the competition year. We are all starting from scratch with a reputation to uphold. Let's all cooperate to bring new honors to the Good Ship HOUSTON!

In Colonial days the best tobacco and rum came from Aux Cayes. Thus anything considered all right was designated as Aux Cayes, pronounced O. K. In Jackson's Presidential campaign his opponent attributed the use of O. K. to his alleged inability to spell "All Correct". (Oll Kerrect.)

—: *o* :—
Send the BLUE BONNET home

SHIP'S SPIRIT

By a Shipmate

Not long ago a conversation similar to the following was heard:

A - "So-and-so wants someone to stand his 12 to 4 watch so he can play baseball this afternoon."

B - "Is that so?"

A - "Yeh. I be d—d if I'd stand a watch for someone to play baseball. A guy'd be easy to do that!"

Perhaps the speaker never stopped to realize that by standing the ball-players watch he may be doing his part to help the ship's team score a win. Just look at the athletic record of this ship since its return from the Asiatic Station and compare it with the record she made during the first three years in commission. Take a walk around the ship sometime and note the bronze placques in almost every division compartment. Read and remember. Those placques were not won by individuals afraid they'd be "easy" to stand someones watch. They were won by the whole-hearted and willing cooperation of every member of the crew—SHIP'S SPIRIT won those trophies!

Surely there is some way that watches could be exchanged so that athletes could give their all on the field and still not shirk their duties. Division Officers and Division Petty Officers should be only too glad to allow men to change the watch and duty lists so that men who are really trying to boost the ship in athletics could get out more often.

Think it over!

—: *o* :—
NOW YOU MUST SAIL AWAY

Now you must sail away,
Upon the ocean blue and wide.
In every port the orders say;
Another port, another day.
Your song must be merrily sung,
Your duties always, Dear, well done.

When another day goes round,
Another port you will be bound;
Check them off and you will see,
Home port on the list will be.
Now your duties are well done,
Granted liberty and home you'll come.

H. A.
(A G.G.'s better half)

—: *o* :—
The United States received five ships of the Imperial German Navy, after its surrender, for examination and use as targets.

THE SEAL OF THE UNITED STATES

On June 20, 1782, Congress adopted the present seal of the United States. In selecting a coat of arms for the seal, Congress rejected the figures of beavers, rattle snakes, pine trees, and anchors which were popular during the Revolutionary War and adopted a bald eagle as a symbol of strength and freedom. In one talon the eagle holds 13 arrows representing the states' readiness for war, and in the other talon is an olive branch of 13 leaves as a symbol of the states' desire for peace. On the eagles breast is a shield with a blue field and 13 red and white stripes. Over the eagle's head are 3 stars bursting through the clouds. It was intended that the national coat of arms would find popular use in the same way as the flag. This was true at first; but gradually the arms were used more and more for official purposes only and the eagle alone became popular in art and literature as the symbol of the United States.

—: *o* :—
RATING QUOTAS OPEN

Csmth2c, Y1c, Y2c, Y3c, SK1c, SK2c, SK3c, SC1c, SC2c, SC3c, Bkr1c, Bkr2c, Bkr3c, OS1c, OS2c, OS3c, OC1c, OC2c, and OC3c.

Division officers will assign all candidates a mark representative of the man's efficiency. A multiple based on the scale of 100 will be submitted to Commander Cruisers, Scouting Force and it is assumed that the multiple plus remarks submitted by the Commanding Officer will determine the allocations assigned each cruiser. The mark assigned by the Division Officer will have a weight of 48.

—: *o* :—
We want to thank Gracie Allen and George Burns for showing us a masterpiece of something or other the other evening. Gracie remarked to George that Nature was certainly wonderful. Asked why, she answered: "Well, nature made the oceans and seas, and if there weren't any oceans there wouldn't be any navies, and if there weren't any navies, there wouldn't be any sailors, and if there weren't any sailors, I couldn't go to the dance Saturday night." —Tar.



NOSEY NEWS by EV' BODY

You have all heard about the romance of the tropical seas, but if you have never heard about the romance of the great North-West, pray lend an ear to the following tales of something or the other. Shortly after getting underway last week a rumor got around that the HOUSTON had finally been boarded by two stowaways again after all these years but on the check-up it was discovered that it was only Asher, TC1c and Borghetti, FC2c. It seemed strange to hear two muchly married men talking over the merits of their respective Japanese loves of two years back. And we thought that that was all forgotten by now! The mail orderly says it will take more than a little "hot-footin" to wake him up when he is in one of his frequent deep slumbers. And Charlie Campbell says nothing for he is still looking for the culprit who interrupted his peaceful sleep by said "hot-footin" Even up north we have our nominations for the GG Club. This time it is that cute ex-bugler, now a QM3c. He has even got his 30 day leave request written up, rather-prematurely. "Toots" Wiegand was making certain that the latest heart throb would get the money order. At least she should as he sent one by air mail, one by registered mail and one by ordinary letter. Nothing like being positive. Kennedy admits it is no use trying to break into socitey and is now to be seen back at his old haunts. "Zeb" Webster of the 5th says those short steps in the parade just about jarred all the fillings out of his teeth. "What next" was the general expression heard after seeing that shining light of the "S" Div., Yates and Shepard of the "H" out doing their stuff on the bicycles last Wed. Not that the rest of the crew ashore didnt get a chance

to peddle their own way also. Someone was overheard to say that the dock was longer than the parade route; right, and while waiting for the band the gas station near by was the center of attraction to about two thirds of the entire parade party. We are of the opinion that Newberry's dad was glad to see the HOUSTON come in for no sooner than he arrived at home, Newberry was "turned-to" on the old farm. That sailor in the 3rd platoon looked quite ducky (?) marching with a rose pinned to his manly bosom. There are several HOUSTON sailors that could stand brushing up on the regulations concerning saluting the National colors, especially when on parade in a small town where the uniform is conspicuous. We notice that McCarroll just couldn't keep away from aviation even while ashore and not finding anything better, he took to the air in a merry-go-round, and it seems that Doc Krueger and Johnny Johnson of the Supply Office were right there to cheer him on. The "Dinuba" wonder, Nickel, admits he is slipping fast, but will be back in good form in a few more weeks, providing he does not meet up with any more of this so called NW "Four Roses." It was too bad about that prospective chicken dinner being spoiled for Back, McElhannon, Yates and Shepard, by the sudden return of the cook's husband. "Pop" Adkins and "Bill" Kinhardt admit that patrol in a small town has its trials and tribulations, too????? When the Merry-go-round took a decided list to port one evening the manager, upon making a hasty inspection, found "King-Kong" Kollmer gleefully enjoying the ride. If Sice-Bar is the boss, why does he duck when Sal raises her arm?? Jimmy Campbell and Bowes were to be seen in No. 3 Mess hall romancin' em. Felix and Zietfuss did their romancing in the privacy (?) of the Exec's Office. Zeitfuss, our dashing bugle tooter and librarian, seems to have made out mighty swell, as he returned to the ship in the wee hours with a picture and the story that goes with it. It appears our latest trip to the NW hasn't disurbed the love life of the "Queenie" of the "pent house." Westerfield is contemplating marrying a Portland gal. It seems that our Printer, Joe Razlaff, has been receiv-

ing some first hand instructions in how to operate a small town newspaper, even to scooping up the suds. (Be careful, lads, I'm out for blood after that crack.—Joe.) Who is the author of: "As the ship plows thru the swells there is a six lettered word constantly ringing in my heart with each sway" ??? Maybe Lamb could explain in detail. It must have been terribly embarassing for our own bundle of personality, A. D. Hall, to have to argue with a S2c concerning who met the gal first. Redding, CSM, did a torch singing act for the local populace, a la Helen Morgan. Oh Chiefie! De Bri, we notice, is also getting in his share of N.W. romance too. And with that, kind friends, we shall leave you for another week of what ever you call it. ?? !! ** (()) etc.

EAST OF SUEZ

Now listen! This "East of Suez" stuff
And "the flying fishes at play."
Is either bunk or homesick stuff . . .
And I don't care a damn what you say.

For I've been East of Suez.
And I've seen those fish at play;
There's nothing to it, I'll tell the world,
To come such a long, long way.

From Peiping to Mindanao,
Canton to Manila Bay,
There's a trail of men who have "missed
their boats."

From rum, and women, and play.
I have sweated and cussed in Shanghai,
Prespired in muggy Hongkong,
And I'll tell you that the coast of China
Ain't no grand, sweet song.

I've set on my heels with Chop sticks,
Ate sea weed and raw fish;
But I'd rather throw peas with a case knife
Into my face off a dish.

I ain't stuck on the Filipino,
I've signed too many chits for drinks;
I'm fed up on the Cheno
And his fifty-seven stinks.

I've trampled the tropical jungles,
I have lived in Maylay wilds
On mangoes and papayas
And I thought of the coffee at Child's.

The Jap is chesty and crooked,
The Chinaman too damned slick,
So its me for a Sweed of a Dago,
Or a good old scout of a Mick.

I've combed the coast of China,
I've trampled the lanes of Japan.
But Cape Cod's a damned sight finer
And there ain't no richsha man.

I'm heading West of Suez
From the other side of the map,
I'm through with Malay and Cheeno
And "Chow" and "Tiffin" and "Jap."

I've seen a sugar central
On the shores of the Zulu Sea;
But the little ole Grand Central
Will sure look good to me.

—Anon.

BASEBALL

On Thursday morning, July 4th, at 10:45, the baseball game that our ball tossers had been looking forward to, finally got underway. For the first time in many weeks the full strength was on hand and the results were gratifying as the boys really looked like a ball club from the word, "play ball" until the last out. Eggie started on the mound for us and was going fine until he lost his usual good control, Dingle then coming to the rescue in fine style, and doing a fine job the rest of the game. Felts, a new addition to the team, turned in a fine performance behind the plate, while all hands had their eye on the horsehide, pasting it to all corners of the field.

The Blaine team, a reputedly good team, played a good game but just could not get to our twirlers, getting let down with one scratch hit, thereby spoiling a no hit, no run game for our aggregation.

The HOUSTON stickers garnered nine safe hits. The most humorous incident of the game occurred in the fourth inning when, with Dainwood on 2nd, Dingle poked out a sizzling double to left field, Dainwood headed for home, slipped at third, recovered his feet after a fancy exhibition of how a good man can't be kept down, only to slip and fall again on the way home and got caught.

The most spectacular playing was shown by "Stinky" Davis who, when you consider his age, covered a lot of territory to catch two fouls near the dugout, and recovered several bad throws just when they would have been disastrous.

The local school band furnished the music but finally were rained out, but the fans stayed until the last, evidently enjoying the snappy brand of ball being played.

The team was transferred to and from the field by members of the Blaine team.

The afternoon game was cancelled due to the wet condition of the field after an all morning drizzle.

The Box Score:

	AB	H	R	E
HOUSTON	32	9	4	0
BLAINE	28	1	0	2

Send the BLUE BONNET home.

PISTOL TEAM

During the past week Ch. Gun. Condit began forming a pistol team and with a little training the HOUSTON may have a strong team in the coming matches to be fired in Seattle in August.

With all the activity in Blaine, all candidates have been unable to get out with the team regularly but with Mr. Condit utilizing every available chance and putting his vast experience behind the team, prospects are bright.

BOXING

It is encouraging to note that despite lots of liberty and little encouragement, several candidates for the boxing team are working out quite regularly these days, and any of the newcomers who feel he has the urge to perfect himself in the art of self defense is more than welcome to come out any time. Place—No. 2 mess hall.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PARADE

and their martial music was great, although as said before, the short steps caused our men some difficulty in deriving the full benefit of the snappy music.

The one float entered was beautifully decorated with pretty flowers as well as pretty girls, while the Legionnaires lent color to the line of march, as did the commercial cars entered.

The Bluejacket platoons looked quite snappy wearing so many contrasting colors, the blanched leggings standing out. The parade party arrived back on board about 8:20 and immediately went ashore to parade again only in more leisurely manner.

Every one is to be congratulated for the splendid spirit shown during this parade. The manner in which everyone "snapped to" and put his best into the drill would have made a crack army outfit look sick. Well done!

The oldest battleship in the United States Navy in full commission is the USS ARKANSAS, commissioned in 1912, 23 years ago.

A person having a police court record cannot enlist in the Navy.

KNOWING THE NAVY

Destroyer DD382 — CRAVEN — Building at Bethlehem Shipbuilding Corp, Fore River, is named in honor of Commander Tunis A. M. Craven, who was born at Portsmouth, N.H., Jan. 11, 1813; appointed midshipman Feb. 2, 1829; Commissioned commander April 24, 1861; served with distinction in Mexican War and Civil War; in command of "Tecumseh" when sunk by torpedo in Mobile Bay, Aug. 5, 1864, and went down with his ship. Destroyer No. 70 and Torpedo Boat No. 10 were named CRAVEN.

Destroyer DD383 - WARRINGTON Building at the Federal Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Corp., Kearney, N. J., is named in honor of Commodore Lewis Warrington, U. S. N., born in Williamsburg, Va., Nov. 3, 1782; died Oct. 12, 1851. He served in the war with Tripoli as junior officer. He commanded the U. S. corvette Peacock in the fight with H. M. S. Epervier, on April 29 1814; the Eparvier was captured in an action lasting 42 minutes. For his brilliant achievement Congress passed a vote of thanks to Captain Warrington, his officers and men, and presented him a gold medal, and his native state, Virginia, presented him with a gold-hilted sword. The Secretary of the Navy, in announcing his death in general orders, said: "Comodore Warrington stood conspicuous among the distinguished men who have done honor to our country; his devoted patriotism, his great skill and indomitable courage, have won for him its lasting gratitude." Destroyer No. 30 was named WARRINGTON. Stricken from the Navy List.

HOW ABOUT A WHITE "E"?

plain—no water must be wasted. In other words, don't use as much as you can, rather be conservative by using only what is actually needed.

We all would like to see that gleaming white "E" adding its mark of distinction to an otherwise distinguished ship. Let's get it!

RIGHT THE FIRST TIME

Asher: The time will come when women will get men's wages.

Wiegand: Yes, as soon as the first mail reaches Long Beach.