

FEDERAL INCOME TAX

The law requires that every concern make a report to the Treasury Department of salaries paid. This same law requires the Disbursing Off. to make this report for all officers and men on board on 1 January, 1936.

WHO MUST FILE RETURNS:

Every individual having a net income for the taxable year of \$1,000, or over if single or if married and not living with husband or wife. Every individual having a net income for the taxable year of \$2,500 or over if married and living with husband and wife.

You are required to file this return prior to 15 March, 1936.

Income to be reported from Navy Sources:

- (a) Pay, base and longevity.
- (b) Extra compensation for special duty (aviation, submarine, etc.).
- (c) Mileage (report entire amount received as gross income and deduct necessary traveling expenses, ACTUALLY PAID, such as meals, railroad fares, lodging, etc.).
- (d) Travel pay to discharged enlisted men (Report in the same manner as mileage).
- (e) Transportation of families of officers and enlisted men (The actual cost of such transportation to the Government is considered as taxable income. No deduction allowed).
- (f) Interest on deposits of enlisted men.
- (g) All permanent and transient additions to pay (Enlisted men).

From sources outside the Navy you should consult Navy Department circular on file in Disbursing Office.

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CONDOLENCES

All hands extend their heart felt sympathy and condolences to our shipmates Russell, J. W. S2c in the loss of his mother and Withers, R. K. S2c in the loss of his father.

HOUSTON'S POPULAR COMMUNICATION OFFICER IS PROMOTED

Friday morning 10 January, Mr. McGlynn received his commission as Lieutenant Commander, U.S.N. dated 2 January, 1936 effective 1 July, 1935.

All hands extend hearty congratulations to Lt. Comdr. J.J. McGlynn, U. S. N.

ENGINEERING OFFICER RETURNS TO DUTY

It was with pleasure we welcomed Lt. Comdr. J.M. Connally, back to duty Friday morning.

Our Chief Engineer has spent the past week in the Naval Hospital, Mare Island.

OPTICAL SCHOOL OFFICERS

Four junior grade officers from the battle force are getting a taste of life aboard a cruiser this month.

They are temporarily living aboard the HOUSTON while attending the Optical School in the yard. We extend to Ens. M. B. Freeman (Okla.), H. H. Larsen (Lex.), B. A. Sisler (W. Va.) and F. M. Phillips (Nev.) a hearty welcome and wish them a pleasant cruise aboard our ship.

THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY BALL

The President's Birthday Ball, held annually on President Roosevelt's birthday, for the benefit of the National Campaign for the Prevention and Cure of Infantile Paralysis will be held this year at the Legion Memorial Hall, Vallejo, on Thursday evening, 30 January. The program will start with a dazzling Amateur Hour from 2030 to 2130 followed by dancing to the music of the Bernard Klotz Orchestra, reported to be the Number One dance organization in these parts. Tickets will be fifty cents per person and will be on sale at the Ship's Service Store beginning Monday, 13 Jan.

Next to the HOUSTON'S Ball this will be the outstanding social event of the season. A big turnout is expected in view of the very worthy cause for which the ball is held. A small percentage of the receipts goes to the National Association which is conducting research work to combat the dread infantile paralysis. The biggest percentage of the receipts is retained in this community where it becomes part of a fund which is immediately available in case of an epidemic of this disease in this area or in case financial assistance is needed in sending isolated cases to distant medical centers for treatment.

It is hoped that the good ship HOUSTON, with her well known reputation for excelling in every activity, will turn out in a big way for this social event and that the ship will be able to dispose of more than its allotment of one hundred tickets.

--: 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 12, 1936

★ ★ ★
WELCOME

A look in the compartment outside the HOUSTON'S Dental Office on Thursday morning would give the impression of a special payday in front of the Pay Office. Our new dentist Commander H. R. Delmore (DC) U. S. N., took charge early in the morning and did a creditable days work the first day and it appears as though the ship's company will benefit greatly by this addition to the Medical Department. Some one once said "It's an ill wind that blows no one some good". Although the loss of the Naval Dispensary was great we will have to admit we have benefited by it. We welcome Commander Delmore aboard and hope his stay will be long and pleasant.

CHANGES IN HIGH COMMANDS.

From newspaper reports the following changes in force commands are to take place in June.

Admiral Hepburn to relieve Admiral Reeves as C-in-C U. S. Fleet.

Admiral Tarrant will go from 11th. Naval District as COMSCOFOR relieving Admiral Hepburn. Admiral Leigh will assume command COMBAT-FOR relieving Admiral Lanning who will go as Commandant third Naval District. Admiral Horne is to relieve Admiral Johnson as COMAIR-BATFOR. Admiral King will take command of COMAIRBATFOR.

Admiral Kempf will assume command of COMBATSHIPS.

MAIL THE BLUE BONNET HOME

BASKETBALL

Monday evening, Jan. 6, our basketballers took the court in the Vallejo Navy "Y", facing their first civilian team of the season, the Paul Cleaners.

The time period of this game was cut down due to waiting for the referee who, failing to show up, delayed the game 35 minutes. Finally a volunteer official was found and a fast although one sided game was underway.

The HOUSTON five hit their stride at the outset, never letting up for a moment, the final score being HOUSTON 40, PAUL CLEANERS 19.

All members of the team saw action in the game, team work being the outstanding feature of the game.

Members of the team taking part in the game were: KENNEDY, HENDERSON, WILLMUTH, FREEMAN, ADAMS, BURKHEAD, STODDARD, O'BRIEN, MUSTAIN and WINNIE.

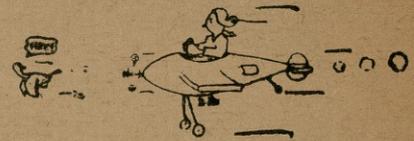
In a practice game last Tuesday evening the Houston hoopmen gained a decisive victory over the Vestal quintet, one of the two service teams to win all their games against us last season. The Vestal squad is the same as last year with a few new faces, although none of them are of the calibre of the veterans.

In this game all members of the Houston squad saw action, several combinations being used. The most successful being the Kennedy, Willmuth, Stoddard, Jones and Henderson combination and the Kennedy, Henderson, Willmuth, Freeman and Ulrey combination. Combinations used with other members of the squad were equally effective but these two combinations seemed to function a little better.

Winnie, a new face on the squad shows great promise and a little condition will see him ready to participate in all games.

With the final score being Houston 30, Vestal 14, and the Vestal squad returning to Long Beach soon to compete in the finals, we feel our squad would have gone a long way this season if given the opportunity.

Have you completed your educational course for the next higher rating?

EXHAUST-PIPE

A bit late but rather interesting is this bit of news from some of the "Bay Ridge" gals in li'l ole New York.

(1) Why didn't Bob Atkinson get married—couldn't he find the city hall after dark?

(2) Not being "mercenary" the girls of Bay Ridge found that O. J. Kelly certainly likes his dime's worth of liberty and then some. ? ? ? ?

(3) "Bay Ridges" Betty Boop would like to know why "Beautiful Brown Eyes" Martin hasn't written an answer to "Boops-A-Doops".

(4) C. O. Dodson is just the type the Brooklynites could go for in a big way especially considering his great taste for "Gin-Fizzes" and "Giggling Gerties". (signed & sealed) The "X" Trio

**HOUSTON TO HAVE CHAPLAIN
Will Report Aboard In March**

Lt. (jg) Pierce, (Chc), our new Chaplin, will report aboard for duty soon after the Houston arrives in Long Beach early in March. Chaplin Pierce will be the first to serve on the Houston as a regular officer in the allowed complement of the ship.

During the HOUSTON'S nearly six years of service, her various flag and special assignments have included a Chaplin in the officer complement several times, our first Chaplin being Capt. T. B. Thompson, (ChC), Fleet Chaplin, US Asiatic Fleet.

PERSONNEL**RECEIVED**

Pierce, C. E., EM1c from Gyro School, San Diego, California.

Ganser, T. A., SC2c and Simmons, W. H. MM1c for temporary duty and FFt Asiatic Station.

DISCHARGED

Schramm, T. E. SK3c.



NOSEY NEWS

by
EV' BODY

Now that the holiday season is over and most of the crew have fully recovered from the effects of liberal leave and recreation the mighty HOUSTON is once more the scene of more activity than the Pike on pay-day night.

Nevertheless, Carter of the bake shop does find time to soak his digits in olive-oil. A sure way to erase the tell tale marks of the trade he says.

The model gunner of the boat deck, Jenkins, apparently found those new year resolutions too much. He was observed boarding the Chester the other night and, finding he was on the wrong ship, proceeded to swim back to the HOUSTON. ?? ?? *!*

Can you imagine "Pee Wee" De-Forge missing out on chow? He did just that last Saturday evening and is just now recovering from the mad dash through several compartments.

Since the night of the dance Yel-verton has been doing a thriving business with his taxi service. Sure was a big help dance night with the streets covered with Calif. dew.

Whaley of the "E" says it must have been someone else we saw wearing that mustachio in Frisco.

"Bill" Kinartz admits his new year celebration was a little late but he finally made the grade. His tour of duty in China was a great help it is learned.

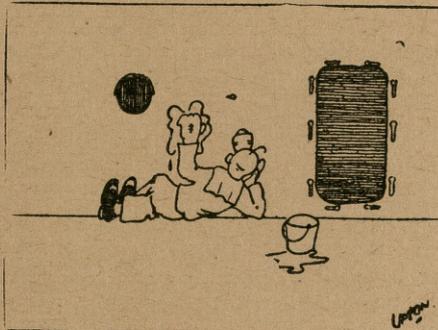
We wonder what it could be that holds the deep interest of Huston, the famous striker in No. 3.!!!!!!*****?*

In commenting on the fire in the yard a few nights ago the local papers, in a humorous vein, mentioned the presence of a ring bouy at the scene of the fire. Possibly they do not realize that when a Navy fire and

rescue party is called out said party is equipped and ready for more than just a fire. It happens that a HOUSTON fire and rescue party saved a loaded oil tanker at one time, having put the fire out before the regular fire boats were half way to the scene of the fire. At another one of our fire and rescue parties assisted a lumber ship when her cargo had shifted and she was in grave danger of listing over.

Since Lee Tad has returned from leave and is now entrenched in the commissary issue room he has some rare tales. His audiences seem to have trouble believing him though.

We wonder how many of those early birds found, enjoying coffee and sandwiches at the scullery, were actually members of the fire and rescue party. Dont let it worry you, the cook on watch for saw such doings and took care of those for whom the food was meant.



A recruit's reaction to the continued association with some yard workmen.

Anyone requiring general knowledge of hand tools see O'Brien.

Wonder why "Andy" Slovak is less talkative these days? Some say he is too busy writing as high as seven letters per day to a certain somebody back homeside.

Now that the pistol range parties are on the go again, many new angles in the art of handling the pistol are to be heard in most every part of the ship. Proves one thing—the boys are gaining some valuable knowledge.

We have tried hard but we are forced to believe that Calif. damp sunshine is very similar to what we used to call rain back in Podunk.

Felix says he is starting spring baseball training by knocking doubles with a tennis racquet. Think what he could do with a baseball bat.????

Apparently one of the leap year conscious ladies has already staked a claim on Vizard—just pipe the slave bracelet.!!!!!!

We notice where Lee, the 1936 edition of a SM3c is collecting two-spots. He sends 'em to the home range—this specimen of the coin of the realm is a rare sight back yonder.

Add another to the GG club roster—Ziegler of the "F" is the happy lad. He took the leap while on leave. Congratulations are the order of the day, (so is the stogies). ??? ?

TRAINING OF PERSONNEL

The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation has informed the Commander-in-Chief that a total of 2353 men will be required for new construction during the period 1 December 1935 to 1 July 1936.

These men are to come from the fleet. The replacements furnished for these prospective losses will consist entirely of seamen second class (recruits).

The Commander-in-Chief directs that effective measures be instituted to qualify lower ratings for advancement in order that the prospective losses which will be created by this transfer of enlisted personnel from the fleet may be filled.

The Bureau is deeply concerned over the fact that under advancement in rating quota, the forces afloat returned to the Bureau as unfilled 743 ratings.

Analysis of the ratings returned indicates that in view of the demands for new construction an acute shortage will exist especially in the following ratings unless immediate action is taken to place sufficient men in training to supply these demands:

Torpedomen, Radiomen, Electrician's mates, Ship's Cooks, Officers' stewards, Officers' cooks.

It is estimated that approximately 1200 apprentice seamen and 100 mess attendants will be transferred to the fleet each month during the period ending 1 July 1936.

It behooves every man to prepare himself NOW for advancement to the next rating. We all know what a clear record and good quarterly marks mean. Why not start the New Year with an earnest effort to be the next to advance.

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

We take this somewhat belated opportunity to offer Lee our "congrats" seeing that he came back from leave sporting a shiny new "crow". We sure enjoyed the cigars.

Turregano still has the gang in a quandry—is he or is he not? Who can say? At least we see no cigars forthcoming and no Golden Grain badge. Come on Terry, enlighten us.

O'Brien should take a few lessons from the dit-da boys who haunt the switch-board and seems to be getting the low-down and could give out a few secrets—but like doctors you know—under oath.

Will the author of a certain letter addressed to a certain "Fraternity" please enlighten Joe West. It was placed in the post office sometime ago but has never been sent—perhaps the author would like to know why. Even Vallejo is fairly warm to several of the signal gang who have just returned from the snow-bound middle West.

Burgess and McKee both admit—You can make a QM out of a signalman—but vise versa—well, hardly.

Who is the newly married red-head in the radio gang who sleeps with a pillow in his arms.

The local Postmaster General announces a little renovating and will blossom forth with bigger and better and snappier post office soon.

Keep at it Joe just so our mail and sugar reports come and go as per schedule. We won't kick.

Now that "Joe" Redding's busy bees (?) are back several more QM watchstanders are available.

As we promised last week—we listened and we heard: Mustain had a most successful leave working out on an ancient remnant of a once proud "Benzine Beetle". and he would have had it galloping but thirty days leave was not quite enough time. Then Lee, we find, spent most of his leave cruising about in a new-V-8, in between times nearly becoming a member in good standing in the GG club.

The only difference between a rut and the grave is the dimensions. R.D.

Have you written home this week?

INCOME TAX
Continued from page one

Income not to be reported from Navy Sources:

(a) Rations furnished in kind to enlisted men.

(b) Commutation of rations (enlisted men).

(c) Rental allowance (Act of 10 June, 1922); nor need any amount be reported on account of quarters, heat, and light furnished in kind.

(d) Subsistence allowance (Act of 10 June, 1922).

(e) Per diem allowance in lieu of subsistence.

(f) Amounts received in reimbursements for losses, sustained by officers, nurses, enlisted men, and civil employees serving under the Navy Department in foreign countries due to appreciation of foreign currencies in the relation to the American Dollar, as authorized by the Act of 26 March, 1934 (Pub. No. 129, 73rd. Cong.), and by Executive Order 6657A of 27 March, 1934.

Dividends from war-risk insurance policies will be reported. There are many items allowed to be deducted and many not allowed. It is the duty of all to report to the Disbursing Office any change in their pay status during the calendar year 1935 also funds received for reimbursements for travel expenses, transportation of dependents, etc.

This report is too long to reprint in its entirety. Any additional information required will be supplied by the disbursing officer, in his office anytime.

IN THE QUESTION BOX

Was there ever a mutiny in the U. S. Navy, insofar as records show?

J.R.G.

Answer: "NO".

Light Cruiser No. 49, the U.S.S. St. Louis is being built at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydocking Company Shipyards, the same ship yard where the good ship HOUSTON was built.

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



Due to comments from both within and without the detachment a New Year's resolution has been made to maintain this column at the pinnacle of journalism. 'Twas hard to do but no sacrifice is too great to make for preservation and furtherance of this column's standard.

Many of the boys are now speaking of going over the hump with the possible exception of Fabick, our new recruit. ?? He doesn't seem to worry about such things.

Mooney, shame on you, why not be one of the gang and get something more manly.

Hynes is still unrelenting and refuses to write her but he still has his M. M.

They say Ringheim was a real good sea-soldier a few nights ago and did not even argue with the local keepers of the peace. "10 bucks is 10 bucks" says he.

After Ryan's successful serenade lets hope there isn't too much coughing on the night watches.

'Tis a strange thing about Stanley, he can fall in love with every girl he meets whereas Jones is a one woman man and believes that even if the one girl did marry it doesn't mean she still hasn't a thought for him.

If Chastain, "The Florida Fizzle", keeps all of his resolutions we'll have to chip and buy him a halo, and if I keep trying to think of what else there is to write about, somebody will have to buy me an aspirin so I'll sign off, hoping this column to be tri-weekly—you know, get it out one week and try to get it out the next. (I heard that one on the radio).

Boost HOUSTON Athletics!