

### Commander C. A. Bailey New Executive Officer

This past Monday Commander C. A. Bailey relieved Commander P. K. Robottom as Executive Officer of the "Rambler Ship." When interviewed by the representative of the Blue Bonnet Commander Bailey said, "I was pleased when I received orders to the fine ship Houston; and I am happy to be with you. It is my desire to do my part in maintaining the excellent name of the Houston as a happy and efficient fighting unit of our fleet."

The Houston is indeed fortunate in having as its Executive Officer a man who has a service reputation as being a just and efficient officer and one who has seen service in all types of ships. We of the Houston welcome him aboard and offer him our wholehearted cooperation in maintaining the reputation of the Houston as the best ship in the fleet.

### Naval Pay Adjustment

During the latter part of May, Representative Byron N. Scott, of Long Beach introduced a bill in the House of Representatives authorizing readjustment for the pay of all naval personnel from vice admiral down through the ranks to apprentice seaman. Revision provided for in the bill is as follows: Base pay of an ensign, \$2,500; lieutenant (jg), \$4,000; lieutenant, \$5,500; lieutenant commander, \$7,000; commander, \$8,500; captain, \$10,000; rear admiral, \$12,000 and vice admiral, \$14,000 per annum. Revision for warrant officers: rank with and draw the pay of an ensign from the date of appointment and be

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### The Houston Will Visit Ventura, California

A bit of information on our coming excursion to Ventura to attend a convention of Disabled War Veterans might not be amiss at this time. It must be said that it has all the Golden Grainers tearing their hair and all the liberty sports speculating as to its possibilities.

Joe West, ever-popular mail clerk, spent half of one day looking for this city in his postal guide and all the available World Almanacs; quoth Joe: "It must be less than 3,000 population because it's not in the World Almanac." For once Joe was on the wrong track. All true Venturans know the correct name of their Poinsettia City is "San Buenaventura." Just as there is no Hollywood in a postal guide there is no Ventura. Be assured however that there is a post office there and quite a nice one, too. It was completed in 1936 and its interior is decorated with hand-painted murals depicting early California history.

There are numerous points of interest in this early California town, one of them Ventura County Court House. When viewed from the foot of California Street at night, its white marble and gargoyles gleaming in the floodlights that illuminate it and the newly unveiled statue of Padre Serra in front, is an appealing sight. Just inside the main entrance to the Court House is a room devoted entirely to relics and exhibits of Ventura County. The curator, Mr. Sheridan, can spin many a long yarn about the varied and interesting exhibits for he has devoted the larger number of years of

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### Los Angeles Masonic Lodge To Hold Navy Night

A letter from Mr. J. J. Svoboda of 1423 West 66th Street, Los Angeles, California, telephone Thornwall 4966, is quoted in part as follows:

"On Monday evening, June 14, Los Angeles Lodge will hold Navy Night at its meeting place at the Masonic Temple, Pico and Figueroa Streets, Los Angeles. As the oldest Lodge south of Monterey and north of San Diego, having just celebrated our 83d Birthday Anniversary, we are dedicating this night to the members of the Fraternity aboard Uncle Sam's fighting ships, and it is our desire that everyone eligible to attend avail himself of the opportunity of so doing.

"The Third Degree of Masonry will be conferred by the Naval Degree Team of the National Sojourners, in uniform and since that date is also Flag Day it is planned to arrange some ceremony for that occasion. It is to be desired that the Brethren attend in uniform. Refreshments will be served."

### New Officers Report

This last week saw five new additions to the Wardroom Mess of the Houston; Commander C. A. Bailey, Lt. Comdr. W. E. Tarbutton, Lieut. A. A. Ageton, Captain A. V. Gerard, (USMC), Ensign Whistler, (USNR). These officers took over the respective jobs of Executive Officer, Navigator, Assistant Gunnery Officer, C.O. Marine Detachment, and Junior Third Division Officer.

The Blue Bonnet, in behalf of the officers and crew, welcomes them aboard and wishes them a happy cruise.

—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

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## Singing The Blues

Singing is a word which needs no explanation, for its meaning is very clear. We might say that this is especially true with sailors, although we might hesitate to say that gobs are singers.

There are two distinct classes of blues singers. The accomplished blues singer of the radio sings to make one blue, but the gob sings because he is blue. At least that is what he would lead us to believe in his "singing of the blues."

The seagoing boys are always finding something to cry about: chow, liberty, watches, the Navy—in fact, everything and everybody except themselves. However, if you were to ask the sailor to actually give his view on the matter he would not growl about the chow, but would assure you that it is well done, palatable, and healthy. He is satisfied with his liberty, his watches are regular, and he is not picked on.

It is a proven fact that most of the growling and grumbling is done aboard ship. Usually on the beach the sailor has nothing but good words for the Navy.

Recently former Navy men were solicited to give their views by means of a questionnaire. Ninety-four percent vouched that they had been materially aided in their civilian life by their naval experiences. Eighty-three percent of the men said if they were to do it all over again that they would enlist in Uncle Sam's Navy. On the present employment situation, it was found that eighty-six percent of the ex-gobs are now working on specialized jobs which they learned while riding the waves. Seventy-four percent of them thought that it would be wise to recommend the Navy as a permanent vocation. —Plane Talk.



Dear Sal,

S'pose you been a goin' barefoot for many a day and can stand on a passel o' carpet tacks het red hot on tha cookin' stove. You allus did have a tougher hide on tha soles o' your feet than tha other females. And it usta flame many an eye green with cantankerous hankerin'. Till I found out you were a soakin' your feet in corn beef brine you had me a rackin' my brains in puzzlement.

Them were tha days, Sal. Remember little Otis Chowderhouse who finally took to preachin' tha gospel up at tha old schoolhouse when tha huskiness began to creep to his talkin' chords. He usta be tha meanest and ornery-iest kid in tha county barrin' even chicken mouth Felix Jackson. Why he plagued his poor old Ma nigh to death even though he allus got it in tha end from his Pa.

One time, little Otis hitched up an 'lectric shockin' machine to the Chowderhouse pump and hid behind tha woodpile awaitin' his poor unsuspectin' Ma. Finally she came out all a hurry to put some clothes to soakin' and grabbed tha pump handle with a vicious shake. Right then, little Otis started a grindin' on tha shockin' machine. Ma Chowderhouse let out a squawk and passed out colder'n a loser at a hard cider drinkin' bout.

"Otis," she said, after comin' to a bit, "be a runnin' for Doc Stykes, I'm a goin' to die."

Pa Chowderhouse came along then. A minute later tha ground was covered with little Otis' shredded skin till a body'd thought a snake had been doin' a sheddin'.

Otis ought to be tolerably good at preachin'. He sure knows what a body can't do to slip into tha pearly gates.

Love,

Gus.

## Ventura, California

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his life to collecting and enlarging these exhibits. One of the most interesting is a family group of the California Condor, a nearly extinct bird to be found now only in Ventura, Kern and Santa Barbara Counties and then only back in the nearly inaccessible reaches of the Santa Ynez Coast ranges. Once feared to be extinct this monster of a vulture of over ten foot wing spread is slowly gaining in number under the protection of nature lovers of this community who are doing their best that this interesting bird may not pass into the annals of history as did the Passenger Pigeon.

Of course Ventura is also the site of one of the many missions established by the Padres during the 18th century. San Buenaventura Mission was finished in 1792 and while it has some repairs and additions, is in main the same building as originally built. It houses a good collecton of the earlier prayer books and other articles of religious nature in use during its earlier period. The church is still used for church ceremonies and in addition a Catholic school has been built and used in conjunction with the church in the education of the Spanish classes.

Another point of interest, especially noticable at night is Padre Serra's cross on the 350 foot hill directly above and behind the main part of the city. The original cross placed there by Father Serra was recently strengthened and lighted with red neon, while the road to the summit was improved and a number of ever-green trees transplanted on the slopes making a pretty background for the white Court House as it will be seen from our anchorage.

Ventura, while owing its growth in recent years mostly to its oil fields which load on the average of five large tankers a week from its submarine line leading out from the pier, is also a citrus center, producing lemons, oranges, and apricots; of value in the order named. Also many English walnuts are shipped to eastern points.

1930 census gives Ventura a population of 11,603, but it has been growing steadily and now is near 14,000. Prevailing winds there are westerly

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**Before It Is Too Late**

If you have a gray-haired mother  
In the old home far away,  
Sit down and write the letter  
You put off every day.

Don't wait until her tired steps  
Reach Heaven's pearly gate;  
But show her that you think of her  
Before it is too late.

If you've a tender message  
Or a loving word to say  
Don't wait 'till you forget it  
But whisper it today.

Who knows what bitter memories  
May haunt you if you wait?  
So make your loved ones happy,  
Before it is too late.

We live but in the present,  
The future is unknown;  
Tomorrow is a mystery,  
Today is all our own.

The chance that fortune leads to  
May vanish while you wait,  
So spend life's richest pleasures  
Before it is too late.

The tender words unspoken,  
The letters never sent,  
The long-forgotten messages,  
The wealth of love unspent;

For these some hearts are breaking,  
For these some loved ones wait,  
So show them that you love them,  
Before it is too late.

—The Hoist.

but gales are scarce during the summer months and small pleasure and fishing craft anchor just to windward of the pier with safety. Larger vessels anchor just off the end of the pier where there is good holding ground but no protection against the squalls that occasionally arise in the Santa Barbara Channel.

Swimming and beach facilities are not of the best though a fine beach picnic ground has been developed midway between the large warf and Pierpont pleasure pier one mile to the southeast. Those desiring to take a dip in sulphur water may visit Matilija or Lyons Hot Springs which are a few miles inland and on the famed Maricopa Highway which winds its way through one of the least settled and most picturesque locale in our country.



In San Francisco it was with much regret that the men of the unit bade farewell to Lieutenants (jg) G. L. Huff and S. P. Weller, Jr. As farewells were said welcome was extended to Lt. Foley as the new senior aviator. Best of luck and happy landings to all three of these fine officers.

Readette conquers Noble! After two long years of endeavoring to conquer the Great Charles, Pat finally turned the trick, not one game but two straight.

So long, Rosie, we'll be seeing you in that city that is by and smells of the sea. At last, after years of trying, the wood butcher deluxe received his orders for duty at dear old Norfolk.

After berating, degrading, and in general running down the character of several persons who left the ship in Frisco, for Long Beach on leave who should appear in that fair city on Sunday but the berater Gibson. Hi, Ho! Gib!

For two days the Great Charles endeavored to make us believe he remained on the water wagon the last three days in Francisco. As yet no one has substantiated his pleas.

Congratulations to the three new petty officers, namely, D. C. Steele, AMM3c, G. C. Thornton, AMM3c, and R. E. Marten, AM3c. Say, Dave, you and George take a tip: tis better to wear a bean rag than be known as one of those kind of third class petty officers. Tch! Tch! Ruell!

New names in the outfit: "Jail house Pete" Reid and "Alarm heaver not" Nelson.

Old men with young ideas and fancies. Slewoff Hollingsworth swore by all that was sacred and paganistic that he would produce a 19-year-old companion for a pal if the pal wanted to go to the dance. He was going to take her sister, who is 20 and then some. Careful, Ray, rolling pins are hard!

**Changes In Personnel****Received on Board**

Coodnight, E. L., BM2c, from the Fleet Air Base, Coco Solo, C.Z.

De Shields, W. M., Cox., from the Receiving Ship, San Diego, California.

Yap, L., OffStd1c, from the U.S.S. Relief.

**Transfers**

Rosenkrans, H., ACM1c, to the Naval Air Station, Norfolk, Va.

Mains, M., RM1c, to Receiving Station, Philadelphia, Pa.

McQueen, M. R., WT1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to N.T.S. Norfolk, Va.

Benet, W. E., MM2c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to R.S. Norfolk, Va.

Harrison, L. A., F1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to R.S. Philadelphia, Pa.

Rainer, S. H., Sea1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to R.S. Philadelphia, Pa.

Price, J. W., Sea1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to R.S. Philadelphia, Pa.

Jones, J. W., Sea1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to R.S. Philadelphia, Pa.

Sanders, E. B., Sea1c, to U.S.S. Texas for further transfer to N.T.S. Norfolk, Va.

Gariss, R. S., CWT(PA), to Thirtieth Naval District.

Girl: "Stop that sailor, he tried to kiss me."

Cop: "That's all right, Miss. There'll be another one along in a minute."

No dope on the leading chief, McNesby, has been too busy helping make preparations for the dance. Get you next week, Chief.

The gunner has really been producing. Upon Rosie's departure he assumed command of the starboard tower and magazine deck. One week-end in Long Beach is plenty for him. Recounting his activities over the week-end the gunner said, "Sunday morning I hid myself to the frigidaire to obtain some victuals for breakfast. Lo and behold! It was a "Charlie Noble" icebox! Beer, gin, whisky were quite evident and one lonely bedraggled head of lettuce.

**Standard Multiple For Advancement in Rating**

An examination of the multiples for advancement in rating used by various units indicates that considerable difference exists as to the weights of the several factors making up such multiples. With respect to the most important single factor—examination mark—the weight accorded varies from forty to eighty. Some multiples allow for proficiency in rating, others do not.

It has been decided to adopt tentatively a standard multiple to be placed in effect for examinations for advancement in rating conducted in the first quarter of the fiscal year 1938. This multiple should be used for all competitive examinations for enlisted men.

The multiple is as follows:

- A 80—Examination mark. —
- B 10—Total regular naval service not to exceed 10 points. —
- C 10—Service in present rating not to exceed 10 points. —
- 
- 100 Final multiple. —

In computing service sixteen days or more will be counted as a full month. For men who have been disrated previous service will be included in determining factor C. In the case of broken service prior service will not be counted.

D In accordance with the following table, a bonus will be given to men having been awarded medals or letters of personal commendation:

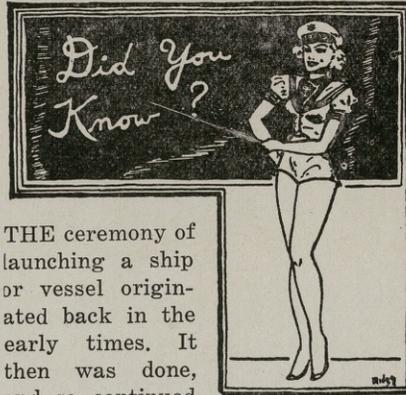
- Medal of Honor . . . . . 5.00
- Life Saving Medal . . . . . 4.00
- Navy Cross . . . . . 4.00
- Flying Cross . . . . . 4.00

Letter of Personal Commendation from:

- President . . . . . 2.00
- Secretary of the Navy . . . . . 2.00
- Chief of Naval Operations . . . . . 2.00
- Chief of Bureau of Navigation . . . . . 2.00

Only letters of commendation signed by one of the above officers and addressed to the man in question personally or where the name of the man is specifically mentioned in the letter should be counted. Blanket letters of commendation involving the crew of a ship, a department, a division or other organization or group of men should not be counted.

It will be noted that in certain cases the multiple may exceed 100.



THE ceremony of launching a ship or vessel originated back in the early times. It then was done, and so continued for many years as a propitiation to the gods of the elements. As was the case with all offerings to the various gods, the mediums used in the ceremony were many and varied.

In Tahiti, it was once the custom to shed human blood at launching ceremonies. Other and more war-like peoples would bind slaves and other humans to the ways so that they would be crushed as the ship slid into the water.

The launching ceremonies up until the nineteenth century have always been in the hands of high religious or naval officers or officials. In fact the religious element has always been so major a part that religious shrines were placed aboard all ships a few centuries ago, and the custom survives to this day in China.

Later, wine was universally used in launching ceremonies, a bottle being broken over the bow, although water was used to some extent as a token of purification.

History tells us that two futile attempts were made to launch the Constitution with water, and not until a bottle of wine was broken over the bow did she slip into the sea to commence her memorable career.

**DIVINE SERVICES**

Divine Services, Sunday, 13 June, will be held as follows:  
**Protestant:** 0900, San Francisco; 1000, Cincinnati; Indianapolis; Maryland; Mississippi; Nevada; New Orleans; Relief; Saratoga; Tuscaloosa; West Virginia; **Catholic:** 1000, Lexington; New Mexico; Salt Lake City. Visiting church parties should reach ships on which Catholic services are being held by 0930 in order that men may attend confession.

**Naval Pay Adjustment**

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commissioned chief warrant officer after four years' service as such, subject to examination. For commissioned warrant officers: rank with and draw the pay of lieutenant (jg) and after nine years service rank and pay of lieutenant; after 16 years service rank and pay of lieutenant commander. Revision for non-commissioned grades: chief petty officers, \$150 per month; petty officers first class, \$126; petty officers second class, \$105; petty officers third class, \$84; non-rated men second class, \$42 and apprentice seamen, \$21 per month.

In introducing the bill Mr. Scott expressed doubt as to any Congressional action during the present session. He stated that it is a fair and equitable bill, taking into consideration the cost of living and providing increases based thereon. In computing the pay for enlisted men Mr. Scott said that he had revised them with the thought of incorporating the denied reenlistment bonuses as a part of their pay, since the appropriations committee had maintained that it was unnecessary to pay bonuses as a reenlistment inducement.

Representative Scott, a resident of Long Beach, has long been an advocate of better pay for naval personnel and has expended no little effort to secure the necessary legislation.

Friend: "What is the idea of sticking that broom in the baby's face?"

Sailor's Wife: "His father will be returning from the Hawaiian cruise soon and I want the baby to get used to his kisses."

Beckwith: "What's the name of the book you're reading?"

Friend: "What Twenty Million Women Want."

Beckwith: "Let me see it, will you? I want to see if they spelled my name right."

Mike: "Did you protest against the movie that represents the Irish as disorderly?"

Pat: "Did we? We wrecked the place."

"Oh, Fred, the baby has swallowed the matches. What shall I do?"

"Here, use my cigarette lighter."