



SIGHTSEEING AND LIBERTY

**IN THE LAND OF BLACK BEAR,
GLACIER AND MUCKLUCK.**

The blase attitude of so many toward sightseeing, was not in evidence during our cruise in Alaskan waters. Facts and figures prove conclusively that those who made the trips to Copper River to see the famous Childs and Miles glaciers and to Anchorage were amply repaid for the time spent.

Approximately one hundred and twenty enlisted men and ten officers were on the special Copper River & Northwestern R. R. train when it pulled out of Cordova on the forty-eight mile run over the "Iron Trail", so well known to all lovers of the lusty Northland stories written by Rex Beach.

This was on Monday, July 22nd. On Wednesday, the 24th, another larger group made the interesting excursion to Anchorage from Seward. One hundred and fifty-four enlisted men and twelve officers boarded the Alaskan Railways special to ride through one hundred and twelve miles of natural wonderland, to a little city which makes up for its location by being the home of thoroughly progresive and cordially hospitable people. This last, is equally true of all the folks we have contacted in the three cities visited: Cordova, Seward and Anchorage.

To most, the trip north held little of anticipative interest. Frankly we thought it would be a rather dull cruise. We found to our surprise and consequent pleasure that our illusions concerning Alaska were just that, and based on everything but actuality.

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U. S. S. HOUSTON

WINS

IN BASKETBALL
HOUSTON-27 PORTLAND-19.

PERSONNEL

NEW RATING QUOTA

Examinations are now being held for the following ratings allotted to the HOUSTON.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1 - BM2c. | 4 - F2c. |
| 1 - Cox. | 1 - SK2c. |
| 1 - GM3c. | 1 - SK3c. |
| 1 - EM2c. | 1 - Bug.1c. |
| 3 - EM3c. | 1 - SC3c. |
| 2 - RM3c. | 1 - OC3c. |
| 1 - SF2c. | 2 - Matt.1c. |
| 1 - MM1c. | 1 - Matt. 2c. |
| 2 - MM2c. | 1 - WT1c. |
| 2 - WT2c. | 12 - Sealc. |
| 2 - F1c. | |

Within a short time 42 of our shipmates will have reaped the rewards of diligent and careful study. Although not as many rates were assigned this vessel as had been hoped for, there are enough to put many stogies in circulation.

UP THE LADDER

Latour, L.K. FC1c. to CFC.

NEW SHIPMATES

Fagan, A.G. COX. reported on board, in Seward, from the U.S.S. Swallow. Welcome, and a pleasant cruise.

THE ROTARY CLUB CUP

In October 1930, this cup was presented to the ship along with the silver service, the colors, a rowing cup, a swimming cup an several other articles, representative of the great interest shown by the City of Houston in this vessel. The Rotary Club cup is emblematic of supremacy in SRBP each year by any one of the turrets or either the port of starboard AA battery.

The cup is now on display in the 3rd Div comp't having been won by them three years in four the cup has been up for competition, the 5th Div winning it once.

In less than two months another SRBP will be fired and, who knows, the cup may find a new Div's name inscribed on it.

The 1st, 2nd, and 4th Div's having never won it yet are out to take the cup as well as winning the white "E". No.-3 turret is coming on the line, showing good form, but No. 1 and 2 turrets are looking like champs since they have their regular crews together again, while if the vigor shown on the boat deck is to be considered indicative of the attitude the AA crews have toward winning the trophy, the fan-tail turret is due for some stiff competition.

DANCE IN CORDOVA

On the evening prior to our sailing, the city of Cordova gave a dance for the crew at the Elk's Hall which was tastefully decorated for the occasion.

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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.

Ensign C. J. Mackenzie, Editor.

—: ASSOCIATE EDITORS :—

R.W. O'Brien, BM1c Jack Holt, S1c
A.D.Hall, MM1c E.E.Jory, Sea1c
PRINTER, G.W.Baker, Sea2c.

July 27, 1935

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PEP TALK

Recently there has been a marked laxity by members of the crew in conforming to uniform regulations. In particular to the unauthorized wearing of dungarees. Dungarees, of the prescribed pattern, must necessarily be worn by certain men when engaged in work, which by reason of its nature, would soil their uniforms. However, just because a man has a job requiring the wearing of dungarees, it does not give a license to wear them when not engaged at this work or out of working hours. In entering or leaving port, no dungarees are to be worn on the upper decks or by anyone other than those on watch in the Engineers Department. Yet seldom do we come to anchor that some one doesn't have to be sent below because he is unnecessarily out of uniform.

The improper wearing of hats and the complete failure to wear any is another item many people have been careless about. The hat is as much a part of the uniform as the jumper; still many of the crew apparently think this an unnecessary piece of clothing. Perhaps it is; but, nevertheless it is part of the uniform and must be worn.

Every one of us want a smart looking and happy ship. A big step toward gaining both these ends is to watch these little things. Above all don't abuse other people's and your own privileges which, if deprived of, would work a hardship on every one concerned and cause hard feelings.

THE ORIGIN OF THE BROWNING MACHINE GUN

The Browning machine gun came into being in 1917 as the result of a competition held by the US government to find a better type of gun for the A.E.F.

This gun takes its name from the inventor and the original type was the approximate size and weight of the Vickers, then in use; was recoil operated, water cooled and carried a belt of 250 rounds.

The most important reason the Browning was accepted when most of our factories were already manufacturing the Vickers, was; the Browning mechanism was much simpler, the belt feed was a decided improvement and the battle field efficiency was greater.

Many improvements have been made in the original design, and all branches of the service now use the Browning extensively. In the past few years our air forces have used the Browning air cooled almost exclusively. To better know this useful weapon you should see McNesby of the Aviation unit.

He would be only too glad to explain some of the interesting details since this gun is now used on our planes, and is readily accessible.

THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

July 21, 1861, Battle of Bull Run.
July 22, 1620, Pilgrims leave for America.

July 23, 1886, Steve Brodie jumped from the Brooklyn Bridge and lived.

July 24, 1896, National Convention of the Populist party.

July 25, 1866, U. S. Grant was made General.

July 26, 1874, Steamer Pat Rogers burned on the Ohio River, 50 lives lost.

July 27, 1866, Second Atlantic cable completed, (the first one lasted only a short while).

McQueen: "Nice young girls shouldn't hold a man's hand".

Wade: "Oh yes, Nowadays a nice girl has to hold a man's hand".

Boost HOUSTON Athletics!

DID YOU KNOW?

That: The grade of Admiral was not created in the U. S. Navy until July 16, 1862.

That: The term "Ahoy" was once the dreaded war cry of the Vikings.

That: The U.S.Navy uses more coffee than any other military organization in the world.

That: The colored yarn you have often noticed in a line is called the Rogues Yarn.

That: The American flag was planted on foreign soil of the old world for the first time by a Marine Officer in the war with Tripoli.

That: The black neckerchief was used by seafaring men long before Nelson's time; they were used as sweat cloths, the color hiding the dirt.

That: U.S. investments abroad total well over \$25,000,000,000.

That: The city of Los Angeles is one third the size of the entire State of Rhode Island.

BOXING

With two weeks light training behind them and Ens. "Spike" Long putting them through the paces daily now, the Houston Boxing squad is rapidly rounding into a squad of dynamite dispensers. The largest squad in years is on hand, which in itself is a sign of a good season.

One unpleasant drawback, and an unnecessary one, is; there are several men about the ship who have drawn boxing gear, used it once or twice and that is the last we have seen of it. This gear can be handily used now and those of you having any gear not in use, turn it in, thereby allowing someone the use of it, who really desires to use it.

Members of the squad are: Phillips, Kollimer, Garcia, Carter, Small, Kennedy, Mustain, Foguth, Hill, Chop, Frick, Davison, Adams, Sheffield, Ringham, Creech and Golaszewski.

OOD: "Boatswain's Mate, scrub down with rapidity this morning".

SLUSARSKY: "What's this modern Navy coming to? Sweeper! go down to the forward hold and draw a bucket of rapidity".



NOSEY NEWS by EV' BODY

It was apparent that even in a small town the ship's hardest fall by the wayside and kick the gong around. As per usual the ever famous Golden Grainers were in the first liberty boat, well we must not forget that we were at sea for a week. Our "Scoop Eared" Boatsie Obie seemly the ship's critic on bridge, slipped recently and when missing one of those famous hands threw the deck down and walked out, must be that those letters to "Darling Shirley" in the morning watch spoil his bridge game, and he just can't take it. Did anyone notice that cute wink that was handed out by Phalon the other day and especially with Weigand standing next to him??

Joe Bush, the heavy weight M.A.A., usually gets the best of Pinion in telling sea stories, especially concerning pistol shooting. (Wersal watch your laurels). Stinky Davis, we learn, painted the love nest, and built the picket fence all by himself.

We now know why the local "big medicine man" of the Shuck Indians, "Chief Croonin' Goon" Holt has been on the warpath. The dearth of feminine scalps has of necessity curtailed his choicest topic. The 4 day leave to Blaine soon, will, without doubt revive his spirit. Some should watch "Eli" Zietfuss at his game of bridge, very very touching, further we find that one of the late song hits fits him to the tee, he's just a curb stone cutie, Vee's pride and beauty, she calls him Walter dear and to top it off he admits he doesn't drink beer or light wines. The after mess hall seemed to be the scene of a so called Hula the other day and the crooning and music being furnished by Kollmer. What was it that caused our ship's writer DeBri)

to take notes while on the train enroute to Copper River, for full particulars see either Seagrams of Shaw, CM1c. We certainly have the prospects of an excelent track team with White's ability to run. Whitey Wellbourne appeared to have slipped slightly to port into a mud puddle while viewing the great Alaskan spaces. Bacon, our dashing laundryman lost in his conquest of the fairer sex. Kinky Price says that he dared not send the Blue Bonnet home for fear his wife would learn of his daring escapades. That "impromptu" Hog Calling contest held between the marines and the bluejackets of the HOUSTON, last Monday nite would have been won by the Navy if Ens. Long hadn't led the marines. Wersal will have to think fast in order to tell one better than this, "I saw a bear this a.m. with gold filled teeth", apparently he was a nugget hunter; this was told by one of the outstanding firecontrolmen. It has just come to light that the young sailor man seen somewhere between Blaine and Seattle with both thumbs in action "one for each direction" was none other than "K Boy Stubby Brown" (The "air-way") must have been bad, eh?). McFarland of the R is an authority on taking the hound for a walk in the woods???? Nelson, that cute tailor borrowed the sweet young thing's bike only to wake up amidst the wreckage. Another new candidate for the boxing squad is noted in the person of "Spud Dotterer, "R" Div. The last nite in Cordova must have given the boxing coach all the talent he needs. Shanks of the Evaps. met an old flame of seven years past while in Cordova. "1 Pounder" Wiegand is thinking of starting a seagull roost on turret No. 1. Lewis, BM1c., says the quickest way to get down steps is to fall??? Dainwood and Taylor had the game warden's permission to hunt, but, "he told them not to shoot anything"? They insist they saw many Bald Eagles, Rocky Mountain goats, etc., Scarieno and his six trusty followers went prospecting, but all they found was a little snow and ice. French tried his best to put a glacier in action by yodeling in the boat last Sunday nite. No such luck? Jack Berry played with the dusky maidens ala China style. Bacon also favored them it seems. Marangi took a sudden and cold duck-

ing when he fell from the boat. Pop Adkins explained his strange appearance by saying it was seven coats cold. The one pounder and siren seemed to beacon, rather than frighten the seagulls. One of the youngest Ensigns seemed to enjoy the company of a beautiful (?) Cordova miss with a basso profundo voice. We wonder why Pasco wants the picture taken of himself by the gear locker??? The secret of R.V.Hill's lusty appetite is out, he was seen using the muscle machine and when we receive the next mail he expects the muscles. Clay says he has searched for years for his true love, now having found her, he receives and sends 20 page letters and says it seems we have been away from Long Beach 20 years. Thusly we again bring our weekly tattle to a close.

—*—
"HOUSTON"

By Adam Chatterbox

I wander out yonder o'er the waves,
Where the breakers high seem to kiss the
skies;
Out where a great ship glides through the
spray,
Steaming steadily for the open sea.

Chorus.

Houston you've sailed across the seven seas.
Houston, you've sailed through gales and
softest breeze.
I chip you, I paint you- with red lead and
battle grey.
And always remember that Saturday's in-
spection day!
Houston, when this enlistment's almost
o'er;
Houston, I'll sign up for another "four";
I'll tell the world with you the seas I
love to roam;
Houston, I've made you my home.

To the tune of the old favorite, "Ramona".

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THE CREW'S LIBRARY

Since the beginning of the summer cruise, the library has been used extensively, because of short liberties and long Alaskan days, but, it is without doubt being used more than ever because the crew have discovered it is one of the finest and most complete on the cruisers.

All subjects are covered from fiction to the most advanced books on Engineering, Navigation, etc. Drop around during library hours and draw your favorite books.

Send the BLUE BONNET home

SIGHTSEEING AND LIBERTY

To nature lovers this country is an awe inspiring paradise. Here Dame Nature, unspoiled by the encroachments of civilization, is at her best. Lofty mountains, where the snow of centuries lies in crevasse and on sky-splitting peaks; thundering gorges, thru the whirling mists of which the sun has never shown; giant glaciers creaking their ponderous way to the sea; swift paced streams, where many a wary trout flicks a provocative tail; luxuriant valleys, into which the towering mountains send their leaping streams; stretches of unbelievable park-like green, where apparently no man has trod; all this and more in an ever changing panorama was ours for the looking, as we rolled over two of the worlds finest examples of man's firmness of purpose and engineering skill.

To all but a few, the sight of one of nature's signal wonders, the glacier, was something new. These huge rivers of ice and snow which move slowly down to rivers or to the sea, there to break off with a thundering chash or if dead, recede leaving grim valleys filled with sand, silt and rounded boulders for bespectacled geologists to ponder over, are one of Alaska's most interesting sights, and we are particularly fortunate to have had the opportunity to see them.

In a different vein; it is well to mention another kind of recreation in which so many took part. The Dances which were given for our entertainment in Cordova, Anchorage and Seward were enjoyed by all the terpsicorean devotees and some who are not! Enthusiastic reports of, "swell times!" came from all directions. The people who arranged these affairs for us should be congratulated and thanked. We also appreciated the excellent meals prepared for us, in Anchorage especially. There, this writer had as tasty a home-cooked meal as you would find in years of searching.

To conclude this resume of our adventures in Alaska; we want to say that we like the people and their hearty welcome and we hope they like us half as much. Here's to a keener, mutual understanding between the Navy and Alaskians.

Adam Chatterbox

PISTOL TEAM NOTES

This past week has brought steady improvement in the Pistol team with every opportunity being used to develop a strong outfit.

Despite the lack of a suitable range on the beach the team has been improving nicely through the use of Ace colts and later the 45 itself, for Machinist Woodroof and Clay Bmkrle designed a backstop capable of handling the heavy 45 slugs with ease.

If the steady improvement continues at the present rate, the few days left before the matches will see the HOUSTON represented with a strong team.

The entire team have been shooting in the two hundreds, which indicates a strong lineup.

The lineup of the team: Ch. Gunner Condit, Mach. Woodroof. Pinion S1c, Clements PFC., Arminger PVT.

WRESTLING

During the past week the team had very little time to get out due to cold and damp weather, but we should regain this lost time this coming week. We still require several men in the lighter weights and anyone interested see Mr. Young or Holt. It will not be long before a schedule of eliminations in divisions will be out and we want to have our team rounded into shape by that time.

BASKETBALL

Last Thursday nite, July 25, our eagers started the season off with an exciting win over the Portland in a pre-season game.

A record turnout, revealing a wealth of new materiel, and most of last season's regulars on hand, our chances in the Sco.For. league look bright. If conditions permit, regular training will commence shortly after our return to Long Beach.

DANCE IN CORDOVA

About one hundred Houstonites attended, enjoying to the fullest the final event of a well filled entertainment program during our two day stay.

Boost HOUSTON Athletics!

EXHAUST PIPE



Definition for Exhaust Pipe. A device or devices to carry off burnt and useless gases resulting from the explosion of the charge in the cylinder.

All hands and ships cook were up the other day looking over the icebergs and trying to see a polar bear but unlike California with its bathing beauties and roofless bath houses, nothing could be found in the bare line. Cast method works mighty smooth on this glassy water and all hands are beginning to uncross their fingers when the second division rig out their clod mashers. (Sea sleds).

The personel of the division are trying to furnish the flash and color during the off season of the Northern Lights. It is a known fact that one shiny headed radioman had his head gently caressed by a fair maiden during a moment of "Bar Room distress".

One of the old China gang was on board for a few minutes the other evening. He was none other than Sherman, Sea1c. and is a Mech. at the local airport in Cordova.

The "Spirit of Gammell" has been haunting No. 9 on these cold mornings. Better see Pyro Kerr, Puckett; apparently that burnt offering of celluloid in the Stb.Pagoda several weeks ago satisfied the evil spirits of No. 10.

The "Left Handed Monkey Wrench Club" otherwise known as the "Boners Fraternity" has elected Swenson as its President. Wladyslaw Bengiman Bogdanski and Walter James Gregg are full fledged members.

Say, (it's a fact) Sailor can you tell me how you unhook that torpedo?

There are five Regular Army bands stationed in the State of Washington. There are five in the State of Texas and six in the heavily garisoned Hawaiian Islands. No other areas under the protection of the Stars and Stripes can boast as much Regular Army martial music.

Send the BLUE BONNET home.