

The Blue Bonnet.

U.S.S. HOUSTON

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Volume I

Enroute to New York, N.Y.

Number II

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E N G I N E E R S   S T A N D   F I R S T

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CHICAGO Second, SALT LAKE CITY Third

This competition year started July 1st, the day we started on the Presidential Cruise. Since then we have made a significant start with a score of 114.94 to date, leading the field with the CHICAGO second by 105.97 and the SALT LAKE CITY third by 100.94. It is a start we should be proud of. And while we are on it, we ran 11,783 miles while the President was on board and did it in 595.6 hours steaming at 18.5 average without missing our schedule in any port. Who said something about rolling stones gathering no moss?

However, there are still ten months to weather. Ten long months of SRBP, Power Runs, LRBP, etc., etc. Everyone can help us keep in first place by observing a few common sense rules. It costs money to make fresh water--about 30 to 50 gallons of oil per hour. Useless lights and fans consume "juice". Leaks lose steam. Use water wisely--it takes a lot of water to freshen up the ocean. Turn out useless lights. Turn off useless fans. Report all steam leaks to the Log Room. Do all this and our Engineers will be leading the class when the books are closed.

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The United States had no official National Anthem until March, 1931, when the Star Spangled Banner was adopted as such by Congress.

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CONTINUOUS SERVICE

A subject, not generally understood is here quoted from a BuNav letter:

"Upon reenlisting, continuous service men who so request may, without reference to the Bureau, be transferred to the vessel on which they last served in a duty status (as distinct from a ship to which attached for purpose of transfer prior to discharge), provided such vessel will, at the time men report, be within the continental limits of the United States and in the zone to which the output of the recruiting station or receiving ship or station is normally sent. If the vessel is located in a zone other than noted above or is not within the continental limits of the United States, the request will be referred to the Bureau for action."

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SECOND DIVISION WINS RIFLE MEET

Saturday afternoon found representatives from the 1st, 2nd

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SECOND DIVISION WINS RIFLE MEET

3rd, 4th and "F" Divisions meeting on the fantail to test their powers of marksmanship with a .22 calibre rifle.

Divisional highs were: 2nd, 491; 4th and "F" tied for second with 490.

In the preliminary runs, Head, 1st Div., Dixon, "F" Div., Standafer and Pinion 2nd Div. were individual highs with a possible. In the shoot off, Pinion and Standafer scored for first and second place with marks of 96 and 95 respectively. This gave the Second Division a decisive victory and six cartons of cigarettes.

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"HE DIDN'T GET THE WORD"

by the Captain.

Not so very long ago, the Grand Order of the Moose held a convention which was wound up by a big Feast and a Ball. The management was very anxious to have a certain Celebrity attend this function. He demurred, but was finally prevailed upon to attend, on one condition--namely, that he would not be called upon for speech-making. This was agreed to.

Towards the end of the Feast, the Toastmaster arose and announced that all present had been heard from except the Celebrity and that the time had arrived to hear from him, thus winding up a most successful and enjoyable Convention in a manner that its' importance warranted.

Our celebrity was taken much aback. The demand for him to speak, however, was so insistent that he finally arose and told this story:

"Once upon a time, a few thousand years after the Flood, when all the Animals had been disembarked from the Ark by Noah, they had propagated in great numbers and Social Conditions in the jungle had become most complicated. The Animals decided to hold a peace Conference for the purpose of formulating and agreeing upon a scheme to improve Living Conditions in the Jungle. An Armistice was declared which provided, among other things, that for a certain period before and after, and during the Peace Conference, no animal would harm any other. The Law of the Jungle was temporarily suspended.

"The Peace Conference was duly held amid much enthusiam and the animals were on their way back to their former homes in the

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HE DIDN'T GET THE WORD

Jungle. Some were jubliant and even hopeful over the results of the Conference. Others were disappointed and suspicious. Among the former class was the Elephant. He was wending his way home, waving his trunk, when, to his surprise, a little Mouse came tearing by him at full speed. The Elephant reached out with his trunk, picked up the Mouse and said to him: "What's the matter, Moussie; what is your hurry? You seem frightened!" The Mouse replied, "There's a d---- Cat back there!" The Elephant answere. "What difference does that make? Don't you know we agreed that certain Laws of the Jungle are repealed and that Article XIII provides that the Cat shall cease attacking mice except in self-defense?" "Yes," said the Mouse, 'I know all about that. But--there is always some S.O.B. that doesn't get the word.'

And, our celebrity sat down.

Many of our troubles on board ship are caused by some S.O.B. not getting the word. And, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, its the fault of that S.O.B.

MORAL: It's up to you to get the word.

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PEP TALK

We cannot help feeling a bit elated at having a ship's paper.. The many comments we heard since last week's issue are pleasing but picture our disappointment to find only dust and not one scrap of paper in our 'mail box'. It is there, in C-201-L, Recreation Room to you, a lonely box--BLUE BONNET--thirsting for contributions and not a scrap to drink. Come on--all you poets, artists, reporters, Winchells--let's have your pieces. We need them to make a paper that none of which can equal. If that poem is good enough for the girl friend, maybe we can use it. If your jokes are good enough to be told, we want to know about them. If you draw pictures, put them on paper and not on the bulkheads. Let us put your name among our Contributors. If in need of assistance, see the editor, Kessler, Botterell, yeomen, the printers, or anyone else whose name appears in this sheet.

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The President has commented on the smartness of our ship. The Captain is well pleased with our performance in upkeep. A

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PEP TALK

jealous Stateside fleet winks slyly and refers to us as a bunch of Asiaticers. Which amounts to this:---

To show the President that we can be smart in the grim business of fighting as well as yachting, and to convince our Captain that we are much more efficient than we look, and to give him the confidence in us that we have in him, to make apparent to the whole U.S. Fleet that we are a vessel demanding respect, and that we are a snappy crew on a snappy ship--let us go to the head of the class. Let's add a few more E's to the ones we have and hashmarks to our present collection. Records can be broken and we are as capable as any. The Engineers have made a good start, now let's all keep going and add to our laurels.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES ON BOARD

Until recently the Educational Courses on board have been lacking in sufficiency. Courses on hand in many instances were obsolete and even those were limited. While in San Diego, a new supply was received from the Bureau and is now well up to standard. There are, however, no "A to N" courses on the shelves of the library. None were received from the Bureau. In view of this, it is requested that all men who have this course in their possession turn it in for the use of new men who are desirous of advancement.

There is a course for practically every rating in the Navy. Courses for these ratings must be entered in the service record before qualifying for advancement. The end of the quarter approaches and that means new quotas of ratings will be announced. Those who have not the necessary courses in their records, see their division officers and make arrangements to complete the course.

The list below shows rates for which courses are available. Those not listed will be received as soon as they are available in the Bureau.

CBM	BM1c	SM3c	Cox	RM1c	Smlc	CQM	QM3c	Ptr3c	BM2c
CM2c	CTC	SF1c	TM1c	FC1c	EM3c	WT2c	Bsmth	CSK	SK3c
PhM2c	SC1c	Sealc	RM2c	SM2c	QM1c	Ptr1c	CGM	GM3c	CM3c
TC1c	SF2c	TM2c	FC2c	MM1c	Flc	Y2c	SK1c	<del>PhM</del>	<del>Y3c</del>
CPhM	PhM3c	SC3c	QM2c	GM2c	CRM	SK2c	Ptr2c	RM3c	Y3c
GM1c	CM1c	CSF	TC2c	CTM	TM3c	EM2c	MM2c	F2c	HALc
PhM3c	SC1c	SC3c							

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EDUCATIONAL COURSES ON BOARD

Baker ratings

Messman Ratings

There are also special courses of value when preparing for advancement. These are on various subjects such as Condensers; Storage Batteries; Sudels Handbook; Interior Communication School, Preparatory Course; Radio Material School; Radio Direction Finders; Moulders courses; Engineering Handbook; Reciprocating Steam Engines; Diesel Engines; Electric Propulsion Main drive installations; Distilling Plants; Refrigeration; Mechanical Measuring Instruments; Blowers; Bearings, lubrication and Propellers; Pumps; Brass and Alloy Foundring; Tool Dressing; Hand Forging; Hammer Work; Core Making; Illustration for Reading Blue Prints; Boilers, care, repair and operation; Marine Steam Turbines; Gregg Shorthand; Office Procedure; Service Chemicals; Foundations of Chemistry; Aviation Seamanship; Compasses and Piloting; Naval Service on the Subject of Thrift; Gyroscopic Compasses; Essentials of Alternating Currents. Some of these courses are limited and few may be out of date. They are for the use of the crew and, if desired, are obtainable from the Navigator's Office.

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NOSEY NEWS by EV'BODY

Our name isn't Winchell and we don't sleep under number three turret but we've got the dope--

There was the QM. who paid a tax bill, bought a pair of hose, and got a "it won't take me a minute, then we'll go back downtown" at the door. And that after his shipmates had told him the score...

Which officer is "it" most in that daily game of tag-ball on the well-deck? And isn't it fair? There's another one who never has to chase the pretty ballsy-wallsy.

CAN YOU IMAGINE: The Chief Boatswains mate without his pipe---or Rebel Kayse with a 30 waistbank...McGovern not passing the word for the 1st Division...Steve not grinning...Welbourne with a tenor voice...O'Brien with a jumper that fits... Campbell with his yap closed... or at least not grandstanding.

THINGS WE'D LIKE TO SEE: The chief Boatswains mate without his pipe...Rb

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NOSEY NEWS by EV'BODY

Rebel Kayse with a waistband 30...ETC... ALL.

Then at Portland, we heard many stories but here is the latest dropped into our delicious ear:

G.F.---"Don't you love walking on a moonlight night like this?"

B.M.? Div--"Yeah, but I thought I'd wait 'till we got further out in the country."

Befuddlement was ours, too, when the boatswains mate told us to report to the captain of the head. We somehow found that regal person and were getting along splendidly until he told us to install the music rolls. We remember vaguely of muttering something about this being a peculiar place for concerts.

Then too, at one of our recent SCM conferences:--

AWOL Sealc on the stand. "Do you solemnly swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so...etc."

"Yes, Sir." "Well, what have you got to say for yourself?"

"Well, sir, with all those limitations you have just put on me, I don't believe I have anything to say."

Strange as it may seem, the Exec. Office is also the source of some merriment. The other day we over-heard at request mast:--

Exec: "You think you're alright now, Eh? Well, if you are granted special liberty, will you keep away from liquor and women?"

Erratic Old-timer: "I certainly will."

Exec: "Not granted! There's still something wrong with you."

We have been noticing the new men who recently came aboard and comparing their amusing boners to our own when we were boots. Human nature is very much like that, we've decided.

A humorous incident told by Breidecker, QM3c, tops the list of those we have so far heard.

A youngster was being instructed how to turn on the various lights in the Pilot house. When the QM came to "wake lights" the boot's face lighted suddenly with a happy glow. "I know what that one is." "Yeah, what?" Breidecker asked. "That's the light they turn on 15 minutes before reveille!" --- which might be what it should be because we could be wrong.

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THE HOUSTON'S SCHEDULE

Sept. 12---Depart New York, N.Y.

Sept. 13---Arrive Hampton Roads.

Sept. 14---Depart Hampton Roads, for Eleet Exercises.

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HOUSTON' SCHEDULE

Sept. 22---Arrive Houston, Texas.  
Sept. 27---Depart Houston, Texas.  
Oct. 1---Arrive Guantanamo, Cuba.

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NOSEY NEWS by EV'BODY

Cupid works tirelessly and levels all men. Witness two J.O.'s anxiously awaiting our arrival at Norfolk to consummate matrimoneal bonds. Lt. Miller and Ensign Slayden have gone beyond redemption and from now on it will be "Mrs.----- and I". Congratulations are in order.

But the Wardroom does not alone head the list. The E,M, and B Divisions have done their share. There are James "Rover" Fansher, EM3c; Nicolotti "Wop" Leo, EM3c; B.M. "Pappy" Delso, MMLc, and L.A. "Prime" Kollmer, WTlc. Let's give the boys a hand and weep a sorry tear for Fansher and his "wedding present" when he came aboard 7 hours A.O.L.

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YOUR SHIP

If you want to live  
    on the kind of a ship,  
Like the kind of a ship you like,  
You needn't ship  
    Your clothes in a grip  
And start on a long,  
    long hike.  
You'll only find  
    what you've left behind,  
For there's nothing really new,  
It's a knock at yourself  
    when you knock your ship  
It isn't the ship,  
    it's you.

Real ships are not made  
    by men afraid  
Lest somebody  
    gets ahead;  
When everyone works  
    and nobody shirks  
You can raise a ship  
    from the dead.  
And if, while you make  
    your personal rate,  
Your shipmates can make one too,  
Your ship will be  
    what you want it to be  
For your Country,  
    Your Navy, and You..

-----"The Oriental Patrol"  
    of the Old Huron.

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Tables of statistical facts seem so cold.

How about such a report on the glamorous activities of our pride and joy--the "BLUE STREAK OF THE PACIFIC", the

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"FLOATING WHITEHOUSE"; the "GALLOPING GHOST OF CRUDIV 6"; the ATLANTIC & PACIFIC FERRY" or, simply "CA 30"? Stripped of its war color, bright-work polish, Marine detachment, and other ornamental tid-bits, what is our record of the past three months--say, from our departure New York until our return. Highly illuminating!!!

501 resolutions to return to N.Y. as soon as possible.  
83 sightseeing trips in Annapolis, nary a one to Baltimore.  
(Oh, yeah?)  
480 wonderful liberties in San Juan.  
698 letters home, "went fishing with Frank today.  
147 laments, "the Virgin Islands are a fake!"  
33 Bottles of perfume purchased, "for the girl back home."  
252 more letters home, "picnicked with Frank at Cocos Island today."  
32 resolutions to buy more on the shore in Hawaii.  
32 resolutions to buy more on the way back through the Canal.  
307 promises to put in for duty in the "islands".  
1,000,000 visitors entertained (?) at Portland.  
800,000 broken hearts left behind.  
46 new allotments.  
471 fervent oaths, "Jeez, what a town!"  
334 joyous reunions in Diego, either with our wives or somebody else's.  
14 broken hearts aboard at departure.  
170 questions, "is that a whale out there?"  
169 cases of sea-sickness upon glass seas.  
170 "There it is!!"---"There's the locks!"---"Oh, Boy!"

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ATHLETICS

The following Athletic activities are under the charge of the following officers:

Athletic Officer--Comdr. Eldredge  
Baseball--Ens. Lyons, Assisted by Ens. Murphy.  
Rowing--Lt. Homann.  
Rowing Officer--Lt. (jg) Harris, Assisted by Bosn. Self.  
Tennis--Lt. (jg) Heming.  
Boxing--Ens. Long.  
Basketball--Ens. Williams.  
Swimming--Ens. Duff.  
Track--Ens. Watkins.  
Football--2nd. Lieut. Thompson, U.S.M.C.  
Wrestling--Ens. Leon.

However an athletic officer cannot make the team. Let's

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see you huskies, athletic and otherwise, turn out. You don't have to be an expert. We need volunteers. Turn your names in-- either to the officer in charge or into our BLUE BONNET mail box, so a survey of talent can be made. We can at least try. The baseball team is on its feet and wrestlers tumble about a bit, but there is room for much more improvement--more men--and more fun.

An athletic ship is a happy one--let's turn out and win an Iron Man.

MERIT

Misconduct is not the only reason for appearance at mast. Duty well done deserves praise and recognition and for that reason, we recommend for our Hall of Fame the following who were commended at meritorious mast by the Captain last Tuesday.

Moore, H.T., CRM.  
Edmonds, E.C., RMLc.  
Campbell, E., RMLc.  
Mains, M. RMLc.

Morrison G.A., RMLc.  
Mein, T.T. RMLc.  
McGovern, J., BMLc.

Our hats off to these boys.

A century ago in England, Friday was considered such an unlucky day that the Admiralty decided to refute the superstition by building a 'Friday' ship. Friday was the day her keel was laid. Friday was the day she was launched. Friday was the name of her Captain. Friday was the day she started on her maiden voyage. She has never been heard of since.

SPLIT ESSES

"Go forth," said the Bureau of Navigation, and they are going forth.

With Hart and Bonham being ordered to the land of beer and bananas, Hodges to ComBatFor for assignment, Cooley due to be paid off in the near future, and Morgan a good bet for shore duty at Pensacola, the Aviation Gang is nearing a state of depletion that is decidedly unpleasant to the remaining

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SPLIT ESSES

few. Best wishes for pleasant tours of duty at their new stations are offered these men, by their own gang, and the ship's company at large.

In return we welcome to our camp Lenox, W.V., AM2c, who reported aboard in San Diego, as relief for our old Metalsmith Bower. Bower has been transferred to NAS, San Diego for a tour of shore duty, and it looks like he will be able to spend his evenings at home for the next three years. We hope that both of these boys enjoy their new posts.

A number of inquiries have reached the Aviation Office as to the meaning of the Wings that Lts. McGlynn and Berkley have been sporting lately. It will be noticed that these wings and the interior of the "O" are of gold, but the "O" itself and the plain erect anchor are of silver. These are worn by officers holding the designation of Naval Aviation Observer.

Training for the Gunnery season has got underway with a bang. Said bang can be heard on the Fantail most any day, as the boys try their luck on old boxes, etc., that go floating past. Practice in firing, cleaning and overhaul of machine guns constitutes the practical end. For mental exercise, discussions are held daily on the various phases of aerial gunnery. All this has an added interest when one contemplates that tour of shore duty at San Diego, this winter.

FLASH---It has been rumored that the VICTOR Division was barred from competition with the .22's because of air-mindedness. They claimed that we would over shoot the target. TSK! TSK!