

## New Orleans - Houston Smoker

**T**HE HOUSTON boxers and wrestlers will meet teams from the NEW ORLEANS next Wednesday night at eight o'clock. The place will be the Navy Y.M.C.A. in Vallejo.

A good card has been arranged which will include five bouts each of wrestling and boxing, and in addition something in entertainment will be offered by Mr. Thor Erickson, superintendent of the "Y."

### Old Ironsides

While cruising against British commerce, Captain Isaac Hull in the 55-gun frigate, Constitution, met Captain Dacres in the British frigate Guerriere, of 49 guns, about 700 miles off Boston on August 19, 1812. The fire of the Constitution was much more effective than that of her enemy and Hull maneuvered his ship so as to cross the bow of the Guerriere, subjecting her to a "raking" fire and entirely demasting her. After 30 minutes Dacres, utterly helpless, was forced to surrender. This was the first frigate action of the war and the victory did much to encourage the people of the United States. Because of the little damage which she received, the Constitution was nicknamed Old Ironsides. In 1828 she was to be put out of commission and to be scrapped but was saved from this fate by Oliver Wendell Holmes' famous poem, "Old Ironsides," which aroused public interest in her. In recent years she was restored at the Navy Yard, Boston, and since July 1933, has cruised to many ports on both coasts.



Tell a sailor that there are ten million stars in the sky and he will believe you; show him a sign reading "Fresh Paint," and he will have to find out for himself.

The tentative matches are:

Boxing			
New Orleans		Houston	
Loss	145 lbs	Martin	143 lbs
Anthony	165 lbs	Wilson	157 lbs
Green	175 lbs	Hill	175 lbs
Fortunado	175 lbs	Harris	165 lbs
Inman	Heavy	Gregory	Heavy
Wrestling			
Morton	155 lbs	Beckwith or Folta	
Hill	156 lbs	Pratt	
Martel	160 lbs	Fordemwalt	
Bailey	160 lbs	Freeman	
Robb	170 lbs	Miller or Plemel	

The Houston boxers have been working out for about two weeks now and are making good progress. The remainder of the squad includes some old timers and some new hands. Aligo, the Captain's steward, is a veteran fighter weighing in at 149. Cardinelli at 123 lbs. is a Golden Glove product who shows great promise. Wauk, Wilson, and Brown are new comers who are showing up well.

The Houston wrestlers under the leadership of "Headlock" are showing up very well during their "workouts" at the Y.M.C.A. The squad still has five veterans from last year's team. The Houston had four men in the semi-final of the Cruisers which was not bad for a team which started out with eight men at the beginning of Fleet

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## From An Eyewitness

On August 23 at 1254, G. W. Jackson, SK1c, U.S.N., and I were on the second floor of the Wing On building at which time the Sincere building across the street was bombed. At the minute the bomb exploded the sensation experienced was the same as standing on the deck of a battleship firing a broadside, but of greater intensity. We were both knocked to our knees from the concussion. We got up took stock of ourselves discovered we were unhurt except that Jackson was slightly cut on the head and leg. I pulled a piece of glass out of his head about a quarter of an inch long. We then looked around discovered all who were not injured or killed had run for the stairs. We saw many people lying all over the place apparently dead. We then heard a Chinese girl saying, "My eyes, I can't see." We moved debris, got to her, discovered one of her eyes gone and glass sticking through the other eyelid into the eye. She was bleeding all over from severe cuts. We picked her up and carried her to an ambulance which had just arrived as we emerged from the door. In making our way out of the building it was necessary to stop a couple times and move things out of our way. Apparently every show case on both the first and second floors were demolished and stock scattered in all directions. When we arrived on the first floor not a form of life could be seen but many bodies lying everywhere in pools of blood. It was our impression that all on the ground floor had been killed because the bodies being carried out seemed lifeless. On the sidewalk I helped pick up a man with

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—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

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## Can You See?

Stuck on the windshield of every modern automobile there's a little gadget made of metal and rubber. That's right, it's called a windshield wiper, and its purpose in life is to wipe the windshield. You press a button or twist a knob and the little wiper goes merrily from side to side, chasing the water in front of it.

That little windshield wiper is one of the most important accessories on an automobile. It is not difficult to drive without a horn to toot, and you can buzz along with poor brakes if the police don't know about it. But did you ever try to drive along in a heavy rain with your windshield wiper "secured for overhaul?" You try to catch an occasional glimpse of the road between the little rivers that trickle down the glass, or perhaps stick your head out the port and get plenty soaked.

And why is this little gadget so important? The reason is very simple; without it, you don't know just where you're going. You do what you can to keep on the road; hope it wil not jump out from under you and usually manage to find every hole in the road. As for other cars that might be on the highway, you say a little prayer in hope that none of them have a pathetic wiper such as yours.

A few days ago we ran across a chap who was about to wind up his first four year enlistment. His rate was seaman second. That seemed sort of funny, so we inquired as to why not at least seaman first. Well, he guessed there was no real reason. Yes, he had hoped to make a higher rating but somehow none came his way. No, he hadn't thought or done much about it. Anyhow the farm always had a spare hoe or plow around.

## Ye Soda Fountain

No doubt many an eye has been cast longingly towards a beautiful, nickel plated object which is being set up in No. 1 mess hall. In case you don't know what this is which the ship service personnel and other workmen are swarming around so attentively we'll tell you that it is the new soda fountain.

Manufactured by Liquid Carbonate Co. of San Francisco and purchased by the ship service for the sum of \$1,400, it is designed to hold an assortment of 10 syrups, 40 gallons of ice cream, and enough soda water to accommodate an unlimited number of sodas and "cokes." The 5 gallon ice cream mixer and 40 gallon hardening cabinet cost \$1,400 and will take care of all demands for ice cream. It is a completely new installation.

Interviewing Head, the temporary soda dispenser, I was told that the ship's thirst for "cokes" had reached gargantuan proportions. "They consume close to five hundred bottles of coco cola a day," he said, "but it's no fun for us. We got to carry all those cases of bottles back and forth, and a full case weighs more than thirty-five pounds. Here, you just heft one."

## MARE ISLAND

Believe it or not, Mare Island, California was actually named after a horse! This name was originally given it by General Vallejo, who called it "La Isla de la Yeugua," meaning, "The Island of the Mare," to commemorate the recovery of his much-prized old white mare. This animal, along with the rest of the general's horses, was being ferried from Martinez to Benicia when the boat capsized and threw them all into the water. The mare swam to the island later named for it, where it was recovered.

A question in the seaman's examination was "What is the waterline?"

The answer: "The mark around a Marine's neck."

Plugging along through life without being able to see where he was going, and not making any attempt to remedy this condition, he was driving through a perpetual rain, and his windshield wiper was decidedly among the missing. Can you see the road ahead of you?



Dear Sal,

Tha chill o' fall is creepin' into tha marrow o' a body's bones so now-a-days that you have a natural hanker-in' to want to stay beneath tha covers along about reveille time. Pa's probably castin' 'round for his double plie woolen underwear. He gets them so durable and heavy it most shakes tha house down when he drags them across the floor o' tha bedroom unstairs. Ma allus said that there was just one place for them when they weren't next to his skin and that was out in the barn. Colds and diseases o' winter will soon be on tha rampage and a body's allus just recuperatin' or gettin' set for another spell.

Pa still has that big boar by tha name o' Duke. He's just as onery as ever but in all his born days he's nary had a touch o' sickness. One time he near didn't have a hankerin' to come a runnin' to tha trough durin' feedin' time but it just naturally took more than a thing like that to hamper Duke.

Brother Norval was shootin' ducks down near tha slough which runs through tha lower forty, and he noticed tha fence a saggin' and a needin' repairs in one place, so he took time out for a mite and laid his gun and box o' shells down on tha ground. He plumb forgot that old Duke was nosin' 'round in that vicinity, but out o' tha corner o' his eye he noticed Duke makin' a beeline for them shells. Norval started runnin' back but by tha time he got there tha shotgun shells had disappeared and so had Duke. Finally, he spied tha big boy sorta lopin' along, and he took out across tha fieds after him. Maybe it was because Duke had begun to worry about tha feel o' cold metal in his insides because he slammed smack into a post. There was tha most awful explosion as those shells went off in poor old Duke. Norval sorta averted his eyes. He allus liked that hog. But when he looked back, there was old Duke lookin' chagrined and a

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## Little Ocko Says . . .

I'm back again and have been keepin' the ears pretty well washed up so I may hear all the gossip floating about. Brought to my attention is the fact that I may have hurt some people's feelings in my remarks. This is a column of news, not intended to harm any man. If I have offended, I apologize, sincerely.

Have you noticed: Bacon with his Georgia street bob? . . . Cochrane answering the telephone and telling an old girl friend he has too much work to do and can't see her? . . . The nice looking pieces of furniture in the offices?

Wilkinson of "F" Division introduced us to his lady friend, Miss Mary Duffy, last Sunday. They were making a tour of the ship and must say that Wimpey's choice is really first class.

Joe West must have "got religion," or something. Friday night Joe stayed aboard and Saturday morning he was up and going at six o'clock.

"Crashboat" Meadows, "F" Division mess cook, has been spending too many evenings in Vallejo for his own good. One morning last week "Crash" fell asleep peeling spuds. When ship's cook Newberry gave him a bath with a cup of ice water Meadows protested vigorously. We advise you to lay off the wine women and song, Meadows, and eat a lot of beans and spinach before you tackle Strawberry.

Manley, boat deck sailor, brought the lady of his heart aboard Sunday for a tour of inspection. The young lady's father was accompanying them, seemingly enjoying himself.

Did you see McCormick, BM2c, on shore patrol Sunday? Those legs of Mac's sure indicate a bronco-busting childhood.

"Those were the good old days," said the Asiatic sailor at morning coffee. "They were serving us ginger tea and iced lemonade in the morning watch. Why, it got so hot on the Yangtze we packed the guns of our 3-inch battery in ice." A story like that has us stopped. Before we tell so much we have to prove it, we'll say—So long.

SEND THE BLUE BONNET HOME.

## New Orleans - Houston Smoker Wednesday

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competition. Arthur, Fordemwalt, Folta and Chick went as far as the semi-finals.

We have a lot of new material out for berths on the squad although the 135 and 145 lb. class is still open for candidates. Henry, in the heavyweight class and Freeman, in the 165 lb. class are back with us again this season. Miller, Plemel and Mallette are out gunning for the 175 lb. berth on the team and by the looks of things it will be a "red hot" race. Harvey, a new comer in the 126 lb. class looks like another "find". Chick will be back with the squad as soon as the Aviation Unit returns aboard. From the looks of things the Houston squad should give a good account of themselves this season.

So come one, come all next Wednesday night and watch the lads work. Both squads need more men in some of the weights, and welcome this opportunity to demonstrate their sports. How about support?



## Salty Sayings

"Pipe down" originated when a bos'n blew "lights out" on his pipe or whistle; the order commanded the men to quiet down and go to sleep. "Pouring Oil On Troubled Waters"—This term originated when whaling ships, helping another in time of distress, poured oil on the sea to keep waves from breaking, thus making it easier to rescue the ill-fated boat. "In the Doghouse" dates back to slave ship days. In order to pack as many slaves as possible, they herded them into the officers' quarters. The officers then had to sleep in semi-cylindrical boxes on the poop deck. Nicknamed dog-house, these boxes were most uncomfortable. This is why, when we are in a tough spot, we generally say, "I'm in the dog house."

## IN MEMORIAM

The crew of the Houston, through the Blue Bonnet, wishes to extend its extreme sympathy to James Alvin Moulton of the Third Division in the recent bereavement of his mother at El Reno, Oklahoma.

## The Charleston Captures Guam

On 25 May, 1898, the U.S.S. Charleston sailed from San Francisco to Manila as an escort to the first expedition of military forces to aid Admiral Dewey in the Spanish-American War. On this trip there was an incident which might have easily occurred in a comic opera. The largest of the Ladrone Islands is Guam and the chief town is St. Ignacio de Agano. Here were the ancient and decrepit fortifications and the picturesque (if somewhat delapidated) official palace of the Spanish colonial government. It was long before the day of radio communication. The Charleston steamed in this harbor and let fly a six pound shot at the Spanish flag that floated over the opera-bouffe fort. There was neither response nor excitement. Presently a shoreboat could be seen making its way for the Charleston's gangway. Out of it climbed the Spanish governor and with great dignity asked to be presented to the Commander of the Charleston. He had come with a welcome and an apology. The salute which the Americans had been so polite to fire he knew should be returned, he said, but unhappily his home government had neglected to send him any powder. He was highly sensible of the honor done his little colony by this call of the fine warship from the great American nation and, quite desolated by the sense of his inability to discharge the formal courtesies of the occasion, would the Captain not accept his apologies and do him the honor to dine at the palace. All this the governor said to his astonished auditors who could hardly believe that he was ignorant of the existence of war and that he had mistaken their brief bombardment for a formal salute. The luckless governor was soon informed of the state of affairs and was carried off to Manila along with his officials. A force was left behind to hold the island. By terms of the treaty, Guam became an American possession and is now a naval station where, it may be presumed, enough powder will be kept on hand for saluting or other needs.

Aged mosquito to young one: "And to think that when I was your age I could bite girls only on the face and hands."

### Gus's Weekly Letter

(From Page 2.)

bit sore about somethin' which he nary could understand. Anyway, Duke went down to a mud hole and commenced feelin' so pert in a short time that by tha next feedin' time he didn't slight his eatin'.

Well, it just goes to show you that us humans could sorta model ourselves after hogs in this respect, and that we shouldn't worry so much about common cold ailments 'cause it takes a heap more o' bein' bed ridden before we have a chance to meet our maker.

Love,  
Gus.

#### PHILOSOPHICAL CIRCLES

He who said much, said nothing, but he who said little said the most.

Praise for one who is absent will always fall on deaf ears.

He who is beaten before the beginning will never see the end of his defeats.

It was once said that personality is an art. Many of us paint masterpieces and others merely a smear.

When a man puts his fortune into his head his words are to be considered valuable.

The true definition of memory is the ability to pay attention.

Great is the man who does not lose his child's heart.

Barbed remarks have all the earmarks of ignorance on the part of the remarker.

The ability to jest is a gift, but the ability to jest at the correct time is an art.

Desire is like a disease; if not attended to it becomes a serious matter to contend with.

He who is not satisfied with the best, will not be satisfied with better.

Appreciation is a natural feeling but to express it is even harder than feeling it.

To do is one thing, to say is another thing. Put them together and you have the right thing.

### Division Baseball

Scores by Games:

"C" Division	4	"R" Division	7
"F" Division	0	"B" Division	2
4th Division	17	"S" Division	5
"F" Division	6	"C" Division	1
	"B" Division	12	
	4th Division	3	

How They Stand:

Team	GP	W	L	Percentage
"S" Division	3	3	0	1.000
"R" Division	3	2	1	.666
"C" Division	4	2	2	.500
"B" Division	3	1	2	.333
"F" Division	3	1	2	.333
4th Division	4	1	3	.250

#### MARINE RACE SCHEDULED

A message from Cruisers Scouting Force staff last week announced that the whaleboat race for marines will be held on or about 22 October. This will no doubt be the first event of the fiscal year 1937-38 in which the Houston will compete for points toward the General Excellence Trophy in athletics, and everyone would like to see us off to a good start. Although handicapped by lack of recent training and work on the pulling boat, it is sincerely hoped that the next three weeks will not find the soldier detachment being left behind.

Guest (to host in new home): Hello, old pal, how do you find it?"

Host: "Right upstairs, second door on the left, and I'm not responsible for any wet paint."

\* \* \* \*

Wifie: "I put your shirt on the clothes horse, dear."

Gunner: "What odds did you get?"

\* \* \* \*

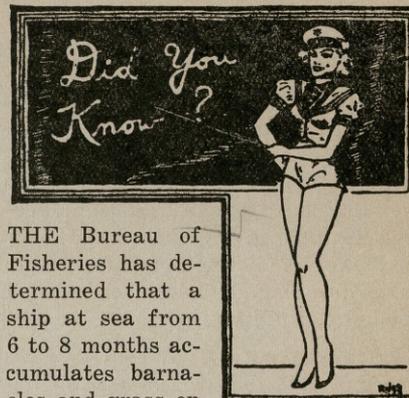
Sammy (reading death statistics): "Say, Pete, do you know that every time I breathe a man dies?"

Pete: "Then why don't you use a mouth wash?"

\* \* \* \*

A railroad agent in Africa has been "bawled out" for doing things without orders from headquarters. One day his boss received the following startling telegram:

"Tiger on platform eating conductor. Wire instructions."



THE Bureau of Fisheries has determined that a ship at sea from 6 to 8 months accumulates barnacles and grass on its bottom of two to three inches weighing from 50 to 100 tons. This growth accumulates much faster in the tropics than in colder waters and more rapidly when the ship is at anchor than when she is underway. The growth does not accumulate in fresh water.

The use of inverted "V's" to designate non-commissioned rank has been a custom of long standing in most armies. It first originated in medieval times as a badge to denote a person who had assisted in the construction of a castle. It was granted by the lord of a castle to such of his retainers as had taken a prominent part in the work, and thus marked subordinate leaders. From this it was a short step to its use to indicate subordinate military leaders. The form of the badge was derived from the junction of two roof beams. The name chevron comes from the French "Chevre" (goat) because of the fancied resemblance to the horns of a goat.



#### From An Eyewitness

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a horrible abdominal wound. Dismembered and maimed bodies were strewn all about in the street. On leaving the site of horrors we saw some dead as far as two blocks away and blood everywhere.

We were amazed to learn upon our return to the Augusta that the bomb had not entered the Wing On store but had entered the second floor of the Sincere store directly across the street.

—Augusta "Cracker."

By O. Z. Whitt,  
Chief Pay Clerk, U.S.N.