

THE CRUISE

According to the information at hand the HOUSTON will arrive at Valparaiso, Chile on 28 May, and we are due to leave that port on 2 June. Therefore, we shall be in port for a period of six days. In order that we may gain most from the cruise, it will be quite necessary that plans be made in the very near future for sight-seeing in Valparaiso and environs. We hope to make every minute count.

A representative of Thomas Cook and Son was on the HOUSTON last Sunday morning for the purpose of suggesting possible sight-seeing trips which may be made in and near Valparaiso.

The following schedule for sight-seeing parties has been suggested by Thomas Cook & Son:

- 28 MAY— Arrive Valparaiso
- 29 MAY— Half-day sight-seeing excursion will be offered around Valparaiso, visiting the handsome residential districts, the Stadium, the fortifications of the city, etc.
- 30 MAY— A similar tour to that made on 29 May in order that the men who had the watch the day before may be able to make the tour.
- 31 MAY— Special Train at 8:30 a.m. from Valparaiso to Santiago. This train will arrive at Santiago at 1200. The entire afternoon will be available for sight-seeing in motor cars. The train will leave Santiago at 7:00 p.m., for Valparaiso, arriving at 10:30 .m.
- 1 JUNE— Special Train to Santiago (the same schedule as for 31 May), for all hands who were unable to make the trip on 31 May.

(Continued on Page Four)

CEREMONY OF CHANGE OF COMMAND

Vice Admiral William D. Leahy, U. S. Navy, will relieve Admiral Harris Laning, U. S. Navy, as Commander Battle Force at 1030, Monday, 30 March 1936, on board the U.S.S. CALIFORNIA at San Pedro, Calif. All Flag and Commanding Officers of the Battle Force present in the San Pedro Area will attend. Other Flag and Commanding Officers are invited to attend.

Vice Admiral Leahy has requested Commander Battle Force to announce that official calls by officers attending the ceremony will be considered as having been made and returned and that all gun salutes will be considered fired and returned.

BILL AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL PAY

A Representative from the State of California has recently introduced a bill in the House, which, if enacted into Law, will provide additional pay for Petty Officers and Chief Petty Officers of the Navy.

The Bill provides that rated men having a wife or dependent mother receive \$15 a month additional pay; \$10 a month additional pay for the first child; \$7.50 a month additional pay for the second child; and \$5 a month additional pay for each child in excess of two.

DIESEL ENGINE SCHOOL

The Navy's Diesel Engine School at the Submarine Base, New London, Conn., is now in operation, and requests are desired by the Bureau from eligible candidates.

DEATH OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

NAVY DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON

From: Secretary of the Navy.
To : All ships and Stations.

SUBJECT: Death of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy - Letter from Mrs. Eleanor M. Roosevelt.

1. The following letter received from Mrs. Eleanor M. Roosevelt, widow of the late Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Colonel Henry L. Roosevelt, is quoted for information, viz:

Dear Admiral Andrews:

I wish to thank you for the many acts of kindness and sympathy extended to me and my family at the time of my husband's death. His funeral was a wonderful tribute in every way.

I want you to know that the last three years were the happiest years of Harry's life, serving with the Navy, and he often said that he could not help but do a good job when he had such efficient and loyal support as he was always given.

His pride in the naval service, and his affection for it, were richly repaid by the courtesy and consideration you showed when he died.

I would be glad if you could convey to the officers and bureaus concerned my deep appreciation.

Very sincerely yours,
Eleanor M. Roosevelt.

ADOLPHUS ANDREWS
March 4th 1936 Acting.

--: 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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28 MARCH, 1936

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DENTAL SURGICAL WORK

Perhaps every member of the crew did not receive dental treatment while Commander H. F. Delmore (DC) was aboard but it is interesting to note the amount of work accomplished by him during the period January 9 to February 28, 1936. Due to the type of duty this vessel has had during the past year many members of the crew were in urgent need of dental treatment. For the HOUSTON alone there were a total of 1119 treatments administered. Of this number 153 men had dental work completed. When one considers the complement of the ship and the short time Doctor Delmore was aboard it is short of remarkable to know this number of men could have teeth in perfect repair.

For all the ships afloat in the navy yard at Mare Island during the period Doctor Delmore was aboard this vessel he accomplished 2708 treatments completing dental treatment in 313 cases. It is safe to say this amount of work is far in excess of that accomplished by any one dental surgeon practicing in civilian life over a similar period.

It just wasn't our luck to have Doctor Delmore continue aboard the HOUSTON but the benefit derived while he was aboard, was great enough for him to be remembered for some time.

The following named men in the below listed ratings have completed their training courses for the next superior rating during the past week:

Creech, R. F. PhM3., USN. (for PhM1c.) Peralta, A. Matt1c., USN., Olsen, C. E. Sea2c., USN., Hurley, D. B. Sea2c., USN., Taylor, F. B., Sealc., USN., (for Coxswain), Harrison, F. A. Sea2c., USN., Thompson, R. B. Sea2c., USN., Campbell, R. P. RM3c., USN., Jenkins, W. E. RM3c., USN.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES OF 1935

The Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Fleet has published to the fleet his letter of congratulations to the coordinating committee and the personnel of the individual vessels for their labors in making the Christmas Parties throughout the fleet a success.

The report dealing with the parties held on board vessels in the San Pedro Area indicates that 2,454 children and 2,452 adults related to the members of the various ship's companies and 804 needy children, accompanied by 60 adults, were entertained. The amount expended by all vessels in the San Pedro Area was \$13,058.15. The number of children entertained at Christmas Parties on board ships based at San Diego was 1,689 and the approximate amount expended was \$6,531.00.

The grand total of \$19,616.15 carefully expended with a high degree of efficiency, a minimum of duplication, and a maximum of the generous spirit of Christmas is a manifestation on the part of the officers and men of the vessels of the U. S. FLEET in these areas which bespeaks sympathetic understanding and the traditional generosity of Navy personnel to the young and the underprivileged.

Although the HOUSTON was in the Navy Yard during the holiday period, the spirit of Christmas was not lacking. This vessel entertained 60 orphan children from the Sacramento Orphanage. The sum of \$116.30 was collected and expended for this purpose.

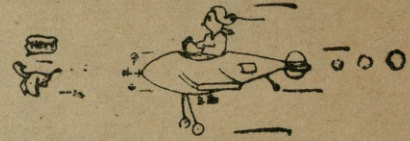
CHILEAN CURRENCY

The currency was re-established upon a gold basis on 11 Jan. 1926, with the peso as the unit. The law providing for changes in the coinage of the country became effective in November 1928. Currency in circulation consists of paper issued by the Banco Central in notes of the value of 10,000, 5,000, 1,000, 500, 100, 50, 10, 5, and 1 pesos. Chile abandoned the gold standard in 1932, and the peso was officially quoted at 16.50 Chilean to \$1.00 U. S.

Note: In Chile all Saturdays, after 2 p. m., are legal holidays.

DON'T WASTE WATER

EXHAUST-PIPE



Between flight operations, Puckett and Dodson, gave the port hangar a few licks and it promises to be in its former good shape before long.

Rosie seems to be the only man in the Unit who knows the definition of "neoleum".

For an amateur, Gibson, seems to be right in front with the professional Golden Grainers. Zipper bag and all!

"Charlie" Noble has cut his traveling expenses down to \$3.00 a trip! Quite an improvement, "Charlie."

Kelly apparently has converted his gas buggy into a hotel on wheels.

"Ronnie" certainly had a tough break on his 72 in San Diego. The fleet out, and he had a date!

"Cassanova" Mellon seems to have reformed recently. Still waiting on that huge shipment from Frisco, eh Andy?

We wonder if Gregg's success with the fair sex is attributed to his being from dear ole Alabama!

Martin has started his knitting with a vengeance this time. ? ?

Pat Readette's version of the use for water canteens was quite amusing. (Note: "Necessity is the mother of invention")

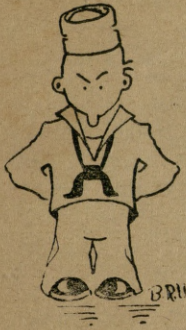
Rosie and Mac traveled to far distant L. A. Rosie doesn't think it quite comes up to his dear ole Norfolk, however.

Apparently Hollingsworth found his new home in Long Beach.

NAVY RESERVISTS
TO ANNAPOLIS

President Roosevelt has recently signed a bill which authorizes the Navy Department to appoint 20 midshipmen annually from the naval reserve officers' training corps and honor graduates of institutions designated by the Navy Department. The appointments are to be made by the Secretary of the Navy.

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



NOSEY NEWS

by
EV' BODY

This past week could be considered as one of those you sometimes hear about. To start off right, the weekend was more or less one of watchful waiting with those Santa Anna conditions prevailing (the amount of sand and dust about the ship was just an indication of what one of these peculiar storms can do). The sudden changes in weather at our favorite anchorage kept the boys interested too.

Even though we have been operating a major portion of this week, the crew of the mighty HOUSTON has managed to spend a few hours ashore with the result our undercover men have had things rather smooth.

Seeing a young sailor-lad borrowing a cent so he would have ten cents and thereby be able to make an overnight liberty does make one believe in the old adage "you learn something new every day".

"Joe" Bush lets us know with lots of gusto, "Me no savvy GG yet, maybe can do soon". In response to many requests we interviewed Wellbourne but he would only say "see my secretary".

It was rather surprising to hear Grant of the pay-office say he would soon be going out on sixteen - we were so sure he had intended doing twenty.

Apparently, our anchorage at L. B., is not so bad after all. It seems that the CHESTER drew the low lot number this time. They do say we have an advantage though, for we are able to view the entire fleet and environs. Maybe some of us are interested in scenery?

It has just come to light why Barker of No. 2 turret has been so worried these days. He was sent after a swab comb and is still looking for one. Won't someone come to the assistance of this innocent lad?

Now that Derouen has found minor success in his trapping game he is seriously thinking of applying for a trapping license. He has the right idea for it is a known fact we have licensed hunters (underwood), amateur detectives, public speakers, etc.

Burwell of the Well-Deck says he has no tiking for liverwurst and cheese sandwiches now, when only a few short days ago he was a rabid addict. It seems he must have used the wrong beverage to wash them down.

Wonder what our printer will do with all the fancy silks and otherwise he has been collecting lately?

"Pee Wee" Deforge says he must simply stay out of circulation for some time yet for he still has several copies of western romances to read. 'Tis our guess the gals will be pleased with their flag-waving romeo when he blossoms forth with the new technique. ? ?

We suspect the messenger in the Captain's Office has much to learn. He can't understand why an office man should scrub paintwork. Live and learn says we.

We shall have to admit our fishing enthusiasts do not find as great a variety of the finny tribe in San Clemente waters as in the Cocos, etc., but they have quite a bit of fun. And if you haven't sampled some of those Mackerel you have missed something.

One of our youngest Houstonites, Chmielowicz by name, recently learned that sundry sweets, powder fumes and the bounding main in these waters do not agree. ? ? ?

'Tis remarked that the signal gang shall soon sue No. 2 turret for assault and battery. Maybe the doughy C&R boys have a few intentions too. ? ?

—Sayonara

Keep the "E" on the HOUSTON

V. O. COMPETITION

In a recent issue of the Blue Bonnet, mention was made of our success in V. O. competition. Our signalmen earned and deserved every part of the credit given them. We are proud of them.

The quartermasters are also required to participate in this competition in company with the signalmen. Their ability and earnest effort contributed toward the fine score made by this ship. We appreciate the fact that their cooperation helped to put the HOUSTON at the top, and we regret that mention of the Quartermasters was omitted in a former issue of the Blue Bonnet".

"Excuse it, please".

HOUSTON CARRIES FLAG

During the past week Rear Admiral A. P. Fairfield, Commander CruDiv Seven, U. S. Navy has flown his flag from the main of the HOUSTON.

The following officers and men of his staff were also in the HOUSTON during a major portion of the week:

Lieut-Comdr. H. R. Bowes, Lieut. F. F. Ferris, Lieut. C. M. Jensen, Meringher, S. P. SM1c, Dulard, R.W. SM1c, MacCauley, J. C. Sea1c, James, C. T. RM1c, Sission, P. A. RM2c, Marchant, J. W. RM3c, Meade, R. J. Sea2c.

GREAT FLOODS

During the past week we have read quite comprehensive reports concerning destructive floods in the east and southeast.

We read in the "Lincoln Library of Essential Information" some facts about the following great floods in various parts of the world since the year 1813:

1813—in Poland and Siberia; 10,000 perished. 1824—in Petrtgrad; 10,000 perished. 1883—Java and Sumatra; 30,000 perished. 1889—in China - Yellow river burst its banks, countless lives lost. 1889—Johnston, Pa.; Reservoir burst; 2,200 dead. 1900—Galveston, Texas; 4500 lives lost. 1928—St. Francis dam (near Los Angeles) burst; 250 dead. 1928—Lake Okeechobee, Fla.; 2,000 lives lost.

LOAN COLLECTION TITLES AVAILABLE

The following loan collection titles are available to officers, and may be obtained by addressing the Commandant, Eleventh Naval District:

Realism and Nationalism, 1852-1871 by Binkley
Mexican Odyssey by Bowman & Dickinson
Mussolini's Italy by Finer
Sea Dogs of the Sixty's by Mill
Commodity Control in the Pacific Area by Holland
The Floating Republic by Manwaring & Dobree
Spanish Main by Means
American Neutrality, 1914-1917 by Seymour
War and Diplomacy in the Japanese Empire by Takeuchi
Causes of War and Conditions of Peace by Wright

ALL NAVY CHAMPIONS

On Saturday 21 March 15,000 people gathered at Navy Field, Long Beach to witness the all navy finals in boxing and wrestling. There were at least a dozen photographers and newsreel men on the scene. The events were given wide publicity.

Rear Admiral J. O. Richardson, USN., Chief of Staff to Admiral J. M. Reeves, USN., Commander-in-Chief, U. S. Fleet, commented, "In a lifetime of service this is the best set of bouts I have seen". Admiral Richardson presented the medals and belts to the winners and runners-up.

The following are the new all-navy champions:

BOXING

Jacobs (Altair) Bantamweight
 Pepin (Mississippi) Featherwt.
 Bowen (Pensacola) Lightweight
 Russi (Altair) Welterweight
 Schaub (Colorado) Middleweight
 Butler (Dobbin) Lighthheavywt.
 Boyd (Idaho) Heavyweight

WRESTLING

Matherly (West Vir.) 118 Lbs
 Carta (New York) 126 Lbs.
 Jasperse (Nevada) 135 Lbs.
 Jenkins (Nevada) 145 Lbs.
 Adams (Melville) 155 Lbs.
 Epperson (Nevada) 165 Lbs.
 Havans (Omaha) 175 Lbs.
 Babish (Arizona) Heavyweight

PERSONNEL

FLASH!

Gunn, Aubrey H., Chief Boatswain's Mate, U.S.N., was appointed Boat-swain on yesterday, in accordance with BuNav despatch.

The oath of office was administered by the Commanding Officer yesterday afternoon.

Received

Tarply, W. W. TC1c., from U.S.S. OKLAHOMA.

Henry, W O. Sealc., from NAS., San Diego, California.

The following were received from the U. S. Naval Hospital, Mare Island, California.

Cormier, J. G. A. Sea1c., Moyer, G. E. Sea1c., Daigle, A. L. Sea2c., Hubenak, J. F. Sea2c., Martin, M. F. Sea2c., Turner, R. L. Sea2c., Kendrick, P. H. F3c.

Transfers

Brandes, A. A. RM2c., to First Naval District, Hill, R. V. SK3c., to U.S.S. ARTIC, Azbill, W. H. Sea2c., to U.S.S. RELIEF.

SPECIAL ROUND-TRIP FARES

The following is quoted from a letter from the Commander-in-Chief, United States Fleet:

"In connection with the special rates granted to personnel of the fleet on leave, as outlined, the agents of the Santa Fe, Southern Pacific, and Union Pacific Railroads, have informed the Commander-in-Chief that effective 4 March 1936, tickets will be on sale daily and carry a limit of forty-five days. A number of eastern cities have been added to the list of those contained in previous notices and information concerning these cities may be obtained at the ticket offices of the railroad concerned.

The representatives of these railroad companies also report that in a number of cases men on leave apply for tickets without the Identification certificates which were distributed to the Fleet subsequent to the publication of notice published in October 1935. This entails unnecessary correspondence and delay in the purchasing of the tickets at the reduced rates. All men desiring to avail themselves of the reduced rates should be furnished with a complete Identification Certificate prior to departure from their ships on leave".

THE CRUISE

(Continued on Page Four)

The above mentioned schedule is only "a shot into the dark". We, of course, can in no sense be certain that this schedule will be followed out. We are certain, however, that sight-seeing parties should get underway as soon as possible after our arrival at Valparaiso owing to the fact that our stay in that port is quite limited.

The cost per man for the various trips will depend largely upon the number of men making the trip. Thomas Cook & Son will advise us in the very near future in regard to the cost. We suggest that all hands "stick together" because in that way better facilities for transportation may be had and also a lower rate may be obtainable.

MORE ABOUT THIS NEXT WEEK

PRECIOUS METAL

It is estimated that the total production of gold in the world, since the discovery of America in 1492, is one billion ounces, valued at twenty billion dollars. About half of this has been produced since 1848. The Transvaal, Australia, the United States, Canada, and Russia combined have contributed more than one-half of the total. Since a large part of the gold has been used in the Arts or lost, about ten billion dollars remain as the monetary basis of the currency of the world.

If all the gold were melted in one large lump, it would make a cube of solid gold measuring thirty-eight and a half feet. But to extract this relatively small amount of metal from gravel and gold bearing veins it was necessary to mine, as a conservative estimate, enough earth, gravel, and rock to cover the fourteen thousand acres of Manhattan Island to a depth of three hundred feet.

(From Autobiography of W. H. Hammond.)

LIBRARY HOURS

Library hours are from 1230 to 1300 on week days, while in port or at anchor, and from 1630 to 1700 while underway.

Turn Out Unnecessary Lights!