



San Francisco

Those of you who have previously had the pleasure of passing through the Golden Gate and entering San Francisco Bay, know well that picturesque sky line of the Golden Gate City, San Francisco. As a city in which to spend your liberty hours in a most enjoyable manner, San Francisco ranks among the leaders.

You cannot hope to see all the sights in and around the city during our short stay. But you should make it a point to visit the following places of interest:

Golden Gate Park—reached by several trolley lines.

Fleischacker Zoo—an unusually fine collection of various animals. Reached by trolleys.

Aquarium—Golden Gate Park.

Anthropological Museum—devoted to the history of the development of the human race. One of the finest in the world. Located on the campus of the University of California, Parnassus and Second Street.

Academy of Science—Golden Gate Park.

DeYoung Museum — Golden Gate Park.

Mare Island Navy Yard—about 30 miles from San Francisco. Reached by boat from San Francisco to Vallejo. Also reached by motor bus. Time about two hours.

Sunnyvale Naval Air Station — about 42 miles from San Francisco. Reached by motor bus. Home port of the ex-USS Macon and lighter than air activities.

Our Fliers Gaining New Laurels

Uncle Sam's Navy fliers have made spectacular flights in the recent past and vision even more spectacular air maneuvers soon to come.

Just at present, 24 Navy planes are engaged in a 3000-mile circuit of the Caribbean, and a mass flight is expected this spring between Hawaii and the Philippines. But the greatest show in American aeronautical history is planned for the Fleet maneuvers in the summer, when 662 planes will join with surface vessels in mimic war in the great triangle between Hawaii, Alaska and Puget Sound.

Forty-five new seaplanes, with a 3000-mile cruising range and each carrying a crew of four, will be a focus of attention.

Recently, a four-motored seaplane made a flight from Norfolk, Va., to Coco Solo, non-stop, matching the performance of a six-plane squadron last summer. It is to continue on to San Diego soon. In the fall of 1933 a squadron went from Coco Solo to join the Fleet at San Diego with one stop. The same squadron made the 2500-miles hop from the Pacific coast to Hawaii, non-stop, the following January.

Last year two other possessions were linked. Flights and return were made non stop from Hawaii to Midway Island, and another squadron journeyed up the Pacific coast to Alaska and back.

The flight from Hawaii to the Philippines this summer probably will follow the route of the Pan-American Airways' proposed West Coast-China line, turning northward via Midway to reduce the distance of a single hop,

Continued on page four

Advancement in Ratings

The following advancements in ratings effective 13 February.

Seaman 2c to Sealc
 Davis, B. C.; Sax, L. W.; Beames, E. H.; McElhanon, B. F., Mauchley, A. C., Lee, M., Fordemwalt, J. W., Fisher, R. W., Finnie, G. J., Huston, C. H., Cotton, N. T., Jr., Hill, R. V., Schrum, A. W., Morrisette, J.M., Cook, A. C., Dickinson, J. G.
 F2c to F1c
 Ellyson, K. L., Wood, R. C.
 F3c to F2c

Michael, K. L., Whaley, R. W., Sackett, A. L., Hines, L. R., Wittrock, J. H.

Various changes:
 Campbell, R. P. Sealc to RM3c.
 Gamboa, C. Matt2c to Matt1c
 Peralta, A. Matt2c to Matt1c

THE MACON IN MEMORIAM

The Houston seems to always be on the scene. The Macon was sighted by this ship at 1651 on 12 February. At 1712 several officers and men saw the Macon drop ballast and shoot skyward to be enveloped by the mist and clouds. I believe this was the last time the Macon was seen in the air. Those who were fortunate to have seen her then will almost remember that fateful day. We all regret we were unable to offer more assistance in the rescue. We offer our sincere congratulations to those who heroic efforts were responsible for the saving of 81 lives in such a speedy and efficient manner. At the same time we mourn with the nation the loss of two lives and our great ship.

Send the BLUE BONNET home.

—: THE BLUE BONNET :—

A weekly publication published by the ship's company of the U. S. S. HOUSTON, Captain W. B. Woodson, U.S.N., Commanding and Commander F. D. Manock, U.S.N., Executive Officer.

Lt. (jg) J. B. Berkley, Editor
Ensign C. J. Mackenzie, Assist. Editor

—: CONTRIBUTORS :—

A.D. Hall, MM2c R.W. Post, AOM3c
Jack Holt, S1c R.W. O'Brien, BM1c

—: PRINTERS :—

N.H. Humphrey, CPtrr; J.W. LeWann, Prtrlc
T.B. Razlaff, S1c G.A. Smith, S1c

February 16, 1935.

★ ★ ★
PEP TALK

"Probably the worst thing that can be said of a man in the Naval Service is that he is a thief. To name a man a thief is to brand him as a man unfit to associate with the honest men of the service. In a place such as a man-o-war, where men live in intimate daily contact with one another, where hundreds of men work together and mess together for long periods, it is unthinkable that any of the members of this close-knit community should stoop so low as to take for his own use that which is not his. It is so easy to do and so hard to eradicate that the very facility with which the act can be accomplished makes it only the more reprehensible. There is nothing that ruins the spirit and comfort of a happy crew faster than the knowledge that there is a thief among them.

—Augusta Cracker."

Famous Navy Chaplain Dies

Chaplain John P. Chidwick died in New York at the age of 71 January 13, 1935. Msgr. Chidwick who was at the time of his death one of New York's most noted priests, came into prominence when the Maine was sunk in Havana Harbor in 1898. When that vessel was blown up, Msgr. Chidwick who was the Chaplain of the Maine, ran on deck of the burning and sinking vessel and gave absolution in a loud voice to the scores who were dying around him. It is said that persons ashore could hear his comforting words above the roar of the consuming flames.

Designation of Compartments

Some weeks ago there appeared in the "Blue Bonnet" an editorial deploring the lack of interest in learning ones own ship. In the next issue was an answer to this editorial by one of the ship's company in which he suggested the establishment of an "X", training division, the impracticability of this has been pointed out. However, personally I agree with this man in believing a certain amount of instruction is absolutely essential therefore, it is planned each week to devote a few lines to this subject in the hopes of creating a little more interest in learning our ship. This week an attempt will be made to describe the numbering of the decks and compartments on the Houston. This incidentally, is covered in a general manner in the A to N course.

The decks are named from the top down in the following order: Navigation bridge; signal bridge; communication platform; superstructure—Hanger deck, upper deck (5" guns), saluting gun deck; forecastle deck; main deck (the well deck is part of main deck; second deck and 1st platform decks. The decks are subdivided into a number of water tight compartments each being designated by a number and two letters; example D - 202 - L. The first letter designates in which section in a fore and aft line, the compartment is located. The ship is divided longitudinally into six sections. Everything forward of the fore bulkhead of the fore firerooms being designated by the letter "A". The space between the fore bulkhead of the fore fireroom and the fore bulkhead of the fore engine room is designated by the letter "B". The space between the two firerooms, the engine room, is designated by the letter "C". The space between the after bulkhead of the aft fireroom and the after bulkhead of the engineroom is again designated by the letter "C". Everything aft of this is designated by the letter "D".

The first diget, above main deck first two digets, indicates the number of the deck. The decks being numbered consecutively one, two, three from the main deck down. The first deck above the Main deck is designated by the number 01, second deck

above main deck by 02, etc.

The last two or one digets locates the compartment within its particular section of the ship. The numbers running from fore to aft and from inboard out. The even numbers designates the port side and the odd the starboard side.

The last letter indicates what the compartment is used for as shown in the following chart.

A—Storerooms
C—Control
E—Electrical
L—Living compartments
M—Magazines
T—Trunk
V—Void
W—Water, fresh

We see, therefore, that the example D-202-L tells us several things. It tells us that the compartment is located aft of the after engineroom, it is on the second deck, it is the first compartment aft of after engineroom port side, and is used as a living compartment, The example used was the fourth division's living compartment.

After studying this article over any one should be able to locate the compartment and know, in a general way its use with a moments thought. Try it out and see for yourself.

CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED

The "Blue Bonnet" is known as the ships, note the apostrophe, paper. However, with the possible exception of Nosey News the work of digging up copy has fallen to the lot of a few individuals. When the paper was first started, it was supposed to be an "all hands" publication and for some time it was truly an "all hands" paper. However, lately, contributions have fallen to practically nil. It has been shown that there is a lot of literary talent aboard so lets have some of it. Especially in the form of original poems, short stories, jokes and articles.

More than 7,000 American warships and government vessels have passed through the Panama Canal since August 15, 1914. (It's opening date.)

The Navy Department last year issued 90,000 educational courses to assist men in preparing for advancement.



NOSEY NEWS by EV' BODY

Another week of maneuvers, maneuvers, maneuvering into the port of San Francisco and what a lot of scandal this affords the lonely press man:- Who is this F2c who cannot keep up with his family duties, and may not be quite the man he thinks he is, what was that ? ? ? After a glorious week-end our dashing sail-maker wakes up to find a wedding ring on his finger, it is still quite the mystery to him so he says! ! What has finally happened to the bowling team after weeks of little success they finally won a game, even if their opponents were ladies. Then comes the word that our dashing exec's office personnel man has turned shiek with the ladies, so it was when a man asked him for the price of a cup of jamoke and he replied that it would be best to refer to the lady friend, oh what is the ever-lasting power you have with the women DeBri ? Those women sure do have to prove their strength now and then, so it was when one of the local girls scored a technical K. O. on one of the lads to show that she was from Texas. Pankowski our former S. S. O. has decided to turn over a new leaf since the last escapade in the famous city of Long Beach for he insists that his discolored optic does not fit his personality. After a long session serving guns in No. 2 turret last Monday morning the husky gun captain of the right gun discovered that the bright lights will not always assist in training for the well known L. R. B. P. Upon hearing the latest scuttle-butt of this vessel's return to China, our latest victim of Cupid (none other than Wiegand) immediately consulted his laundryman ashore relative to the proper pronunciation of "Ducky Wucky" in Chinese. Be careful Weigie, that you do not

infringe on Johnny Allen as he has full copyright honors on that title. It appears that Squeeze Happy Wellbourne, the little fellow who cracks the big cases on the MAA force is at a loss to find out of the mystery of the cut on his shipmates hand, it seems that years of experience do fail now and then ? ? Charlie Campbell is still talking of that delicious meal he had of those tender frog legs, especially those hind legs, well what we want to know is did you ever eat front legs on a frog? The mail orderly seemed to want to pull a drop-kick act on one of the lads after the inquiry that the ship has just passed a mail buoy. A certain turret striker is all set again and full of smiles since his "Ginger" has consented to be his apple dumpling if he will grow that mustache again and look just like all the screen lovers do ? ? ? Kennedy "The Cherry Brandski" kid from the Hoosier state now uses his manly strength to protect his interests as well as rationing out his dates, keep it up Kennedy you'll make Scofield for light heavy next year. Altho our top kick from the Marine detachment has sailed the sea for nigh onto 30 yrs. the little squall encountered this past week caused him to seek solace in the forward mess hall. It further comes to our attention that "Dutch" was greatly embarrassed when he left his room in the YMCA to take one of those very few baths and then to return to the room and find that he had locked himself out. Well that only goes to show how seldom they occur. From good information we learn that the Police force have received a course of fingerprinting in "Three Easy Lessons." In a confidential moment Pawlak (quite a ladies man) admitted that he too has had his disappointments in the game of love, well don't we all. Since the "Siberian Express" has ceased to roll his way, "Fanny" Lemansky is now footloose and free again once more. His disposition has not improved much as we had hoped. Oscar "Hansel" Hand had to go on a liquid diet when he failed to catch that boat to take him to the Dentist. Jimmie Kline just had to have one more fling, being as how we are in the big city of Frisco, but what about that big-head ? ? And least we forget what about these muchly married men in Long Beach kicking the gong around

in Frisco too, and they could hardly wait until the first boat made the gangway. Despite the fact that he is kept terribly busy with social engagements in these ports "Holt" the dynamic manages to keep, "the gal he left behind," on his mailing list. Did you ever see that oh so lovely valentine? To see their serious mein, one would believe some of the J.O.'s are having quite a time with those exams. We note with regret that the "Hercules" Corporal hasn't weakened and continues to tote the ship around on his shoulders. Well, we will have to bring the scandal sheet to a close as my bullet-proof vest has not arrived yet ! ! !

Departing Shipmates

Bill Rader, long time C.P.O. caterer, one of the original crew, to recruiting duty.

Wuhu Pierce, Cox., a hard man to beat when it came to sea stories, is going to New London, Conn.

Luke Lucas, S1c., one of the old members of the "gone but not forgotten" baseball squad out China way paid off, but shipping over for Rec. Ship, N.Y.

"Muscles" Macumber, Y1c, one of the big reasons why the Houston has several belt holders, as well as the Asiatic Fleet Cup in wrestling, going to Boston, Mass.

Who Remembers?

Four years ago this month the entire crew were recuperating from a weeks stay in that delightful port none other than Honolulu, and trying to picture Guam in their minds from the vivid descriptions freely given by those fortunate enough to have been there before. This month is indeed an eventful one in the history of the ship as we crossed the 180th Meridian for the first time, entering the domain of the Golden Dragon, took over her first duty as flag-ship, and Four stars at that, as well as making preparations for her first official battle practices. On this date she was approximately halfway between Hawaii and Port Apra, Guam.

The Santa Maria, Columbus' flag-ship, could be placed athwartships on the battleship Colorado with four feet to spare.

ODDS and ENDS

by The Rambler

My candle burns at both its ends,
It may not last the night.
But, ah, my foes, and ah, my friends,
It gives a lovely light.

The U.S. Navy started when the Marine Committee voted \$100,000 for armament and appointed a committee to buy ships. They bought eight vessels at a total cost of \$134,000. Compare this with appropriations and cost of ships today.

Can you answer these?

1. What is the source of the three stripes on the sailor's jumper?
2. When was the first Navy created and by whom?
3. How was recoil taken care of in our first guns?
4. Where is a red, white and blue bouy used?
5. What is the longest, and what is the fastest ship in the Navy?
6. How many full admirals have we had in the Navy and who were they?
7. How get a rat out of t lee scupper?
8. Where is the Bull ring?
9. Which has the greater population, Texas or California?
10. Which way is Colon from Panama City?

NAVY RETAINS BATTENBURG CUP

The Batenburg Cup was again retained in the United States when the United States when the boat crew of the U. S. S. Arkansas defeated the H. M. S. Dragon by ten boat lengths.

This cup was presented to the enlisted men of the U. S. Fleet by the enlisted men of the British Second Cruiser Squadron commanded by Rear Admiral H. S. H. Prince Louis of Blattenburg, R. N. in 1905.

The winner of the cup is determined annually by a 30 foot whaleboat selected crew race open to all ships of the U. S. Fleet and any British ships which may be present. This is the most converted prize in Naval racing circles.

Snarfy: "Do you believe in Clubs for women?"

Joe: "Yes, if kindness doesn't work."

A BIT OF WIT

* * *

Brown—The showers in my place haven't been working for three months.

Landlord—When did you find that out?

Brown—This morning.

* * *

Two colored boys were having an argument about ghosts. One of them claimed to have seen a ghost as he passed the cemetery the night before.

"What was dishere ghos' doin' when you las' seen him?" asked the doubtful one.

"Jes' fallin' behin', mister; fallin' behin' rapid."

* * *

You can say one thing for fool drivers. When the inevitable happens, they don't blame the Government.

* * *

It isn't hard to be kind to everybody if you leave out the family and relatives.

* * *

A Sailor's Prayer

Now I lay me out for inspection
And pray Thee, Lord, for Thy protection.

If the skipper sees my whiskered chin,

Then bless the brig that I'll be in.

If someone finds my peacoat's hocked,

I know, Oh Lord, my pay'll be docked.

Let no one note I've lost my stencil
And wrote my name on whites in pencil,

And when the skipper passes, pray
Turn Thou his head the other way.

—USS West Virginia

* * *

Range Officer—"Hey, don't you know any better to fire before the range is clear? You just missed me."

Boot—"I'm awfully sorry, really, Sir."

* * *

Prof.—"Will you men please stop exchanging notes in the back of the room?"

Stude—"Them ain't notes. Them's dollar bills. We're shooting craps."

Prof.—"Oh, pardon me."

* * *

Tip—"That surely was a dry story that you just told."

Stooge—"That's what I wanted to do—now we can both take a drink."

ALL NAVY BASKETBALL TEAM

In the March issue of Our Navy Joe Goss noted Navy sport writer will select an all Navy Basketball team. This is the first time such a selection has been made. Mr. Goss is well qualified for this job, having followed naval athletics for the past nine years.

Players named on this mythical squad will receive official recognition and suitable awards at the first game of the U. S. Fleet Championship series, to be played 1 March.

Lt. J. Bell, battleships athletic officer will present gold basketballs to the chosen players.

Academy to Get Grid Ace

According to a report in the Washington Post, Captain Frank Goettge, former football star of the Quantico Marines, has been appointed to the coaching staff at Annapolis. The paper said Goettge has received orders to report at the Academy in June as commanding officer of the Marine Detachment, and that next fall he will assist Tom Hamilton, head coach in training Navy's backfield men. In the early post-war period, Captain Goettge was a sensation, known for his great speed and plunging tactics in sea soldier grid games. His tall, well-knit figure sped to many a touchdown for the scarlet and gold outfit. His speed for a heavy man was phenomenal, and the late Walter Camp pronounced him one of the greatest backfield players he had ever seen. Sports writers called him "The Great Goettge." During the Hoover administration, Captain Goettge served as marine aide at the White House.

—Our Navy.

Fliers Gaining Laurels

Cont. from page 1

thence via Wake Island and Guam.

The Navy's patrol plane XP2HL, soon to be flown here from Coco Solo C. Z., where it landed recently after a 2000-mile non-stop flight from Norfolk, Va., is a new experimental type of patrol plane substantially larger than any now in service. It has an estimated cruising range in excess of 4000 miles, and normally carries a crew of seven or eight. It has four liquid-cooled engines, the first in the Naval service.