



SHIP'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

The U.S.S. HOUSTON will give a children's Christmas Party for approximately 60 children, between the ages of 5 and 10 years, on Christmas Day. The children will be those recommended by the Los Angeles County Community Christmas Association and will include only those who otherwise would not have the proverbial Christmas joys all children should have. Funds will be obtained by voluntary contributions from personnel of the U.S.S. HOUSTON, supplemented as necessary by Ship's Service Store profits. It is hoped that the men will contribute one dollar each in order to make this party a memorable one for the children concerned, as well as for the men. Believe me, if you have never seen the inarticulate joy in the faces of children expecting nothing, when your individual effort has provided gifts and entertainment, you have something for which to live; and if you have,—well, you know what is in store for you in seeing the children open their presents and eating their fill of good food made possible only by your generosity.

As this is a real ship's party, members of the crew are cordially invited to have their families on board for Christmas dinner and to enjoy this Yuletide party with our guests. If men concerned will turn in to Commander Ingraham, names, ages, and sex of children invited under this provision, a suitable toy will be provided and delivered by Santa Claus.

It is proposed to have HOUSTON boats pick up the children at Pico St. landing about 1030 Christmas

Continued on page three

SHIP'S DANCE

Word has reached the entertainment committee by rumor that the crew is in favor of a real ship's dance at Long Beach shortly before or after Christmas. From the way the cry was taken up by the entertainment committee, it looks as if the after scuttlebutt has started something good. All you members of the Lonely Hearts club had better take your pen in hand.

SHIP'S SERVICE ACTIVITIES

The following letter has been received from the Bureau of Navigation and is quoted below for the information of the fleet:

"Reference: (a) Regulations for Ship's Service Activities (Ashore), 15 March, 1930.

"1. The Bureau has recently received numerous complaints, particularly from retail jewelers' associations, to the effect that ship's service activities are illegally competing with private enterprises by not enforcing strict compliance with the letter and spirit of paragraph 507, reference (a)

"2. The Bureau of Navigation is becoming seriously concerned with these complaints since they may, unless corrective measures are taken, eventually result in the enforced discontinuance of ship's service stores, together with the unquestionable benefits derived therefrom by personnel of the service. Although it is not desired to interfere with commanding officers' prerogatives in this connection, the Bureau considers that whenever any member of the naval service procures from ship's service stores materials for any other purpose than his own use, he should be derived of ship's service store privileges.

SAN PEDRO EXPOSITION

The San Pedro Junior Chamber of Commerce, Inc., is to conduct its second annual Exposition of Progress December 1 to 6 inclusive. There are many elaborate forms of entertainment planned to which the officers and enlisted men of the United States Navy are cordially invited to attend.

The events of the program begin with an elaborate display of floats denoting a Historical Pageant, manned by the people of Pueblo de San Pedro, preceded by the Los Angeles Motorcycle Patrol and lead by the Fort McArthur Army Band. The line of march is along Harbor Boulevard from Third St., to Sixth St., then on Sixth St., to Pacific Ave., then south on Pacific Ave., to Navy Field and passes the reviewing stand at Navy Field. This parade takes place at 1200, December 1, 1934.

The next event is a Navy Rodeo which begins at 1400, at Navy Field, displaying the early Californian round up rodeo. Due to the limited seating capacity at Navy Field, only Navy men will be admitted.

At 1900 there will be another parade known as the Exposition of Progress Parade and will be attended by many officials of California and the Los Angeles Police Escort, Fort McArthur Army Band, and screen stars through the courtesy of the Warner Bros., Studios. This parade forms at Sixth St., and Pacific Ave. Also at this time there will be a free Navy Dance for all enlisted men, featuring Bobby Lutze and his Naval Cadets.

Sunday, Dec. 2, from 1330 to 1600, Jeff Annino and his orchestra, and featuring Helen Newmeyer will en-

Continued on page four

—: 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.

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1 December, 1934.

★ ★ ★
PEP TALK

From: Chief of Naval Operations.

To: All US Men-of-War.

1129 With the great majority of the officers and men of the fleet having so much to be thankful for it is hoped that the less fortunate of our naval personnel will not be forgotten and that those who can afford to do so will at the appropriate time make generous donations to the Navy Relief funds so those in need may also have cause for thanks 1055.

—: THE GUNNERS GANG :—

What with the cruise north, liberty in Panama, and the unimportant item of arriving in Long Beach, this column has been dormant. But Spring is here. Time for planting some S.R.B.P. scores. The harvest occurs the second week in January. From now on there will be no more scuttlebutt scores and loading times. It will all be down in the book. The spotting officers are going to check sight for the daily pointing drill. Mr. Jurika is going to keep tab on the sight setting scores. And a record will also be kept of the loading times. These scores will be posted on the bulletin boards.

The following named men qualified as gun captains second class: From the Fighting First, Snyder, W.M., Cox; Brown, M.T., GM3c, Kleugal, H.C., S1c. Representing the Shooting Second, Campbell, C.T., Cox; Kennedy, J. E. Sea1c. In this corner we have Ensey, C.A., Cox; and Frazer, A.L., GM3c of the Third Division. While on our right is Parce, G.H., Cox., of the ourth Division. And last but not left out is Webster, H. W., Sgt. of the Marines.

Church of Christ (Loyal)
55 -- 12th St., San Pedro.
Sundays 9:45 to 12:00
We Welcome You.

NAVY -- COAST GUARD
COMMUNICATIONS MERGER

Since 1904 it has been the policy of the Navy Department to operate all coastal radio stations, except those necessary for military use by the Army. During Prohibition enforcement the Coast Guard found necessity for expansion of their communication system. Now the Navy has taken over all Coast Guard communications north of Washington on the East Coast for a period of two years to test the feasibility of handling Coast Guard radio traffic through Navy owned stations. Equipment formerly installed in these Coast Guard stations has been transferred to the Navy Department and now naval radio stations at Boston, New London, and New York have taken over former Coast Guard stations at Winthrop, Mass., New London, and Rackaway, N.Y. By this plan it is hoped to reduce the cost of operations and facilitate communications in case of national emergency. Traffic is handled at these stations as formerly but manned by Navy personnel and cooperating with the Treasury Department. All messages are forwarded by telephone to proper Coast Guard centers, and all traffic is received as addressed to the former Coast Guard stations, using old Coast Guard calls with Navy calls.

—: SPLIT ESSES :—

Fixed gunnery was completed this week, and although the scores were nothing to brag about, it wasn't as bad as might be expected, considering the difficulties that we had to overcome, such as shortage of ammunition, etc.

This week finds us losing several men from our division, including two plank owners. To Gammill, Phelps and Bender, we wish a pleasant trip on the HENDE MARU. Perhaps the most famous of the trio is Gammill, sometimes known as "Porkchop", who was recently apprehended by the O.O.D. smuggling bottled goods aboard. Tests proved it to be pure

SALVOS! SHORTS!! AND--
STRADDLES!!!

Adam Chatterbox

The editor didn't fire the misguided writer of this column after all. (You'd be surprised at the fan mail I get every week from fair readers, everywhere) Being old and decrepit is a hinderance, it hasn't completely stopped Old Adam from getting around tho. Fer instance, he took in the mammoth vaudeville show at the Municipal Auditorium, put on by the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce in honor of the men of the Fleet. And was that a SHOW! Those of you who couldn't go or didn't because you thought it would be ordinary, missed something extraordinarily good and a knockout performance by everyone of the many acts billed, describes it without raving.

Congratulations and thanks to the people of Long Beach. Some won't agree with me but I've come to the conclusion that the folks of this Navy town are really glad to have us here and want to be friendly. I'm not speaking of those who have an axe to grind", or a cash register to keep ringing, for in many cases their friendliness is "a matter of business." Not that many business people aren't genuinely fond of Navy men. I have reference in particular to those trying to make us feel "at home" simply because they are proud of us, and even more proud to have the Fleet back in Long Beach. The much maligned "enlisted man" is finally getting the place in the estimation of civilian people that he should have. It is only common sense to foster this 'attitude' by being throughly worthy of it.

Hodge Podge

There is much popular confusion as to whether the tomato should be called a fruit or a vegetable. Technically, botanists class it as a berry. In a strictly scientific sense, a berry is a simple fruit in which the entire ed-

Continued on page four

Cowus Contentus.

And before we close, here is a question for Ye Editor: What observer couldn't take it during the gunnery runs, and suffered an attack of Malde-Mer.



NOSEY NEWS by EV' BODY

Going hither, thither and yon your startled reporter has a few tid-bits of info that may be of interest to his avid readers, those who are not mentioned, and will possibly prove disconcerting to others who have been winning, dining and what have you in one place or another.

Strange as it seems, Ghosts of the past will crop up, but "Wimpy" Steve claims that those tales coming from the TULSA are the result of that Asiatic complex. We notice that McGovern, despite his good resolutions, is going in for "decided" Red Heads in a big way. The recipient of that oversize photo that "Headlock" Welbourne splurged on is a matter of puzzlement to us at present. Maybe the dope will come out later. Those photographers can certainly do wonders, but did I hear something about a law suit for a broken camera? That faintly tantalizing aroma that has been noticeable around the Exec's office has finally been traced to "Tommie Wommie" DeBri's desk. Pop Adkins, that spy firecontrolman will not have to worry anymore about his shack in Manila for it is authoritively stated that the typhoons are just about over. Fanny Lemansky is seriously thinking of giving up the idea of returning to China since meeting that sweet young thing. And he was so true to the girl he left behind. That uncouth BM that plays at basketball was threatened with sudden and drastic expulsion from the Admiral Leigh Gym not long ago. Will somebody ask Kennedy about the fourteen year old alarm clock that his forty year old angel has around the house? It has also been mentioned that Kennedy pays for his own publicity in the L.A. Examiner. Seems that Reynolds can't keep away from the Oriental atmos-

GROWLS

We have received the below article and believe that, even though it should be unnecessary, a conscientious drive must be made to rid the ship of such undesirables who for some reason or other are unable to keep their hands off property belonging to shipmates. For some time it has gone on and so far not much apparent effort has been made to eliminate this element. Of course we realize that to do so is a task that is highly difficult. But there must be some means by which it can be minimized, at least. Here's what one shipmate has to say:—

"This article is written with the sole purpose of making this ship a more desirable place to live, and not with any intention to add a crime sheet to our ship's paper.

"It is with regret that there have always been a few people in the Navy that are criminally inclined. While admitting that it verges on the impossibility to completely eliminate them, their number can be kept to a minimum by constant vigilance on the part of the honest element in the Naval personnel, and the administering of severe punishment to the ones that we are fortunate enough to catch.

"One hears almost daily of some loss, clothing stolen, lockers broken into, pockets picked, etc. No one can be in any straits, however dire, that can justify petty thievery. Especially in an outfit that has always generously and voluntarily given (often until it hurts) to any shipmate or shipmate's family in need.

"I had the pleasure of being shipmate with a man who had received a commendation at Meritorious Mast, for returning a billfold containing a large sum of money found about the decks, to its rightful owner. With a ships company of men like that, locks on lockers would be a useless ornament.

"Let's strive toward that end with the hopes that this evil will soon cease to exist. —A HOUSTONIAN."

phere, how about those Chinese gals at the Majestic the other night??? What yeoman striker returned to the ship and suffered a severe attack of "Morpheus Dopus?" And in as much as that turkey I ate Thursday has me well under, I'll put the cover on the mill and say Sayanora.

SHIP'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Day, with members of the Entertainment Committee in the boats to take care of our young guests while on the boat. Shortly after their arrival on board, Santa Claus is expected to make a landing close aboard in a HOUSTON plane from which he will be picked up in a motor whale boat and brought to the starboard Well Deck gangway, where he will be piped over the side and met by the Duty Commander.

Presentation of gifts then takes place, after which all hands will be piped to dinner. It is expected that each table that is set for the day will take care of one or two children each and see that their plates are properly provided.

Depending on funds available, it is proposed that each child be furnished a suitable toy and, as far as practicable, with an outfit of sweater, pants (or skirt) and shoes. There is no objection to individual messes providing additional toys, but in general, each guest should receive similiar treatment. It is hoped that full outfits can be purchased.

Division or Junior Division Officers witnessing pay day on 5 December, will receive contributions as men are paid. They will turn over money to Comdr. Ingraham as Divisional Contribution. No list of individual contributions should be turned over as it is desired to emphasize that this is entirely voluntary.

It is sincerely hoped that all hands participate in making this, our first Christmas Party on the HOUSTON, one of the finest successes ever.

NEWS OF FORMER SHIPMATES

Jimmy Fox, SK1c., is now on the U.S.S. OGLALA, just about settled down and says the 1300 liberty daily is hard to take.

"Gigilo" Contois, SF3c., also on the OGLALA is getting along fine and sends his regards to his old gang.

Swede Holmberg, GM2c., now on the RAMSEY, sends regards to all hands.

Spike Brittingham, Y1c., the griping artist, is progressing nicely in the Steno School, San Diego. Say's he can't stand many more \$50.00 liberties in the Los Angeles brig.

BOWLERS LOSE MATCH

The HOUSTON bowling team lost their initial match with the LOUISVILLE last Monday night on the Premier Alleys by 76 pins. After the LOUISVILLE got off to a 25 point lead the first game, the HOUSTON caught up with them and led by 23 pins for the second game. On the last string the TEXANS fell down and in so doing lost the match.

As a whole the team looked good, and with a little more practice they will be able to give a very good account of themselves.

Kirkpatrick led the HOUSTON aggregation with an average of 182 pins also scoring high game with 208. Gilliam got off to a fine start the first two games, but during the third game the pins refused to fall as they should Nelson went strong until the third and then ran into trouble. DeBri pulled evenly thruout the game. Brown didn't do much for the first two games but in the third pulled up his average.

A return match with the LOUISVILLE is scheduled prior to our leaving San Francisco. Any more players who are interested in playing turn in names to Brown, EM1c or see Kirkpatrick in the laundry.

BASKETEERS SUFFER

Running into some extraordinary bad breaks has given the basketball team the standing of three games lost and one win to their credit in the official cruiser league. Dropping the opener to the CHESTER, taking the INDIANAPOLIS and then being nosed out by the SALT LAKE CITY and CHICAGO by small margins in disheartening games found the HOUSTON outfit down, but not out as the week ended.

With Kennedy, Wilmuth, Rainey, Douglas and Bair playing a steller brand of ball, it is the consensus of opinion that this vessel has just about the best team on the court but due to their inability to mark up the counters, they are found a trifle down the ladder.

So far the CHICAGO has won all their games and are well on the way to the ScoFor championship. Our chances are about as slim as that of a snow-ball in Panama. In order to stand a chance, the CHICAGO would have to be beaten three times, once

SAN PEDRO EXPOSITION

tain. At Navy Field there will be an All-Navy Religious Service under the guidance of the Reverend Fred Ross, with an address by Dr. Roy Smith of the First Methodist Church of Los Angeles. All officers and enlisted men are invited to attend this service which begins at 1400.

Sunday night Bobby Lutze and his Naval Cadets will again entertain.

Monday afternoon, Dec. 3, the Nite Hawk Club orchestra will furnish the music for all those dancing feet and in the evening we offer Bobby Lutze, Traver and Sharpe, Comedy acrobats and Louis Pesce, Jr., comedian.

Tuesday, Dec. 4, afternoon, the Chateau Gardens Serenaders will furnish the entertainment and in the evening there will be Pesce and Lee, Comedy sketch, and Marjie Tavra and Rose Rossi as the 2 girls from Hawaii.

Dec. 5, afternoon, the Parisian Inn Orchestra; and a Boy Scout exhibition. In the evening, Bobbie Lutze; The Bellthuzers Adagio Act; Betty Elroy, Dance Novelties.

On the afternoon of Dec. 6, there will be a band concert by the Fort McArthur Band. At night, the same Bobbie Lutze; The Bruno Weiss Trio, Navy Night, Carnival of Athletics; Nina Zankich, violinist.

The entire program is amassed for the sole purpose to entertain the officers and enlisted men of the Navy so be sure not to miss any part of it as we are sure everyone can and will have a great time.

"I saw you at the telephone the other day and you stood there for 10 minutes and didn't say a word."

"Yeh, I was talking to my wife."

"I believe you are a man equal to any situation."

"Yes, er—I was born in an emergency hospital."

by us, and we would have to win every game from now on. We stand a fair chance to win ours from now on, but it doesn't look as though the Racketeers will have any trouble with opponents to come.

It might be added that the TENNESSEE, all-Navy champs, are playing college teams in order to warm up for their official games.

SALVOS! SHORTS!! AND STRADDLES

ible portion is fleshy except the outer skin. According to this classification, tomatoes, grapes, currents and bananas are all berries, and consequently are part of the larger division of plants called fruits. On the other hand the United States Department of Agriculture, classes the tomato as a vegetable. All horticulturists are agreed that the tomato is a vegetable and is so classifies in all works of a horticultural nature. So, for all practical purposes this much discussed "berry" may be called a vegetable, although it's really a fruit. What do you think?

* * *

Rats

That rats are eaten in China is oft told as a joke. It is, however, a fact. These animals constitute a regular article of food in many parts of that country. Rats can be purchased any time in the markets of Canton—either dried like herrings or alive in cages.

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Sidelight on a Tragedy

The Lafayette Hotel in New York is still giving out paper matches with this advertisement on the cover "Sail on the Morro Castle—Cool Cruises."

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Femininity

In Camden, N.J., when her husband threatened to kill her, a resourceful wife leaped upon his lap, kissed him repeatedly until police came to her rescue.

* * *

Masculine Interests

The beauty of women, the strength of men, the flavor of strawberries, the aroma of flowers, the love of friends; courtship, marriage divorce; the race-track, the wrestling match and the boxing bout—all of these played almost exactly the same role in the lives of the people of Rome as they play in the lives of the people of New Haven or New York. And it is around these things, too, that about 90 percent of the interests of the average man revolves.—Robert A. Millikan, Edison medalist and Nobel prize winner.

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Pardon my "southern accent" and English sense of humor—Sayonara, folks, 'till next week.