

**CAMP WESLEY HARRIS EXCELLS
AMONG MARINE RANGES**

Bannen Describes Outdoor Life

For each of six weeks, a detail of 11 men has been going to Camp Wesley Harris for firing, returning at the end of six days. The entire Marine Detachment has fired on the range. 2nd Lt. D. C. Pollock represented the HOUSTON during the entire period, and at other times Lt.(jg) H. von A. Burkart and Ens. T. R. Ingham have been assigned to duty in that connection. But how many of the rest of us have any idea of just what life on the range is like. W.J. Bannen, Associate Editor of the Blue Bonnet was one of those who were detailed to the Camp for the whole time. This is his description of what most of us know only as "the Rifle Range."

Situated approximately eight miles from Charleston Gate, Puget Sound Navy Yard on the road to Seabeck, on the Hood Canal, Camp Wesley Harris is the Marine Rifle Range. Accommodations are available for more than one hundred fifty men, living in tents and in the healthiest atmosphere in the Northwest.

All about the camp are forests of pine, spruce and other evergreens. This is the home of the white-tail deer. The range itself is located in a small coulee or draw, firing against a steep bank at one end from two, three, five and six hundred yard points. The green background outlines the targets in a manner that causes many of the experienced personnel to say it is the best range operated by the Mar-

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**Captain Cogswell
Passes**

Distinguished Career Ended

When Captain Cogswell's thirty six years of service were ended last week, the HOUSTON lost not only her Captain, but probably the best liked officer in the ship. Deep regret at his passing is felt by every officer and man aboard.

Captain Cogswell's long career was already distinguished, although in large ships it had probably just begun. He came from a family of the strongest Navy background; his father served as the Executive Officer of the U.S.S. Oregon on her trip around the Horn in 1898... He himself entered the Naval Academy in 1903. Graduated in 1908, seventeen months found him on the Asiatic Station. And in 1910, less than two years out of the Naval Academy, he was Executive Officer of the torpedo boat destroyer DECATUR. By the time he had left China for duty in the Atlantic Fleet in 1913, command of the DECATUR had been entered in his record. His first shore duty in 1915 was an interesting assignment: censor at the Naval Radio Station, Sayville, Long Island. From then until 1923 he saw service on six different destroyers, among them the famous wartime FANNING.

About 1925 he began two years of duty as Navigator of the TEN-

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**"B" DIVISION WINS
SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT**

Climaxing the thrilling interdivisional series of softball the B division became the ship champions last week when they defeated the 1st division by the narrow margin of 13-11. The entire division was given the long awaited "blowout" party on Wednesday. The party was promised to the winner of the final series. By winning ten games without a single defeat, they clearly showed their superiority over the other teams.

With a fine fielding team behind him Ray Rennert, as sweet a softball pitcher as the Houston has ever had, hurled all ten victories for the team.

Some flashy fielding by Chase, short center fielder, good defensive infield work by Hartley Dalton and Strange were big factors in the team's winning ways.

Members of the B division team:

Pitcher, Rennert; catcher, Byrd; 1st base, Strange; 2nd base, Clarkston; 3rd base, Dalton; s.s., Hardy; s. center field, Chase; left field, Koster; c. field, Stokes; r.f., Hasty.

**RECRUITS AND TRANSFERS
ARRIVE**

Two large groups of men recently arrived aboard the "Rambler Ship," one a draft of recruits and the other made up of men who have previously served on other stations. On 26 August, 17 recruits were received aboard from the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Last Tuesday, 19 Sept., 20 men arrived in the USS KANAWA, most of them coming from the USS RELIEF, the USS UTAH, and from the China Station.

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ADDED QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR RATING

The attention of all hands is called to the recent change in the Bureau of Navigation Manual concerning requirements for advancement in rating. An additional requirement has been added which will be known as "Practical Factors" and which must be met before a man is qualified for advancement.

These "Practical Factors" are generally divided into two parts. One part deals with the general requirements for a petty officer, and the other part with the special practical factors of each individual rating.

These "Practical Factors" will not affect a man's eligibility for advancement until after 1 January 1940. As those men appearing for the next semi-annual examinations (December 15, 1939) will not be advanced before this change becomes effective it will be seen that it is very important that everyone get busy at once with a view to completing the necessary General Training Course.

These courses for petty officers, giving some of the information required, are now available to each division in limited numbers.

The Ship's tennis team offers many thanks to Lt.-Comdr. Norcross, who has been at all our matches and who always cheered us on when the going got tough. We repeat, for the tennis team, "Thanks to Mr. Norcross, A grand sportsman."

We wish the best of luck to the two former Houston officers who last week received dispatch orders to vessels being recommissioned. Ens. A. J. Frosch was detached for duty in connection with fitting out the U.S.S.

CAPTAIN COGSWELL PASSES

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NESSIE. His tours of duty after that included the Naval War College, both for instruction and as a member of the staff, command of various destroyers, and finally command of Destroyer Division Three. Some of the present ship's company of this ship remember him as captain of the mine layer OGLALA. Then the three years immediately preceding his taking command of the HOUSTON he served as Naval Attache for Paris and Madrid.

Captain Cogswell is survived by his widow, Mrs. Grace P. Cogswell. To her the BLUE BONNET, on behalf of this entire ship, extends sincerest sympathy.

More About Camp Wesley Harris

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ine Corps, certainly the best on this coast. Of course, it is fully equipped, with a small bore and forty-five caliber pistol range. Immediately in front of the Administration Building are "snapping-in lines", pointing on permanent wooden facsimile targets across the valley. These are subject to a great deal of occupation by men becoming accustomed to position, lining up, trigger squeeze and "steady-on," the major commandments of a marksman. After supper, and in fact at any time, one can see people industriously sighting in and snapping away at those elusive targets across the way.

Range Leased by Marine Corps

The property is not owned by the government, but is leased by the Kitsap Rifle and Revolver Club in conjunction with the U.S. Marine Corps. It was opened in 1926, with four targets, and some living accommodations. Up to that time a range back of Port Orchard was used. The range today is an eighteen-target range, with full facilities. There is an administration building with telephone system connecting with the butts and range. In the same building is a recreation and reading room, with ping-pong tables, barber chair, tables and chairs for

Phillips in San Diego, while Machinist J.F. Hodges is at present the only officer attached to the U.S.S. Patoka, being fitted out here in Puget Sound Navy Yard.

writing, reading and card playing. There is a Post Exchange where one can buy necessary articles, toilet gear, etc. The galley is fairly well equipped, operating under the direction of the Mess Officer of the Puget Sound Marine Barracks. The police sergeant has a nice group of flowers along the path in front of the mess hall. The mess hall accommodates ten officers and one hundred-forty enlisted men at one sitting.

The permanent personnel of the Camp is commanded by Captain J.D. Blanchard, USMC, and Chief Marine Gunner R.S. Allen, USMC as Executive Officer. The detachment is made up of twenty-four marines, fifteen of whom act as coaches.

1200 Men Fire This Year

At the present rate of procedure, Captain Blanchard informed us, there will have been about twelve hundred men, marines and bluejackets, passed through the course this year. Of course many months of the year the range is closed due to weather conditions. A goodly percentage came out with the qualification of "Expert" inserted in their service records, which goes to show the expert handling and coaching they receive.

The life at Camp Wesley Harris is good, there is no healthier way of living than out in the open, sleeping in tents with plenty of covers and good bunks, and an abundance of good hot and wholesome food.

Keep up the good work!!!! —W.J.B.

DID YOU KNOW?

That the first hospital ship definitely assigned for that purpose, was the U.S.S. Solace, fitted out in 1898. The idea and general supervision of fitting out is credited to Admiral William Knickerbocker Van Reypen.

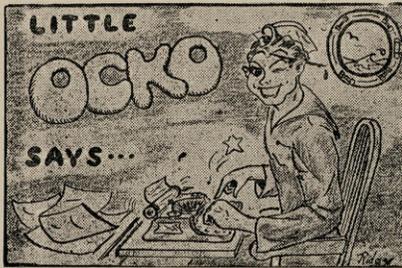
That the first United States warship to be docked in a government drydock was the "Delaware" at Norfolk Drydock, Portsmouth, Virginia, on the anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, 17 June, 1833.

"Fix bayonets," roared the Company Commander.

"Please, sir," quavered the very new recruit, "there's nothing wrong with mine."

"I'm thinking of marrying Jack."

"So am I. Do you know anybody that's got it?"



Notice my friend, Mulane, Chief Sheriff, is quite ambitious chasing loafers these days. Heaven help the lads Spike catches loafing anywhere. One poor fellow, reading last week's Home Town Crier in the Topside Reading Room was rudely interrupted in the midst of his reveries. Don't feel hurt, fellow, wait till you've got your twenty in and then pass judgment if you wish.

There is a rebel in No. 1 mess compartment who fell under Spike's eye one day last week. In the display case where the snapshots of the Sec'y. Navy Cruise are shown was a cockroach. "Rebel," said Spike, "What's the idea. Better get that outta there." "No, Spike, I'll tell you why. The kids in this compartment haven't seen a cockroach in so long I have one on display there all the time so the boots will know what one looks like."

(Ocko says that's reason enough.)

Our loss is Tennessee's gain now. Our old friend and long-time good shipmate, Weaver, CGM, better known to all as "Buck", was transferred to the USS Tennessee about three weeks ago. Happy Cruise, Buck, you have been a good shipmate and a good friend. One time during the winter of two years ago we were at sea in some bitterly cold weather. A group of electricians were working on our searchlights on the mainmast and nearly frozen. Typical of Buck, when he saw them, to go below to the CPO Pantry and return with a pitcher of hot coffee for the workers.

Gone also is another old timer of our crew. Churchman, SC1c is now aboard the USS Utah, in place of whom we received Johnny Zgong, SC3c. So long, Church, Happy Cruise!

This "off the record" stuff is bad for newshounds. Here's a watertender friend of mine head over heels in love (?) and I can't tell anyone about it. You might ask Bob Wicker, gun-keeper and paint chipper extra-ordinary of Turret Three!!!

We were glad to see Charlie Hering, of the USS Oriole, who came aboard last Sunday to see Man Mountain Henry of the Galley Gang and other friends. Charlie is a Snipe now, and he was once a good gun striker. Used to be a deckhand(?) myself.

What a mess the flight deck and hangars are these days. Heavier frames going in and new bulkheads being installed. Navy Yard mess, noise, erupted schedules and all, we can still thank Heaven that we are in America!

Who was it, who could it have been, the young lady who inspired the fountain of song in our boy Vought, Div.3s dainty deckhand? He supplants the floor show at the Garden of Allah in Seattle every once in a while these days. These Rudy Vallee aspirations are alright but after all Charlie Putnam sang on the radio once too!!

Sept. 12 saw us lose our good friend Plt.-Sgt. Sam Johnstone, who goes to the Marine Barracks, Puget Sound for a tour of shore duty. Remember when you drove our bus all over Oahu, T.H., Johnnie? The rest of us do if you don't!!! Happy Cruise, Shipmate. Sgt. Bereuffy takes over Johnnie's duties.

John Thomas Coats, Boat deck Maestro of the Bos'n Call, piped down to dinner the other day and it sounded about like Pa's fiddle down in the canebrakes in Alabam'. Get some time in, John.

A letter was received from Art Fritts, an ex-shipmate. Says he's working for Sears, Roebuck & Co. in Seattle and is getting along OK but misses his old pals on the big H.

Little Ocko says so-long.

More About Tennis

(Continued from Page 4)

Leipeinsky, USMC, and Bill Carrier.

Yard To Hold Tournament

The yard is sponsoring a tournament in the near future and all you tennis players are invited to join. Even if you don't win, the experience gained by playing will more than benefit your individual game. It is believed that there will be both singles and doubles to decide the championship of the yard. Incidentally, the Houston's team is not yet complete. We are looking for one or two more players. Members of the team will be more than glad to practice with you and help you over the rough spots.

A penn' saved is 5 tax tokens.

More Sport News

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having good prospects the outlook for this year looks very bright.

The Houston lost out to the Chicago last year by two points for 1st place. With quite a few members of last year's team to build from and a lot of new prospects the team this year should be much stronger.

Members from last year's team returning are, Hattemer, All Scouting Force guard, Haggerstrom, center, LaBarge and Michaud, forwards.

Baseball . . .

Baseball season is at an end for this year. With bright hopes for a good team next year the writer would like to make a few comments.

The baseball team started off with a rush this year and won ten of the first twelve games. A drastic shake-up in the lineup due to transfers and discharges caused the team to go into a slump from which it failed to recover.

The record for the year stands at sixteen wins with fourteen losses, which is better than .500 baseball.

With this years experience and many new prospects we are looking forward to a winning baseball team next year.

HISTORY OF CAMP WESLEY HARRIS

There is an interesting bit of history connected with Camp Wesley Harris, graciously supplied to the writer by Sergeant Cheney, Acting First Sergeant of the range. Wesley Harris, Pvt. U.S.M.C., enlisted in Bremerton, Washington, to serve the duration of the World War. Unfortunately he failed to accomplish his purpose, but in so doing joined the ranks of our heroes who have given their lives, possibly in vain, that our peace and democracy may be assured. He was the first man from Kitsap County to give up his life overseas. For that reason his name and honor are preserved here in the area he knew as a young man. —W.J.B.

A farmer drove up to the station on a toll bridge in an ancient Model T Ford. The man at the bridge scrutinized the car and then asked for the toll.

"Fifty cents," he said.

"Sold," replied the farmer.

MEYER WINS COUNTY TENNIS MEET

C.T.E. (Curley) Meyer, RM2c brought new glories to the Houston by winning the Kitsap County Tennis Tournament, Saturday, September ninth.

Starting as one of fifty-seven entrants, Meyer reached the finals without dropping a set. The three hour grind for the championship was against Al Rudolph, defending champion of Bremerton. The results of this test of stamina were 6-10, 1-6, 6-2, 2-6, 6-1.

After the final playoff, Meyer was presented with a cup by Mr. Jack Rogers on behalf of the Bremerton Sun and the Bremerton Sport Shop who sponsored the tournament. When the cup has been engraved, it will be displayed in a suitable cabinet on board the Houston for one year.

Meyer left Reading, Pa. twelve years ago to join the Navy and has found tennis a grand hobby ever since. In 1933 he was on the championship doubles team of the Eleventh Naval District. He was singles and doubles champion in Panama (both Army and Navy) for his three years of duty there 1936, 37 and 38. And his aim is the All-Navy title in San Pedro during the next year.

The confidential ticker has it that the real inspiration behind the champion is Mrs. Meyer, June bride of this year.

HOUSTON BOWLS OVER ASTORIA

After a lay off of several months the HOUSTON bowling team has been trying out the new DELUXE bowling lanes at Craven Center. The lanes, which have just been installed this year, are just as good as any on the coast.

On Friday 8 September, the HOUSTON team took the long end of the count from the ASTORIA, with PODRIES, MM1c., leading the way with a total pinfall of 568. Final scores HOUSTON 2587, ASTORIA 2435.

On Wednesday 13 September, 1939 the HOUSTON bowled the strong MINNEAPOLIS squad, taking their measure by 105 pins. The HOUSTON squad made it very plain that they can bowl under pressure as they lost the first game by 116 pins, won the second by 11 pins, and then turned on the heat to beat the MINNEAPOLIS by 205 pins in the last game with a 989 game. Final scores were 2653 to 2558. Livingston, SM3c, lead the team with a neat 593 series for the three games. T.H.D.



"Curley" Meyer

RACKETEERS WIN 1ST MATCHES

Yard Plans Tournament

On Tuesday September 15th the HOUSTON tennis team inaugurated itself by winning its first match against the ASTORIA, 5 matches to none, winning three singles and 2 doubles. This was the first time that the team was under fire and the encouraging results were more than satisfactory to Lt. Comdr. M.A. Norcross, ship's tennis officer.

Apparently not satisfied, the ASTORIA requested a return match the next day. The Houston again took them over, 3 matches to 1. HOUSTON stars of both days were led by C.T. Meyer, recent winner of the Kitsap County tournament, and included Joe

SPORT NEWS

By Bud Adams

Boxing . . .

Plans are being made for the boxers who are well in shape to have a few amateur fights upon the ship's arrival in Long Beach.

This will give the squad a chance to gain experience and a better idea of what they have coming later in the year.

Fighters ready to go will be Christenson, lightweight; Alego, welter; Anglin, middle; Yantiz, middle; Herndon, Bishop and Dalton all light heavies and our fighting pollock Lewdanski, heavy.

Christenson has been shaping up rapidly and shows all the signs of a coming champion. Herndon, our southpaw lighthheavy, has been overcoming a lack of experience, especially in learning footwork.

A last minute addition to the boxing news:

Henry Holton our classy little featherweight, will be with the team again this year, having agreed to extend. Judging from his hard work so far we are looking to another successful season from Holton and we're glad to see him still on the squad.

Softball . . .

At the close of the softball series, won by the "B" division, it seems appropriate to mention a number of teams whose brand of ball brought them high in the finals. One of the finest played games of the series was one this writer witnessed between the 2nd and 4th divisions. Going into the last inning the score was tied at one all. When, after two extra innings, the 2nd division emerged victorious by a tally of 3 to 2, it was through the hard-hitting efforts of Smith and Saucer, ably supported by Ranger, Shelton and Kirby. Four of the 4th division's luminaries were Wolf, McFadden, Gillam, and Korich. Defeat of the "R" division by the "M", 10 to 9, proved to be another thriller. Here, again the score was tied going into the seventh. A misjudged fly ball gave the engineer gang their slim edge of victory. Ashcraft, Nicholas, and Shaw looked exceptionally good for the losers, while Runkle, LaBarge, and Rhodes played stellar ball for the winners.

Basketball Prospects . . .

Basketball season is not very far away and with the Rambling ship

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