

### NEW OFFICERS ORDERED

During this past week word has been received that three new officers are being ordered to the Houston this spring. Lieutenant Arthur A. Age-ton, now on duty at the Naval Academy, has been ordered to report to the Houston on or about 7 June. Second Lieutenant James C. Murraray jr., USMC, has been ordered to report about the middle of April as a relief for Mr. Williamson. Aviation Cadet John P. Jones, U.S.N.R. has been ordered to the Houston unit of VS Squadron Nine upon completion of his course of instruction at Pensacola. He will report about 12 April.

### SCOUTING FORCE WEATHER MEN JOIN HOUSTON

This past Thursday the Scouting Force Aerological Unit attached to ComCruScoFor reported aboard the Houston where they will remain during Commander Cruisers stay in the Houston. This party consists of Lieut. Francis L. Black, Aerological Officer; James B. Chamberlain, C. Aerog.; Fred B. Chase, Aerog. 1c Robert W. Green, Aerog.3c.; Boyd A. Omang, Sea 1c.; Charles C. Herold, Sea 1c.; and George F. Wall, Sea 1c. The Houston takes pleasure in welcoming these people aboard and hopes that they will give us some good weather.

### ARMY AND NAVY STAMPS

A four-cent stamp will be the next in the Army-Navy series and will be issued at Washington, March 23rd. Stamp collectors desiring first-day cancellations may send addressed

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### WRESTLING

A request was received the other day from the members of the heavy cruisers wrestling enteries in the All-Navy finals to be held at San Diego, 20 March, asking the Houston squad to help them in their preparations for their quests for belts. This was a complimentary welcome opportunity for our grapplers to gain valuable experience. They will work out at the field house, Long Beach, until the All-Navy are held at San Diego. The heavy cruiser entries are: Bonyea (Pensacola) 118lbs, Haller (Minneapolis) 145lbs, and Roos (Portland) 165lbs. Roos has an excellent prospect of copping an All-Navy belt.

The Houston squad will profit by this and with prospects of another All-Service tournament at the San Pedro Y. M. C. A. they will be better prepared for the cruiser eliminations next year. This last season they lacked experience, but nevertheless gave the seasoned veterans of the other ships plenty of competition. This year the San Francisco won the cruiser wrestling Iron Man points. Strange to say the Houston and San Francisco had a practice workout in Vallejo prior to the official bouts in which the Houston six out of eight matches. However, the San Francisco was in the Base Force group and had smooth sailing up to the cruiser semi-finals. Thus placed six entrees in the semi-finals. The Houston met squads from the Portland, Pensacola and Indianapolis, ships that always have strong teams.

With a break or two in the pairings, a little more experience and some candidates from the Engineer's force next year, the squad should cop some Iron Man points.

### VICE ADMIRAL TARRANT TO SHIFT FLAG

During this next week Commander Scouting Force, Vice Admiral W. T. Tarrant, will shift his flag to the Indianapolis and later in the week Commander Cruisers, Scouting Force, Rear Admiral E. B. Fenner, will shift his flag from the Astoria to the Houston.

Tuesday, 16 March, a tender will come alongside and the Indianapolis will come along the opposite side of the tender. The change will be effected across the tender. In last week's issue of the "Blue Bonnet" it was stated that the present flag would remain aboard; but, the early return of the Indianapolis necessiated a change in his plan.

In bidding farewell to Admiral Tarrant, his staff and Flag Personnel the Houston does it with sincere regret. During the eleven months that they have been aboard we have come to look upon them as fine shipmates and we all hope that some day we can again make a cruise to-gether.

### TRAVEL OF DEPENDENTS

It has come to the attention of the Bureau that in a number of cases those who have been transferred to or from vessels on the west coast, having home yards on the east coast, and home ports on the west coast, did not receive as much as they expected in the way of reimbursement for travel of their dependents.

The allowances are based upon certain definite rules which may be summarized as follows:

(A) The law contemplates that the dependents are at either the home

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## —: 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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13 MARCH, 1937.

★ ★ ★  
 HIGH FINANCING

Several officers and others at the Station recently received letters from finance companies offering to loan money on the so much a month system. It was not stated that usually these offers of loans include prompt letters to a man's commanding officer if he does not meet his monthly payments right on time.

One of the officers broke down the figures submitted and found that the total interest and carrying charges demanded by a finance company on a loan of \$600.00 totaled \$72.00, whereas he could obtain the same amount from a bank for 6%, or by the same method of repayment, for a total of \$9.66 interest. Dealing with the finance company would mean a dead loss of \$62.34. The apparent and advertised cost of the finance company's loan likewise was 6%, but actually the interest rate was 24%, for monthly payments were demanded and interest was charged on the entire amount and not on the unpaid balance, and interest charges were first deducted from the principal. Some finance companies even get as high as 42% interest when their figures are analyzed as to total cost. Several Companies offer loans of \$50.00 or more at sky rocketing rates of interest to enlisted personnel.

The man who lets himself get into the clutches of a finance company, is forfeiting peace of mind and happiness and inviting trouble, besides paying extra-vagantly high interest on his loan.

The best method of conducting one's personal finances is to spend only what you can afford; pile up a check or savings fund in a bank or in government savings certificates; and avoid the necessity of ever being obligated to request a loan at high interest rates. It is a good plan never to endorse anyone else's note, for you

NAVY WRESTLERS DO WELL  
IN S.P.A.A.P. WRESTLING

During the recent Southern Pacific Association of the Amateur Athletic Union of the United States Wrestling Championship meets, Navy athletes won three first and a second place. These four places won thirty points for the Navy which was the highest total amassed by any single organization.

In a letter to the Commander in Chief, the chairman of the committee on wrestling, Louis A. Ardouin, says: "They won by clean and strenuous competition, and all entries exemplified the finest sportsmanship. We feel that their presence was a good influence on the other competitors and their conduct worthy of the finest ideals that the Service stands for."

The names of the winning competitors are: Ensign Gay, U.S.S. Maryland, 165 pounds; Misch, U.S.S. Nevada, 126 pounds; Oberman, U.S.S. Oklahoma, 175 pounds; and Ross, U.S.S. Nevada, second place, 155 pounds. Many present at these matches state that Ross was the better man, but lost by what might be called the fortunes of war. Pratt of the Engineers represented the HOUSTON in this meet. He succeeded in reaching the semi-final bracket, giving a good showing before being finally eliminated.

## EX-SAILOR IS NOW MAYOR

Bremerton, "The Navy Yard City of Puget Sound", is now ruled by a former sailor, Jesse Knabb, who has launched the City upon a host of new improvements after a triumphant election to the office.

The new Mayor took office just before Christmas, and during his campaign he pointed with pride to his early service on Uncle Sam's battleships. This city is the home of many ex-Navy men who have retired from, yet remain close to the bosom of their great mistress, the Sea.

week end, Sal, and have your pretty figure up the gangway 'cause ya still can swim ashore from out here, but later—Oh my!

Love, Gus

then obligate yourself for the entire amount. "Neither a borrower nor a lender be."

## GUS'S WEEKLY LETTER

Dear Sal:

Sure heaved a load o' joy out of your last missive, or "billy due" as the eskimos would say.

Seems your Pa be a coming into second childhood and they'll be luggin' him off to an upholstered cell if he doesn't quit experimentin' around.

My Pa got that way one time. Hearin' bout the wonders o' angle worm oil, he collected a passel o' dirt, or what ever it is, out in the barnyard. Then jammed them into a Mason jar and let old Sol beat down upon the mishapen creature 'til nothin' was left but oil and their poor detached souls.

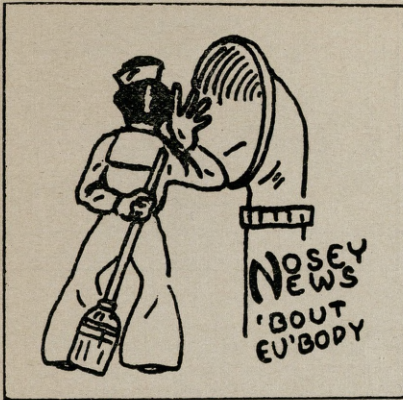
Says Pa, I got something now. This oil will make me as limber as a boneless herring. Within a day he swore by the gods eternal he was a havin' difficulty standin' up on his hind legs, and he was a feared to eat a heavy meal—they wasn't enough starch in his legs to stand the extra weight, and he was a saggin' and a droopin' like a weepin' willow.

He started experimentin' then. But it all stopped one day when he mixed the angle worm oil with some of his two month old, extra special home made rye. Ma beat a regular tattoo on his upper works with the rollin' pin. She was real mad. The explosion blew Ma's best bureau thru the side o' the house. Three partitions and a door folded up like a book.

Pa says he'll nary be the experiment again. Better tell your Pa I'm a warnin' him. A body can't make flapjacks out o' pop corn flour and expect them to do a fancy nip and a turn over when they're done on a side. He's gettin' beyond his depth in such stuff, and he'll surely drown in the sweat o' his genius.

So quotin' that ole Indian war cry o' "Pox Vobiscum", which means I want to bury the hatchett (in your head), I says tell your Pa to shun those brain sprites o' his like poisonous reptiles.

Tha ship's a stagnatin' in the waters o' Long Beach at present, swingin' round the buoy within a stone's throw of the beach. Soon she leaves this circle o' water though, and we'll hafta take more than a hop, skip, and jump to reach the beach. Better bear down this way over the



Greetings Folks! It is time to lend thine ear to another weekly Nosey News broadcast with your Houston reporter, Adam Chatterbox, posing as Master of Ceremonies. This bit of a transmission is specially edited for those who follow the daily doings of all Houstonites; little of a serious nature is allowed to creep into the script as this program is intended to amuse, not instruct. Kudos to those news-makers and actors in the one act comedies presented each week. Embarrassment may result from expose', but it's all in fun so to the few disgruntled ones—for shame! Old Adam hurts no feelings intentionally and seldom has to worry because most who tumble into the limelight are good sports—To them: Thanks! and a thunder of applause!

**Peculiar Fellow:** An unexpected visitor burst into the Supply Office to find Sivack, the lone occupant intent on his typing practice. Noticing the lad's utter confusion he wondered why? Then it became clear; "Steve" was "hunt-punching" with heavy gloves on his hands.—The embryonic typist attempted a stuttered explanation; the visitor waited for nothing; he, having personal ideas about "nuts" departed that place in a hurry!

**Best Story of the Week:** Since men first sailed the Seven Seas there have been legendary tales of beautiful mermaids. Until Wednesday morning, no sailor had seen one of these sea-going ladies excepting when alone—and lonesome. There she was, cavorting merrily around the ships port gangway and trying to attract the attention of a busy boat's crew. They, fearing the wrath of an irate and watchful Officer of the Deck, persuaded the red tressed lady of the sea to

make the ladder in an orthodox manner; which she finilly did.—This mermaid had a reason for her unusual visit; she was calling on Grimes, who only breaks hearts when he isn't "sea-soldiering". The gentleman hid in the bilges until his unexpected visitor had departed in the early liberty boat, where the notice attracted was more than is any woman's due.

**Masculine Mannikin:** "Snubby-Nose", sometime "Coco-Malt" of the Third Gun Box, dared a lady to exchange hats while P.E.ing between Wilmington and L.B. with a party of friends (????). She, with a broad sense of humor took him up, very much to his surprise. There the fun began, because tho he tried to welch, plenty of razzing did the trick and our hero found himself wearing a very fetching little model with one of those cute under-the-chin ribbon ties.

To his pals the comical sight itself was enough to roll them in the aisle; he added the perfect touch with his woebegone and crimson-faced expression. "Snubby's" only remark afterwards: "It wouldn't have been so bad but I was cold sober!"

**It's The Truth:** There is a savage sadist on the loose! Seagulls Beware! Wade, the cherubic faced Boilermaker, amuses himself in this impish fashion: He cuts paper clips in three pieces and with a rubber-band shoots at unwary seagulls who seek the hospitality of our boat booms. He says, "My aim isn't so good, but when I connect, do they take off with a squawk!"—Ittie bittie boykins must have his fun.—

**Ignorance is Bliss:** Johnny "Spend-thrift" Allen, spent hours looking for the new man named "Do" who had the Machine Shop duty, only to find that "Do" is the abbreviation for ditto.

**Ranking Reply:** Amiable "Pat" Patterson, General Repairman in the "A" was having a chat with the "better half"—The Missus: "Why is it? You never say the sweet things to me that Romeo said to Juliet." For the nonce Pat was thrown off guard; ever resourceful he took a deep breath and quick quipped, "Maybe I would if you looked like Juliet."

**Notice!** Those desiring to enroll in the "Jane Fuller Club" should see Kjolhede and Chase, local representa-

tives of this unique organization. These "B" Division boys promise introductions to genuine rich widows at five dollars an acquaintance. No guaranteed results included with this offer.—Widows can usually take care of themselves.

**A Word to the Wise:** It is rumored "Al" Meadows, 4th Division swain extraordinary, has gone overboard for Miss Patricia Ellis, of flicker fame. Ardent "line throwing" is his specialty so a warning is deemed timely. She's liable to fall "Al" and it's a tough job digging up ham-and-egg money for a movie queen.

**Crooning Casanova:** Leonard Saucer, who finds his innumerable fan letters in the "Saucy Second's" mail box, came out of hiding recently and was discovered in a local "Truck and Swing" palace singing the latest Crosby ar.as for the entertainment of several admiring girlies, who were very much agog. My! My! Fellow—what a lovely voice you have!

**Worry—Worry:** Another "2nd" Div. laddie is on the proverbial worry seat. McNully is wondering if a certain Yeoman's striker from the 1st Lieutenant's Office really DID write a "cut-in" letter to his (McNully's) girl friend. Two weeks letter waiting has been in vain. . .

**Sea Story??** One of our CPO's tells of this adventure and thinks the other Chiefs are a bunch of meanies for doubting the tale: McNesby intended returning to the ship so hopped into a taxi to find himself sharing it with a beautiful young girl. She insisted it was too early for bedtime and suggested a whirl at the local nightlife. . . When the Aviation Ordnanceman demurred, she broke down his resistance with a roll that made his eyes bulge. From there on the sailing was smooth. . . all thru the night. . . Heigh Ho! and Lackaday! It never happened to me. . .

**ExShipmates Sighted:** Chaplain Shrumm, who made the Second Presidential Cruise on the Houston sends greetings to all hands via our popular stamp dispenser, Joe West. . . Water-tender Joe Lima, who nearly lost an eye in an accident is now recovering after four months hospitalization. . . Kentucky's son, George Woolridge,

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## ARMY AND NAVY STAMPS

(Continued From Page One)

covers, not exceeding ten for each of these stamps, to the postmaster at Washington.

Covers must be of standard letter size and when pairs of blocks of stamps are desired, appropriate pencil notation may be made in the upper right corner.

The new Army stamp has for its central design, two portraits, General Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson. Under the portraits is a reproduction of Lee's home, "Stratford Hall." The Navy stamp of the series shows portraits of Admirals Sampson, Dewey and Schley printed above a marine view showing vessels. The new stamps are printed in grey.

## DID YOU KNOW ?

Twin 35,000-ton battleships the Navy will start building this summer will be named the North Carolina and the Washington, Secretary Swanson recently announced.

Two of the six 43,000-ton "floating fortresses" scrapped by the Washington treaty of 1922 were named North Carolina and Washington.

Naval vessels, when passing Washington's Tomb at Mount Vernon, Va., parade the full Marine Guard and band, half mast the colors, and toll the ship's bell. When abreast the tomb, taps is sounded on the bugle, the guard presents arms, and the crew stands at attention.

Of the 18,663 policemen in New York City, 1530 are ex-Navy men, or one in twelve. The percentage in ex-Navy men in the fire department is much greater, 2741 of the 6551 firemen having served in the Navy.

The U. S. S. Houston, holds the record for the fastest passage between Manila, P. I., and Shanghai, China, a distance of 1338 statute miles in 48 hours.

Of the 77 Chaplains in the Navy, 16 are Presbyterian, 14 are Roman Catholic, 13 Methodist, 11 Baptist, 7 Episcopal, 4 Lutheran, 4 Congregational, 4 Disciples of Christ, 2 Christians, and 2 Reformed Church.

The weight of a ship's anchor is approximately one pound for each ton of the ship's weight.

The length and breadth of U. S. Navy ships is limited by the size of the Panama Canal locks.

## THE DENTIST'S PRAYER

Oh give me molars crumbling to a shell,  
And large bicuspid plainly lacking care,  
Incisors prompting many a lusty yell,  
And nerves exposed to brutal, chilling air,  
Hark to my plea. Let all this come to pass:  
Give me roots, surprising in their length,  
Laughing and every other kind of gas,  
And stubborn teeth on which to try my strength,  
Give me a tooth that's tender to the touch,  
Then, in the gentlest words that I can couch  
Let me, assuring him, "This won't hurt much";  
Hear the echo resounding reply, "OUCH".

## NOSEY NEWS

(Continued From Page Three)

Machinists Mate, tells us he is married in a surprise letter. . .

\* \* \* \* \*

The blue light is on. That means our time "on the air" is almost at an end. It is time to say au revoir, goodbye, and happy days! One word before I go. . . Remember—all material to be used in this broadcast must be in before Wednesday noon of each week. On your toes newshawks! There's a Scoop! around every corner!

Sayonara friends! Old Adam Chat-terbox is off the air!

## TRAVEL OF DEPENDANTS

(Continued From Page One)

yard of the vessel, or its home port.

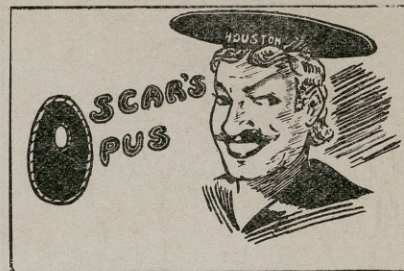
(B) Allowances are based upon the cost from home port to home port. Or home yard to home yard, unless the actual cost involved is less than either of the foregoing.

(C) When dependents start or go to a place other than the home yard or home port, the basis of travel allowance is as in (B), the cheapest of three being the allowed amount.

The application of these basic rules are fully explained in the U. S. Naval Travel Instructions.

Seaman: "I had a beard like yours and when I saw how ugly I looked I shaved it off."

Fireman: "Well I had a face like yours, and when I couldn't cut it off, I grew this beard."



## FAREVELL

Da Booie Yeorge say "So Long HOU,  
Ay spouse yu haftu go,  
Ay kinda hate tu see yu leve  
And Ay feel kinda low,  
It break my heart tu haftu take  
Anudder ship in tow."

And HOUSTON say, "Ay skol miss yu  
For Ay like yu a lot,  
And it ain't cause yure ankord har  
In such a lovely spot,  
Cumpared tu yu, dese odder Booies  
Ain't skol seem so hot.

Sheer up, Old Booie, don't look so blu,  
Ay skol be bak, dey say,  
And moor at dis har Booie Fox  
Whu ain't so far away  
And Ay skol vave my fiag at yu  
And pass da time of day."

Den Yeorgie say, "By Hek, dats gude!"  
And grin tu beat da band,  
"Har, have a shew of Seaveed Snus,  
Ay tink yu like da brand,  
And let me shake yure ankord shain  
And vish yu luck, my frand."

## OSCAR

Oscar in this issue not only says good-by to "Booie-Yeorge" but also to the Houston and the readers of the "Blue Bonnet". He has orders, effective yesterday, transferring him to Coco Solo, Canal Zone, where he will be attached to Patrol Squadron Three. So long Oscar and "Happy Landings" in your duty under the old Southern Cross.

An Honorable Discharge from the United States Navy is a testimonial of fidelity and obedience. It is a certificate of service and character and is always of value to the holder in future years. A remarkable reference in obtaining employment.

Chief: "That dame over there is gloomy because she's repenting her sins."

Ditto: "I'll bet she never committed any sins."

Cheif: "Those are the ones she's repenting."

Mail the "Bonnet" Home!