

—: 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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JANUARY 25, 1936



"DRY-DOCK"

Smoothly into dock she slides,
Effortless the gates swing to,
Out goes the water and
The bottom comes into view.

The deck-hands note this
With exceeding disfavor
For to them, it means
A period of hard, hard labor.

Despite this they always
Turn to with a will
And Soon the dock
Resembles a great mill.

With scraping and painting
They very busily engage
Until the ship is fit for sea
Whether new or overage.

So to the deck hands,
Goes a lot of credit,
For "E's" won for Engineering
The Engineers are indebted.

So the lowly Seaman,
Let off their praises ring,
While doing their work well
Are often heard to sing.

Though not harminous
He sings from his heart
With thoughts of his Navy
The service from which he hates to part.

AMMUNITION

Received and Stowed Aboard in
Record Time.

Early this morning, Saturday, all preparations were completed for receiving our service, and a small consignment of target shells from the Ammunition Depot.

At about 08:30 two yard cranes chugged their way up the dock, taking their respective places abreast the ship.

Soon the shell trays were being swung aboard, loaded with bright and shiny projectiles, this the result of two weeks touching up by members of the gunnery department.

In exactly two hours the last shell was on deck and in two hours more the last shell was stowed and secured in it's proper place.

Our gunnery divisions have once more demonstrated their ability and initiative in doing their job well.

Not a single accident, to mar their splendid work, occurred.

Well done, Gunnery Department.

BASKETBALL

Houston Hoopmen Take Thriller
From Apprentices

Thursday night the HOUSTON five took the court in Vallejo High Gym facing the Mare Island Apprentices, a reputedly strong squad in local circles.

The Apprentices were top-heavy favorites at game time, and did bear out pre-game predictions during the first half for the lead changed several times, with the yard men threatening to break loose continually.

The HOUSTON boys started slowly and cautiously due mostly because of unfamiliarity with the court. Being almost overcautious, they warmed up slowly, hitting their usual fast pace late in the half.

Willmuth and Mustain gave a stellar exhibition of good defensive play during the first half, their good work leading the rest of the squad to turn back repeated rallies of the opponents.

The second half started with the HOUSTON five clicking and soon they broke away from the Apprentices who had held them to a 17 to 16 score at the end of the first half.

The Kennedy, Willmuth and Stoddard combination worked well now with the score mounting steadily until the end of the game.

Jones and Ulrey worked well too, forcing the Apprentices to attempt their scoring well out from the basket.

High scoring honors were pretty equally divided between Willmuth-16 and Kennedy-15 for the HOUSTON while Bryton of the Apprentices scored 15.

The final score was HOUSTON 38 Apprentices 29.

HOUSTON SCHEDULE, SECOND
ROUND, SERVICE BASKETBALL
LEAGUE

Sat. Jan. 25-7:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs USS EVANS.

Tues. Jan. 28, 6:30 PM USS HOUSTON vs U. S. MARINES.

Tues. Feb. 4, 6:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs NAVAL OFFICERS.

Sat. Feb. 8, 8:15 PM USS HOUSTON vs USS PINOLA.

Thurs. Feb. 13 7:00 PM USS HOUSTON vs NAVAL HOSPITAL.

All games are to be played on the Navy YMCA court in Vallejo, and it is expected that our up and coming team will receive lots of the old HOUSTON support.

Since all games are in the evening, it is felt little difficulty will be found for those desiring to see our boys in action.

ON THE RIFLE RANGE

During the past week the results of the Rifle firing were very encouraging. Of the thirty-four men to fire, seventeen qualified for Marksmen. The Marksman course is fired at a range of two hundred yards with a 120 out of a possible 150 being necessary to qualify for marksman.

Much credit is due to the Marines who assisted in coaching.

The men who qualified are as follows:

1st. Division—11 men fired the course.	
Andree, F. R. Sea2c.	137
Adams, W. L. Sea1c.	127
Acuto, J. Sealc.	124
Barron, J. Sea2c.	121
Mers, R. L. Sea2c.	131
Blain, R. L. Sea2c.	121
Lt. (jg) Harris	137
2nd. Division—11 men fired the course	
Hennessey, J. K. Sea2c.	125
Hennessey, T. W. Sea2c.	131
Taylor, M. Sea2c.	123
Kirkpatrick, R. L. Sealc.	120
Taylor, F. B. Sealc.	120

To achieve success one must usually risk failure.

Failure does not hurt so keenly if we know we have given the best we have toward success.

HAVE YOU, completed your course for the next higher rating?