

NOSEY NEWS

by
EV' BODY



Seems sorta like there are some on this packet that thinks I am lower than a whale — and others that think I'm OKE, some says I ain't good enough to ???? and still others think I am. Well, you can't please everybody and a happy medium can't be struck so I'll stick it out until I get struck. Then some darn fool will say, "Well, he asked for it." Mmm, mebbe so.

Not much liberty this week and so the dope is kinda slim, but ship-side info' is here and there. We did forget last week to mention the over-worked Seaman Guard who did the Marines job nobly so that the latter could escort the "Flowers of Houston" around the ship and thence ashore. We find that the latest bid for perpetual motion is the Spud Masher in the Crew's Galley. It comes to our ears that a certain Turret Captain, first piecee is thinking of submitting a new plan whereby the mail will be delivered daily regardless of conditions—now Asher, we'll have to waggle our several fingers at you! It is rumored about the decks that a ladder sitting marathon is to be started for the benefit of those rabid theatre goers, even the Captain had to ask one to move so that he could get to the show himself.

Baker: Let's get our wives together and have a big night.

Fransher: O.K., but where shall we leave them?

Somebody asked "Movie" Brown how much money he sent to the better half every pay-day and he said, "None, she meets me at the dock and takes it home herself." The last time Flag Office Allyn went to see the gal friend in Long Beach, her kid brother met him at the door and says, "Make

yourself at home. Sis won't be down for a half hour, but Pop will be here soon's he finishes oiling his shotgun." 'Peers sorta like the "Flash" didn't stick around long, or did he? And so we'll call it a day. How'm I doin'?

KNOWING THE NAVY

This week we wish to bring to attention some information about one of the problems our infant navy had to contend with during their early days. That of their difficulties with merchantmen used to smuggle slaves into the United States. The few items listed will give a fairly definite idea of the troubles some American Commanders had.

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In the first quarter of the nineteenth century, the courts of America would convict a slaver only in cases where negroes were actually found on board. This made it difficult for Naval forces engaged in suppression of the traffic.

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This story told that one slave ship captain tied 600 slaves to his anchor chain and when he was about to be raided by naval forces, let go his anchor. The weight of anchor and chain swept all 600 slaves overboard. Although the enforcement officers heard the screams of the slaves and saw what had been done, they were powerless, and left the vessel amid the jeers of her captain and crew.

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In 1860, Cuba was the most profitable slave market in the world. In that year alone 12 Cuban slave ships were captured by Navy vessels.

THE GUNNERS GANG

The Gunner's Gang has been out of action for some time. However, next week sees it back on the firing line. Lt. (jg) Robinson leads the officers and men of the fourth and fifth divisions against an enemy air attack. The change in personnel has been enormous since the last firing. Plenty of drills and stout hearts will overcome this handicap. We have the men to mold—"time, get going."

Brown, GM3c., reported on board recently and is with Weigand, the able turret captain, of the "Fighting First."

Send the BLUE BONNET home.

STOKERS NOTES

At last in dear old Guantanamo Bay again and the sun beaming down stronger than ever.

The stokers are busy now cleaning up after the past two months cruising and getting ready for another month of it as soon as we leave here for the West Coast.

Received several more men so it looks like we will have an Engineer's Force before long if we do not have to send more men to Asia or help some other ship out.

It was sorta whispered around that a certain man in the stoker gang fell rather hard for a dame in Houston and found out that the following night two of his buddies (you know the kind I mean) took her out and during the course of the evening the young lady made the following remark, "My, I wonder where Gracie Allen is?" Now who is Gracie Allen??

Well fella's, the rates will be coming out the end of this month, so let's get those rating courses completed so that we can have a few more rated men on this ship.

It looks very much like we will lead the Cruisers again this month with a monthly score of 116.257 and a year to date score of 115.049.

Well, thats all for this week and lets do some fine steaming this month so as to keep that "E" in sight.

SPLIT ESSES

Ideal weather conditions have prevailed during the past week, and this has given us a chance to put a large amount of hours in the air. At the present time the HOUSTON unit, along with the rest of the Cruiser Wing, has been engaged in training for (SABP) Camera Gunnery, both free and fixed. Here is a good opportunity for our Gunnery Observers to strut their stuff.

Many requests have come to members of this outfit, to try and get hops for the "Coolies". I am afraid that they will be far and few between, owing to the fact that without training in gunnery, an observer would be shortening his hours, and as no one else can get it for them, they undoubtedly will be doing most of the flying. Sorry boys.

Lest we forget—Aviation is not

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