



Volume III

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Number L

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY

After several weeks of preparation the HOUSTON'S Christmas Party was held as per schedule. Judging by the appreciation with which our efforts were received the party was a huge success.

Nearly 90 children, including 30 from needy families, together with forty mothers, were guests of the ship. The children were met at the dock at 11:00 A. M. and welcomed aboard ship at 11:15. The children were divided into groups of 4 to 6 and a group assigned to each division. The children then went below decks where they were entertained at the Division Christmas trees, made friends with their escorts and were given presents. Then a fine turkey dinner with all the

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NEW BATTLESHIP COMMANDER

On Saturday, 2 January 1937 at 0930 Rear Admiral E. C. Kalbfus, U.S.N. will relieve Vice Admiral Clarence S. Kempff, U.S.N. as Commander Battleships, Battle Force. The ceremony will be performed on board the U. S. S. West Virginia.

HOUSTON OFFICERS GO UP FOR SELECTION

A selection board has been ordered to convene about 11 January for the purpose of selecting a limited number of Commanders from those Lieutenant Commanders who are senior to Signal Number 1470. Mr Vytlacil, Mr. Inglis, Mr. Keating, and Mr. Clifford are in this group.



XMAS GREETINGS



Secretary Swanson extends to the entire Naval Service his sincere good wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and takes the occasion to commend the Service as a whole for DUTY WELL DONE.

HOUSTON OFFICERS TO TAKE PROMOTION EXAMINATIONS

During the period of 1 March to 17 April a number of Houston Commander Scouting Force's Staff officers will take their professional examinations for promotion to the next senior rank. These Officers are: Lieut. R. B. Vanzant, Lt. (jg) G. L. Huff, Ensigns E. C. Long, E. R. Nelson Jr., H. F. Kuehl, A. C. House, I. S. Presler and C. J. Mackenzie.

TRACKING EXERCISE

During the afternoon of 4 January the Houston, Pensacola, and Northampton will hold a Radio Direction Tracking Exercise at sea.

COMMAND CHANGE

Monday, 28 December at 1000 Rear Admiral H. Sadler, U. S. N. will relieve Rear Admiral C. P. Snyder, U. S. N. as Commander Cruiser Division Six, Scouting Force. The ceremony will be performed aboard the Mineapolis, the Admiral's new flagship which recently returned from Pearl Harbor Navy Yard where she was overhauled.

O'BRIEN LEAVING SHIP

This coming Monday the "Blue Bonnet" and the entire Ship's Company is going to lose a fine friend and fellow worker. "Obie" O' Brien has received orders transferring him to Guam. No other person has done so much to keep the Blue Bonnet alive. When every one else felt, shucks, what's the use, it was Obie who wouldn't give up but pitched in all the harder and dug up interesting copy which revived the spirit and renewed every ones interest. In fact it was largely through his efforts and interest that the present "Blue Bonnet" got its start and it was he who throughout the greater part of its existence has done the major portion of the work.

Not only in the literary field has his spirit been felt, but, in every activity aboard ship. In the six and a half years that he has been aboard, he has coached, managed or played on practically every athletic team on the ship. Those he actually hasn't worked

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AVIATION CADET ORDERED

Recently word was received that Aviation Cadet William C. Jakeman, USNR has been ordered to the Houston upon completion of his course of instruction at the Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida. It is expected that he will report for duty during the period that the Aviation Unit is based in San Diego for the Fleet Landing Exercise. The HOUSTON will be one of the first cruisers to be assigned an aviation cadet.