



# Aboard the U.S.S. Houston At Sea . . . .

Now that we're plowing through the wild waves towards the sun blessed islands of the blue Pacific, and all hands are caged together for a period of two weeks or more, it behooves us to take stock of ourselves and our shipmates. What are the rest of the people on the Good Ship Houston doing?

Let's just have a look in on the Gunnery Department and their drills and goins-on. General Quarters are a leading item in the orders of the day, with the incidental condition watches and so on. It also comes to mind that Pappy Asher has put away the rubber mallet that he always keeps handy when turret two is about to send out her salvos, just in case someone might get a crazy notion to open a plug at the wrong time. They tell me that Pappy is not only capable of using it but is also quite proficient at it.

Next we will take a look at the Engineering Department, with firerooms that have a temperature at full steam of some hundred and ten degrees and in the tropics it runs up to one hundred thirty-five and forty. No wonder that some of the boys come up out of the holes looking like they had just come out of a turkish bath. They, too, have their difficulties at times at sea. Such things as a sudden change from twelve knots to twenty-seven or so in less time than it takes to tell about it, or a sudden change of orders the other way, or maybe a fellow forgets some minor thing and all hands will be wondering how something happened, though with our modern Navy that is a practically an unheard-of-thing.

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## Assignment To New Construction

In general, the Bureau will assign enlisted personnel to new construction surface vessels by detail and not as the result of written requests. Individual requests for this type of duty are not desired, except from men in the following categories:

- (a) Men whose enlistments will expire approximately within three months and who desire to reenlist for new construction.
- (b) Men completing tours of duty on shore recruiting, East Coast district craft or Transportation Service.
- (c) Men destined or available for general detail.

All such requests will be acted upon by the Bureau at time of receipt in accordance with the requirements for the rating concerned. No waiting list will be maintained.

Assignment to New Construction Submarines is made by Commander, Submarine Force, from qualified submarine personnel. Former submarine men completing tours of shore duty or available for general detail will normally be ordered to a Submarine Unit

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## Athletic Interests

The Tug-O'-War on the Main Deck Aft was a howling success in more ways than one, beginning on Wednesday afternoon, with Hank Cromwell of the 'M' Division holding down the anchor end for his gang and Big Henry of the Boat Deck Gun Crew keeping his gang out of the water. Henry fell down just in time and saved the day for the fourth in one pull but the 'F' Division made them bow down in defeat in the next. Chmura of the fourth was prominently noisy as usual and expected. Charlie Putnam, Engineer's Force Jimmy Legs, was busy getting the heavyweights of the bilgedivers on topside to partake in the affair. It seems that the lads are afraid of the afternoon sun. Come up again some day boys. The spirit of competition that is aroused in a sport of this kind is just what is needed to make a happy and contented ship's company more that way. We have a mighty good ship here fellows, and a mighty good crew, and some happy, carefree rivalry and bantering back and forth is a fine thing.

### DIVISIONAL ATHLETIC COMPETITION

*Boxing-Each weight	150 100 - -
*Wrestling-Each weight	150 100 - -
†Basketball-Free throw	100 70 40 20
†Tug-o-War	100 70 40 20
†Horse-and-Rider	80 60 30 10
†Pie Race	80 60 30 10
†Rope Climb	60 40 20 10
†Spar Bouts	60 40 20 10
[Shuffle Board	40 30 15 5
[Acey-Ducey	40 30 15 5

\*Smoker Finals-Honolulu.

†Afternoon Events.

†Happy Hour-Lahaina.

[Individual Eliminations.