

DECEMBER

• TOPSIDE •

1944

FOURTH
NAVAL
DISTRICT



STORY ON PAGE 7

UNITED STATES
COAST GUARD

Auxiliary

Engineering • Developing • Manufacturing of
Automotive • Aviation • Marine •
Industrial Appliances



PECO MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

Subsidiary of Bendix Aviation Corporation

Hope St. and Indiana Ave.



ESTABLISHED 1918

WM. F. ERRIG, President

Philadelphia 33, Pa.

BUY WAR BONDS FOR VICTORY



"LET'S GIVE HIM MENNEN LATHER SHAVE FOR CHRISTMAS"

Regulations call for a clean-shaven face or a full beard. Stubble is out — with the Service and with the gals. Of course, a fellow likes to skip a shave now and then, especially if he has had trouble finding a shaving cream that gives him clean, cool shaves. But there's no excuse for that, for Mennen Shave Cream is readily available at drug and department stores and there's nothing on the market that's so cool and refreshing for taking off a day's growth. Mennen Shave Cream is packaged, we are proud to say, in sturdy Peerless Tubes.

PEERLESS TUBE COMPANY

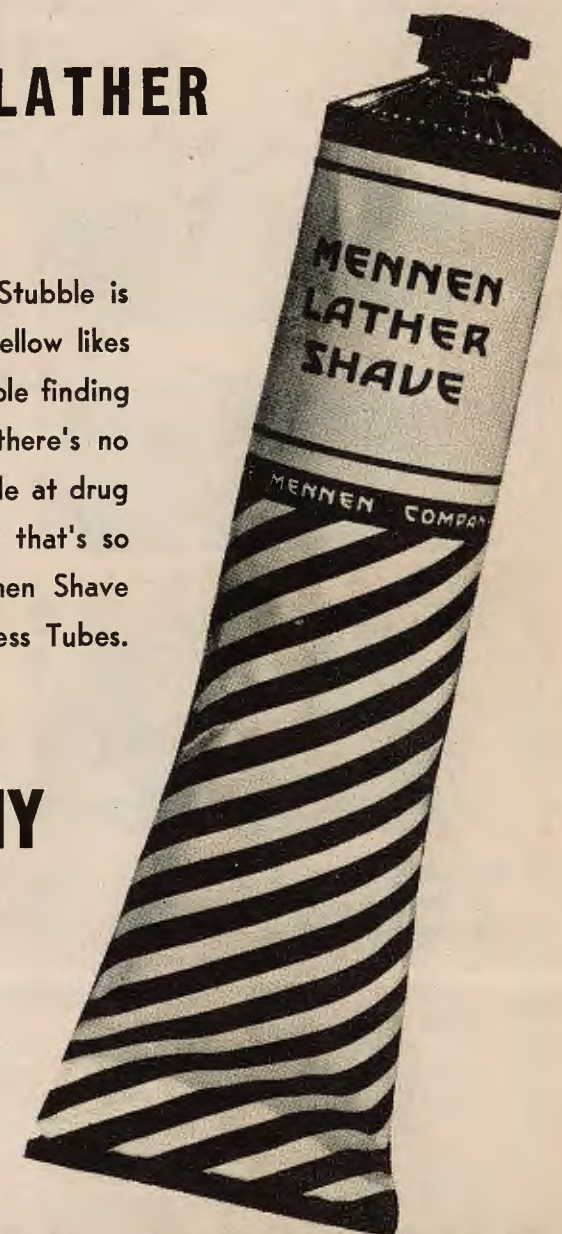
BLOOMFIELD, N. J.

W. I. FROST
4990 Melrose Ave.
Los Angeles

W. R. MALECKAR
Northwestern Bank Bldg.
Minneapolis

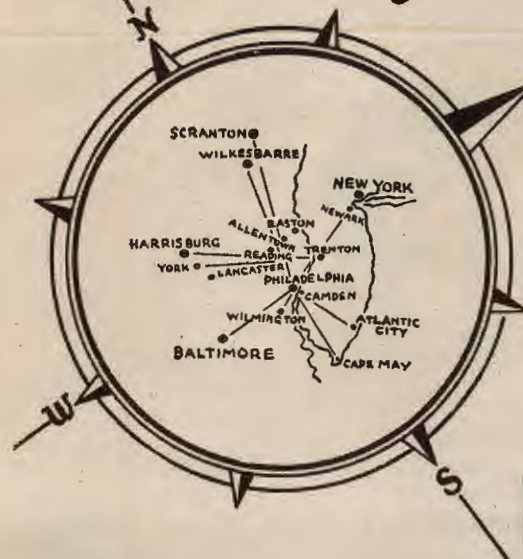
J. E. McLAUGHLIN
401 Lock St.
Cincinnati

ROSE LABEL & BOX CO.
123 Madison St.
Chicago



PEERLESS TUBES PRESERVE and OUTLAST THEIR CONTENTS

Serving the **GREATER EASTERN MARKET**



13 MODERN WAREHOUSES

are strategically located to render
Economical Service



You are sure to find a Terminal Warehouse adjacent to that particular area in Philadelphia where it is to your advantage to have your merchandise available at all times.

Each building of the Terminal group is of modern construction, earning low insurance rates. All are provided with modern equipment for the safe, prompt, and economical handling of merchandise in any quantity. Ample accommodations for the storage and shipping of both bulk and packaged freight, with special facilities for the handling of household goods. Various properties have direct rail connections with both the Pennsylvania Railroad and the Reading Company. Completely equipped pool car departments are provided.

Our own fleet of modern motor trucks enable us to make store-door deliveries throughout the Philadelphia trading zone. We also provide next-morning delivery anywhere within the area shown on the above map.

Write for Particulars

TERMINAL WAREHOUSE COMPANY

Delaware Ave. and Fairmount • Philadelphia



MEMBERS—A.W.A.,



N.F.W., Pa. F.W.A.



Represented by DISTRIBUTION SERVICE, INC.

2 Broadway, NEW YORK CITY
Phone, Bowling Green 9-0986

219 E. North Water St., CHICAGO, ILL.
Phone, Sup. 7180

625 Third St., SAN FRANCISCO
Phone, Sutter 3461

Association of Good Warehouses • Located at Strategic Distribution Centers

*The Gift You Have
Been Searching For*

Reminds the recipient of you
throughout the year by its faithful
reproduction of recorded music. . . .

4000 OR MORE
PERFECT PLAYS



\$1.50

In Attractive Gift Box

Happily solves many a gift problem
Resembles a piece of jewelry

PRECIOUS METAL POINT

Pfanstiehl

PHONOGRAPH NEEDLE

DECCA PRESENTS ANOTHER
OF BROADWAY'S BIGGEST
MUSICAL HITS OF THE
SEASON WITH
ORIGINAL
CAST.

BLOOMER GIRL

WE OFFER
YOU FRONT ROW
SEATS TO HEAR
SUCH TUNES AS, "WHEN THE
BOYS COME HOME," "THE EAGLE &
ME," "I GOT A SONG," "RIGHT AS RAIN,"
"EVELINA," "T'MORRA," "SUNDAY IN CICERO
FALLS," ETC. LIST PRICE \$6.78. MAIL & PHONE ORDERS
FILLED. 50c CHGE. FOR PACKING & EXPRESS. NO C.O.D.'s.

SHRYOCK RADIO AND
TELEVISION Co.

EST. 1926

1615 WALNUT ST. RITTENHOUSE 3246
PHILADELPHIA 3

TOPSIDE

U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT

LIEUT. JOHN W. BROWN, U.S.C.G.R.
Director

HENRY L. SCHIMPF, JR.
Executive Officer

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

ROBERT W. GRAHAM
Staff Chairman

RUSSELL K. CARTER PAUL C. APPLGATE
E. L. JOHNSTONE ROBERT N. D. ARNDT
MICHAEL A. DEVITT JERRY M. MARCUS
KEN MURRAY F. TRAVIS COXE
JAMES J. TOMES JOHN J. SADER

FRANK R. EWING
Art Director

VOL. 2 DECEMBER, 1944 No. 12

TOPSIDE is the official publication of the U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Fourth Naval District. It is issued monthly to approximately 3,500 members. Contents are not copyrighted, but the courtesy of a credit line is requested when material is reprinted. Advertising rates on request. Address all communications regarding TOPSIDE to Robert W. Graham, Editor, 12 South 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.

VOLUNTEER DAYS ARE OVER

Remember the day you volunteered for service in the United States Coast Guard Reserve Class (T)? Felt kinda proud of yourself, didn't you? Your thoughts probably ran something like this:

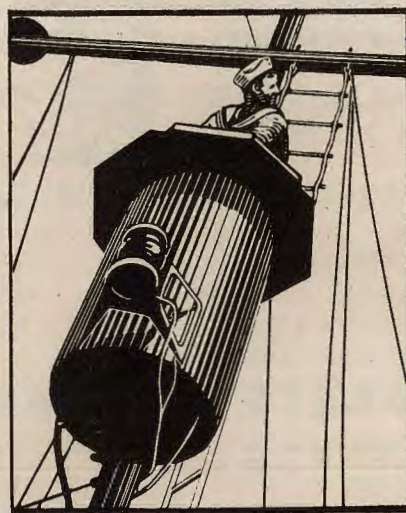
"Gotta do something constructive to help the war effort. Civilian Defense is all right and has its place, but I want to do something more than answer practice air-raid alarms. Uncle Sam doesn't want me yet—may never call me for active duty overseas. But there's an important job I can do here at home. I don't have to do this. I'm volunteering."

That was fine. And perhaps you could be forgiven for getting a crick in your arm from patting yourself on the back. You were a volunteer.

But once you took the oath, your volunteering was over. From then on, you were in the armed services of the United States. From then on, you should have been prepared to do what you were told. Same as any regular soldier. Regulars don't volunteer for service in the Aleutians or the South Pacific. They go where they're sent. So should we. Where did we ever get the idea that we had the special privilege of volunteering for the duty that seemed to us to be the softest? Ridiculous! We volunteered to do twelve hours duty a week. We were given the great privilege of saying whether that

should be day duty or night duty. We were even allowed to express a preference for what day in the week we would serve! But right there, the volunteering should stop. From there on, it's up to us to do what we're told. If our Operations Officer says we're to spend the twelve hours standing in the rain at the Pier 181 gate, the answer is "Aye, aye, sir". Whether we like it or not. Granted, most of us are boatmen and are unhappy when our feet are planted on anything but a moving hull. But think. Think of the day you volunteered. Was anything said about twelve hours afloat? No.

Remember that, next time your Operations Officer picks out a job for you. No matter what kind of work he has for you to do, there is only one manly answer: "Aye, aye, sir."



JOHNNIE GETCHA GUN

Yes, men, authorization has been received from Captain L. E. Wells, Ass't DCGO, and endorsed by Lieut. J. W. Brown, Director of the Auxiliary in the 4th ND, for the continuance of the Gunnery Program so successfully conducted last year under the chairmanship of Ensign (T) Norman J. Derr, and the supervision of Lieut. "Bill" Sturm, USCG.

Since the completion of last year's gunnery familiarization program, almost 500 new men have entered the ranks. Some 200 oldsters never completed the original course. Now, all these men will be given a chance to learn how to handle firearms, under the tutelage of some of the finest marksmen in the United States, bar none.

A six-month's program will start on 2 January. Any man who is not already an expert with small arms will be missing a golden opportunity if he fails to see his Flotilla Gunnery Officer right away to make arrangements for participating in this program.



★ I can not let this time of year go by without wishing you all the Season's Best and the finest that the New Year may hold. My thanks for your cooperation with me during the time I have been commodore are profuse and sincere.

Nor can I let this time of year pass without a few words about what the future holds for us, as I see it. If your memory is good, you will recall that at this time last year we were talking optimistically about the end of the war in Europe. We are still talking about it, but the end has not come. Whether it comes in 1945 or not will make little difference in the activities of Class (T) men — unless it be to step them up!

The plans for the Auxiliary's participation in a broad program of air-sea rescue work are no secret, even though they are still in the formative stage. These plans call for so much more work on the part of Temporary Reservists that it would not surprise me to see the present policy of freezing enlistments revised and to find ourselves again in the midst of a recruiting campaign to enlist men who can perform twelve hours of duty a week in uniform.

Even were it not for the air-sea rescue program, I believe I am justified in predicting that the work of Class (T) men will continue unabated throughout 1945. That may come as something of a shock to those men who are getting "fed up" with what we are doing. But I should like to recall to the minds of such men the enthusiasm with which they signed the contract when they first enlisted. There was no promise then that this would be a short war; and if anyone entered the service with the mental reservation that it would be all over soon, he has no one but himself to blame. And if he has any moral courage at all he will stick it out to the end.

We need every man we have. We shall probably need more. To quit now is to walk out in the middle of the show. No good trouper would ever do that.

—Lieut. Comdr. (T) F. B. Hineine, commodore, USCG Auxiliary, 4th ND.

LIEUT. "BILL" STRAUCH GETS BRONZE STAR

By LIEUT. (j.g.) W. E. STURM, USCG

★ The official U. S. Coast Guard photograph which adorns our front cover this month had the following brief description on the back:

Public Relations Office
U.S.C.G. Academy
New London, Conn.
PHILADELPHIA OFFICER DECORATED AT
COAST GUARD ACADEMY

New London, November 18: Rear Admiral James Pine, Supt. of the United States Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., pins the Bronze Star medal on Lieut. William D. Strauch, Jr., USCGR, of Philadelphia, for his exploits as commander of an LST during the Normandy invasion last June. Lieut. Strauch was cited by Admiral Harold R. Stark, USN, Commander U. S. Naval Forces in Europe, for his initiative, clear judgment and efficiency while his beached vessel was under heavy artillery fire for five hours.

"Bill" Strauch's many friends throughout the 4th Naval District, pleased as they are to see this official recognition given to the young man whom they know almost as well "as the lad next door", are not at all surprised. They sort of expected this of "Bill" all along. He always had the habit of being out in front when the gun went off.

Lieut. Strauch is as much a Philadelphia product as "scrapple" or "peppercorn". He was born in Philadelphia some 26 years ago and his parents still reside at 4323 North 7th Street. He graduated from Olney High School and attended Drexel Institute of Technology, taking a course in engineering.

He was engaged in Marine engineering when he was commissioned an Ensign in the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve 10 July, 1941, having the distinction of being the first officer to be commissioned in the USCGR in the 4th Naval District. He was immediately assigned to duty as Assistant Director of the USCG Auxiliary, 4th Naval District, also having the honor of being the first one assigned to and holding that office.

Lieut. Strauch was very active in organizing several new Flotillas, such as, 23 at Dredge Harbor, N. J., 51 at Reading, Pa., 33 at Wildwood, N. J. and 25 Farragut Flotilla at Camden, N. J.

Lieut. Strauch had a wide acquaintance in yachting circles. He held the rating of Navigator in the Delaware River Power Squadron and was a very capable instructor in their Navigation Classes. This later proved to be a prolific source for recruiting members for the Auxiliary. The U. S. Power Squadron has furnished many outstanding officers to the U. S. Coast Guard in this

District, both Reserve and Auxiliary, and "Bill" is one of them.

Mr. Strauch was promoted to Lieutenant (j.g.) 1 May, 1942, and to Lieutenant (senior grade) 31 December, 1942.

In the fall of 1942, Lieut. Strauch was assigned as executive officer on a large Buoy Tender newly launched at Duluth, Minnesota. They brought her through the Great Lakes and the St. Lawrence just before the ice closed in, stopping navigation for the winter. After she was delivered safely to a large East coast port, Lieut. Strauch was assigned as executive officer on one of the first LSTs that left our shores for the newly-occupied coast of North Africa.

The actual, epic story of the U. S. Coast Guard's role in the invasion of Sicily will never be better described than in the written, factual report by Lieut. W. D. Strauch, Jr., USCGR, Executive Officer of a Coast Guard-manned ship. We hope to obtain a full report of this stirring narrative from him for a future edition of TOPSIDE. We would also like to include his story of the LST 331's participation in the Salerno invasion.

After the Italian invasions, Lieut. Strauch went to England where he was made commanding officer of the LST 331 and prepared for the Normandy invasion of 6 June. While in England, "Bill" met and married an English girl who will arrive in New London, Conn. shortly, as his bride. She was Lance Corp. Shirley Ewart of the Auxiliary Territorial Service and they were married 18 September. Within two hours of the ceremony, Lieut. Strauch received his orders to the Coast Guard Academy and had to curtail his honeymoon.

"Bill" arrived at the Coast Guard Academy on 12 October after crossing the Atlantic by plane and was stricken with appendicitis shortly after his arrival. After two weeks in the Academy infirmary, he was granted 21 days sick leave. During this period, he arranged for his wife's discharge and permission to come to the United States. In this brief time, he had traveled to Washington, New York, and across the Atlantic and back, making arrangements that required special permission from British and American officers and other government officials to bring Mrs. Strauch to the States.

There were several interesting technicalities that had to be ironed out, as Lieut. Strauch's bride, who is an English short story writer whom he met when

several members of the A.T.S. were invited to dinner aboard the LST 331 while preparing for the Normandy invasion at a west England port, is not technically a British citizen. She was born in Hankow, China, of British parents who neglected to register her birth, and so she is considered a British protected citizen rather than a British subject; a fact she did not discover until the current war when she endeavored to join the WRENS. The incident of her birth presented an "interesting international problem", for in addition to being born of British parents in China, the actual birth took place at the American Legation which was on a Russian land grant.

Lieut. Strauch, now at the Academy, is extremely modest about the part he played in the Normandy landing, resulting in his decoration. The U.S.S. LST 331 was making her second trip from England to the Normandy beach head when the incident occurred.

"We beached the vessel and allowed her to dry out, that is," he explained, "leaving her high and dry on the shore. As soon as we were struck, the shooting began and we were under fire for about five of the six or seven hours we were aground. The Germans really opened up on our ship and they scored four direct hits — one struck the magazine but fortunately was a dud, and another entered the ward room and bounced around on the chairs in which some of our officers had been sitting, playing cards, a few minutes earlier.

"My men were very brave under fire," Lieutenant Strauch continued, "and we would never have gotten off the beach but for the efficiency and daring of the crew and officers. One man welded patches over the shell holes on the side of the ship so that she could float when the tide came in. My executive officer and my engineering officer, both graduates of the Reserve Officers' Training School at the Academy, proved invaluable and I recommended decorations for them and some members of the crew. The ship has received a letter of commendation for its officers and crew in this action."

Lieutenant Strauch, your many friends in the 4th Naval District take great pride in your meritorious performance of duty under fire, repeatedly demonstrated through nearly two years of actual duty in combat areas in this roughest and toughest of all wars. We are proud to salute you. Our faith in you has never wavered.

FROM the BRIDGE



WAR DIARY

UNITED STATES COAST GUARD AUXILIARY — FOURTH NAVAL DISTRICT
FOR PERIOD OF 16 TO 30 NOVEMBER, 1944, INCLUSIVE

By LIEUT. JOHN W. BROWN, Director

★ Friday, 17 November — A work detail for boat maintenance, especially painting, was assigned to CG OPERATING BASE, PORT RICHMOND, Philadelphia, Pa., for Saturday and Sunday, 18 and 19 November, 1944. Vessels CG-44001 and CG-46020 were painted throughout by Class (T) Reservists.

Sunday, 19 November — Due to the efforts of Ensign (T) Michael A. Devitt, USCGR, Auxiliary Publicity Chairman, a full page of Coast Guard pictures was printed in the "PHILADELPHIA RECORD", Sunday, 19 November, 1944. The "PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER", Sunday, 5 November, 1944, also ran a story showing Auxiliary participation in high school boys' seamanship classes.

Monday, 20 November — The Up-River Patrol from CG OPERATING BASE, PORT RICHMOND, Philadelphia, Pa., utilizing CG-46029, manned by personnel from Quaker City Flotilla 21, was discontinued as of this date. Ten members of this crew were immediately transferred to shore duty at the CG OPERATING BASE, PORT RICHMOND.

Monday, 20 November — Sixty members of the Class (T) Reserve from the USCG Auxiliary participated in a War Bond Parade, launching the 6th War Loan Drive in Philadelphia. A complimentary message from the DCGO was received as a consequence of this participation.

Monday, 20 November — Notice was sent to all Flotilla commanders announcing a rating examination for all deck ratings and motor machinist's mate ratings, to be held on Sunday, 3 December, 1944, at the USCG Auxiliary Training Base.

Tuesday, 21 November — A huge war bond rally was held at the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, Pa. The Director,

Class (T) Reserve officers, and Flotilla war bond chairmen attended.

Wednesday, 22 November — A meeting was held at the Barclay Hotel, English Room, of all Flotilla commanders of the Delaware River division, together with the commodore, captain of the division, and staff committee chairmen. These division meetings held regularly once each month are mainly responsible for the high morale and spirit of cooperation which exists in the USCG Auxiliary of the 4th Naval District.

Thursday, 23 November — The commercial fishing dock patrol was ordered secured as of 2400, 30 November, 1944, by a directive from the DCGO, 4th Naval District. This releases some two hundred and twelve Class (T) Reservists from the Auxiliary for duty in connection with the Air/Sea Rescue Program.

Saturday, 25 November — Farragut Flotilla 25, held its Annual Meeting at the Hotel Walt Whitman, Camden, N. J., which the Director, commodore, together with staff officers attended.

Monday, 27 November — Twenty-five men from Flotilla 27 were assigned to Aids to Navigation Detail at Fort Mott, New Jersey. This detail will take charge of the Aids to Navigation's installations at Fort Mott. It is the first instance in the 4th Naval District that Class (T) Reservists have been utilized in what might be described as the "old Light-house Service". The post requires one man to be on duty at all times, and due to the remoteness of the Station, will have to be a self-sustaining unit.

Tuesday, 28 November — The Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Divisions held a meeting at Lancaster, Pennsylvania, at which time the Director, commodore, Operations Officer, Personnel Officer, and the captain of the Delaware

RATINGS & COMMISSIONS CONFIRMED IN NOVEMBER

| Flotilla | Name | From | To |
|----------|------------------------|--------|-----------|
| 22 | DEVITT, Michael A. | Sea.1c | Ensign |
| 22 | LEAVITT, William H. | CBM | Boatswain |
| 22 | BECK, John D. | BM1c | CBM |
| 22 | HICKMAN, David | BM1c | CBM |
| 27 | CLARK, Willard H. | BM2c | CBM |
| 27 | NORTH, Francis V. | BM2c | CBM |
| 24 | BEDESEM, Paul P. | Sea.1c | CMoMM |
| 22 | MUNSHOWER, William | Sea.1c | CMoMM |
| 18 | CARRIGAN, Stokes B. | MoMM1c | BM1c |
| 24 | BATEY, James B. | Cox. | BM1c |
| 22 | HEALD, Benjamin | Cox. | BM2c |
| 22 | REGNER, Henry A. | Cox. | BM2c |
| 13 | GABRIEL, Theodore G. | GM3c | GM2c |
| 13 | HAUGHTON, Robert L. | Cox. | MoMM2c |
| 23 | BROOK, John M. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 24 | BROWN, John M. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 25 | CRANMER, James T. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 25 | DAVIS, Richard J. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | DUGAN, Leroy | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | EMMONS, Willard T. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | ERRICO, George C. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | FORD, Reese M. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 25 | FOSTER, Thomas | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 24 | GERSITZ, Albert | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | GOTCHEL, Harry P. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | HENCH, Clark | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | HOCH, Arthur E. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | JONES, Walter | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 22 | LAHM, Frederick P. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 25 | McCARDELL, Clarence | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | MAAHSEN, Charles E. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 25 | MURREN, Walter H. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | SCHAEFER, Louis P. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | SIFFLING, Carl E. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | STRAUB, Harry N. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | SUTORIUS, Charles H. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | VENABLE, William W. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 23 | WALLACE, Donald C. | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 13 | WOOD, Jacob | Sea.1c | MoMM2c |
| 22 | ARNDT, Robert N. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 22 | BOUCHER, James H. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 22 | DRESDEN, Mark K. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 18 | PASSMORE, Lincoln A. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 24 | TRABER, Charles G. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 24 | TOMASZEWSKI, John | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 26 | VAN METER, Brainerd S. | Sea.1c | Cox. |
| 26 | EVANS, Owen L. | Sea.1c | SK3c |

River division attended. An excellent discussion was entered into, centering on post-war Auxiliary and the utilization of the so-called "Mountain" Flotillas in relief and disaster work in connection with the flash floods in Eastern Pennsylvania.

Thursday, 30 November — Plans were made with the District Communications Officer to start a Radio-Telephone instruction course at the USCG Auxiliary Training Base. This course to be attended by some ninety Class (T) Reservists from the Auxiliary who are presently assigned to radio watches at CG OPERATING BASE, PORT RICHMOND, Pier 181 North Philadelphia, and the Radio Room at CG BARRACKS, 3rd and Spruce Sts., Philadelphia. It will also include the radiomen aboard the river patrol boats. Permission has been received to grant the radioman, third class rating to all those men who satisfactorily complete this course.

The LOG of AUXILIARY FLOTILLA ACTIVITIES

FLOTILLA 23, DREDGE HARBOR — Brrr! This is the time of year when crews of the Boat Patrol envy the nice, warm detail at the Ayer Building. We strongly suspect that Chief Sanville anticipated this freeze, as we understand he now stands a watch at the District Office. Less fortunate members, assigned to a boat-painting detail, did themselves proud in refurbishing the 43002 recently. However, we didn't have much opportunity to appreciate this work, as the Flotilla now operates a larger and better-equipped craft for winter patrol. Harking back to the painting detail — we understand that Wolfgang is putting in for a master painter rating as he feels he is the only fellow able to paint rails and at the same time stipple the bulwarks and deck. The old gag about a man painting himself into a corner was brought up to date by Lee who painted himself to the outer edge of the topside bridge where he was rescued by other members. All in all, the boys must have had themselves quite a time; but their efforts proved worthy and, when inspected, the boat looked its good old self again.

Plans for procurement of a Flotilla headquarters at Cape May are still being made and it appears that we may be successful in this venture. The building in question is large enough to house almost the entire Flotilla and there is provision for the docking and storage of several boats. This should provide an excellent site for vacationing members and is worthy of every effort to obtain it.

Flotilla activities continue with their usual vigor. The Cox and Navigator classes under the tutoring of Dallett and Stevens continue to graduate potential Admirals.

The Christmas season, with all its hurly-burly of haste and activity does not find our Flotilla too busy to wish a very sincere "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year" to all Flotillas, to the District Office personnel, and to every one else within reading distance.

—William Pyke, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 24, DELAWARE RIVER — Bland Killpatrick threw a pretzel party on Monday Night, 20 November that turned out to be a hum-

dinger. A real fancy light lunch was set out that was fit for the Admiral. Our zippy pianist, Arthur Lakey, had smoke pouring out of both funnels and believe us any number called was roundly played. His accompanist was our friend "Christy" with his accordion whom we all remember from the up-river party last summer. Hans Dresel and Harry Medernach, old hands at the beer and pretzel game, attended a very neat bar. Messrs. Tompkins, Holmes, Riepen, and MacDonald were rewarded with fine souvenirs appropriate to their calling. Others, such as Prof. Larkin and "Beef-er" Kurtz also were nobly honored. The refrains were old and good and the singing loud. "Count" Sanney has a bad tonsil — that was easy to see.

At our meeting on Monday Night, 20 November, Gunnery Officer Stanley Haigh presented the Coast Guard "Expert Marksmanship" medal, for pistol, to Thomas Ackley. Mr. Haigh reports that most of the men in the last group completed their schedules in full. Arrangements will be made at a later date for those men who missed one or two classes to make up their work with the new group to be formed. To Charlie Traber goes the honor of having the highest score recorded so far, in the refresher course, for Flotilla 24.

With the help of Mr. Larkin, a few of the men have been studying unusually hard and burning the midnight oil in preparation for the examinations to be held at the District Office on Sunday, 3 December. Lots of luck, fellows.

—J. T. Elsröad, Jr., Publicity Officer.
(Harvey Mertz, Assisting)



FLOTILLA 13, SEASIDE PARK — The instructive films which Thomas Jones, S 1/c, has been showing at our regular meetings have proved both interesting and educational. The sub-

jects covered in the series were "Aids to Navigation", "Abandon Ship", and "Swimming through Burning Oil" along with several other Navy training exercises.

Mr. Burdge's appeal for the sale of War Bonds we know from past experiences, will be met with our wholehearted support. Flotilla 13 has and will continue to do its part along with all the other Flotillas to make this new War Bond Drive a complete success. We dare not do anything less.

Several of our members took the Boatswain's Mate Second Class Examinations, but as yet they have not heard the results. It was a pretty stiff test, but most of them feel confident that they passed because of the many strenuous hours of study they put in the weeks before.

Ten members of Flotilla 13 have been taking the Navigators Course which is conducted at the Base in Philadelphia. They all speak very highly of their instructors and hope some day to be able to sail any size boat on any of the seven seas.

We had the pleasure of enjoying the company of Chief Henry Dennis and five of his men from the Forked River Life Boat Station. The Chief complimented the men doing tower duty at his station for the splendid work and he expressed the wish that they continue this service as the station needs the help of the Class (T) men.

Lieutenant (T) Earle Leonard, Division captain, visited our meeting on 1 November and spoke on the unassigned status of the members. He stressed the point that he hoped all members would continue their work to the utmost of their ability as the men were needed just as much now, as when the war seemed to be right at our front door.

The Flotilla is planning a get-together at the Trenton Country Club 11 December, 1944. The arrangements are in the very efficient hands of Lloyd Case, Chairman, Harold Conover, Gerald Cahill, and Alfred Rickert. We are all looking forward to this event.

—Leslie Broomfield, Publicity Officer.

FLOTILLA 22, ESSINGTON — The spur of activity among the members of the Flotilla is just a prelude to the annual dinner and entertainment which is scheduled for 8 January. Both will be unusual, to say the least. A letter being

mailed to the membership will disclose the details.

Who wants to bowl? We've got to get a team together for an important match. Turn your names over to Henry Regner of the Thursday night crew. He'll handle the details for arranging practice sessions.

Dr. Neill, of the Thursday day crew, just can't stay out of the drink. He went overboard AGAIN last week, making it his second dunking in the Delaware this year.

Members attending the meetings are being rewarded with free tickets to the ice hockey games and other athletic events. Three sets (of two each) are available for all ice hockey games at the Arena this season. Get to the meetings and find out about them.

Roger Houghton, one of the old members of the Flotilla and a former operations officer, has returned from a year in the American Transport Service after seeing service in the South Pacific. Roger looked in the best of shape but his account of the ATS indicated it wasn't all honey and roses for the members of the Flotilla who resigned from the Reserve to join the ATS.

Herb Brennaman, Chief of the Monday night-Tuesday crew, who gets out a mimeographed issue of instructions and news items for his crew once each month, has been commended for his interest and work.

—Michael A. Devitt, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 52, LANCASTER

With summer over, winter draws on with its snow-covered watch-caps gleaming in the moonlight and that heart-warming hike from the car-barn at

Allegheny and Richmond, down to Pier 181. Through swirling clouds of downy dampness we plod, through drifts of the beautiful snow, the while the gentle zephyrs from the Nor'east blow it down our necks and up our sleeves, to arrive at the Base in the darkest hour before dawn, for our regular twelve-hour stint on the banks of the silvery Delaware. Oh for the life of a sailor!

It's that six-day furlough every week that makes it tough, though — it breaks up the routine too much. Thanks to Lieutenant Wick and Boatswain Marquardt, the old radio shack ain't what she used to be in winter. In the early days, a year or so ago, the door wouldn't shut, there was no window, and the

heater, more often than not, was burned out. How times have changed!

Our commander, Lieut. (T) O. L. "Woody" Williams made an announcement recently that will have a profound effect on our Flotilla. He has had to ask to resign as Flotilla commander due to the demands of his office of captain of the Eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware Division of the Auxiliary. He has our best wishes in his greater job, but it will be one helluva job to fill his shoes.

Another group took the Coxswain's examination on Monday, 13 November. That's why so many of us are going around with our fingers crossed these days.

With the Flotilla's War Bond Drive getting underway again, Vince Kingston and his committee are again on the job and will no doubt put us over the top.

A new class was started on 29 November, for prospective members of the Auxiliary, with Bos'n (T) Gardiner Wilson and William Kinn, CBM (T), again in charge. Some of these new members will be assigned to active duty as temporary members of the Reserve and others will be active in the Auxiliary only.

FLOTILLA 52, U. S. COAST GUARD AUXILIARY, WISHES ALL A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

—John P. Samuels, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 31, OCEAN CITY

The USCG pistol medal was awarded to Raymond G. Heron, GM 1/c (T) and William J. McCahan III, GM 2/c (T) on 7 November.

Lieutenant Harges, USCG, and Chief Weatherly, USCG, together with Chairman of the Staff Committee on Gunnery Derr, put these men through the firing routine and certified to their proficiency. N. R. A. badges for pistol shooting were awarded a number of other Flotilla 31 men at the meeting in Ocean City on 17 November. The interest in this phase of gunnery, plus supplemental instruction now being given, has resulted in the development of material for competitive shooting. Inter-Flotilla matches are contemplated and Flotilla 31 challenges pistol teams from other Flotillas in this District.

Under District Office planning, organization of this Flotilla into suitable units for emergency work has moved forward. Definite squad, platoon, and company groups have been designated, and come another hurricane or other

disaster, a well-integrated movement into action can be expected.

The "air-sea patrol", proposed for early activation, has passed the scuttlebutt stage in South Jersey. Townspeople of Sea Isle City have expressed interest in it but such interest is at fever heat among members of the Shore Flotillas who want to go to sea again. When it becomes a reality, members of Flotilla 31 will do their part just as in the past.

Concentrated doses of instructional work have been ladled out to a large group of strikers for ratings in this outfit. The boiler room of Ocean City High School, being the only warm place in the house over week-ends, has been converted into a class-room. This is putting the heat on education!

Interest in Auxiliary work apparently has not subsided with the stopping of enrollments in the Reserve (T). New applications have established a need for entrance examination instruction groups at Ocean City.

—E. L. Johnstone, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 53, HARRISBURG

It must have been the opening of the educational program at the Chestnut Street Base that provided the incentive to begin another and enlarged edu-

cational program in our group. Being so far removed from the Base makes it impossible to participate in the courses of instruction and other activities but if the present plans materialize, Flotilla 53 will stay well up in front in its educational and post-war planning activities.

Beginning Monday, 4 December, five specialized classes of instruction will get under way. The instruction will be in charge of experienced and practical men, all of whom have had previous service and special qualifications in the courses which they will teach. Dr. Samuel Fluke, a regular duty member at both Essington and Port Richmond, will instruct a class in First Aid. Dr. Fluke has had wide experience in this work besides his regular medical training and those who take the course will find it more than ordinarily interesting. Dr. Donald A. Cadzow, a Navy veteran of World War I, who has sailed all over the world will be in charge of instructing the Pilot- ing class. John Esslinger, who has technically and formally studied internal combustion engines and related topics in addition to practical experience along the same lines will be in charge of the Motor Mechanics course.

William Shulz, a Navy veteran of the last war and a Naval Reserve Officer following that conflict will be in charge of instructing the Signalling course. Seamanship will be in charge of the undersigned.

In addition to all the duty assignments and the educational work of the group in the state capitol, Flotilla 53 has also taken on additional duties in representing the Fourth Navdist on the Disaster System Panel of which Col. Lynn G. Adams is the state coordinator. Under Col. Adams' leadership, a score of public and private agencies have been grouped together to function in connection with public disasters. The operation of the panel is statewide and the Coast Guard Auxiliary can be called upon to assist in the event of a serious disaster within the boundaries of the Commonwealth. In this activity, one of the principal reasons for continuing the Coast Guard Auxiliary after the end of the present conflict is already an accomplished fact. In the event of floods, fires, or waterfront catastrophies, the Auxiliary, with a large group of well-trained and disciplined men would prove of invaluable assistance.

While all this is being planned and executed the seventy-odd members of Flotilla 53 continue to serve their regular tours of duty at the two Coast Guard bases in the Philadelphia area. Twelve full hours of duty plus six hours total travelling time make a pretty full day but it seems that anyone who has a hankering to be around or on the water can never satisfy the yen. That's what service in the Reserve (T) does for us.

—Paul C. Applegate, Public Relations Officer.

FLOTILLA 21, QUAKER CITY

One of the things we feel plays an important part in maintaining a high average of meeting attendance, in spite of the varying ebb and flow of specific Coast Guard duties, is continued emphasis on all training phases. This is dimly reflected in the fact that Auxiliary membership has continued to grow in spite of the fact that Class (T) activities are not, at this time, open to new-comers. In every training department, 21 is out to make better boatmen. Even if this skill is never needed by Uncle Sam, it is playing an important part in guaranteeing greater pleasure and greater safety in boating when the war is over. George Jackel, membership chairman, deserves praise for his continued success in getting good-type Auxiliary membership. Warrant Dave Fiuman, in charge of education, also merits applause for his insistence on maintaining training activities. On the military

side, Gunnery Officer Ed Klein is doing a fine job in getting out unbroken attendance records at gunnery classes. As a result, the following additional men have qualified for gunnery certificates: William Lex, Albert L. Breithaup, Lee B. Sacks, John J. Sader, Leonard E. Satz, Frank Snyder, Elmer S. White, John F. McKay, Horace G. Kleinfelder, Jr.

Until next time, all members of Flotilla 21 join in extending you Season's Greetings.

—Frank T. Kessler, Publicity Officer.



AT FLOTILLA 25 DANCE

Lieut. John W. Brown, 4th ND Aux. Director; Lieut. (j.g.) (T) C. F. Hadley, Flotilla commander; Lieut. Comdr. (T) F. B. Hine, commodore.



FLOTILLA 25, FARRAGUT

Prior to making those good resolutions for the new year, it seems fitting that we review some of the past history of our Flotilla by quoting in part from a letter sent out recently to each member by our esteemed commander, Lieut. (j.g.) (T) C. Frazier Hadley:

"It has been a productive year for Farragut Flotilla and I cannot help but point with pride to our baby that has grown to be a big boy. During the year, our membership has increased to about two-hundred and fifty members with well over two-hundred of that number enrolled in the Class (T) of the USCG Reserve, who are now classed as members of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, proudly fulfilling the duties assigned to them by the Captain of the Port.

"I wish to review some of our past activities which we have faithfully discharged and also some of the regular

duties to which we are now assigned. In the early part of the year, during cold days and nights, we walked Guard Duty at the Gloucester Immigration Station until this job was taken over in the spring by the Civilian Guards. Then we tackled the Wilson Line Boats and this security detail was manned almost entirely by the men of Farragut with the liaison officer one of our members. Our little patrol boat goes quietly on its course each night on the Petty Island Patrol and we will soon enter into the third year of running this assignment. A great many of our men are doing a stretch each week at Port Richmond Base and more are needed on this detail. Essington Base found that our men were of value to them so we are sending men to them each week to aid in keeping this Base on the go. District Office at West Washington Square is using a great many of us as a guard detail. On the water, we have a goodly number of our men assigned to the lower anchorage patrol and three skippers of the seven are from our Flotilla. The upper anchorage patrol also has men from our Flotilla and these two assignments are of the utmost importance to the activities of the Port of Philadelphia. Our latest job is to fully staff the Radio-shack for the activities of all radio traffic for the Port. With this program, all of us will readily realize that our work has just begun.

"On the social side, we enjoyed a Spring Dance and a dance of the twenty-fifth of November. Our outing on the Mullica River was a great deal of fun."

BEST WISHES OF THE SEASON TO ALL.

—John A. Bauer, Publicity Officer. (J. J. McCormack, Assisting)



FLOTILLA 18, LITTLE EGG HARBOR

The Flotilla's commander, Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Morton Gibbons-Neff, outlined at the last meeting some of the possible duties this winter for 18's

officers and crews — interesting, if they come true. Everything is so "hush-hush" that those at the meeting wondered if they should even mention the word "boat" to a neighbor. Time will tell.

Operations Officer, Ensign (T) Sidney S. Blake, highjacked a few current Blue Jacket Manuals for the gang so they could brush-up in-case-of.

Those two "shanghai pirates" from the Smellaware River shift, Boatswains (T) Wesley Heilman and Frederick Remington, offered (subject to W. W. S. approval) to train some of the new crews

on board the river tug. Emphasis was laid on the safe return to Commander "Mort" of all trainees. This is a happy solution to "how to break in the green hands" during the dull period.

The noted yachtsman, clam-digger, "motormack", and high-pressure insurance drummer, Sir Stokes Carrigan, BM 1/c, was appointed by the commander as assistant operations officer.

"Fog-bound" Army delivered a very uninspiring talk on how to buy more War Bonds.

Joe-Joe Haines, 18's serious-minded jr. commander, again pointed out that his instruction class needed recruits. A little brush-up would be good for many of us, including your reporter.

Our old ship-mate, Sgt. William Jr. Noonan, USMC, is now the proud father of a baby girl named Maiea Elizabeth Noonan (Beth, for short). Born 14 November at Philadelphia. Mother and baby doing nicely.

Again we asked: "Where is our wandering treasurer tonight?" Money-bags Mel Horter is still among the missing. The commander says he's making out our bills for 1945 dues. Rumor has it that a Spar is in the picture. Roger!

—Russell K. Carter, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 26, TRENTON

On 20 November, when the Auxiliary participated in the Philadelphia County War Finance Committee Parade, Flotilla 26 was one of the outstanding Flotillas. Even though one of the most distant, they showed up in all the rain with the largest group, and their Coast Guard spirit was not lacking. Altogether, it was an impressive show.

C. H. Wyckoff, commander, and Mrs. Wyckoff, were guests of Farragut Flotilla 25 at their party on 25 November. The commander wishes to publicly express his thanks to the boys from Farragut for their hospitality and for "the time of his life."

The following men were sworn into Flotilla 26 as Reservists: R. F. Brenner, V. N. Lincoln, G. K. Martin, J. W. Morgan, C. A. Niece, C. A. Rebman, J. Stolcz, and G. Steiner. Here's wishing them luck.

Our drillmaster, Tom Long, has whipped the boys into shape and we are now ready for inspection. "Bellies in and chins out."

The Anchorage Patrols have been an inspiration to a group of our boys. When the change-over from 12 hours to 24 hours came, our boys stuck right with it. We only regret that we do not have more men available for this patrol, as those on it are getting real training on a real boat.

Hal Phillips reports that his classes are getting along fine and soon we will blossom out with a new crop of men eligible for petty officer ratings. A large group will take the Cox and BM ratings on 3 December. Lots of luck, boys.

Future navigators are still attending classes at the Base and this reporter cannot praise too highly the swell job being done there by the staff of capable instructors.

Flash News: The Flotilla Secretary's secretary wanted a Yeoman's rating, but she could not get it, so she took the Secretary himself, instead. Congratulations, Mr. D. W. Rochestie. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all the boys from Flotilla 26.

—Barnett B. Rochestie, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 34, MAURICE RIVER

The highlight of the month, so far as this Flotilla is concerned, was a birthday party. The first Annual Banquet of Maurice River Flotilla took place 14

November, 1944, at the White Sparrow in Vineland.

Guest speakers were Lieut. J. W. Brown, USCGR, Lieut. Comdr. (T) Frank B. Hineine, Lieut. (T) H. Earl Huston, Lieut. (T) Richard W. Nelms, and Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Harry A. Attmore. Guest commanders present included Lieut. (j.g.) (T) Harry R. Vandegrift, Flotilla 31; Ensign (T) Donald Lear, Flotilla 35; and Lieut. (j.g.) (T) John J. Kay, Flotilla 33.

Thirty-Four was mighty pleased to have these gentlemen help celebrate the first birthday of our group. Their flattering remarks as to our record for the first year were also very gratifying.

The highlight of highlights was the announcement by Director Brown that plans are in the making for air-sea rescue patrols and an intimation that men of Thirty-Four will be counted upon to contribute to the operation. The faces of the members beamed with immediate visions of sea duty, but it will not be quite that simple. A lot of planning and organiza-

tion will be necessary before the new detail becomes a reality. However, our landlocked sailors are looking forward anxiously to the day when they can apply all their stored-up knowledge of navigation and seamanship.

Lee Renner, commander, served very capably as MC, while vice commander Alan Thomas was found in a new role — he delivered the invocation.

The evening was almost marred by a near-casualty. Doug Johnstone, Y 2/c, was carrying the huge 3 x 4 foot birthday cake along the rows of tables so that everyone might have a good look at the decorations. While negotiating a sharp turn, Doug had to tilt the tray and that beautiful hunk of pastry nearly slid off on the floor. However, by means of some hastily-calculated maneuvers, Yeo. Johnstone managed to regain an even keel amid sighs of relief from the gathering. The honor of cutting the cake was bestowed upon Mrs. Brown, wife of the Director.

A couple of the boys, whose wives were unable to attend the affair, each brought a sailor who happened to be in the establishment at the time. The hard-working Class (T)'s of Maurice River were grateful to Director Brown for explaining the machinery of the Auxiliary to the ladies, particularly why it is necessary for them to be absent from home three or four nights a week.

—C. M. Scull, Publicity Officer.



FLOTILLA 16, TOMS RIVER

Food, food, and more food — the kind Mom used to make — was served at the Covered Dish Supper at our meeting on the 14th. Our

wives and sweet-hearts were there and what a meal we had! And what a job to keep that old chest out at muster! The gals were excused during the regular meeting, after which cards and dancing were enjoyed by everyone. Thanks to Louis Tilton and his committee, as well as to those who contributed the excellent food, to say nothing of the points. We were also glad to have present one of our old members, Lieut. Mac Crathe, just back from the South Pacific.

We understand that Chief Kiefer will return soon from his convalescence in the Florida sunshine. Charlie Feeney is also in the hospital for a serious operation. Here's hoping he will be able to come aboard soon.

Mr. Campbell, our vice commander, was the guest of Ensign H. T. Hall, of Elizabeth Flotilla 306, at the meeting of the North Jersey Divisions. His report was most interesting to hear — to say nothing of the comments.

What a sight to behold! It was a bright Sunday morning and a goodly crowd assembled at the Toms River Yacht Club — and what a job the photographer had! Pictures were taken of the men in the Class (T) Reserve and soon we hope they will grace the pages of TOPSIDE. After the pictures were taken, the men went to the Presbyterian Church for the morning service. The sermon was preached by Ansley Van Dyke, S 1/c, our Flotilla Chaplain. He also did a masterful job singing the Coast Guard hymn. It made you feel kinda proud to see and hear one of our own members preaching from the pulpit in his uniform.

What wailing and moaning from down Barnegat City way! After more than two years, the Dock Watch there has been discontinued. This watch started on 18 June, 1942 with Ott Froriep and Tom Chadwick standing the first watch. It ended with the Conti boys — Francis and Henry — standing the last one on 30 November, 1944. This operation has been one of the most successful ones our Flotilla has undertaken. The men, under the Assistant Operations Officer, Chief Barkalow, are to be congratulated for the splendid record they made there. One of the principal causes for regret at the securing of the docks is the loss of personal contact and association with Lieut. Howell and his men. To them we shall always be grateful for the splendid co-operation they gave us.

At our next meeting on 5 December we are going to throw a party for the Dock men. Operations Officer Finley says this party is to be given in appreciation of the work they did there. Is he kiddin' or is he trying to get some zombie watches?

—Leslie W. Reynolds, Publicity Officer.

FOR DEAR OLD RUTGERS

Are you an alumnus of Rutgers University, now serving in the Class (T) of the USCG Reserve? Your Alma Mater wants to know about it. Drop a line to the editor of the Rutgers Alumni Monthly. Auxiliary magazines in other Districts please copy.

United States Coast Guard

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Personnel Bulletin No. 152-44

UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

November 4, 1944

DEPARTMENTAL CIRCULAR NO. 508

SUBJECT: Status of Members of the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve (Temporary) with Regard to Veteran Preference.

TO HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS AND INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHMENTS:

Members of the Coast Guard Reserve (Temporary) have been enrolled according to the following classifications:

(a) For active full time duty with pay and allowances at shore stations or on Coast Guard vessels.

(b) For part-time or intermittent duty without pay and allowances other than for uniforms.

(c) Pilots without pay and allowances other than for uniforms.

(d) Officers of Great Lakes vessels without pay and allowances other than for uniforms.

(e) Coast Guard police without pay and allowances.

(f) Civil-service employees of the Coast Guard without pay other than compensation of their civilian positions.

The Acting Secretary of the Navy has advised the Commission that only those members of the Coast Guard Reserve (Temporary) falling in classification (a), above, should be considered as naval veterans upon discharge.

In view of the ruling of the Acting Secretary of the Navy, service in the Coast Guard Reserve (Temporary) may be used as a basis for the granting of veteran preference under the Veterans' Preference Act of 1944 only if such service was in classification (a), above, and other conditions necessary to the granting of veteran preference are present.

The provisions of this circular are effective with respect to preference claims which have been granted, to pending claims, and to future claims.

Questions concerning this circular may be addressed to the Civil Service Representative assigned to the agency's Washington or field offices, or to the Examining and Personnel Utilization Division, Preference Sub-Unit, telephone extension 457 (Commission's Central Office), or to the appropriate regional or branch regional office of the Commission.

By direction of the Commandant.
/S/ ROBERT DONOHUE,
Chief Personnel Officer.

TEN BLACK SHEEP

Ten Flotilla Publicity Officers failed to get their news in on time for this issue. How about making a New Year's Resolution to be represented in every issue next year, without fail? Closing date for the January issue is 5 January. Mark your calendar a few days ahead now. Thank you.

GRIPERS, AHoy!

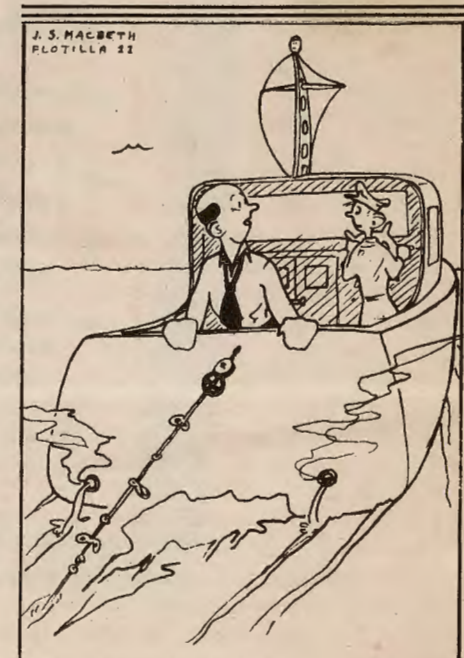
What's wrong with TOPSIDE? How can we improve it? If you have a gripe, get it off your chest. This is one place where gripes are welcome. We're doing our best, but we have no way of knowing whether we're giving you what you want or not, unless you write and tell us. But please just don't say it's no good; say it's no good because — and then give your reasons. Of course, if you think it's good, we'd like to know that, too. Let's hear from you soon, so we can turn over a new leaf with the January issue. Address your comments to the Editor. See masthead on page 5 for address. Thank you.



MERRY XMAS

To all

from the DISTRICT OFFICE PERSONNEL and TOPSIDE STAFF



ER—THE LOG READS SEVEN KNOTS—

SEC. 562 P.L.&R.
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Philadelphia, Pa.
Permit No. 1357

Mr. Aaron M. Solomon
1902 Lenox St.
Harrisburg, Pa.



PURPOSES OF THE COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

- ★ To promote safety and to effect rescues on and over the high seas and on navigable waters.
- ★ To enforce laws of the United States applicable to motorboats and yachts.
- ★ To promote efficiency in the operation of motorboats and yachts.
- ★ To foster a wider knowledge of, and better compliance with, the laws, rules, and regulations governing the operation of motorboats and yachts.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ TO FACILITATE OTHER OPERATIONS OF THE COAST GUARD.