

OFFICER PERSONNEL

MEMBERS OF SELECTION BOARD.

A board consisting of the following-named officers is to be appointed to convene at the Navy Department on 1 December 1931, or as soon thereafter as practicable, to recommend officers of the Line of the Navy in the grades of captain and commander for promotion to the next higher grades:

President: Admiral Richard H. Leigh.

Members: Rear Admiral Thomas J. Senn,
" " George C. Day,
" " John R. Y. Blakely,
" " Henry V. Butler,
" " William H. Standley,
" " Wat L. Cluverius,
" " Arthur J. Hepburn,
" " William D. Leahy.

Recorder: Lieut. Comdr. William I. Causey, Jr.

The board is to be instructed to recommend the following numbers of Line officers for promotion:

For promotion to the grade of Rear Admiral - 6
" " " " " " Captain - 22

A board to recommend lieutenant commanders for promotion to the grade of commander will be convened in the Spring of 1932.

UNIFORM REQUIRED WHEN OFFICERS APPEAR BEFORE NAVAL EXAMINING AND RETIRING BOARDS.

A few officers have reported to the Naval Examining and Retiring Boards, Navy Department, not in uniform.

Attention is invited to the fact that Article 124, Uniform Regulations, U. S. Navy, 1922, applies to officers reporting for examination, although it does not apply to those officers reporting for permanent duty in the Navy Department. The latter wear civilian clothes while performing their routine duties in the Department.

PREPARATION TO BE MADE FOR SECOND STATUTORY EXAMINATION.

In order to remove any uncertainty as to preparations that should be made for the second statutory examination for those officers who fail on the first statutory examination and have lost or will lose numbers, this Bureau advises that preparation should be made in all subjects in which examined and not only the subject or subjects in which the failure(s) may be recorded.

ENGINEERING DUTY ONLY OFFICERS SELECTED.

The recommendation of the Board for the Selection of Officers for Engineering Duty Only has been approved by the Secretary of the Navy. The following officers were selected:

Lieutenant Commander	Guysbert Bogert Vroom, U.S.N.,
"	" Palmer Hall Dunbar, Jr., U.S.N.,
"	" Wilbur John Ruble, U.S.N.,
"	" William Earle Malloy, U.S.N.,
"	" Raymond Arnold Deming, U.S.N.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS OF OFFICERS.

During the past year, the Bureau of Navigation has addressed letters to the Line officers of the Navy, requesting them to furnish details regarding their special qualifications or training. The Navy Register was used as a basis for the qualifications and letters were sent to those officers who have been indicated there as having some special qualifications or training. However, it is realized that it is possible that some errors may have been made in the Register and in all cases the data given is incomplete.

It is therefore desired that Line officers having any special qualifications or training who have not answered the letters sent to them by the Bureau, or who have not received the letters up to the present time, expedite the forwarding of this information in as complete a form as possible. These letters may be addressed to the Bureau of Navigation (Training Division).

With respect to the strictly postgraduate course, the Bureau should be informed of the actual course taken. The designation of Ordnance, or Mechanical Engineering, etc., is not sufficient. The Ordnance postgraduate course, for example, may be a course in Metallurgy, Torpedoes, General Design, etc., therefore, information as to the actual courses majored in is necessary. Information is also desired as to whether a college degree was received upon the completion of the course and the nature of the degree.

Information is also desired in regard to any special course of instruction received by any officer, either under government supervision or taken upon his own initiative, in addition to those already listed in the Navy Directory.

ENLISTED PERSONNEL

COMMENDATIONS.

The Chief of the Bureau of Navigation addressed letters of commendation to the following men for the reasons given below:

Thomas Sieg Hudson, Seaman 2c, U.S.N., U.S.S. Algorma, home address, Star Route, Corydon, Indiana.

Wilbur Roy Fuller, Fireman 1c, U.S.N., U.S.S. Algoma, home address, R.F.D. #2, Miami, Oklahoma.

James Maurice Cannel, Signalman 3c, U.S.N., U.S.S. Algoma, home address, 1722 East 22nd Street, Los Angeles, Cal.

For their commendable conduct in connection with the rescue of a man from drowning in Los Angeles Harbor, California, on 8 October 1931.

James Earle Preston, Electrician's Mate 1c, U.S.N., U.S.S. Perry, home address, 4576 Campus Avenue, San Diego, Cal.

For the initiative and devotion to duty that he displayed in developing a speed indicator system between fire and engine rooms for destroyers.

SLIDEFILM ON GROUND TACKLE.

A new slidefilm on "Ground Tackle" has been issued to the owners of slidefilm projectors.

This slidefilm was produced in collaboration with the Commander Scouting Force and should prove of value in instruction of apprentice seamen particularly and deck personnel in general.

DUTY ON IUKA, SAGAMORE, ALLEGHENY CONSIDERED SHORE DUTY.

To clarify apparent conflict in the Bureau of Navigation Circular Letters No. 10-31 and 41-31, the Bureau announces that duty for enlisted men on the IUKA, SAGAMORE and ALLEGHENY has been shore duty since 1 July 1931.

Assignment of enlisted personnel to these vessels will be made by the Bureau from the shore duty eligibility lists for stations or districts to which attached. Without reference to the Bureau, Commandants of these Districts are authorized to interchange personnel assigned to shore duty between these ships and their other activities.

NAVY TRAINING COURSES.

During the fiscal year 1930-31:

18,297 men completed Navy Training Courses.

16 Rating Courses, 1 General Course and 2 Special

Publications were issued.

For fiscal year 1931-32:

The Bureau plans to issue 9 Rating Courses, 2 General Courses and 1 Special Publication.

Also in 1931-32, the Bureau is issuing "Progress Tests and Examination Questions" pamphlets to complete five of the Rating Courses issued in 1930-31.

HOSPITAL CORPSMEN GOLF TOURNAMENT.

The Autumn Golf Tournament for hospital corpsmen attached to the Naval Medical School, Navy Dental School, and the Naval Hospital, at Washington, D. C., was played during the week beginning October 12th over the East Potomac Municipal Golf Course. Twenty-three members of the hospital corps attached to these activities entered the qualifying round. Pharmacist's Mate First Class E. A. Kracke, U.S.Navy, came in with a score of 81 to win low gross and the prize for medalist. Two flights of eight players each of match play followed with the finals played off on Friday, October 16th.

Championship flight was won by Pharmacist's Mate First Class E. A. Kracke, U.S.Navy, attached to the U. S. Naval Medical School, over Pharmacist's Mate First Class J. Gidrites, U.S.Navy, runner up, attached to the U. S. Naval Hospital. Consolation prize for the first flight was won by Hospital Apprentice First Class T. G. Fowler, U.S.Navy, attached to the Naval Hospital.

The second flight was won by Pharmacist's Mate First Class G. E. Harris, U.S.N., attached to the Naval Medical School over Pharmacist's Mate first class, R. W. Harris, U.S.N., runner up. Prize for consolation of second flight went to Pharmacist's Mate Third Class C. R. Thrift, U.S.N., attached to the U. S. Naval Hospital, by default.

Very handsome distinctive golf trophies were donated to the Golf Tournament by Mr. Dave Margolis for presentation to the winners of flights in addition to the prizes that were awarded by the Golf Committee.

AN OLD TIMER RETURNS TO DUTY.

Isaac Otis Castle, 120-86-87, CBM, U.S.Navy, who was born on 5 October 1859, was recently brought before a Board of Medical Survey to determine his fitness for further service in the Navy. This survey was held on board the U.S.S. Relief and it was recommended that he be returned to duty. This has been approved by the Bureau.

The records of the Bureau show that Castle first enlisted in the Navy on 15 September 1873 at New York as Ordinary Seaman for a period of three years. He served on the U.S.S. Vermont and U.S.S. Benicia until 13 September 1875, when he was discharged as a Seaman at Mare Island, California. He re-enlisted 6 November 1875 at Mare Island, Calif., for three years as Seaman and served on the Independence and the Lackawanna and was discharged 9 March 1878 at Mare Island at his own request. He re-enlisted 21 October 1878 at San Francisco, California, for three years as Seaman and served on the Lackawanna until 4 February 1879.

The Naval Service heard nothing more of Castle until the outbreak of the World War when he applied at the Recruiting Station, Portland, Ore., for enrollment in the Reserve Force. He had a few minor disabilities which were waived by the Department and he was enrolled in the Reserve Force on 16 February 1918. He was sent to active duty at Puget Sound and later served on the Rail and the West Cohas. He was disenrolled on 10 June 1919 and re-enlisted the next day at the Receiving Ship, Puget Sound, and later served on the Whippoorwill, the Receiving Ship at San Francisco, California, and the New Mexico, from which vessel he was discharged 11 June 1923. He re-enlisted 12 June 1923 on the New Mexico at San Francisco and was later transferred to the Receiving Ship at San Diego and discharged 13 June 1927 at the Eleventh Naval District while serving on Water Barge Number 9, at the Naval Base, San Diego, California. Castle was re-enlisted at the Receiving Station, San Diego, 14 June 1927, and since then has served on the Medusa, Pinola, the Naval Air Station, San Diego, Procyon, Algoma, Sonoma and Argonne.

As Castle now has something over eighteen years' service, it seems that he will be able to remain on duty until he has completed twenty years and then transfer to the Fleet Naval Reserve.

It is probable that Castle is the oldest man on active duty in the Naval Service today.

NAVAL RESERVE

COMMENDATION.

The Secretary of the Navy, on 22 October 1931 addressed a letter to Lieutenant (jg) L. E. Sherouse, C-V(S), U.S.N.R., c/o Pan-American Airways, Inc., Belize, British Honduras, commending him for his initiative and good judgment in anticipating possible damage to the equipment consigned to his care and for his resourcefulness which enabled communication with the outside world to be established so quickly after the recent hurricane struck Belize, British Honduras.

RESERVE OFFICER SELECTED FOR PROMOTION TO CAPTAIN.

A Selection Board composed of medical officers of the Navy has reported the selection of Commander James Alfred Henderson, MC-F, U.S.N.R., for promotion to the grade of Captain, Medical Corps, U.S. Naval Reserve. Commander Henderson was commissioned in the Naval Militia in 1903 and continued in the Naval Militia until 1917 when he entered the Federal Service. He has served continuously in the Reserve Force since 1919.

In civilian life, Commander Henderson has held the following important positions:

- (a) Medical Officer in the U. S. Marine Hospital Service 1903 and during the yellow fever epidemic in 1905.
- (b) Visiting Surgeon, State Charity Hospital.
- (c) Adjunct Professor of Surgery, Loyola University. Secretary of the State Board of Medical Examiners.
- (d) Secretary and Chief Sanitary Officer County and City Board of Health from 1925 to the present time.

NAVAL RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS

R.O.T.C. STUDENTS VISIT CHESTER.

Extracts from a letter received recently from a Professor of Naval Science and Tactics at one of the Universities having a R.O.T.C. Unit are quoted below for the information of the Service:

"During the past week-end, two freshman students of this University, who have recently joined the Naval Unit and who know practically nothing about the Navy, while in New York noted the Chester in the harbor. Although it was not at the time of public visiting hours, these students, because of their interest in the Service as a result of having joined the Naval Unit, took the time to go to the dock and seek passage on board. As soon as the Officer-of-the-Deck learned of their association with the Naval Unit, he was very courteous in having them shown about the ship and they were welcomed in the officers' quarters.

"The reaction of the students has proven very desirable in assisting the interest and spirit of the Unit. The students were impressed with the hospitality and comradeship extended to them and, of course, the information will reach the other students of the Unit.

It is difficult, at best, to foster a desirable esprit de corps in courses at a University very largely confined to classroom periods, with crowded schedules and every reason for distraction of attention from the Naval Courses. Anything that can be done to encourage the students to feel and take pride in their association with the Navy and the Service, and to impress upon them the fact that they have joined a fraternity which offers them advantages equal to those offered by any of their University fraternities, will prove of great assistance in the conduct of the Naval Unit.

MISCELLANEOUS

U.S.S. CONSTITUTION RECEIVES COAST GUARD ESCORT.

The following letter from the Acting Secretary of the Navy to the Secretary of Treasury is quoted for the information of the Service:

"I take pleasure in quoting for your information the following extract from a letter dated 11 October from the Commanding Officer of the CONSTITUTION:

'While enroute to Norfolk, Virginia, 9 October, 1931, the U. S. Frigate CONSTITUTION was met at Hampton Roads by an escort of Coast Guard vessels, from Base 8, Norfolk, Virginia, under the command of Lieutenant Commander C. H. Abel, U.S. Coast Guard. This guard of honor was most impressive as it escorted the CONSTITUTION to the dock at Norfolk. The smartness of the ships and personnel of this escort was particularly noticeable.'

"Permit me to express for the naval service sincere appreciation of this courtesy on the part of the Coast Guard."

SOUND MOTION PICTURE FILM.

Not only will the monetary loss to the service through damaged film be considerable, but the loss in entertainment value will be great if extreme care is not taken in the handling of film. Particular attention is invited to the new instruction pamphlet, recently issued by the Bureau, with regard to the responsibility for damaged film and the requirement that "Reports of Exhibitions" be signed by a commissioned officer.

Until new film has become "seasoned" by repeated use, the wax and emulsion deposits on the aperture plate and tension shoes in the projection head and on the sound gate and tension springs in the sound head will cause a drag on the film resulting in serious damage to sprocket holes and the tearing of film. These parts must therefore be kept thoroughly cleaned. The cleaning may be done by

scraping with a piece of SOFT metal, but never with a knife blade, screw driver or other hard metal. This simple operation can be accomplished in a few minutes and should be done between change of reels during the showing.

SOME STORIES OF OLD IRONSIDES.

During the last summer, the Naval Institute published a booklet, entitled "Some Stories of Old Ironsides", for sale on board the "CONSTITUTION". The primary purpose of this booklet is to acquaint the personnel of the Navy and the people of the country in a simple and interesting manner with the traditions of the Navy, as illustrated by the exploits of OLD IRONSIDES over a century ago. This booklet gives the reader a graphic picture of the captains, officers, sailors, and ships of the age in which our naval tradition was built.

The work by Commander Frost, in writing the pamphlet, and the Naval Institute, in printing it and putting it in circulation, has been done entirely gratuitously. All profits that accrue from its sale will be turned over to the Navy Relief.

The booklet contains thirty-two beautifully decorated pages of printed matter, and eight full-page duotone illustrations. The cover, which is a heavy blue paper with gold lettering, carries a colored picture of OLD IRONSIDES.

The keen and widespread interest in the CONSTITUTION as well as the demand for the booklet indicates that its circulation would be much greater if it could be more widely offered. Arrangements have accordingly been made to have it available for sale on naval vessels and at shore stations through the ship's service store.

The price of the booklet is 25¢. As all profits go to the Navy Relief, the Bureau considers that no profit should accrue to the ships or stations selling them. On the other hand, they should not suffer loss. Therefore, upon the request of any commanding officer, or his authorized representative, to the Secretary, U. S. Naval Institute, Annapolis, Md., any reasonable number of copies will be sent without charge. Payment for the copies actually sold may be made monthly or at such time as the commanding officer may direct. Unsold copies may be returned without charge.

CHRISTMAS CARDS.

The Bureau requests that so far as practicable, Christmas greeting cards be not addressed to persons in the Naval Service in care of the Bureau of Navigation. Navy Directories giving the addresses of all officers, active or retired, in the Naval Service are available on every ship and station and should be utilized for the purpose.

Each year the number of these cards received in the Bureau for readdressing and forwarding has increased until last year it was necessary to detail a large force of clerks to this duty alone to the detriment of other current work.