



CALIFORNIA MARITIME ACADEMY

THE FIRES WERE KEPT BURNING

25 April 1956

Monday evening the third class engineers and Tom Holland, Engineering Duty Officer, got a taste of engineering in the good old days. The donkey boiler's fuel oil firing system went on the blink, and it looked like a cold night ahead for the ship's companies. But Chief Engineer Flanner and his men rose to the occasion. They cut, sawed, and carried wood to the hungry mouth of the donkey boiler. Many skeptical heads wagged at the return to the days of wood fuel and iron fireman, but over ninety pounds of steam pressure were raised and put to the berth decks. The editor of the BINNACLE had the distinct honor of firing the boiler during chow.

Hats off to Commander Flanner and his men, who showed that a new boiler can be taught old tricks.

GUESTS AT NOON MESS

The men in civilian clothes at noon mess yesterday were not strangers, but members of the Maritime Academy Committee of the Vallejo Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of this worthy group is to arouse public interest in the Academy. Members of the group are: Chairman Wyman Riley, editor of the Vallejo Times-Herald; Thomas P. Ludeke of Pacific Gas and Electric Co.;

Arthur A. Kenny of Marine Chevrolet; William A. Higgins of Vallejo Mortuary; Henry W. Mitchell of Vallejo Steam Laundry; Ellis Randall of the Board of Governors; and Rear Admiral A. B. Slocum, Liaison Officer with the Chamber of Commerce.

UNION OIL DONATES FLAGPOLE

The Union Oil Company has donated a flagpole sixty feet long to the Academy. It will be placed in a semi-circular base just south of the walk between messdeck and classrooms.

THE BINNACLE

Editor - Knick Pyles
Asst. Editor - Jon Lucas
Sports Editor - Rick Morris
Faculty Advisor - Commander Heron

THE LEE SCUPPER

We received a suggestion from a civic minded Midshipman the other day. See what you think of it.

".....because of the cold weather lately, we have had to wear pea coats to turn-to formation. This usually gets them dirty as we have to wear them to work.

THE LEE SCUPPER - Cont'd.

"Why not issue standardized turn-out jackets as part of the uniform?"

Why not indeed? Sounds good to us.

REMINDER TO THE FIRST CLASS

All first classmen are urged to break out their copies of "Factual Communications", Guthrie, and study pp 108-110. Subject: How to apply for a job.

THE ENGINEERING LOG

Extra curricular reading will be easier now for the Midshipmen. "Marine Engineering" and "The Log" have merged to form the "Marine Engineering Log". Among the new features are digest news pages and resumes of articles. Both innovations will make for easier reading.

THE BOX SCORE

Last weekend the quiet seaside town of Carmel was turned into a small race-track as the sports cars once more returned to Pebble Beach. Feeling that this was of interest to all M/S, the BINNACLE, sparing no expense, went to great lengths in sending its staff to cover this event.

The first day's activity was a combination of speed trials and practice runs as the best professional drivers in the sport's car field became familiar with the track. The track itself was a six-turn road, winding for 2.08 miles through the pine trees of the scenic countryside.

The second day's activities got under way at 1000, Sunday, as the under 1500 cc. production class race began. Dominated by fast moving Porsche, the MGA, TD's, and TF's were soon outclassed. In the over 1500 cc. production class a Chevrolet Corvette surprised everyone by leading Jaguars, Morris, and A-Healeys and falling second only to a Mercedes-Benz.

In this over-90 mph race, the highlight was the burning of a Benz at no. 1 turn.

The finale of the day, modified under and over 1500 cc. races, was overshadowed by the death of the well-known Southern California driver, Ernie Macafee.

Thus the weekend came to an end, as MGA Midshipmen returned to the campus from the races.

But a question is remaining: Will sports car racing be banned in California because of the death at the track.

INTRAMURAL

"Easy" Co. defeated "Dog" Co. 19-4 in a softball game which was a fine example of lack of cooperation and spirit given the intramural program at the Academy.

PROPELLER CLUB MEMBERSHIP OPEN

Membership to the Propeller Club is now open to interested Second Classmen. Anyone may obtain a membership application blank from Midshipman Unger. The Propeller Club, Port of California Maritime Academy, is an organization of Midshipmen dedicated to service to the Academy and the United States Merchant Marine. Captain Bonney is faculty advisor, and Midshipman Bryant is President.

BOOK DEDICATION

Mr. Ernest K. Gann, author of "The High and Mighty" is publishing another book titled "Twilight for the Gods". It is concerned with the final days of sail and gives all indications of being another very fine story. Mr. Gann has made the following dedication of this new book:

"To the young men of the California Maritime Academy, and their officers who lead them down to the sea."

This is a most generous gesture and all of us at the Academy are deeply appreciative.