U. S. 'Escalated' Fleet May Enrich Slang That Keeps Pace With Navy

WASHINGTON (U.P.)—The day of the wooden warship and the bearded "bluejacket" is past, but the racy language of the sea persists in Uncle Sam's "escalated" fleet.

To a large extent the terminology has been changed to meet new conditions. Some of the language is official, for use in communications, but a novel slang vocabulary has grown up alongside of it.

A destroyer, for example, is a "can"; a submarine is referred to as a "pigboat"; battleships are known as "battlewagons."

The engineroom crew is the "black gang"; the electrician, "sparks"; a newly-enlisted man, "boots."

In official terminology, the commander in chief of the U. S. Fleet is abbreviated to CinCus." Chief of naval operations is the "C.N.O."

Virtually all frequently-referred-to terms are shortened. Here are some of them:

Secretary of the Navy—SecNav.

Bureau of Ordnance—BuOrd.

Bureau of Medicine and Surgery—Bu S and A.

Bureau of Construction—BuCon.

Destroyer Division—Desdiv.

Battle Force—Batfor.

Commander of Battle Force—Combatfor.

Aircraft Carrier Division Two—Cardivtwo.

Commander of South China Patrol—Comsopat.

The colorful Yangtze River patrol, to which the ill-fated Panay belonged, has its own parlance, some of which might be mistaken for Chinese by the layman.

The patrol itself is referred to as the "Yangpat." The Commander is the "Comyangpat." Motorboats are "pans" or "motorpans," a corruption of the Chinese term "sampan."

Oil Property is Problem for Assessors

Difficulty of placing a taxable valuation on oil property now in process of development was pointed out this week by Chief Deputy County Assessor J. W. Hartman as deputies went into the new Wilmington and the South Torrance oil fields.

There were 100 derricks and wells in the Wilmington area on the first Monday in March, the date for fixing assessed valuation, but only a few were in production, Hartman said. No report has been issued on the number in the local field.

While there is as much new personal property and some producing wells to be taxed this year, it will be at least another year before a permanent value may be determined by the assessor's office, Hartman said.

DETOUR

Col'm Under Construction
By BETSY BYRNES

"Come, lasses and lads, get leave of your dads,
And away to the Maypole hie,
For ev'ry fair has a sweetheart there
And the fiddler's standing by."
—Old English folk song.

May day! We suppose they will be tripping around the jolly old Maypole in many towns in England and elsewhere on that day. It's fun, too! You know it is, if you've ever joined in a Maypole dance.

QUESTIONS

What color is puce?

What is the difference between flaxseed and linseed?

The Musca domestica is found wherever man lives. What is it?

TODAY'S PROVERB

"Think all you speak, but speak not all you think."
—Delaune.

Remember that one.

ANSWERS

Puce, according to Mister Webster, is a dark brown or brownish purple color. The word is used in that charming book, "Remember the Day," to describe the color of a woman's dress. Yes, we know that the French word, puce means flea. Much more elegant to say you have a puce colored gown than to say it is flea colored.

Flaxseed and linseed are one and the same. The name of the plant is flax, the oil extracted from its seed is linseed oil, and the seed is called either flaxseed or linseed. If you are particular about your pronunciation you say flaxs-seed, not flak-seed.

Musca domestica is the correct name of the common house fly. It may interest you to know that the female lays approximately a hundred eggs at a time. Swat the fly!

ADIOS

"Our country! In her intercourse, with foreign nations may she always be in the right; but our country right or wrong!"
—Stephen Decatur.

Sons of Legion Given Colors

Presentation of the national and squadron colors from the city of Torrance was made to the Sons of Legion unit here Monday night by L. J. Gilmeister, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, and the gift was received by Capt. Gerald Grubb. The flags will be paraded for the first time next Saturday at Inglewood when the Torrance Sons will march in the pre-convention session to be held all day in that city.

Bert S. Crossland post of the American Legion, sponsor of the group, has ordered regulation overseas caps to supply the Sons Squadron here.

Phone 444 For Ad Service

Tells Her Story

In tears, Sandra Martin, 32, secretary to Simone Simon, emerges from the district attorney's office in Los Angeles after assertedly confessing the theft of thousands of dollars of Miss Simon's bank funds.

Supplymen Win City Cage Title

Having won two out of three play-off games, the National Supply basketball team took the city championship Tuesday night when the quintet defeated a squad representing the former Paxman hardware store, 52 to 35. The Paxman team had won a semi-final game played last Thursday night, 36 to 32 but the Supplymen had the edge of a victory won last week.

Mrs. Kate Frenger Succumbs at 84

Mrs. Kate Sturm Frenger, 84, who formerly resided with her son, Edgar S. Frenger of Hawthorne boulevard, passed away last Friday following a heart attack at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Helen Ensign in Newport Beach. She was born in Blountville, Tenn., in 1853. Mrs. Frenger was the widow of a Methodist minister and while she resided in Torrance was a member of the First Methodist church here.

She is survived by three sons and two daughters: Edgar S. of Torrance, Herman of Los Angeles, Paul of Inglewood, Mrs. Helen Ensign of Newport Beach, and Mrs. Marie Van Houten of San Francisco. Funeral services and interment were held Wednesday at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Glendale.

Biting Dog Lands Owner In Jail

(Continued from Page 1-A)

Mrs. Lindsay. Judge Lessing gave him five days to get rid of the dog, declaring that if the animal was not removed by May 2 the owner would be cited for contempt of court.

Lindsay heatedly commented that he "would appeal the case to the highest court in the country" and that he would not need any lawyer to conduct his defense. When he mentioned something about "irregular procedure" of the case, Judge Lessing asked him:

Regular Bail Set

"So you want to proceed in the regular way? Alright, we'll consider this a regular court case right now—how do you plead?"

"Not guilty," Lindsay replied and when he indicated he wanted a court trial. "Granted," Judge Lessing said; "and the bail will be $50. I'll set the date for the jury trial later."

Lindsay, protesting he did not have the $50 and indicating he would rather have gotten rid of the dog, was led off to jail.

Reaves Denies He Is Candidate

"I am not a candidate for Congress," Fred Reaves, 68th district assemblyman, declared here this week while visiting friends. The San Pedran had been mentioned in last week's Herald as one of the many possible contenders for the seat held in Washington, D. C., by the late Congressman Charles J. Colden.

Merchants-Chamber Hold Joint Session

An interesting account of the worthwhile benefits already derived from the cooperation of the "blue card" system for regulation, solicitations for gifts, prizes, and souvenir advertising was given by Harvel Guttenfelder, president of the Torrance Retail Merchants' association, before a joint meeting of the association and members of the Chamber of Commerce Tuesday evening at Daniels cafe. President Guttenfelder also outlined the plan for observance of Boys' Week and Airmail Week and asked for the cooperation of all retail merchants.

The principal address of the dinner meeting was given by Robert O. Vernon, assistant general freight agent of the Dollar Steamship line. He emphasized the necessity for promoting foreign trade and subsidizing a merchant marine. E. M. Barber, president of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce, acted as chairman of the joint meeting. About 35 were in attendance.

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