

CLOUDBUSTER

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On the Lighter Side . . .

The big business man had died and gone to—well, not to heaven. But hardly had he settled down for a nice, long smoke when a hearty hand slapped him on the back and into his ear boomed the voice of a persistent salesman who had pestered him much on earth.

"Well, Mr. Smith," chortled the salesman, "I'm here for that appointment."

"What appointment?"

"Why, don't you remember?" the salesman went on. "Every time I entered your office on earth, you told me you'd see me here first."

* * * * *

Farmer: "Be this the Woman's Exchange?"

Woman: "Yes."

Farmer: "Be ye the woman?"

Woman: "Yes."

Farmer: "Well, then I think I'll keep Maggie."

* * * * *

The British aviator had just returned from a raid over Germany.

"Why are you back so late?" asked his commanding officer.

"I misunderstood instructions, sir, and pushed the leaflets under the people's doors."

* * * * *

A sailor and his girl were riding out in the country on horseback. As they stopped for a rest the two horses rubbed necks affectionately:

"Ah me," said the sailor, "that's what I'd like to do."

"Well, go ahead," answered the girl, "it's your horse."

Book Review . . .

CONDITION RED, DESTROYER ACTION IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC, Captain Frederick J. Bell, U. S. N., N. Y., Longmans, Green and Co., 1943. 290 pp., \$3.00. Illustrated.

This is the story of a destroyer, one of those aggressive bantams with a striking power all out of proportion to their size—a triple threat weapon, with depth charges for undersea enemies, torpedoes for surface attack, and AA and dual purpose guns for air opposition. "The fightingest thing afloat," says Captain Bell.

This is the story of the destroyer G, from the original operation against the Solomons in June 1942 to the end of the year, with a short flashback to Captain Bell's experiences as First Lieutenant aboard the cruiser Boise. The duties of the G during these six months were varied and continuous, and her responsibilities great. She made 13 trips to "Candy" (Guadalcanal) as convoy escort, as part of a carrier screen, and as solitary transport of sorely needed ordnance and stores. Once she acted as a kind of mobile battery in the bombardment of Jap positions in support of Marine operations ashore. Captain Bell claims that the G made more trips to Guadalcanal and served a longer time in an advanced fighting area than any other destroyer afloat. Dur-

ing her six-months' service, "Condition Red"—readiness for imminent action—seemed almost perpetual.

One of the excellencies of the book is its quantity of detail about life aboard. There are full particulars of all operations—bridge talk, crew talk, inter and intra-ship communications, and extracts from the ship's paper, *The Fantail Gazette*, a lively and irreverent journal. For the landsman, service or civilian, there is much information on dress, equipment, mess and ward-room customs, and a great deal about battle preparations—topside and below.

Captain Bell writes skillfully, with a keen sense of pace. Story moves fast, and commentary is entertaining. He makes adroit use of amusing anecdote. To realize the difficulties of visual communications, Captain Bell suggests, "To acquire a reasonably accurate picture of a destroyer signal spotter in action, put a small telescope to your eye, let two people shake you violently from side to side, while a third tosses water in your face, and try to identify the color combinations in a flag, three feet square, whipping in the wind on a building three miles away." Not many recent books about the Navy have been as well or as interestingly written as this one.

—G. F. H., E.N.S. Dept.

Male Call

R. H. I. P. (Rank Hinders Impromptu Propositions)

by Milton Caniff, creator of "Terry and the Pirates"

—(CNS)



Sunday Divine Services

Protestant	1000	Memorial Hall
Roman Catholic	0615	Gerrard Hall
Jewish	1000	Hill Music Hall
	1000	Graham Memorial

Chaplain's Office Hours: Daily, 0830-1700; Monday and Wednesday, 0830-1800. Father Sullivan will be in Chaplain's Office on Tuesdays, 1845-1930. Confessions: Saturdays in Gerrard Hall, 1900-2015.