

Buster Bits . . .

Cadet Peter Carroll, 47-I-1, served two and a half years on tropical duty in San Juan, Puerto Rico prior to transferring to V-5. . . . From the same battalion comes Cadet Charles Arata Jr. who served overseas as an Aviation Machinist Mate 1c. . . . Cadet Thomas Gibbons, 47-J-3, has three months of service in the tank destroyer force and cavalry, U. S. Army, to his credit.

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Cadet Harvey Marcellus Powers, Jr., 48-K-3, has been participating in tumbling and gymnastics since the age of 10. . . . He has also performed semi-professionally as a magician. . . . Cadet Earl Wells, 47-I-2, enlisted in the Navy in December, 1941. . . . He has 20 months of service to his credit at Naval Air Bases in the tropics. . . . Twins in the same platoon are found in the persons of Cadets Andrew and John Persinko, 48-K-1. . . . Both have seven months of Coast Guard credit to their record. . . . They have been in the service for a year, together all the time.

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A PFC in the U. S. Marine Corps was Cadet Harold Juniper, 48-L-1. . . . Cadet Elbert Griffis, Jr., also of 48-L-1, enlisted in the Navy on January 6, 1942. . . . He was a Second Class Torpedoman before turning to Aviation. . . . No reason was given but Cadet Raymond Blomstedt, 48-L-3, stated on his questionnaire that he would like duty in China near the Russian border after he receives his wings. . . . He plans to make the Navy a career.

BASEBALL

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will play right field. He is a member of the 48th battalion, and hails from Allentown, Pa. He hits from the left side of the plate.

Either W. A. Gaither or E. T. Schneider will be in centerfield, and C. F. Falk will bat seventh and play third. He has a nice pair of hands, and is a fair hitter.

Behind the plate will be C. M. Miller. Cadet H. R. Hoos, another catcher, would have seen action but he has been forced to the sidelines with a minor injury.

Cadet W. H. Burkshiser, an Inter-State League product, is another pitcher who will see action should either Somerville or Farley fail to go the route.

Receive Promotions



AMONG THE PROMOTIONS at this station during the past two weeks were those of the two men pictured above. On the left is Carl F. Byers, Y1c, who was promoted to Chief Yeoman effective April 1, while on the right is Chief Pharmacist Thomas M. Lynch, USN, who was commissioned a Lt. (jg) (HC) USN. Chief Byers enlisted in the Navy in September, 1941, and received his boot training at Norfolk. He reported here on May 5, 1942, as a Yeoman 3c, and was promoted to Yeoman 2c on October 1 of the same year. On July 1, 1943, he moved up to Yeoman 1c holding that rating until April 1 of this year. Chief Byers has been in charge of the Yeoman's Pool since June of 1943.

Lt. (jg) Lynch has a record of 27 years of service in the Navy. He saw action in World War I, and in the Second Nicaraguan Campaign. He was awarded the Navy Cross for gallantry in action in Nicaragua.

SKY PILOT

(Continued from page one)

cerning the fine work of this Pre-Flight School, give me reason to look forward to my tour of duty here with a great deal of pleasure," the new chaplain told a CLOUDBUSTER reporter.

Lieut. Cummins is married and has two children, Shirley Ann, age 9, and George W., Jr., age 14. His home is in Louisville, Kentucky, and prior to being commissioned in the Navy he was pastor of the Highland Park First Baptist Church in that city.

A soldier from Florida was transferred to a Colorado camp. When the first snow fell, he wrote home about the beautiful two inches of snow. Later he wrote his folks about the ten inches of snow that now covered the countryside like a beautiful white blanket.

In about three weeks his parents received another letter: "Remember the snow I told you about in my previous letters? Well, we now have three feet of the damn stuff."—Reader's Digest.

44th Battalion To Dance Tonight In Pine Room

Members of the 44th Battalion will hold their Senior Battalion Dance in the Pine Room of Lenoir Hall tonight from 2100 to 2400. Liberty for the occasion has been extended to 0030 with taps coming at 0045.

Music will be furnished by the swing section of the Pre-Flight band, and refreshments will be served.

Uniform for the 44th will be service dress blue, able.

Cadets L. L. Rawald, R. Zelvin, R. W. Golibart, G. W. Coleman, M. M. Yamarik, and H. A. Weatherhead, who represent the 44th Battalion on the Welfare and Recreation Committee, are in charge of arrangements for the dance.

Cadets Invited

Cadets are invited to a cello and organ recital at Hill Music Hall tomorrow afternoon (Sunday) at 1600. Artists will be Esther and Rachel Pierce.

COMDR. GRAFF

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Oar Crew and rowed No. 3 in the Naval Academy's Varsity which won the Inter-collegiate Championship in 1919.

After graduation, he served successively in the transport USS Kaiserin Augusta Victoria, the battleship USS Nevada, and the destroyer USS Reuben James. In the fall of 1923 and while still serving in the Reuben James, he was taken ill and transferred to the U. S. Naval Hospital, Philadelphia, and was retired from active service in January 1924 with the rank of Lieut. (jg), USN.

After recovering his health, he was employed in a sales and engineering capacity by The Packard Motor Car Company, Youngstown and Cleveland, Ohio, The Petroleum Heat and Power Company, Stamford, Connecticut, The Standard Oil Company of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the Frick-Gallagher Manufacturing Company, Wellston, Ohio.

During ten years in Philadelphia, Comdr. Graff was active in the U. S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and was President of the Philadelphia Chapter from 1940 to 1942. He is a member of the American Legion and the Masons.

In March, 1942 Lieut. (jg) Graff was ordered back to active duty and assigned to the Pre-Flight School at Chapel Hill as its first Executive Officer. He was the first line officer to report to this Station and directed much of the original work that put the new Activity into operation.

In May, 1942 Comdr. (now Capt.) O. O. Kessing, USN, the first Commanding Officer, reported for duty. The U. S. Navy Pre-Flight School, Chapel Hill, was duly commissioned, the First Battalion of cadets arrived, and the Station got down to the serious business of training future aviators.

The last of July, Lieut. (jg) Graff was made a Lieutenant Commander and on November 27, 1942, at a Regimental Review and the farewell to Capt. Kessing, Lt. Comdr. Graff assumed Command of the Station and was promoted to the rank of Commander.

Forty-nine battalions of cadets have entered this Pre-Flight School since its commissioning nearly two years ago. Many hundreds of cadets from the earlier battalions are now in combat and Comdr. John P. Graff is justly proud of the records his boys are making in the fighting Navy.