



Vol. 3—No. 18

U. S. NAVY PRE-FLIGHT SCHOOL, CHAPEL HILL, N. C.

Friday, January 19, 1945

# Victory Garden Has Banner Year In 1944

## Station Joins National Drive On Paralysis

Along with Naval activities throughout the country, this Pre-Flight School is participating this year in the campaign for contributions to the annual fund-raising drive of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

Lt. (jg) Francis E. Stann, Welfare and Recreation Officer, has been designated by the Commanding Officer, to direct the local fund-raising campaign which will begin here next week and continue through the remainder of the month.

There will be no solicitation, but contribution boxes will be placed at convenient points around the station, including each cadet dormitory, Navy Hall, and Ship's Service.

In a letter of 27 October 1944, the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Fleet and Chief of Naval Operations stated, "There is no more worthy undertaking than the fight against infantile paralysis, and it is my belief that the personnel of the Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard, both uniformed and civilian, will welcome the opportunity for voluntary participation in this appeal for funds."

Everyone is urged to contribute and lend support to the fight against this crippling disease which reached epidemic proportions in North Carolina last summer.

Funds raised at this station will be forwarded to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis through Navy channels.

## Lt. Comdr. Hamilton, Bruce Undergo Appendectomies

Lt. Comdr. Burton A. Ingwersen, Athletic Director, has been Acting Executive Officer during the past week while Lt. Comdr. Howard L. Hamilton, Executive Officer, is convalescing in the Naval hospital from an appendectomy. Lt. Comdr. Robert H. Bruce, head of the Academic department, has been discharged from the hospital after undergoing a similar operation a fortnight ago.



Tilling the soil was a new experience for perhaps most Pre-Flight cadets, but all benefitted from, and many enjoyed, the work. The results of last year's Victory Garden project are given in the accompanying story.

## Yeoman A.L. Marek's Sea Duty Includes Atlantic and Pacific

Tours of sea duty aboard the *USS Philadelphia*, *USS Brooklyn*, *USS Birmingham* and *USS Shamrock Bay* are among the Naval experiences of Anton L. Marek, Y1c, assigned to the yeoman pool.

Marek, whose home is Seattle, Wash., served aboard the *USS Philadelphia* during April of 1943. A month later, however, he was ordered to the newly-appointed flag staff, under the command of Rear Admiral L. T. DuBose,



ANTON L. MAREK

aboard the *USS Brooklyn*. Then the fun began.

Yeoman Marek's baptism of fire came during the invasion of Sicily, when the *Brooklyn* was caught in a mine field. "It was at night," he recalls, "and all hands had been cautioned to be ready at any moment to 'abandon ship.' The prospect of doing that was not very inviting, inasmuch as we could see sharks swimming in the water nearby,

but we managed to slide through safely."

### Bomb Rack As Souvenir

During the same engagements a German plane attempted a suicide crash dive on the *Brooklyn*. It grazed the stern and left its bomb-rack as a grim souvenir.

When the *Brooklyn* finally returned to New York, Marek was ordered aboard the *Birmingham*, which joined Task Force 58. It was with this powerful unit of the Pacific Fleet that Marek witnessed an air strike on Tarawa, saw the bombardment of Wake Island, experienced the invasion of Bougainville, and later participated in

(Continued on Page 3)

## NATC Courses Offered

Courses pertaining to all phases of Naval Air Technical Training are now being offered to all officers and enlisted personnel through the Naval Air Technical Training Command. A copy of the courses offered is available through the local educational officer, Lt. (jg) William H. H. Dye in the Executive Office, Alexander Hall.

## Lt. Comdr. Ingwersen Reports Results From Cadet Farm

"A highly successful venture in every respect," is the way Lt. Comdr. Burton A. Ingwersen, Athletic Director, describes the Victory Garden operated by Pre-Flight cadets here last year.

It was the Victory Garden's banner year, he explains, producing substantially more than in 1943 and netting a profit of \$2,307 for Welfare.

How substantially the Pre-Flight Victory Garden relieved the drain on outside markets for war scarce produce to feed the cadets may be realized from a glance at the 27 main crops raised and the quantities:

Lima beans, 25 bu.; snap beans, 600 bu.; beets, 200 bu.; cabbage, 8,000 lbs.; carrots, 150 bu.; sweet corn, 2500 doz.; cucumbers, 200 bu.; kale, 500 bu.; head lettuce, 10,000 heads; leaf lettuce, 300 bu.; okra, 25 bu.; dry onions, 100 bu.; green onions, 5000 bu.; peanuts, 35 bu.; English peas, 25 bu.; green peppers, 75 bu.; sweet potatoes, 300 bu.; pumpkins, 300; radishes, 50 bu.; spinach, 150 bu.; acorn squash, 10 bu.; yellow squash, 500 bu.; tomatoes, 1000 bu.; turnips, 250 bu.; turnip greens, 600 bu.; musk melons, 2000; watermelons, 4000.

### Seed From Wallace

In addition there was a bit of Swiss chard, Chinese cabbage, and a special variety of Pan-American corn raised from seed sent by Vice President Henry A. Wallace following his visit here in December of '43.

Valuable assistance and advice on what crops are best suited for Carolina soil, when to plant them, and what fertilizer to use, were given to the Pre-Flight officers who supervised the garden project, by Mr. Lloyd R. Roof, representative of the Soil Conservation Service of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

As time draws near for 1945 plantings, the outlook is for a somewhat smaller acreage this year, in keeping with the reduced number of personnel on the station.

—Save Fuel—Save Paper—