

## Adm. Burke Explains Joint Chiefs System

The Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Arleigh Burke, explained the virtues of the Joint Chiefs of Staff system in a recent speech to an association of newspapermen at Minneapolis, which was reported by the Navy Times as follows:

Adm. Burke said the system is a unique and wholly American instrument for maintaining civilian control of the military, while giving to the top civilian authority the best available military advice and information—including differences of opinion.

As a body, Adm. Burke pointed out, the Joint Chiefs don't command anything. They are, as a committee, the principal military advisors to the President and to the National Security Council.

Each member of the committee, except its chairman, is the operating chief of an armed force. "As such," Adm. Burke said, "he is directly responsible for the military operations and military readiness of his service. This dual role has proved by actual war experience to be a major source of strength of the American Joint Chiefs of Staff system."

"It is the means," he went on "by which the Joint Chiefs of Staff are able to utilize all the military talent available to the nation—the combat experience, the staff support, and the operational capabilities—of the services they represent in the preparation of military plans and recommendations."

The committee of Chiefs, Adm. Burke pointed out, is similar to the National Security Council. "Neither group controls, commands, nor operates. Every individual member of the National Security Council is a responsible operating head of an important government agency. Each is in constant touch with reality..."

When a major problem has been considered by the Joint Chiefs, he said, it has already been thoroughly studied and analyzed at lower levels. In the great majority of cases, an agreed-upon solution is presented for their consideration.

Differences of opinion are few, he said, and usually disappear under analysis. "Most differences of opinion among the Joint Chiefs," he said, "concern the future—for which nobody can be sure he has the right answer."

"Differences of opinion in government," he said, "are the principal cause of our problems." (Continued on Page 2)



**JOB WELL DONE**—Fritz Summerlin Jr., SN, (left) is congratulated on the excellent performance of his duties by General Omar N. Bradley (left) and Maj. Gen. H. N. Toftor, USA (center), Commanding General of Redstone Arsenal, Ala. He chautauqued the two officials during the three-day AOA Conference at NOTS last week.

## Jerome Hines Impressive In Civic Concert Series Opening

The NOTS 1956-57 Civic Concert Series enjoyed a successful opening last Thursday night when Jerome Hines appeared as the initial attraction before a near capacity audience in the Station Theatre.

Hines easily pleased the enthusiastic audience with his versatility and engaging stage presence as well as his brilliance of tone.

The program began with three arias from Mozart opera, with "Non Piu Andrai" from the "Marriage of Figaro" receiving most acclaim.

Hines digressed here for a moment to sing three German folk songs; before returning once again to arias from "Don Carlos" by Verdi, and "The Barber of Seville" by Rossini. "Some Enchanted Evening" from "South Pacific" was sung in encore.

Accompanist Alexander Alexey featured three Chopin compositions and an excerpt from an original ballet to provide satisfactory entertainment after the intermission.

Hines returned once again to round out the second portion of the program with four French ballads and a medley of American folk songs and ballads featuring his own composition "Soft Blow the Wind," and the popular Negro spiritual, "Jonah."

The highlight of the evening, judging from audience reaction, was the novelty numbers sung in encore.

## Federal Worker Incentive Plan Saves 102 Millions for American Taxpayers

One of the greatest values of the incentive awards program is that it lets the American people know the high caliber and dedication of their public employees, John W. Macy, Jr., Executive Director of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, declared at a meeting, October 30, of the Federal Business Association of Dallas.

The speech was the featured address at an awards ceremony honoring a group of Dallas area Federal employees whose meritorious contributions under the Government Employees Incentive Awards Act had previously won agency recognition.

The dramatic and vital story of employee accomplishments must be told fully and effectively, Macy told the Association. "Where is the American taxpayer," he commented, "who would not be glad to learn that in 12 months' time he has bought more than \$102,000.00 worth of better government for less than \$4,000,000 in awards—not to mention the vast intangible benefits."

Macy emphasized that incentive awards should be tied in with other programs. Among the programs that would profit from such coordination are work simplification, safety, recruitment, and community relations.

The most significant development under the new program, the Executive Director reported, has been the increase in employee participation. He pointed out that the number of suggestions offered rose from 181,000 in 1954 to 217,000 in 1955, and in 1956 exceeded 294,000.

Even at the present high rate of one suggestion a year for every seven employees, however, the full potential of employee participation has not been reached, he believes. No figure is high enough "until the full potential of every employee has been realized."

Macy urged all employees to take advantage of the program and all supervisors to be quick to recognize superior work and recommend the employee for an award.

## United Fund Headed For Final Success

Latest reports indicate that the United Fund campaign is heading toward ultimate success, although field lieutenants have not completed canvassing the areas assigned to them.

"The campaign will continue irrespective of time involved, until the urgent social welfare needs of the community are met," stated James Judin, campaign chairman, at the United Fund board meeting last night. He stressed the extreme importance of field lieutenants visiting every home in the areas assigned to them, and making prompt reports to their area commanders.

Art Reich, treasurer, reported that total donations to the fund now amount to \$18,344.42, inclusive of pledges. This represents approximately 60% coverage of the whole community area. A number of area captains have yet to make a final report on campaign donations from their areas.

Dr. R. D. Potter, vice-president of United Fund, emphasized the extreme importance to United Fund of the donations that are yet to be received in the next few days from the remaining 40% of the community. "The success of your campaign hinges on the awareness of those who have not yet donated to the very neighborly and very humanitarian cause of United Fund. Consider what United Fund means to character building and to people in need, and give generously. If you have not yet been called on, it is an oversight," Dr. Potter stated. "A United Fund lieutenant will visit you in the next few days. Should you wish to donate immediately, call campaign chairman James Judin at 7652."

## California Leads Nation In Federal Employees

California continued to lead all States and other areas in the country in the number of Federal employees at the midway point this year, June 30, 1956, the Civil Service Commission has announced.

The Commission said that on June 30, California with approximately 232,100 employees was slightly ahead of metropolitan Washington, D.C., which had 232,700. Both California and metropolitan Washington increased their employee populations over the previous 6 months. California had had about 230,200 employees and metropolitan Washington 227,400 on December 31, 1955.

Both California and metropolitan Washington had substantial leads over all other States and areas. The relative position of other States with over 100,000 Federal employees was unchanged.

New York State remained third with about 186,000 compared to about 184,900 on December 31, 1955; Pennsylvania fourth with about 173,000 compared to about 174,000; Texas fifth with about 118,000 compared to about 112,100; and Illinois sixth with about 101,100 compared to 100,100.

## Man-of-the-Month



**SELA A. BLAISDELL, GSI (SS), USN** is selected man of the month by GMSU-25. His selection is based on his demonstration of superior knowledge and ability both within and without his rate, his initiative, extensive technical knowledge, and broad experience combined with his keen sense of human understanding to prove him a leader, and his standard of preference in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Navy.

## Commissary Officer Has Shopping Hints

In order to avoid crowding and long waiting lines at the Commissary Store, Lt. (jg) R. M. Rice, Commissary Store Officer, made the following suggestions, this week. These suggestions are designed to better distribute daily business throughout the week, provide better item selection and improve the availability of merchandise.

• Whenever possible, shopping on Tuesdays and Wednesdays would alleviate the heavy shopping which takes place during the remainder of the business week.

• Mid-afternoon shopping between 2 and 4 p.m. are the least crowded daily business hours and should be utilized whenever possible to relieve the late afternoon rush.



**AUTHORESS**—Erma Pelron looks over one of the early editions of the Rocketeer that she helped to put out in her early days on the Station. She is the author of "Kern's Desert," this year's publication of the Kern County Historical Society. (See story on page 4).

## China Lake Teachers Attend Annual Institute in Bakersfield

"The greatest natural resource in America today is youth and more frequently than not, it is the resource which goes to waste," Dr. John T. Wahlquist, president of San Jose State College told Kern County teachers at the annual institute in Bakersfield this weekend which was attended by all China Lake school personnel.

Dressing the five prerequisites for teachers of love or understanding, scholarship, character, loyalty to country and courage, Dr. Wahlquist discussed various aspects of teacher training as his theme on the topic "Education in a Changing World."

Points accentuated under the five topics given by the educator included the need in teacher professional training for more courses in subject matter as well as courses in education and school administration, and the need for teachers to have a basic love and understanding for their fellow men of all nations.

Discussing moral and spiritual values under the topic of character, the keynote president stated that too many things were forgotten in the twentieth century and that a few generations instructed by teachers who ignored the moral laws would mean our end as a nation.

Other activities attended by local teachers at the annual compulsory institute included section meetings in the various fields which featured such speakers as R. E. Vivian, dean of the School of Engineering at USC, who addressed the mathematics and science teachers, and R. M. Artis, curator of the Los Angeles County Museum, who talked to social studies teachers of the county.

Largest institute in the history of Kern County, the meeting was attended by more than 4000 school personnel and was under the direction of the County Office of Education.



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# ROCKETEER

Published every Friday at the

UNITED STATES NAVAL ORDNANCE TEST STATION

CAPTAIN E. L. ADWORTH, UNITED STATES NAVY

Commander

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY BUREAU OF ORDNANCE WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

From: Chief, Bureau of Ordnance  
To: Commander  
U. S. Naval Ordnance Test Station  
China Lake, California  
Subj: Outstanding recruitment program; commendation for

The outstanding achievement of the Naval Ordnance Test Station in recruiting college graduates in science and engineering has been brought to my attention. Your success is particularly significant in view of the nationwide shortage of scientists and engineers, and the intense competition among government activities and the competition between the government and private industry. A recruitment program of unusually high standard and quality is reflected in your record. The success of this program is attributed in large measure to the imagination and ingenuity of your recruitment representatives.

The continuance of a strong professional staff at the Naval Ordnance Test Station is essential to successful accomplishment of the Station's mission and functions, and it is reassuring to the Bureau in determining the assignment of future technical projects.

I wish to commend the Station for the overall excellence of the recruitment program and extend my personal thanks to each employee who contributed to this outstanding success.

F. S. Withington  
Rear Admiral, USN

## National Children's Book Week Nov. 25 - Dec. 1

Book Week comes once a year, but good reading knows no season.

Winter and summer the doors of the children's rooms in the public library stand open. There the book fair never ends. There, the year around, children may explore their interests and satisfy their many and ever-changing needs. From September until June the school library, a treasure house to have, serves every school boy and girl, some of whom might not otherwise have become familiar with the world of books. There the citizens of tomorrow learn to relate themselves more wholly to the world around them. In every library there is "treasure for the taking"—books to be read by one's self alone, books to be read aloud and shared with the whole family; books for a snug corner on a rainy day, for the picnic basket when summer comes.

And there is the library in the home, where the shelves are open at all hours and all seasons. All children have a right to a library of their own, no matter how small, and if they have made friends with books in their public and school libraries, they and their parents will know what to choose for their own.

Book Week with special exhibits and fairs serves to remind us of the perennial pleasure and wealth of books now available to our children—remind us too that there are areas where this wealth is not available and where greater library facilities are sorely needed. "It's Always Book Time" for those whose community has helped them make friends with books when they were very young.

## Adm. Burke Explains Joint Chiefs System

(Continued from Page 1)  
pal means by which people become acquainted with the major issues in matters which affect their future.

"If government runs too smoothly, too quietly, and no differences of opinion become apparent, few people would have reason to be apprehensive."

"While many questions of the future strategy and future weapons cannot be properly aired before the people, he said, differences of opinion about them can and should be presented to the responsible civilian chiefs.

The Joint Chiefs system, he said, permits this presentation.

Any member can put his views personally before the President and the Security Council, he pointed out.

Adm. Burke in his summary said, "The point is simply this. If the responsible government officials know the issues and the alternatives available before making decisions in important military matters, you have effective civilian control. If knowledge of the alternatives, as well as the main issues, is not regularly available to them, you do not have effective civilian control."

## CSC Lists Merits For College Grads

A college graduate probably has pondered over the following questions many times. Would I advance more rapidly in private industry or should I enter Federal service? Or, as the case may be, should I remain in Federal service?

The U.S. Civil Service Commission had a very convincing reply to that question recently in a display in the lobby of its central office building in Washington, D. C. The display told in a pictorial manner the rise of college graduates who have entered government service. It cited some twenty examples of the meteoric rise of young graduates in government service.

Robert D. Simmons, 37, University of Chicago graduate '48, entered Federal service in 1950 at the salary of \$3,100 a year. Today he is assistant comptroller, Director Budget Division, Bureau of Ships, Department of the Navy, at \$10,200 annually.

Jerry Kieffer, 32, University of Minnesota graduate '47 with a B.A. and Ph.D. degree, entered the Federal service in 1951 at \$4,500 and now gets \$11,410 as special assistant to the Director of the Office of Defense Mobilization for civil servants, a good many Government employees with university degrees have seen their salaries double and triple within the first half dozen years.

The Civil Service Commission under its "From Campus to Career" explanatory paragraphs gave examples of western college graduates who have risen rapidly in Federal service as follows:

William R. Martin, 30 Walls-Walla College, College Place, Washington, graduated in '51. Started at a \$3,100 salary and now is an organization and methods examiner with the Veterans Administration at \$6,390.

Roland A. Rush, 33, California '49, six years ago began at \$3,100 and now is a training officer with the Interior Department at \$7,570.

Richard D. Ford, 25, State College of Washington, Pullman, '52, began at \$3,410 in 1952, and now earns \$6,390 as an organization and methods examiner for the Treasury Department.

Robert H. Terry, 31, University of Washington '49, began at \$2,974 and now receives \$7,570 as a staff assistant in the Internal Revenue Service.

## Federal Entrance Exams Successful In Recruitment

Pointing to the "unprecedented success" of last year's Federal Service Entrance Exam at \$7,570, Philip W. D. Ford, 25, State College of Washington, Pullman, '52, began at \$3,410 in 1952, and now earns \$6,390 as an organization and methods examiner for the Treasury Department.

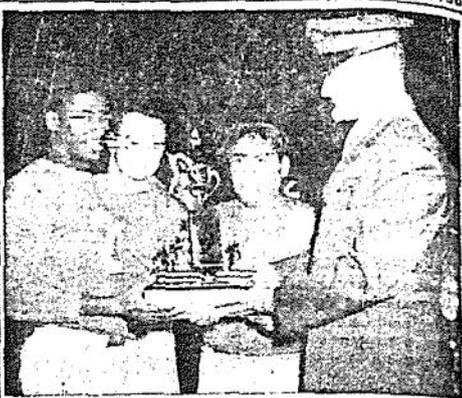
Robert H. Terry, 31, University of Washington '49, began at \$2,974 and now receives \$7,570 as a staff assistant in the Internal Revenue Service.

Some 42,000 applied to take the written tests.  
More than 22,000 passed.  
More than 3,000 actually got Federal jobs within six months after establishment of eligibility, and thousands more were under consideration for appointment.

Young contrasted this with the best record under the previous college-level examination system, which was about 2,500 new employees in a full year.

Government recruiters visited 700 colleges last year. Young said the Commission now is encouraging Federal agencies to "send recruiting teams to every campus in America." CSC planned eight written examinations during the 1956-57 school year, beginning October 23.

"Now that the opportunity for full careers in Federal service, which was cut off during the Korean emergency and the years immediately following, has been restored and so many things done to enhance the attractiveness of a Federal career, the Government's appeal as an employer, in my opinion stands at an all-time high," Mr. Young declared.



CHAMPS—Lt. Col. H. V. Joslin, USMC presents the first place trophy to members of the VN-3 flag football team in ceremonies held last Wednesday night. The team had an undefeated season of nine straight wins. Shown are: (l. to r.) C. F. Ward, AN; R. E. Norris, BM1; and A. Archuleta, AN.



CAUGHT FROM BEHIND—Joel Christie, Burroughs star halfback, stopped after clearing right end for eight yards in last Saturday's Burroughs-Trona tilt. Christie aided Burroughs in a 34-6 win which clinched the Desert-Inyo league title for the locals.

## WARMIN' THE BENCH

With its 34-6 win over rival Trona last Saturday afternoon, Burroughs High won its first clear-cut Desert-Inyo League championship. The league ended in a three-way tie for first place last season.

It should be mentioned, too, that the Burroughs "B" team won their league championship also with a 62-0 route of the Trona "B's" last Friday night.

Having completed an undefeated season, the Burro will go into the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) playoffs against St. Francis of La Canada, tomorrow at the Cantwell High School field in Montebello.

The locals are in the northern branch of the CIF and will be competing for the small school championship of Southern California against St. Francis, a strong parochial team from the Los Angeles area.

During the past season, the O'Meara coached led, averaged over 40 points a contest while holding their opponents to less than 20 a game. Here's the breakdown of scores:

Burroughs 56	East Bakerfield 6
Burroughs 54	North High 9
Burroughs 28	Moire 7
Burroughs 31	Victor Valley 12
Burroughs 51	Lone Pine 0
Burroughs 53	Desert 0
Burroughs 24	Barstow 9
Burroughs 44	Bishop 9
Burroughs 31	Trona 2

Three of the Burro gridder's should stand a good chance of making the CIF All Star team. Jack Butler, a rugged, 180 lb. tackle has been a standout both offensively

and defensively in the line all season. Joel Christie has been a break-away threat and certainly rate consideration, and Roger Short has been the key to the Burroughs attack and probably one of the finest backs in Burro history.

But no matter what happens in the playoffs or in the All-Star selections, Coaches Rod O'Meara and Wes Anderson certainly deserve plaudits for a truly successful season.

## Students to Give Monthly Story Hour

Annie Majors, named president in elections held this week, will direct activities of Burroughs High School Library Club which will again conduct the monthly Story Hour at the Station Library featuring stories for children in grades one to three.

Assisting her on the executive board of the junior librarian group will be Sue Whitlock, vice-president; Caroline Rowell, secretary; and Tom Sollars, treasurer. Family advisor of the club is Louise Rife, school librarian.

Special project for the group this year will be the sending of books to children overseas.

The club was activated two years ago to encourage students interested in library activities.

## Who said women are extravagant?

It appears that wives more often than husbands are responsible for seeing to it that the family saves some of its income. The University of Michigan in conducting a survey for the Treasury Department via Savings Bonds found that the wife plays the more active role in making sure that something is saved when the family income is above the \$20,000-\$30,000 bracket. When the family income is above the \$20,000-\$30,000 bracket, the husband who is most responsible for the family thrift.

# What's Doing IN RECREATION

**Editor's Note:** Due to Helen Michel's illness, the column was written this week by Madge Hueck, Recreation Division secretary.

The Recreation Division is sponsoring a SPORT-A-MAMA to be held at the Station Gymnasium on Thursday, Nov. 6. Military and civilian teams from China Lake will be featured in five bouts scheduled to begin at 8 p.m. There will be a Judo exhibition featuring a six-man demonstration team from Edwards AFB, and an exhibition by two judo teams from Barstow who are outstanding on the trans-pine.

We still have discount tickets to be given Bernie Lockier for assistance to the Recreation Department in developing the physical and morale of hundreds of Marine and civilian personnel without compensation during the past year. Bernie is well known in the field and does an excellent job of training these boys in boxing. Anyone who has attended one of the "Smokers" at the club know how popular they are. There is no admission charge for the event and we suggest that you be there early since seating is somewhat limited.

**Adult Dance**  
Friday night, Nov. 30, open the next adult dance at the Community Center. Stags, both male and female, are welcome and the penitence rhythm of the Pug Pilsner band will start at 9 p.m. These are for "us grownups" have been extended and everyone has fun. If you don't come, too?

**Children's Film Society Starts Saturday**  
"Mata," a dramatic documentary of a girl in Mexico, will be shown in the first seasonal program of the Children's Film Society at the Station Theatre tomorrow at 10 a.m. Rounding out the program will be "Madeline," a cartoon of a girl's classic poem, and "Weather Films," starring the irreplaceable Woody Woodpecker.

Membership cards may be purchased in the lobby before showing. All plans of members are invited to attend these showings when accompanied by a member.

**Eligible for 4-Bedroom Cottages**  
J. Fallgatter, Station Housing Manager, requests additional housing applications from 6-monther families in military, civil service, support activities who are interested in the new four-bedroom cottages. The present waiting list will be mustered shortly and families on this list will be notified. The turnover of these units is expected to be very rapid.

Applications may be filed by either husband or wife at the Station Housing Office.

**Golf Tournament Winners Announced**  
Eighty-eight golfers participated in the hot ball mixed foursome tournament held last Sunday. The name of Kermit Beaver, Dick Butch Gaulton and Margaret emerged victorious and a tie for second place honors. Individual low gross for men

All Station employees and residents, including military personnel are eligible for membership in the China Lake Golf Club at the regular monthly fees.

## Name Golf Course Contest

Proposed Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Suggest Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Send to:  
 Contest Chairman  
 Recreation Office, Code 855  
 China Lake, Calif.

**WIN A \$25 BOND**

**Discount Tickets**  
We still have discount tickets to the Pasadena Playhouse located at 39 So. El Molino, Pasadena. A new play is opening this week starring Sarah Churchill, daughter of Sir Winston Churchill, in "Tonight in Sumarand" with Helmut Dantine. The discount is 50 cents and is good any night except Saturday. There are Saturday matinees, too. Regular prices are \$2.40 and \$1.80. As you know, some of our outstanding actors are graduates of the Pasadena Playhouse.

**SHOWBOAT**

Starting Times: 6 and 8 p.m. Daily  
 Kiddies Matinee (Special Movie)  
 1 p.m. Saturday

**TODAY NOV. 23**  
 "TENSION AT TABLE ROCK" (98 Min.)  
 Richard Egan, Dorothy Malone  
 A western with a woman wrongly accused of shooting her husband in the back going out to a legend of cowardliness that follows him across the great southwest.  
 SHORTS: "To Be or Not to Be" (17 Min.)  
 "Dancers of the Deep" (16 Min.)

**SAT. NOV. 24**  
 "SEVENTH CAVALRY" (76 Min.)  
 Randolph Scott, Barbara Hale  
 The story of a cavalry officer who escapes the Little Big Horn massacre through the aid of not being there—and is branded a coward.  
 SHORTS: "Big Test" (10 Min.)  
 "Commotion on the Ocean" (17 Min.)

**MATINEE**  
 "TREASURE OF LOST CANYON" (82 Min.)  
 Wm. Powell, Julie Adams  
 SHORTS: "Bugs and Thugs" (17 Min.)  
 "Mentor and the Ace" No. 3 (18 Min.)

**SUN-MON. NOV. 25-26**  
 "DEATH OF A SCOUNDREL" (119 Min.)  
 George Sanders, Virginia DrCario  
 Sanders sets out to conquer by his own the world of high finance and gets some fancy, other crooked, copers in brokerage houses and boudoirs alike.

**TUES.-WED. NOV. 27-28**  
 "THE LIGHT TOUCH" (85 Min.)  
 Jack Hawkins, Margaret Johnston  
 No synopsis available  
 SHORTS: "Honey Muses" (17 Min.)  
 "Everybody Dances" (9 Min.)

**THURS. NOV. 29**  
 "TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST" (97 Min.)  
 Alan Ladd, Brian Donlevy  
 Richard H. Dana's swashbuckling classic of a corsair's life at sea. Well worth seeing.  
 SHORTS: "Hunting the March" (10 Min.)

# The Distaff Side



Fay Couch heads the Computing Section of Solid Propellants Branch in Propellants and Explosives Department. She and her chemist husband, Dean, have been enthusiastic NOTS residents since April, 1949.

Born and educated in Muskogee, Okla., Fay is a graduate of Oklahoma A & M College in Stillwater where she majored in nutrition. After one year of teaching, Fay held a position as government inspector at Pan American Refining Corporation in Texas City, Texas for one and one-half years during World War II. This is where she met Dean whom she married after a whirlwind, 4-month courtship. During this wartime blackout period, Fay never saw the city in lights. It was some time later during a visit to the area that she first saw the city lit up at night.

They lived the next five years in Chicago where Fay worked for the Department of Agriculture as a chemist, analyzing condensed and dehydrated food products purchased by the United States for lend lease. An outstanding advantage of this job was the employees' permission to retain surplus foods for their individual consumption when the rest of the country was being rationed.

It was at an American Chemical Society Convention in Chicago that they first heard of NOTS. After five years of blizzards and bitter cold, the prospect of living in the California desert sounded heavenly. The rugged mountain view surrounding NOTS was a pleasant revelation after having envisioned a flat, monotonous skyline like other deserts they had known.

Their friends had two reactions when they announced their plans. One was "How wonderful!" when they mentioned California; and the other was "What for?" when told they were going to the desert.

After their arrival, Fay found that her college background in nutrition did not qualify her for an available position in this technical research center. She was eventually placed in a math aid position in Assessments of Explosives Department. She then transferred to the chemistry lab of Solid Propellants at CLPPE and later took her present position as head of the Computing Section.

She credits her success to the guidance and counsel of her supervisors who helped her overcome her weaker points enabling her to develop the competence she has achieved for her present position.

The Couch couple are ardent travelers. In 1954, Fay toured Germany, Austria, France, Italy, Holland and Switzerland. When asked about her knowledge of foreign languages, Fay said: "I can count to six and ask for my room key in German. I can also say 'I can't speak French' in French. You'd be surprised how handy even that little bit was to me." In 1955, they drove to Alaska. If their annual leave holds out, they hope to visit Norway and Sweden next year.

Photography is her principal hobby. She is chairman of the Black and White Group of China Lake Photographic Society and a member of AAUW.



TOP QUARTET—One of the famous barber shop quartets that will appear in the TV Booster benefit show is the Westcoasters. This group finished sixth in the international competition and will be featured along with Art Baker and other well known TV talent.

## Superintendent's Notes

By DR. EARL MURRAY, Superintendent of China Lake Schools

Burroughs High School chapter of the Future Teachers of America is sponsored by the China Lake Education Association, and is composed of students who are interested in becoming teachers. The FTA is a group which works on many educational and service projects designed to give prospective teachers a good insight into the profession.

Educational meetings are held at which local educators discuss such topics of professional interest as colleague, teacher training, teaching opportunities, professional organizations, teacher standards and certification.

Eleven of the group have found time to spend one hour a day in the classroom serving as teachers aides. Eight of these are placed in our elementary school classrooms. In addition to observing good classroom teaching, they assist in general classroom housekeeping, assist teachers with building or decorating activities, grading and recording, assist in student group projects under teacher direction, and accompany the teacher and class on field trips.

Two members of the group, taking turns, stay with the mentally retarded group each noon hour eating with them, and assisting in playground activities.

The group has been active in planning and executing a good Public Schools Week program, by producing a play for an all-school assembly, a play for the Public Schools Week Banquet, and assisting in the decoration of store windows with posters and displays of school projects.

The China Lake Education Association provides a scholarship yearly to the outstanding senior member for the purpose of preparing to become a teacher.

The club has performed meritorious service to the school by participating in homecoming activities; producing and distributing the P. T. A. yearbook, erecting an outdoor lighted bulletin board, contributing to the school's band uniform drive, decorating tables for P. T. A. monthly meetings, and assisting in noon hour music and news broadcasts in the school cafeteria.

The club is a growing organization and does its part in keeping vocational information and interest in teaching before the high school students.

Is there a word that is the feminine for sailor?  
 Ans. The term "sailorless" for a female sailor has been in the language since 1890.

## Burroughs Forms Presidents' Panel

Student leaders from 15 Burroughs High School organizations met this week to organize a President's Panel which will serve as a clearinghouse for scheduling and coordinating student co-curricular activities.

Meeting under the sponsorship of the Burroughs Tennis Club, which did groundwork in planning and forming the panel, the group named Joel Christie as president and Margaret Kraynyk as recorder for the next meeting. The positions will rotate for the group which will direct planning of meetings and activities so as to eliminate conflicts in scheduling.

Chairman at the organizing meeting was R. J. Gilkinson, faculty advisor of the Tennis Club. Other faculty members present were Kenneth W. Westcott, vice-principal, and Alfred M. Schastag, who serve as faculty advisors of the Burroughs Student Council.

Student executives attending the meeting and the groups they represented were Joel Christie, president of the Student Council; Judy Wilson, Assembly Committee; Allene Reeves, Band Council; Margaret Waldron, California Scholarship Federation and El Burro; Tom Vick, Drama Club; Tom Hunter, Freshman class; Jimmie Vaughan, Future Teachers of America; Jackie Parks, Girls Athletic Association; Margaret Kraynyk, Girls' League; Jay Carty, junior class; Carolyn Haycock, sophomore class; Madeleine Douglas, senior class; Joyce Ferguson, Pep Club; Susan Smith, Science Club; Charles Walker, Tennis Club.

**Commissary Store Closes for Inventory**  
 The Commissary Store will be closed for inventory beginning at noon next Tuesday, Nov. 27 and will remain closed until 10 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 29.

# Former Rocketeer Editor Author of 'Kern's Desert'

Recently, the Kern County Historical Society published its eighteenth annual document on a phase of Kern County history. "Kern's Desert," a book by onetime ROCKEETER editor Erma Peirson, was the theme, and the work has been received with much enthusiasm throughout the area.

Erma arrived at NOTS in February of 1945, and in July she began working on the ROCKEETER staff. It was during this time that she began her "Desert Scrapbook" series in the ROCKEETER, and later used the material for her present book. Erma did more than 250 stories during that time on the surrounding desert areas.

Born and raised in Missouri, the local historian left home to teach school in Nebraska, and taught in five other western states before taking a government position in Barstow.

When she arrived at NOTS in 1945, the ROCKEETER was an eight-page monthly pamphlet. Soon after it was changed to the present four-page tabloid makeup and Erma began her "Desert Scrapbook" series.

The publisher of the new Station paper was R. R. Wing and Erma jokingly says that the paper started off "on a Wing and a Prayer." In those days, the ROCKEETER was stationed in the Chaplain's office and he was called the managing editor. Patricia Oleott, a WAVE seaman, was associate editor.

During the next five years, from 1945 to 1950, Erma continued to write and edit the Rocketeer and she remembers many months when she worked long into the night. "But," she says, "I always enjoyed my work with the ROCKEETER which helped to build the community here at China Lake."

Of her "Desert Scrapbook" series.

## Community Church Elects New Board

The NOTS Community Church held their annual meeting to elect new Board members last Sunday evening at Richmond School auditorium.

Those elected to the Board were: Mrs. Russell Skeeters to a three year term; Charles E. Arnold, engineer with the Test Department to a one year term; Dr. Glover S. Colodny, physicist with the Weapons Planning Group to a two year term; and Mrs. Albert S. Gould to a three year term.

Rod McClung, Chairman of the Official Board conducted the meeting which concluded with a reception for the new Chaplain Hester and his family.

## Skating Rink Proposed

A meeting of Station residents to discuss the feasibility of setting up a local weather-frozen ice skating rink will be held in Burroughs High School library next Monday evening at 7:30.

Persons interested in helping out on such a project are urged to attend.

more than 30 articles were about Death Valley, and she contributed much to the organization of the big '49er Encampment which took place there in 1949. Erma also has a wealth of material on the Mojave River which she may someday publish.

For the last four years, she has worked in the Fiscal Branch of the Public Works Department. Her husband, W. R. Peirson, has been a Civil Service employee for 17 years and works in the Building Engineer Division of Public Works.

The Peirsons have three children. James, the oldest, is a senior in the medical school of the Los Angeles College of Osteopath Physicians and Surgeons. When he receives his medical degree this year, he will have completed ten years of study. A younger son, Bill Jr., will graduate with an engineering degree from the University of California in February. A daughter, Mrs. Charles Dye, is living on the Station.

In her 11 years on the Station, Erma-Peirson has not only contributed much to the historical significance of Kern County, but also to the progress of NOTS through her years of work on the ROCKEETER.

## Burroughs Rates Tops In Scholarship Tests

Top ranking of Burroughs High School students in tests of verbal ability and mastery of fundamental subjects was revealed this week in an annual summary by the Kern County Union High School and Junior College District Testing Service according to Wesley Anderson, Burroughs' director of testing.

Ranking at the top of the eight district schools in nearly all phases tested in the 1955-56 academic year, Burroughs students ranked high in reading and arithmetic tests administered to eighth-grade students and in language arts tests given on the tenth-grade level. The latter tests showed the students to have advanced more than two grade levels in the two academic years.

In tests of correctness and appropriateness of expression administered to twelfth grade students, Burroughs also ranked at the district top with the class average at a medium level of accomplishment which, according to Mr. Anderson, was the level of attainment students should have reached.

## Man Is Not Keeping Pace

Man has not kept pace with the machine of his creation. The increase of horse power in the engine has not been matched by increased horse sense behind the wheel. More laws are not the answer, but more liability, not by additional insurance, but by moral concern.



FIRST AID—The first class in a series of American Red Cross sponsored first aid courses is underway. Patient (by proxy) shown above is Wanda Talley being administered first aid by class instructor Charles

O'Dell. New classes in both standard and advanced courses are scheduled to start early next year. Interested persons should contact the instructor at Ext. 74611 or 72819.

## Little League Slates Graduation Dinner

National Little League will hold its annual Graduation Banquet next Thursday, Nov. 29, at 6:30 p.m. in the Michelson Laboratory Cafeteria. It was announced by Dr. Eli Besser, president. During the award ceremonies, graduation certificates, championship medals and a sportsmanship trophy will be presented.

Entertainment will be provided by Wayne Gray dancers and Little League movies will be shown. Carlos Elmer will emcee the program and sponsor representatives will be among the honored guests.

Dinner tickets at \$1.25 per adult and \$1 per child are being distributed through the team managers. Reservations may be made by calling Doris Hammer, Ext. 74601.

## UCLA Will Include Graduate Course

For the first time in the history of the UCLA Education Program at NOTS, a graduate course in chemistry will be included among the course offerings for the spring semester of 1957. The schedule will include Chemistry 202, Chemistry Kinetics, with Drs. Gordon, Heller and McNesby serving jointly as instructors.

Graduate (200 series) courses are open only to students who have graduate status at UCLA. All students who do not have such status currently must file an application prior to Dec. 1, 1956, if they wish to enroll in Chemistry Kinetics or other graduate courses next semester. Application blanks are available in room 1066, Michelson Laboratory.

More than 2,000,000 auto pleasure trips ended in disaster in 1955. It's always "open season" on care-less pedestrians.

## Burroughs Batters Trona 34 - 6 To Win League Championship

It was a sad Homecoming for the Trona Tornados last Saturday afternoon, as Burroughs High took a 34-6 decision to clinch the Desert-Inyo League championship.

It was the ninth straight win for

the Burros and culminated an undefeated season in which the local boys completely outclassed league competition by rolling up 597 points to their opponents' 23.

Roger Short was the biggest contributor to the Trona downfall, passing for one touchdown and setting up the other four with pinpoint aerials.

Two long passes to Joel Christie put the ball on the Trona 10-yard line in the first period, and Short ran the remaining distance to put the Burros in front to stay. Christie's extra point made it 7-0.

It was Short again in the second period throwing to Tom Slopes to set up the second touchdown. The star tailback once again bucked over from three yards out and Christie kicked the point to run the tally to 14-0.

Trona threatened briefly late in the second period, but Burroughs held on their own 35-yard line. Here Short faded back and fired a long pass into the hands of Gary Jacobs who ran the rest of the way for the third touchdown. The play covered 65 yards in all and Christie's third successful extra point attempt made the halftime score 21-0.

Local Trona residents received their only thrill of the day as the second half began when fullback Bernard broke through left tackle and sped 40 yards for Trona's only touchdown.

But Burroughs came right back to increase their lead with Gary Koehler going five yards for Burroughs' fourth touchdown, and Heger Short shirring left end for another to bring the final score to

Short, as usual, was the Burro hero, scoring four touchdowns and passing like a veteran, but he received invaluable assistance from wingmen Slopes and Jacobs who were on the receiving end of most of the aerials. Defensively, Jack Butler and Don Cobb led the way. The triumph avenged the upset loss to Trona last year, and brought an end to what is probably the best season in Burroughs history.

## IRE Dinner Dance Slated Next Week

A dinner dance for members of the Institute of Radio Engineers will be held next Thursday, Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. in Pappalardo's Dining Room. Dr. A. M. Zarem, guest speaker, will address the group on the subject of solar energy entitled "Sun to the Sun."

Among Dr. Zarem's many accomplishments, he serves as a UCLA staff instructor, serves as a consultant to private industry on electronic development projects, is president of Electro-Optical Systems, Inc. of Pasadena, and he was formerly employed at NOTS Pasadena Annex.

## Job Opportunities

Mechanic (Rocket Propulsion) This position is located in the Aerospace Track Division, Track Operations Branch of the Test Department. Incumbent must have 2 years general experience with liquid fuel engines, liquid engine rated components, fuel mixing, general shop work or experience considered equivalent. Interested persons should call Ext. 71577 or 71514.

Editorial Clerk, GS-4. This position involves the duties of secretary-copyreader in the Editor Branch of Technical Information Department. A degree in English is desirable; college English at some editorial experience is mandatory. If you qualify and are interested, call Ext. 71593 for an interview.

## Chest X-Ray Memo

Adults at China Lake who were not included in NOTS annual chest x-ray program are reminded that the Kern County mobile unit will visit the Station on Nov. 27 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to offer this free service. The unit will be stationed in front of the Station Theatre. Children who have been exposed to tuberculosis may also be x-rayed by receiving permission from Mildred Kirby, school nurse.



GMU-25 PROMOTIONS—Fifteen military personnel representing over one-third of Guided Missile Unit 25 are advanced in rating. Shown in front row (l. to r.): S. E. Sumner, SKCA; D. Z. Pierce, FTI; A. J. Corrali, FTI; L. R. Hatfield, FTI; H. R. Gibson, YN2; T. J. Crumley,

GS2; D. L. Carpenter, GS3; and R. E. Lewis, GS3. Pictured in back row (l. to r.): L. T. Higginson, GS3; P. L. Wegner Jr., GS3; S. Slampyak Jr., ETR3; T. E. Clark Jr., FTMS; C. R. Miller, FTMS; D. L. Eadris, FTMS; and R. E. Griswold, FTMS.