

## Nonsense Avenue

As another crew member and myself gazed across the blue, calm water from our vantage point high above the main deck in the Crow'snest, we espied some parchment afloat. One of our elusive deck hands dove down and retrieved the precious paper. This was a very heroic act on the part of the deck hand because without this prize the following material would be lost forever in the confines of Davy Jones' Locker. Oh! you say that you are wondering what this was. Well, I suppose that we may as well tell you, it was none other than the log book of the S. S. St. Dunstan's. This book contained the details of the one hundred voyages of this most illustrious ship. We however, feel that you might be interested in knowing something about the one-hundredth voyage and so in the next few pages, we will give you a rough sketch, not in detail perhaps, but, at least, in a general way.

In order that you may appreciate better some of the things we notice in the log book as we thumb through it, we feel that a brief description of the ship is necessary. The S. S. St. Dunstan's consists of several decks and has concealed within those decks approximately three hundred officers, men, and cadets. High above the main deck can be found the crow'snest and it is here that the cadets are at work. I almost forgot we have other people on this ship—Wrens (after looking through the book, it is difficult to determine what their purpose on board is.)

The cadets usually spend one, two, or three years in the crow'snest and it is here that they get their first injection of the seamanship of education. Although they are just beginning to gather in some of the rudiments of seafaring ability, they often strut around with the air of "old salts". When they become men, they are shifted to the Memorial Deck where they expect to do no further work and should they spend a brief period on the Dalton Deck, they very often succumb to the serious maladies of lazitis, sleeping sickness, etc., from which some of them never recuperate.

The ship, itself, is powered with four main atomic



engines of: Ethics, Metaphysics, Logic, and Theology and carries a load of very high explosive material such as: History, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, to mention only a few of the scientific names given to these supplies. The main purpose of each cruise is to give the crew (cadets, men and wrens) a chance to absorb as much of these high explosives as is feasible before the ship pulls into drydock; but this absorption is hindered occasionally by diseases, weather conditions, and many other things which one meets in a cruise of this nature.

It is only fitting before we go any further to introduce you to some of the principal officers on board:  
 Commodore Bruno MacKenovisky (In command of ship)  
 Commander R. J. Sullivinski, (Second in command)  
 Probationary Petty Officer O. C. Rochisky (Chief Petrol Engineer)  
 Lieutenant T. Murnaghansky (In command of cadets)  
 Lieutenant H. A. MacDonaldvitch (Senior Watchkeeping Officer)  
 Lieutenant W. Landriganberg (Assistant Watchkeeping Officer)  
 Super-Ordinary Wren Marylik Carmaelski (In command of wrens)  
 Sub Lieutenant G. O. N. Cassovitch (Commodore's bat boy)  
 Acting Sub-Conscious Probationary Lieutenant Biswark Bullistic MacGuganvitch (Individual Relations Officer)

Now as we thumb through the log book we come across the embarkation scene.

#### From Log Book:

Pag. 93. "The port of September was littered with a motley crew of cadets, men, and wrens, eagerly awaiting their infiltration over the gangway of the S. S. St. Dunstan's as she was ready to begin her one-hundredth cruise. This luxury liner (as some of the crew call her) with her foc'sle pointed down the waters of education stands stately awaiting her crew who are about to embark on "Operation Knowledge". The cadets, wrens and men (the first green, the second greener, and the latter supposedly mature) are paraded past the barred windows of Purser Allwordavick's vault where they are subjected to the removal of their wampum as a final requisition to come aboard, leaving for their designated cabins with distorted contortions of countenances possessed with the idea of the en-



lightening events that might possibly befall them on "Operation Knowledge."

The ship leaves port under a clear blue sky and ploughs through tranquil waters to the Port of Thanksgiving. We forgot to mention that during this part of the sail EMU 999 Lesser Rogerson has been appointed Chief Weatherologist and FXP 3 Moses Coady has been appointed chief surgeon with the rank of Rear Admiral, these appointments coming directly from the Commodore.

On page 94 of the log book we notice that the Commodore called a liberty parade at the Port of Thanksgiving and all the crew go ashore. (Just wait a minute all the crew did not go ashore yet.) On page 95 it states: FP 11 Tail-End Seaman Ryan reports to the Commodore, with one boot on his foot and the other in his pocket. The gist of their conversation follows:

FP 11 Ryan: "Sir, Sir, may I have permission to go ashore?"

Commodore: "Ah! dear, Ryan where do you belong around here?"

FP 11 Ryan: "Sir, Sir, I am a part of the ship's company."

Commodore: "What part?"

FP 11 Ryan: "The other part, Sir."

Commodore: "Ah, go on, get out of here."

Page 97. Crew back on board; ship heads toward the open sea, about 25 miles out to sea the Chief Watch-keeping Officer reports a strange object off to the leeward side of the ship, this object, a sail boat, pulls up alongside and a man comes aboard. This man proves to be FP 11 Tail-End Seaman Ryan.

Page 101. EMU 999 Lesser Rogerson reports to the Commodore on weather conditions. "Yeah, Yeah, it looks as if we will run into some rough weather. The barometer is going down. I think we will run into a mild breeze which is known scientifically as 'Thanksgiving Exam Turbulence'."

Page 105. Cabin inspection by Commodore accompanied by Sullivinski. The following suggestions were made by inspecting officers: C. O. D. O'Flaherty and C. O. D. O'Quinn were advised to remove the socks from portholes.



After visiting the following cabins of 2 L.I.P. McGaugh, 3645 Whelan, T.E.R.E.S.A. McIvor, and L.O.T. 65 McCloskey, the inspecting officers suggested that the ornaments of the rooms (scientifically known as books) should be taken down at least during rough weather and dusted off.

Page 106. Calm weather prevails. G.O.B. McMahon receives the W.U.S.C. decoration for his bravery in rescuing the high explosive material of Sociology that has fallen overboard. Surgeon Rear Admiral FXP 3 Moses Coady reports: "The very contagious disease of Sportitis has broken out among some of the crew; 'Kaw Liga' is in serious condition. Cabin mate (Stone Face) is warned to take necessary precautions."

Page 109. Weatherologist reports to Commodore: "Yeah, Yeah, barometer is going down, down Sir! We are running into severe gales which will extend for two weeks. As far as I can determine from my instruments, Sir, it looks as if we cannot avoid these choppy seas caused by the Christmas Exam gales."

Page 110. About two weeks out from the Port of Christmas two crew members from Memorial Deck are sent ashore by the Commodore to qualify as Anti-Submarine Detectives.

Page 111. Port of Christmas reached. After liberty parade all go ashore. Two days after liberty parade FP 11 Tail End Seaman Ryan reports to Commodore's cabin in stocking feet and boots in his pockets.

FP 11 Ryan: "Sir, may I go ashore, Sir?"

Commodore: "Ah, Ryan, late again for parade!"

FP 11 Ryan: "Well, Sir, either late again or back early."

Page 135. Ship puts out from Port of Christmas. Weatherologist reports: "Yeah, Yeah, no weather." FP 11 Ryan is sighted 50 miles off Starboard side paddling nonchalantly in a kayak. FP 11 Ryan shouts, "Ahoy". S. S. St. Dunstan's stops and picks him up.

Page 136. R.C.M.P. Paul (Shirley Mullins) Jay shows 'Kaw Liga' girl friend's Christmas present (Compact and her picture).

2L.I.P. Thomas McGaugh shows crew his new Coadyak Camera he bought for his girl friend.



Page 137. R.C.M.P. Paul (Shirley Mullins) Jay and K.I.D. (Coke Bottle) Roche given three days in the brig by the Commodore for jumping ship. A confusion has arisen over the status of T.A.R. Max Well Callaghan and T.A.R. Simeon Farmer as to which is first mate and which is second mate. 2L.I.P. Thomas McGaugh has been reported by Surgeon Coady as having developed the obnoxious disease of "cigaretteness". H.O.R.S.E. Shea and S.L.E.I.G.H. Tierney are reprimanded for playing the part of Trojans and a cancellation of their shore-leave results.

Page 138. R.C.M.P. Jay visits Surgeon Coady.  
R.C.M.P. Jay: "Sir, is cancer heredity?"  
Surgeon Coady: "It is if you go ashore."

Page 139. Nylons smuggled aboard ship. C.H.I.E.F. Cadet Gerald Daniel Murphy up before the Commodore on this smuggling charge.

**Fraud reported on ship:** A. J. A. X. (Poo Poo) McGinn before Commodore on the following charge: Accused of selling alcohol to Len Shea for water on the knees during the cold weather to keep them from freezing. (The Commodore decides that TP Shea should wear pumps.)

Page 140. R.C.M.P. Jay thrown in brig for seven days for destroying Altie's orchestra.

**Mutiny breaks out:** Leaflets distributed. U. S. A. Tom Kane (Purple Heart) investigates for Commodore. MCUE Lorne Murphy accused as instigator and found guilty and put on a ration of tooth picks and potato soup. F.O.O. Cadet Paul MacDonald and G.O.O. Cadet Charles Grant invade the Wrens' quarters. One Wren reported missing by Marylik Carmamelski.

Page 140. Wrens following usual duties: Filing nails, painting, emptying waste paper baskets, etc. Formal on main deck—A.A. Charles Morrison and Wren Jiles Normand act as chaperons. BLUB BLUB appointed mascot by the Commodore. U.G.H. Hickey (Arnold) appointed Mutual Relations Officer for the Wrens by Marylik Carmamelski. Weatherologist reports: "Yeah, Yeah, no weather."

Page 141. Surgeon Coady reports to Commodore: S.H.A.N.E. Campbell and Dracula alias (Rossiter) have



contracted poliomyelitis. U.S.A. John Taylor, confined to bed indefinitely.

Page 142. W.Y.N. Dick Wedge and (Chrysostom) MacDonald have received the M.I.D.L. decoration. The citation reads as follows: Without fear these two men courageously expounded upon the following suggestions to the Commodore: 1) More shore leave; 2) less work between meals; 3) a change of course so as to avoid the rough weather which may be ahead of us; 4) a removal of our cabin ornaments to the bilge for storage.

R.C.M.P. Jay has interview with Commodore:

Commodore: "Ah! What do you want now, Jay?"

Jay: "I would like to have shore leave so my girl friend can take me to the movies."

Commodore: "Ah, well, I guess you had better go. I suppose you're, ah, broke again."

Page 143. Ship pulls into small port to allow SHY (Sh-Echo) Keays to go ashore so as to join the Boston Pops Orchestra.

Page 144. Chief Watchkeeping Officer makes a report to the Commodore which turns out to be false. His report to the Commodore is as follows: "Surely, Sir, I have just espied Able Bodied Seaman Pat McKenna throwing peanuts into the mouth of a hippopotamus, and surely these animals are not allowed on board." On investigation hippo turns out to be Tom McGaugh.

Page 145. Weatherologist reports to Commodore: "Yeah Yeah, I think we are heading towards an air trap." Midnight oil burnt in Deck Science. A.J.A.X. Louis McGinn (Mathematical Calculator) has just found out through his accurate calculations with the binomial theorem, the calculus, permutations and combinations, etc., that the hydrogen bomb is .8200095½ times less powerful than the atom bomb even though the chief petroleum engineer has calculated it to be .8200094½ times more powerful.

Page 146. Weatherologist reports to Commodore: "Yeah, Yeah, cirrus clouds overhead. Rough seas and mercury down, down, down. This tantalizing disturbance I give the scientific name of Easter exams."

Page 147. Ship docks at Port of Easter. FP 11 Ryan misses liberty boat. While leaning over rail watching lib-



erty boat land the rest of the crew on shore, he is spied by the Commodore who decides to put his educated toe into action and FP 11 Ryan lands safely on shore.

Page 152. Ship sails from Port of Easter. Weatherologist reports to Commodore: "Yeah, Yeah, weather unpredictable."

Page 153. Commodore warns Watchkeeping Officers to be on the look-out for enemy action.

Page 154. Chief Watchkeeping Officer MacDonaldvitch reports enemy submarine within four and one half feet of ship. Commodore carries out investigation and sub turns out to be a whale. MacDonaldvitch demoted and sent to the crow'snest.

Page 155. T235 Art of Logic Pendergast and (DIZZY) Bill McIsaac are mustered before Commodore.

Commodore: "Ah, dear Pendergast, what are you doing around here?"

T235 Pendergast: "A ship is moved by external action and I am on the ship. But I am an immobile being. Therefore I just came along for the ride."

Commodore: "When did you, ah, get aboard McIsaac?"

(DIZZY) McIsaac: "I came aboard at the Port of September, Sir."

Commodore: "Ah, I thought, ah, we lost you at the Port of Christmas."

(DIZZY) McIsaac: "Well, Sir, I came back on as a stowaway."

Commodore: "McIsaac, you're, your're hanging around here, like, ah, ah, etc., relic of antiquity."

Page 157. Dalton Deck falls off but those on the deck are unaware of the catastrophe due to their various ailments.

Page 155. Object seen on water 150 miles from shore. Swimming underhandly FP 11 Tail-End Seaman Ryan shouts "Ahoy" to S. S. St. Dunstan's. Commodore stops ship and Ryan is taken aboard and given the C.F.C.C.S. decoration by the Commodore for his aquatic feats. Ryan intends to promote Northumberland Strait Swim.

Page 156. Weatherologist reports to Commodore: "Yeah, Yeah, rough, rough weather, a seventy-nine foot swell, Mercury going down, down, down,—it's gone." Weatherologist jumps overboard and swims ashore as the S. S. St. Dunstan's crashes into dry dock.

Page 157. Willie (Lump, Lump, Thump, Bump, Bang, Crash, Boom) Davies still with the ship.

Signed.

Admiral of the Fleet "Urbie"

(Keeper of the Log.)

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"Whatever Catholics do in promoting and defending the Catholic school for their children, is a genuinely religious work and therefore an important task of Catholic Action."

—Pope Pius XI in "Christian Education of Youth."

"Indeed a good Catholic, precisely because of his Catholic principles, makes the better citizen, attached to his country, and loyally submissive to constituted civil authority in every legitimate form of government."

—Pope Pius XI in "Christian Education of Youth."

"The proper and immediate end of Christian education is to co-operate with divine grace in forming the true and perfect Christian, that is to say, to form Jesus Christ Himself in those regenerated by Baptism."

—Pope Pius XI "Christian Education of Youth."

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