

# AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

Issue 2, Vol. 4

Air Scoop, January 12, 1945

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## BUSINESS COURSE STARTS JAN. 22

Hampton High School, in cooperation with the Virginia State Department of Trade and Industrial Education, has announced courses in Typing, Shorthand and Business English to be held on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 7 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. at Hampton High School. One or two of the subjects may be taken. The level of training will be based on data obtained from the registration and classes will be established on as many levels as possible.

A fee of \$5.00 must be paid at the time of registration, and upon satisfactory completion of the course and with an attendance record of at least 80%, the student will receive a certificate and \$2.00 of the fee will be refunded.

Additional information may be obtained from the Training Division, Phone 2300.

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## CREDIT UNION MEETING JAN. 17

The ninth annual meeting of the Langley Memorial Aeronautical Laboratory Federal Credit Union will be held on January 17, 1945. The business meeting, which will deal with the declaration of dividends and the election of officers, will follow a dinner in the East Area Cafeteria starting at 5:15 p.m. As in the past, the Credit Union will partially subsidize this dinner for Credit Union members who will be charged sixty cents while non-members will be required to pay one dollar.

Following the dinner an entertaining movie will be shown in the projection room after which the business meeting will be started. All persons wishing to attend the dinner should notify Mrs. Roberts at the Credit Union Office, phone 2247, before 4:30 p.m., Monday, January 15.

All Credit Union members are urged to attend this meeting so that the business conducted will properly represent the wishes of the membership.

## EVERETT TO SPEAK TO MODEL SOCIETY

Dick Everett, Head of the Dynamic Tunnel Operations Shop and one of the nation's top model airplane builders, will deliver a paper on gas models at the annual convention of the American Society of Model Aeronautical Engineers at Ridgefield Park, New Jersey, on January 21.

In 1935, Everett won the stick event at the National Model Meet and in 1936 he was selected as a member of the Wakefield team which represented the United States in an international model meet. Dick came out fourth in international competition. At present he still holds three national records.

Everett came to the Laboratory in November, 1939, and last year finished his apprentice training. He is 25 years old, married, has a son, and lives at Buckroe.

## Vengeance Weapon Hits Hampton--Hic

Last Tuesday, the highly touted and long heralded secret vengeance weapon, V-O, hit the local area with a bang. An unusually large load was deposited in downtown Hampton, near the corner of King and Queen streets, and as a result, large numbers of the populace were laid low, some not succumbing until late that night. Every window in the immediate vicinity was smashed by the crowds who swarmed in and out of the area.

V-O has an attack that differs greatly from its more widely known predecessors, 5-C and 7-C. It is released in much smaller quantities and always exacts a high toll from the community. This particular V-O bombardment was the heaviest for a town of this size on the entire eastern seaboard, and had been expected for several weeks. It was brought in by trucks, under the cover of darkness, and was deposited in an out of the way place in the rear of a store building. It remained there unnoticed until it was discovered by early morning shoppers. The first was

## NEARLY \$3,000,000 GIVEN LAB UNDER NEW APPROPRIATION

The First Supplemental Appropriations Act for 1945, approved on December 22, 1944, granted this Laboratory an additional \$2,035,970 for general operating expenses and \$835,000 for construction funds for the remainder of the current fiscal year.

Of the appropriation for general operating expenses, \$1,123,620 goes for personal services. This will bring about an increase of about 700 employees over the existing authorized complement by the end of the fiscal year.

Another \$2,850 goes for communication services. This has been necessitated by the new law that requires all governmental agencies to pay for the use of the frank on mail. (Hence the need for conserving our franked envelopes.)

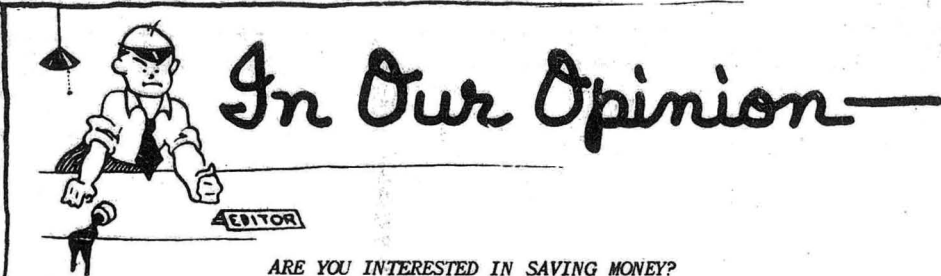
In order to provide funds for the new research facilities going into operation in the West Area, an additional \$50,000 has been granted for utility services.

The last item under operating expenses is \$859,500 for equipment.

Of the \$835,000 allotted for added construction and equipment items, \$135,250 goes for an addition to the Supersonic Tunnel; \$609,750 for electric power distribution facilities; and \$90,000 for a Sewage Disposal Plant.

observed running toward the cross streets screaming at the top of his voice. 'V-O, V-O...it's come..it's here!' Clutched to his breast was a small portion of V-O enclosed in brown paper, said to be the only way of keeping it from spreading until it could be got safely away. Soon, multitudes of people began to jam the locality, each willing to risk his neck to do his part in taking away all the V-O that he was permitted to carry. When it became apparent that there was too much for the local residents to cope with, hurried calls were dispatched to Langley Field and Fort Monroe. Military reinforcements rushed in and they too joined in

Continued on page 2



# In Our Opinion—

## ARE YOU INTERESTED IN SAVING MONEY?

The Government needs money. That in itself is not startling news. One who reads the newspapers, listens to the radio, or even works for the Government knows that. Yet to watch the actions of some, you'd get the idea that the fact hasn't penetrated.

There are those who will put fifteen percent of their pay into bonds as regularly as the fifth and twentieth come around and then let a partially filled in copy of LF-121 lay around on their desk for weeks.

So what, you ask? What's so all-fired important about this LF-121, or whatever it is? Just this - this LF-121 is a material inspection report which must be signed and returned *immediately* to the Stock Section by the person who receives material that has been ordered. Of course he must inspect the material and make certain that it is satisfactory, but this shouldn't be delayed for days, or until whatever was received has been put into use. More important, it must not be delayed until the Government has lost its discount that it would have obtained with more prompt payment; for payment cannot be made until this inspection report has been signed and returned.

Any good customer, and the U. S. Government can certainly be put into that category, needs to take advantage of the discounts that it gets for prompt payment. It also needs the good will and high reputation that come from the same. There are very few of us who refuse to lend money to our Government. There should be no one who refuses it the right to save that money.

## THANKS FROM THE SERVICEMEN

Several of the activities came through nicely for us with their contributions for the mailing fund. Structures, East Computing, 8-Foot, Illustrators, Construction Purchase, Loads, and Induction Aerodynamics are hereby sincerely thanked for their donations. If any others care to follow suit we still have a big empty space in our bank.

## A SLIGHT CASE OF WRITER'S CRAMP

T. Melvin Butler, our erstwhile Personnel Officer, really bit a nice sized chunk for himself about these letters of certification necessary for cigarette ration cards at the PX. It seems that the Army will accept the letters only when they are signed by TMB himself. No, he can't get his assistant to sign for him; neither can he have his signature stamped or stenciled on. For a man who has all this in addition to all his regular correspondence, this is no small job. The Personnel Services Office had 1100 letters prepared; the announcement was made in last Friday's paper; and by Monday afternoon all were gone. In our opinion, the Personnel Officer would do well to requisition Leavenworth for one Forger, CAF-6, 7/8. But you can trust Butler to think of something.

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The staff extends condolences to Jack Kinzler, West Machine Shop, on the sudden death of his father in Pittsburgh on January 5.

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*Except ye utter by the tongue works easy to be understood how shall it be known what is spoken?*

Corinthians I, 14:9



At the suggestion of Shirley Stubbs, Stability Research, a course in Fundamentals of Aeronautics, designed to assist secretaries and stenographers in taking dictation, preparing preliminary reports, filing, etc., has been set up by the Training Division.

Emphasis will be placed on elementary aeronautics and aeronautical nomenclature and previous knowledge of Mathematics and Physics is not necessary.

Classes will begin January 15 at Hampton High School and will be held twice weekly for five weeks. Further information may be had from the Training Division, Phone 2300.

## V-O

From page 1  
the fray. Many workers at local war industries gladly gave up their lunch periods to come in and carry away their share. The job was not completed and the menace removed until the day shift workers came in after work to polish off what was left.

The first of the noted vengeance weapons to be non-explosive, V-O is a highly concentrated liquid. Its container is cylindrical in shape and made of glass. There is an elongated neck at one end and it is through an opening at this neck that the liquid spreads. The containers are usually camouflaged in harmless looking pasteboard boxes or brown paper bags. It will do its greatest damage when large quantities make a hurried, concentrated attack. Union with water or other less potent liquids will tend to lessen its striking force.

Casualties on this occasion were neither as numerous nor as serious as had been expected. On the following morning, broken glass was evident in homes several miles distant, but few cases required hospitalization. Most of them were simply confined to their beds until a late hour on the morning after, and doctors said that many would feel the effects until late in the day.

LOST: Red mechanical pencil, initialed K-10. Misplaced on desk of Head of Editorial office. Finder please return to Air Scoop office. No questions asked.

WANTED: An electric phonograph. Jack Volkman, Hangar Instrument Shop.

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Editor . . . . .	Tiny Hutton
Managing Editor . . . . .	Ruth Angel
Art Editor . . . . .	Dot Severance
Photographer . . . . .	Donald Foster
Vari-Typists . . . . .	Laura Lineback
	Marie Miller
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# BASKETBALL MOVES TO FOURTH WEEK

by Charlie Clark

Highlight of the past week's basketball games was the dazzling performance of Axel "Bulldozer" Mattson in the 8-Foot- Free-Flight game last Thursday. Mattson scored 10 points to lead the 8-Footers in a 33-12 triumph. Beiduk also scored 10 points for the winners but his performance was more or less expected.

At the end of three weeks' play, Low Turbulence, East Shops, 8-Foot, 19-Foot, AWT, and Flight Blues are undefeated.

The standings:

Team	W	L	Pctg.
Low Turb	2	0	1.000
East Shops	2	0	1.000
8' HST	2	0	1.000
19' P.T.	1	0	1.000
AWT	1	0	1.000
Flight Blues	1	0	1.000
Structures	2	1	.667
IRD	1	1	.500
FFT	1	2	.333
Loads	1	2	.333
Flight Whites	0	1	.000
PRT	0	1	.000
16-Foot	0	2	.000
West Shops	0	2	.000
Tank	0	2	.000



Among the better dressed at the Shipwreck Shuffle were Loualice Georges, Stability Tunnel, and Hal 'Baldy' Johnson, AWT. (We're referring to Hal's chest, not his head.) The picture was taken rather early in the evening, as you can plainly see. The main thing we can't figure out about Lou is that the rope can't possibly be doing any good outside her sweater. Awright! So who's lookin' at the rope? Johnson was still wearing the tattoo three days later. Ain't it a shame the way these new apartments are so short on hot water!

....Photo by W. G. Greenman

# LINE at the LABORATORY

Doug King, Hydrodynamic Analysis....

started the New Year off with a bang. At exactly 12:02 he popped the question to Daisy Mae Hadlock, Tank. Results: the couple are engaged and nuptial plans are being made....June Heckman, Personnel Records, will receive her MRS. degree on Friday, January 12. After much research, she picked as the subject for her thesis, 'Staff Sergeant Harry G. Alston'...Margaret Farmer, AWT, will turn over a new leaf on January 20 when she begins her new life as Mrs. Reece Ivy. The transformation will take place at the First Presbyterian Church in Wilson, N.C. Looking a bit worn and tattered....

Harry Henry, Safety Engineer, returned to the Laboratory Tuesday and announced that he had become the proud papa of a son, Laurence Nolan, born Monday January 8. This was Henry's first experience along this line. According to the latest report....

Melvin Butler and Harry Shoar may soon be looking for a new apartment mate - it is rumored that Paul Taylor is making final plans to move into the bird cage at 61 Shenandoah Road. Taylor himself is doing most of the rumoring. Having given up hopes of ice skating....

on the Peninsula, two sections are planning roller skating parties this week. AWT's is set for Friday night at the Stuart Garden Skating Rink, and the Engineering Social function is staging one Sunday afternoon at the same place. Frank L. M. Storm, the Civil Service Representative hereabouts....

became a grandfather on January 3 and we called him the other day to get the facts, congratulate him, and ask whether or not he had any cigars for distribution. By some stroke of chance he was in an unusually talkative mood, and so he embarked (with a little urging on our part) upon the high spots of his family history. Storm is one of a long line of boys, the oldest of six in his father's family. As a matter of fact, boys are such a habit with the stormy Storms that there have been only six daughters born to the entire clan since 1654. Frank himself paternized the sixth one, a crime for which the family has never quite forgiven him. The Storms were run out of Germany (Frank admits it himself) way back when one of Schikelgruber's forerunners ordered one of Frank Storm's forerunners - then a burgomaster - to siege the property of a poor widow. Storm stormed down to the king or emperor or whatever he was and said that he'd have none of that. He was then obliged to move to the outskirts of town so he came on over to Maryland, leaving the family fortune behind. The only real criminal in the family was a Storm named Jake who was fined two shillings for driving a horse through the streets of Frederick, Maryland, on Sunday. The Marylanders didn't like that. Neither did the Storms. Oh, yes! The grandchild was a boy named Colen Craig and he weighed seven pounds.

## SCOOPIE GETS SHIPWRECKED

Well shiver me timbers; square my mains'l; and take a healthy half-hitch in my bell bottoms if I didn't go and get myself shipwrecked. Yesirree, I took off for the Armory last Friday for the Green Cow's Shipwreck Shuffle, although I think they might as well have called it a Shipwreck Scuffle and been closer to the truth. But that's something that most folks don't bother with these days, so why should the Green Cow be any different.

I'm still a little puzzled about what went on. For a couple of weeks I heard people talking about this Green Cow and then she didn't show up at the dance. I think it's as little as she could have done to attend her own dance. But, I guess that's the way with all women. You go to all sorts of fuss

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WANTED: Three passengers from Buckroe on 8:15 - 4:45 shift. Cecil Burtner, Flight Maintenance.

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NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER: Spin Tunnel Annex, located on first floor of Spin tunnel, 2269

and bother about them and then they never do what's expected of them.

There was a rumor running around (not to mention several roomers and a few bloomers - plus a nightgown or two) that there actually is no Green Cow.. I mean no real cow. That seemed rather foolish to me because there were definitely some boars there; and several folks made pigs of themselves; and with all that heat in the Armory any jitterbug might have been mistaken for a skunk; plus the usual number of hens and cats; a rat or two; and of course a good sized pack of wolves.

Everybody seemed to be having a good time and those who didn't look like they'd been shipwrecked when they came certainly got into character before they left. Ho hum. Such is life.

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LOST: A ring of tool checks marked Structures Lab, #72. Also a Master key P638. Finder please notify Carl Rossman, Structures Lab, 2274.

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WANTED: An electric iron. Rachel Withers, West Machine Shop.



## MEET THE COMMITTEE

General Henry H. Arnold, who has been one of the Army's representatives on the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics since 1938, has a fighting-man's definition for the word 'impossible'. "The impossible", says General Arnold, "is that which has not yet been done". And he ought to know, because he has borne the responsibility for creating, in an impossibly short time, an impossibly powerful air force. Everyone, especially the Japs and Nazis, knows how well he is doing the job.

It would be hard to imagine a man more capable of performing such a herculean task, for the energetic Arnold does not do his directing from behind his desk, nor is his inspecting confined to reviewing the neatly type-written reports of subordinates. Instead, he constantly dashes about the country to aircraft plants and training stations seeing for himself the quality and quantity of planes being produced and the type of young men being taught how to fly them.

Any aircraft official who has panted along behind General Arnold on an inspection tour will swear that the genial "Hap" is more highly supercharged than a P-47. He whisks along at a brisk trot that belies his 58 years, his sharp eyes taking in every detail. At the end of his tour he is more than likely to ask the footsore and perspiring official to double his plants's output. And Arnold isn't the type of man to take "Why, that's impossible!" for an answer.

The General pilots his own Douglas transport with the ease of a veteran and no wonder, because he holds the longest continuous flying record of any man in the Army and wears a Command Pilot's wings on his tunic.

Even while at West Point he took an interest in the Wright Brothers' new-fangled flying machine and as soon as possible he enrolled in their school, graduating in 1911. Immediately afterward, he began to hang up records. He won the Mackay Trophy in 1912 by flying a Wright Biplane around a 30 mile course at the sensational speed of 43 miles per hour. In the same year he set an altitude record, going up to 6,540 feet. Also in 1912 - apparently a banner year for the young second lieutenant - he carried the first air mail flown in the United States. It wasn't much of a flight to be sure - from Nassau Boulevard Airdrome, Long Island, to Hempstead, Long Island, a distance that would be just about adequate for the takeoff of a modern cargo plane - but it was at least a step in the right direction.

At a time when numbers of people in this country had never even seen a plane, Arnold was a confirmed believer in the possibilities of air power and continued to add many more 'firsts' to his already impressive record. He was



General Henry H. Arnold is welcomed by Dr. Lewis on his recent visit to the Cleveland Laboratory.

the first to mount guns and wireless in planes, pioneered air reconnaissance, inaugurated the forest air patrol, was the Army's first aerial engineer and in 1934 he won the Mackay Trophy again (the first man to win it twice) by leading a flight of Martin bombers from Washington to Fairbanks, proving the contention of his great friend, General "Billy" Mitchell, that the United States was within easy bombing range of Alaska. (Incidentally, Arnold was a firm disciple of Mitchell and was one of the few officers who supported the unfortunate general in the court-martial that "broke" him and from which he was posthumously exonerated.) In March, 1943, Arnold crowned his string of "firsts" by becoming a four-star general in the U.S. Air Force - the first air officer to achieve this exalted rank - and he now wears the five-star insignia of the newly created super-general status.

In the 1930's, when Germany and Japan started arming to the teeth, Arnold saw the handwriting on the wall and tried in vain to persuade his pacifist homeland to do likewise. Over ten years ago, after his flight to Alaska, Arnold declared, "We've got to develop air defenses here in Alaska. Someday this territory will be of the greatest importance in our Pacific strategy." Year after year he implored the Congresses for funds to build a strong air force but to no avail. Even after the fall of France, his request for 1000 planes was turned down. Now a penitent Congress passes billion-dollar appropriations on Arnold's say-so without batting their collective eyelashes. "They give me everything," he says, "everything but time."

The most conspicuous facet of General Arnold's personality is his bubbling enthusiasm. He fairly sparkles when he speaks of his hobbies, his four children, and even his insubordinate cocker spaniel who blankly refuses to

## ART CLASS TO MEET TONIGHT

The first meeting of the Art Class to be conducted by J. J. Lankes nationally famous artist, will be held tonight (Friday) at 8 p.m. in the Symes-Eaton Community Center, Hampton. This meeting will only be a get-together to make plans for the course and arrive at a convenient schedule of classes. No instruction will be given tonight.

Those who have registered for the course have been notified of the meeting and all other interested persons are invited to attend. It is planned to offer individual instruction in oil painting, sketching, wood cutting and composition. Two classes will be held each week and the fee will be \$2.00 per week.

## NEW ELECTRONICS COURSE PLANNED

Laboratory employees whose work requires a knowledge of Electronics, but who have not previously studied Algebra or Physics, will be interested in taking a course in Elementary Electronics which will begin January 22, at Hampton High School.

This course will incorporate a brief study of the Principles of Electricity, Electronics, Radio and Electronic Instruments. Marshall Yovits, of Instrument Research, will instruct the classes which will be held each Monday and Wednesday evening for a period of five weeks. Registrations will be taken by the Training Division, Phone 2300.

## FLIGHT RESEARCH DANCE JAN. 26

Flight Research takes pleasure in announcing another of its gala semi-formal dances at the Hampton Country Club, January 26, 1945. As usual, a limited number of invitations will be made available to Laboratory personnel so that they too may enjoy Eddie Travis' new 12-piece Casino Club orchestra. For invitations or further information call Don Talmage at 2264 or Bunny Klawans at 2229.

obey even the most elementary commands of his star-spangled master. He is intensely interested in everything and everybody and his versatility as an author ranges from the Bill Bruce series of boys' books to authoritative volumes on the techniques of air power.

He has almost as many degrees as military decorations. They include his B.S. from West Point, Doctor of Aeronautical Science from Pennsylvania Military College, Doctor of Science from the University of Southern California and Doctor of Laws from Iowa Wesleyan.