

LANGLEY AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE DEC. 31

The NACA Activities Association is sponsoring a debutante ball in honor of the New Year on Friday night, December 31 at the Activities Building and they have issued an invitation to all Laboratory employees. The affair will get underway at 9 p.m. so that old Father Time and his helper, Leap Year, may be ushered out in the proper manner. On the stroke of midnight the New Year will make his debut and guests may celebrate his arrival until 2 a.m.



As a last reminder to the single Laboratory maidens, at the stroke of midnight Leap Year will bow out of the picture for 4 years, so make the most of the first 3 hours of the celebration because after that it again becomes a man's world - so they think. We are giving the prospective members of the Spinster's Club as much time as possible to catch that man and thereby become ineligible for membership in the club.

The dance will be semiformal, which generally means long dresses for women and almost anything for men, and music will be furnished by Robert Christian and his Royal Swingsters. The celebration will run into the wee hours of the morning as the day following the night before is Saturday.

The admission price is \$5.00 a couple and includes setups, hats, noise makers, ice, etc. Tickets are on sale in the East and West Cafeterias. Reservations for tables may be made by calling Harry Hamilton or Mrs. Branham at 2378. Since only 250 tickets are to be sold it will be necessary to turn in the numbers of the tickets for all the couples in the party when making reservations.

BINGO PARTY SET FOR JANUARY 6

During all the excitement of celebrating Christmas and New Year's, don't forget to reserve Thursday, January 6, for the Bingo Party at 8:30 p.m. at the Activities Building.

Over \$200 worth of merchandise will be given to the winner of the grand prize game. Included on the prize list are a Firestone portable radio, Waring Blendor food and beverage mixer, Universal electric blanket, General Electric waffle iron, Camfield "pop-up" toaster, and a set of 6 sterling silver sherbert dishes.

Someone should also be lucky enough to win the jack-pot since 11 numbers will be called. A Polar cub hair dryer is being added to the list which now includes a Gilbert electric food mixer, Camfield "pop-up" toaster, Proctor "never-lift" iron, Universal pressure cooker, Handy-hot apartment-size washing machine, and Handy-hot electric juicer.

A special children's game will be played with the winner receiving a watch. Other prizes included on

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Air Scoop, December 25, 1948
Issue 50, Vol. 7

STACK RECEIVES COLLIER TROPHY

John Stack, Assistant Chief of Research, has been selected to share the 1947 Collier Trophy, commonly rated aviation's highest honor, with Lawrence D. Bell, president of Bell Aircraft Corporation, whose company designed and built the Air Force X-1 rocket plane, and Captain Charles E. Yeager, test pilot for the Air Force Materiel Command, who first thrust beyond the so-called sonic barrier in the X-1. The winners were honored along with those selected for other aviation awards at the annual Wright Brothers Dinner of the Aero Club of Washington last Friday night.

The award of the Collier Trophy, established 37 years ago by a magazine editor for the "Greatest achievement in aviation in America, the value of which has been demonstrated by actual use during the preceding year," is made under the direction of the National Aeronautic Association acting through a committee representing all major elements of aviation.

Stack, who did much of the early work on problems of supersonic flight, came to the Langley Laboratory on July 15, 1928 following his graduation from MIT with a de-

(Continued on page 5)



John Stack, Assistant Chief of Research, will share the 1947 Collier Trophy with two other men who played key parts in the first human faster-than-sound flight.

BOWLING NEWS

MONDAY DUCKPIN LEAGUE

19-Foot took the lead over Mechanical Maintenance last week with 27 wins and 12 losses. Mechanical Maintenance was dropped to second with 26 wins and 13 losses. Taking high bowling honors were Bill Nelson, IAL, with a 123 set, Walt Bressette, Rocketeers, with a 315 set, and Jean Walters, 19-Foot, with a 115 game and 300 set.

STANDINGS

Team	W	L	Avg.
19-Foot	27	12	.692
Mech. Maint.	26	13	.667
Somnambowlists	23	16	.590
PRD	20	19	.513
Tank	19	20	.487
16-Foot	18	21	.462
Rocketeers	18	21	.462
FGDA	18	21	.462
Electrical Shop	14	25	.359
IAL	12	27	.308

With only one night left in round one, the EICS team is in undisputed first place in League A. In League B, Headpins and Missilleaneous are tied for the number one spot. Walls, Deadloads, rolled high game last week with 204, and Watson, Missilleaneous, took high set with 582. Marion Primavera, Figures, bowled a new high game for women with 193, and Barbara Durling, Alleycats, took high set with 432.

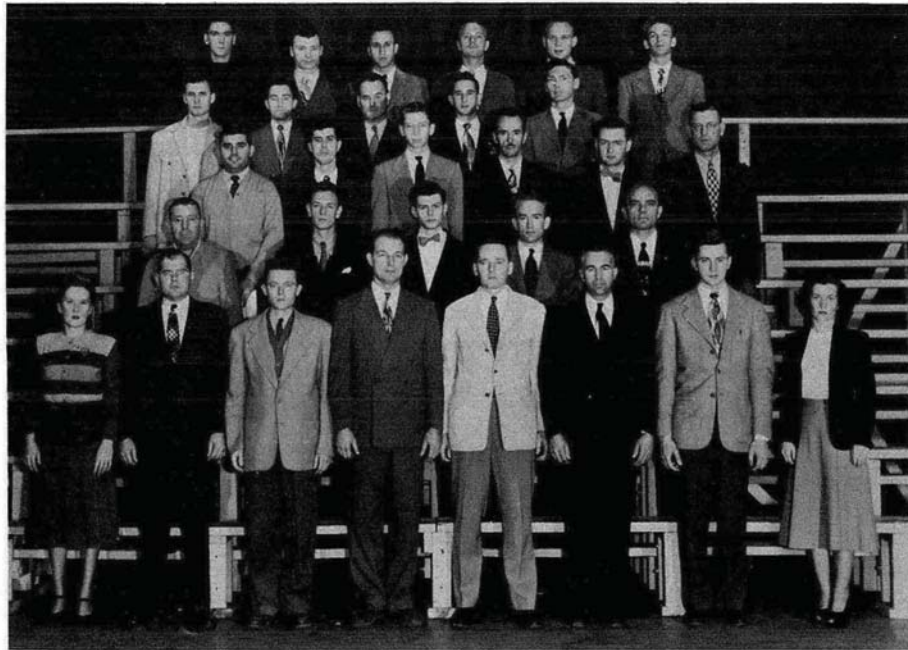
LEAGUE A

Team	W	L	Avg.
EICS	23	7	.767
Low Turbulence	19	11	.633
W. Engineering	19	11	.633
Cost Office	17	10	.629
East Model	16	11	.593
Alleycats	14	13	.518
Splinters	13	14	.481
Missilot	10	17	.370
Figures	10	20	.333
Full Scale	8	19	.296
Waki Sakis	8	22	.267

LEAGUE B

Headpins	19	8	.703
Missilleaneous	19	8	.703
Structures	14	10	.583
Pinbusters	12	12	.500
Light Mechanics	13	14	.481
16-Foot	11	13	.458
Flying Pins	12	15	.444
PARIS	12	15	.444
Deadloads	10	17	.370
Tyros	7	17	.291

NACA MALE CHORUS



The NACA Male Chorus, composed of approximately 30 voices, recently made its debut at the Loads Division party and since that time has given performances for several section parties and other outside organizations. The chorus is composed of the following: Front row (from left) - Jean Kloetzer, accompanist, Dwight Fearnow, John Sewall, Jim Thompson, Bill Craig, Jack Westfall, Herb Nelson, and Mary Noble Bennett, director. Second row - Charlie Betts, Paul Kloetzer, John Hedgepeth, Joe Johnson, and Joe Shortal. Third row - Nick Jevan, Roland Stebenne, John Comer, Gus Lodge, Dick White, and Clarence Wilson. Fourth row - Billy Bates, John Tomassoni, Charlie Heath, Joe Block, and Todd Burk. Fifth row - Bill Veatch, Dale Burrows, Bunny Klawans, Dean Lindquist, Walter Horne, and Bill Bihrl. The next rehearsal of the chorus will be held Tuesday, January 4, at 5:00 p.m. in the Activities Building in preparation for a public performance on Wednesday, January 5, at the Hampton Methodist Church.

THE COVER

The cover of this issue of "Air Scoop," picturing historic St. John's Episcopal Church of Hampton, is a night photograph taken by William P. Taub, staff photographer. St. John's, which has long been one of the picturesque points of interest on the Peninsula, possesses communion silver which has been in longer use than any other English communion silver in America. The Elizabeth City Parish was founded in 1610 and is the oldest continuous Protestant Parish in America.

LOST: Analyzer, Inv. No. 19087, Wheatstone, Bridge #16848, Wheatstone Bridge #31713. Smith, 2332.

FOR RENT: Apartment and two-bedroom cottage. Mrs. Mitchell, H-6156.

LEAGUE PLANS SWEEPSTAKES

Tuesday, January 11, is the big night for the Tenpin League's sweepstakes contest. The tournament will be a handicap affair and the contestants, who must be members of the league, will compete for 4 high game and 4 high set prizes totaling \$100. This promises to be a big affair, so team members are urged to see their team captains immediately concerning the details so that applications may be turned in before the deadline on Tuesday, January 4. Only 120 bowlers can be accommodated, so prompt action should be taken to assure participation in the tournament.

A man with a dentist's fist in his mouth feels yelpless.



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 Staff Photographer..... Bill Taub
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A LETTER TO SANTA

Having once shared the pleasures which abound in your wonderful world of make-believe, we understand your importance to the millions of children throughout the land. May faith, hope, and charity combine to keep you in their hearts forever.

Faith: Even though the true meaning of Christmas appears to have been gradually shoved into the background and the kids you filled with Yuletide cheer a decade or more ago emerged from your dream world to one ravaged by war, try not to be disheartened.

Hope: We grown-ups remember well the disappointing day when, all too soon, our own childhood illusions of your rooftop visits were abruptly shattered. But we find it not too difficult even now to convince ourselves that "Yes, there is a Santa Claus."

Charity: We love you and pray that the "jolly old elf" will never grow weary of providing cheer for little children. God grant that the youngsters who thrill at the thought of you this Christmas will grow to enjoy the happiness of peace on earth, good will toward men.

A NOTE OF THANKS

Well, it's almost time to take the old calendar down and put up the 1949 edition, but before we tear off the last page of 1948 we would like to pause long enough to say "Thank you" to members of the Laboratory staff. During the past 12 months you have been most cooperative, and we sincerely appreciate the interest you have shown and hope you will continue to lend us your support throughout the coming year.

We would like to issue a personal note of thanks to Joy Rodgers, Varitypist, for typing the printed matter in this issue on the Electromatic typewriter and to members of the Mechanical Reproduction staff for their time and effort in printing the "Air Scoop" and for their patience in making up for our short comings when we were a little late meeting deadlines.

With this issue we're "closing up shop" for 2 weeks to celebrate Christmas and New Year's but we'll be back in print on Friday, January 7, so until then we wish each of you a very MERRY CHRISTMAS and a HAPPY NEW YEAR.



O HOLY NIGHT

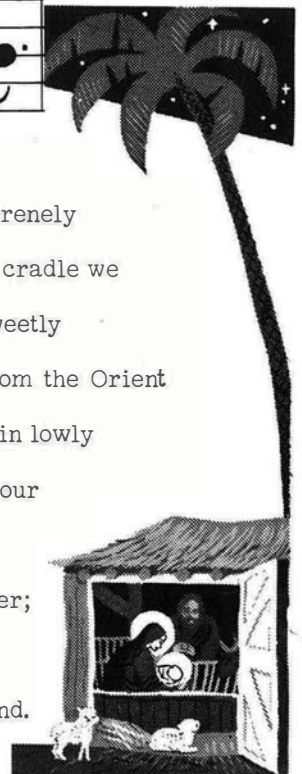
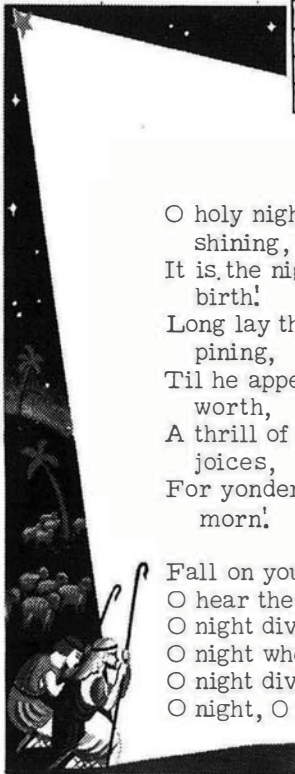
O holy night! the stars are brightly shining,
 It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth!
 Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
 Til he appear'd and the soul felt its worth,
 A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,
 For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn'.

Fall on your knees!
 O hear the angel voices!
 O night divine,
 O night when Christ was born!
 O night divine,
 O night, O night divine!

Led by the light of Faith serenely beaming,
 With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.
 So, led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,
 Here came the wise men from the Orient land,
 The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger
 In all our trials born to be our friend

He knows our need,
 To our weakness no stranger;
 Behold your King,
 Before the lowly bend!
 Behold your King!
 Your King! Before Him bend.

A D O L P H E A D A M



RETIRING BOARD THANKS STAFF

By Harry Hamilton, President

The retiring Executive Board of the NACA Activities Association would like to express its thanks to the Laboratory staff for the commendable spirit of helpfulness and cooperation which they displayed during the Association's year just concluded.

We were sincerely proud of the honor of being entrusted as members of the Association's Executive Board. We have attempted to show our appreciation of this trust by joining with interested staff members in fostering, wherever feasible, an expanded program of entertainment and extra-curricular activities designed to interest all of the employees.

Having served on the Executive Board for 1 year, we are more aware than ever that any success which we may have enjoyed was possible only because of the cooperative attitude of those we served - our fellow employees. As President of the Executive Board, I appreciate your assistance and bespeak your continued cooperation with the new Activities Association group which is about to assume its duties for the ensuing calendar year.

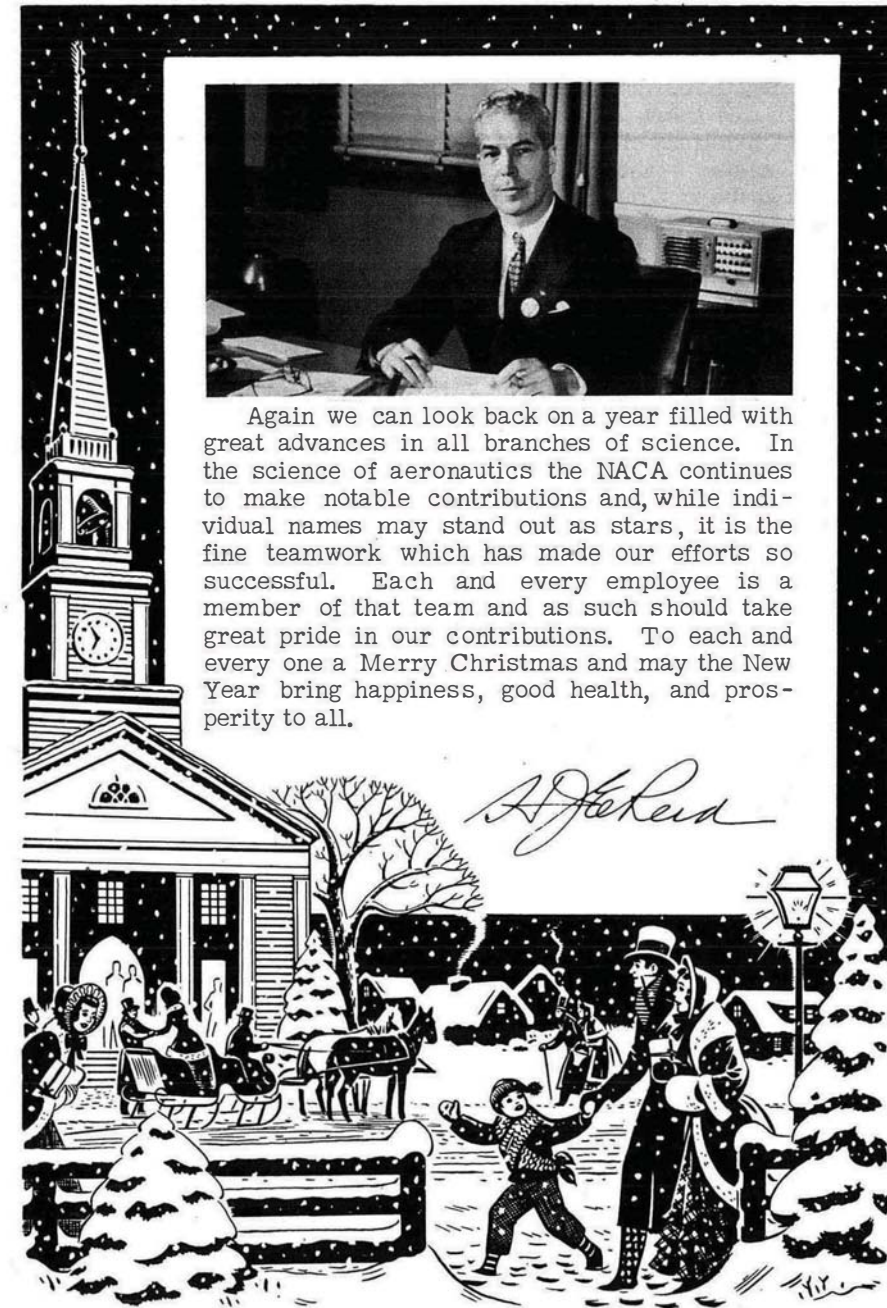
COLLIER TROPHY

(Continued from page 2)

gree in Aeronautical Engineering. He spent his first 11 years in the VDT, was made head of the 8-foot high-speed tunnel in 1939, and is now Assistant Chief of Research.

The aviation world came close to losing one of the country's top authorities when Stack entered MIT in 1924 to study Architectural Engineering. It was not until he returned home the following summer that his father found that John had been studying Aeronautical Engineering.

Stack, who is recognized as an internationally known authority on high-speed aeronautical research, was chosen to deliver the Eighth Annual Wright Brothers Memorial Lecture at the meeting of the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences in 1944. In 1946 he was invited to lecture on "Phenomena at High Air Speeds" at the Sixth International Congress for Applied Mechanics



Again we can look back on a year filled with great advances in all branches of science. In the science of aeronautics the NACA continues to make notable contributions and, while individual names may stand out as stars, it is the fine teamwork which has made our efforts so successful. Each and every employee is a member of that team and as such should take great pride in our contributions. To each and every one a Merry Christmas and may the New Year bring happiness, good health, and prosperity to all.

A. J. Hamilton

which convened at the Sorbonne in Paris, and he was recently presented the Air Force Association's annual Field of Science award for his pioneering work in the field of supersonic flight.

Great minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events, and small minds discuss people.

"The most observant person was the historian who noticed Lady Godiva had a horse with her."

Hy Gardner

Old-timer: One who remembers when bureaus were furniture.

BINGO PARTY

(Continued from page 2)

the list are a waffle iron, toaster, electric juicer, clothes hamper, bathroom scales, musical alarm radio, electric fan, sterling silver compote, and several other gifts that will be selected later.

"There is nothing so stupid as an educated man if you get off the subject he was educated in."

--Will Rogers

Every man who climbs the ladder of success has friends and coworkers steadying it for him.

Christmas Life At The Laboratory

Well, it looks as though.

quite a few Laboratory maidens found good hunting during the Leap Year season and there seems to be a possibility that wedding bells might outring the Christmas chimes this year. Making plans to tie the final knot during the holiday season is Rosemary Bryant, formerly of Full-Scale Analysis, and the victim of Leap Year is Robin Pollock of Hampton. The wedding will take place Monday, December 27, at Roebuck, South Carolina.

One Laboratory maiden.

who can never be accused of getting married during Leap Year is Lucy Taylor, Impact Loads. She has selected Saturday, January 1, as the date for her marriage to Bob Yntema, also of Impact Loads. Laboratory employees who will journey to Snow Hill, North Carolina, to take part in the affair are bridesmaids Katherine Lovell and Ethelda McArver, both of Impact Loads, and Grace Hatley, Instrument Calibration. Assisting the nervous groom as usher will be P. M. Lovell, Free-Flight Tunnel, and Helen Fearnow, Impact Loads, will furnish the music.

Wedding bells rang.

last Saturday when Dorothy Comstock, Flight Research Computers, and Robert A. Champine, Pilot's Office, joined the ranks of newly weds. The wedding took place at the bride's home.

Another Laboratory.

romance was climaxed last week when Dot Estes, Editorial Office, took her final vows with Tommy Coleman, Gust Loads. The big event took place Friday, December 17, at the West Market Methodist Church in Greensboro, North Carolina.

Dan Cupid.

really chalked up a record for himself during the year 1948. Making plans to take a nose-dive into the sea of matrimony is Bob Rainey, 9-Inch Supersonic Tunnel. Bob will go all the way to Texas during the holiday season to say "I do" to Peggy Stephens of Pampa, Texas. The affair will be held on Tuesday, December 28.

Last Saturday.

another Laboratory romance was climaxed when Eloise Whitmore, Flight Operations, and Max Kurbjun, Flight Research, took their final vows at Natural Bridge. Laboratory employees taking part in the affair were Margaret Roberts, Rotating Machines, as maid-of-honor; Mary Morris, Structures Research, Adelaide Tyree, Rotating Machines, and Ann Butler, formerly of Gas Dynamics, as bridesmaids.

Another twosome.

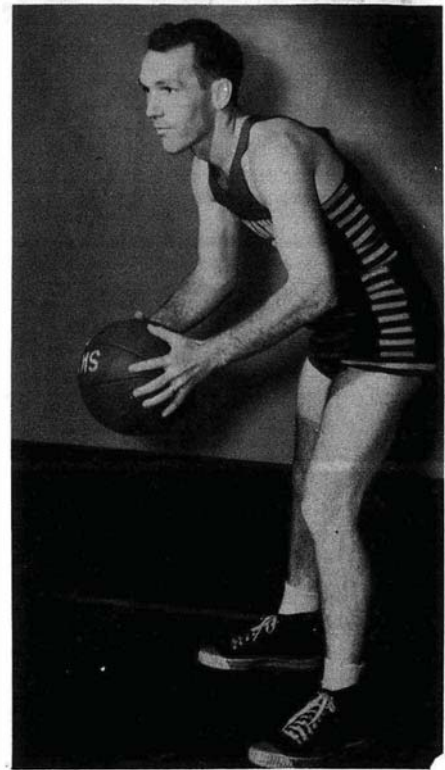
who will celebrate Christmas honeymooning are Mildred Camper, Report Typing, and James Vess of Newport News. The young couple will tie the final knot Thursday, December 23.

In the issue.

of December 17, the "Air Scoop" announced the engagement of Julia Woodbridge and Joe Drischler, Gust Loads. The announcement was accepted in good faith from someone other than the two parties involved. Miss Woodbridge and Mr. Drischler are not engaged. The "Air Scoop" regrets any embarrassment caused them by the printing of the announcement.

FOR RENT: Two-bedroom furnished apartment. Mrs. Bishop, H-8588. HUDGINS, 2361.

MEET THE SKYHAWKS



Chuck Bennett

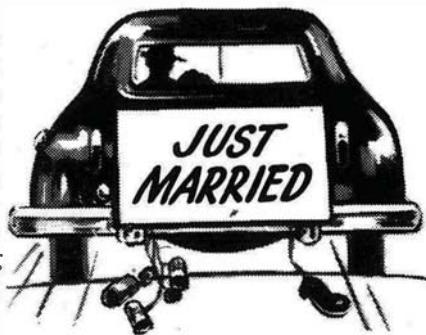
The shortest man on the Skyhawk team is Chuck Bennett, Free-Flight Tunnel, who more than uses his 5 feet, 6 inches, to full advantage. Chuck, one of the original members of the Skyhawk team, holds down one of the guard positions.

Coming from the Hoosier State, Chuck started his basketball career at the Alexandria High School and continued at Tri-State College in Angola where he received a B.S. degree in Aeronautical Engineering in 1943. Since coming to the Laboratory in June 1943, he has played several seasons in the NACA Basketball League and last year was guard with the Stability team, the 1947 Champs. In addition to basketball, his other main interest is golf.

Chuck is 26 years old and very much married, having walked down the aisle with Mary Noble Angel, formerly of East Engineering, 4-1/2 years ago.

"God help the man who won't marry until he finds the perfect woman and God help him more if he finds her."

--Ben Tillett





THE FLIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

By Leroy Spearman

'Twas the night before Christmas and all through the
HOUSE

Not a SOULE was stirring except me and my spouse.
My stockings were hung by the STACK with care
I hope they aren't torn, its my very last pair.
You children so YOUNG had better go to bed
And make it quick before I bash in a head.
Remember that early to bed and early to REISER
Will make you healthy, wealthy, and wiser.
My wife was sitting alone in the corner
So I came in and thought I'd JOYNER.
I made me a sandwich on which to feed
And selecting a comic book sat down to REID.
When outside the window such a noise was made
I rang for the BUTLER to come raise the shade,
Then what to my eyes should be appearing
But a man in a sled pulled by 8 rein-DERRING.
And I thought to myself with a note of scorn
A fine time of night to be DEARBORN.
I heard him call the deer as he came
And wondered HOWE they got those names,
Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, and Vixon,
Comet, Cupid, Dunder, and MIXSON.
He dropped to the roof, his travel all done,
But a cop came up and said, "No PARKIN-SON."
But he TOLL the cop to jump in a lake

Then down the chimney he fell like a cake.
He hit the fireplace with such a roar
It scared our KATZ-OFF the living room floor.
On a cigarette pack he dropped I could see
A sign that said ELLIS/M-F-T.
When he saw me he extended the pack
And said, "Would you KEFFER a cigarette, Mack?"
He had an ANGEL face on the front of his head
(We might as well mention the name of the Ed.)
His nose was round and red as a cherry
And his eyes danced like those of a FERRI.
He went to work quietly and all was well
Until he kicked over our big dinner BELLE.
"SAMET" he said (not wanting to cuss).
"I'm certainly making a terrible fuss."
So he PHILLIPS the stockings as quick as a flash
And springs to the hearth in one mad dash.
"Thank GOODNESS," he said, "I'm through for the night"
And shot up the chimney out of sight.
He went to his sleigh like a KUHN on the run
And hopped in his seat like a son-ova-gun.
"Let's TURN'ER around and get out of here"
Were his instructions to the head reindeer.
He seemed quite pleased as he left our abode,
And he yelled "Merry Christmas"
As he drove down the RHODE.

COMING EVENTS

Printed below is a calendar of events scheduled to take place in the Activities Building throughout the first week of the New Year.

- Dec. 31 - New Year's Eve Dance
- Jan. 3 - Basketball League
Art Class
- Jan. 4 - Male Chorus
Bridge Club
Skyhawks versus Little
Creek at Langley gym
- Jan. 5 - Basketball League
Volley Ball
- Jan. 6 - Bingo Party



WANTED: Passengers from Victoria or Armistead to E.A. on 8 shift. Mahler, 2305.

WANTED: Ride from Manteo Ave. to E.A. on 8 shift. Carter, 4530.

EMPLOYEES EXCUSED FROM DUTY FOR ONE-HALF DAY DEC. 24

According to an Executive Order which reached the Laboratory recently, most Laboratory employees will be excused from duty for 1/2 day on Friday, December 24. No provision was made for giving Federal employees an additional day for Christmas, which falls on Saturday this year. The NACA Exchange will not serve lunch on Friday, but will serve breakfast as usual.

Laboratory employees who are on any irregular tours of duty, which have been officially approved, will be excused for one-half of their

scheduled tour of duty on Friday. Any employee whose basic tour of duty does not call for 8 hours of work on December 24, will not be granted time off on any other day because he was not required to work a full day.

Any employee required to work a full day on Christmas Eve will receive holiday pay for not more than one-half of his scheduled tour of duty for that day.

Employees desiring to be off all day December 24 shall be charged with 4 hours of annual leave.

A man hopes his lean years are behind him; a woman hopes hers are ahead.

A lady's promise to be on time usually carries a lot of wait.

Ever notice how some people resemble boats - they toot loudest when in a fog.

Many a woman whines a man around her finger.

LIFE AT THE LABORATORY DURING '48

As the old year goes out and the new one is ushered in, let's take time out to do a bit of reminiscing and recall some of the news that made Laboratory history during 1948.

January--New Year's was ushered in with a hearty welcome at the dance at the Activities Building..... Collier Trophy cited as symbol of NACA teamwork.... As a result of Christmas, diamonds were flashed around in most sections.....Bill Herrnstein bids farewell.....Dr. Reid cited for war work..... Lawrence A. Clousing, Cleveland test pilot, received Chanute Award.....Leap Year Dance planned.....March of Dimes drive gets underway.....University of Virginia Extension opens spring semester.

February---Dr. Orville Wright, aviation pioneer, dies.Credit Union pays 3 percent dividends..Richard Henry Wood, PRD, dies of heart attack..... Lab closes on account of snow storm.....Price appointed member of Committee "Frontiers of Flight" released.....Little Theatre presents "Little Foxes" Leap Year Dance huge success.

March----Red Cross drive gets underway Dr. Durand received Medal for Merit....Men's basketball tournament gets underway.....Skychicks lose first game.....Sharp appraises things to come.....Collier Trophy on display at Lab.....Belles win 1948 basketball title.....Hutton wins Heidt award.

April--Charles J. Satterfield, Fire Chief, retires.. Stability wins 1948 basketball championship.....Silas Washington and Frank Vess die in same week..... Employees urged to file beneficiary forms..... Eichelberger wins Serio Speed Award.....Graduate school may open in fall.....Plans underway for golf tournament.....Spring dance sponsored by Activities Association.....Plan dancing class.....Softball league opens.....Lab changes hours of duty.....Cleveland Old Timers hold annual banquet.

May--Howard C. Lilly, NACA test pilot, dies in crash.....9-Inch wins volley ball championship..... NACA Exhibit in War Memorial Museum....University

seeks instructors.....Activities Association plans old fashioned country Carnival.....Electrical Engineering bids farewell to Oliver Haas.....Phillip Taft dies after illness.....Plan security loan campaign to improve Lab's bond record.....Aiken hurls no hit, no run game.

June--36 golfers enter "Air Scoop" Tournament.... Rentzel and T. P. Wright named to NACA.... Annapolis midshipmen visit Lab.....18 Apprentices graduate William E. Trail and Ernest Luke reach 25-year mark

with Committee.....Congress votes \$ 330 pay raise.....Sharp, Director of Cleveland Lab, receives doctor's degree.....Clyde Lumpkin and Walter Reiser celebrate 25th anniversary with NACA.....Lab sponsors bond contest.....Dryden discusses supersonic era.....Plan to form Male Chorus.....Elton W. Miller, Executive Assistant, retires.....Aerodynamics conference held at Lab.

July----George Griffith defeats Mel Gough to win golf tournament.....

Jack Brewer and Wallace Albertson win second and

third flight in Fiscal Division wins NACA membership to 17.....President signs new pay bill..Dr. George W. Lewis, research pioneer, succumbs.....Herbert H. Hoover receives 1948 Octave Chanute Award.

August--New employees tour Lab.....British Vampire jet fighters visit Langley.....Miller honored at farewell party.

September--265 apply for graduate work..... Skyhawk team reorganized.....Activities Association plans golf tournament.....Clarence B. Kline celebrates 25 years of service.

October---Cleveland lab renamed Lewis Lab, in memory of the late Dr. George W. Lewis..... Hoover and Stack honored by U. S. Air Force Association.

November----Pat Cancro elected president of Executive Board.....Dave M. Goldenbaum directs "Life with Father".

