

# AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

Issue 17, Vol. 4

Air Scoop, April 27, 1945

Page 1

## NINE LAB EMPLOYEES IN PLAY TONIGHT

The Hampton Little Theatre will present Moss Hart and Charles S. Kaufman's Pulitzer prize comedy hit, "You Can't Take It With You" at the Hampton high school tonight and tomorrow at 8:15 p.m. Dr. William A. Aery is producer of the play with Tiny Hutton as assistant, and Lucy Parkinson is director with Stella Colonna as assistant.

"You Can't Take It With You" is the hilarious story of the Sycamore family whose somewhat eccentric manner of living almost wrecks the romance of the youngest daughter, Alice, played by Nancy Wall. For instance, Grandpa Vanderhof, played by Jack Parkinson, collects snakes and attends commencement exercises as hobbies; Penny, played by Phyllis Parker, is the slightly scatterbrain mother of the family who writes plays while her husband, played by Granville Derby, manufactures fireworks in the basement, and Doris Peterson as Essie, another daughter, takes ballet lessons from Boris Kolenkhov, played by Seymour Bogdonoff, whose candid opinion of his pupil's dancing is "Confidentially, it stinks."

The Sycamores are also addicted to strange house-guests that include an iceman, played by John Dawson, who stayed eight years; a grand duchess, played by Josephine Power, who is employed at a local lunchroom; an alcoholic actress, played by Ann Cock; and numerous other characters.

The play reaches its climax when the pompous family of the daughter's beau arrives for an unexpected visit to find the family in an astonishing variety of activity. The evening ends with a mass arrest by the F.B.I. and romance is broken off. How it is patched up by the resourceful Grandpa Vanderhof makes a perfect conclusion for the play.

The part of Tony Kirby, the young lover, is played by Bill Cleary of the  
Continued on page 4

## NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES SELECTS DR. GEORGE W. LEWIS



Dr. George W. Lewis

## PROGRESS IN WAR LOAN DRIVE SLOW

Response to the recent announcement that payroll allotments for the Seventh War Loan may be made far in advance has been disappointing up to the present time. With a quota of over \$100,000, only \$27,960 has been subscribed thus far, and of this amount, only \$17,892 represents payroll allotments. Obviously, this leaves an overwhelming percentage of the Laboratory quota to be made up in cash sales.

Starr Truscott, chairman of the Seventh War Loan, stated, "I am very surprised that more of the Lab employees did not take advantage of the chance to make payroll allotments well in advance as this method would have had the purchase of extra bonds comparatively easy. I sincerely urge all who have not yet done so to contact the solicitor for their individual sections and arrange for such an allotment at once."

"Remember," Truscott continued,

Dr. George W. Lewis, Director of Aeronautical Research for the NACA since 1924, has been selected by the National Academy of Sciences to membership in the Academy, the nation's top scientific body.

Born because of the need for technical scientific advice in carrying out the War Between the States, the Academy was chartered by President Abraham Lincoln on March 3, 1863. President Lincoln appointed the original 50 members and gave them the power to fill their own vacancies. The current limit on membership is 450 and at present there are fewer than 350 members.

Dr. Frank B. Jewett is president of the Academy, and with regard to the use of the advice of the body he has said, "If you want to get a thing done, don't give people police authority to do it--make them so distinguished that nobody dares run counter to their advice." According to Dr. Jewett, the qualifications for membership are the highest in the world.

This particularly high honor in the field of science has been awarded to a man who is one of the world's leading authorities on one of the newest sciences - aviation. A look at Dr. Lewis' aviation record indicates that if there is an aeronautics organization that he is neither a member of, has not served on a committee for, nor been selected for an honor by, it just doesn't exist. Among his more prominent awards have been the Guggenheim Medal by the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences, the Spirit of St. Louis Medal by the ASME, and the special honor of delivering the Wilbur Wright Memorial Lecture before the Royal Aeronautical Society of Great Britain.

"there will be only two instead of the usual three drives this year, and in spite of the good news from the European Theatre we should still bend every effort to oversubscribing this war loan to support our drive against Japan."

# Life At The Laboratory

To those who once had an inhibited urge.....

to be a college prof or even teach the third grade, the Training Division is extending an invitation to brush off the inhibition and brush up on the urge. In short, they are in the process of compiling a complete file of all Lab employees who are interested in any type of instructional work. According to the latest dope, who shall for the purpose remain nameless, this file will serve as a source for the selection of instructors in many phases of training.

This week's birth announcements convince us.....

that men are apparently here to stay. Vito Tamburello, AWT, is the nerve-wracked father of an 8-1/2 pound son born Monday, April 23. Edith, formerly of Dynamic Model Shop, and Howard Ferrall, Instrument Service, announce the arrival of a son, too.

Claude Ingels and the Property Survey Board.....

are more than a little puzzled over recent additions to the list of lost property. One wind tunnel recently put two bent steel chairs on the list, explaining, "lost in tunnel operations." Claude admits to having heard it mentioned here and there that we are engaged in research on airplanes, but the chair angle is a new one to him. He says that chairs are issued as furniture and not as test models, although the current type of swivel seat might well undergo a stress analysis before it is put into use.

Helene Clark, Purchase, has been added.....

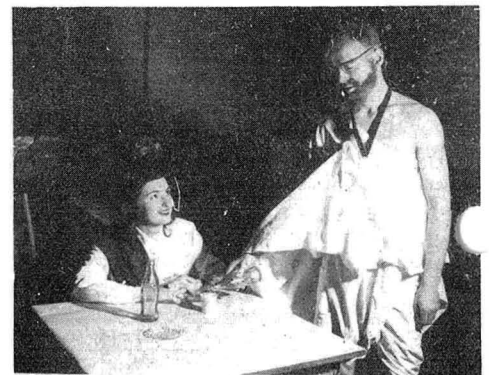
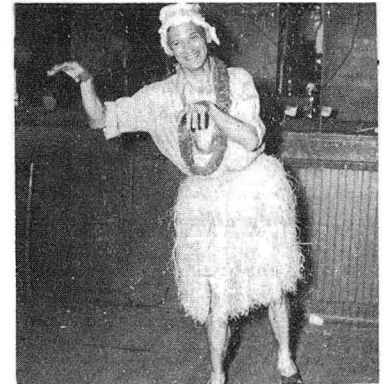
to the list of Cupid's victims. She was married Sunday to Captain Richard P. Smith of Salem, New Hampshire.

The gentleman with the Bahston accent.....

currently being introduced to Lab employees is Henry R. Rose, new Civil Service Area Supervisor. The new boss of the Civil Service Office comes to us from Roanoke to replace Frank Storm who left for Winston-Salem on Wednesday to continue his work there.



# Distinguished Diplomats At Green Cow Ball



## W. & M ARMY COURSES AVAILABLE FOR NACA

The Training Division, with the cooperation of the Special Service Section of the Army, has announced that NACA employees may attend the special extension courses for Army personnel which will be taught here at the field by instructors from the College of William and Mary.

The courses offered are Beginner's Spanish, English Literature (survey course), and Calculus, and each carries three semester hours college credit. Classes will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and the fee will be \$15 per course.

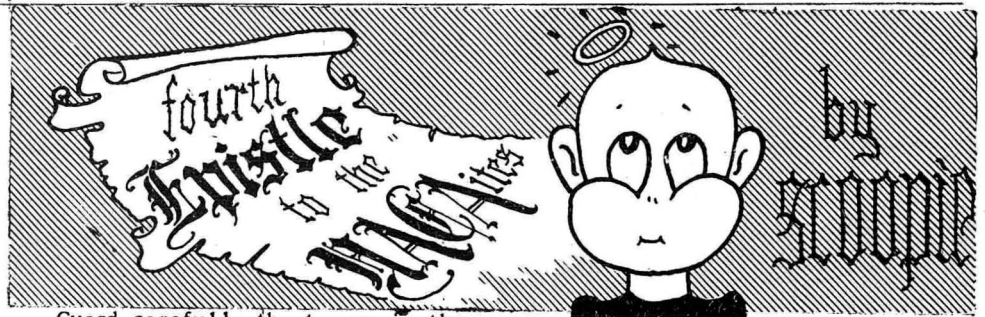
Because the courses will start in the very near future, it is necessary that the Training Division, 2300, be notified by tomorrow, Saturday, of the names of all who wish to attend.

### H. H. DEWHIRST TO SPEAK AT STAMP CLUB MEETING

The next meeting of the Symes-Eaton Stamp Club will feature a talk by H. H. Dewhirst, of the Laboratory's Building and Ground Section, on the subject, "Farley's Follies". The meeting will be held next Tuesday at 8 p.m. and visitors are welcome.

The meeting of May 15 will feature a stamp exhibit which should be of interest to all philatelists of the Lab.

FOUND: Combination pen and pencil near 19' Tunnel. Loser may identify same at Air Scoop office, Service Building.



Guard carefully thy tongue in the Structures Laboratory and crack not wise if thou wouldst avoid bloodshed. For they who have toiled there long have heard their compression machines called nutcrackers seventy times seventy times, and they are weary of such feeble wit.

And when thou art in the Tank, and seeth one who worketh mightily under the carriage, stop not to ask, "Are they biting?" nor yet, "How many fish hast thou caught?" lest he who toileth fall upon thee, and throttle thee, and consign thy body to the waters.

For such words are an abomination, and have been repeated until the patience of those who hear them is at an end and they are not responsible for their violence.

And woe unto thee if once thou slippeth up and callest the Electrical Office a "shop." For they who labor there will be much grieved, and they will jump upon thee and a thousand times they will say, "Doth this office seem to thee a shop, thou jughead?"

If thou art a stranger in the Land of Virginia, take care that thou poketh not fun at the speech of thy neighbors though their accent soundeth odd to thee. And reprove them not lest they in turn reprove thee.

### PUBLISHING COMPANY TO REPRINT TECHNICAL BOOKS

The Library Committee announces that in the near future Dover Publications will reprint editions of Rayleigh's "Theory of Sound" and Lamb's "Hydrodynamics" at popular prices. Further information on the reprinting of technical books will be found in the catalogues of Dover Publications and other companies.

### TENNIS NOTICE!

The Tennis Club announces with regret that the recent heavy rains, which have brought so much joy to the hearts of local gardeners, have left their playing courts in extremely sad condition. The tournament which was scheduled for Sunday will therefore have to be postponed indefinitely until the courts are once more in playable condition.

FOR SALE: A 16-foot Kayak. C. V. Bennett, Free Flight Tunnel.

For he who saith "erster" or "Old Pernt" gripeth them exceedingly, and the twang of the West also grateth harshly on their ears. And if thou stiketh out thine neck it shall be to thy discomfort for they outnumber thee and can make it hot for thee.

When thou buyest a ticket marked with a Green Cow thou wilt eight times gather together with thy fellows at Hampton Armory and dance and make merry and refresh thyself frequently.

But woe unto thee if thou goest dateless, for thy friends cherish their dates, and thy chances of encountering an unattached female are rare as a Report on which the Editorial Office can make no correction.

A wise man, therefore, will select a woman from his home town, and seek diligently for an apartment until he findeth one, and send for her and make her his spouse so he will have a permanent date. For unfettered females in the land of Hampton are rare as gems, and thou shalt go many times stag and shall stand on the sidelines and weep and gnash thy teeth over the good fortune of thy wedded comrades.

### NOTICE!

The game between the 1944 All Stars and the 19-Foot team, scheduled for this coming Sunday has been postponed. Further plans for the game will be announced in next week's Air Scoop.

WANTED: 2 or 4 life preserver cushions. J. B. Hammack, Flight Performance.

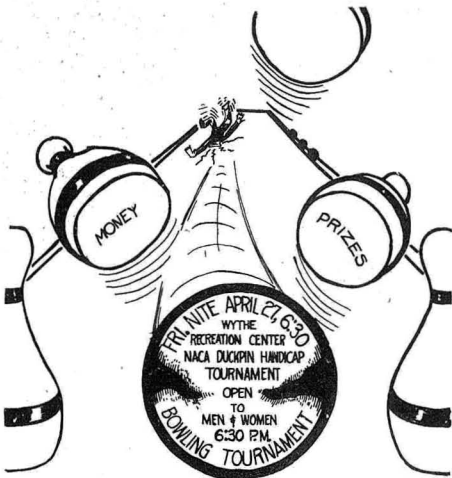
WANTED: To buy one table model radio. Ned Bowen, Lab #2, PRD.

WANTED: Set of golf clubs and balls. A. M. Phillips, PRT.

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBER:  
Reproduction stockroom, 2301.

FOR SALE: One federal photo enlarger number 120. Joe Boyle, East Model Shop.

To get information on personnel folders, telephone Selective Service, 2368, rather than Personnel Records,



### Theater Play

(Continued from page 1)

Newport News Little Theatre and his parents are played by Stella Colonna and Evan Schuette. Donald is played by Cricket Burr; Reba, the maid, by Irene Farster; Henderson by Paul Taylor; and the three G-man by Melvin Butler, Harry Shoaf and Dave Goldenbaum, who is stage manager.

"You Can't Take It With You" was voted the best play of 1936 by the New York Drama Critics and after a record-breaking Broadway run, it was made into a prize-winning motion picture starring Jean Arthur and Lionel Barrymore.

Admission will be by membership ticket only; however season memberships may be secured before each performance for one dollar and enlisted personnel in uniform may be admitted free.

FOR SALE: Mahogany deck sailboat, 16' long, Marconi rigged. Telephone Hampton 6022.

FOR RENT: A room in a private home for two boys or two girls. Twin beds. Breakfast will also be served if desired. Lanny Llana, West Area Sheetmetal Shop or 415 Melville Road.

## COL. OVERACKER NAMED DEPUTY COMMANDER

Col. Charles B. Overacker, 8th Air Force combat veteran has been named Deputy Base Commander at Langley Field AAF Training Command radar school. In this capacity, Col. Overacker is second in command of this strategic Air Force training center.

Col. Overacker, who is rated a command pilot, combat observer and aircraft observer, came to Langley Field with an impressive record as an administrator and fighting airman. As pilot of a Flying Fortress in the now famous and legendary 19th Bombardment Group, he participated in the historic first mass flight of B-17s from San Francisco to Hawaii in May of 1941. For his work on this important mission, during which he also served as group communications officer, he was awarded the Oak Leaf cluster to the Distinguished Flying Cross.

Active combat duty came for the Colonel in World War II when he went overseas as Commanding Officer of a heavy bombardment group which he had activated and trained at Wendover Field, Utah. Joining the 8th Air Force in England in September of 1942, he operated against the Germans during the most crucial stage of the war. While in England, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his work as lead pilot in a lead group of B-17s which made a daring low-level bombing attack on the German submarine pens at St. Nazaire, France.

A native of Niles, California, Col. Overacker graduated from the University of California with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1925, and a commission in the Air Corps Reserve. After training at Brooks and Kelly Fields he won his wings in February of 1927 at which time he received his regular Army commission. Col. Overacker has been

FOR SALE: Boy's balloon tire bicycle. Evelyn Renfro, 209 Regent Street, Apartment 2.



Col. Charles B. Overacker

in the Air Corps ever since.

The Jap attack on Pearl Harbor saw Col. Overacker as commanding officer of the 39th Bombardment Group at Geiger Field, Spokane, Wash., which performed off-shore and anti-submarine patrol duty, until March 1942, at which time he was transferred to Wendover Field, Utah, to activate and train a heavy bombardment group for overseas duty.

Col. Overacker returned to the U. S. from England in April of 1943 for the purpose of passing on to the combat crews in training with the 2nd Air Force in this country the information he had obtained in combat. A short time later he was assigned to the AAF Proving Ground Command where he became the commanding officer of the First Proving Ground Electronics Unit at Eglin Field, Florida. He was serving as Deputy Commanding Officer in charge of all testing activities in the Proving Ground Command prior to his transfer to Langley Field.

Col. Overacker was promoted to Colonel on 1 March 1942. He resides at Langley Field with his wife.

FOR SALE: 20-foot mast, 10-foot boom, sails, sailtrack, and steel stays. Joe Boyle, East Model Shop.

