

AIR SCOOP

LANGLEY MEMORIAL AERONAUTICAL LABORATORY

LITTLE THEATER TO GIVE 1-ACT PLAYS

Two one-act plays will be the offering of the Hampton Little Theatre Workshop on Friday, February 23, at 8:20 p.m. The presentation, which will take place in the Hampton High School auditorium features several Laboratory employees.

The first play, "The Passing of Chow-Chow" is the typical story of a young married couple and their domestic troubles. The cast includes James LaHatte, Henry Goldstein, Irene Farster and Crickett Burr. Tiny Hutton is the director of "The Passing of Chow-Chow."

The second offering, "On Mill Hill" was written by a local girl and former Laboratory employee, Margaret D. Bame, who also directed it. Marjorie Patterson, Granville Derby, R. L. Kenimer, Lois M. Brand, Marge Hutton and Andy Anderson are in the cast

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REPORT FIRES BY TELEPHONE

Although the manual fire alarm box, break-glass type, is a familiar sight in many of the Laboratory buildings, there is some misconception as to its purpose and scope. In order that this equipment may be utilized to full advantage and precious time may not be wasted during an emergency, all employees should understand its operation. Where automatic sprinkler systems are installed, these boxes are interconnected with an actuating device which causes the building fire alarm gong to operate when water flows in the sprinkler system. The alarm gong may also be actuated independent of the operation of the sprinkler system by the simple expedient of breaking the glass in the fire alarm box. The operation of the manual fire alarm box re-

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GREEN COW MAKES 1945 DEBUT MARCH 9

The Noble Order of the Green Cow will make its 1945 debut on Friday night, March 9, at the Hampton Armory. The dance will be held from 8:45 'til 11:45 and prom trotters will dance to the music of Red Overton and his orchestra.

John Houbolt, Chairman of the Executive Committee, announces that season tickets will be placed on sale next week. The tickets are \$3.50 and will entitle the member to admission to all the functions during the year. Houbolt also reminded everyone that no single admission ticket will be sold for any dance.

Tickets may be bought from any of the following: Frances Leigh, Files; Tiny Hutton, Air Scoop; Dot Severance, Reproduction; Martha Tamm, Training; Paul Huber, Low Turbulence; Ray Comenzo, AWT; Charlie Kelly, Full Scale; Walter Bartlett, PRT; Axel Mattson, 8-Foot; Marvin Pitkin, Free Flight; Allie Fay Ellis, Tank; Don Talmadge, Flight Research; Kitty Stewart, Dynamic Model Shop; Evelyn Morris, East Machine Shop; Mary Noble Bennett, East Engineering; Cliff Link, Wood Shop; Jerry Kayten, 19-Foot; and Helen Flanagan, Loads.

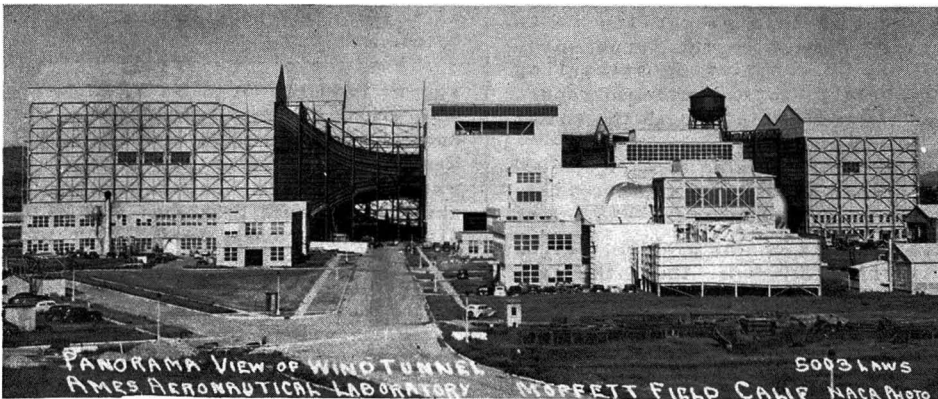
Jack Runckel, 16-Foot; Harry Barritt, West Sheetmetal; Fred Breisch, West Machine; Warren Spratley, Warehouse; Sid Batterson, Impact Basin; Jay Bird, Stability Tunnel; Nellie Owen, West Model Shop; Bea Pitkin, 7 by 10-Foot Wind Tunnel; Irven Naiman, PRD; Harry Shoaf, West Engineering; J. A. Bennett, Building and Grounds; John Houbolt, Structures; and Paul Heitzer, Electrical Section.

LITTLE THEATRE DANCE MARCH 2 AT ARMORY

The Hampton Little Theatre will hold its annual dance at the Hampton Armory, Friday, March 2

Tickets are on sale at the Laboratory and may be purchased for \$1.50 from Pat Chiarito, Structures, Charlie Kelly, Full-Scale Tunnel, or Tiny Hutton, Air Scoop.

"THE BIGGEST WIND ON EARTH"



(Editor's Note: The following article, which appeared in AAL's Laboratory paper, "News and Alley Chatter", was written by Ensign H. M. Conway, formerly of LMAL and the Washington Office.)

The most accurate description of the NACA 40x80 foot wind tunnel is that it is BIG. The tunnel structure covers 8 acres, is 868 feet long, 353 to 399 feet wide, and 180 feet wide. Its name, of course, comes from the

size of the test section.

Towering above the NACA area, the tunnel looks more like an overgrown barn than one of the seven wonders of the aeronautical research world. Engineering achievements have to be outstanding to receive attention these days, but among other wind tunnels, the 40x80 stands out like a "king-size" redwood in a Santa Clara valley

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A V-Mail letter from Louise Moss, formerly of 16-Foot, arrived this week. Louise is with a WAC contingent in Italy, and she tells us she is homesick for Langley Field. Says Louise, "It's amazing how welcome any news from the U.S. is over here."

How about dropping her a line with all the section gossip? She'd surely appreciate it. Her address:

T/5 Mary Louise Moss A-315623
 6666 WAC Hq. Co. (Ovhd)
 A.P.O. 512, c/o Postmaster
 New York, N. Y.

A most welcome visitor to the Laboratory this week was Gene Hicks, on leave from Alameda, California. Gene looks very sharp indeed in his sailor uniform, and he sends his best regards to all his old friends here.

APPRENTICES ENJOY OAK POINT PICNIC

No doubt due to the conniving of Tom Hulcher, Training Supervisor, with the local weatherman, Sunday was a beautifully clear day for the apprentice picnic at Oak Point in spite of Saturday's rain, hail, sleet and general cussedness. Over sixty graduate apprentices, supervisors and guests attended the strictly stag affair and it was pronounced a rousing success by one and all.

Feature of the affair was the superb food produced by D. E. Henry who, in addition to being head of the Apprentice Training Service of the War Manpower Commission, is a chef par excellence. The menu consisted of chicken barbecued before an open fire, fish, oysters, baked beans and light-as-a-feather biscuits made in a reflector oven. (There will be a two minute pause for drooling.)

Preparations for the picnic were started on Saturday night by Tom Hulcher, Harry Shoaf, Lee Lewis, Leo Purch and D. E. Henry who spent the evening recording skits which were played at the picnic.

The group singing at the affair which was led by George Hearn, Assistant Chief of Mechanical Service, was also recorded. When played back, arrangements for cremation of the record were instantly made.

Horseshoes were played and humorous movie shorts were shown for the rest of the afternoon.

BIGGEST WIND

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prune orchard.

Building the tunnel was no small project. Four men lost their lives in the tremendous job, which was finished early in 1944. On June 8, aviation dignitaries came from all over the country to be on hand when the six 6,000 horsepower drive motors turned over the six 40-foot propellers for the first test of the \$7,000,000 structure.

The first research project was an investigation of an experimental Navy bomber. Since then, several other fighting airplanes still unmentionable have been given the third degree in the test section.

When a new plane arrives to be tested in the 40x80, the tunnel crew quickly gives the ship the once-over to see what changes will have to be made to mount it in the tunnel. During this appraisal, the representative sent by the manufacturer to keep the airplane in flying condition stands by with his hands over his eyes, shuddering convulsively.

When preliminary preparations are completed in the "hangar" on the ground level, a big traveling crane picks the plane up and very gently lifts it 110 feet up into the air, over the top rim, and down into the test section. When the airplane is settled on the tunnel supports, it is 20 or more feet above the deck, and final preparations have to be made by ladder-borne engineers and mechanics who by now are good material for a trapeze act.

During tests to simulate flight conditions, a "pilot" sits in the cockpit and operates the engine controls while the tunnel operators in the control room below take him

for a ride. Engineers soon lose their enthusiasm for this type of flying, for the experience is somewhat similar to sitting in a Turkish bath mounted on a reducing machine.

The 40x80 staff was built up in a remarkable short time around a nucleus of veterans from other sections of the laboratory. Harry Goett was the first section head, and when he was booted upstairs to the post of assistant division chief, Bill Harper of 7x10 fame took over. Among Bill's able assistants is Sam Davidsen, who helped design the tunnel and reputedly can recite from memory the load in every I-beam in the structure.

With the various units of the section spread over several acres laterally and from the ground level up to the equivalent of the eleventh floor of an office building, it is rumored that a clever engineer well stocked with K rations can stay out of contact with the boss for days.

Before the tunnel motors are started, a posse is sent through the tube to see that nobody is accidentally closed up inside. (The purpose of this precaution is to prevent damage to the tunnel propellers in chopping up straggling engineers.) Footsore crewmen report that the round trip through the tunnel is nearly a mile.

The tunnel contains some 24,000,000 cubic feet of air, which, according to an expert computress who spent several hours on the problem, weighs more than 9000 tons. Thus, the fans push a mass of air around weighing about as much as 25 freight cars. This is without question the biggest wind in the world, excluding news broadcasts from Berlin and Tokyo.

FLASH!

In accordance with the action, taken by War Mobilizer Director James F. Byrnes, to close all amusement centers at the stroke of twelve, the Stability Division Dance on next Monday evening will be from 8:45 'til 11:45 instead of from 9:30 'til 12:30 as planned.

LOST: Stanley wooden caliper rule with brass jaws and slide, 4" long. W. E. Beddoes F.G.D.A. 2248.

LOST: At apprentice picnic last Sunday. Maroon scarf. D. E. Henry, War Manpower Commission. Call Tom Hulcher, Training Office.

FOUND: Man's leather jacket at Traffic Circle. Contact John Stiegel, Mechanical Maintenance.

BASKETBALL'S BIG

Player	Team	G	FG	F	TP	Avg.
Cancro	19'	10	49	10	108	10.8
Rice	LTT	9	39	21	99	11
Polhamus	AWT	8	44	3	91	11.4
Anderson	Str.	11	35	9	79	7.2
Bennett	FFT	9	29	13	71	7.8
Vollrath	EAS	10	34	3	71	7.1

LEAGUE STANDINGS

Team	Won	Lost	Pctg.
Flight Blues	10	0	1.000
Low Turb	7	2	.777
East Shops	7	3	.700
19' P. T.	7	3	.700
Structures	8	4	.667
AWT	5	3	.625
8' HST	5	4	.555
ALD	5	4	.555
PRT	4	4	.500
IRD	4	5	.444
Free-Flight	3	7	.300
West Shops	2	7	.222
16-Foot	1	7	.125
Tank	1	7	.125
Flight Whites	0	9	.000

STAMP COLLECTORS TO ORGANIZE CLUB

Stamp collectors who would like a chance to swap duplicates, ideas and tall stories are urged to attend a meeting at the home of William R. Wright, 235 Newport News Ave., Hampton, at 8 p.m. next Tuesday. The purpose of this meeting is to organize a Stamp Club, and all collectors, and even those who have not yet started a collection but who are interested in beginning, should be there. The time, frequency and places of future meetings will be discussed.

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Maintenance Construction Instrument Tunnel, located near Physical Research Building - 4442

Impact Basin (Section Head) - 4470

Engineering Section (Special Project) Located on second floor of new West Area Machine Shop - 4568

Library Reading Room. Located on second floor, north end, Administrative Bldg. - 2342

West Area Shop Planning Office - 2293

SPORTS

AWT GIRLS BEAT HAMPTON 59 - 20

The tie for first place in the girls' basketball league was broken last week when AWT overwhelmed Hampton, 59-20. Becky Boykin was high scorer with 27 points.

The ALD girls swamped PRD 34-10. Top scorer for the winners was Dorothy Beadle who tallied 20 of ALD's 34 points.

The Administrative Dept. team handed another defeat to the cellar-dwelling 8-Foot girls, beating them 23 - 7. Anne Carmine accounted for 8 of the winners' points.

One of the most exciting games of the season was an extra-league tussle between Hampton High School and the PRT 16-Foot girls. The lead see-sawed back and forth throughout the entire game, but Hampton High School finally triumphed, 28-22. Star of the Laboratory team was Maxine Horne with 12 points. The Standings:

	W	L	Pctg.
AWT	3	0	1.000
Hampton	2	1	.667
Administrative Dept.	2	1	.667
ALD	3	2	.600
PRT - 16 Foot	1	1	.500
PRD	0	2	.000
8 Foot	0	4	.000

BLUES TOP TURBS

The Flight Blues practically clinched the basketball title last week by downing Low Turbulence, 22-14, and 8-Foot, 40-31. As usual, the Flight team functioned as a smooth operating unit with no accent on individual stars. In the 8-Foot game, Lanky Frank Liberatore, skyscraping center, accounted for 12 points.

AWT dropped two games, one each to East Shops and Structures.

The scores for the week:

Flight Blues 40, 8' HST 31

Structures 27, AWT 22

Low Turbulence 32, 16-Foot 12

Flight Blues 22, Low Turbulence 14

16-Foot 18, Flight Whites 12

19' P. T. 20, IRD 10

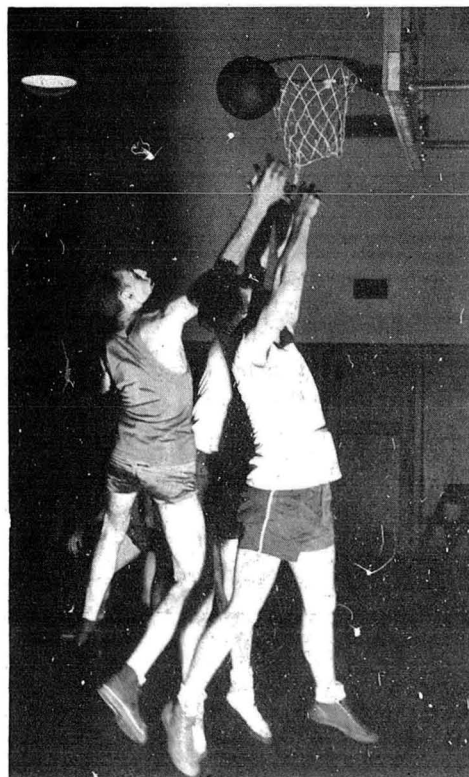
East Shops 28, AWT 26

Structures 28, West Shops 8

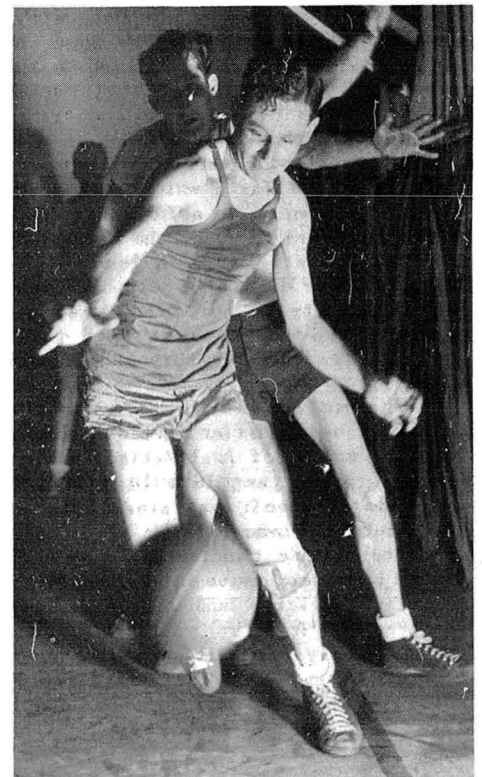
Free-Flight 22, Tank 18

The schedule for this week:

Monday at Wythe: Whites vs. Tank, Low Turb vs. PRT, IRD vs. Free Flight. Wednesday at Langley View: Blues vs. 19' P.T., Whites vs. ALD, West Shops vs. Free Flight. Thursday at Wythe: West Shops vs. 16-Foot, AWT vs. 19' P.T., Blues vs. ALD. Thursday at Langley View: IRD vs. East Shops, Tank vs. Structures, 8' HST vs. PRT.



Slim Frank Liberatore taps in a rebound over the outstretched hands of Herman Parker, center, and Clint Brown in the Blues-Low Turb game.



Eddie Polhamus, AWT, grins as he goes after the ball. Jim Dawson is the East Shop man behind him. The extra arm and leg are Bill Boyd's.

FIRES

(Continued from page 1)

sults in ringing the building alarm gong only, there being no connection at present which permits of transmission of the alarm to the Langley Field Fire Station.

REMEMBER - Operation of the manual fire alarm box does not transmit a fire alarm to the Langley Field Fire Station. The Langley Field Fire Department may be called via the intra-Laboratory telephone by dialing 2222.

LITTLE THEATER

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David Goldenbaum, Tank, is the producer of the two plays, and Anthony Garavaglia is stage manager. The stage assistants are Gibson Cedarborg, Seymour Deitchman, and Robert Gitlin. Louise Phillips and Bruce Amole are in charge of the door and Daisy Mae Hadlock and Doug King are ushers.

Admission is open to all members of the Little Theatre and although single admission tickets will not be sold, membership may be obtained at the door. The yearly membership fee is one dollar.

STABILITY MALES CHALLENGED

Stability men, your challenge to the manhood of the rest of the Laboratory has not gone unanswered. The women of the other divisions have rallied to the defense of their men who, they state, are too modest themselves to indulge in the unseemly kind of self-praise that has characterized Stability's campaign. In a secret balloting which took place last Sunday evening in a few cars parked in the Boulevard section, the Laboratory maidens nominated the Don Juans whose likenesses are displayed here, and they defy Stability to put forth a single specimen who can compete with their candidates in grace, beauty and general wolfability.

The maidens wish to know what Stability has to offer that can compare with the appeal of Axel Mattson's blond hair and iron jaw, Dick Dingledein's attitude of aloof unattainability and John Houbolt's smooth line.

"Stability's candidates," the girls stated in an exclusive interview, "would look like strictly bush-league amateurs compared to our suave, polished experts. We can hardly wait till the dance next Monday to watch Stability's feeble efforts to prove their inferior candidates the "Men Most Likely To Break Down Resistance."

(Ed. Note: It is to be hoped that the above nominees show up at the dance. This is not certain, as their overwhelming modesty may present them from indulging in a public display of their talents.)

LIVE at the LABORATORY

Last Saturday, the Virginia Institute of Fine Arts....

began a display of woodcuts by J. J. Lankes of Reproduction. The exhibit will continue until March 11. J. J. went to Richmond for the opening and while there, lectured before members of the Institute. When asked what he enjoyed most about the trip, J. J. didn't mention his fine press notices or even the large number of prints he sold. "What I enjoyed most," he said, "was sliding on the floors of the Institute. It's more darn fun!" Incidentally, Lankes has recently been invited to include several woodcuts in the Pennell print collection of the Library of Congress.

Laboratory lunchers will be relieved....

when Monday's big Stability Dance is over and the Division's claim of superiority in the romantic appeal of its male personnel is established or shattered once and for all. The loss of appetite inspired by the bulletin-board monstrosities plugging the dance and Romeo contest has been almost epidemic in proportions, and the cafeteria management has seriously considered taking action. In fact, it is rumored that Reiser has threatened to bring soup. With regard to the recent Belgian Congo-Swiss Alps poster, one outspoken young lady outspoke as follows: "Are those two beasts supposed to be samples of Stability men? Why, goodness, they look more like a gorilla and a St. Bernard dog!"

Mavis Bunch, Library, and John Henry, Cowling and Cooling....

took the final step last Saturday at the St. John's Episcopal Church, Lynchburg. Helen Marshall, Research Records, was maid-of-honor, and Chet Weilso, Hank Fedziuk, and Sid Batterson were ushers.

We hear from roundabouts that Ansh Neihouse....

was giving the Spin Tunnel staff a pep talk one day last week. Concluding the harangue with the statement that everyone must pitch in, he hardly noticed that one enterprising engineer yaw(n)ed and rolled over, but only for a moment. (Ed. note: We thought the same thing.)



Axel Mattson, 8-Foot

Strong, silent type. Blond hair, dreamy eyes.



Hank Fedziuk, Research Records

Forceful, dynamic, real personality-boy



Dick Dingledein, Full Scale,

Cool, aloof, you-have-to-come-and-get-me-type



Buck Barber, Procurement

Eager, boyish type, appeals to mother instinct



John Houbolt, Structures

The Boyer type, smooth, suave, polished.



Jerry Teplitz, 19 Foot

Cute, cuddly, Generally irresistible.