



**SURVEY PLANNED TO DETERMINE TRAINING NEEDS AND INTERESTS OF EMPLOYEES**

The Training Division announces that a survey is being initiated to determine the training interests and training needs of LMAL employees. To provide for adequate planning for the organization of new courses, it is necessary that course preferences be ascertained before the Holiday Season.

The survey plan includes three main avenues of expression. Firstly, all employees enrolled at the present time in the evening courses at the Hampton High School will be given an opportunity to express their course preferences on prepared mimeographed sheets. Secondly, a Training Division representative will contact in the near future each division chief, section head, or supervisor of LMAL to secure their indications of the training needs of employees in their respective units. All employees are urged to discuss training interests and needs with their supervisor. Thirdly, all employees are invited to call the Training Division, telephone 2300 for future information regarding present and future class offerings.

Copies of the Catalog of Training for 1945-46 have been distributed to all division chiefs and section heads for reference. The catalog lists suggested courses with brief description. The list is not a final statement of class offerings. Many employees may desire courses not found in the catalog; such courses can be organized if a sufficient number express a wish for them.

**OFFICIALDOM CONFIRMS AIR SCOOP'S RUMOR**

Official governmental communiques finally caught up with the AP and Air Scoop's semi-unofficial Washington rumor monger and confirmed the theory that Civil Service employees will work December 29 and January 5 instead of December 24 and 31. A memo to staff scooped us with the official word but we warned you. Be sure to read each issue of Air Scoop for further details on the latest, up-to-the-minute semi-unofficial rumors. And don't forget that Air Scoop spelled backwards spells Pooes Ria.

**LANGLEY FIELD NOW NEW HEADQUARTERS FOR AACS**

On Saturday night, December 1, Langley Field was transferred to the command jurisdiction of the Army Airways Communications System. World headquarters of the AACS will be moved to Langley from Asheville, N. C. as rapidly as possible. At the same time, the world headquarters of the AAF Weather Service, which is now in the same building as AACS in Asheville, the headquarters of the 1st AACS Wing, presently at Love Field, Texas, and the AACS Overseas Processing and Replacement Center at Sheppard Field, Texas, also moved to this field. Brigadier General Ivan L. Farman, who accompanied his headquarters to Langley, will be in command.

The influx of these four headquarters will bring approximately 4,000 new officers and enlisted men to the field.

The Air Scoop has been mimeographed this week due to a shortage of lithographers and the pressure of work in the Mechanical Reproduction Unit. As soon as possible we will resume the regular publication process.

Editor . . . . . Tiny Hutton  
 Associate Editor . . . . . Ruth Angel  
 Vari-Typist . . . . . Erah Hatten  
 Art Work . . . . . Gloria Nester

The Air Scoop was mimeographed and distributed by the Office Services Division.

**LIFE AT THE LABORATORY**

*Probably the proudest . . .*

proud papa to visit us recently was Norwood Evans, Employment, who dropped in Monday with an unusual stock of cigars and candy. The reason for the elation was the Evans' newly adopted son, Keith.

*Have you noticed Frances Leigh . . .*

in the cafeteria lately? Files' young redhead eats with her left hand waving in the air for all to see the evidence that Mel Butler has at last popped the question and heard a satisfactory answer. We wonder whether or not Personnel will continue to get as many pretty girls (note the four entries in the Langley Field Beauty Contest) as they have in the past.

*Lillian Hanna and . . . . .*

Bernard Daley will climax the 24-high speed Tunnel romance when they say "I do" sometime in January.

*Joseph Martolies . . . . .*

West Sheetmetal, is the proud papa of a six pound, five ounce daughter, Virginia Alice, born Friday, November 30.

*Matt Hicks, Personnel Files . . .*

Rushed in last Friday with the news that she had decided to resign and follow her man wherever the Army might choose to send him. She was married in the Base Chapel on Monday night, December 3, to Lt. Joe Whitaker.

*Ozzie Lappi, Gust Loads . . .*

and Viola, formerly of 24-inch Tunnel, are the proud parents of a daughter, born Monday, November 26.

*Working in the building next . . .*

door to Maintenance is an education in the natural sciences in itself. The coal silo outside our window and the contents of the cars that load the blamed thing always provide our office with an ever replenishing supply of coal dust for study. Then too, the Maintenance boys are always bringing home the queerest looking things they find out on their jobs. Some time ago it was skunks; later it was a giant praying mantis; now it's an owl. Albert Stacey was poking around in the big Shellbank barn loaned to the Committee by the Army when he came across a queer specimen which everyone said looked like an owl but had a face like a monkey so they called it a monkey-faced-owl. Then C. J. Saterfield came along and said it was nothing but a simple old barn owl. But the boys in the office thought very highly of their pet anyway and named him "Little Walter" for their esteemed division chief. Realizing that it isn't every day that one runs into an owl like that we decided to find out something about it, but the owl would have none of us--not unless he could get loose and sink his claws into the choicer cuts. Never admitting defeat as easy as that, we went to someone who undoubtedly has talked to owls a great deal--Noah Webster. In his book on owls entitled, "Webster's New International Dictionary" Noah doesn't spare the facts. For instance, did you know that an owl has a reversible outer toe? or that he is distinguished by his nocturnal habits? This particular owl is officially known as Tyto alba, syn. Strix Flammea and is called a barn owl because he frequents barns and other buildings and is not to

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## LIFE AT LAB

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be confused with his lowly third cousin the barred owl, *Strix varia*, syn. *Syrnium vadium*, who frequents bars and other buildings. It was because of the behavior of this barred owl, the places he frequented, and the company with whom he associated that the barn owl looks like he does. Not being able to put up with the actions of his third cousin, the little barn fellow became so disgusted that he once said, "I'm so ashamed of being an owl, I wish I looked like somebody else." So he got a monkey's face which undoubtedly pleased him very much. This caused him to abandon many of his owl habits and take on certain of those of the monkey, so he began living in the dense jungles of the deep south. As a result, the American branch of the family, *Tyto alba pratincola*, is extremely rare in the north. Owls in general feed on small mammals, birds, reptiles, batrachians, and insects and with few exceptions are beneficial to man. One of the exceptions is that in the state of Virginia where there are no bars, the barred owl has taken to stealing liquor ration books. The owls, who were formerly included in the *Raptores*, are usually considered as constituting a separate order, *Strigiformes*, related to goat-suckers, which is an awful thing for Mr. Webster to say.

*It's getting to a point . . .*

Where you don't rate anymore unless you have a tag under your identification badge. The Safety Committee, Safety Coordinators, and First Aid men, formerly carried these tags and now their number has been swelled by 107 compressed air workers whose celluloid case is filled with a little yellow card. This card verifies the fact that the bearer is a compressed air worker and requests that if he is stricken on the street he be brought to the air

lock at the Laboratory. A big step forward in providing more protection for the Lab's "sand hogs", it still has a few interesting sidelights. For instance, unless some discretion is used by the person picking up the stricken man, the air lock could play host to many ailments other than compressed air sickness. However, Safety Engineer Harry Henry informs us that the emergency services on the Peninsula, police, ambulances and the like, have been informed that the workers have this type of identification and in addition be given a description of the symptoms of the bends. As a general rule, alcohol fumes on the breath means something else.

*A bit of good news . . .*

to certain former officers now employed at the Lab comes from the Headquarters of the Eastern Defense Command. The former brass it seems, were prohibited from accepting employment with the Government while on terminal leave from the Armed Forces. Now the big brass has decided it was all a mistake and will allow the ex-lieutenants, captains, etc., to go to work for the Government any time they jolly well please after they go on terminal leave. If any of them came to work previously and worked without pay (as some did) because of it, he may submit a claim for the pay he lost to the General Accounting Office and "payment will be made in a lump sum", according to the little Army memo AGEX 210.85 Air Scoop's Advice To Veterans Editor however, advises the boys not to plan to use the dough for Christmas shopping.

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FOR SALE: Combination radio-phonograph, automatic record changer. Complete with record cabinet. Ruth Samolin, I.A.L., or Hampton - 8713.

### EMPLOYEES LEAVING AREA ABLE TO BREAK LEASES

It was learned this week from Gilman Cooley, Manager of the Southampton, Armstrong Gardens, and Sussex-at-Hampton apartments, that employees of the government will be able to break their leases on 30 days' notice if they are being transferred out of the area, or if they are leaving the employ of the government and leaving the area.

The plan, which is regarded as a notable concession to civilian employees, provides that the person may give notice 30 days in advance, accompanying it with payment of the rent for the unpaid period of the 30 days. If the management is able to rent the apartment before the 30 days expire, the unused portion of the rent will be returned to the old tenant, minus a five dollar charge for transfer of the lease.

### MEDICAL TECHNICIAN ADDED TO LANGLEY LABORATORY STAFF

The Laboratory has recently employed a medical technician to take charge of the operation of the dispensaries and the medical decompression chamber which is almost ready to be put into operation. James C. Tingle, former Chief Pharmacist's Mate in the Navy, has been engaged for the position and has been assigned to the Safety and Health Section.

Tingle comes to the Laboratory after four years in the Pacific with the Navy, including two years as the only medical officer on a destroyer escort. He will perform the necessary treatment for all cases of compressed air sickness at the Laboratory under the guidance of a physician.

### MORE VACANCIES NEEDED FOR SHARE-THE-RIDE POOL

Employees have responded in great number to the Air Scoop share-the-ride pool but as usual, more people want rides than can be accommodated at the present.

Persons driving in any direction over the Christmas Holidays are urged to give their ear the once over and see

### EMPLOYEES PROHIBITED TO TRANSMIT MONEY IN CIRCULATION SYSTEMS

Now that the Christmas season is upon us and many employees send money to the Files Section for the purchase of stamps or money orders, attention is called to a section of the procedure manual which reads "No personal material or money should be transmitted through the LMAL circulation system. LMAL messengers shall not be held responsible for any loss of personal material or money transmitted through the LMAL circulation system."

Indie Atkins, Assistant Chief of the Office Services Division, states that messengers will not deliver money for any employee and that all requests for purchases of stamps or money orders will be refused. In other words, she's sticking to the letter of the law.

### "NIGHT OF JANUARY 16" TO BE PRESENTED TONIGHT

"Night of January 16" a comedy-drama in three acts by Ayn Rand, will be presented by the Hampton Little Theater as the second in a series of play-reading nights at the Hampton Court House on Friday, December 7, at 8 p.m. Tiny Hutton and Seymour Bogdonoff have been selected as co-producers.

"Night of January 16", which is the story of a murder trial, will be read in the realistic surroundings of the court house. Probably the most unusual feature of this production is the large part that the audience must play, furnishing the jury and most of the witnesses. The jury will hear all the evidence, retire for deliberation; and render a verdict, however, the author was thoughtful enough to provide two endings, depending on the finding of the jury. The public is cordially invited to attend.

MORE VACANCIES NEEDED (Continued)  
if there isn't a vacancy somewhere and contact the Air Scoop Office, Service Building. Especially in demand are rides to New York City and other points North.

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