

# The Restoration News



WRITTEN BY AND FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF THE WILLIAMSBURG RESTORATION

Volume I

WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA, JUNE, 1941

Number 3

## Restoration Draftees Find Army Life Not Too Confining

News of the 11 selectees from the Restoration in Uncle Sam's peace time military service and training army is pretty scarce, only one selectee having sent word to us office folks back home.

Vernon Norman, of the Treasurer's Department, attached to Company K, 116th Infantry, stationed at Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, writes back "I'm a soldier now" and tells of "falling down and getting up all afternoon."

Pendleton Lewis, of the Division of Crafts, was recently seen in Williamsburg looking very handsome and resplendent in his uniform of a naval officer. Mr. Lewis as a reserve officer was called to duty the middle of February, completed a special course for officers at Boston and reported to the commandant of the Fifth Naval District at Norfolk, whereupon he was given command of a small naval craft with a crew of seven men, and made a successful trial trip to Annapolis from which he has returned to the Norfolk Naval Base.

Randolph V. Carter, of Construction and Maintenance, is stationed at Fort Monroe, Va., attached to the Quartermaster Corps. Johnny Blacknall, also of Construction and Maintenance, has been inducted into service, but we haven't heard where he is or what he is doing. A. P. Ward, Jr., of the construction force of Construction and Maintenance, has been sent to Aberdeen (Maryland) Proving Grounds.

The distinction of having order number 1 in James City County went to Russell Walker, colored laborer of Construction and Maintenance, and Russell is now "somewhere in the United States" doing his bit in the peace time army. Other selectees from among the Restoration's colored employees are Leroy Bell, Charles Keyser, John Petty, Robert Moore, and Paul Smith, all of the Division of Taverns and Ordinaries.

In addition to the selectees, three former Restoration employees have resigned to volunteer for U. S. military service. These are Henry Davis, from the Hostesses & Attendants Department; Ed Rountree, Treasurer's Department; and Nor-

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## Quiz Winners

Among the 150 employees attending the Information Quiz program which was held in the Lodge Game Room on the night of April 21st five came away financially rewarded.

Winners were: Elbert Slaughter first prize of ten dollars; Miss Elizabeth Edson and Miss Beulah Gregory tied for second place and five dollars each; Mrs. Washington Reed, and Jack Patterson tied for third place, receiving three dollars each.

Approximately 400 questions were submitted by employees.

## Williamsburg Film Now In Production

A two reel motion picture on Williamsburg is now being produced by the American Film Center of Radio City for the Restoration, and will soon be released on 16 mm film for showings in clubs, schools, and other places throughout the country.

Running approximately twenty minutes this picture will be partly in color, and will be partially made up of the old pre-restoration film on this City as shown last year at an employees meeting at the Williamsburg Theatre.

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## Landlord To Fill Flowing Bowl In Chownings Tavern Taproom

### See Williamsburg First

It used to be said that if you sat at the corner of Forty-second Street and Broadway long enough you would sooner or later see every celebrity in the world. Now it's beginning to look like it isn't necessary to go to New York for that. Just sit in front of the Governor's Palace. For instance, among the notables who have visited Williamsburg in the last month or so have been Lady Halifax, the wife of the British Ambassador; General Sherman Miles, assistant chief-of-staff of the U. S. Army; Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins; Edward Johnson, managing director of the Metropolitan Opera and three of his stars—Charles Kullman, Annamary Dickey and Lily Pons; Richard Crooks; Robert Benchley; Gluyas Williams the cartoonist; Robert Nathan the novelist and Samson Raphaelson, the playwright and author of *Skylark*; Alice Duer Miller, the author, who was with Mrs. Irving Berlin; Senators Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts and Rush Holt of West Virginia; Richard Casey, Australian minister to the U. S.—*ad infinitum*.

## New Restoration Inn Opening In Autumn

A great addition to Williamsburg social life will be made when Chowning's Tavern, a reconstruction of an eighteenth century tavern, is finished.

The building, which is directly opposite the Market Square Tavern, stands on the foundations of two old frame buildings which were operated as a tavern by one Josiah Chowning in the seventeenth sixties. The buildings at first were used separately as shops and storehouses, and were later joined together by a structure built between them which served as an entry for converting the shops into a tavern.

Present plans call for a tap room and bar in the eastern building and a hall and a dining room in the western building. In the rear of the first floor will be a modern kitchen, and on the second floor, where originally were rooms for Chowning's clientele, will be the public rest rooms so long needed in this part of town. The rooms will be furnished in early American antiques and reproductions, open fireplaces will be a feature, and beer, ale and light refreshments will be served.

Because the east portion or shop seems to have been associated with blacksmith trades its interior will be given a more rugged treatment than the western portion which was used by merchants, and will be in character with the rough and ready quality of a Tap Room in a town close to the greens where markets, fairs and musters once were held.

It is also proposed to construct arbors and booths of greenery in the yard so that people may sit outside. It is interesting to note that evidence shows many enactments in the colonial laws of Virginia regulating the use of arbors by tavern keepers, particularly when used during market days, fairs, militia musters and drills, when it seems that the colonial wassailers made too much noise with their *al fresco* celebrating. Modern arbor-haunters will please confine themselves to silent song and genteel jests.

## HUFFMAN STARTS PRINT COLLECTION



Do these old eyes deceive us, or is that the resident vice-president enmeshed in the stern toils of the law? It's all right, though. Mr. Geddy is not starting the Long Road to the Big House; he was one of the first to have his finger prints taken in Yale Huffman's drive to collect the prints of every member of the organization as a protective measure. Run, don't walk, to the nearest ink-pad.



# THE RESTORATION NEWS

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## "Ave Atque Vale"

On May 1, 1941, the Restoration took in its spartan-like stride both fortune and misfortune.

This date marked the completion of thirteen years of efficient and loyal service by our friend and associate, Elton R. Holland. His resignation was a distinct shock and loss, not only to the organization, but to his many friends who have been associated with him for so many years. To Elton we say farewell and godspeed in your new fields of endeavor.

On the same date a new department head was created in the person of Charles V. Lavery. To you, Mr. Lavery, we extend our cordial welcome. The high standard of efficiency that has been set by your predecessor we know will spur you to even greater heights of accomplishment. Already those of us who have had the pleasure of working with you have been impressed with your sincerity, your ability and your friendliness. For the future, we predict a great service and we pledge to you our best wishes and heartiest cooperation.

## No Parking

Not long ago Patrolman H. L. Thompson of the Restoration Police saw a long green convertible with a New York license resting sleekly in the space in front of the Goodwin Building reserved for Restoration cars. Irritated but restrained, Mr. Thompson left a polite note in the windshield in-

(Continued on page four)

## "K. C." AT THE BAT

From time to time we receive many letters from people who have visited Williamsburg and who, when they return home, take the trouble to write us about the Restoration. Some of these letters are complimentary, others not so, and some contain interesting suggestions for improvements, etc. In the first category one of the finest letters which we have received follows. It was written by Dr. Samuel Eliot Morison, who is acknowledged to be one of the most outstanding historians in the country and who is a member of our Advisory Committee of Historians. This letter is a singular tribute to the Restoration and to everyone connected with it. Therefore I wanted to share it with you all.

DEAR MR. CHORLEY:

Having made our threatened visit to Williamsburg, I am glad to report that everything is splendid. I don't see how the Restoration could have been done better. On my last visit the site of the Palace was being excavated, so you will understand what a transformation the whole thing seemed. The Palace itself is alone worth the journey, and my wife, who appreciates interior decoration and furniture, was almost rapturous in her praise of the good taste in which the interior has been done. We were especially pleased with the Raleigh Tavern, House of Burgesses and the Wythe House and Lodge, including the southern hospitality dispensed by Dr. Farish.

A few things seemed particularly worthy of remark because they are so much better done at Williamsburg than anywhere else. The high quality of articles sold and their relevance to the Restoration. The silver, pewter and glass is all beautiful, and all based on things found at Williamsburg, and should have a strong educational value for the country. . . . I was so busy looking at the fine things in the Craft House that I did not particularly notice whether there were any articles such as the summer run of tourists might buy. If not, it might be well to have some reproductions of pottery made in sufficiently large numbers so that they could be sold at a low price—one of those earthenware pitchers, for instance, that are used in the Tavern with the Virginia arms on it, that would serve to advertise Williamsburg wherever seen.

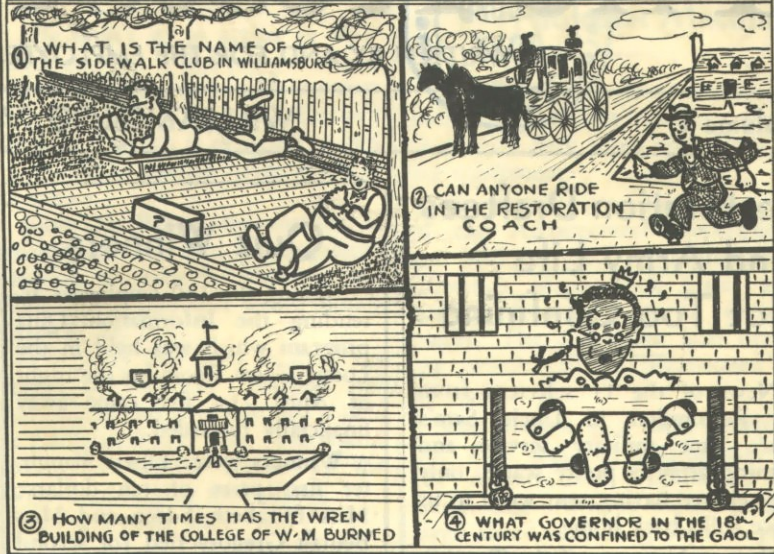
Another thing, I was very much pleased with the high quality of the postcards sold at the Lodge and in the town. Very few historic places in America provide postcards that one can be proud to send to ones friends. Williamsburg does.

We stayed at the Lodge and found the prices reasonable and the food and service excellent. I have never been in a better conducted hotel.

The lady guides impressed us very favorably. Their costumes are simple but attractive; an. they are all intelligent women who really know about the building they take care of, instead of getting off a set line of patter. They were all able to answer intelligently the questions that we put to them. This again is a point of superiority at Williamsburg over any other historic spot that I have visited.

Sincerely yours,  
S/ SAMUEL ELIOT MORISON.

## WHAT'CHA KNOW BO!



(Answers to cartoon are on page 4.)

## "OVERHEARD"

The "lecture" was "on" in the Capitol . . . the group had assembled in the House of Burgesses . . . "Oh! Yes", interrupted the guest, "we are descended from the Burgesses." . . . The bored gentleman who sat there without removing his hat, in a sotto voice exclaimed, "Ancestors! Hum! Must have been round a bit."

In the third committee room the hostess, gathering her courage, again explained about the old warming machine. "But", exclaimed one of the party, "why is there just one crack in the stove?" The hostess was stumped, then, her brown eyes brightly flashing, she said, "Because it was only cracked once."

On to the council chambers, where the dear old motherly soul asked where the bed chambers were. . . Again the bored gentleman, in studying his combination ticket, asked the hostess if she didn't think it possible that Mr. Rockefeller could arrange it so that people who had ancestors could get free admissions to the buildings.

"This must be ancestor day," the hostess finally decided, for as she turned to the middle-aged couple who were patiently waiting to speak to her—the woman turned and said "I do want you to meet my husband who is a direct descendant of Mr. Rockefeller."

Adieus were being said as the hostess directed her guests to the gaol, when as a parting question the young thing in a military cape asked the hostess, who wore two large diamond rings, if they were reproductions too. But before she could reply, a breathless young man rushed in from the gate and asked, "Please Miss, can I get a marriage license here?"

—E. M. A.

## Literati

The Curator's Department has broken into print both actively and passively. Mr. Cogar is the author of a comprehensive article on American Folk Art published in the April issue of the *Southern Literary Messenger*. Mrs. Louise Fisher went him one better. She not only wrote an article on "Old-fashioned Flowers and How They Grew" for the March issue of the magazine *Antiques*, but was also the subject of a long feature story in *The Christian Science Monitor*. Incidentally the picture the *Monitor* used was the same one Pete LeCompte took of Mrs. Fisher for the first issue of the RESTORATION NEWS.

The third edition of Rutherford Goodwin's *Williamsburg in Virginia* drew a rave notice in the *New York Times*. The new dollar edition is now on sale.

Dr. Farish's new book, *Robert Carter of Nomini Hall*, is in the hands of the printers, and Dr. Farish has hopes of seeing it out by the middle of June.

## Flag Flags Passers By Colors Catch Passers' Eye

The green flag flying at the Inn, Lodge and Goodwin Building is not that of the Irish Free State, but is the official house flag of the Restoration. It was designed by the Architectural Department, and follows the design of the Colonial Williamsburg letterhead. The colors have no particular significance. The architects just thought they were pretty.



## SOCIAL EVENTS

On May 9, 1941, Mr. and Mrs. George M. Beal of Hammonton, New Jersey, announced the engagement of their daughter, Miss Jane S. Beal (Public Relations) to Samuel Kemp Boot (C & M), son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert K. Boot, of Glencoe, Illinois. The wedding will take place early in June at the home of Miss Beal's sister in Chicago.

\* \* \*

Mrs. Mary Bundy Ford (T & O) is on a six-week cruise to South America.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. Langton (Treas.) are spending their vacation in New York City.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. I. L. Jones, Jr., (Treas.) are on a motor trip through the mountains of Virginia and West Virginia.

\* \* \*

Mrs. John R. Fisher (Cur.) recently spoke to the members of the Junior League in Norfolk on "Flower Arrangements in Colonial Williamsburg."

\* \* \*

Miss Betty Betts from our New York office was in Williamsburg recently.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Woodley J. Blackwell (Treas. & Pers. Rel.), whose engagement was announced in the last issue of this paper, have returned from their wedding trip to Nassau, and have made their home in the Red Lion Kitchen.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas G. McCaskey (Theatre) are on a vacation trip to Dallas, Texas, and Mexico City. They are taking 8mm. movies on the trip and it is hoped they will give a showing of them, which in the terminology of the trade we can expect to be "colossal", "spectacular", "epic" and "the best of the season."

\* \* \*

Miss Renee Dreyfus of Mr. Heydt's office was here recently on Restoration business. It was her first trip here since 1929.

\* \* \*

Miss Janet Warfield, secretary to Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., was in Williamsburg during the latter part of April and was able to attend the Colony Club Oyster roast, where she was glad to meet many of the employees who had previously been only "names" to her.

\* \* \*

Miss Mary Jansen (Research) and her parents have taken a house near Queen's Creek on Capitol Landing Road.

\* \* \*

### BYRNES-KELLY WEDDING

On Tuesday, May 27, 1941, Miss Frances Kelly, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Francis Kelly of Syracuse, New York, was married to Mr. John L. Byrnes (T & O) in New York City. The wedding was followed by a breakfast party at the Hotel Lexington.



Jane Beal

Mr. and Mrs. Byrnes returned to Williamsburg around the first of June.

\* \* \*

Mr. and Mrs. Rutherford Goodwin (Educ.) recently purchased a place on York River. Mr. Goodwin spent his vacation working on the farm.

## Two Board Room Portraits Completed

Two of the six portraits which are planned for the Board Room of the Goodwin Building have been completed and will be hung as soon as their frames arrive. That of Mr. Chorley was painted by Jossey Bilan, Pennsylvania-born pupil of Wayman Adams, now teaching in Wayman Adams' school; and that of Col. Arthur Woods, first president of the Restoration, was done by Ivan G. Olinsky, who was born in Russia in 1878 and who studied in France and Italy. Olinsky's "Adoration" is in the collection of the Norfolk Museum of Arts and Science. Other portraits for the Board Room will include those of Mr. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Dr. W. A. R. Goodwin, Mr. William G. Perry, and Mr. Arthur A. Shurcliff.

## Colony Club Election

The recently elected officers of the Colony Club for the year 1941-42 are president, Ralph E. Bowers; vice-president, Alfred A. Kluwer; secretary, Madeline Warrick; and treasurer, Elbert Slaughter. The retiring officers are president, Mrs. Alma Lee Rowe; vice-president, Ralph E. Bowers; secretary, Mildred Layne; and treasurer, Nick Shearon.

## NEWS OF THE COLORED PEOPLE

By THOMAS KEARNEY AND ISHAM JOHNSON

AMONG our brides for the Spring we are very proud to have Mrs. Mildred Smith Webb and Mrs. Helen Carter Lee, two of our oldest chamber-maids of the Williamsburg Inn.

After the happy marriages, we have sad news. Hugo Johnson, who is one of our waiters, had his home badly burned. Also Mrs. Carrie Jones, one of our employees of the Williamsburg Inn, lost her house by fire, her entire home was destroyed while no one was there.

The maids of the Williamsburg Lodge had a very beautiful and successful dance at the Elk's Home in Newport News, every minute was enjoyable. And now the Williamsburg Inn employees are looking forward to their annual Spring Dance.

We are very proud to have a place of business operated by three of our employees for the convenience of others of our employees to stop and refresh themselves. This place is run by Milton Cooke, Ernest Wallace, and Ernest Brooks. Stop and refresh yourself.

On our sick list is Mrs. Evelyn Tyler who was rushed to the St. Phillips Hospital in Richmond.

—T. K.

The beginning of the 156th Anniversary of the First Baptist Church took place on the first

## Portrait At Capitol

A very large and handsome 16th century portrait of Edmund Sheffield, 1st Earl of Mulgrave and member of the council of the Virginia Company, has just been presented to Colonial Williamsburg by Mr. Philip H. Rosenbach and his brother, Dr. Rosenbach. Sir Edmund, here depicted by Paul van Somer, was never in America, but had much to do with the colonization and development of the Virginia settlement. He also won distinction in the command of *The White Bear* at the defeat of the Spanish Armada. Queen Elizabeth created him Knight of the Garter in 1593, and he is wearing the badge and ribbon of the Garter in this portrait. The painting now hangs in the east hall, first floor, of the Capitol.

Sunday in May. This is the oldest Baptist Church in Virginia that we know of. The pastor, Rev. Robert E. Lee, preached a very soul-stirring sermon, a large crowd witnessing the service. After the service a very delicious dinner was served at Bruton Heights School. In the afternoon service Mr. Vernon M. Geddy, Vice-president of the Restoration, gave the "Address of Welcome." And Dr. Henry Allan Boyd, Secretary-Treasurer of the National Baptist Publishing Board of Nashville, Tenn., was the speaker. He brought out many interesting facts.

Matt Roberts who is now on his vacation motored to Baltimore to see his brother, John Henry Roberts, Jr., who is in training camp there.

John Hailey, Sr. and Thomas Ashby, two of our Restoration employees, have gone back on their jobs after a two-week vacation.

On Saturday, May 17th, the West Point Yanks defeated the Magruder Black Sox by 7 points.

A large group of our friends and relatives who are residing in Scotch-plains and Plainfield, New Jersey, will be with us at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church the 4th Sunday in June to render an all-day service. This will be called "Homecoming Day."

—I. J., SR.

## NOW PLAYING



Theatreman "Happy" Halligan and Movie Actress Irene Dunne posing for the RESTORATION NEWS. Notice Cary Grant trying to squeeze in.





We have somewhat reluctantly, but nevertheless unalterably, come to the conclusion that the Architectural Department omitted a rather important feature in their plans for the Goodwin Building. Not that we feel they are at all to blame—no one at that time could foresee all the implications of National Defense. We have an impressive building—we have air-conditioning and receptionists, fingerprinting, photostating and petitionists—we even have a potential bridal suite beyond the Olympic Arch, but we have no Chapel. Being convinced that it is never too late to rectify sins of omission, we suggest that an appropriate space in the building be fitted up as a simple chapel. At 12:30 on Saturdays, such of the personnel as were interested could then, without leaving the building, adjourn for a quiet wedding. For no reason at all we suggest that reservations be made through the local Draft Board.

\* \* \*

Merely by way of information, we would like to report that Mrs. Blackwell returned from her honeymoon with a black eye and that Rex Colwil has landed in New York. To date we have been unable to locate a suitable house for Rex.

\* \* \*

We should also like to report that the Wythe House has only one authenticated and documented ghost. According to the Research Department all others are purely imaginary.

\* \* \*

For the Cliche-of-the-Month Club we nominate the young executive assistant, a habitue of the Raleigh Tavern, who declared: "Gee, drinking's good fun."

\* \* \*

C. V. Lavery, new head of C. and M., in his salad days was to marathon running what Leslie Mac-Mitchell is now to N. Y. U. By his own admission he once came in 426th in the Evening Mail Modified Marathon from the Bronx to City Hall. Running time: 6 hours, 43½ minutes.

C. &amp; B.

The members of the Boards of Williamsburg Restoration, Inc., and Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., will meet in Williamsburg the latter part of June. This will be the first meeting of the Boards to be held in the Goodwin Building.

## Restoration Acquires Charles V. Lavery As C. & M. Head

The staff and employees of the Restoration welcome Mr. Charles V. Lavery as the new head of the Const. & Maint. Department. Mr. Lavery was appointed May 1, 1941 to succeed Elton R. Holland who resigned because of ill health.

Mr. Lavery joins the staff of the Restoration after twenty-two years of continuous service with Vermilya-



Brown Company, Inc., of New York, one of the largest construction concerns in the United States. During his association with this firm he was at Yale University for nine years, supervising construction of the Sterling Memorial Library, Yale Graduate School and the Yale Housing Plan. He has also had a part in the supervision of work done by this concern at the Medical Center and the Federal Reserve Bank Building in New York. He comes to Williamsburg after completion of the National Gallery of Art in Washington. While engaged on this project he supervised the quarrying and fabrication of all exterior marble at Knoxville, Tenn., that was used in the new gallery and had complete charge of the interior construction of this building.

Mr. Lavery was born in New York City, is a graduate of the De LaSalle Institute of New York and has taken technical courses in construction at Manhattan College and Columbia. He is married and has three children. His family will move to Williamsburg from Washington where they have resided in connection with his work at the National Gallery of Art.

The Williamsburg Inn Swimming Pool opened for Club members on May 17th. The new badminton court is an added attraction this year.

## Life Goes to Williamsburg

Life didn't go to a part in Williamsburg, but it did come down to photograph the town in connection with a story on "Thomas Jefferson's Virginia," which is expected to run in the July Fourth issue of *Life* magazine.

John Dos Passos, the novelist, is writing the text, and was accompanied on the tour by photographer Gabe Benzer and staff writer Sidney Cardozo, Jr.

The party had been to the University of Virginia, "Bremo" and Richmond, and in a day and a half in Williamsburg shot everything from the Capitol cupola to the Wren Building by moonlight.

No slowpokes they.

## Williamsburg Film Now In Production

(Continued from page one)

Ollie Comstadt, formerly a feature cameraman in Sweden, has been doing the color photography. Mr. Comstadt was recently connected with the research department of Eastman Kodak in Rochester, and is an expert in color photography. He spent two weeks early in April shooting exterior scenes and will be here this month for the interiors.

John Devine, assistant director of the American Film Center, who spent several weeks here last year surveying the film possibilities of Williamsburg, is in charge of the production, being assisted by Eddie Adolphe, and Paul Reed of the Raymond Rich Associates.

## Answers to Cartoon:

1. The Pulaski Club, founded in 1779, a date, however, which is purely traditional.
2. Yes—the only requisite is an hourly rental fee.
3. Three Times—First in 1705, twice during the Civil War.
4. . . . Henry Hamilton, the Governor of the Northwest (who, from his inciting the Indians against the Americans, was called the "Hair-Buyer.") Twice (George Rogers) Clark proceeded against Fort Vincennes, and, on the second occasion, in the winter of 1779, he captured not only the fort, but Hamilton also, who, being brought back to Williamsburg, languished for some time in the prison near the Capitol.

—R. G's Williamsburg in Virginia.

## What's Happening

Annual Student Art Exhibit. Phi Beta Kappa Hall, May 26 to June 9.

Colonial Seminar, June 15-June 22. Dr. Fowler, director.

Airplane Trips over Williamsburg—Sunday afternoons from Williamsburg Airport.

## Restoration Acquires Photostat Machine

The Restoration has recently installed a photostat machine, complete with dark room and developing equipment.

The machine is under the control of the Architectural Department and will be used for reproducing drawings, maps, book plates and various documents by all departments. The maximum size drawing which can be photostated is 36"x48".

The process is a more complex one than that of blueprinting, so the Architectural Department requests that orders be placed several days ahead and in groups if possible, since it is more economical to reproduce several copies at one running than to set up the equipment for one photostat.

## Restoration Draftees

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ris Lineweaver, Taverns & Ordinaries. Also Mack Davis, of the Theatre and Crafts, having completed his Caribbean cruise, will graduate in June from the New York Naval Training Station, with the rank of Ensign. Another employee, Ed Ware, of the Construction and Maintenance Department, is expecting to resign upon being called soon to duty in the Naval Air Corps for which he has volunteered.

## No Parking

(Continued from page two)

forming the absent owner that he was treading forbidden ground. What Mr. Thompson didn't know was that the car belonged to Kenneth Chorley. Far from being annoyed, Mr. Chorley was delighted, and in a letter to Patrolman Thompson said in part: "I want to say that you were entirely right in putting this card on my car . . . Because I try to live up to our parking regulations and because I am always calling attention to other people when they violate them, I should like to explain why I parked my car where I did."

Mr. Chorley went on to say that under his arrangements with the Restoration, a car, usually the open Lincoln, is provided for his use while in Williamsburg. The Lincoln, however, was damaged in an accident, and so Mr. Chorley was using his own private car for official business.

Mrs. W. F. Low (Personnel) recently underwent a serious operation at the Medical College of Virginia Hospital in Richmond.