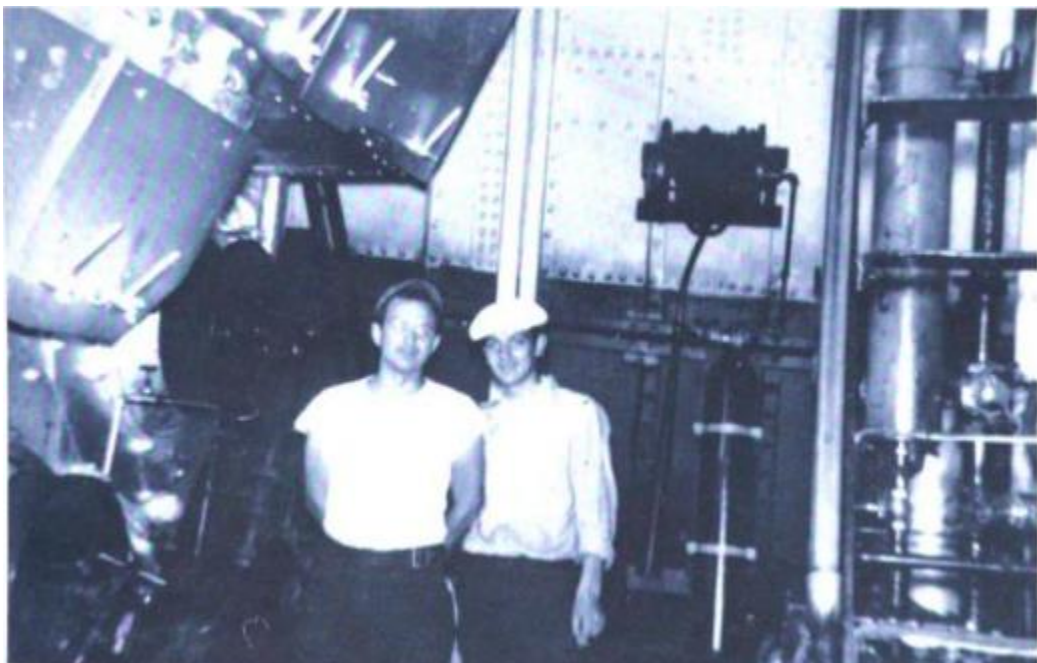


# Adventures of a Farm Boy who Became a Deep Sea Fireman; circa 1919

Towboat Hercules, and incidently a tugboat is always called a towboat, has four Scotch boilers, manufactured at Union Iron Works, San Francisco<sub>1</sub>. Each has a burner which clogs up periodically and must be cleaned once each hour, or oftener<sub>2</sub>. Carbon collects on the screen at the business end and stops the works, therefore regular cleaning. Steampressure must be kept at the proper level, as well as water in boilers. There is an oil pump, operated by steam which is very critical...should be watched carefully<sub>3</sub>.

1. The boilers in the boiler room were built in San Francisco.
2. The burners can get clogged, so they have to be cleaned often.
3. Levels of oil and steam need to be watched carefully. If they reached unsafe levels, there could be a huge explosion of smoke and steam that destroys the boat.



**1954-  
1961**

# Adventures of a Farm Boy who Became a Deep Sea Fireman; circa 1919 (#2)

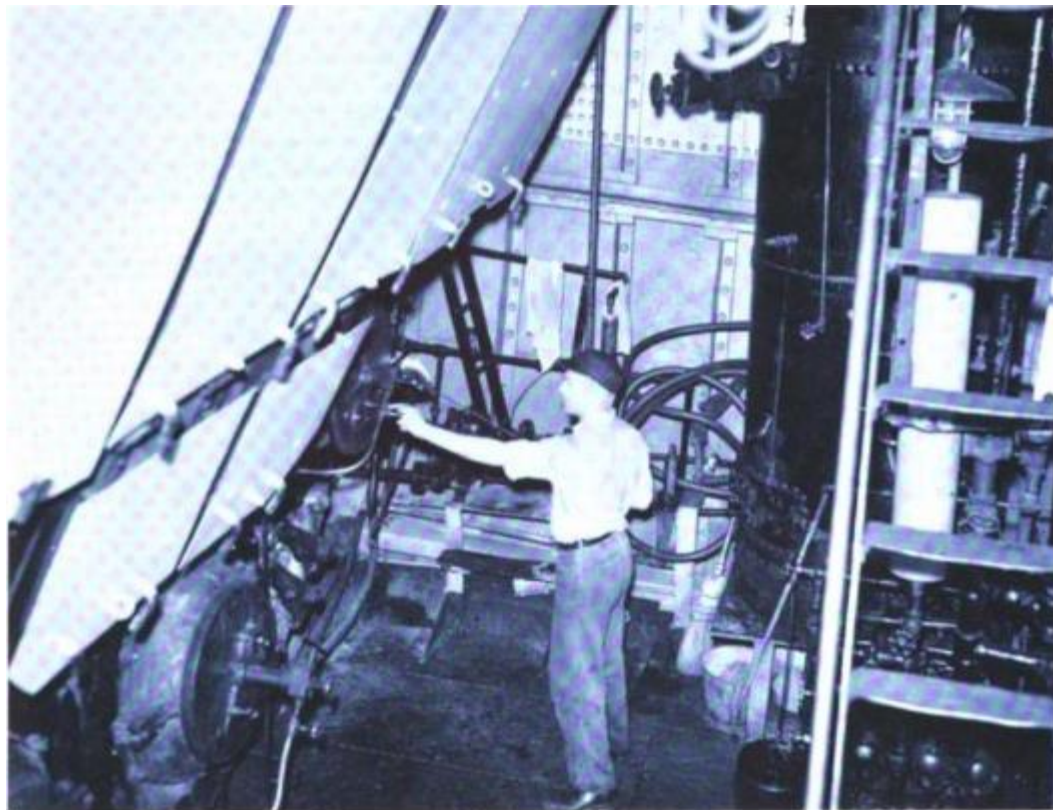
Water is fed into the boilers thru valves which require<sub>1</sub> constant regulating<sub>2</sub> also. The Second Assistant Engineer, the “Second”, was constantly asking me “How’s your water, Slim”? And then giving the valves a yank if he saw me busy<sub>3</sub>.

1. Need.
2. Watching and controlling so that the amount of water in the boiler is right.
3. He yanked the valves to make sure there was enough water in the boiler. If there wasn’t enough water, a deadly explosion that kills everyone on board could occur.

# Adventures of a Farm Boy who Became a Deep Sea Fireman; circa 1919 (#3)

One morning at about 2 bells (5am) I felt very sleepy and decided to nip<sub>1</sub> upon deck for a breath of fresh ocean air. I noticed there appeared to be a fire on the Washington Coast. A column of smoke was drifting over the ocean and I idly noticed it seemed to end at my smokestack<sub>2</sub>. Suddenly I realized it was my smokestack that was causing the smoke. I dove below<sub>3</sub> and pulled out the air vent to allow proper mixture<sub>4</sub> and tragedy was averted.

1. Quickly go.
2. Chimney from the towboat. It is attached to the boiler room.
3. To the boiler room.
4. Correct combination of oil, air, and heat to create fire.



**1935-  
1940**