

370 (658th St. N.Y.C.)  
10 Mrs. Cavanaugh St.

Mr. W. E. Gordon  
Dear Sir & Friend,

It is with pleasure and  
honour that I am able to state  
my experiences in the Navy.

I enlisted in the United  
States Naval Reserve Force, "at the  
best of my knowledge," April 15, 1917,  
went into active service May 18,  
1917 as a cook, Third Class.

Attended the first school for  
Navy cooks being the third one  
to enter this school. after two  
weeks training was made  
2<sup>nd</sup> class.

Transferred to ~~Quinton~~ <sup>#</sup>Quinton  
Base 649. where I was for two  
weeks as a cook.

these schools.

In a months time I was made Chief Machinist Mate (we had at this station or controlled from here all the mechanical schools on aereonautical mechanics, and the making of all the purchasers engineers).

Our staff at this station was an personnel of 350 men mostly all commissioned and Chief Petty Officers like myself.

The present training system of every branch of aereonautical mechanics & marine gasoline Engineering ~~were~~ <sup>was</sup> the work of the Engineering Professors of Columbia University headed

I was then transferred to U. S. S. Gloucester and was crew cook for the first two months until I got to making to many cakes & pies and then the Captain put me off as Steward & cook and <sup>quar</sup>ter master. May 18/1919 and then:—

Transferred to U. S. Navy Gas Engine School at Columbia University, where I took the Marine Gas Engine Course, which was five weeks and in that time we quartered aboard the U. S. S. Granite State.

After my completion of this course I received first class machinist and made assistant Material Officer of

by Dr Lucke, was and now  
Dean of Engineering at Columbia.

I was buying all the material  
and supplies that was neces-  
sary to maintain this station  
I <sup>was</sup> released from active  
duty Apr 11<sup>th</sup> 1919.

I have already received an  
honorable active service  
certificate from the war  
department for my services  
in the Navy.

I am still in reserve and  
can be called on again.

Hoping I have fully describe  
myself and my services to my  
Country, and wishing you the  
greatest success in your  
work  
Yours

Patriotic Patchogue  
Wm. P. B. Prescott.