

# The LOOKOUT

*"Full Sail Ahead"*

SEAMEN'S  
CHURCH  
INSTITUTE  
of NEW YORK

Volume XVI  
Number IV

April  
1925

# The Lookout

Vol. XVI

APRIL, 1925

No. 4

## April Anniversary



APRIL is anniversary month at the Institute. It marks the eighty-first anniversary on her log of long and honorable service. It also marks a period of self appraisal, healthful for institutions as well as individuals, a period of accounting, of looking over what has been accomplished, planning for the future.

Its past, stretching back to the days of the "fabulous forties", presents a unique picture in the history of the seafarer in New York. To have grown from a small floating chapel in the East River to a great community house for mariners, known all over the world, is an interesting picture of progress as is the development of New York as a city.

A history of honor and distinction—these eighty odd years. Changes they have brought to sailing and the manners of the sea; changes they have also brought in the type of Institute service to the seaman. But changing conditions always found the Institute abreast of the times; in many channels of work it has been a pioneer.

The one thing that has never changed is the desire to serve. Through its entire life pattern is the motif of helpfulness, throughout its long history runs the vivid thread of service and of Christianity.



But now changes and growth present a problem that requires the cooperation of all its friends—a problem akin to that met twelve years ago when through its friends and supporters a great sea home sprang up on South Street; a sea home that has gone down in sea annals as a unique and altogether extraordinary chapter in the story of humanitarian welfare work among mariners. It must continue that high order of work, but to do so it must have additional space.

It has long since outgrown its present building.

It has been forced to turn away thousands of seamen from the very doors it opened to them a few years ago—doors that opened a new world of comfort, cheer, homelike society.

To make provision for these needs on the occasion of its eightieth anniversary, the Institute began to accumulate funds toward the erection of an annex.

That was a year ago. The generous response of many of the friends of the Institute enabled work to begin this month, on the occasion of the eighty-first anniversary.

But more funds must be contributed before work can be pushed to completion.

The foundation work is under way, the contract for the steel has been let.

But this is merely the beginning.

It is estimated that the Annex, thirteen floors with three sub-basements, will cost \$2,000,000 and provide a building that with the present Institute can furnish annually 500,000 lodgings.

But figures fail to convey the humanitarian benefits that go with the physical establishment of such a building. Walls may seem brick and stone, but walls and floors transmuted by the influence of the Institute become eloquent testimonials to seafarers of the generosity of the contributor. They speak all languages and tongues, theirs is the universal language of the heart. They are the frames on which is hung the practical and vital work of the Institute.

This month of April, the natal month of the Institute, marks an epoch in its life. It inaugurates the fund raising effort to complete the building of the great annex.

It marks the critical moment in the procuring of the physical equipment necessary to its great sea-colony.

But the Institute faces this crisis with high hopes.

It has faith in its loyal adherents.

It has confidence in the help of *Lookout* readers.

It believes in you.

Will you justify its faith by helping?

Your affirmative response bears not only its own important weight but it helps to bring in others.

A cheque, ever so light on the desk of its writer, gains weight in the hands of the receiver.

Contributions like magnets draw others.

May the Institute have yours today?



### Birthdays

Do you remember childhood birthday days—the glamour of a party, cake, lighted candles?

The fourth or the fourteenth, there was always the delight of the unexpected, the joy of giving, the fun of receiving unexpected packages as mysterious as Christmas.

Later you may have forgotten to add the birthday candles to your own cake. But you remember someone else's glee over a present.

But did you ever think that institutions have birthdays, too? The Institute birthday cake this month is ablaze with eighty-one candles. And a birthday present to her building fund was never more timely. It means not only a present to the Institute, but a gift to 250,000 men who will benefit by the new Annex.

### Will You Be a Member of the Crew?

After many months in port the good ship "Annex" has weighed anchor and is about to sail.

She is carrying a big load. She needs a bigger crew. Many of the old friends of the Institute are aboard. But there are still many who have not yet helped her out. The Captain reports only one-fifteenth of the *Lookout* readers among those who helped her to weigh anchor.

What about you? Will you sign on the "Annex" crew?

Joining is not difficult. You do not have to be an A. B. or licensed officer, or know your naviga-

tion tables! To be a friend of the seaman is your only qualification.

S. S. "Annex" deserves a fair voyage and a safe return to port.

What can you do to help her?

### Things That Figures Never Tell

The real story of the present building yet remains to be written.

The rehearsal of facts and figures may give conception of its size, of its great usefulness, but the true spirit of the Institute lies in something more than figures, more than rooms and floors.

Probably no other building in the world has held within its walls so much of storied life, so much of human joy and sorrow, of major and of minor, drab and vivid, all in the confines of twelve short years.

Languages, colors, races of every description it has known; all kinds, creeds and conditions of men it has harbored. "Home" it is known throughout the length and breadth of sailordom.

All this, despite the fact that eight of its twelve years it has been crowded to the point of desperation.

It could do more for the thousands who deserve its benefits if it were only physically larger. It has had a child's body with which to carry on a man's responsibilities.

Will you help it grow and write your name into its great history?



## THE INSTITUTE AT WORK

### Ask Brindelson Wins Medal

On Friday, March 13, the regular concert was superseded by an unusual ceremony. The Life Saving Benevolent Society used our hall to do honor to a Norwegian seaman, who had acquitted himself with distinction, in the saving of lives in peril.

Colonel Herbert L. Satterlee, representing the Society, introduced Judge De Witt Wells, on whose boat Ask Brindelson was an able bodied seaman, and who told graphically the story of the wreck, following which Colonel Satterlee presented Ask Brindelson with a medal and a purse of one hundred dollars in gold.

We at the Institute have no illusions about seamen. We do not think them "thrilling," "interesting," "romantic." But we do know them to be brave. Ask Brindelson was lucky in that his heroism came to the attention of a man who was disposed to see that it received recognition, but all of us felt that there were in the audience, which saw the presentation of the medal, many who had done just as brave deeds without a word being said on the subject.

In fact almost any day in the week a seaman will lay down his life for yours with a quiet fatalism, if you need it. And that is why we have no hesitation in asking you, before you sail for Europe this summer, to send us a substantial contribution to the Building Fund. If they are willing to do any amount of quiet dying for you, you ought to be willing to do a little quiet living for them. It seems a reasonable exchange.

## The Sudden Wife

A wife can do much for a man. There is no doubt about that. There was a time, in fact, when a certain engineer thought she could do too much—far too much. He had secured himself a job on a boat, going and coming from the city of Vancouver. He was so enthusiastic about it that he wrote quite feelingly on the subject to his wife in England—too feelingly. The next letter he received from her contained the information that she had sold their home and would sail for Canada with their four children on a certain boat. Almost simultaneously he lost the delectable job.

To say that the engineer was annoyed is to put it mildly. No wife ever got off a train to a colder welcome. There were several things he wanted urgently to say to her, "that at least she might have consulted him before taking such a drastic step, that she and the four children would probably starve because he had lost his job and might not get another for some time." He was in that mood in fact when he thought it extremely unlikely that any other job would ever turn up.

He said them all and his wife remained undaunted. "If I hadn't come," she said calmly, "you would have gone on for years, without sending for us. It is four years now since we've seen hide or hair of you."

There was no denying that. The long and short of it is that he got, almost immediately, the best job he ever had in his life, his oldest son has a good position in a bank, and his oldest daughter is nearly through commercial school and the family fortunes have never been in such excellent shape.

He was bragging to the House Mother the other day about his wife.





The Institute from Front Street in January, 1925, Before the Buildings, 41-53 Front Street, Were Torn Down.



The Institute from the Same Position on April 13, 1925, the Day Work on the New Annex Was Begun.



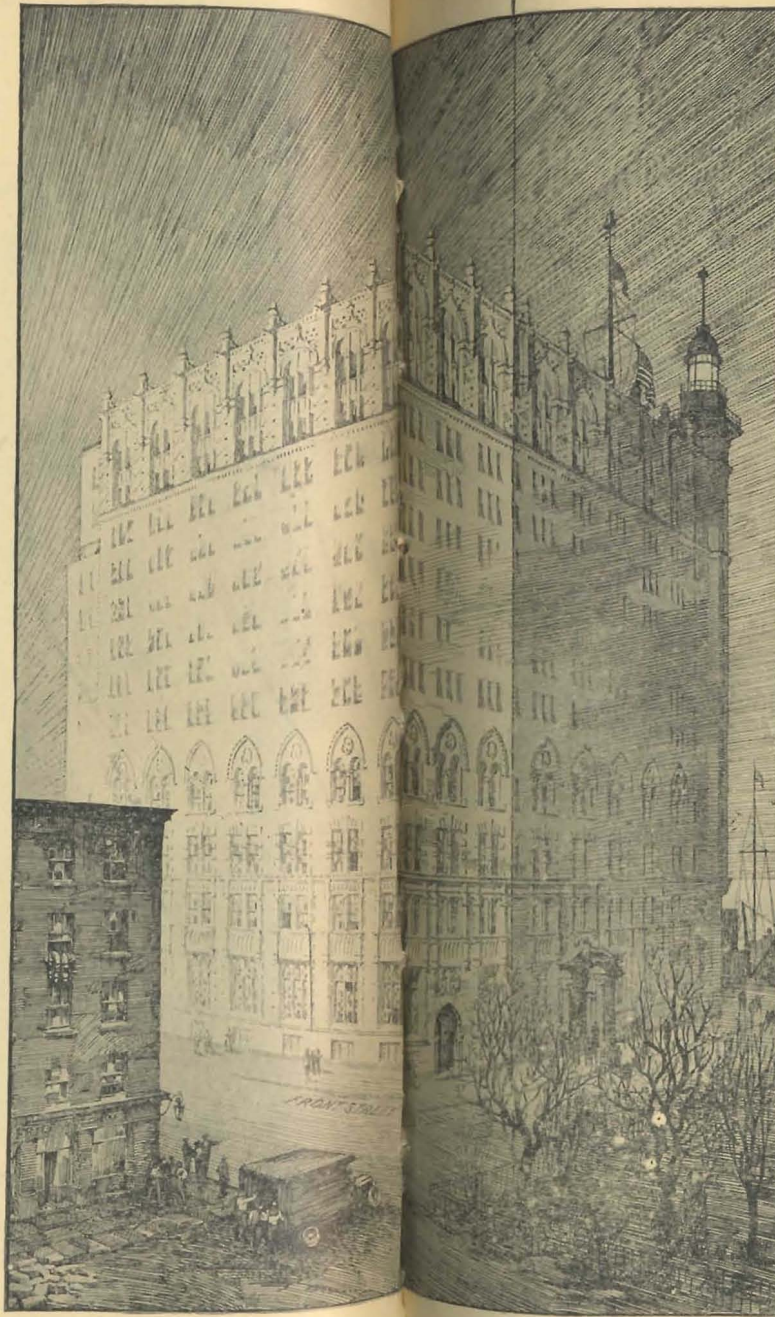
## Why the Seamen's Church Institute Needs its \$2,000,000 Annex

Because 836 men are using the building built to accommodate 500.

Because all recreation and game rooms have been confiscated for sleeping quarters.

Because lobbies are packed to the point of unhealthfulness.

Because the administration of the building is hampered through overcrowding.



Because the necessary clerical force to operate the building now works in cramped quarters never designed for offices.

Because the new building will increase the revenue producing departments and cut down the overhead.

Because expert advisers, after months of study, have set \$2,000,000 as the irreducible minimum for the necessary building.

Because 100,000 seamen seeking lodgings have been turned away in the past three years due to lack of room.

The Seamen's Church Institute of New York showing Proposed Annex on Which Construction April 13, 1925.



### Where Stone Speaks

The present Institute has been called The House of a Thousand Memorials. There is scarcely a corner in the entire building that is not a continual reminder of the generosity of some friend of the seamen, or of the thoughtfulness of a giver whose donations have been translated into a constant practical reminder of the donor — apartments, rooms, furnishings — all these accessories of the great building are eloquent reminders of those for whom they are named.

It is the belief of the Officers and Managers of the Institute that a number of those who give to the Building Fund will wish their gifts to take some such form of memorial.

The Annex is particularly adapted to this form of giving. There is appended a list of units which seem particularly appropriate.

200 Chapel Chairs .....	Each	\$50
(12 Taken)		
8 Drinking Fountains on Dormitory floors .....	Each	\$250
3 Drinking Fountains on 2nd, 3rd and 4th floors.....	Each	\$500
1 Drinking Fountain in Entrance Lobby .....		\$700
Name as Co-Builder in Entrance Lobby .....		
		\$500 to \$1,000
205 Seamen's Bedrooms.....	Each	\$500
(8 Taken)		
211 Seamen's Bedrooms with running water .....	Each	\$1,000
(26 Taken)		

41 Staff and Licensed Officers' Bedrooms .....	Each	\$1,500
(13 Taken)		
Name as Benefactor on Large Bronze Tablet in Entrance Lobby but less than \$10,000.		
1 Washroom for Men Clerical Employees and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby....		\$3,000
1 Twenty-eight Bed Open Dormitory and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby.....		\$3,000
(Taken)		
1 Cloak and Washrooms for Volunteer Women Workers and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....		\$5,000
10 Bedrooms and Endowment for Free Use of Destitute Convalescents and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby..	Each	\$5,000
(2 Taken)		
8 Very large Dormitory Washrooms .....	Each	\$5,000
6 Forty-two Bed Open Dormitory and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby.....	Each	\$5,000
1 Seventy Bed Open Dormitory and name as Benefactor on Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....		\$7,000
1 Very Large Rest and Washrooms for Women Clerical Employees..		\$10,000
(Taken)		
Name as Founder on Large Bronze Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....		
		\$10,000 or more
(5 Subscribed)		



Superintendent's and Administration Offices and name as Founder on Large Bronze Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....	\$15,000
Entrance Doorway and Lobby ..	\$20,000
Enlarged Apprentice Room, and name as Founder on Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....	\$25,000
Dispensary and Hospital Rooms and name as Founder on Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....	\$50,000
2 Large Structural Units and name as Founder on Tablet in Entrance Lobby .....	\$50,000

### Payments in Instalments

All memorial subscriptions or general contributions may be made payable in four equal instalments over a period of one and one-half years. The last payment is to be made not later than July 1, 1926.

This convenient arrangement for payments often makes it possible to give a larger memorial or contribution than if the entire sum is payable at once.

These memorials, including furniture or equipment, provide for the establishment of units of the new building, which will be marked by simple bronze tablets, inscribed according to the donors' wishes.

A special fund has been arranged to take care of all expenses in connection with the campaign.

All subscriptions go directly into the building fund.

### Unqualified Approval

Our readers will be glad to note in the following letter the unqualified endorsement of the Institute Building and work on the part of the Chief Engineer of the Wanamaker store in Philadelphia, when Mr. Rodman Wanamaker, owner of the Wanamaker Stores, sent him, in 1917, to investigate it.

In view of the proposed addition to the building it is gratifying to have a statement from such a disinterested source as to the excellence of our present structure.

Mr. Rodman Wanamaker,  
Wanamaker Stores.

Dear Mr. Wanamaker:

In accordance with your directions I went to the building of the Seamen's Church Institute.

I am quite unable to put into words my impression. I was taken totally by surprise; I had no idea that such a building existed and I was amazed at the perfection of the detail in the working out of the many problems. No doubt the experience of many years devoted to the work in adapted buildings was of incalculable value in the development of the plans for this new building. I was so taken with the completeness and perfection of the plans that I am quite sure I failed to grasp even a small part of the wonderful work that is being done for the seafaring man.

We frequently speak of "atmosphere" in criticism of a building, and to me in most cases it exists only in the imagination, but in this Institute the minute you enter the door you feel it, and you cannot escape it no matter what floor you may be on.

The sleeping floors remind you of the staterooms of a modern liner; the recreation rooms of a place of real rest and pleasure; the business sections look the part, and the chapel is a little gem.

It was a great and profitable pleasure to have spent a few hours in this Institute.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) WM. HADDOCK.



### An Intense Moment

As one of our workers came out of the Social Service office one day she met a young seaman, who approached her with an anxious look, leaned over close to her, and said in a dramatic whisper, "I want to see about naturalization."

So intense was his manner that she found herself whispering back, "See the man at the desk. He knows all about it."

### Flowers Incognito

When Mrs. Roper finished her talk at the concert the other night a great bunch of red and pink carnations was brought up and handed to her. The card accompanying them said, "To Mother Roper from C. J." Mrs. Roper could not think who C. J. was so she thanked the donor and said she was going to be vain enough to believe that they all thought of her as mother, and would like to be C. J.

After the concert it suddenly flashed into her mind who C. J. would probably be, and her last doubt was removed when the suspect followed her to her office. It is a way seamen have of doing things incognito and coming around afterward to see if they have been found out, and perhaps by way of dropping a clue.

When she accused him of sending the flowers he first looked blank, that also is characteristic, and finally admitted the soft impeachment, and said he "wanted to do it nice."

### The Boy from Canada

The bravery with which he had run away from home to "show" dad had all petered out by the time he had walked from Toronto to New York, and when he came to the desk of the Woman-Who-Gives-Relief he broke down and cried. He was tired and hungry and discouraged, and New York looked like a very big and lonely town.

He was not legitimately our responsibility, but when a boy, away from home for the first time, comes to one's desk and breaks down, and pours out his heart, one cannot close his ears or his purse, so we gave him something to eat and sent him to a land organization which promised to try to find work for him.

He had been out of work at home for some time, and his father had said something which he felt was an insinuation that he was not trying sufficiently hard to find employment, and in a rage he had picked up and come away.

He brought out the pictures of little brothers and sisters to show the Woman-Who-Gives-Relief and admitted that he had looked at them pretty often along the road and that many times he wished he had not left them.

### What Seamen Read

Sometimes a guest passing through the reading rooms is moved to inquire what it is that seamen read. Here are some of the things asked for lately:

Anything of Kipling, anything of Conrad, anything of London, the second volume of poems by Elizabeth Barrett Browning.



### Why You Will Be Interested in Helping Build the Annex

Because it is for active seamen from all over the world, regardless of color, creed or condition.

Because it is the largest, best-known and most liberal-policied institution for seamen in the world.

Because the Institute is eighty-one years old, part of the history of Manhattan.

Because it is for men who are the backbone of our commerce.

Because 100,000 active seamen have been turned away from the present building in the past three years alone because of lack of lodging room.

Because it is a great philanthropic, sensibly operated plant, not a charity organization.

Because 82% of the seamen are Americans—born or naturalized.

Because the Institute exemplifies Christianity demonstrated in a practical way.

Because it is now overcrowded to the point where upkeep is high and cleanliness difficult.

Because it enables the seaman to get the most for the least money.

Because the Institute, since the erection of the present building, has done more than any other single agency for the general welfare of seamen in the world at large.

Because the total sought is small in consideration of the enormous work of the Institute and the hundreds of thousands of lives it influences.

Because every cent contributed does full service and is applied directly to the building.

### PLEDGE

In consideration of the Seamen's Church Institute of New York proceeding with the work of erecting the proposed addition to its present building, to cost approximately \$2,000,000, the undersigned agrees to pay to said Corporation the sum of.....

.....Dollars as stated below.

Payments may be made in four equal instalments, the first payment to be made upon signing this pledge, and the others on the dates indicated below, the *final* payment not later than July 1, 1926.

Payments to be made on  
(Indicate dates)

..... Signed.....

..... Address.....

FRANK T. WARBURTON, *Treasurer*,  
25 South Street, New York City.

### CONTRIBUTION

I desire to assist in the erection of the proposed addition to the present Seamen's Church Institute building, which is to cost approximately \$2,000,000, and herewith enclose my check for \$.....

.....to be applied to the New Building Fund.

Signed.....

Address.....

FRANK T. WARBURTON, *Treasurer*,  
25 South Street, New York City.

### MEMORIALS

I should like to be furnished with a list of unassigned MEMORIAL GIFTS that may be made for the proposed addition to the present SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE BUILDING.

Name.....

Address.....

*Building Committee*,  
SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK,  
25 South Street, New York City.



# Seamen's Church Institute of New York

Incorporated 1844

## OFFICERS AND MANAGERS OF THE SOCIETY

### *Honorary President*

RIGHT REV. WILLIAM T. MANNING, D.D.

### *President*

EDMUND L. BAYLIES

### *Secretary and Treasurer*

FRANK T. WARBURTON

### *Clerical Vice-Presidents*

RIGHT REV. FREDERICK BURGESS, D.D.  
RIGHT REV. EDWIN S. LINES, D.D.  
VERY REV. HOWARD C. ROBBINS, D.D.  
REV. W. RUSSELL BOWIE, D.D.  
REV. FREDERICK BURGESS, JR.  
REV. FRANK W. CREIGHTON

REV. WILLIAM TUFTS CROCKER  
REV. FRANK W. CROWDER, D.D.  
REV. CALEB R. STETSON, D.D.  
REV. ERNEST M. STIRES, D.D.  
REV. D. DEL. TOWNSEND, D.D.  
REV. H. PERCY SILVER, D.D.

### *Lay Vice-Presidents*

ROBERT L. HARRISON  
B. T. VAN NOSTRAND

HENRY L. HOBART  
JOHN A. MCKIM

### *Honorary Members*

JOHN H. MORRISON

REV. HENRY LUBECK, LL.D., D.C.L.  
LISPENARD STEWART

FRANCIS M. WHITEHOUSE

### *Managers*

ALLISON V. ARMOUR  
EDWARD J. BARBER  
JAMES BARBER  
EDWIN DE T. BECHTEL  
CHARLES W. BOWRING  
EDWIN A. S. BROWN  
GEORGE W. BURLEIGH  
CHARLES A. CLARK  
F. KINGSBURY CURTIS  
HENRY DEARBORN  
MARINUS W. DOMINICK  
CHARLES E. DUNLAP  
HARRY FORSYTH

L. GORDON HAMERSLEY  
AUGUSTUS N. HAND  
BAYARD C. HOPPIN  
OLIVER ISELIN  
B. BREWSTER JENNINGS  
AYMAR JOHNSON  
LEROY KING  
BENAMIN R. C. LOW  
ROBERT McC. MARSH  
LOUIS B. McCAGG, JR.  
CLARENCE G. MICHALIS  
JUNIUS S. MORGAN, JR.  
FRANK C. MUNSON  
WALTER WOOD PARSONS

BERNON S. PRENTICE  
FRANKLIN REMINGTON  
JOHN J. RIKER  
JOHN S. ROGERS  
FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT  
KERMIT ROOSEVELT  
HERBERT L. SATTERLEE  
JOHN J. SCHIEFFELIN  
THOMAS A. SCOTT  
SIR T. ASHLEY SPARKS  
J. FREDERIC TAMS  
ERNEST E. WHEELER  
ORME WILSON, JR.

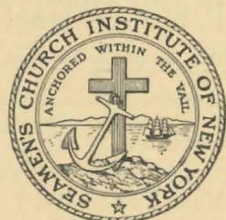
### *Building Committee*

EDMUND L. BAYLIES, *Chairman*  
WALTER WOOD PARSONS  
JAMES BARBER  
F. KINGSBURY CURTIS

CHARLES E. DUNLAP, *Vice Chairman*  
LOUIS GORDON HAMERSLEY  
BAYARD C. HOPPIN  
CLARENCE G. MICHALIS  
FRANKLIN P. REMINGTON

JOHN JAY SCHIEFFELIN  
THOMAS A. SCOTT  
FRANK T. WARBURTON

REV. ARCHIBALD R. MANSFIELD, D.D., *Superintendent*



## *The* LOOKOUT

PUBLISHED MONTHLY

*by the*

SEAMEN'S CHURCH  
INSTITUTE of NEW YORK

*at*

25 SOUTH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y.

Telephone Bowling Green 3620

### *Subscription Rates*

One Dollar Annually, Postpaid

Single Copies, Ten Cents

*Address all communications to*

ARCHIBALD R. MANSFIELD, D.D.

Superintendent

*or*

FRANCES MARION BEYNON, Editor