The LOOKOUT

JUNE 1932



THE STOKE HOLD

From Ewing Galloway

This month's cover shows two stokers feeding the fires of a transatlantic steamship. It is an actual photograph of the "black gang" at work way below decks.

The LOOKOUT

PUBLISHED MONTHLY by the SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK

25 SOUTH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. Telephone BOwling Green 9-2710

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Entered as second class matter July 8, 1925, at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

> Subscription Rates One Dollar Annually, Single Copies, Ten Cents

Gifts to the Institute of \$5,00 and over include a "The Lookout."

Address all communications to SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK 25 South Street

MEMORIAL DAY

WITH the flags of our Nation waving With bands and with music led. To the beating of drums we're marching With garlands for our dead.

As we think of our hero soldiers In numberless graves that sleep, Let us not forget our sailors, Their graves in the ocean deep.

For without the fervor of battle Or privilege of a name They endured all things and dying Were great without glory or fame.

And the harps of the wind are playing A requiem of the Sea O'er the graves of our hero sailors Who made possible victory. By CAROLINE B. LYMAN.

The Lookout

VOL. XXIII

JUNE, 1932

No. 6

SEAMEN'S MEMORIAL BANDSTAND



-Wide World Photograph

Honoring Seafarers at Memorial Day Service

UST ten years ago the first War Memorial to merchant seamen was turned. The work was begun on faith, without sufficient funds to pay for it, but an appeal brought forth a generous response and in August, 1923, the memorial bandstand was completed when a derrick hoisted into place the large white granite dolphins on either side of the stage.

Since then, time has weathered J sod for our Jeannette Park the copper roof, smoke from the ships and tugs in the busy harbor have modified the gleaming whiteness of the dolphins and the crested waves from which they spring.

Nine successive summers have seen this memorial bandstand used by night for band concerts or moving pictures and by day as the gathering place of many seamen. This year, through the

cooperation of the Department encouraged to join in various games arranged in the park, such ence of sailor veterans. as shuffle board, quoits, horseshoe

On Memorial Day, at noon, an impressive service, conducted field, with an audience of seamen and cadets, honored the memories dead, who served in the line of Governor's Island were fired in cornetist stood on our Titantic Spangled Banner.

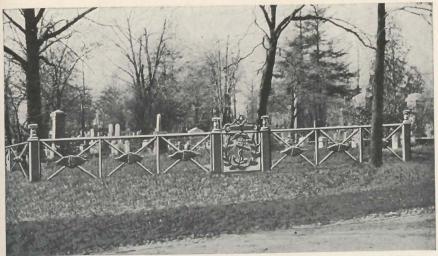
At the close of the program a of Parks, the sailors are being trumpeter played "Taps" and tears filled the eyes of the audi-

Mr. Podin, an Institute pitching, etc., under the direction chaplain, placed a wreath upon of a recreational supervisor, the marble tablet within the bandassisted by members of the In stand on which is inscribed these stitute staff. These games are words: "In remembrance of the helping the men to occupy their Officers and Men of the Merleisure hours in a wholesome way. chant Marine who, in the World War of 1914-1918, without fervor of battle or privilege of fame, by Superintendent A. R. Mans went down to the sea and endured all things. They made victory possible and were great of countless sailors, living and without glory." Many seafarers who survived the dangers of duty. When twenty-one guns at mines and submarines while carrying munitions and food to salute the service began. A Europe, are now unemployed, but they reverently took part in Tower and played the Star the service of tribute to their dead shipmates.

WHERE SAILORS LIE BURIED

dreds of merchant seamen lie buriedthus disproving the popular notion that "Davey Jones' Locker" is the seamerchant seamen die ashore and are buried in these marine cemeteries. If it were not for the United States Public Health Service, the Sailors' Cemetery Association and the Seamen's Church Institute of New York, these seamen might be buried in Potter's Field. Since 1919 the chaplains of the Institute have been responsible for or a Continent to see the grave.

IN the environs of New York City, officially conducting the funerals of there are six unusual and seldom most of the seamen who have died in heard of burial plots wherein hun the two Marine Hospitals. Most of these sailors die far from home and friends, and not infrequently our chaplain is the solitary mourner at farers' only grave. Each year, many their graves. It does not matter so much where one lies, finally, but it matters if there are kindly hands and warm hearts at the end. And it matters to those who live—they want to know that their boys rest in a welltended spot, in a place that could be easily found if father or mother made the long journey across the Atlantic



Sailors' Burial Plot in Evergreen Cemetery, Brooklyn, N. Y. . 1851 - 1918

plots is in Ocean View Cemetery in Richmond County, wherein more than nine hundred sailors who died in the U. S. Marine Hospital at Stapleton, Staten Island, lie buried - and over the graves the beacon from the Port Richmond Lighthouse shines each night.

Another burial plot is in Mount Hope Cemetery at Hastings-on-Hudson, which was used for many years for seamen who died in the U.S. Marine Hospital on Ellis Island. Recently, a new burial plot in West without glory." New Hempstead Cemetery in Monsey, Rockland County, New York, has been used, the southeast section of this cemetery being reserved for the interment of merchant seamen who die at Marine Hospital No. 43.

The Institute owns two large burial plots: the oldest is in Evergreen Cemetery in Brooklyn, which was given in 1851 through the liberality of the Corporation of the Cemetery. Merchants of the City of New York and other friends of the sailor contributed a suf-

1932

One of the largest of the marine ficient sum for the erection of a suitable ornate iron fence to enclose the burial plot.

> In Flushing, Long Island, is the Institute's present plot, in Cedar Grove Cemetery, which was purchased in 1918, with room for 864 graves. There, a beautiful granite monument, the gift of Mr. Allison V. Armour, with a bronze seal bearing the Institutes' emblem - "Anchored Within the Vail"-stands in the center of the plot as a sacred watchman guarding these gallant dead who "were great

In all five of these plots the Institute's chaplains officiate. Under a common earth and sky, seamen of every age, race, rating and creed lie side by side, all having received sacred burial with full Committal Service. Every Memorial Day the Institute's chaplain, with the assistance of the medical directors and nurses of the Marine Hospitals, motor to these various cemeteries and the nurses and doctors place flags at the headstones of the sailors' graves.



Institute Plot in Cedar Grove Cemetery, Flushing, N. Y. Purchased in 1918

The sixth burial plot for merchant seamen is in the grounds of Sailors' Snug Harbor on Staten Island, wherein old salts find their last resting place.

"Evergreen Cemetery" has a long and sacred history. During the terrible influenza epidemic, the Institute provided decent caskets and burial for many sailors stricken with the disease. The last three to be buried in this plot were three Irishmen, Roman Catholics, and the chaplain called in a priest of their faith to bring the consecrated earth. No more tragic sight could be seen during those dark days when at least once a day our chaplain followed the sad equipage of one, two, and sometimes four or five bodies of victims of the epidemic. Many of them were apprentices and officers.

A line of caskets in our chapel gave mute testimony to the havoc wrought by the disease among sailormen. Sometimes a British flag was draped over the casket, sometimes a French, an Italian or an American. Early in the morning or late at night the solemn processions left our building and proceeded to "Evergreen." When this plot was filled and the last inch of space was utilized by the Institute, the Cedar Grove plot was purchased.

The tall pine trees of Cedar Grove, which stand as sentinels over these graves in summer and winter, lend a dignity to this sacred spot that is remarked by all visitors. Often, as the chaplain stands on an elevated mound and, unattended, reads the Committal Service, automobiles driving past will stop and the occupants with uncovered heads will offer sympathy to the brave toilers of the sea who have found their last harbor.

NEW BROOMS FOR OLD

DROOMS are Emil S...'s pet factory and no manufacturer Dhobby. Next, he favors dust pans. After that, his preference new just now." is for mouse traps. He also confesses to a weakness for alarm clocks

But let us begin with the brooms. It bothered Emil when he saw new brooms becoming old ones-too fast. "It's all due to carelessness," explained the earnest little man. "A broom should never, never be put into a closet with its bristles touching the floor. It should be hung upside down. And so I have invented a broom holder. I have even had it patented. See, here man. The mate always used to are the blue prints. But times are bad and I cannot find a manufacturer who will buy the patent.

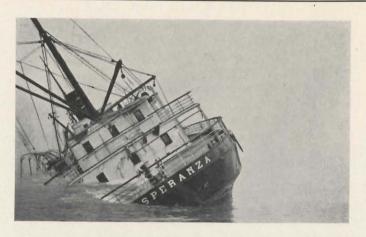
"It is too bad," continued Emil whose job (when jobs are to be had) is an able-bodied seaman on trans-atlantic liners. "When I used to scrub decks, shine brass and wash paint, I though of all sorts of inventions. I can't afford to get them patented. It costs too much.

buy my ideas and put them on He manages to eke out an existhe market," said the old fellow, tence by going from one barber shaking his head sadly. "Every shop to another, earning a quarter time I go to sea I get a new idea or half dollar by painting, in for a household device which white ink, elaborate landscape would save women hours of scenes on the barbers' large labor! But I go from factory to mirrors.

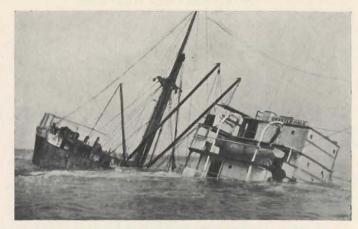
seems to want to risk anything

Emil proudly displayed letters from firms commenting on the interesting aspects of his numerous inventions—particularly the combination dust pan and broom holder and a novel burglar alarm. "I used to have a good job as porter in a hospital," he went on, a reminiscent smile lighting up his wrinkled face with its sandy mustache and keen blue eves. "Then I got the wander fever, and went to sea. Now I can't even get a job as an ordinary sealike it when I showed him how time and labor could be saved keeping the ship clean. But" (with a final wag of his head) "my friend, the mate, is shipping as an A.B. and lucky at that to have any kind of a job."

Emil is a versatile soul. He draws odd pictures with a soft pencil of bridges and elevated railroads. The final results look remarkably like Japanese prints "It's a shame somebody doesn't —but nobody wants to buy them.



Shiprecked Asore!



WILL YOU PROVIDE A CHART AND COMPAS FOR SEAFARERS STRANDED IN THIS PORT?

WILLIAM McFEE writes of his character, Captain Fraley, in "The Harbourmaster", as follows: "He was a man unfitted for life on the land. That was his mistake. He could not anchor his soul to the land. He had no charts for that long, stormy passage and he foundered."



There are hundreds of seamen like Captain Fraley who have endured and overcome storm and shipwreck at sea but who are now facing moral shipwreck ashore. Without YOUR help, through the *Institute*, many of them will founder.



A RED LETTER DAY at the *Institute*, for the sum of \$273.97, provides a chart and a compass for land-locked, homeless seamen weary of the long days of gazing wistfully out to sea—weary of the long hours of tramping patiently from shipping office to shipping office—weary of the everlasting struggle to keep body and soul together—month after month—seeking work—in vain.

A RED LETTER DAY offers to these mariners a ray of hope, a chart and a compass to guide them through the stormy, rock-infested passage into a safe haven and a sure anchorage at 25 South Street.



When you give a Red Letter Day it means free meals and beds for worthy sailors—among their own kind instead of in a general bread line. It means free entertainment, free advice and counsel in our Social Service Department—and jobs in the form of temporary work around the building.



These are some of the many services made possible when a RED LETTER DAY is reserved in memory of some departed relative, or as a tribute to some living friend—or as a thank offering—or to celebrate some glad anniversary. It will save many sailors from "breaking up" on the rocks of despair.

Please make yor check payable to:
SEAMEN'S CHURCH INTITUTE OF NEW YORK
and mail to Harry Forsyth, Cheman Ways and Means Committee
25 SOUTH STREE NEW YORK, N. Y.

AN HEROIC RESCUE



CHECK for \$2.42, dated July 17, 1923, was tendered the clerk in the Institute's "bank." The check was on the Miye Prefecture at Tsu, Japan. The seaman who wanted to cash it, Paul W-, showed a letter from the Chief of Mive Branch, Z. Shibata, Teikoku Suinan Kyussi Kwai, explaining that the check was in payment for his heroic rescue of two Japanese seamen. Hard times compelled him to try to cash the check which he had been keeping all these years as a souvenir. The record. letter follows:

"We send this to express our hearty thanks and admirations for your brave deed in which two lives of our countrymen were saved, while a furious storm was raging on the morning of August 27th, 1921, in the port of Yokkaichi, Japan. In spite of the dangerous conditions of raging billows and rapid tide for which the captain had opposed to your going, you carried out this heroic task with your bravery and skillful seamanship, and two lives were thus rescued by your great many efforts. Your action speaks well of you as a man, and your name will ever last in people's memory. We record your action on the merit document, and offer this letter of appreciation with little reward to express our feel-

Owing to a law that if a check is not cashed within five years from its date it is outlawed, our banker was unable to give Chief Officer W- the \$2.42. Our Chaplain, however, is helping him to get a job aboard a ship of the M..... Line. We asked him the history of the rescue and for answer he showed us excerpts from the log of the S.S. WEST CAYOTE of the North China Line, in which he had kept the

"It was the morning of August 26. Our cargo was discharged and we were ready for sea but unable to sail on account of the Japanese Steamship Delagoa Maru laying anchored in the fairway," explained Weber. "About 3 p.m. a strong southeast wind sprang up and storm warnings were displayed from the shore. By six o'clock the wind had increased in velocity, both sea and sky taking on a treacherous aspect. I was chief officer, and assisted by the second officer and carpenter we dropped the port anchor. The crew was called out to hoist the gangway and secure the steamer for heavy weather. By eleven o'clock the

June

barometer was 29.38, and with wind southeast with heavy hail and rain. It was pitch dark and we became the center of the typhoon. At 4:30 a.m. a sailing ship piled up on a reef outside the breakwater. They requested us to take a lifeboat for rescue work.

"Our ship's master decided the sea was too rough for a small boat, but he called for volunteers. Every man from the chief engineer down responded. I picked three A. B.'s, certified lifeboat men, as the most physically fit and with myself at the steering oar we pulled for the wrecked boat. We returned bringing two survivors, both of whom were in a state of exhaustion. First aid treatment was rendered. At 8 a.m. a steam tug came alongside and took the survivors ashore, reporting that one other had drowned. As the wind gradually decreased the barometer rose and our captain decided to heave up the anchors. At 8:57 a.m. the S.S. "West Cayote" sailed for Yokohama."

-Just a seaman's simple, modest account of courage and clear thinking in an emergency!

JUST WHAT IS SOCIAL SERVICE?

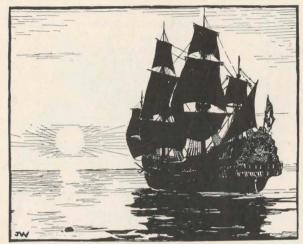
the Institute, like all other welfare agencies, with wellrounded programs, must put great emphasis upon relief work -and so we are providing, and have been during the past two years, free meals and free beds and free shoes and free clothes for several hundred destitute seamen each day. But we wish earnestly to point out that social service means more—much more —than material relief.

Even in prosperous times a sailor needs social service in its many aspects. He may not need money, or bread, or shelter, but he always needs friendship (which we provide); he needs a place he can call home (where he and his shipmates can gather); he needs recreation (we supply game rooms, moving pictures,

URING these chaotic days athletics); he needs education (we furnish books, reading and writing rooms, a navigation school); he needs protection (we provide a Baggage Room for his belongings, a "Bank" for his wages, a Post Office for his mail); finally, he needs advice and counsel (our Religious and Social Service, Information and Employment Departments help him with his moral, spiritual and financial problems).

> In depressions and in booms, year in and year out, since 1843, this Institute, YOUR Institute (for it is you who support it) renders social service to thousands of worthy seafarers. Perhaps those contributors who label their gifts "Relief Only" do not realize the many other kinds of indispensable service the Institute gives to seamen.

FROM THE INSTITUTE LOG



Courtesy J. D. Whiting

THE CALL OF THE SEA

Dear Mrs. ROPER:

You undoubtedly know me well enough -The old Nova Scotian.

Now, Mrs. Roper, to get over this and down to "tacks," for the last three months Old Father Neptune has been calling me in my dreams-with his old trident he has beckoned to me, and I am anxious to travel on his domains again. The net result is, I would like to go to sea again. Could you please tell me whether a berth as messman could be procured through your Institute Employment Department or any other meagre position other than deck. When I went a sailoring discharges were not required as nowadays, so I am eliminated in that respect. So I am asking you to please let me know whether you think I could make the Grade this summer. Am an excellent butler, messman, handy around cabin or saloon. Salary no objective. Sober, industrious, willing to work and totally immune to mal de mer.

Thanking you in anticipation and for past favors, I remain

Very respectfully yours,

IOHN E

//V/HAT Sailors Read in 1859. From Harper's Weekly, July 1873: "The character of the libraries is strongly religious, but not sectarian. It may appear from the following schedule that a larger proportion of secular works would be a wise change: Nelson on Infidelity; Sailor's Companion; Path of Peace; Way of Life; Hall's Papers for Home Reading; Spurgeon's Sermons;

Kitto's Daily Bible Illustrations; Pilgrim's Progress; Dr. Cuyler's New Life: Illustrated Library of the Bible; Captain Russell's Watchword; Seamen's Hymns; temperance publications and other works of a not especially attractive character."

What a contrast these titles offer with the literary tastes of modern-day seamen! Biography, history, science, travel, fiction (detective, mystery, Wild West, adventure, love stories), as well as textbooks on navigation, astronomy, engineering, et cetera, are greatly in demand today by seamen.

Have YOU ordered your tally cards for the "Conrad Memorial Library" Bridge Parties? See Page 7, May LOOK-OUT for details.

Enclosed is my check for \$..... for which send me.....tally cards at \$1.25 each. Name

Address

June

SHIP AFIRE

EDITOR'S NOTE:—One of the Institute's Board members showed us a rare old book entitled "Voyages Around the World," which records the experiences of Captain Edmund Fanning on his voyages between 1792 and 1832 in command of the "Betsey." The jollowing excerpt describes one of the many hazards aboard a sailing ship.

UR passage across the Indian Ocean, was unattended by any thing more than the usual occurrences of similar voyages; watching the wind, trimming sails, making and mending, constituting our daily business.

January 6th, 1799. This sameness was rather uncomfortably and unprofitably relieved by a seamen, who had been set to watch the boiling of a small pot of pitch in the caboose, which the carpenter, who that day was busy on the yawl boat, had need for, to pay her seams with. The man let this boil over and take fire, and with a view to carry it to the lee waist, caught the pot off, but in so doing burned his hand and let the whole fall upon the larboard deck; in an instant the whole, extending from abaft the mainmast to abreast the foremast, was in a bright flame. I was then seated in the cabin, but hearing the cry of "the ship is on fire!" and the man's screams, sprang to the deck, and had his hands bound up in a woolen jacket, while other blankets and woolen jackets passed up from below, were wet and spread over the flames, and being kept wet, prevented the fire from running aloft, and finally extinguished it, not however until it bring ashore, after their next trip to had charred our deck, and burned through the side of the boat, stowed in may have quite a few on our hands! the choks amidships. This was an . . . Another odd request was from a unfortunate occurrence, and, by the college boy who wrote: "I have three force with which the flames raged, months' vacation, I can pay \$20 a placed us for a time in a very perilous week for room and board on a situation, distant as we were one thou- freighter. Can you find some freighter sand miles from any land. It had such that takes in boarders?"



Life Boat Drill-S.S. Lapland Courtesy, Miss Jeannette McMillan

an effect on my mind as to deter me ever since from suffering tar, pitch, rosin, or the like, to be heated on ship board, at sea; I can earnestly recommend the same prohibition to other sea captains.

STRANGE REQUESTS

One of the Institute's contributors wrote to us inquiring for "a sea-going cat—preferably black." At the moment we had no feline guest which would fill her requirements-although there are plenty of South Street cats. A number of sailors have promised to sea, a genuine sea-going pussy. So we

CAUGHT ... IN THE WEB OF CIRCUMSTANCE!



ET us picture for you just one of the thousands of seamen who come to the Institute:

He ran away from home three years ago when his mother died and his father remarried. He felt that he was no longer wanted, so off he went to sea.

It was easy for an industrious boy to get work aboard a ship then.

But now, with ten million tons of the world's shipping idle, with passenger and cargo trade greatly reduced, he finds himself caught—a victim of circumstance—stranded on shore, jobless and penniless, through no fault of his own. There are many others like him—where shall they go, and what shall they do?

Thanks to YOU, and other generous landsmen, the answer is the

SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK New York City 25 South Street.

AMONG MEMORIALS STILL AVAILABLE AT THE INSTITUTE ARE:

Seamen's Reading and Game Rooms\$	25,000.00
Safeteria	
Nurses' Room in Clinic	5,000.00
Additional Clinic Rooms	5,000.00
Chapel Memorial Windows	5,000.00
Sanctuary and Chancel	5,000.00
Endowed Seamen's Rooms, each	5,000.00
Officers' Rooms, each	1,500.00
Seamen's Rooms, with running water, each	1,000.00
Seamen's Rooms, each	500.00
Chapel Chairs, each	50.00

SAILOR TOWN

By C. Fox Smith

LONG the wharves in sailor town a singing whisper goes Of the wind among the anchored ships, the wind that blows

Off a broad brimming water, where the summer day has died

Like a wounded whale a-sounding in the sunset tide.

There's a big China liner gleaming like a gull,

And her lit ports flashing; there's the long gaunt hull

Of a Blue Funnel freighter with her derricks dark and still;

And a tall barque loading at the lumber mill.

And in the shops of sailor town is every kind of thing

That the sailormen buy there, or the ship's crews bring:

Shackles for a sea-chest and pink cockatoos.

men's shoes.

You can hear the gulls crying, and the cheerful noise

Of a concertina going, and a singer's voice—

And the wind's song and the tide's song, crooning soft and low.

Rum old tunes in sailor town that seamen know.

I dreamed a dream of sailor town. a foolish dream, and vain,

Of ships and men departed, of old days come again—

And an old song in sailor town, an old song to sing

Fifty-cent alarum clocks and dead When shipmate meets with shipmate in the evening.

LEGACIES TO THE INSTITUTE

You are asked to remember this Institute in your will, that it may properly carry on its important work for seamen. While it is advisable to consult your lawyer as to the drawing of your will, we submit nevertheless the following as a clause that may be used:

I give and bequeath to "Seamen's Church Institute Of New York," a corporation of the State of New York, located at 25 South Street, New York City, a sum of ...

Note that the words "Of New York" are a part of our title. If land or any specific property such as bonds, stocks, etc., is given, a brief description of the property should be inserted instead of the words, "the sum of

It is to the generosity of numerous donors and testators that the Institute owes its present position, and for their benefactions their memory will ever be cherished by all friends of the seaman.

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