
The Lookout



NEW BUILDING

Now being erected

THE SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK
ONE STATE STREET

READ!!!

Our new home is being built! Twelve stories of steel are already completed to form the framework for a structure that shall be a model of its kind for all the world.

We began to build, although a portion of the money required was not subscribed. The success of our work demanded it. We felt it our duty to our subscribers as well as to the seamen who depend upon us.

We still need \$250,000. The new building, completely furnished, will cost about \$675,000. The land has been paid for and over \$400,000 of the cost of the building has been subscribed. That leaves a balance of \$250,000 yet to be raised.

Subscriptions to the Building Fund have always been accompanied by a very genuine interest in the success of the undertaking and a pride in its future. Where the supporters of a society have its welfare so truly at heart it is incredible that the work of gathering up the residue of this fund should be unduly difficult.

We appeal, therefore, to the supporters of the Institute. Will you not aid us by bringing this work to the notice of your friends—personal contact is always helpful—in order that we may proceed with the building, assured that the money will be on hand to pay for it when it is finished?

Subscriptions, payable any time during 1912, should be sent to

EDMUND L. BAYLIES, Chairman Building Committee, 54 Wall Street, City.

THE LOOKOUT

Published by the Seamen's Church Institute of New York

Rt. Rev. DAVID H. GREER, D.D., LL.D., President

FRANK T. WARBURTON, Secretary-Treasurer

OFFICE, ONE STATE STREET, NEW YORK

VOL. III.

JULY, 1912

No. 3

Adventure Seekers

Robert was fourteen and his best friend, John, was fifteen. They lived just outside of Boston, going to school and getting books out of the library filled with tales of the sea, of pirates, or stormy adventures—"high winds and head tides."

One day when school routine seemed particularly wearisome to imaginative spirits, they combined financial forces and ran away to sea. That is, of course, what they called it. They meant to go before the mast, whatever that going entailed; they would sail the bounding main, visit distant lands and return to their families after many years, bronzed and experienced, equipped with a wonderful assortment of sailor yarns and strange gifts for everyone who had known them.

So they came to New York, and in response to their timid inquiries some person, who directed better than he knew, sent them to the North River Station Shipping Bureau. And, since their story sounded plausible enough, it is quite likely they might have secured berths as cabin boys on one of the South American bound vessels had there been one needing a crew that particular day. But there was a delay and that gave the boys time to think a good deal about such things as mothers and their rooms at home and their playmates.

They made brave efforts to encourage each other, reviewing again and again

their plans for a salty, tarry future. And yet, when one of the North River Station staff went down into the billiard room late in the afternoon of the second day after the boys' arrival, he found them outstretched upon the benches, making no effort to conceal the fact that they were crying—staunch sailors-to-be anticipating the saltiness of their career with tears. It did not take very long to persuade them to go home to the little Boston suburb, and about a month later the following letter came to the Chaplain from Robert's mother:

"You will find inclosed money order for \$5, which you advanced my son to pay his fare home. Thank you for waiting so long. We thought it best for Robert to earn it himself. Robert says he will never do such a thing again, but I shall never feel sure of him. He often speaks of you and we hope if you ever come to Boston you will call on us, as I should like to thank you personally for the kindness you showed Robert."

About Apprentice Lads

Every Sunday afternoon at three the *Sentinel* starts from Public Pier, the Battery, to collect the boys from ships lying at anchor in the harbor and bring them back to No. 1 State street for tea and for service later at the Church of the Holy Comforter.

Sometimes there are thirty-five boys, ranging in age from fourteen to twenty-

four, with an occasional officer, who was once an apprentice and is loyal to the Institute and genuinely attached to the workers. They are nearly always British lads, full of fun, glad to be alive and eager for diversion, chattering about their travels, their homes and what they hope to do. For tea there is usually bread and butter, jam and cake and, of course, tea. These hot days there should be lemonade sometimes and ice cream. Three dollars will purchase enough ice cream for two Sundays, but very often we have not this amount to spend in this way.

The boys are most appreciative and sincerely interested in the fortunes of the Institute. When the *Sentinel* steams past the new building at South street and Coenties Slip they are always loudly enthusiastic and anxious to know when it will be completed. The Apprentice Room, in the new building, it will be remembered, was taken by the Seamen's Benefit Society. This is a large room with an adjoining kitchenette for the Sunday teas.

On Sunday evenings when tea is finished, the *Sentinel* takes the boys up the river to the church on West street and when service is over the same faithful little boat returns them to their several ships.

From Buenos Aires

For the purpose of gathering material to aid him in building a big institute in Buenos Aires, Mr. Henry F. Fellows has been traveling through England, Scotland and the United States. He came into the office at No. 1 State street the other day to learn from our Superintendent a few of the fundamental features absolutely essential in developing a work of this sort. There is tremendous need for just such an institute

in his South American city. He is at present the manager of the Buenos Aires Sailors' Home and Mission.

The Hand-Made Cross

When the steamship *St. Helena*, a British freighter, was last in this port, one of her young apprentice boys fell down a hatchway, striking the back of his head. He was hurried to the hospital, but he never regained consciousness and the authorities notified the Seamen's Institute, in order that they might arrange for his burial.

The funeral services were held beside the grave in the Institute's plot, Evergreen Cemetery, on one of the loveliest early summer afternoons. All of the lad's shipmates attended, as well as some of the officers and all the engineers, for he had been a lovable, high-spirited boy, deservedly popular. But there was one man, the chief officer of the ship, to whom the lad's sunny nature had made a special appeal, and it was this man who designed and executed entirely by hand a large wooden cross to mark the grave. Unable to leave the ship to attend the service, he worked untiringly upon this last thing he could do to show his affection for the young apprentice who had sailed with him the "Seven Seas."

When the cross was finished it was about four feet high, painted white, and on the symbol of Eternity encircling it were carefully printed, "Harold Congdon, Aged 21 Years, Died April 30, 1912." And when it was in place, with Easter lilies massed about its base, one of the Institute staff photographed it, in order that the parents in England, who could not see the spot where their son was buried, might realize that he did not lie a stranger, in an unmarked grave.

After Fourteen Years

Lured by tales of the sea and urged on by a roving spirit, a boy left a small North Dakota town fourteen years ago and joined a vessel bound for Australia. He could not write home, but he meant to send some word, but as time went on and he failed to do so he became ashamed and finally gave up the idea of communicating with his family. So he sailed about from country to country, and a few weeks ago landed in New York, going soon after his arrival to the North River Station. He had become very anxious to find his relatives and he placed the matter of inquiry with the Chaplain.

By corresponding with the rector of the Episcopal church in the North Dakota town, the chaplain succeeded in finding a sister living there and thus located the father and mother and other members of the family in a neighboring state. The family believed the man to have been drowned long ago and there very naturally followed a reunion of great happiness.

What They Write

Oakland, Cal.

DEAR SIR—I write to inclose draft for \$10, which I wish you to be good enough to cash and hand over to my brother Henry, asking him to buy a suit of clothes if necessary, or any made clothing—shirts, ties or collars—he may need. It may be that he can find a *good*, cheap suit for the spring at a price near \$10 and, from what he wrote me a while ago, I think he needs a suit of clothes. The \$10 can go toward it and I wish I could do more for the dear fellow, *for I love the boy*, and know him to have a fine spirit underneath all his follies and willfulness.

I shall ever cherish a heart of gratitude toward you for lifting him out of

the mire and showing him a brother's tenderness when he was sinking fast.

Gratefully and affectionately,

Central Supply Boat, Florida Keys.

“DEAR SIR—Just a few lines to let you know that I received your papers and magazines all right, and for which I feel very grateful to you for your kindness to me, a stranger to you. I am getting along very well in this job at present. I am working ten hours a day, seven days a week—wages \$1 a day. The sun shines almost day and night. I am living on an island out in the ocean, between the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Ocean.

Would you be so kind as to send me a few more papers of any kind, as we have no papers nearer us than about 200 miles.

Give my regards to the young man that went with me for to get the clothes the day before I left New York.”

Large Bedrooms at \$250

Fifty-one large outside rooms are intended for the use of the officers who come to the Institute; the better class of seamen, the stewards, expert engineers and boatswains.

The furniture design will not have quite the same Spartan simplicity as that in the seamen's rooms, and there will be the addition of a chiffonier or a chest of drawers.

Already six of these officers' rooms have been taken in memory of famous sea captains. Any persons wishing to contribute \$250, the estimated cost of building and furnishing one of these rooms, may make it a memorial. A brass plate bearing the name of the donor, or an inscription containing the name of the person memorialized, will be placed over the door, if desired.

THE LOOKOUT

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One State Street

Subscription Price - - One Dollar a Year

NOTE—Address all communications to

ARCHIBALD R. MANSFIELD, Superintendent

The New Chapel

Much progress has been made in the interior decisions for the Chapel in the new building. Designs are being submitted for the space in the chancel directly above the altar. It is thought that a stone or wooden reredos will be the ultimate choice. A large painting of some appropriate Biblical subject would seem the ideal selection, but such a canvas would be difficult to obtain at a price less than \$5,000.

The various chapel fittings, such as the Altar, the Lectern, the Altar Rail, the Font, Pulpit, Credence Table and Organ, offer splendid opportunities for memorial gifts.

Designs have also been solicited for the panel immediately above the entrance to the Chapel on South street. One which has found much favor with the Committee is the figure of Christ walking on the sea—"It is I—Be Not Afraid." This panel is intended as a dedication to all sailors lost at sea.

The following churches have contributed to the estimated cost of building the Chapel, \$15,000, the amounts set opposite their names:

St. George's.....	\$500.00
Trinity	500.00
Incarnation	500.00
Ascension	500.00
Grace	500.00
St. Thomas'	500.00
Zion and St. Timothy's.....	500.00
Heavenly Rest	500.00
St. James'	500.00
Epiphany	500.00
St. Bartholomew's	500.00
Trinity Chapel	500.00

St. Agnes' Chapel.....	400.00
Grace Church	310.00
Holy Trinity, Harlem.....	300.00
Holy Trinity, Brooklyn.....	300.00
All Angels	300.00
St. Mary the Virgin.....	250.00
Calvary Church	225.75
St. Matthew's	200.00
St. Andrew's	160.00
Church of the Holy Apostles.....	150.00
Cathedral of the Incarnation.....	127.26
St. Ann's Church, Brooklyn.....	125.00
St. Peter's	100.00
Beloved Disciple	100.00
St. Michael's	100.00
St. Ignatius'	100.00
Intercession Chapel	100.00
St. Paul's Chapel.....	100.00
St. Luke's	100.00
Christ, Suffern, N. Y.....	100.00
St. Stephen's	100.00
St. John's, Jersey City Heights.....	100.00
St. Andrew's, Richmond.....	50.00
St. Augustine's Chapel.....	50.00
Grace Church, Rutherford, N. J.....	25.00
All Souls'	15.00
Choir, St. Andrew's, Richmond.....	7.58
St. John's Church, Passaic.....	6.00
Individual Gifts	730.00

Total.....\$10,831.59

Gifts and Memorials Not Reserved

In addition to the Large Rooms and Stair Case there are several objects both utilitarian and artistic which would make fitting gifts or memorials. The Lamp and Entrance Tablet have already been taken as well as the Altar Cross, but the following remain:

Flagpole, with socket, above the entrance, also set of colors consisting of National Flag and the Institute private flag. \$250.

Panel with Biblical or Allegorical subject, memorializing all sailors lost at sea, also heavy wooden door with wrought-iron hinges, to be placed at entrance from Chapel to the street; the door and panel comprise the filling between the jambs. \$500.

Cornerstone of granite, bearing date and seal of Society, the latter modeled and carved, together with metal box for documents. \$500.

Chapel Furniture—Altar, Lectern,

Credence Table, Font, Altar Rail and Pulpit may be used as memorials. The estimated cost of these has not been determined as yet.

The Organ has been selected and this will cost \$5,000.

There are drawings of all items mentioned, excepting Chapel furniture, and these can be shown at any time upon application at No. 1 State street.

Large Rooms Not Reserved

Two large rooms and the main staircase have not yet been taken. It is a splendid opportunity for those wishing to contribute large sums to the new building to have their gifts permanently memorialized. Others may wish to take a room in memory of friend or relative. The remaining rooms are as follows:

DINING ROOM—\$3,000.

(About 30 x 46 feet in size.)

Where good meals will be served at reasonable prices to the seamen lodging in the Institute.

MAIN STAIRCASE—\$3,500.

(Running from basement to 4th floor.)

It introduces the seamen to the Institute and to the hospitality of the port.

LUNCH ROOM—\$4,500.

(About 15 x 60 feet.)

Here the men may get quick lunches, or come when they prefer its informality to the regular Dining Room.

\$100 Will Furnish a Bedroom

Over one hundred of the bedrooms intended for the sailors have not yet been taken. It has been estimated that \$100 will build and furnish one of these rooms. And past experience has proved that during a year one hundred men may each occupy one of these rooms. For one hundred dollars **one hundred men** may come under the Institute's influence

and receive in some measure, surely, that cheerful sense of welcome and comfort which the word "home" implies.

If you wish to give \$100 to memorialize someone whose interests were with the men of the sea, the opportunity is given you to do this and to be of genuine help to a human being who needs your assistance. Each room may be inscribed with the name of the donor or of the persons he wishes to memorialize.

Do You Know

That there are **one hundred and forty-five** saloons in the blocks fronting the water and near the docks from Houston street on the west side, around the Battery to the old Brooklyn Bridge on the east side? A single block on West street has eight bar rooms. Others show six and seven. "Sailortown" is the name that has been given to this section of the city, and here congregate the "crimps," the men who make a business of robbing the sailor—fraudulent shipping masters and other land sharks.

One hundred and forty-five agencies to drag the seaman down and only one to lift him up!

Ours is the only Seamen's Institute on the waterfront of lower New York south of Houston street.

In the August LOOKOUT we shall publish a little map of the waterfront showing how New York welcomes the sailor.

Ice Cream Money

We would like to give the apprentice boys ice cream now and then, when they come to us on hot Sundays in summer. Will some of THE LOOKOUT readers send us a few small amounts to be used for this purpose? If ten persons would send a dollar it would supply ice cream for six Sundays.

Exchanges

SEARCHLIGHTS GENERALLY CONDEMNED.

For some time past Collector of Customs Loeb of this port has been obtaining the opinions of many well-known shipmasters as to the advisability of all ocean-going steamships being provided with searchlights, and the consensus of opinion, which he has forwarded to Washington, has been that they might be useful in cases of emergency, such as picking up boats, buoys or navigating waterways, but nearly all agreed that the use of searchlights indiscriminately would be a menace to navigation, as the glare has a blinding effect on those behind it as well as on the vessel on which it is thrown.

Having a searchlight permanently lit on the same principle as a masthead light would be a serious danger to navigation, and was universally condemned, as such would be of no use in clear, foggy or misty weather or in the ice regions, owing to the atmospheric conditions.

None of the experts were in favor of adding searchlights to their already numerous cares on shipboard.—*The Marine Journal*.

THINGS THAT COLOR THE SEA.

It has been proven that the blueness of sea water is in constant ratio to its saltness. In the tropics the tremendous evaporation induced by the blazing sun causes the water to be much more salt than it is in higher latitudes. For about 30 degrees, both north and south of the Equator, the waters of the world's oceans are of an exquisite azure. Beyond these latitudes the blue fades and changes to green, and in the Arctic and Antarctic Oceans the greens are almost as vivid as the tropical blues. The extraordinary blueness of the Mediterranean has two causes, one is, that very few large rivers of fresh water run into

this sea, the second, the Mediterranean is practically land locked, and being exposed to a powerful sun, evaporation is great.

China's Yellow Sea is usually supposed to owe its origin to the flood of muddy water which its great rivers pour into it. But here living organisms are responsible for its peculiar tint.—*The Sailor's Magazine*.

LONG ISLAND SOUND LIGHTS.

More than fifty lighthouses and lightships illumine the way of the navigator and make plain his course on this placid inland sea.

Besides these lighthouses and lightships there are innumerable gas buoys to mark some twists or turns in the course. These beacons make Long Island Sound a protected highway that is as safe to travel as a highway on land.—*The Marine Journal*.

Dormitories at \$1,000 Each

Open dormitories, with beds at fifteen or twenty cents a night, on the fifth floor of the new building, will meet one of the great needs of this work for sailors. There will be room for twenty-five men in each dormitory and they will be furnished somewhat better than the average lodging house, being kept scrupulously clean. So many forlorn derelicts have applied to the Institute for a bed on cold nights in winter or rainy nights in summer and we have always had to send them down to the Salvation Army Hotel. Stairways in the rear will enable the men to reach the dormitories without entering the part of the fifth floor devoted to the regular seamen guests.

Would any of THE LOOKOUT readers like to take one of the dormitories? One thousand dollars will build and furnish one of these.

Sailor's Tale of Cruelty

HAD TO SLAVE THREE MONTHS ON AN ISLAND OFF HONDURAS.

A reminder of the old days when crimps flourished and poor sailormen were impressed and sent to sea to undergo scurvy and other kinds of hardships came to the Legal Aid Society a few days ago. Edward Helms, a young sailor, told the story. He had shipped from here on the schooner *Olga*, which, her captain said, was bound for New Orleans and back with a general cargo. Four weeks out from this port an island was sighted, and the next day the *Olga* dropped anchor in a small harbor of Honduras. Some cargo was taken off, and Helms and a shipmate named Henry Howard were ordered to board a tug. Then the tug steamed for the shore.

The captain of the tug was a Spaniard. He was cross and dictatorial. He made the two young sailormen help unload the cargo, and then he carried them ashore and made them live in a small house with an old negro woman. A few days later they were told that they would have to remain on shore for a year, and that their pay would be \$10 a month. Of course, they cried out against this.

They were watched like prisoners and were compelled to work from early morning until late at night. The food given them was bad. For three months they labored and starved, and then one dark, windy night a great storm came out of the northeastern sky and raged for three days. The sea was a cauldron, and one day a crippled schooner limped into the harbor. Her captain was A. S. Saunders, and to him the young prisoners told their moving tale.

"I will steal you away," said the bold captain, and he did. He brought them to Galveston, and from that port they worked their way here. The Legal Aid Society at once took the matter up and

discovered that the young sailors had shipped without signing any papers whatever. The captain of the *Olga* was found, and through him the owners of the schooner. These were forced to pay the expenses of the sailors back to their home. In telling the story the Legal Aid Society wants the lesson that lies in the tale to be heeded by all other innocent young sailormen who go down to the sea in ships.—*N. Y. Times*.

The Assistant Superintendent

The Rev. Charles P. Deems, after completing his studies at the Cambridge Theological School, was ordained Deacon at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine on Trinity Sunday. He has begun his work at the Institute in the capacity of Assistant Superintendent and will be here permanently in the future. For the past three summers he has spent his vacations working at the Institute and familiarizing himself with many of the details of his new activities.

Lighthouse Tower Fund Now \$7,716.00

Since the last LOOKOUT was issued, \$716 have been received for the Lighthouse Tower and Time-Ball, being erected at South Street and Coenties Slip in memory of all those who lost their lives on the S. S. "Titanic." We are now within \$2,284 of the \$10,000 necessary to pay for this memorial. Checks should be sent to J. P. Morgan & Co., 23 Wall Street, which firm is acting as Treasurer for this Fund.

Accompanying a contribution of \$5.00 from a Junior Auxiliary Society of a New Jersey church were a letter and a poem. The letter explained that this society had given an entertainment to raise money for the "Titanic" Memorial and the flood sufferers; it was at this entertainment that the poem, narrating

in ballad form the loss of the ship, was read. We regret that lack of space prevents our publishing the verses.

North River Station Notes

FLOWERS.

This station cannot express its gratitude too strongly to Miss Margaret D. Leverich, who through the Fruit and Flower Guild of New York, sends in each Saturday morning hundreds of field and garden flowers for the Chapel and Institute. With this arrangement during the summer months and a memorial contribution for flowers the rest of the year each of the fifty-two Sundays is provided for.

ICE.

Three hundred pounds of ice is supplied us daily through the work of the Woman's Municipal League. The fountain in front of the building, equipped with paraffined paper drinking cups, is in constant demand.

MOVING PICTURES.

Fifty dollars has been contributed by Mr. and Mrs. J. Hull Browning toward a motion picture apparatus.

READING MATTER.

From Vermont have come twenty-five barrels of reading matter, collected by Miss Ormsbee, whose father was formerly Governor of that State.

WE WANT FRUIT AND ICE CREAM.

In the hospitals at present are a great many sick seamen. Small amounts sent to the Chaplain, Mr. Charles B. Carpenter, 341 West street, to be used for fruit or ices, will mean comfort and pleasure all out of proportion to the size of the gift.

SUMMER ENTERTAINMENTS.

We are experimenting with the plan of holding moving picture entertainments during the summer months, contrary to our usual custom. The one held a week ago was most successful, even though the

evening was particularly warm. These are the lazy months when the men drift aimlessly about seeking diversion and recreation. If we cannot supply it there are those who regard the seamen as legitimate prey, and they will seek to interest them.

WHAT SINCERE INTEREST DOES.

Close ties are formed between the seamen and the Institute when the men really understand that there is someone genuinely interested in their problems, in their habits, someone with whom to talk things over; someone to visit them when they are ill and desperate. Important as the entertainments, religious services, reading rooms and game rooms have proved to be, it is the personal relationship which has made radical changes for the better in the life of many a sailor. Because sailors are elemental and profoundly human.

Shipping Department

MONTH ENDING JUNE 30, 1912

1 State Street

NAME OF VESSEL	MEN SHIPPED	DESTINATION
S. S. Tennyson.....	12.....	Brazil.
S. S. Voltaire.....	17.....	River Plate.
S. S. Titian.....	1.....	Manchester.
S. S. Christopher.....	32.....	Brazil.
S. S. Aidan.....	4.....	Brazil.
S. S. Crispin.....	1.....	Brazil.
Barge Tulsa.....	2.....	Coast.
S. S. Texas.....	4.....	Coast.
Barge Caddo.....	2.....	Coast.
Barge Dallas.....	2.....	Coast.
Barge Caddo.....	1.....	Coast.
Barge Caddo.....	2.....	Coast.
S. S. Portuguese Prince.....	5.....	River Plate.
S. S. Georgian Prince.....	14.....	Europe.
S. S. Indian Prince.....	19.....	Brazil.
S. S. Eastern Prince.....	17.....	Brazil.
S. S. Welsh Prince.....	19.....	South Africa.
S. S. Foxton Hall.....	27.....	Chile and Peru.
S. S. Gordon Castle.....	21.....	South Africa.
S. S. Dochra.....	19.....	River Plate.
S. S. Adra.....	1.....	Europe.
Various Barges, etc..	20.....	Harbour.

242

Men Provided With
Work..... 63.....In Port.
From 341 West St... 6...Various Positions.

Total.....311

REPORT FOR MAY

DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR MAY

The following synopsis of the work done in the various departments during the month of May gives a fair idea of the workings of the Institute:

MAY, 1912

Savings Department

May 1, cash on hand.....	\$20,736.83
Deposits.....	13,436.14

\$34,172.97

Payments, (\$6,891.90 transmitted).	14,423.05
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June 1, cash balance.....	\$19,749.92
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Shipping Department

Number of vessels shipped by Seamen's Church Institute.....	14
Number of men provided with employment in port.....	92
Number of men shipped.....	218
Total (number of men).....	310

Reading Rooms

Total attendance.....	16,135
Letters written and received.....	3,374
Packages reading given.....	839

Relief Department

Assisted	118
Sent to Legal Aid Society.....	49
Hospital visits.....	20
Sick Seamen visited.....	67
Visits to ships in port.....	121

Religious and Social Departments

Number of services	9
Attendance total.....	351
Communion services	3
Weddings.....	2

Institute Boat "Sentinel"

Trips made.....	34
Visits to vessels.....	70
Men transported.....	103
Pieces baggage transported.....	104

BUILDING COMMITTEE

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54 Wall Street

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FRANCIS LYNDE STETSON

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Contributions to the Building Fund should be sent to Mr. EDMUND L. BAYLIES, 54 Wall Street.