
THE LOOKOUT



Proposed New Building

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

AN APPEAL

WE intend to build a new Institute that will be a model to its kind throughout the world. The land is purchased—the best available site in the city. The plans are drawn. We are ready. And still we delay.

It should be begun at once. Until it is done we cannot expand our work and help more than a very limited number of the seamen of the port. But we cannot begin until we have more subscriptions. Nothing else delays us and hampers this work. We have raised \$530,000. We need \$212,000 more to completely pay for the land and building.

The Institute relies upon us to secure these subscriptions and start the building. We are doing the best we can, but it is a big undertaking. We need your help as well as your subscription. If all the friends of the Institute would rally to our assistance and carry this appeal to their friends the remainder would soon be raised and we could have our new building.

That is what we are asking you to do. Now is the time that your help is needed. Your subscription may be made payable any time before the building is completed, but we must know that you stand back of us and that the money will be forthcoming.

In making this appeal we confidently believe that those who help to make the new Institute possible will find it a continual source of honor and pride, and that, in the future, they will be grateful to us for persuading them to have a part in the building of it. Can you not persuade yourself and others to help us now and generously.

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. II.

MAY, 1911

No. 1

Breaking Ground.

At last, after a long period of work and waiting, the new Institute is to become a reality. There have been times of discouragement during these long months and the patience of those eager to see the building begun has been sorely tried. But faith has finally prevailed. The appeals of the society have been met with a sufficient response to warrant our breaking ground, trusting the generous public to contribute the remainder of the fund while the Institute is being erected.

The tenants have been given notice to vacate the buildings now standing on the site of our new home before June 1st, and the buildings will be torn down immediately thereafter.

However, this is no time for us to rest upon our oars; no time for a blind faith that somehow or other the rest of the money will be forthcoming. It is a time for steady, constant effort which must continue until the last dollar is subscribed.

The month of April was a banner month: we print elsewhere an account of its subscriptions. Here we wish to call attention again and in an orderly manner to the specific ways in which contributions may so be made that the identity of the donor will be permanently preserved and recognized.

FOUNDERS.

All persons contributing the sum of \$5,000 or more will be recognized as Founders of the Institute. Their names, added to the following list, will be inscribed upon a bronze tablet to be placed in the new building:

J. Pierpont Morgan,
John D. Rockefeller,
Henry Dexter,
Frederick W. Vanderbilt,
Andrew Carnegie,
E. S. Harkness,
James Stillman,
W. K. Vanderbilt,
Alfred G. Vanderbilt,
Frederick G. Bourne,
William D. Sloane,
Mrs. William D. Sloane,
Mrs. Joseph M. White,
Mrs. Nathalie E. Baylies,
Edmund L. Baylies,
Charles W. Harkness,
Jacob H. Schiff,
Arthur Curtiss James,
Mrs. William E. Dodge,
Robert S. Brewster,
D. Willis James,
Mrs. R. T. Auchmuty,
Cleveland H. Dodge,
Mrs. Mary A. Harriman.

BENEFACTORS.

All persons contributing the sum of \$1,000 or more (but less than \$5,000) to the society will be recognized as Benefactors of the Institute. Their names, added to the following list, will be inscribed upon another bronze tablet similar to that provided for the Founders:

Mortimer L. Schiff,
M. Guggenheim's Sons,
George J. Gould,
William G. Low,
Archer M. Huntington,
Ogden Mills,
Mrs. Anna Woerishoffer,

Wilhelmus Mynderse,
 In Memory of Mrs. Theodore Dehon,
 Otto H. Kahn,
 Levi P. Morton,
 Henry Lewis Morris,
 Mrs. Edwin Parsons,
 R. Fulton Cutting,
 W. L. Harkness,
 John A. McKim,
 Mrs. W. Alanson Abbe,
 Samuel Thorne,
 Miss Cornelia Prime,
 George A. Hearn,
 Barber & Co.,
 James A. Scrymser,
 Percy R. Pyne,
 Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes,
 Sir Thomas J. Lipton,
 Henry Seligman,
 Isaac N. Seligman,
 George Gordon King,
 Felix M. Warburg,
 Lispenard Stewart,
 Mrs. Samuel Lawrence,
 E. H. Harriman,
 James Douglas,
 M. C. D. Borden,
 Francis Lynde Stetson,
 Henry A. C. Taylor,
 E. H. Van Ingen,
 C. Ledyard Blair,
 Harris C. Fahnstock,
 Charles Lanier,
 W. Bayard Cutting,
 Funch, Edye & Co.,
 A Member of the Board of Managers.
 John E. Berwind,
 Johnson & Higgins.

MEMORIAL ROOMS.

The cost of building and furnishing the several large rooms in the building has been estimated by the architects. Any person contributing the cost of one of these rooms will have the privilege of having his or her name suitably placed in that part of the building to indicate the destination of his or her gift.

A list of these rooms was published in a previous issue of THE LOOKOUT. In reply to those who have inquired it may be explained that the cost of these rooms is included in the estimated cost of the land and building; and is not in addition to it.

One of these, the Apprentice Room, has already been taken by the Seamen's

Benefit Society. An appeal, addressed to the churches, asking them to contribute the cost of the Chapel has met with the following response:

FOR THE CHAPEL.

The following subscriptions toward the cost of building and furnishing the Chapel have been received:

St. George's	\$500
Trinity Church	500
St. Thomas's	500
Zion and St. Timothy	500
Incarnation	500
Ascension	500
Heavenly Rest	500
Grace	500
St. Agnes Chapel	400
Grace (Brooklyn)	310
Holy Trinity (Brooklyn).....	300
Holy Apostles	100
St. John's (Jersey City)	100
Total	\$5,210

MEMORIAL BED ROOMS.

All persons contributing the sum of \$100 for this purpose have the privilege of having their names, or any other they may specify, attached to one of the 500 bed rooms in the new building. On May 1st, 120 of these rooms had been reserved and we print herewith the names of those who availed themselves of this privilege during the month of April.

Mrs. Frank Scott Gerrish.....	1
Mrs. I. T. Williams "In Memory I. T. Williams"	1
Mrs. Parsons "In Memory Commander G. B. Livingston, U. S. N.".....	1
Mrs. J. P. Morgan "In Memory Charles Tracy"	3
Miss Mary Benson "In Memory F. M. D." ..	1
Mrs. William P. Willis "In Memory John Davenport by his Grandchildren".....	3
Mrs. Anson R. Flower.....	1
Mrs. Seth Low	1
Mrs. G. G. Haven.....	1
Mrs. George Parsons "In Memory George Parsons"	1
J. Bowers Lee.....	1
Robert L. Harrison	1

St. John the Evangelist "In Memory Capt. James Allen"	1
Mrs. J. Arden Harriman "In Memory J. A. Harriman"	1
Miss Dorothy Whitney	5
Mrs. Helen M. McCormick "The Navy Room"	1
Mrs. Charles R. Baker.....	1
Mrs. John Murray Mitchell "In Memory John Murray Mitchell"	1
Miss M. D. Van Winkle.....	1
Maynard C. Eyre	1
Mrs. Jacob H. Schiff	1
Miss Ella F. Hubby	1
Mrs. John Jewell Smith's Children.....	1
Josiah L. Webster	1
Church of Zion & St. Timothy (raised by Mrs. Lubeck and Mrs. Devoe).....	1
Mrs. Wm. Walter Phelps	1
Mr. and Mrs. Gherardi Davis.....	1
Anton A. Raven	1
Mrs. Lucie B. Carew	1
Mrs. John Rogers, Jr.....	1
Mrs. John Nichols Moore "In Memory Commander William Elbridge Sewell, U. S. N., and his wife, Minnie Moore Sewell"	1
Mrs. Theodore Braine "In Memory of Philo L. Mills".....	1
Mrs. George de Forest Lord.....	1
John Brooks Leavitt "R. B. L.".....	1
Mrs. Abraham Lansing, Mrs. Henry B. Thomas, Miss Katherine G. Melville, Miss Florence Melville, "Gansevoort Melville Room" In Memory of Capt. Thomas Melville; Herman Melville; Peter L. Gansevoort, Midshipman; Commodore Guert Gansevoort; Leonard Gansevoort, and Stanwix Gansevoort..	1
Mrs. Stevenson Taylor.....	1
Francis Willing Wharton.....	1
Mrs. Gordon Wendell and Miss Frances Gordon Wendell, "In Memory of Gordon Wendell"	1
Mrs. Caroline Van Nostrand.....	1
Joseph J. Little.....	1

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To Avoid Confusion.

In order that the regular subscribers to the current expenses of the Institute may not be confused by the appeals sent out by the Building Department for funds with which to build the new building, we call attention to these two departments. Mr. Frank T. Warburton, Treasurer of the Institute, receives all contributions to the Ways and Means Department; subscriptions to the new building should be addressed to Mr. Edmund L. Baylies.

The Ways and Means Department asks for contributions of one dollar or more a year as annual subscriptions to the current expenses of the Society. A careful record of these subscriptions is kept and on the anniversary of each subscription, a notice is sent to the subscriber with a request that the subscription be renewed.

The success of the Society depends upon the success of this department in securing new subscribers to take the place of those who by death or necessity cannot continue to subscribe and in securing the renewal of original subscriptions. It is gratifying to record that those who have once subscribed seldom withdraw their support unless compelled to do so by necessity. In the latter event, confidence in the Institute is expressed by the frank and confidential explanations sent to the Treasurer.

For about a month the Institute will be without the use of its busy steam launch, "The Sentinel," which is undergoing its regular biennial overhauling. A new boiler will be put into the vessel and other necessary repairs will be made. Its absence in dry-dock makes us realize anew how vital a place in the work of the Institute "The Sentinel" occupies.

Total number of rooms subscribed for on May 1st120
 These rooms represent cash subscriptions of\$12,000.00

THE LOOKOUT

Published every month by the Seamen's
Church Institute of New York at
One State Street

Subscription Price - - One Dollar a Year

NOTE—Address all communications to
ARCHIBALD R. MANSFIELD, Superintendent

The "Great, New Task."

To one who sits at his desk, reading such responses as come to the appeals of this Institute, many insights into human nature are given. Few of these writers are personally known to him and, clad in a very real sort of anonymity, they make for him a sort of spiritual pageant in which the deeper longings and desires of the heart are manifested. If all the very sincere, good wishes could be turned into cash, this work would soon be bottomed on as substantial a foundation as anyone could desire.

But now and then letters are received that recall one of Hugo Munsterberg's discerning phrases; "the new idealistic movement to come has not yet reached a clear self-expression." Only a few days ago, a letter came from a prominent social worker, whose support is given—so the letter said—"to more fundamental social work."

What that can be, our poor imagination cannot conceive. If we could dig any closer to the elemental needs of the class for which this work is organized, our spades would be speeded. And our lack of imagination is shared by all other progressive and aggressive institutes for seamen, the world over; for none of them has carried its activities deeper into the seamen's lives.

"A new sense of duty," Munsterberg continued, "can vaguely be felt, but great new tasks have not yet found

common acknowledgment. Above all, the unshaped emotionalism of the masses has not yet been brought into any real contact with the new idealism which grows upon the higher levels of scholarly thought."

To bring about a "common acknowledgment" of the great new tasks is as important a work as one's hand can find to do. This spirit attends our appeals; it gives us courage to importune. We look to the new Institute to inaugurate the greater work—the greater newer task—of this society. And we could not enter upon it with much enthusiasm if we could not believe that its permanence is guaranteed by its fundamental character.

The Institute has not been of those who run after every new social fad, crying: "Great is Diana of the Ephesians." More than half a century of sobering experience lies behind us. The history of the seaman at this port is written into our history. For sixty-five years we have studied his needs in the light of prevailing conditions and organized the work to meet them. Through three generations we have lived and sympathized with him. No other institute for seamen in existence is as comprehensive in its activities, more practical in its agencies, more ready or willing to lend a hand to every effort that makes for the seaman's welfare.

He may have superficial problems that we think it wiser to let him work out for himself—we do not stand "in loco parentis." We are quite willing to confess that there may be quicker ways of doing the superficial and momentary things that he desires than we have adopted. But the great, abiding, practical necessities of the seaman are all attended to

through the many departments of this society and we would be glad to see our correspondent join in the "common acknowledgment" of our "great, new task."

The Institute has not attempted to make an appeal to the sentimentality of the public; not because it is indifferent to the emotionalism in which generous impulses are often rooted but because it is building up a permanent work which it would establish upon truth and worth and to which it would prefer to see that emotionalism brought by the work rather than by the appeal. We have tried to present the necessity and importance of the work, trusting the public to respond because the work deserves its support. When support is thus given, it is seldom retracted, when it is inspired by uninformed emotionalism it is apt to be short-lived.

We are not building for a day; shall we not lay our foundation deep?

What better proof of the value of this work can be given than the seaman's desire to avail himself of its benefits?

What more fundamental work can we do than to place upon this flotsam and jetsam of the transportation world an impress that will make them believe in America; in the fine humanity of philanthropic men and women; and in themselves buttressed by the eternal certitudes of the gospel of truth and love?

"A first-class, healthy slave was worth \$1,500 when men were bought and sold," said Mr. Andrew Carnegie recently. "Every German man that arrives here is worth a great deal more. So it is with the Scotch, the Irish and the English and not less so with the Scandinavians and the healthy, able-bodied men

of good character of other nationalities." The worth of the immigrant to the country is not an adequate measure of the worth of the seamen to this great port. What would the port be without them?

But what is the port worth to the sailor except for its facilities to supply him with work? Is he better or worse for having called here? Has his manhood been increased or diminished? Does he respect himself more or less?

Seamen vs. Sailors.

To prevent the public from being misled by the reports of a conference appearing in the daily press the following letter was sent to *The Evening Post* from which it is reprinted here in order that the readers of THE LOOKOUT may be reminded of the necessity and permanence of this important work:

Work for Sailors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EVENING POST:

SIR: Last Tuesday afternoon you published a story about the disappearance of the sailor, apropos of a conference on this subject in the United Charities Building. It was an exceedingly entertaining story, founded on a very generally recognized truth; yet I fear that its total effect may be damaging to the societies organized for work among the men of the sea.

The sailor went out of existence when the steel vessel appeared, but in his place we have the seaman. Careful investigation proves that nearly, if not fully, 500,000 of these seafaring men pass in and out of this port during each year. They may not know how to reef and splice and furl, yet they are to the

modern vessel exactly what the sailor was to the windjammers. They have taken the sailors' places along the waterfront. Because of the increase in shipping at this port, their numbers are vastly greater. They need and deserve the same help and protection. In fact, the problem of the seaman at this port is more complicated than the problem of the sailor ever was. In the main, they are aliens, coming from every nationality under heaven. Their work is more specialized than was that of the sailor, and it can hardly be classed as skilled labor.

But these seamen are here and they must be cared for. If, old, bad conditions along the waterfront have been improved, it is due very largely to the activity of the seamen's institutes and associations. It would be very unfortunate for these organizations if the impression went abroad that there were no more seamen to be cared for; for the societies are only at the beginning of their best work, and they must have the support of philanthropic citizens.

Yours truly,
 ISRAEL L. WHITE,
 Sec'y. Bldg. Com.,
 Seamen's Church Institute.

The Building Fund.

The Building Committee has not yet decided in what way it will record the names of those who contribute as general subscribers to this fund, but some plan will be devised before the building is completed.

We have faith that the churches will contribute the remainder of the cost of the Chapel and we believe that others, desiring to honor the memory of their friends or relatives, will subscribe for

the rest of the Memorial Bed Rooms. Of the remainder of the building fund, \$165,000 is yet to be raised and to the remnant we ask for contributions.

The following contributions to the general fund were received during the month of April:

Charles W. Harkness.....	\$10,000.00
Mrs. Mary A. Harriman	5,000.00
Henry A. C. Taylor	2,000.00
Harris C. Fahnstock	1,100.00
E. H. Van Ingen.....	1,000.00
C. Ledyard Blair	1,000.00
Charles Lanier	1,000.00
W. Bayard Cutting	1,000.00
Funch, Edye & Co. (additional).....	650.00
Louis B. McCagg	500.00
Joseph Milbank	500.00
Lamport & Holt Line.....	500.00
Booth Steamship Co.	500.00
Mrs. John Jewell Smith.....	500.00
Johnson & Higgins (additional)....	500.00
C. W. McCutcheon.....	500.00
John E. Berwind (additional).....	500.00
E. R. Bacon	350.00
B. J. Greenhut.....	250.00
Manton B. Metcalf	250.00
Pliny Fisk	250.00
Oelrichs & Co.	250.00
J. Harsen Purdy	250.00
Howard Houlder & Partners, Inc....	250.00
Joseph C. Noyes.....	250.00
J. R. Whitney & Co.	200.00
Bennett, Hvoslef & Co.....	200.00
Orme Wilson, Jr.	200.00
Lancashire Shipping Co. Ltd.....	125.00
George Borgfeldt & Co.	100.00
Silas D. Webb	100.00
George F. Dominick.....	100.00
James Talcott	100.00
Mrs. John Innes Kane.....	100.00
James C. Colgate	100.00
Charles H. Russell	100.00
Theodore P. Shonts	100.00
C. J. Wittenburg Coal Co.....	100.00
Louis C. Krauthoff.....	100.00
Otto M. Eidlitz.....	100.00
George L. Rives	100.00
Hugh J. Chisholm.....	100.00
Wm. Harris Douglas (additional)..	100.00
W. R. Craig	100.00

L. F. Dommerich.....	100.00
George G. Dewitt	100.00
David G Legget	100.00
C. W. Seamans	100.00
Rob't. Dun Douglass.....	100.00
Edwin R. Holden	100.00
John I. Downey.....	100.00
Ferdinand Blumenthal	100.00
J. G. White	100.00
Walter J. Chambers.....	50.00
Julien Stevens Ulman	50.00
John M. Bowers	50.00
C. Altschul	50.00
Mrs. William P. Willis.....	30.00
Schuyler Schiefflin	25.00
Wm. Jay Schiefflin	25.00
Oscar Myers	25.00
J. C. O'Conor.....	25.00
Miss Anna E. Denny	25.00
Cash	25.00
Mrs. John Henry Hammond.....	25.00
S. Appel & Co.	20.00
Miss Adelaide Hamilton.....	20.00
Edward T. Holmes	10.00
Miss Clara S. Hay	10.00
G. F. Eisenman	10.00
R. W. James Kingan	10.00
Mrs. S. L. Crentzborg.....	10.00
Cash	10.00
Miss Helen Tweed	5.00
Miss F. Welcher	5.00
G. W. Craft	5.00
Miss E. J. Bowne.....	2.00
Anonymous	1.00

\$32,493.00

Total subscriptions May 1.....\$510,485.98
 Rooms subscribed for..... 19,210.00

\$529,695.98

The Savings Department.

It is reasonable to assume an improvement in business when there is an improvement in the amount of shipping, but whether or not this is true of the business of the whole country it is markedly true of the Institute's Savings Department.

The receipts of this department, which is a custodian of the seamen's wages,

show a marvellous increase over the receipts in corresponding months a year ago. Although more money was deposited in this department during February and March in 1910 than in any previous year, the deposits for the same months of 1911 were nearly 150 per cent. greater. The amount deposited in 1910 was \$10,634.99; in 1911 it was \$25,413.67. The month of April, 1911, alone, with nearly \$10,000 of deposits almost equals the two months referred to in 1910 and there is every indication that the deposits in this department during the year will exceed previous records.

These seemingly dry and uninteresting figures masque very human stories. There is a colored man who for many years was a cook on sailing schooners. On every pay day since April, 1906, he has deposited something in this department. When his account reached \$100, his savings were put in a savings bank. He has now decided to go into business for himself in Halifax, Nova Scotia. His savings, when withdrawn last month, amounted to \$633 and to this there was added interest amounting to \$63.78.

To men who entertain the expectation of visiting their families, this department has a special value. Two stewards running on The United Fruit Company's boats have been depositing their savings here for a year or so. Their deposits were small and entered irregularly. When they decided to go home last month one had saved \$174; the other \$219. They will come back on the new boats about to be added to the service of this company and resume their work.

The habit of thrift among the Mohammedan race is illustrated by the many

Arabs who save almost all that they earn. These men look for jobs on shore as firemen in cold weather. One of the steam power companies offers employment to about fifteen who earn from \$10 to \$15 a week. Out of this they take from \$8 to \$12 and buy English gold. It is the only security in which they have confidence and they bring it to this department; influenced, perhaps, by the fact that the British Vice-Consul has a connecting office.

"You all same as my father," is the remark they make when they bring their deposits, showing their confidence in the department. Invariably they request that we will keep this same coin and return it to them when wanted; hence in the cash balance each month there is a bag containing from 50 to 100 pounds sterling kept intact for them.

It is seldom that a day passes without seeing at least one Arabian depositor.

The savings habit is occasionally a help to those who get into trouble. There comes into mind a man of the sea, who saved his money and became a baker. He was made foreman of the bakery and he had for his helpers a number of Turks. One night they attacked him and in the scrimmage, apparently in self defence, he bit one of his assailants very badly. Haled into court, he needed bail. Fortunately for him he had \$850 in this savings department with which to secure his freedom and employ a lawyer. The case was dismissed, but a civil suit was begun against him immediately and the bail was transferred to the other court. What the outcome will be is not known and perhaps the expense of the defense will eat up most of his earnings, and yet they secured for him his freedom and enabled him to have legal advice.

One of the great difficulties connected with this work is due to the identity of Scandinavian names. There are on the books at present at least half a dozen different Neils Neilsens, John Johnsons, Karl Karlsens, Ole Olesens. An accurate record of each of these depositors has to be kept and very great carefulness is required to preserve the identity of each man and his account.

The fallacy of a general belief that seamen's savings banks have a great deal of unclaimed money is proved by our records. While nearly \$1,000,000 have been deposited here within the last ten years, there are only two such items to be found. One is an item of one dollar which cannot be accounted for; the other is an account of \$20 in the name of a man who was drowned at sea, and the address of his nearest relative cannot be traced, although every possible effort has been made, including even an application to the police for help.

A Welcome Guest.

Mr. F. W. Everton, the man in charge of the Missions for Seamen station in Honolulu, visited the Institute as he was passing through this city on his way to the annual meeting of the Missions for Seamen, held in London on May 2d.

The Missions for Seamen has had charge of the work for seamen on the Pacific Coast and in Honolulu for many years and it is now turning the work over to the newly organized sister society, the Seamen's Church Institute of America, as rapidly as is expedient. It is to be hoped that Rt. Rev. Wm. F. Nichols, D.D., Bishop of California, arrived in London in time to attend and address this annual meeting.

REPORT FOR MARCH

DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR MARCH

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

March, 1911.

Savings Department.

March 1, cash on hand.....	\$16,607.56
Deposits,	15,007.50
	\$31,615.06
Payments, (\$7,390.99 transmitted) ..	16,254.01
	\$15,361.05
April 1, balance	\$15,361.05

Shipping Department.

Number of vessels shipped entire by the Institute	19
Number of men provided with employment in port.....	118
Number of men shipped.....	268
	386
Total	386

Reading Room.

Total attendance	14,593
Letters written and received.....	2,534
Packages reading given.....	728
Number pieces baggage checked.....	581

Relief Department.

Assisted	893
Sent to Legal Aid Society.....	7
Visits to hospitals,.....	17
Visits to ships in port.....	117

Religious and Social Departments

Number of services.....	18
Attendance total	884
Entertainments	5
Attendance	160
Communion services	2
Weddings	1
Baptisms	2

Institute Boat "Sentinel."

Trips made.....	49
Visits to vessels.....	58
Men transported	105
Pieces baggage transported.....	212