
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, concrete and brick 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

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No. 4

What the Seaman Calls "Dunnage"

There is copy for the newspaper man or the sociologist or the psychologist down in the baggage rooms of the State Street Station, the Breakwater, or the North River Station. Sometimes it brings a smile and sometimes one is struck by the infinite pathos of these few belongings which represent the nearest approach many a seaman has of setting up his household gods. Because where his "dunnage" is, there is his home, except in rare cases.

Every sort of bundle, from newspaper parcels to huge carpenters' chests, are received by the Institute. A big canvas bag, bulging in unexpected spots, jostles a tiny tin trunk, while a shining, new, leather suit-case with an unexpectedly prosperous air tries to brush aside a little package laboriously encased in brown paper, the cord tied with true sailors' knots. They come to us from everywhere.

For when the seaman believes in you he is the most confiding person imaginable. If he arrives in Canada and decides to make a little trip on land before coming to New York, he puts a tag on his "dunnage" and ships it to the Institute, where it is carefully checked and held until he claims it. Or if he is sailing on a vessel bound for South America and he does not need all his things, he deposits them

at the Institute and goes away happily, certain that they will be waiting for him upon his return. And, curiously enough, for all his roving life and his lack of permanent ties, the sailor has a strong attachment for his few possessions—his papers, letters from his mother, a few photographs, an embroidered tobacco pouch picked up in Hong Kong or a bit of silk from Nagasaki, carefully saved to give away.

It seems a little spoke in the large wheel to have the Baggage Room, but it means just that much more comfort and security for the man who sails the sea.

Another Seaman Victim

A German seaman who has been working on the Lakes, and who saved up a small fortune of \$600, was on his way back to Europe, but stopped in a notorious sailors' boarding house on the water-front for a day or two before sailing. Although he had engaged his passage to Germany, through the blandishments of a boarding master and his wife, he was induced to invest \$500 of his savings in their business. He promised to put up \$1,000 more, which he was going to obtain from friends in Germany, and to have a partnership in the business. The boarding master and his wife represented that they were the owners of all the personal property and fix-

tures on the premises. He later discovered these representations to be false and refused to go on further with the transaction, seeking advice of the Seamen's Branch of the Legal Aid Society, with which the Seamen's Institute is closely affiliated.

An action was brought after failure to get settlement and a verdict was finally rendered for the plaintiff for \$500, with costs, and a body execution against the defendant. Execution was taken out against his property and returned unsatisfied. He was then arrested and put in Ludlow Street Jail, where he remained about 15 hours, and was then released upon bond being filed by his attorneys that he would not leave the County of New York for six months.

Nothing has been paid on account of the judgment, but the defendant is believed to have property, and the case is still being prosecuted by means of supplementary proceedings. It is especially regrettable in this case, comments the Legal Aid Review, that where fraud is shown a man cannot be kept in jail.

A Bit of Description

From Cheshire, England, comes the following little letter reproduced as faithfully as the original would permit:

Dear Sir: (18-6-19012)

would you grant me a reply or information that would lead to the whereabouts of my husband, Crismas Williams, age 58, ship's cook, last heard from under your Society, in January (19010), slim figure, height 5 ft.-5 inches, dark brown eyes (hair grey), loss of second finger on the right hand

it is close on three years since I had any maintenances from him. I have a child and myself to support and nothing only what I earn myself. I am wondering if he is alive or not. Any information, sir, respecting my husband, from you, would be greatly received."

And, of course, this is only one letter selected out of the hundreds we receive because of its quaint style and form. We cannot always give encouragement, but frequently we are able to get in touch with the man who has conveniently forgotten his responsibilities.

Two Dormitories at \$1,000 Each — One Already Reserved

On the fifth floor of the new building are three open dormitories, with beds at fifteen or twenty cents a night. There will be room for twenty-five men in each dormitory and they will be furnished somewhat better than the ordinary lodging house, being kept scrupulously clean. On cold nights in winter or rainy nights in summer scores of forlorn derelicts have applied to the Institute for a bed, and we have always had to send them down to the Salvation Army Hotel—and even that has been frequently overcrowded. Stairways in the rear will enable the men to reach the dormitories without entering the part of the fifth floor devoted to regular seamen guests.

One of the dormitories has already been taken by Mrs. George Peabody Wetmore in memory of her sister, Miss Mary Keteltas. There are still two remaining unreserved. One thousand dollars will build and furnish one of these.

Sailors or Seamen?

While a sailor may be spoken of as a seaman, it does not follow that every seaman is a sailor. In fact, under present conditions, says a well-known periodical, we have many seamen who are not sailors at all, in the strict sense of the term, as they have never learned to reef, hand, or steer, due to the scarcity of ships now propelled by sail power. Of seamen we have some half million passing in and out of this port (New York) annually, and they perform the same duties in relation to steam vessels that sailors performed on sailing vessels. The number is much larger than the total of sailors that formerly visited this port, hence the growing importance of Seamen's Institutes to care for and protect this class, most of whom are aliens. These Sailors' Homes have been great factors in improving the conditions along our water-front in preventing seamen from being imposed upon, and should have the moral and pecuniary support of all who are interested in the welfare of this port.

Watch and Watch

Coincident with other changes which the Titanic disaster primarily and other disasters on the sea recently will doubtless bring about, it is urged that a study be begun with a view to revision of the ancient "watch and watch" system. Many years ago, declares the Marine Journal, a change was made in the engineers' department, enabling the men to be on duty four hours and off for eight. In the deck department, with the rule of the sea, four hours off and four on, a change seems almost imperative.

"Titanic Memorial Lighthouse"

During the summer months, when so many persons are away, the contributions to the Lighthouse Fund come in very slowly. Since the July **Lookout** was issued, we have received but \$76.00 in small amounts, making a total of \$7,792 and leaving \$2,208 still to be raised. This would appear to be near enough the necessary \$10,000 to permit us to feel sanguine about completing the Fund early in the Autumn.

New York is manifestly the appropriate home for this monument, since this was the "Titanic's" American port and it is, moreover, one of the largest mercantile ports in the world. Through this gateway thousands of persons enter the New World, and this Lighthouse Tower will symbolize to every person entering the harbor the spirit of reverence and the appreciation of heroism and self-sacrifice which prompted the giving of the Memorial.

And we need to give this Memorial, if for no other reason, because we need a reminder. Sensational tales of harrowing accidents crowd each other for space in the newspapers, and, little by little, the average person becomes hardened and callous to stories of sudden death with the consequent bereavement of those who must live and mourn. He (the average person) is busy and engrossed with his own "petty round of irritating duties and concerns," and he pushes abstract tragedy in the background.

This Lighthouse Tower and Timeball will make all thoughtful persons realize afresh that the "Titanic" spirit did not die with the ship, and it will make all careless people pause long enough to think—where they never thought before.

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

Concrete Facts About the New Building

One of the Institute staff suggested the heading as being a particularly atrocious pun, and, since the *Lookout's* tendencies are toward the sternly serious rather than the facetious, it is allowed to stand as a conservative jest.

You can climb the stairs straight to the roof of the Institute on South Street and Coenties Slip now. The water-proofing of the roof is finished and the tiling will soon be completed also. On the parapet the terra cotta grotesques have been put in place. They take the form of polar bears and eagles, the bears standing upright about seven feet high and the eagles perched with wings slightly distended. There is an element of extraneous uniqueness about these grotesques which makes them singularly impressive and adds just the needed touch of originality to the parapet, and, in fact, to the entire building exterior.

Up on the dormitory floor the partitions are partly up and some of the rooms on the bed-room floors have taken final shape. The Auditorium stage is built and it is already possible to imagine this room filled with sailor men eager to be amused, diverted or mildly improved.

The steam pipes are almost all in ready for the radiators; the ventilating system is installed; the roughing is

done, waiting for the plumbing fixtures. The elevator tracks and frames are being constructed, while the stair cases and fire escapes are all in place. The main stair-case promises to be one of the most effective of its kind. The plans for the Chapel interior are rapidly maturing. Certain it is that the space allotted to the Chapel has been so carefully arranged as to give this part of the Institute a peculiar dignity, a note of aloofness from the work-a-day business-like public rooms without destroying the harmony of the splendid whole.

Beneath the basement where the shipping offices, savings department, British Consular offices, etc., are to be situated, is the sub-basement and beneath that is the cellar which is to contain the electrical equipment, the pumps, boilers; in short, the complete power plant. And about this cellar there is an intangible sort of fascination. Because the concrete floor is exactly on a level with the East River and its construction represents a constant battle with the pressure of the water. A most skillful and ingeniously devised piece of engineering makes this cellar possible. The tide has been thrust back in one place, allowed to rush in at some other point and then forced back until finally, little by little, the water has been so controlled that it is concentrated in two pits from which it is constantly pumped by automatic pumps.

When you stand at one of the corner rooms on the sixth floor and look at Governors' Island and out beyond toward the Narrows, or up the East River past the Brooklyn Bridge, or directly down on the leafy foliage of little Jeannette Park, you realize with a

sudden appreciation of good work well done that the New Building of the Seamen's Church Institute of New York is an accomplished fact, an actual structure of concrete, bricks, terra cotta; and an abstract structure of faith and belief and altruism.

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.

Gifts and Memorials

For those desiring to make small gifts or memorials there still remain untaken—

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 Bedrooms at \$250

Forty-five large, outside bedrooms are still to be reserved. Those are the rooms intended for the use of the officers, stewards, expert engineers, boatswains and better class of seamen.

A chiffonier or chest of drawers and furniture of a less severe type of simplicity than that in the seamen's rooms will make these large rooms more attractive to the men for whom they are designed.

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.

Ice Cream Money

We wish to thank everyone who sent money to buy ice cream for the apprentice lads. The response to the appeal would have convinced us, if we had needed convincing, that there is a sympathetic place in the heart of every person who believes in the Institute for the young boys—clean, manly and courageous—who are making the sea their calling.

Exchanges

FLYING FISH

The popular notion that flying fish beat their "wings" is a mistake, says the Mariner's Advocate. The wings are not true organs of flight, but rather play the part of a parachute or an aeroplane. The whole motive power is supplied by the tail, which acts as a propellor, and the vibration or quivering of the wings in the air currents and their occasional shift of inclination are not phenomena connected with the propulsion of the fish in its aerial flight.

BATTLESHIP FUEL

Oil will be burnt exclusively on the new battleships, Nevada and Oklahoma, now under construction. This has decreased the space required for their boilers and firerooms from 129 to 66 feet. In addition to the saving in weight in the fireroom and the necessary fuel weight, the fireroom force will be decreased fully 50 per cent. over battleships that burn coal. The Marine Journal predicts that all future battleships to be built for the U. S. Navy will burn oil.

INCREASE REPORTED

The commerce of the Port of New York for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1912, as compared with 1911, shows an increase of \$103,583,256 in merchandise imports, while there was an increase of \$45,761,898 in domestic and foreign exports. The receipts from regular customs duties declined over four and one-half million dollars.

LIFEBOATS

A large firm of yacht builders have started the construction of collapsible lifeboats for ocean liners. The firm are using steel framing in the con-

struction of the boats, with larch and pine planking wherever necessary, and specially woven canvas for covering. The design to which they are at present working, says the Coast Seamen's Journal, provides a boat large enough to carry 50 persons.

LONDON DOCKS

Absolutely friendless and out of work, a man stood at the corner of a London street. He had just sixpence in his pockets, but when he was accosted by a man who seemed even more hopeless than himself, he gave him twopence out of his meagre store. And then, with only fourpence left between himself and starvation, he tried again his quest for employment. Desperate and hungry, he came near the shipping office of the "Mission to Seamen," when up came a mate saying, "Are you an A. B.?" The man replied that he was; he was engaged and has remained on the same ship ever since.—The Church and Sailor.

Her Son

Edinburgh, Scotland.

Dear Sir:

I now write you a few lines to ask you if you have seen my Son, Alexander Lonnie or could you try and get some word about him, as I cannot sleep night nor day for thinking about my Son. Mr. Mansfield, would you go to some of his Lodges for god sake try and see where my poor son is. I will thank you very kindly if I can get news about him, if he is in the Land of the Living.

I think this is all I can say till I hear from you, Mr. Mansfield. Dont forget to write to Alexander's Poor mother.

What \$100 Will Do

One hundred dollars will pay the cost of building and furnishing a bedroom for a seaman in the new building.

There are 390 bedrooms. Two hundred and fifty have already been reserved either by persons wishing to memorialize someone whose interests were with sailors, or by those who wished to make the gift of \$100 for a specific part of the new building.

One hundred and forty bedrooms remain untaken.

Estimating that in one of these rooms a hundred men may lodge during the year—that is, averaging about four days for each man—it means that for \$100 you may give 100 men a clean room in a building that combines a sailors' club, a hotel, a restaurant, a shipping office, a savings bank, a store stocked with sailors' and seamen's needs, a baggage room, a post office—and under this same roof a little Chapel, simple, dignified and beautiful.

It is somebody's son, somebody's husband, somebody's father that is to receive a welcome, a clean bed in decent surroundings, good companionship, entertainment and care; then a fair chance for another job through the free shipping bureau.

One hundred dollars will help 100 men to keep away from the temptations and degradation they would encounter in the Sailortown of this city.

Is there really a better philanthropy than that?

Lafayette Post Presents Flagpole

In the Lookout for July, under the heading "Gifts and Memorials not Reserved," was the item:

"Flagpole, with socket, above the

entrance, also set of colors consisting of the National Flag and the Institute private flag, \$250."

About a week ago Mr. Albert M. Cudner, Patriotic Instructor of the Lafayette Post, Grand Army of the Republic, came into the office at No. 1 State Street. He had been asked to represent the organization, which desired to be given the privilege of presenting the flagpole that is to be erected on the parapet, thirteen stories from the ground, directly above the main entrance to the new building.

During the past twenty years 2,326 flags have been presented by the Lafayette Post. They have gone everywhere, from Honolulu to Porto Rico—from Cuba to the Philippines. Sometimes as many as 400 flags have been given in one town to schools, public institutions and particularly to kindergartens and private schools, where children are taught to salute the flag.

Shipping Department

MONTH ENDING JULY 31, 1912

1 State Street

Name of Vessel	Men Shipped	Destination
S.S. Byron	33	Brazil
S.S. Sallust	9	River Plate
S.S. Thespis	2	Manchester
S.S. Verdi	37	River Plate
S.S. Camoens	1	Manchester
S.S. Ucazali	15	Peru
S.S. Clement	48	Brazil
SS. Pancras	4	Brazil
S.S. Basil	1	Brazil
S.S. Louisiana	6	Coast
Barge Caddo	2	Coast
Barge Harry Morse	4	Coast
S.S. Austrian Prince	5	River Plate
S.S. Burmese Prince	25	Japan & China
S.S. Asiatic Prince	19	Brazil
S.S. Siamese Prince	25	River Plate
S.S. Charlton Hall	22	Chile
S.S. Jno. Rodgers	1	New London
Towboats	3	Harbor

262

Men provided with work112.....In Port
From 341 West St... 9.....Various positions

Total383

North River Station Notes

A "THANK YOU"

Through the very generous response of the **Lookout** readers enough money has been received to supply the men in the hospitals with fruit, ice cream and grape juice on several Sundays. The sick seamen are pathetically grateful for these small luxuries and have asked the members of the Institute staff who visit them to express their enthusiastic appreciation of the kindness. Should there be any money not needed for fruit or ices it will go toward getting stamps or hair-cuts.

When a seaman goes to the hospital he seldom has a cent of money. There may be some wages due him, but it is necessary for him to apply for it in person, and therefore the Institute visitor is frequently asked, "Could you give me a little money to get a shave?" or, "Could you let me have a little money for postage?" And there has never been any fund to meet this demand.

OLD CLOTHING AND SHOES

It seems a little ungracious to follow an expression of gratitude by an appeal. But we need, at this station especially, old clothing, of any sort whatever, and shoes. It does not matter how old and worn the garments are, if they are in a condition which would render them wearable, even for a little while, we can use them.

Last winter on bitterly cold days we had constant requests for an old coat, a shirt, a pair of socks, a pair of shoes to replace fragments which left the foot upon the icy street, and so often we were unable to get them.

BUSY JULY

During the, days of the seamen's

strike the reading room was crowded with men seeking to forget their woes, real and fancied, in the gay magazines or the more sober newspapers. It's a pleasant place to spend a hot afternoon, anyhow. The walls are a cool buff color; there are pictures of things other than sailing vessels and stormy seas or steamships with every smoke-stack smoking fiercely; there are book shelves, too, with here and there a bright-hued binding making an arresting spot of color, or a worn, down-at-the-heels volume attesting to its own popularity.

And down in the baggage room there was constant activity. In one day 70 pieces of "dunnage" came in and 20 pieces went out. Gradually, however, as the men go back to their ships after the strike, the reading room ranks will thin a little and the baggage room settle down to its normal condition.

MORE MOVING PICTURES

At our first entertainment sixty-four men were present. Lemonade and cakes were served and the evening proved to be enormously successful.

One hundred and forty men from the Mauretania, Adriatic, Clyde and Morgan lines attended the second "show." The humorous films met with the most hearty applause, while the pictures of travel, of Niagara Falls and the Yosemite Valley are the least popular. So far we have had but one moving picture play, "The Doctor," and the men followed this with eager and excited interest. As we can afford it, we purchase new films, and by co-operating with Mr. Stafford Wright of the Seamen's Christian Association we are able to give the men greater variety.

REPORT FOR JUNE

DEPARTMENT REPORTS FOR JUNE.

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

JUNE, 1912

Savings Department.

June 1st, cash on hand.....	\$19,749.92
Deposits	10,411.85
	<u>\$30,161.77</u>
Payments (\$3,614.55 transmitted)	10,354.30
July 1st, cash balance.....	\$19,807.47

Shipping Department.

Number of vessels shipped by Seamen's Church Institute	21
Number of men provided with employment in port.....	63
Number of men shipped.....	<u>242</u>
Total (number of men).....	305

Reading Rooms.

Total attendance	14,473
Letters written and received.....	2,826
Packages reading given.....	706

Relief Department.

Assisted	90
Sent to Legal Aid Society.....	34
Hospital visits	21
Sick seamen visited.....	46
Visits to ships in port.....	146

Religious and Social Departments.

Number of services.....	10
Attendance, total	463
Communion services	2

Institute Boat "Sentinel."

Trips made	31
Visits to vessels.....	88
Men transported	117
Pieces baggage transported.....	129

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