The
American Seamen's
Friend Society

72 WALL STREET
NEW YORK

One Hundred and First
Annual Report

March 31st 1929
The American Seamen’s Friend Society

Officers

Loan Libraries for Ships

Sailors’ Home and Institute

Affiliated and Co-operating Societies

Sailors’ Magazine and Seamen’s Friend

Financial Statement
THIS TABLET
THE GIFT OF A FRIEND
IS ERECTED IN
1928
IN RECOGNITION OF
THE SERVICE RENDERED BY
THE AMERICAN SEAMEN’S
FRIEND SOCIETY
TO SEAMEN OF ALL NATIONS
DURING
THE ONE HUNDRED YEARS
SINCE ITS FOUNDING IN
1828

PLACED IN SAILORS’ HOME AND INSTITUTE, NEW YORK
October 31, 1928
TheAmerican
Seamen's Friend
Society

ORGANIZED MAY, 1828
INCORPORATED APRIL, 1833

ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST
ANNUAL REPORT
MARCH 31st, 1929

72 WALL STREET
NEW YORK
The American Seamen's Friend Society

The American Seamen's Friend Society

PRESIDENTS

Elected

*Hon. Smith Thomson ................................................. 1828
*Adrian Van Sinderen .............................................. 1831
*David W. C. Oliphant ........................................... 1840
*Anson G. Phelps ................................................... 1841
*Capt. Edward Richardson ........................................ 1841
*Pelattiah Perit ..................................................... 1848
*William A. Booth .................................................. 1856
*Richard P. Buck .................................................... 1873
*Reuben W. Ropes ................................................... 1885
*Charles H. Trask .................................................... 1891
*James W. Elwell .................................................... 1896
*Rev. Charles A. Stoddard, D.D. ............................ 1899
*Rev. John B. Calvert, D.D. ................................... 1911
*Winchester Noyes ................................................ 1928

SECRETARIES

Corresponding

Elected

*Rev. C. P. M'Ilvane ............................................. 1828
*Rev. Joseph Brown ............................................. 1833
*Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf ..................................... 1834
*Rev. John Spaulding ........................................... 1845
*Rev. Harmon Loomis ......................................... 1845

Rev. George Sidney Webster, D.D., 1914

Recording

Elected

*Philip Flagler ..................................................... 1828
*Jeremiah P. Tappan ............................................. 1834

Elected

*Elisha D. Hurlbut ............................................ 1836
*Thomas Hale ..................................................... 1838

Financial

*Rev. John Spaulding, 1841

Assistant

Reginald L. McAll, 1922

Treasurers

Elected

*Capt. Silas Holmes ............................................. 1828
*Charles N. Talbot .............................................. 1834
*David Olyphant .................................................. 1862
*Richard P. Buck ............................................... 1864

Elected

*Rev. Samuel H. Hall ........................................... 1867
*William C. Sturges ............................................. 1881
*W. Hall Ropes ................................................... 1901

General Agent

*Joshua Leavitt, 1828-1832

Financial Agent

*Luther P. Hubbard, 1863-1894

*Deceased.
The American Seamen's Friend Society

OFFICERS MARCH 31, 1929

WINCHESTER NOYES, President
WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY, Vice-President
GEORGE SYDNEY WEBSTER, D.D., Secretary
CLARENCE C. PINNEO, Treasurer
REGINALD L. MCALL, Asst. Secretary

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS
Hon. George B. Cortelyou
Capt. Sir Arthur H. Rostron
Hon. Josephus Daniels
Dr. Henry van Dyke
Rear-Admiral Nathaniel R. Usher
Hon. William H. Taft
Hon. Charles E. Hughes
Rear-Admiral William S. Sims
Admiral Edward W. Eberle
Rear-Admiral Harry P. Huse
Capt. George Fried
Nehemiah Boynton, D.D.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elected</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fritz v. Briesen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Torrance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wm. H. Van Steenbergh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alfred R. Kimball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joseph B. Morell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eben E. Olcott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William M. Kingsley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Sturges, Jr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orrin R. Judi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arthur N. Peck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester Noyes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph W. Sockman, D.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles H. Potter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Edgar F. Romig, D.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph H. Stever</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LeRoy E. Kimball</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus H. Tracy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FOREWORD

By the Secretary

We present herewith the One hundred and first Annual Report of The American Seamen’s Friend Society for the year ending March 31, 1929 with grateful appreciation of the continued interest and support of our many friends whom we represent in our welfare work for seamen.

The outstanding events of the year were in recognition of the completion of a century of devoted service for seamen of all nations in many ports of the world. The centennial services began with a dinner on board the S. S. America, April 25, 1928. Seventy-five men were present to greet Honorary Vice-President Captain George Fried, the genial host. Vice-President William M. Kingsley introduced as speakers Rev. Merritt A. Farren representing the Boston Seamen’s Friend Society, Captain W. F. Whittemore, President of the Marine Society, Dr. George William Carter, Secretary of the New York Bible Society who represented sister organizations in New York, and Dr. Nehemiah Boynton, who for the past fifteen years, has been a Trustee and Vice-President of the Society.

The centennial Church Service was held May 6, 1928 in the Brick Presbyterian Church, New York, whose pastor, Dr. Gardiner Spring and prominent members helped to found the Society. The sermon was preached by the pastor, Dr. William Pierson Merrill.

The frontispiece is a reproduction of the bronze tablet unveiled in the Sailors’ Home and Institute, New York, October 31, 1928,—the gift of Charles R. Lamb of the firm of J. and R. Lamb in token of friendly interest in the work of the Society. A brief history of the century was given by Dr. Edgar F. Romig and a resume of the twenty years the Sailors’ Home and Institute had served the seamen was given by Fritz v. Briesen, the only member of the Board who was present at the opening October 7, 1908. October 31, 1928 also marked the completion of exactly fifty years of service of Clarence C. Pinneo, Treasurer. He was surprised by the gift of a handsome testimonial signed by the officers, trustees and members of the staff of the Society. The trustees also recognized his invaluable and loyal services by a special gift.

The fifty-fifth presentation of Scriptures to 174 graduating midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy took place Sunday evening, May 27, 1928. The fifth presentation of Scriptures was made to 15 graduates of the New York State Nautical School on December 19, 1928.

The Society sustained a severe loss in the death of Trustee Herbert Kenaston Twitchell on July 11, 1928.
Loan Libraries
72 Wall Street, New York

William Elling, Librarian  Walter E. Messenger, Ship Visitor

The Librarian reports as follows:

The work for seamen as effected through the loan libraries has been carefully and conscientiously carried on. Not since the old pre-war days has there been so many calls from sea captains and others on board ships for loan libraries. The demand was greater than our income. However, through the generosity of friends on shore this Society placed thirty-three more libraries on ships this year than in the previous year.

Our ship visitor, Walter E. Messenger, daily coming in contact with the men on board ship has made many friends among the officers and crew, many of whom look upon his visits as one of the bright spots in their dreary life on ship board. His genial personality and cheerful conversation is greatly appreciated by the sailor and is of much value to the loan library work.

The books were selected after careful consideration by the librarian who reviewed many books, choosing only such books, the reading of which would create a kindly spirit and good fellowship among the crew, cheer them in their lonely hours at sea, aid them in advancement in position on board ship and build up their moral character.

Each library contained books of adventure, travel, biography, history, science, (navigation, astronomy, electricity or engineering) fiction, religion and worship.

During the year ending March 31, 1929 two hundred and sixty-three libraries were placed on as many vessels, of which one was placed on the Byrd Expedition ship City of New York, bound for the South Pole. Twenty-three made voyages around the world, eighty-four went through the Panama Canal to ports on the West Coast of North and South America, Hawaiian Islands and others were bound to ports in the British Isles, Europe, Asia, Philippine Islands, Australia, New Zealand, West Indies and the East Coast of North and South America. These libraries contained 10,520 volumes. Nearly 23,000 seamen on board these ships had free access to the books during their watch below. The whole number of libraries sent to sea since March, 1859, is 13,234, and the re-shipments of the same 16,487, making in the aggregate 29,721. The number of volumes in these libraries 703,194, has been accessible by first shipment and reshipment to 584,084 seamen.
It is pleasing to note that for seventy years the books in these libraries have been carrying their message of friendship and good-will to the sailors on vessels sailing on all the oceans of the world.

This loan library service is offered free to all American ships sailing out of the port of New York. That the men appreciate the libraries is evidenced by the large number of letters received by the librarian from sea captains and sailors, testifying as to the benefits derived from reading the books during their spare time at sea.

A few extracts from the many letters received during the year follow: "We have enjoyed the library very much and derived a great deal of benefit from the technical books." "The library is in constant use at sea." "It would be very inconvenient to go to sea without a library." "It seems the crew prefers your library to any other." "A good book is a constant companion to every American going to sea." "It is a vast comfort to have a real good book to read." "Each and every book was read and enjoyed by all on board." "We get many hours of enjoyment in reading the books." "Our knowledge has been increased by reading the books during our long days at sea." "The religious books were read by nearly all the crew." "It is remarkable how you can get such a variety of reading into such a small space." "During the long days at sea good books are naturally welcome." "The books most enjoyed seem to be those of adventure, travel and seafaring." "Everyone on board found their favorite book in the neat little library case." "The books were all out at one time including a dictionary of the Bible." "The whole crew read and appreciated the excellent selection of books in your library." "The books were of great value to us." "We find that the books undoubtedly were carefully selected." "The variety of subjects make it possible for each man to always find a book to suit his personal taste." We all derived much benefit from reading the books." "Of course the books were very interesting, and we enjoyed every page of them." "We derived much comfort in reading the books of a religious character." "It has been a great pleasure to all of us to read the books." "Seagoing men on the whole are men of few words but the eagerness with which they watch the forthcoming of new volumes in your library is a testimonial of their gratitude." "We often marvel how you manage to furnish so well selected books in such excellent condition; unfortunately we are unable to return the books in the same condition, but this is proof that your books are put to their full hard day's work and return worn, but happy." "At sea the crew usually look forth for the time when they can spare a few minutes to enjoy a book as
it is the only means of recreation they may have.” “Our voyages are very long, and the books are thoroughly read upon the completion of the voyage.” “No one unless he goes to sea knows how eagerly sailors look for the books and how much they appreciate reading them.” “We find great pleasure in reading the wonderful books in your library.” “As this vessel covers 25,000 miles on each trip, it is on such long voyages that the library has an opportunity to show its worth.” “The religious books were especially good reading and helpful.”

The library is one of the best ways of reaching the sailors; it follows him to his “home” on the sea, with refined, elevating, Christian literature. Usually one of his shipmates is selected librarian. They turn the sailor’s attention to his real friends on land, and place before him the evidence of their deep and liberal interest in his behalf. The books awaken hope and gratitude, draw seamen away from degrading vices and elevate their minds to truth in science, literature and religion, often leading them to accept Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour.

Libraries now going to sea contain the following books:

**Biography**
- John Paul Jones ........................................... James Otis
- Woodrow Wilson ........................................... Joseph P. Tumulty

**Science**
- The Engineer ............................................. James Hays Hammond
- Astronomy for Everybody ................................ Simon Newcome
- We .............................................................. Charles A. Lindbergh

**Books of Reference**
- Harper’s School Geography ............................ American Book Co.
- Webster’s Self Pronouncing Dictionary ........... World Syndicate Co.

**Poetry**
- Chosen Poems ............................................... Henry van Dyke

**Recreation and Amusement**
- The Canary Murder Case ................................. S. S. Van Dine
- Lights Up .................................................... Grace S. Richmond
- The Law of the Lean Lands ............................. Charles Pitt
- Cousin Jane .................................................. Harry Leon Wilson
- Of All Things ............................................... Robert C. Benchley
- Beyond the Frontier ...................................... Randall Parrish
- Lord Jim ...................................................... Joseph Conrad
- The High Forfeit ........................................... Basil King
- The Patrician ................................................ John Galsworthy
- The Return of the Native ................................ Thomas Hardy

**History**
- Ticonderoga ................................................ G. P. R. James
- Nick of the Woods ......................................... Robert Montgomery Bird
TRAVEL AND ADVENTURE
Faery Lands of the South Seas................. Charles B. Nordhoff
My Odyssey ........................................ Jack McLean
Fluid of the Sun ................................ Carl Lombard
Edge of the Jungle ................................. William Beebe
The Adventures of a Supercargo............... Louis Becke
The Incas Ransom ................................ Gordon MacGreagh

BOOKS OF MORAL AND UPLIFTING INFLUENCE
Success and You ................................ Nellie E. Friend
Radio Preaching ................................ Philip I. Roberts
Of the Imitation of Christ ................. Thomas a’Kempis
The Pilgrim’s Progress ........................ John Bunyan
Possibilities ...................................... J. G. K. McClure
Bible Characters ................................ D. L. Moody
The Way of Life ................................ C. H. Spurgeon
Naaman the Syrian ................................. A. B. Mackay
Good Tidings ..................................... T. DeWitt Talmadge
Addresses .......................................... Henry Drummond
Quiet Talks on How to Pray.................. S. D. Gordon

DEVOTIONAL
Holy Bible ......................................... New York Bible Society
Seaman’s Manual of Worship, 4 copies... The American Seamen’s Friend Society

To the preceding books are added copies of the Sailors’ Magazine and other publications of The American Seamen’s Friend Society.
The American Seamen's Friend Society

507 West Street, New York

George Sidney Webster, D.D. ...................................... Superintendent
Rev. James C. Healey, A.M. ....................................... Chaplain and Ass't Superintendent
Rev. A. Randal Zendt ............................................. Ass't Chaplain and Ship Visitor
Mrs. A. Randal Zendt ................................................ Hostess Missionary
Miss Irene Hennig ................................................... Hostess Musician

Since the Sailors' Home and Institute was opened, October 7, 1908, more than 3,600,000 seamen have been welcomed. During the past year the homelike Christian atmosphere has been maintained by Chaplain Healey and his able staff of devoted workers.

As the majority of its seafaring guests are from British ships we quote the following testimony of Secretary Herbert E. Barker of the British Sailors' Society of London.

"We are working in close cooperation with The American Seamen's Friend Society in New York and at many of our foreign centres, and to Dr. George S. Webster, the Secretary, and the officers and trustees of that large Society which safeguards the welfare of American sailors the world over, we tender our heartiest congratulations on reaching their centenary of service. British seamen are welcomed at the Sailors' Home and Institute in New York, and we note from 'The Sailors' Magazine,' published by the American Society, an account of a British member of the crew of the S.S. Mauretania who has been on that ship for forty-two voyages, and every Sunday when in New York attends the church service at the Sailors' Home and Institute."

Summary of the Year Ending March 31, 1929

Religious Services .................................................. 128
Attendance at Religious Services ................................ 4,941
Concert Attendance .................................................. 4,274
Hospital Visits ....................................................... 79
Men visited in hospitals ............................................. 229
Men sent to hospitals ................................................ 20
Men received from hospitals ..................................... 35
Visits to ships ....................................................... 237
Men interviewed on ships ......................................... 10,725
Bundles of literature distributed ................................ 245
Comfort Bags distributed .......................................... 200
Letters written and received .................................... 31,533
Seamen's money cared for ....................................... $28,007.43
Rooms and beds rented ............................................ 64,500
Total attendance of seamen ...................................... 162,800
Fishermen's Institute

Rev. George E. Russell, Chaplain

The Chaplain gives the following report:

I offer the following report as evidence of the usefulness of the Fishermen's Institute. Figures are tangible evidence of some of the things that are done for the fishermen, but figures cannot measure the influence of an institution or adequately describe the result of its life upon the men who benefit from its hospitality. The contact of life with life, the mingling of men within the doors of an institution that has for its purpose the maintenance of a helpful, friendly spirit has results through the years that no man can measure.

The Pleasant Sunday Evenings show a steady increase in attendance in the past four seasons, and the season of 1927-28 shows the largest attendance for some time with a total of 1655, and an average of 82 at each of the twenty entertainments. These entertainments of varied programs, of moving pictures, illustrated lectures and musicals, with an opening devotional service, give opportunity for a short period of worship and the enjoyment of a pleasant evening.

The dormitory with its twenty-seven lodging rooms, offering unusual facilities of this kind to our fishermen, was patronized to such an extent that for months during the year there was seldom a vacancy. The men are enthusiastic over their new quarters and in providing our fishermen with these facilities at a very moderate rate the Institute is rendering a splendid service.

During the year, 5529 letters were received by the men and 3717 letters were mailed from the Institute. However, this latter number represents only a part of the mail that goes from our rooms as we have no method of recording it all.

Money orders totalling $6637.08 were sold to the men, and $3883.00 were held for the men for safe keeping. Both of these items show a marked increase over the previous year. The value of this service to our men is easily recognized when we consider the temptations that beset men with money in their pockets.

Fourteen men were sent to Sailors' Snug Harbor, making a total of 183 aged and disabled fishermen who have gone to the great seamen's home at Staten Island in the last ten years through the instrumentality of the Institute.
Seamen's Rest—Y. M. C. A. A. Lincoln Jones, Superintendent

By using every available resource we have taken care of more than 15,000 seamen and some 5,000 landsmen, for over 900 of whom we have secured employment. Over 300 seamen have been received from the various hospitals. There have been held 78 religious services in the building with an attendance of 1,945. About 8,000 men have been personally interviewed in regard to their manner of living and a large number have declared themselves for more Godly righteous and sober living. Two thousand five hundred men have paid for their beds in the course of the year and while we are not able always to give beds to those applying, free lodging has been furnished to approximately 1200, whom we felt were most deserving. Meals have been supplied to about 600 needy men, and 600 packages of reading matter have been furnished the various ships. There have been received at the Rest 4500 letters of which 3700 have been forwarded to seamen in other ports.

We would express our great appreciation of the fine work that has been done by the women constituting our Ladies' Help Guild. Their support, coupled with that of women from the various Churches has done much to hearten us and has been a vital factor in bringing sunshine into the lives of the seamen to whom we have ministered.

Seamen's Friend Society........................Rev. J. T. Routten, Chaplain

Chaplain Routten reports:

We greet you on this, the one hundred and third anniversary of our Society, with deep gratitude to God for His blessings on our labors during the year, and for your sympathy and cooperation in our efforts to minister to the men of the sea.

The past year, perhaps, has been more prosperous in shipping circles than it has been in several years. To us, as well as to the men who are called upon to man the ships, this has been very gratifying. This accounts for the fact that the men have been better able to pay for their lodgings, as may be seen by the large reduction in the number of free beds over those of the previous year—the number being cut by nearly half.

We are deeply indebted to the ladies' auxiliary for their unstinted labors for the success of our work. They are ever ready to lend us a helping hand in any and every enterprise undertaken for the best interest of the institution.
SUMMARY OF THE YEAR'S WORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at Bethel</td>
<td>15,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodgings paid for</td>
<td>7,231</td>
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<tr>
<td>Free lodgings</td>
<td>1,705</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total lodgings</td>
<td>8,936</td>
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<tr>
<td>Money received for lodgings</td>
<td>$2,374.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Visits to sick seamen</td>
<td>6,674</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men shipped for sea service</td>
<td>1,615</td>
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<tr>
<td>Magazines given to take on shipboard</td>
<td>2,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas dinner given to</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters received</td>
<td>3,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letters written</td>
<td>2,072</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free meals and refreshments</td>
<td>6,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men aided in transportation</td>
<td>211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attendance at religious services</td>
<td>2,759</td>
</tr>
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LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS

The New Orleans and Mississippi Valley Seamen's Friend Society, Captain William Lamb, Superintendent.

Captain Lamb reports for the year 1928:

"The year just closed has been an unusually dull one in shipping circles and this has very naturally re-acted on the work of the institution. However, it has been possible to carry on an unbroken routine and 471 ships have been visited and 17,252 men have visited the Bethel, an average of ten ships each week and fifty men every day. The depression in shipping has also seriously affected the income derived from room rents as shown by the fact that of the 7194 beds occupied 3250 were free,—this proportion, almost 50%,—is the highest percentage of free beds furnished during any year of which there is record available. The recreational features of the Bethel have been unusually well attended though the fluctuating number of vessels in port makes it difficult to plan for these affairs. However, 2686 men have attended the Tuesday night entertainments which are arranged during the winter months. It is significant and encouraging to note that the attendance at the Sunday evening services has increased, totalling 2228, which is nearly as many as the number of men attending the Concerts. No report of the Bethel's activities can be made without grateful recognition of the Woman's Auxiliary, which accomplishes a great deal on a very inadequate budget."
Texas—Galveston

Adoue Seamen’s Bethel........................Rev. J. F. Sarner, Chaplain

For the year ending March 1st, 1929, Chaplain Sarner reports:

During the past year we have assisted twenty-seven men to enter the hospital, visited 507 at the hospital and received and assisted 241 convalescent seamen who stayed with us until they were able to work or other provisions for their care were made. The Bethel has provided to seamen without funds 1,014 meals, 4,893 lodgings, 147 garments of clothing, secured work aboard ships or ashore for 1,201 all free of charge. Free lodgings paid at later date 758. Through the generosity of a few citizens the chaplain arranged for Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners to eighty-six men who did not have the price of a meal. Thus temporary assistance was rendered in 7,255 cases to more than 2,300 individuals. The annoyance to merchants, householders, and people on the streets if those men should have been compelled to solicit the public is apparent at once. Bibles, tracts, books, magazines, and periodicals distributed in outgoing ships, hospitals, and county jail, approximately 21,335. Mail for seamen received 6,951. Mail forwarded to seamen 1,173. Letters and postcards written by seamen at our free correspondence tables 11,705. Total mail handled at office, 21,528. For the past thirty years the work has touched more than fifty thousand lives annually, and has an estimated attendance of one hundred thousand this year, approximately 275 a day.

Canada—Toronto

Upper Canada Tract Society....................George Speedie, Secretary

Mr. George Speedie, Secretary of the Upper Canada Tract Society, reports as follows regarding the work of that Society among the seamen of the Great Lakes:

The work continued during the year in an efficient manner with no change in the personnel of the staff. Mr. Judson on the Welland Canal, Mr. George D. Pound serving Kingston and Eastern points, Mr. George Speedie, Jr., Royal Arthur Sailors’ Institute, Port Arthur and Mr. James Gordon and Mr. George Speedie looked after the Toronto Sailors’ Rest, Mr. Ernest Hill at Owen's Sound and Miss Kellett gave part time in several ports. The statistics are as follows: Vessels visited 1,590; Bibles and Testaments distributed 71; Scripture portions 949; leaflets distributed 11,053. A large number of free meals and free beds were given to destitute sailors. Special attention was given to sailors from the United States who happened to find themselves in need when on
our side of the Lakes. Through the kindness of the members of the Women’s Christian Union and other organizations some 400 Ditty Bags were given to sailors, and nearly 9,000 visits were made to our institutes. By actual count 3,073 letters were handled for the sailors. Applications for work approximated 3,000; while berths secured on board ship were 1,157. With an average attendance of 50 sailors, twenty Sunday evening services have been held. Our thanks are gratefully acknowledged to The American Seamen’s Friend Society for a special grant to our Samaritan Fund for the relief of shipwrecked and destitute seamen.

**Brazil—Rio de Janiero**

Seamen’s Center ..................Rev. H. C. Tucker, D.D.

Dr. H. C. Tucker reports as follows:

During the year 1928 at the Seamen’s Center 888 beds and 1,719 meals were furnished free for men in need, while 1,070 beds and 711 meals were supplied, for which a small charge was made to cover expenses. Counsel and help in a number of ways were rendered to men calling at the Center and for chaplaincy advice and assistance. Visits were made to 64 ships having an aggregate of 2,391 men in the crew; 70 bundles of literature were placed on board containing 1,605 magazines, papers, books and tracts; 11 Bibles, 118 New Testaments and 1,168 copies of the Gospels and Psalms. At Christmas time appropriate literature was arranged and supplies sent on board the vessels along side the wharf in the name of the British Sailors’ Society and The American Seamen’s Friend Society. Arrangements were made at the Seamen’s Center for a Christmas dinner; invitations were given out and a larger number of men than usual enjoyed a meal and social time together. The expenses were met out of funds supplied by the two Societies above mentioned.

The Guild of the Union Church and the local Y. M. C. A. have continued to render such help as was called for on behalf of seafaring men. On the occasion of Mr. Herbert Hoover’s visit to Rio de Janeiro very special attention was given the men of the S.S. *Utah* and the sailors were given a good time ashore, also to men of British war vessels when in port.

**Uruguay—Montevideo**

Sailors’ Home and Mission ..........Major D. F. Thomas, Manager

The Sailors’ Home and Mission at Montevideo was reaffiliated with The American Seamen’s Friend Society in December, 1928. Prior to some fifteen or more years ago this was one of our most
The American Seamen’s Friend Society

prosperous affiliated stations in South America. For the past thirty years Mr. Herbert P. Coates has been well known to The American Seamen’s Friend Society as the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer of that work. It is a great pleasure to find him still actively interested in it. He writes: “There is no overhead luxury, but there is, I assure you an efficient work being done which you can ask any of your visiting friends in this port to look over and tell you about. I was down in the port yesterday seeing friends away, and I was struck by the number of American boats tied up and anchored in the inner port. We rarely used to see Old Glory when I first began to take interest in this mission work, and now it is at times most numerously represented. We are not thinking of the grant in terms of dollars so much as the pleasure it gives us to have you recognize us, and have you feel that we represent you in this part of the world, in any way you have wish to call upon us.”

The Manager, Major Thomas, reports for six months as follows: Number of beds supplied 8,899, of whom 690 were given free to destitute seamen. There were 8,331 meals served, of which 1,313 were free. The seamen in hospitals, prisons and ships received 310 visits. There were distributed 4,378 bundles of literature. Employment was found on shore and afloat for 113. The number of seamen visiting the reading rooms and recreation rooms during the six months were 1,890. “I would like to mention that every American ship is visited, and the sailors are invited to make use of the facilities that the Home offers them in the way of reading and recreation rooms, and board and lodging at moderate prices, and usually when an American sailor is paid off or left in the hospital, he is sent to this Institution until such times as he is either shipped or sent back to America.”

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—BUENOS AIRES

Victoria Sailors’ Home........................................P. J. Wyatt, Manager

Mr. P. J. Wyatt reports for the year 1928 as follows:

Sailors lodging at the Home 654: they belong to the following 32 nationalities: Americans, Arabs, Argentines, Belgians, Brazilians, British, Chilians, Czechoslovakians, Colombian, Danish, Dutch, Egyptian, Esthonians, Finns, Germans, Hindus, Indians, Hungarians, Italians, Letts, Lithuanian, Maltese, Malayans, Norwegians, Palestinian Jew, Porto Ricans, Pole, Portugese, Rumanian, Russians, Spaniards and Swedes. The largest number were 397 British, the next largest 48 Norwegian, the third 35 Swedes, the fourth 25 Finns, and the fifth 19 Americans. There were held at the Sailors’ Home 42 religious services with an attendance of 1,009; 162 entertainments
The American Seamen's Friend Society

with an attendance of 9,025. Fifty visits were made to hospitals and 639 ships were visited. Nine hundred and sixty-two British ships entered the port and 166 seamen were sent home by the British Consul General. Employment was found for 267. There were distributed 2,755 bundles of literature.

The work of the Ladies' Committee has been carried out in the usual efficient manner and grateful acknowledgement is made of the help which they have rendered. The Ladies' Committee provided one of Sunday concerts each month and gave also valuable financial assistance for various other entertainments.

ITALY—GENOA

Harbour Mission Sailors' Rest....Rev. R. P. R. Anderson, Supt

Superintendent Anderson reports as follows:

The Harbour Mission has completed its fifty-eighth year, and a year of much encouragement it has been. The same living interest as ever has attended the work, and happily, an increase of interesting life has been about us. It is certain that the percentage per ship of both officers and men frequenting the Sailors' Rest has never been so high as it is today. Our work centres in that fine Institute that is not called an Institute, but bears the quaint old name, so dear to those who have known it long and so puzzling to strangers: The Sailors' Rest. The name is an interesting link with the past, for it connects us obviously with the oldest Society working for seamen's welfare, the British Sailors' Society, which we represent officially in Genoa, and it is a memorial of the Mission's very gallant founder, the Rev. Dr. Donald Miller, to whose character and genius every successor will wish to pay homage. The Rest stands four-square on the Harbour front. Its situation provides an open door easy to find. It has all the accommodation and equipment needed in an up-to-date Institute: hall, reading-rooms, billiard tables, canteen, library (both lending and reference), house for the Resident Manager, Chaplain's Office and committee room, two pianos, an organ for services, a lantern for lectures, and so on. We supply writing paper and envelopes free, sell stamps, post letters, receive mails, store sailors' kits, bank their money, arrange football matches between ships' crews and provide the boots and togs, conduct excursions, visit men in hospital, supply chits for decent lodging, and pursue generally the modern lines of Welfare Work.

There are two splendid societies that are affiliated with us for the work: societies of world reputation. The Chaplain of the Genoa Sailors' Rest is the official representative of both. I refer to The British Sailors' Society and The American Seamen's Friend
The American Seamen’s Friend Society

Society. As the Treasurer’s Statement shows, those two societies give generously toward our support. The former has just issued its 110th Annual Report; the latter its 100th. So neither is young and both are going from strength to strength. It is a big honour to represent such devoted bodies of men, and a pleasure to do all we can to fulfill the trust they repose in us.

ITALY—LEGHORN

Seamen’s Institute..................Joseph G. Welsby, Esq., Superintendent

Superintendent Welsby reports for the year 1928.

We report that our work goes on with as much enthusiasm as ever. Our old friends stand by nobly and some new ones have been added during the year. Both the British and American Consuls and Vice-Consuls and the Captain of the port are very friendly and do everything they can to help us.

As expressing the appreciation of the seamen we quote a single testimony, typical of many, from an officer who said, “The Seamen’s Institute is the brightest and most comfortable place in Leghorn.” Our Church services are very well attended by the seamen who come from their ships in boats. Football and baseball matches between the crews have been arranged with great success as indicated by the following from the log of the Institute October 6, 1928:

“Ten ships in port today, had two football matches, had to referee both games, felt as tired as the boys did, but we all agreed that they were jolly good games.” Shipwrecked crews were cared for and seamen in hospitals faithfully visited.

There were held 30 church services with an attendance of 507. There were present at concerts 810 and football matches 403. Eighteen seamen in hospitals were paid 79 visits. Free teas were given to 629 and 102 packages of literature distributed. Letters received and sent 2,029. There were 306 British and 43 American ships in port which received 954 visits.

I would like to thank all our home friends who help our boys from time to time, the British Sailors’ Society and The American Seamen’s Friend Society, and to assure you that your efforts are greatly appreciated, both by our seamen and by our committee here in Leghorn.

ITALY—NAPLES

Sailor’s Rest..........................A. Steele Greig, Superintendent

Superintendent Greig thus reports the work of the Sailor’s Rest in Naples, Italy, for the year 1928. There were held 47 meetings with a total attendance of 664 seamen. Visits were made to 686 ships and other visits including those to men in the hospitals to-
The American Seamen's Friend Society
talled 1385. More than 16,000 seamen were welcomed at the Rest where 3,478 pieces of mail were handled. Thirty sight-seeing parties were conducted to various places of interest in and about Naples and 214 seamen received lodging accommodations.

Mr. Greig writes, "We have not been very busy during the last three months, but I have kept in touch with all the ships visiting Naples and tried to give the men a good time. We had a visit from the U. S. Cruiser Raleigh. I went on board and saw the chaplain and offered the use of the Rest for the men, many of whom came to us. I also gave him information regarding various points of interest around Naples, for which he was very grateful. I organized American Merchant seamen parties to the museum telling them about Pompeii and Herculaneum, the cities buried by Vesuvius. My son took several parties to the Little Vesuvius."

JAPAN—NAGASAKI
The Nagasaki Seamen's Home..............E. R. S. Pardon, President

The following report of the Nagasaki Seamen's Home was adopted at the Annual Meeting, November 19, 1928:

"The report of the Board of Directors stated that the year was comparatively uneventful. The Home was open and ready for service without difficulty, and opportunities of usefulness were not lacking. More foreign merchant ships entered the port than for several years previously, but none stayed for any considerable time; it was not possible to do more for them than send literature on board. American, British, French, and Italian warships visited the port and their crews were invited to make use of the Home. The British sailors made the best response; many who had used the Home on former visits expressed pleasure at finding it still open. There had been another change in the management of the institution. In July, Mr. Martin Hoekseman relinquished charge on returning to the United States. Mr. Samuel Kirkwood, a pensioner of the United States Army, who has lived in Nagasaki for several years, undertook the duties of manager—without salary—and was able to give all his time to the work. A resolution was passed instructing the Board of Directors to convey to the supporting societies, the American Seamen's Friend Society and the British Sailors' Society, the sincere thanks of the meeting for the grants in aid of the work."
Benevolences

The benevolent work of the Society during the year was largely concerned in providing for 2,636 shipwrecked and destitute seamen of whom 1,062 received free meals and 1,496 free beds at the Sailors' Home and Institute, and 59 were provided with clothing, and 19 with railroad fare. The total amount expended for this benevolent work was $1,966.44.

The Sailors' Magazine and Seamen's Friend

For one hundred years this publication of The American Seamen's Friend Society has been the leading American periodical in the interest of work for seafaring men. The first number was issued September, 1828, being the work of several friends in the newly organized American Seamen's Friend Society. Rev. Joshua Leavitt soon after became editor and continued until the close of the fourth volume. From the beginning until August, 1858, the title was the Sailors' Magazine and Naval Journal. In January, 1858, the Life Boat, a department of the magazine for the young, was begun, and continued, until October, 1914. During most of this time the Life Boat was published as a separate issue for distribution in Sunday Schools. The Seamen's Friend was made a department first in September, 1858, and the full title of "The Sailors' Magazine and Seamen's Friend" has continued until the present day.

The past year 30,500 copies of the Magazine were published. Subscription rate $1.00 per year.

Acknowledgments

Thanks are offered to the New York Bible Society for generous grants of Bibles, to the various Steamship companies who have contributed from their concert collections, to the Publishing Houses in New York and other cities who have furnished books at reduced rates for our loan libraries, and to all friends of the Society who have sent contributions of reading matter, clothing and money.
How to Send a Loan Library to Sea

Enclose $25.00 in Check or Post Office Money Order to The American Seamen's Friend Society, 72 Wall Street, New York City, giving the name and address of the contributor. The number of the library will be registered and assigned to the donor, who will be notified of the vessel on which it is placed, its destination, the name of the captain and the number of men in the crew.

The American Seamen's Friend Society

Cares for and outfits shipwrecked crews.
Visits merchant vessels when in port.
Provides good reading for use at sea.

($25.00 furnishes a loan library.)
Brings cheer to lonely seamen in hospitals.
Maintains the Sailors' Home and Institute in New York.
Ministers to seamen in other ports, at home and abroad.

The Society depends entirely on voluntary contributions and legacies. For a century it has had the confidence and support of Churches and Sunday Schools of all denominations, as well as individuals and business firms. These earnest friends of seamen have made possible its long record of fruitful service.

It also asks help in securing new friends, and welcomes the names of those who would be interested to hear of this vitally important work.

Checks should be made payable to The American Seamen's Friend Society and mailed to Clarence C. Pinneo, Treasurer, 72 Wall Street, New York, N. Y.

Form of Bequest

"I give and bequeath to The American Seamen's Friend Society, incorporated by the Legislature of New York, in the year 1833, the sum of $................., to be applied to the charitable uses and purposes of said Society."

Three witnesses should testify at the end of the will, over their signatures, to the following formalities, which, in the formation of the will, should be strictly observed.

1st.—That the testator subscribe (or acknowledge the subscription of) the will in their presence. 2nd.—That he, at the same time, declared to them that it was his last will and testament. 3rd.—That they, the witnesses, then and there, in his presence, and at his request, and in presence of each other, signed their names thereto, as witnesses.
The American Seamen's Friend Society in Account with Clarence C. Pinneo, Treasurer
Cash Receipts and Disbursements from April 1st, 1928 to March 31st, 1929

1928
March 31, By Cash Balance from previous account ................................................................. $14,129.75

1929
March 31:
By Cash from Legacies ...................... $12,248.03

" Donations general work: $10,145.79

" " Income Permanent Fund Investments general work: 7,145.12

" " Interest a/c: Free Assets general work including subscriptions for Sailors' Magazine .... 2,569.90 19,860.81

" " Cash Donations for Loan library work ...$1,980.00

" " Income from Library Fund Investments ... 1,115.64 3,095.64

" " Donations for Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen: $1,162.20

" " Income from Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen Fund Investments: 611.34 1,773.54

" " Income from Investments a/c U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis Books for graduates ...$270.00

" " Donations for books for graduates of U. S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md. ......... 21.73 291.73 37,269.75

" " Donations for Putnam Library Fund .......... 500.00

" " Sailors' Home and Institute, viz: Interest on Fund for Furnishings .............. 18.40

" " Maintenance a/c, Rents, donations, etc. $35,779.80 35,798.20 36,298.20 73,567.93

" " Net amount received in Investment changes, etc. 7,202.95

$94,900.65

New York City, April 29, 1929.
Examined and found correct. R. H. STEVER, Auditor.

1929
March 31, To Cash Paid:
Foreign Missions, 12 months to date.................. $2,425.00
Domestic Missions ditto ................................ 1,100.00
Extension Work ditto ................................ 5,793.74
Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen ................. 1,966.44
Magazine and Publication Department, cost of Sailors' Magazine, etc. .... 2,751.26
Loan Library Department, cost of books, cases, etc., and Administration .... 6,091.18
Annapolis Naval Academy Books a/c, cost of presentation of Scriptures, etc. 329.27
Office Salaries and Office and Administration Expenses 20,094.67

Sailors' Home and Institute:
Repairs and Renewals ......................... $ 1,315.37
Ditto Furnishings ....................... 864.02
Ditto Maintenance ........................ 43,057.12 45,236.51

Cash on hand in Bank, Trust Co. and Petty Cash ......... 9,112.58

$94,900.65

New York City, March 31, 1929.
CLARENCE C. PINNEO, Treasurer.