The
American Seamen's
Friend Society

72 Wall Street
New York

One Hundred and Fourth
Annual Report

March 31st
1932
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
THE AMERICAN SEAMEN'S FRIEND SOCIETY CONTINUES IN THIS BUILDING THE SERVICE TO SEAMEN IN THE PORT OF NEW YORK WHICH IT MAINTAINED IN THE SAILORS' HOME 190 CHERRY STREET 1842 — 1903 AND IN THE SAILORS HOME AND INSTITUTE 507 WEST STREET 1908 — 1931

BRONZE TABLET IN SEAMEN'S HOUSE 550 West 20th St., New York City
The
American Seamen's
Friend Society

ORGANIZED MAY, 1828
INCORPORATED APRIL, 1833

ONE HUNDRED AND FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

MARCH 31st, 1932

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

### Presidents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hon. Smith Thompson</td>
<td>1828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adrian Van Sinderen</td>
<td>1831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David W. C. Olyphant</td>
<td>1840</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anson G. Phelps</td>
<td>1841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capt. Edward Richardson</td>
<td>1841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pelatiah Perit</td>
<td>1848</td>
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<tr>
<td>William A. Booth</td>
<td>1856</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. Buck</td>
<td>1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reuben W. Ropes</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles H. Trask</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<tr>
<td>James W. Elwell</td>
<td>1896</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. Charles A. Stoddard, D.D.</td>
<td>1899</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. John B. Calvert, D.D.</td>
<td>1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winchester Noyes</td>
<td>1928</td>
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### Secretaries

#### Corresponding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rev. C. P. M'Ivane</td>
<td>1828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Israel P. Warren</td>
<td>1857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Joseph Brown</td>
<td>1833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. S. B. Bissell</td>
<td>1860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Jonathan Greenleaf</td>
<td>1834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Samuel H. Hall, D.D.</td>
<td>1865</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. John Spaulding</td>
<td>1845</td>
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<td>Rev. James W. Elwell</td>
<td>1891</td>
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<td>Rev. George Sidney Webster, D.D.</td>
<td>1904</td>
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#### Recording

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Philip Flagler</td>
<td>1828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elisha D. Hurlbut</td>
<td>1836</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeremiah P. Tappan</td>
<td>1834</td>
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<td>Thomas Hale</td>
<td>1838</td>
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#### Financial

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. John Spaulding</td>
<td>1841</td>
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#### Assistant

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reginald L. McAll</td>
<td>1922-1931</td>
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### Treasurers

#### Elected

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Capt. Silas Holmes</td>
<td>1828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. Samuel H. Hall</td>
<td>1867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles N. Talbot</td>
<td>1834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. William C. Sturges</td>
<td>1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Olyphant</td>
<td>1862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. W. Hall Ropes</td>
<td>1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. Buck</td>
<td>1864</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarence C. Pinneo</td>
<td>1905</td>
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#### General Agent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joshua Leavitt</td>
<td>1828-1832</td>
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#### Financial Agent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Luther P. Hubbard</td>
<td>1863-1894</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Deceased
The American Seamen's Friend Society

OFFICERS, MARCH 31, 1932

WINCHESTER NOYES, President
WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY, Vice-President
GEORGE SIDNEY WEBSTER, D.D., Secretary
CLARENCE C. PINNEO, Treasurer

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

HON. GEORGE B. CORTELYOU
CAPT. SIR ARTHUR H. ROSTRON
HON. JOSEPHUS DANIELS
DR. HENRY VAN DYKE
HON. CHARLES E. HUGHES
REAR-ADMIRAL WILLIAM S. SIMS
REAR-ADMIRAL HARRY P. HUSE
CAPT. GEORGE FRIED
NEHEMIAH BOYNTON, D.D.
REAR-ADMIRAL RICHARD E. BYRD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Elected

FRITZ V. BRIESEN..............................1906
ALEXANDER TORRANCE..........................1910
WM. H. VAN STEENBERGH......................1912
WILLIAM M. KINGSLEY.........................1917
FREDERICK STURGES, JR.......................1919
ORRIN R. JUDD..................................1922
ARTHUR N. PECK................................1923
WINCHESTER NOYES............................1924
RALPH W. Sockman, D.D.......................1925
CHARLES H. POTTER..............................1926
EDGAR F. ROMIG, D.D...........................1926
RALPH H. STEVER...............................1927
LEROY E. KIMBALL..............................1928
MARCUS H. TRACY..............................1928
CLIFFORD D. MALLORY...........................1929
ALFRED V. S. OLCOTT...........................1929
EVARTS L. PRENTISS............................1930
J. STANLEY DURKEE, D.D........................1930
FOREWORD

By the Secretary

In presenting the One Hundred and Fourth Annual Report of The American Seamen’s Friend Society for the year ending March 31, 1932, we express grateful appreciation to our loyal friends on land and sea for their continued and cordial cooperation and support in our welfare work for seafaring men and boys in New York and the ports of the world.

The work of the Society is outlined briefly in the following pages of this Report. Each department has faithfully and steadily served with the same Christian spirit which has characterized the officers and staff during its more than a century of welfare work for seamen.

The One Hundred and Third Anniversary Church Service was held on Sunday morning, May 10, 1931, in the Mount Washington Presbyterian Church, New York City. The Pastor, Rev. Walter David Knight, preached the sermon. A very hearty welcome was given to the Society by the Pastor and officers of the Church. In addition to the splendid work of the choir, very appropriate music was rendered by the baritone soloist, Mr. Knight MacGregor.

The fifty-eighth presentation of Scriptures to the graduating class of midshipmen of the United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland, took place Sunday evening, May 24, 1931. Service was held in Bancroft Hall under the auspices of the Naval Academy Christian Association. Four hundred and forty-one midshipmen in the graduating class received specially bound copies of the Scriptures inscribed with their names.

On October 14, 1931, twenty-two graduates and on January 29, 1932, eighteen graduates of the New York State Merchant Marine Academy at the Maritime Exchange, New York City, were presented with copies of the Scriptures and Seamen’s Manual of Worship.

The most important change in the work of the Society during the year was the completion of the Seamen’s House, erected by the cooperation of the Young Men’s Christian Association of New York City, the Seamen’s Christian Association and The American Seamen’s Friend Society, and which heads the list of the sixteen affiliated and cooperating stations connected with the Society.
Loan Libraries

72 Wall Street, New York

William Elling, Librarian  Walter E. Messenger, Ship Visitor

The Librarian reports as follows:

In reviewing the library work for the past year it is very encouraging to note that there has been an increase of twenty loan libraries sent to sea over the number sent out the previous year. In addition fifty-nine vessels were supplied with packages of good clean magazines and other literature of a technical character.

One of the features of the year's work was the sending to sea in the loan libraries books commemorating the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Washington, histories of the United States of America, and other literature relative to the Washington Bi-Centenary and the early history of our country; another was furnishing libraries to vessels of the United States Army Transport service for the use of the crew, who are all in the Merchant Marine Service.

For the year ending March 31, 1932, three hundred and fifty-five loan libraries were placed on as many vessels of which eighty-three were new and two hundred and seventy-two were refitted and re-shipped. The number of volumes is 14,200 available during the year to 49,870 seamen. Thirty-nine of the vessels on which these libraries were placed made voyages Around-the-World, seventy-five went through the Panama Canal to the Hawaiian Islands, British Columbia, and to ports on the West Coast of North and South America, and others were bound for the United Kingdom, Northern and Southern Europe, Asia, Africa, Philippine Islands, Australia, New Zealand, Central America, West Indies, Mexico, the East Coast of North and South America and several are on United States Coast Guard vessels doing patrol duty along the Atlantic Coast.

Through the cooperation of friends on shore who love sailors the loan library work has been carried on without interruption for seventy-three years and has proved very successful and beneficial to men in the service of the American Merchant Marine. The whole number of libraries sent out since March, 1859, is 13,543 and the reshipments of the same 17,187, making in the aggregate 30,730. The
number of volumes in these libraries, 727,575, has been accessible by first shipment and reshipment to 699,973 seamen. As a library often remains on a vessel three or four voyages, each voyage having a different crew, a much larger number of men is reached than the above figures indicate.

That the libraries are highly esteemed by seamen is clearly seen by the many courtesies shown our ship visitor, Walter E. Messenger, by members of the crew on board ships lying at the piers in New York Harbor. Just one complaint is always made. There are not enough of books in the library. When we consider that the average crew on an American vessel is fifty or more men, we will readily realize that the complaint is justified; however, the number of libraries cannot be increased as the funds available are not sufficient to meet the demand. We confidently appeal to public spirited men and women and all friends of the sailor to support this worthwhile work in a substantial manner so this service may be pushed to the utmost.

"Life on board the average ship soon settles down to dreary hours of monotony. The sea, the sky, the ship, the men and food are unchanging." There are approximately 500,000 men in the service of the American Merchant Marine. A large number come out of good homes, have a good education and are remarkably fond of reading and live under conditions where worthwhile books will make deep impressions. Think of these men thousands of miles away from home and friends, imagine the feeling of loneliness which must come over them during their spare time off watch. In these dragging hours a book out of the library is a great comfort to sailors, affording them many happy and interesting hours at sea, broadening their ideas of life and awakening in their minds thoughts of home and dear ones.

While their vessel is still at sea or in a foreign port many officers and sailors write letters and send them to the librarian, expressing their high appreciation of the libraries and thanks for the many pleasant and profitable hours spent during their watch below reading the books. This fact is impressive as it demonstrates very clearly that seamen are vitally interested in the loan libraries and avail themselves of the books to relieve the dreary drudgery of the daily routine of life on board ship at sea.

These letters are very interesting and encouraging and are printed monthly in the Sailors’ Magazine. From the many received during the year we reprint a few.
The American Seamen's Friend Society

The chief radio operator of the steamship *Tivives* writes: "These books are greatly appreciated and read by nearly all of the ship's personnel, many getting great comfort and spiritual blessings from them. Their value is inestimable to the men who go down to the sea in ships. They help to while away many a lonesome hour at sea, improving the morale of the men, and are a considerable help in raising the standard of seamen to a high level; eventually giving us a class of seamen in our merchant marine of whom we can be justly proud."

The radio operator of the steamship *Algonquin* writes: "As librarian to the crew I wish to thank you for the library placed on board this vessel last year. At sea a seaman's pleasures are very limited and the library is always well patronized; the men aboard this vessel are no exception and they derive, have derived and, I hope, will derive much pleasure and information from the books in the libraries placed on board by The American Seamen's Friend Society. It has been with great interest that I have watched the liking for books of various persons. Some, and to be exact, most all start reading detective stories and other light reading but gradually acquire a taste for the better class of literature. The selection in your libraries covers all requirements and to read through one of your libraries is to read selections from almost all subjects. I express the hope of everyone aboard that you will continue to be the *Seamen's Friend* for many, many years to come."

The chief steward of the steamship *Pipestone County* writes: "I take this means to express on behalf of the crew and officers our sincere appreciation and thankfulness for the wonderful and instructive books that are placed on our ship every trip for our benefit and use by The American Seamen's Friend Society, and I assure you that we take great interest in these books and highly appreciate the service."

We might quote many others but these are sufficient to encourage the friends of this work to believe that the books have been of great benefit to seamen and are highly appreciated by them.
The American Seamen’s Friend Society

The libraries sent to sea last year contained the following books:

**ADVENTURE AND TRAVEL**
- New Worlds to Conquer ........................................... Richard Halliburton
- A Sage of the Sea .................................................. F. Britten Austin
- Dad, Treasure Story of the Caribbean ......................... Edgar William Croft

**BIOGRAPHY**
- General Washington (Great Commanders Series) ............. General Bradley Johnson
- Edison the Man and His Work ..................................... George S. Bryan

**DEVOTIONAL**
- Holy Bible ...................................................................... New York Bible Society
- Seamen’s Manual of Worship (4 copies) ......................... American Seamen’s Friend Society

**FICTION**
- Harry Idaho .................................................................... Hugh Pendexter
- Last of the Mohicans .................................................. Fenimore Cooper
- Midshipman Easy ...................................................... Captain Marryat
- High Fences ..................................................................... Grace S. Richmond
- Fur Brigade ...................................................................... Hal G. Evarts
- The Virginian .................................................................. Owen Wister
- Tales of the West ....................................................... Bret Hart
- Old First ......................................................................... Lawrence Perry

**HISTORY**
- History of the United States ....................................... John Holladay Latane, LL.D.
- The Cavalier of Tennessee ............................................ Meredith Nicholson
- Hearts of Hickory ....................................................... John T. Moore
- Richard Carvel .......................................................... Winston Churchill

**INSPIRATION AND GUIDANCE**
- The Pull of the Invisible ............................................. J. Stanley Durkee, D.D.
- Little Gems for Everybody .......................................... Angie L. Lenz
- The Pilgrim’s Progress ................................................ John Bunyan
- The Big Brother of Sabin Street ................................... J. T. Thurston
- The Harvest of the Sea ................................................ W. T. Grenfell
- Sowing and Reaping .................................................... D. L. Moody
- According to Promise ................................................ C. H. Spurgeon
- When He came to Himself .......................................... Louis Tucker

**MYSTERY**
- The Ringer Returns ................................................... Edgar Wallace
- The Fish Hawk ............................................................ Edison Marshall

**REFERENCE**
- World Atlas ..................................................................... Rand & McNally
- Webster’s Handy Dictionary ......................................... A. L. Burt Co.
- Commerce and Industry ................................................ J. Russell Smith

**SCIENCE**
- Keeping up with Science ............................................. Edward E. Slosson, Ph. D.
- The Human Body ........................................................ Logan Glendening

**STORIES**
- Stories from American Authors ................................... Charles Scribner’s Sons
- Great Stories of Real Life ............................................ Edgar Wallace and others

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

Sailors’ Home and Institute
507 West Street, New York

George Sidney Webster, D.D..............................................Superintendent
Rev. James C. Healey, A.M........................................Chaplain and Ass’t Superintendent
Herbert W. Hahn.........................................................Ass’t Chaplain and Ship Visitor
Mrs. A. Randal Zendt................................................Hostess Missionary
Miss Eva Lapierre........................................................Hostess Musician

The Sailors’ Home and Institute, opened October, 1908, was closed by the Society November 1, 1931. The work which had been so successfully maintained for more than twenty-three years on the North River waterfront, New York City, was continued under the management of the Young Men’s Christian Association in the new and finest Seamen’s House one-half mile further north on the same waterfront.

Chaplain Healey and his faithful staff of workers maintained their high standard of friendly hospitality for their seafaring guests. That it was appreciated is shown by many testimonies of the seamen themselves to the kindly courtesy which gave them a real home in the port of New York.

The entertainments provided by sailormen or land-lubbers and by Churches and other organizations were well attended and greatly appreciated. The religious services and the hospital visitation made real to strangers the Christian purpose and kindly sympathy which makes emphatic and true the word friend in the name of our Society.

The following statistics will give an idea in outline of the splendid service rendered to seamen by the Sailors’ Home and Institute during the last seven months of its ministry on the North River waterfront in New York City.

Summary of the Work Ending November 1, 1931

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Count</th>
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<tr>
<td>Religious services</td>
<td>51</td>
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<tr>
<td>Attendance of seamen at religious services</td>
<td>1,583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital visits</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men visited in hospitals</td>
<td>210</td>
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<tr>
<td>Men sent to hospitals</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men received from hospitals</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visits to ships</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men interviewed on ships</td>
<td>2,193</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bundles of literature distributed</td>
<td>360</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letters written and received</td>
<td>11,905</td>
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<tr>
<td>Seamen’s money cared for</td>
<td>$11,432</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rooms and beds rented</td>
<td>26,944</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total attendance of seamen</td>
<td>57,283</td>
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The American Seamen's Friend Society

Affiliated and Co-operating Societies

NEW YORK CITY—Y. M. C. A. BRANCH

Seamen's House.............................................550 West 20th Street
George F. Robinson..................................Executive Secretary
S. M. Cowles..............................................Business Secretary
Rev. James C. Healey.................................Chaplain
Stafford Wright.........................................Employment Secretary

The Seamen's House opened for guests November 2, 1931, and dedicated November 4, 1931, is an example of cooperation in welfare work. On October 24, 1928, The American Seamen's Friend Society and the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City entered into an agreement that The American Seamen's Friend Society would dispose of its Sailors' Home and Institute at 507 West Street and turn over the net proceeds to the Young Men's Christian Association who would erect and maintain a new Seamen's House. A similar agreement was entered into between the Seamen's Christian Association and the Young Men's Christian Association. The property was purchased June 10, 1929, having a frontage of 92 feet on Eleventh Avenue and 139 feet on West 20th Street. The floor plans of the building were prepared by the Architectural Bureau of the National Council of the Y. M. C. A.; Shreve, Lamb and Harmon were the general architects, and John Lowry, Inc., were the builders. Excavations were begun in October, 1930, and the building was turned over for occupancy October 15, 1931. The building has eight floors and pent house, its principal features being reception and social rooms, including separate club rooms for boys, officers and stewardesses; chapel, game room, gymnasium, locker rooms, baths, swimming pool, 225 sleeping rooms and an open dormitory providing a total of 252 beds; cafeteria and lunch counter, barber shop, tailor shop, check room, and administrative offices; the cubic content of the building being 808,000 cubic feet. The cost of the building was $1,000,000.

The Board of Management of the Seamen's House is composed of Trustees representing the three organizations interested and the guests report that they find a most homelike atmosphere, which makes their stay a pleasure and delight in this, the finest modern building for seamen's work in the world.
The following are the statistics for the five months ending March 31, 1932:

Religious services................................................................. 48
Attendance of seamen at religious services.......................... 1,106
Ships visited........................................................................... 449
Seamen interviewed on ships............................................... 10,677
Employment secured for.................................................... 8,014
Patrons of billiards and gymnasium..................................... 5,340
Patrons of rooms and beds............................................... 20,067
Patrons of restaurant......................................................... 70,709
Y. M. C. A. membership..................................................... 1,395
Total attendance................................................................... 58,319

For unemployed seamen at 507 West Street annex:

Free beds................................................................. 29,666
Free meals............................................................... 59,332

Massachusetts—Gloucester

Fishermen's Institute..............................................Rev. George E. Russell, Chaplain

The Chaplain gives the following report:

The fishing industry is sharing in the nation-wide depression and our fishermen have had their earnings seriously curtailed by the prevailing conditions. The fishermen have no more reason to complain than many of their fellows employed in other industries and they face the situation with the characteristic attitude that what cannot be helped must be borne. Men who encounter the uncertain conditions our fishermen face at sea have learned to meet difficult situations squarely with a determination to see them through, knowing that in life every fog is finally dissipated by the sunshine. However philosophical our fishermen may be in meeting hardship and disaster they have the same sense of responsibility to their families which is shared by men everywhere.

It is well for our fishermen in these days of discouragement that there is a center for them in Gloucester where they can find warmth and comfort from the rigors of winter. The Fishermen's Institute provides all the conveniences of a modern social and recreational center and the large number of men that frequent its rooms and depend upon it for many kinds of service attest its popularity.
Because of a fire that originated in a neighboring edifice the Institute building was seriously damaged in the month of January and service for a period of six months was handicapped. However, during this period of alterations and repairs the building was open for partial use and the men enjoyed some privileges. In the month of July the building was completed and full service renewed under greatly improved conditions.

For twelve seasons Pleasant Sunday Evenings have been given for the entertainment of the men. These informal entertainments of music, moving pictures, illustrated lectures, etc., are enjoyed by the men and are well attended. A short devotional service precedes each program so that the spirit of the day is maintained. The total attendance for the season of 1930-31 at the twenty Pleasant Sunday Evenings was 1364.

An essential service to our fishermen, especially to those away from home while in this port, is the post office maintained at the Institute. Here the men get their mail when they return from sea. This year 4814 letters were received. Facilities are available for writing letters and many are sent from here during the year. Money was held for the fishermen but the depression caused a marked decline in the total amount usually left for safe keeping. Money orders to the amount of $2,132.63 were written for the men, a smaller amount than the previous year. An institution must be motivated by ideals which are the determining factors in its service to men. The Fishermen's Institute has a part in the universal effort to bring men together in friendly relations. This is a fundamental task and worthy of the consideration and co-operation of all who are interested in their fellows and our fishermen in particular.

**Virginia—Newport News**

Seamen's Rest........................................William Falconer, Superintendent

Superintendent Falconer reports that the Seamen's Rest had an unusually busy year owing to unemployment and the curtailment of shipping in that port. The following statistics are for the year ending March 31, 1932 with the exception of May, June and July 1931 when no reports were made on account of illness of the Superintendent.
For the nine months reported there were held fifty-eight religious services with an attendance of 1,750, literature including tracts and portions of Scriptures amounting to 1,697 pieces were distributed to seafaring folk. At the Seamen's Rest 535 rooms were rented and 3,690 free beds were given to destitute men. Employment was found for 222 and 2,180 pieces of mail were handled. The total attendance amounted to 5,475.

The above figures indicate the splendid work that is being carried on in that important port.

**Virginia—Norfolk**

Seamen's Friend Society.................Thomas E. Gould, Superintendent

At the One hundred and sixth annual meeting of the Norfolk Seamen's Friend Society, Superintendent Gould reported as follows:

"Many have been the voyages of the old mother ship since she was launched by the good people of Norfolk one hundred and six years ago. But this last voyage has been the hardest yet known to her. She has been tossed by mountainous seas, her spars broken and canvas tattered; yet she floats massively with her bow pointed seaward, ever ready to help, aid and assist the sailor lads of the sea. During the past year she has been taxed to her utmost capacity to take care of the boys of the sea, who seek protection within her motherly arms, the majority of them were stranded, and had nowhere to go for food or shelter. But they were received by the old mother ship with open arms and given the much needed and necessary food and shelter for their bodies. Many a young man a long way from home and loved ones, has found shelter within her hull. She stands a beacon light upon the shores of life, guiding and directing the boys of the sea in the way in which they should go. And in our little chapel they are taught the way to God and everlasting life."

The following statistics indicate the splendid service rendered the seamen at the Seamen's Bethel and Institute: The total attendance was 42,295. There were 3,754 lodgings paid for and 12,535 free lodgings making a total of 16,289. Free meals were served to 13,051. There were made 6,042 visits to sick seamen in the hospitals and 146 seamen were received from hospitals and cared for. Literature amounting to 8,660 pieces was distributed to men on board ships. Employment was found for 378 and 339 men were aided in transportation. The mail handled at the Bethel amounted to 5,476 letters. That the religious work was appreciated is shown by the attendance of 6,928 at religious services.
LOUISIANA—NEW ORLEANS

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

Captain Lamb reports for the year ending December 31st, 1931, as follows:

The compilation of the daily records show that 42,982 seamen availed themselves of the various facilities offered by this institution during the year, and this number (by far the largest in the history of the Bethel) shows an increase of nearly 60% over the total attendance of men in 1930. Early in the year, through the cooperation of interested Board members, eight new beds were added thereby increasing the dormitory capacity to fifty-eight. The total number of nights' lodgings furnished was 15,803 and of that number 14,386, almost 90% were provided free to destitute men. These figures reflect very clearly the increase of unemployment among seamen since they show 5,441 more free beds furnished in 1931 than in 1930. Many of these homeless men were badly in need of clothing, but unfortunately the budget of the Bethel does not make any provision under this heading. However, donations of used clothing made it possible to provide partial outfits for 113 men and to supply the most needy with shoes. In the way of cash relief, one hundred dollars was spread thinly over the year in assisting a large number of men. As demonstrating a desire to help and showing in some measure their appreciation of the efforts made on their behalf, some 4,732 hours of voluntary work (cleaning, painting, carpentry, etc.) were contributed by men staying in the house. Books and magazines are always appreciated,—for sailors as a class are great readers,—libraries have been loaned to ships upon request and reading matter supplied to the crews of ships leaving port: 6,410 magazines were distributed during the year. The Sunday evening services which are held continuously throughout the year were remarkably well attended,—there being 3,932 men present at the fifty-two services,—this is the largest number of men attending the services from any records available and shows an increase of more than one hundred men per month over the number of men attending the year 1930. The routine features of the work went on steadily: ships were visited and crews invited to make the Bethel their home whilst in port; over three thousand pieces of mail were handled; about one hundred visits to seamen in hospitals were made, and eighty-one men came from the Marine Hospital for convalescence at this institu—
tion. The Women’s Auxiliary, always interested in every aspect of
the work, was especially active last year in gaining new friends for
the Bethel with the result that the Auxiliary closed the year with an
active membership of nearly sixty women with representation from
twenty-two different congregations. This remarkable group of
women working quietly throughout the year accomplished a great
deal on a very small budget; keeping up the dormitories; renewing
the worn-out bedding and linens; improving facilities in the Reading
and Recreation Rooms; planning the weekly entertainment; supply­
ing the refreshments served during the “fellowship hour” which
followed every Sunday evening service,—all of these activities were
made possible by the work, and very largely by the generosity of this
faithful band of women.

T E X A S — G A L V E S T O N

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

For the year ending March 31st, 1932, Chaplain Sarner reports:

“Religious services held, 85; seamen attending the services, 2,605;
men sent to the hospital from the Bethel, 8; seamen visited at the hos­
pitals, 531; seamen received from hospitals and cared for while con­
valescing, 156; Scriptures, books, magazines, newspapers and tracts
distributed at reading room and in out-going ships, 12,665; free lodg­
ings to destitute seamen, 6,703; free lodgings paid later, 643; free
meals, 1,506; garments given away, 170; secured work for, 262;
total individual beneficiaries, 1,963; applications for aid which we
were unable to grant, 869; mail received and delivered, 5,382; mail
forwarded, 401; letters written at office to seamen and relatives, 858;
letters and postcards written by seamen at our free correspondence
tables, 6,560; baggage checked and unchecked, 1,823; money depos­
ited and withdrawn by seamen, $3,203; total attendance at the Bethel
during the past year, 67,450.”

The Chaplain adds: “The past year has been the hardest and most
trying since 1913 when we moved into our present building. Be­
cause funds have been greatly inadequate to meet conditions, sickness
and suffering among the seamen have become almost unbearable.
Scant food, sleeping outdoors in all kinds of weather with insufficient
clothing to protect their bodies, have caused skin diseases, colds and
pneumonia. The Marine Hospital, being overcrowded, has put out
those who are able to be on their feet and they must hustle for themselves as best they can, getting attention at outdoor clinics. The natural place for these men to call for help is at the Seamen’s Bethel. We have assisted beyond the limit of our means and yet there is a large overflow of honest, deserving—and sometimes pitiful—cases which we must turn away.”

One of the most satisfactory results was locating the relatives of several seamen who were in trouble and letters from appreciative mothers were quoted in his report. To meet the present extra demands the directors of the Bethel are planning a campaign for funds to supplement the endowment made by the Adoue family. This work in the strategic port of Galveston, is most worthy of adequate support.

**Canada—Toronto**

Upper Canada Tract Society......George M. Speedie, Superintendent

For the year ending March 1, 1932, Superintendent Speedie reports as follows of the work of the Society in its Mission to Sailors on Inland Waters.

“The year’s work among the sailors on the Great Lakes was indeed a busy one. The diminished business in navigation did not mean any curtailment in our Missionary and Social Service efforts. Rather did it mean more, for an increased number of sailors deprived of employment had to be looked after and cared for in one way or other. One result of this has been a large number of free meals and free beds—the largest, we think, since the inauguration of Sailor Welfare work in 1868.

“The Royal Arthur Sailor Institute, under the superintendency of Mr. and Mrs. Hall (open all the year round), continues to meet a real need at the ‘Head of the Lakes’ and in an increasing way merits the indorsement of others engaged in helpful service. During the season of navigation in Sailors’ Institute at Kingston and the Sailors’ Rest, Toronto, were in commission—the former under the charge of Mr. George D. Pound, and the other, Mr. John Trewin. At both these Sailor centres much good work was accomplished. Mr. Ernest Hill, who for years has represented the Society in an honorary way, at Owen Sound, again sends encouraging reports of visitations to the
vessels. Miss Kellett visited vessels at the Soo, and at Parry Sound. The Missionary Superintendent also gave time to the visitation of the vessels at Toronto Harbor and at other points. Statistics are as follows: Visits to vessels 1,062; Services held 34, with an aggregate attendance of 1,139; Lectures and entertainments 336; Libraries placed 12; Libraries taken off 7; Bibles and Testaments given 164; Tracts given 8,579; Calendars 289; Magazines 8,564; Comfort Bags 163; Beds 8,223; Meals 5,996; Letters handled for men 2,538.”

**South America—Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**

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

Rev. Dr. H. C. Tucker sends the following report of our affiliated work in Rio de Janeiro for the year 1931 for seamen in the Sailors' Home under the supervision of the Salvation Army: “The management and work of the Home has been quite successful and satisfactory for another year. The cooperation and support given by the British Sailors' Society and The American Seamen's Friend Society has been most cordial and helpful. The removal to a larger and better building greatly increased the capacity, comfort and efficiency of the Home; it is more centrally located also for the shipping. The arrangement has provided more conveniences for religious services, social gatherings and better meals and beds for the men. The large number who were present on the occasion of the formal opening of the new premises and all visiting the place have been pleased with the cleanliness, the social and spiritual atmosphere and the wise direction in evidence all around. The following are some of the statistics reported for 1931: Gospel Meetings, etc. held 50; attendance 783; visits to ships 163; other visits to sick in hospitals, etc. 37; Scriptures and literature distributed 3,827; attendance at the Home about 8,500; beds provided 7,593; free meals provided 1,798; situations found for men 132; letters received and posted for the men about 500; amount of money received on deposit for the men about $2,000. To these summaries there must be added a note of the clothing supplied to many, the counsels and advice rendered and the influence the Home and administration has exercised over the lives of the men for their physical, moral and spiritual welfare.”
URUGUAY—MONTEVideo

Sailors' Home and Mission ....................... Robert Wilson, Superintendent

Mr. Herbert P. Coates, the Honorary Secretary of the Montevideo Sailors' Home, has taken a great interest in work for seamen for many years. He writes of the port that there is a constant and larger movement of vessels of all classes, and that those flying the Stars and Stripes are much more numerous than they were twenty years ago. Now these men have to be taken care of in Montevideo, just the same as in New York or Southampton. They fall sick and get into other sorts of trouble and although the Consul is always there in last resort, you know "Jack", and about the last man he wants to appeal to is the Consul. And the first man he makes for is the Sailors' Home manager. Your countrymen have been treated just the same as everybody else during the whole of my experience with the Home. We know no difference between my own British sailors and yours.

He sends the following report of the Sailors' Home and Mission for the year 1931. There were held 100 Gospel meetings with an attendance of 800 seamen. Twenty meetings were held with 114 prentice boys; 147 ships in the harbor were visited and 143 visits were made to seamen in hospitals and prisons. Scriptures and literature amounting to 840 packages and 96 comfort bags were distributed to the men. There were 5,935 beds occupied at the Sailors' Home, of which 770 were given free to destitute seamen and 1,905 free meals were provided. Employment was found for twenty seamen. More than 400 letters were received and posted.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—BUENOS AIRES

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

Mr. P. J. Wyatt reports as follows:

The fiscal year of the Victoria Sailors' Home ends June 30 and the following figures represent the work during the year ending July 1, 1931.

There were entered at the port 944 ships of whom 824 were visited by representatives of the Home. There were held forty-two
religious services ashore with an attendance of 630 seamen. Fifty visits were made to sick and injured seamen in the hospital. There were held 178 entertainments with a total attendance of 10,323. Bundles of literature amounting to 6,500 were distributed among seamen and the seamen who were lodged amounted to 498, representing thirty-one nationalities. More than half of these were British but the American seamen averaged well with the other nationalities. An important service was rendered in securing employment for 166 men and 152 were sent home through their Consuls. The religious work of the Home has continued along the lines of previous years. The services are undenominational in character, and are of a nature which should appeal to the seamen. As the opportunity arose meetings of the Seamen's Christian Brotherhood were held.

ITALY—GENOA


Superintendent Anderson reports as follows:

The Sailors' Rest is our hearth and home today as it has been for forty years. During the day, to be sure, the place is quiet, for all hands are hard at work aboard their ships discharging or loading cargo. In the evenings The Rest comes into its own and hums with life. It is a solid, four-square building in a commanding position on the harbour front and is well-equipped as a modern Institute. There are an officer's reading room and a men's reading room, each possessing its billiard-table. There are facilities ample and much in use for reading and writing and various games. There is a lovely hall for Services and concerts, easily adaptable for its varied uses and seemly always in the several parts it plays. Week in, week out, the round goes on: regular ship-visiting; a welcome on the threshold; Services, concerts, counsel sought and given, good literature supplied to outgoing ships, and the thousand and one activities of a Mission based on earnest Christian faith and founded for the good of our English-speaking sailors in a foreign port. Men of other nationalities we do not attempt to reach. More and more their own people are caring for them. Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Germany and Holland each has its own Mission to its own sons in Genoa, and with them all we have the most harmonious relationships. The Consul General for Denmark, for instance, is a good friend of our work and shares with the Consuls General of Great Britain and the United
The American Seamen's Friend Society

States of America a keen personal interest in all we try to do. We are the official representatives of those two world-wide societies, The British Sailors' Society and The American Seamen's Friend Society. Both support us handsomely and we figure in their official list of stations. In return we try to carry out their fine ideals faithfully and are always mindful that we are their ambassadors. Both of them are over one hundred years of age, and, if I may say so, both are in the sparkling vigour of youth. It is indeed an honour to hold a mandate from them. We look upon the whole seafaring world as our parish. In the words of John Wesley: "This is the work God has called us to, and sure we are that His blessing attends it."

ITALY—LEGHORN

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

Superintendent Welsby reports for the year 1931:

"There were 214 British and 57 American ships in port during the year to which 780 visits were made by the Superintendent. Six hundred and one seamen attended Church services and 676 were present at concerts and social evenings. Football and cricket matches were attended by 1,001 men. Ninety visits were made to men in the hospital, free teas were served to 638 and 163 packages of literature were distributed to seamen on board the ships. Letters received and posted were 3,249. Total attendance of seamen at the Institute 9,680.

"We have had a great many passengers this year on board American ships calling for a few hours at our port and so we have had the opportunity of helping them when they come to the Institute for information regarding Florence and Pisa, and my wife has helped them in shopping. During the month of August we had a visit of a very large American yacht. Most of the boys came to the Institute every day and enjoyed themselves at billiards and table tennis. I also helped them in their sightseeing trips. Church Services have been held regularly and very well attended by our seafaring friends. I never tire of sounding their praises for the splendid way they turn out to Church. The outdoor sports are as popular as ever. Our work is varied at the Institute, but very interesting. We try to make it as home-like as possible for those who visit us from time to time. We have passed through a very difficult year, but we go on trusting that things will brighten for us. I would like to thank all our good
friends at home who in the midst of their own trials have still sent us the help needed to carry on this noble work. I am glad to report that several American and British ladies have formed themselves into a committee and are doing their utmost in Florence to interest their friends in our Institute in Leghorn. My committee join with me in thanking The American Seamen’s Friend Society for their continued support. We are proud to be affiliated with them.”

ITALY—NAPLES

Sailors’ Rest..........................A. R. Messam, Superintendent

Mr. A. R. Messam, Port Missionary at the Sailors’ Rest, Naples, Italy, reports as follows for the year 1931,

“The great port of Naples in good times or bad has always work for the Sailors’ Rest. The difficulty of the sailor is the language and we who meet him when he arrives are able to help him to overcome it. He makes for the Sailors’ Rest knowing that it is the source of all information. Stamps, money-changing, news of train and tram routes are his daily wants, and in Naples they are increased a hundredfold in view of its absorbing interest. In 1931 much good work was done for distressed seamen. Stranded men were cared for and helped to return to their home ports.

“During the year there were held 51 religious services with an attendance of 948 seamen. Four hundred and twelve ships were visited and other visits in connection with the work amounted to 668. Letters received and posted 1,915 and 396 parcels of literature were distributed. Total attendance of seamen at the Sailors’ Rest 10,507.”

BELGIUM—ANTWERP

Mariners’ Church and Institute..........Rev. Stanley Parker, Chaplain

Rev. Stanley Parker, Chaplain of the Antwerp Seamen’s Friend Society, reports as follows for the year 1931.

“The year through which we have passed has unfortunately not brought the relief to shipping that we had hoped and the general trade depression of the world has been reflected in our Merchant Marine, causing a large number of ships to be laid up in Antwerp. The outstanding feature of the year was the official opening of our new Church and Institute in February.
"We were glad to welcome the American Nautical Schoolship *Annapolis* in August and to entertain the fine body of Cadets who were making a world cruise. In the absence of the Chaplain on holiday we were fortunate in having Mr. R. W. Turner, who, like the ship, hails from Philadelphia, to take charge of these arrangements, and it was the universal opinion of all concerned that things could not have been bettered. The American Consul-General and Mrs. Letcher with many others of the American Colony gave their support and assistance. The Cadets recorded their feelings in the following message, inscribed in beautiful lettering, which has been framed and hangs in the Lounge, 'The Cadets of the Pennsylvania Nautical Schoolship wish to express their sincere gratitude to the Antwerp Seamen’s Friend Society for the splendid entertainment and dances which were tendered to them during their stay in Antwerp, and also wish the Society the best of success.'

“Our statistics show a total of 9,740 at Services and 15,395 at Entertainments, while 10,879 men used the Reading Room and Billiard Rooms, 8,091 Letters were received and posted. The destitution among those unable to find employment has been very acute and this is reflected in the largely increased figures of our Samaritan work for 273 meals and 257 beds were given as against 165 meals and 165 beds last year. We have also assisted in the repatriation of many unfortunate men who were stranded here. We know no bar of colour, caste or creed and those assisted included twenty nationalities.”

**MADEIRA—FUNCHAL**

Sailors’ Rest......................Rev. William George Smart, Superintendent

The Sailors’ Rest in Funchal was founded in 1876 and since January 1, 1882 has been under the direction of Rev. William George Smart who represented The American Seamen’s Friend Society in that port until January 1, 1909. The work was reaffiliated in February, 1931 and is being carried on most successfully by the veteran chaplain Smart who reports as follows for the year 1931. The Sailors’ Rest entered into a new lease of life on the 11th April 1930, sponsored by an enthusiastic public meeting held on that date in Funchal. It was not until the 22d December 1930 that suitable premises were secured to house the Rest and during the period 11th April to 22d December temporary premises (The Carmo Hotel)
The American Seamen's Friend Society

were kindly placed at our disposal when any men of war were in port. For this kindness we are indebted to Mr. Alfred E. Reid. These premises had a disadvantage in not being centrally situated and so any entertaining had to be somewhat on a smaller scale. Now we have a very fine house, ideally situated at the North West Corner of the Public Gardens in the centre of the city, comprising large tea room, with a piano, rest rooms, reading room and the usual offices. The American Seamen's Friend Society of New York have taken a kindly interest in our work and we are grateful for the appropriation made from their Funds to assist us in the work here. Our thanks are also due to the many local ladies who have worked for the Rest and provided teas for the men on the visits of the various units.

Japan—Nagasaki

The Nagasaki Seamen's Home.............James A. McAlpine, Manager

The following report of the Thirty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Nagasaki Seamen's Home has been received. The good work of past years has been continued in spite of the depression which decreased the number of men who go ashore at this port of call: "Our work is changing its character. Sailors no longer find the public-house (or saloon) their only resort at Nagasaki; the majority come ashore to make excursions into the country, do shopping, or to play games with the Japanese, while for evening amusements the cinema is a strong competitor of the evils which formerly beset the sailors' path. Another factor is the undoubted improvement which has taken place in the conditions of employment afloat, a better class of men being attracted to the merchant service as well as to the navies. Again we are greatly indebted to the affiliated organizations — The American Seamen's Friend Society and the British Sailors' Society for financial aid."
Benevolences

The benevolent work of the Society during the year was largely concerned in providing for shipwrecked and destitute seamen 1,132 free meals and 1,834 free beds at the Sailors' Home and Institute for seven months ending November 1, 1931; 250 were provided with clothing, 17 with railroad fare, 5 with express charges on their sea bags and 52 with suits of clothes. The total amount expended for this benevolent work was $2,961.29.

The Sailors' Magazine and Seamen's Friend

For more than 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 30,000 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.
Ministers to seamen in other ports, at home and abroad.

The Society depends entirely on voluntary contributions and legacies. For more than 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 your help in securing new friends, and welcomes the names and addresses 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, 1931 to March 31st, 1932

#### RECEIPTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>March 31, By Cash from previous account</td>
<td>$7,074.31</td>
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<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>March 31, By Cash from Legacies</td>
<td>$20,296.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&quot; Donations general work</td>
<td>$7,384.99</td>
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<td>&quot; Income Permanent Fund Investments general work</td>
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<td>&quot; Interest a/c: Free Assets general work including subscriptions to Sailors' Magazine and sale of cuts</td>
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<td>&quot; Donations for Loan Libraries</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot; Income from Library Fund Investments</td>
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<td>&quot; Donations for Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen</td>
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<td>&quot; Income from Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen Fund Investments</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot; Donations for books for graduates</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot; Income from Investments of U. S. Naval Academy Fund, Annapolis Books for graduates</td>
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<td>&quot; Sailors' Home and Institute a/c: April 1 to November 1, 1931 Maintenance a/c: rents, donations, income, return insurance on cancelled policies, etc.</td>
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<td>&quot; Net amounts received in Investment changes, etc.</td>
<td>$41,359.43</td>
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#### DISBURSEMENTS

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<th>Description</th>
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<td>1932</td>
<td>March 31, To Cash Paid: Foreign Missions (12 mos. to date)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Domestic Missions (12 mos. to date)</td>
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<td>Extension Work (12 mos. to date)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Shipwrecked and Destitute Seamen</td>
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<td>Magazine and Publication Dept.</td>
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<td>Loan Library Dept. Cost of books, etc, and administration</td>
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<td>Annapolis Naval Academy Books a/c: Cost of presentation of Scriptures, etc.</td>
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<td>Office Salaries and Office Administration expenses</td>
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<td>Sailors' Home and Institute: April 1 to November 1, 1931 Repairs and Renewals</td>
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<td>Sailors' Home Furnishings</td>
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<td>Sailors' Home Maintenance</td>
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<td>Cash on hand in Bank and Petty Cash</td>
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<td>Net amounts received in Investment changes, etc.</td>
<td>7,465.48</td>
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New York City, March 31st, 1932.
Examined and found correct,
R. H. STEVER, Auditor.

New York City, March 31, 1932.
CLARENCE C. PINNEO, Treasurer.