

the LOOKOUT

SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK



NOVEMBER 1974

THE PROGRAM OF THE INSTITUTE

The Seamen's Church Institute of New York, an agency of the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of New York, is a unique organization devoted to the well-being and special interests of active merchant seamen.

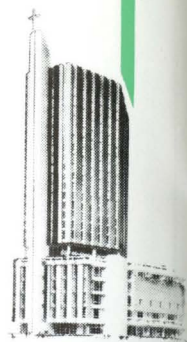
More than 753,000 such seamen of all nationalities, races and creeds come into the Port of New York every year. To many of them the Institute is their shore center in port and remains their polestar while they transit the distant oceans of the earth.

First established in 1834 as a floating chapel in New York harbor, the Institute offers a wide range of recreational and educational services for the mariner, including counseling and the help of five chaplains in emergency situations.

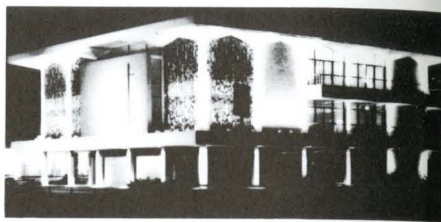
Each year 2,300 ships with 96,600 men aboard put in at Port Newark, where time ashore is extremely limited.

Here in the very middle of huge, sprawling Port Newark pulsing with activity of container-shipping, SCI has provided an oasis known as the Mariners International Center which offers seamen a recreational center especially constructed and designed, operated in a special way for the very special needs of the men. An outstanding feature is a soccer field (lighted at night) for games between ship teams.

Although 57% of the overall Institute budget is met by income from seamen and the public, the cost of special services comes from endowment and contributions. Contributions are tax deductible.



Seamen's Church Institute
State and Pearl Streets
Manhattan



Mariners International Center (SCI)
Export and Calcutta Streets
Port Newark, N.J.

the LOOKOUT

Vol. 65 No. 9

November 1974

The Rev. John M. Mulligan, D.D.

Director

Carlyle Windley
Editor

SEAMEN'S CHURCH
INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK
15 State Street, New York, N. Y. 10004
Telephone: 269-2710

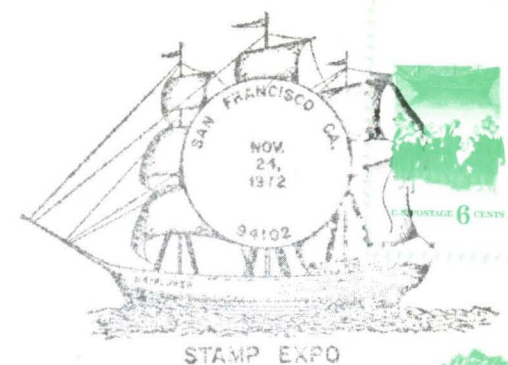
The Right Reverend
Paul Moore, Jr., S.T.D., D.D.
Honorary President

John G. Winslow
President

Published monthly with exception of July-August and February-March when bi-monthly. Contributions to the Seamen's Church Institute of New York of \$5.00 or more include a year's subscription to The Lookout. Single copies 50c. Additional postage for Canada, Latin America, Spain, \$1.00; other foreign, \$3.00. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y.

© Seamen's Church Institute of New York, 1974

US ISSN 0024-6425



Stamps at Sea by Bob Hammack

Editor's Note

Since many of our readers are stamp collectors, we thought the following article would be of interest.

Also, if any of them living in the area specialize in "Maritime" issues, we would like to correspond with them regarding a possible exhibition of their collection.

In few places is the lore of the sea and lure of adventure more concisely logged than on the world's postage stamps. Philatelists — stamp collectors, that is — see the more than ten thousand ships on stamps as an outline of maritime history. And indeed they are.

But a large number of stamps also chronicle the lot of merchant seamen and the ships they sail. Polish stamps alone parade a steady stream of mercantile



vessels from the earliest Phoenician galley and Roman trireme to the Clipper *Flying Cloud* and the freighter *Kilinski*. In fact, the latter was featured in a set honoring the state-owned Polish Ocean Lines. Originally built in 1944 by the California Ship-building Corporation at Los Angeles, it was called *Mexican Victory* by the U.S. War Shipping Administration until acquired and renamed by the Polish government in 1947.

Poland's wide-sweeping merchant marine issues generally balance-off those

OFFICIAL
SOUVENIR ENVELOPE



9th AUSTRALIAN JAMBOREE

Leppington

29 December 1970 - 9 January 1971



less frequent sets from other nations. The United States, for example, has issued less than a handful of stamps that can be considered commemoratives to merchant seamen. Dutch merchantmen here and steamships there seem to be the case. Actually, the U.S. Merchant Marine was honored postally in 1946 for its heroic achievement in World War II. Composite drawings of two "Liberty Ships", the *John W. Troy* operated by the Alaska Steamship Company and the *James Madison* of Lykes Brothers, made up the single ship design.

The sinking of the S.S. *Dorchester* in 1943 was recalled on a stamp five years after the tragedy. Built in 1926 for the Merchants and Miners Transportation Company, the U.S. Army transport carried the "Four Chaplains" who gave up their life preservers to crewmen. Called a splendid example of "Interfaith in Action", Postmaster General Jesse M. Donaldson said that Reverend Fox, Reverend Poling, Father Washington and Rabbi Goode showed "not fearless abandon, but steadfast conviction" by their unselfish act.

Not all such stamps commemorate deeds to equal the feat. But many recall

the heroism common to members of the German Lifeboat Association which has been credited with saving 15,070 people since its founding in 1865. Both the German association and the Norwegian Seamen's Mission centennials were celebrated on stamps. The latter began its operations some thirty years after SCI and now includes 32 stations in ports around the globe. The centennial observation received philatelic recognition in 1964 with a two-stamp set picturing both church spire and ship mast.

Seafaring nations such as Norway have paid tribute with more than mere postal paper, though. When the S.S. *Baroy*, the *Sanct Svithun* and the steamer *Irma* were torpedoed, Norwegian government officials issued a semi-postal set to aid victims of wartime ship sinkings, and their families. A surtax of 10 *ore* was added to three stamps variously picturing the sinking ships. Similar issues inscribed "ZEEMANS-WELVAREN" were sold by Netherlands Antilles (Curacao) in 1952, and an estimated 40 per cent of the total revenue was earmarked for the seaman's welfare fund.

France's *Societe des oeuvres de mer*

garnered aid from postal sales in 1938 through 1942. The final issue also coincided with the 600th anniversary of the birth of Jean de Vienne, first admiral of France.

Mediterranean areas have provided romantic and legendary looks at seagoing life for centuries. Greek vessels, from sixth-century B.C. "traders" and tenth-century "chelandian" types to modern oil tankers, took their place with Jason's fabled *Argo* in 1958. Italian issues of 1949 and 1950, while publicizing the European Recovery Program, depicted shipbuilding and a sailor steering a large craft. A later release commemorates the 450th death anniversary of St. Francis of Paola, patron saint of seafaring men.

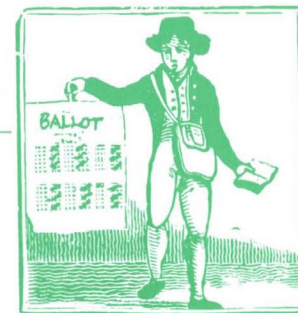
China Merchants Steam Navigation Company freighter *Hai Min* made its postal debut before it was a year old, and it reappeared in 1962 as part of the country's 90th anniversary tribute to the company. A 1948 series for the 75th anniversary celebration showed the *Hai*

Tien, which was commissioned as the *James L. McKay* in 1943.

Philatelic tributes are hardly limited to stamps, though. There are also such things as pictorial cancellations that contain ship designs. Doubtless, there are many special cancels which deal directly with honors for merchant fleets. With such a universal theme available, many countries have incorporated the watercraft into cancels. A Danish Boy Scout postmark featured the Viking ship in a circular "hub"; a stamp exhibition used a special *Mayflower* pictorial around Thanksgiving; a French dependency employed an Antarctic ship device to cancel special covers during a polar voyage.

In addition, there are always "cachets" — or supplementary designs added to envelopes (or "covers" as they are known) — issued for special events on both commercial and government vessels. Many ship lines and mercantile fleets use the idea. Such mementoes help supplement and chronicle the history of ships, stamps and men at sea.

Remember —



At the bottom of all the tributes paid to democracy is the little man walking into the little booth with a little pencil making a little cross on a little bit of paper. No amount of rhetoric or voluminous discussion can possibly diminish the overwhelming importance of that point.

Sir Winston Churchill

BE SURE TO VOTE NOVEMBER 5

Ex-Seaman visits hundreds by mail-

Here's George Swift. But just so our readers won't think he is an affluent airplane owner, we hasten to note that this photo was taken at an airshow featuring antique planes.



Several years ago we became acquainted with seaman George Swift while he was at the Staten Island U.S. Public Hospital during a prolonged illness and subsequent convalescence.

Since that time George has received a disability retirement and has become one of the most prolific letter writers that we know about. Each day he spends approximately eight hours at his typewriter composing letters to shut-ins, retired seamen and shoresiders whom he met mostly during his seafaring days.

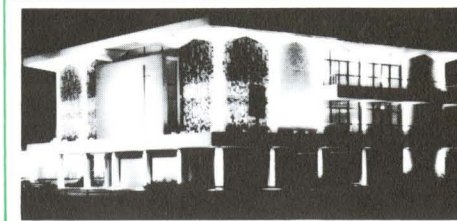
There are literally hundreds of people on his mailing list and nearly all his letters receive replies. Like many correspondents, George is always surprised at how much his letters mean to those who receive them. In fact, there have been a number of occasions when he has received a reply saying that his letter was a special source of encouragement and boost to the morale when things seemed particularly bleak.

To supplement his letters, he avidly collects picture postcards from the New England states (Holliston, Massachusetts is his hometown). He finds the postcards have proved a great success as most of the people he writes to do not live in New England and know little about that part of the country.

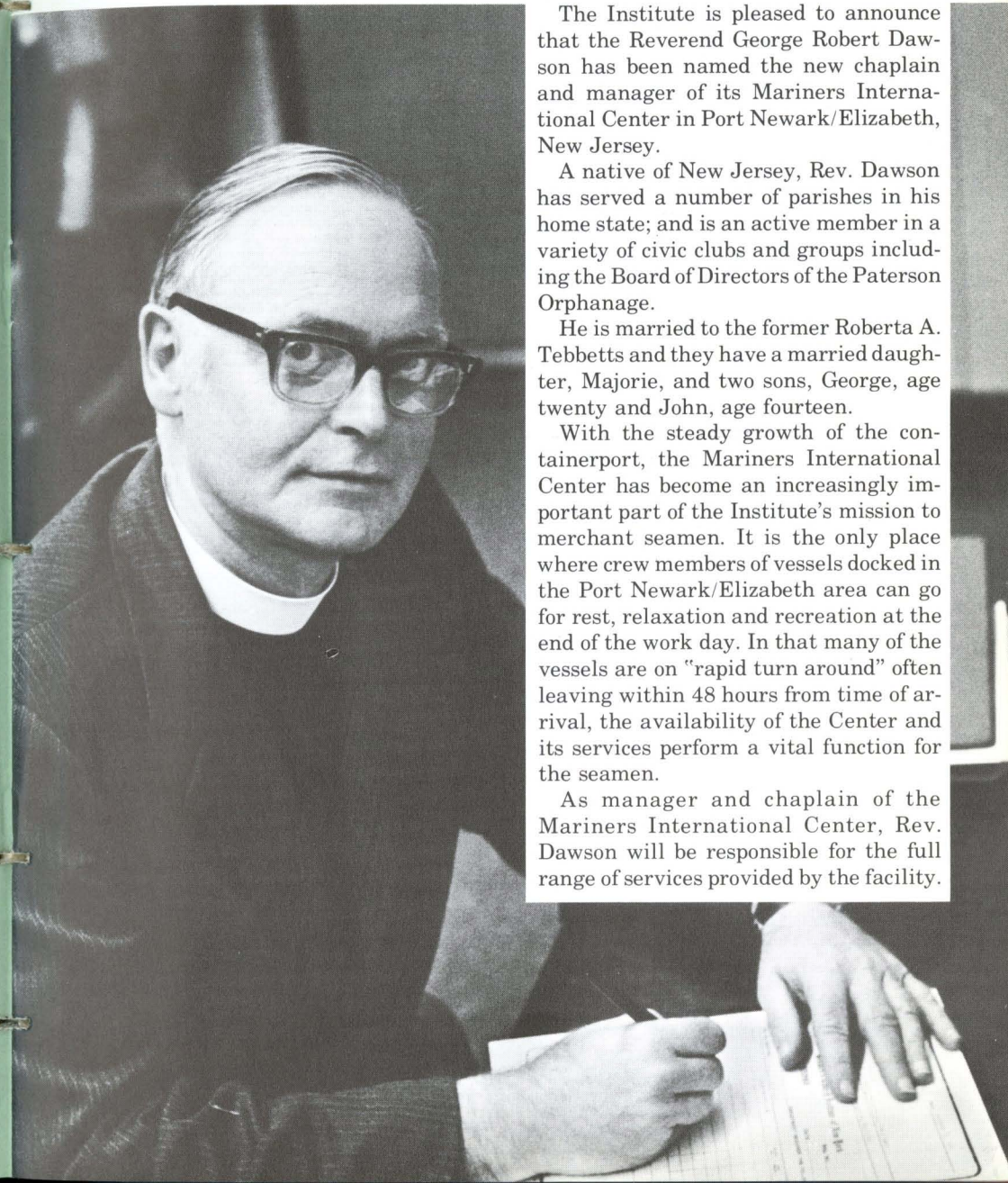
Having gone through a long stay in the hospital himself, he is especially appreciative of visiting the confined and always makes a point to make calls at the Staten Island Public Health Hospital, and Sailors Snug Harbor whenever he is in town just to chat with his fellow seamen.

We can think of few people who use their retirement time in a more unique or humane way and we thought you would like to know about this ex-seaman who realizes how much a letter can mean when you can't be there in person.

The Reverend George Dawson



Mariners International Center (SCI)
Export and Calcutta Streets
Port Newark, N.J.



The Institute is pleased to announce that the Reverend George Robert Dawson has been named the new chaplain and manager of its Mariners International Center in Port Newark/Elizabeth, New Jersey.

A native of New Jersey, Rev. Dawson has served a number of parishes in his home state; and is an active member in a variety of civic clubs and groups including the Board of Directors of the Paterson Orphanage.

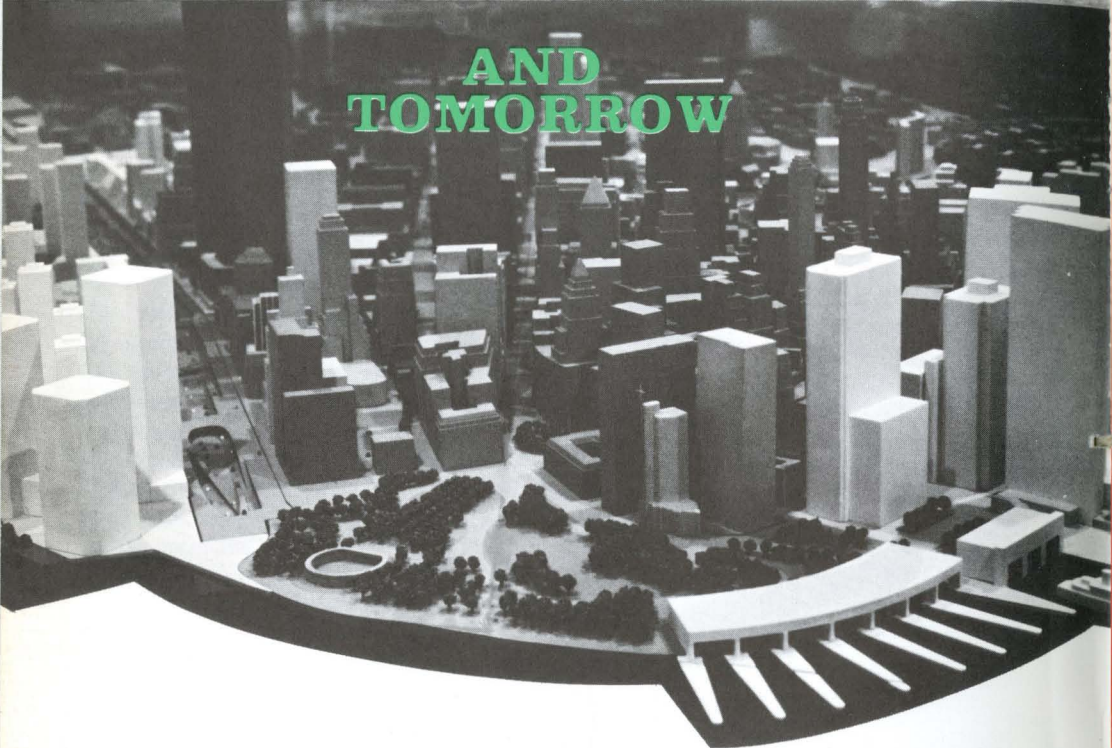
He is married to the former Roberta A. Tebbetts and they have a married daughter, Majorie, and two sons, George, age twenty and John, age fourteen.

With the steady growth of the containerport, the Mariners International Center has become an increasingly important part of the Institute's mission to merchant seamen. It is the only place where crew members of vessels docked in the Port Newark/Elizabeth area can go for rest, relaxation and recreation at the end of the work day. In that many of the vessels are on "rapid turn around" often leaving within 48 hours from time of arrival, the availability of the Center and its services perform a vital function for the seamen.

As manager and chaplain of the Mariners International Center, Rev. Dawson will be responsible for the full range of services provided by the facility.



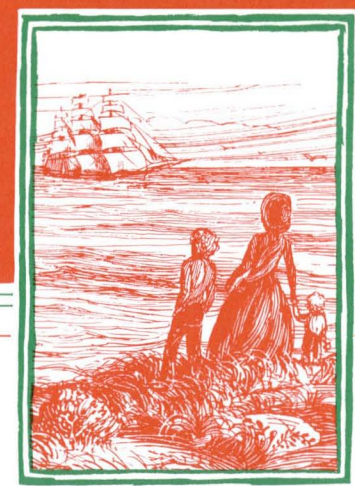
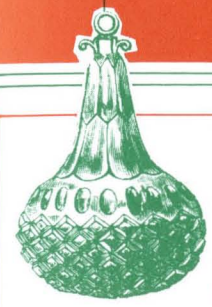
LOWER MANHATTAN TODAY...



AND TOMORROW

Recently we had the pleasure of exhibiting the Downtown-Lower Manhattan Association's model of Lower Manhattan. Measuring 8 feet x 9 feet in size, the model is built to scale and shows the present and future building plans for Lower Manhattan. The picture above shows the southern most portion of the model with the Institute towards the center. The lighter buildings to the left

and right indicate recently completed or planned new construction; a good portion of which will be on landfill. The other illustration is a recent photo which lets you see how things are at present. If you use this photo to compare and match-up the buildings depicted in the model, you will certainly understand what is meant by the "everchanging skyline of Manhattan."



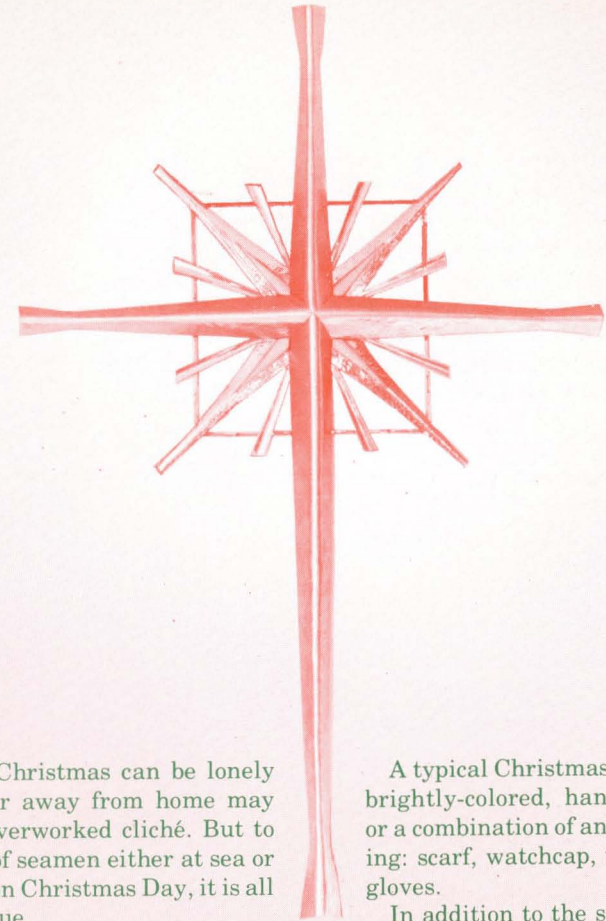
In the spirit of the season we invite your special Christmas gift that we may make Christmas brighter for the many lonesome seamen far away from homes and families who make their holiday home with us.



If you accept your responsibility as your brother's brother, please give generously to help us in our work, especially during this holiday season when just having a friend means so much.



Not only to our American seamen, but to hundreds of seafaring brothers visiting with us this year who never have experienced the warmth and fellowship of Christmas.



To say that Christmas can be lonely when you're far away from home may seem like an overworked cliché. But to the thousands of seamen either at sea or in foreign port on Christmas Day, it is all too painfully true.

That's why our Women's Council Volunteers work all year preparing those thousands of "Christmas Boxes" which go to sea each Christmas.

That's also why here at the Institute, we make an extra effort to see that Christmas is a special time of year for all who dwell or visit with us.

Christmas Boxes

Since mid-October, the Women's Council "Christmas Room" has been a beehive of activity. Weekdays, dozens of volunteers daily come to sort, wrap and pack all the Christmas Box ingredients and then see that the boxes themselves are stored in large, brown-paper wrapped cartons ready for delivery to ships.

A typical Christmas Box will contain a brightly-colored, hand-knitted sweater or a combination of any two of the following: scarf, watchcap, two pairs of socks; gloves.

In addition to the special knitted gift, there will be a half dozen individually wrapped "stocking stuffers" such as stationery, a pen, sewing kit, playing cards, a manicure set, etc. Naturally there is always Christmas candy plus a hand-written Christmas card from the Women's Council; and a SCI Christmas greeting written in a variety of languages.

Last year more than 10,000 of these boxes were put aboard ships of all nations destined to be at sea on Christmas Day.

The number of notes received in response to this gesture attest to its significance. Letters from crewmen, officers, wives and parents all express the sentiments perhaps best said in excerpts from the following two letters:

"Dear Friends:

In this day and age when the tendency is towards a more impersonal way of life, it comes as a very pleasant surprise to receive a present from strangers. It puts Christmas right back on the map. This very Christain act, coupled with the obvious effort and thought which has been put into the selecting of the individual items which made up these boxes, all adds up to a delightful effect. . . . Everyone on board here had an enjoyable Christmas and you can rest assured that your efforts and thoughts contributed in no small way to this end.



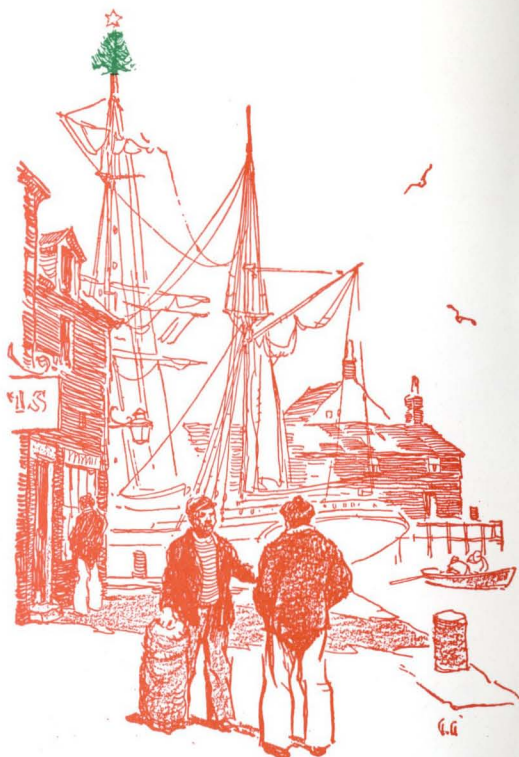
"To: Women's Council of the Institute
Subj: Christmas Package

Thank you for your labor of LOVE during this season. In my many years of seafaring, this is the first Christmas package I have ever received and it is deeply appreciated. This old world is full of selfish and greedy people who have no time to give of themselves. If our world would give of itself like your ladies of the council, it would be a better place for all of us."



At SCI

Here at the Institute there will be Christmas trees and poinsettias, music and dancing in the Seamen's Club. Mr. Turkey will grace the Christmas table and there will be Advent and Christmas services in our Chapel. Special concerts and entertainment have been arranged to which the public will also be invited, and plans are well underway to make Christmas '74 a joyous season.



To us, the seaman, whatever his nationality, is a very special person and he certainly is not to be forgotten at this special time of year wherever he is — at sea or "at home" with us.

For this reason your monetary gifts to the Institute are particularly appreciated during the Christmas season. Goods and services for our Christmas effort require considerable funding. It is your caring and sharing which allows us to spread the joy of Christmas to the world's merchant seamen both here at home and at sea. We thank you for your support.



Sarah Hale and Thanksgiving Day



By Josephine M. Opsahl

Although the Pilgrims held the first Thanksgiving Day in our land in 1621, we really owe Sarah Josepha Buell Hale a thank you for the special day we all know today.

Up to 1863 the people of different areas, different states, and even different church groups observed Thanksgiving Day independently of each other. As a whole, these early day Thanksgiving services were merely harvest festivals, held after the crops were harvested and the sheep and cattle had been brought home from summer pastures.

It is true, however, in these interim years that Congress had proclaimed a number of specific occasions for giving thanks during the Revolutionary War; also, that President Washington had set aside special days for Thanksgiving in 1789 and 1795 as did President Madison in 1817 at the end of the war with England.

Other than these, early day Thanks-

giving festivities were local affairs until 1863 when Mrs. Hale succeeded in persuading President Lincoln that there was need for a national day for giving thanks.

Although Mrs. Hale had talked and written about the need for such a national day for a number of years, she did not really begin her public campaign until 1846. From that time on, as editor of Godey's Lady's Book, she sandwiched editorials, poems, and articles on the spiritual and economic value of a national Thanksgiving Day between recipes and fashion hints in her most popular magazine.

In addition, she also wrote thousands of letters to influential people, asking them to support this cause; and dressed in the latest Godey-styled bonnet and dress, she called upon others. She not only plagued the governors of the various states and territories year after year with her letters and personal calls, but also included our nation's presidents. Her 18-year

(Continued from page 13)

campaign wasn't easy work. In those years women were not active outside their homes. And even though she worked to support her five children, she was often ridiculed and rebuffed. But Sarah Hale worked on, advocating and supporting a national Thanksgiving Day as well as many other projects promoting women's welfare.

By 1852, the famous lady editor had succeeded in interesting 29 state and territory governors (only two held out) in her plan. Although she was pleased with this partial success, she had not won her goal yet. She wanted a Thanksgiving Day for our entire country, such as she remembered in her childhood in New England. She wanted one day when everyone from Maine to California stopped to thank God for a good harvest and other blessings. She also wanted such a day to include people sharing these blessings with those less fortunate than themselves. She felt such a day of thanks and prayer would draw people of all areas close to each other.

The chief obstacle to gaining success in this work was that of selecting a date. Each group selfishly wanted it to be its own choice.

In the September 1863 issue of Godey's Lady's Book, she suggested that we follow George Washington's precedent and adopt the last Thursday of November.

Again, she bombarded public officials with letters, stating her views. She sent one to President Abraham Lincoln. Even in the midst of a war which was tearing the national apart, she felt that a national day of Thanksgiving might help to restore peace.



Instead of throwing aside the letter unread, as other previous presidents no doubt had done, President Lincoln read it carefully. He liked Mrs. Hale's ideas and asked her to come to see him. And Sarah Hale, then 75-years old and still busy deciding policies and writing editorials for the largest circulation women's magazine in our country, went to Washington. She talked with President

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

Lincoln, and later that year, he did proclaim a national day of Thanksgiving.

In it, he asked his "fellow citizens in every part of the United States and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of Thanksgiving and praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the heavens."

Because all succeeding presidents have issued similar proclamations, we now have a national Thanksgiving Day, one

in which all people of our land join together. We now hold this festival on the fourth Thursday of November instead of the last Thursday of the month in order to lengthen the Christmas holiday shopping period.

But this year while we are enjoying our Thanksgiving turkey and cranberries this year, perhaps we should remember the courageous Sarah Hale who worked so long to make this day a national holiday.



STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP,
MANAGEMENT AND CIRCULATION
(Act of August 12, 1970: Section 3685,
Title 39, United States Code)

1. Date of filing: September 14, 1973; 2. Title of publication: THE LOOKOUT; 3. Frequency of issue: Monthly with the exception of February-March, July-August, when bi-monthly (Ten issues per year); 4. Location of known office of publication: 15 State Street, New York, N. Y. 10004; 5. Location of the headquarters or general business offices of the publishers: 15 State Street, N. Y., N. Y. 10004.
6. Names and addresses of Publisher, Editor and Managing Editor: Publisher, Seamen's Church Institute of New York, 15 State Street, New York, N. Y. 10004; Editor, Carlyle Windley, 15 State Street, New York, N. Y. 10004; Managing Editor: None.
7. Owner: Seamen's Church Institute of New York, 15 State Street, N. Y., N. Y. 10004.
8. Known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages or other securities: None.
9. For completion by nonprofit organization authorized to mail at special rates: The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for Federal income tax purposes have not changed during preceding 12 months.

10. Extent and nature of circulation:

	Average no. copies each issue during preceding 12 months.	Actual number of copies of single issues published nearest to filing date.
A. Total no. copies printed (net press run).	6220	5000
B. Paid circulation		
1. Sales through dealers and carriers, street vendors and counter sales.	NONE	NONE
2. Mail subscriptions	5765	4665
C. Total paid circulation	5765	4665
D. Free distribution by mail, carrier or other means		
1. Samples, complimentary and other free copies.	117	113
2. Copies distributed to news agents, but not sold.	NONE	NONE
E. Total distribution (sum of C and D).	5882	4778
F. Office use, left-over, unaccounted, spoiled after printing.	338	222
G. Total (sum of E and F—should equal net press run shown in A).	6220	5000

I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

CARLYLE WINDLEY
Editor



Dear Friends

Dear Friends:

Your response to our July-August Lookout questionnaire has been spectacular. Every day we get more returns.

Since we promised to give you a reader profile, we decided to start tallying-up in September in order to make the November issue. At that time we had over 500 responses on which to base our analysis, though many more have arrived since then.

Without listing the actual statistics, this is essentially what we found.

Our readership divides about evenly between those over fifty and under fifty years of age. About half of our readers are from the New York metro area with the remainder spread throughout the United States and Europe, although there is a heavy concentration of readers in Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Massachusetts and Florida.

There tend to be a few more women readers than men and considering that knitting was most often listed as a hobby, we know that a large number of you are active in our Women's Council work.

By the same token, homemaker (or as one respondent listed — "household executive") was the predominant occupation although we have a notable number of executives, office managers, teachers, secretaries, engineers, seamen, etc. listed. In fact more than 40 different occupations were given ranging from "no" occupation to banker.

About twenty percent of you know about the Institute via family, church group (including knitters' group) or

friends, and others know about us via working in the area, reading about us, visiting the building, being a seaman, or knowing someone who works for the Institute.

Interestingly, enough a good number of readers can't recall how they first heard about us; and that stands to reason when you consider that nearly half of the respondents have known of SCI for more than 26 years. In fact, it is a great source of pride for many of our readers that their families have been connected with the Institute since the late 1800's. Approximately half our readers have visited the Institute but there are some who have not seen our new building.

As regards the Lookout, our cheeks blush from your good comments. There were only two strong criticisms and one of those was that the July issue arrived after July 4th.

From what we learned, we will try to keep the Lookout the same size and length; and feature much the same mix of material with a dash of "crafts" when we can find something new and interesting. To quote one respondent we'll "... keep it short and meaty rather than voluminous with quantity not quality"... plus seeing that the magazine stays salty, informative and enjoyable.

Most of all we want to thank you for your enthusiastic endorsement and support of our work here at the Institute. You can't imagine how proud it makes us feel that you take such pride in being associated with us, many of you for several generations.

TRAVELERS

By Josephine M. Opsahl

(Our annual Thanksgiving quiz for
the young folks and the young at heart)

What means of transportation did these famous travellers use?
They got about—some even into outer space.

Insert
number
from
column A

- _____ Charles A. Lindbergh
- _____ Sir Francis Drake
- _____ The Three Wise Men
- _____ Captain Bligh
- _____ Lord Horatio Nelson
- _____ John F. Kennedy
Lyndon B. Johnson
Richard M. Nixon
- _____ Henry Ford
- _____ Rub-a-dub-dub
Three men in ---
- _____ Leif Ericson
- _____ Gerald P. Carr
William R. Pogue
Edward G. Gibsón
- _____ Admiral David Farragut
- _____ Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry
- _____ Admiral George Dewey
- _____ Greek Gods
- _____ Captain Isaac Hull

Column A

- 1 The Victory
- 2 Tin Lizzy
- 3 The Constitution
- 4 The Hartford
- 5 Pegasus, the flying horse
- 6 The Golden Hind
- 7 Skylab 3
- 8 Spirit of St. Louis
- 9 The Niagara and The Lawrence
- 10 The Bounty
- 11 Air Force One now
renamed The Spirit of '76
- 12 The Olympic
- 13 Viking ships
- 14 A tub
- 15 Camels

ANSWERS
Charles A. Lindbergh 8. Sir Francis Drake 6. The Three Wise Men 15. Captain Bligh 10. Lord
Horatio Nelson 1. John F. Kennedy etc. 11. Henry Ford 2. Rub-a-dub-dub 14. Leif Ericson
13. Gerald P. Carr etc. 7. Admiral David Farragut 4. Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry
9. Admiral George Dewey 12. Greek Gods 5. Capt. Isaac Hull 3.

CREDO *I Believe*



I believe in the supreme worth of the individual and in his right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty.

I believe that the law was made for man and not man for the law; that government is the servant of the people and not their master.

I believe in the dignity of labor, whether with head or hand; that the world owes no man a living but that it owes every man an opportunity to make a living.

I believe that thrift is essential to well-ordered living and that economy is a prime requisite of a sound financial structure, whether in government, business, or personal affairs.

I believe that truth and justice are fundamental to an enduring social order.

I believe in the sacredness of a promise, that a man's word should be as good as his bond; that character — not wealth or power or position — is of supreme worth.

I believe that the rendering of useful service is the common duty of mankind and that only in the purifying fire of sacrifice is the dross of selfishness consumed and the greatness of the human soul set free.

I believe in an all-wise and all-loving God, named by whatever name, and that the individual's highest fulfillment, greatest happiness, and widest usefulness are to be found in living in harmony with His will.

I believe that love is the greatest thing in the world; that it alone can overcome hate; that right can and will triumph over might.

John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Seamen's Church Institute of N. Y.

15 State Street

New York, N. Y. 10004

Address Correction Requested

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID
AT NEW YORK, N. Y.



The Seamen's Church Institute
of New York ... Meeting
the needs of Merchant Seamen
for 140 years