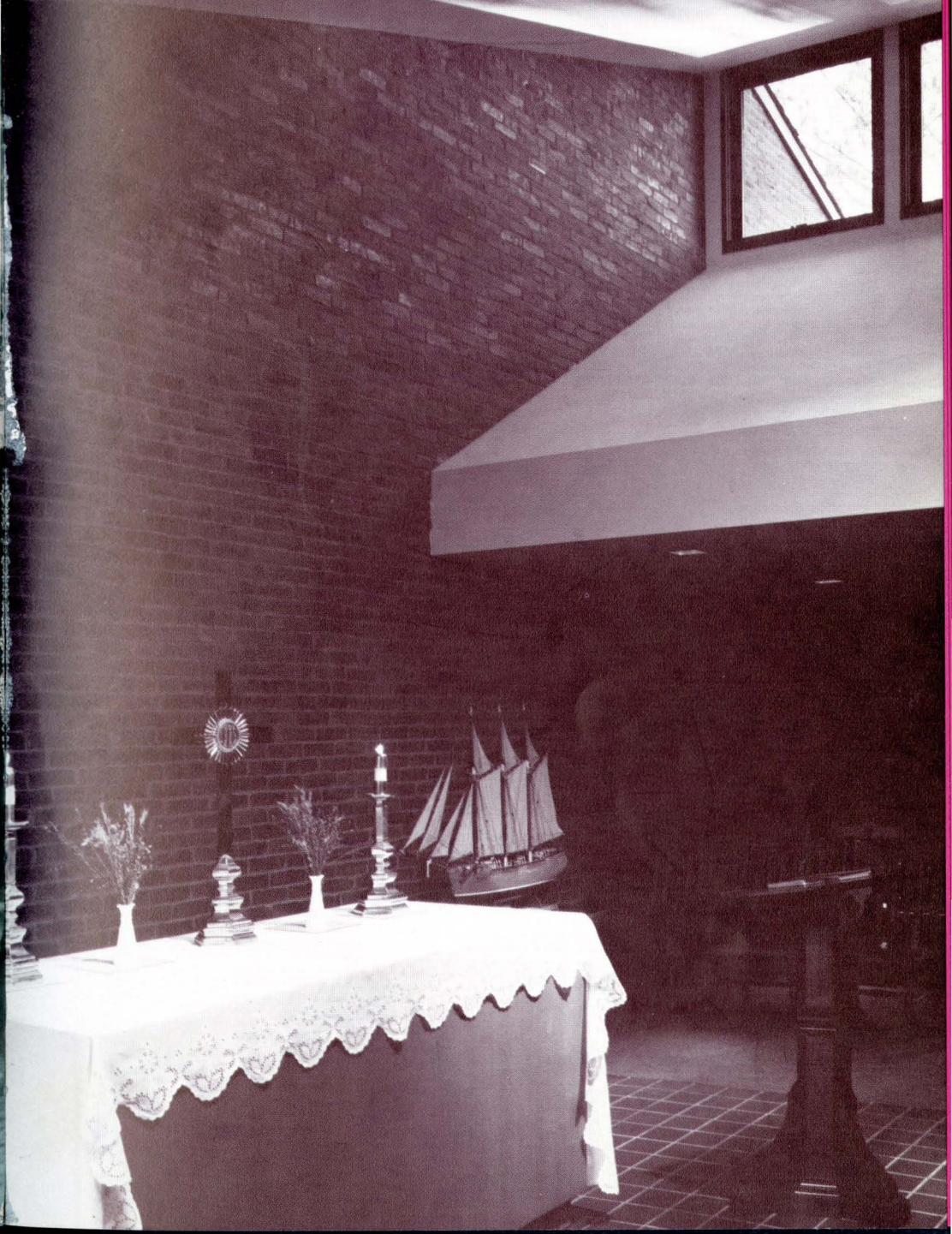




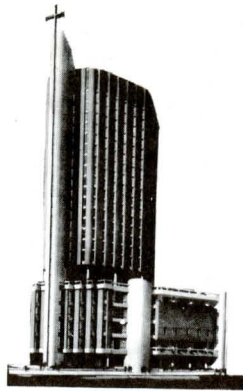
# the LOOKOUT

SEAMEN'S CHURCH INSTITUTE OF NEW YORK

JUNE 1977



# The Program of the Institute



Seamen's Church Institute  
15 State Street, N.Y.C.

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 350,000 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.

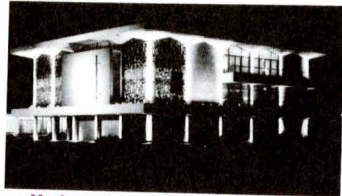
More than 2,300 ships with over

90,000 men aboard put in at Port Newark annually, 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, designed and operated in a special way for the

very special needs of the men. An outstanding feature is a soccer field (lighted by night) for games between ship teams.

Although 60% of the overall Institute budget is met by income from seamen and the public, the cost of special services comes from endowments and contributions. Contributions are tax-deductible.



Mariners International Center (SCI)  
Port Newark/Elizabeth, N.J.

## the LOOKOUT

Vol. 68 No. 5

June 1977

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*Director*

Carlyle Windley  
*Editor*

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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 50¢. Additional postage for Canada, Latin America, Spain, \$1.00; other foreign, \$3.00. Second class postage paid at New York, N.Y.

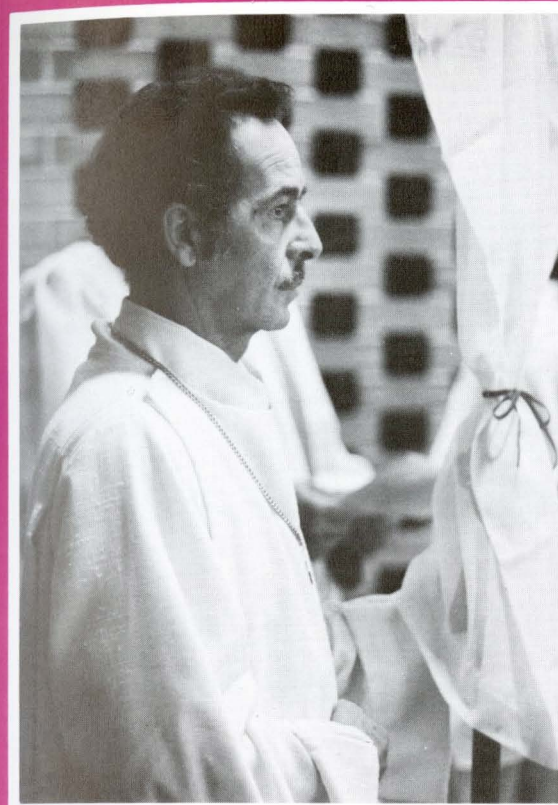
COVER PHOTO: Chapel - Sailors' Snug Harbor  
at Sea Level, N.C.

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US ISSN 0024-6425

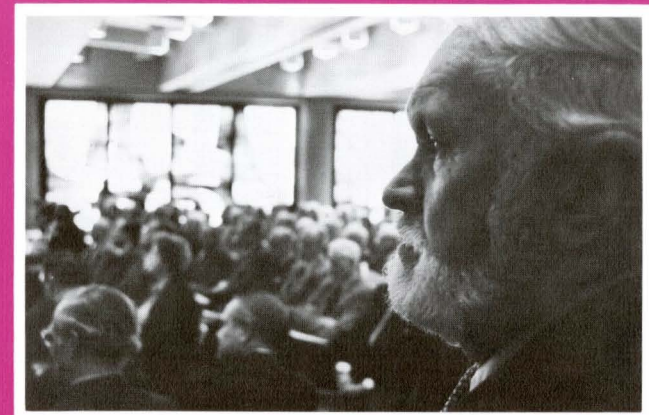
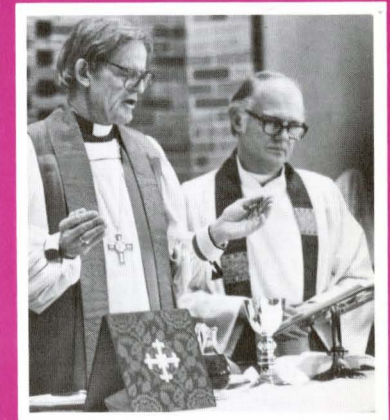
## MAUNDY THURSDAY

is traditionally church visitation day here at the Institute.



Mr. Basile Tzanakis, crucifer

This year not only was the Right Reverend Paul Moore, Jr., Bishop of New York, the chief celebrant at the Holy Eucharist, he also formally installed the Reverend James R. Whittemore as the new director of the Seamen's Church Institute of New York.

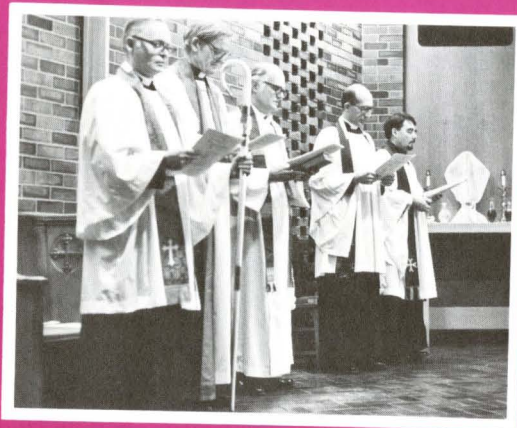


During the service of installation which was attended by seamen, board members, guests and staff...

Mr. John G. Winslow and Mr. Arthur Z. Gray, president and vice-president respectively, of the Institute Board of Managers, presented the candidate to the Bishop.

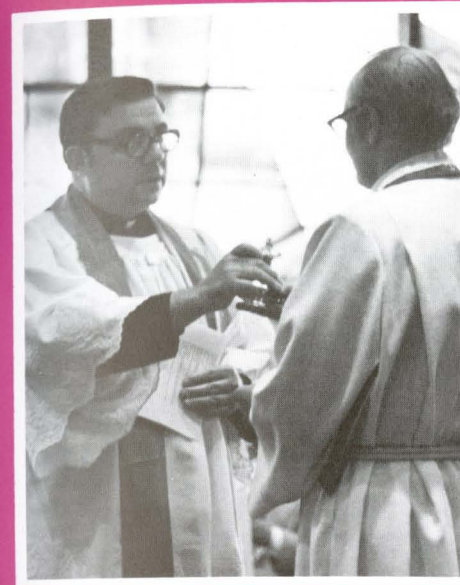
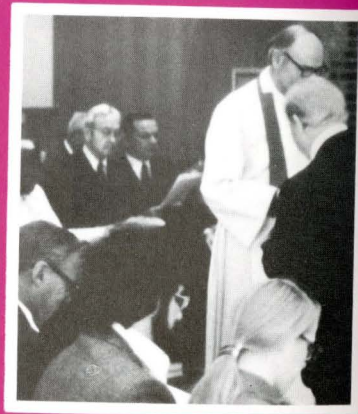


Mr. Arthur Z. Gray, Father Whittemore, Mr. John G. Winslow



Priests and laymen presented the Reverend Whittemore with the symbols of his office. Among those were...

a Bible, symbol of the Word, presented by Mr. William R. Dean, active seaman;



oil, symbol of healing and reconciliation, presented by the Reverend Salvatore T. Malanga of the Archdiocese of Newark;



a compass, representing leadership with justice and wisdom, presented by staff member Mrs. Helen T. Wallen;



and bread and wine presented by Mrs. Thelma E. Blackwood and Mr. George E. Hartstein of the SCI staff.



Father Whittemore then offered prayers for his new ministry.



and at the conclusion of the installation service, was welcomed by the people, following the Bishop's words "greet the new director".



(above left to right)  
Admiral F. Rea, III,  
Commander Atlantic Area;  
3rd U.S.C.G. District —  
The Rev. Frederick Burgess,  
Clerical Vice-President,  
SCI Board of Managers —  
Father Whittemore —  
(and standing)  
Mr. Allen Schumacher,  
Chairman, Friends of SCI  
Membership Program and a  
SCI Board Member



Later many of the guests joined the Board of Managers for lunch;

and in the afternoon, the Director held a reception for seamen and staff. All and all a most memorable and auspicious beginning for the fifth director in this Institute's 143 year history.



Port Newark "crew" welcomes the new director as their "skipper" at afternoon session.



**Maritime Association  
Holds Important New  
Exposition/Conference at  
Seamen's Church Institute.**

Admiral F. Rea, III, Commander Atlantic Area, Third U.S. Coast Guard District, assisted by N. Nick Cretan (left center), Executive Director, Maritime Association of the Port of New York, prepares to cut ribbon signalling the start of the first Port of New York Navigational Aid and Communications Conference held here at the Seamen's Church Institute of New York.

Sponsored by the Maritime Association, the Conference and Exhibit was a display of the latest technology in Navigation Aids and Communications equipment, with addresses and panel discussions by noted authorities in those fields.

Also present at the opening ceremonies were (far left) Admiral Sidney Wallace (USCG) special Marine Transportation Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Transportation and (far right) Maritime Association President Eric Guy de Spirlet, President of Belgian Lines, Inc.

Admiral Wallace heads the Department of Transportation task force formed to recommend laws and regulations on navigational safety and vessel inspection, and was a keynote speaker at the Conference and Exhibit. Mr. Charles Fisher, Chief, Rules and Legal Branch, FCC, was also a featured speaker at the highly successful three-day event.



**AN ISLE WHERE GOOD MEN REST**

*by The Reverend William M. Haynsworth*

Above photo: Seaman John McBride  
96 years of age, at Sailors' Snug Harbor,  
Sea Level, N.C.

We Poets of the proud old lineage  
Who sing to find your hearts, we  
know not why,  
What shall we tell you? Tales,  
marvellous tales  
Of ships and stars and isles where  
good men rest.

James Elroy Flecker  
*The Golden Journey To Samarkand*

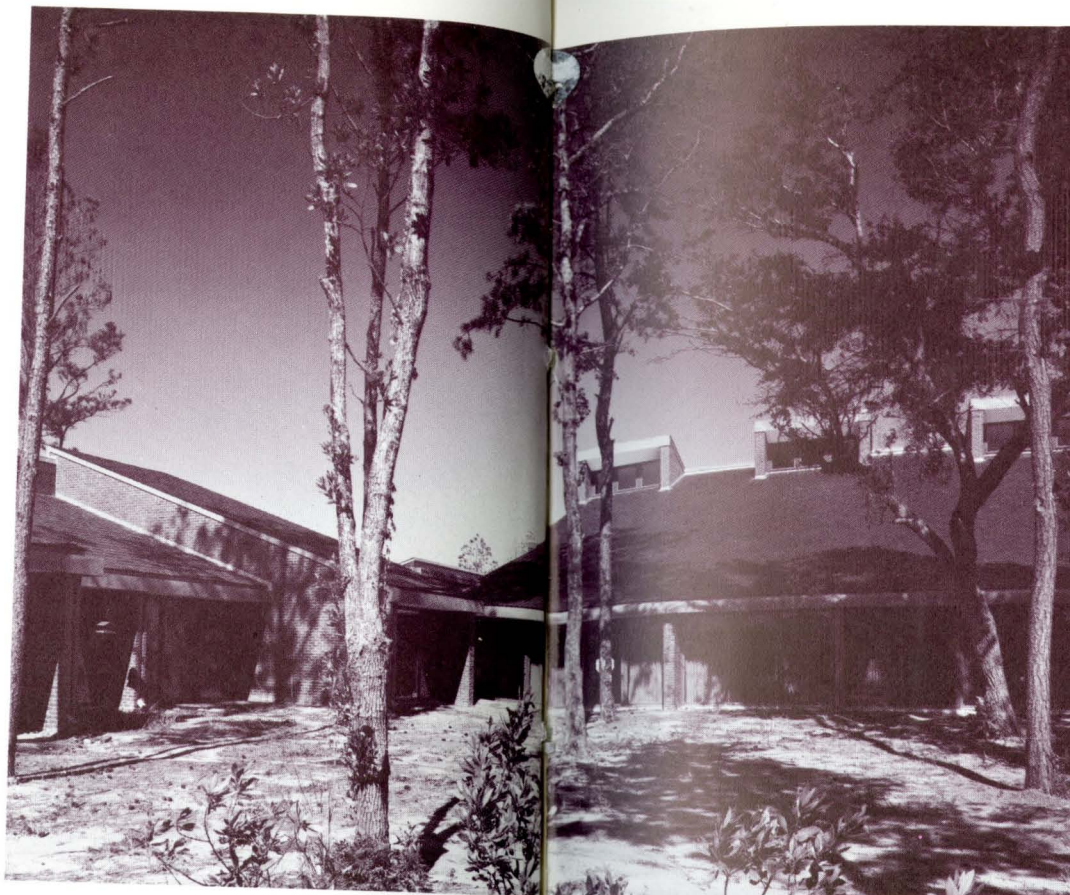
...

For talk of ships and far sea-journeys and of the deep thoughts that haunt the lonely seaman on watch under a starlit sky, you might have taken a ferryboat to Staten Island from the tip of Manhattan; and in less than an hour found yourself in a great park facing what appears to be a row of giant Greek temples which stand, even now, with their pillars like mute sentinels looking out across the wide expanse of Upper New York Bay. The massive colonnaded buildings housed an enduring breed of individuals, among them many who had sailed tall ships under canvas, who spoke with knowledge and authority of the magic lore of the sea. Suddenly, exactly one year ago, the inhabitants of this unique community vanished overnight and with their disappearance an era ended. It was not the end of their story, but the beginning of a new chapter. This capsule review of that story is our salute to a great institution, The Sailors' Snug Harbor, a private, voluntary agency for retired merchant seamen which has undertaken a courageous and promising journey by moving in June 1976 from Staten Island, New York to Sea Level, North Carolina. To review this historic relocation it is necessary to turn briefly to the beginning of the last century.

Founded in 1801, The Sailors' Snug Harbor soon became for the American merchant mariner what Valhalla was to

the Gothic warrior: the ultimate promise of a haven secure from the raging storms of life. Known simply as "the Harbor" to generations of seafarers, it came into being 33 years before the Seamen's Church Institute of New York began a ministry to active merchant seamen in 1834. *(These two agencies are often confused, sometimes mistakenly regarded as being one and the same institution. Such is not the case, although many men who have made the Institute their home during their active years of sailing, make an easy transition to become residents of the Harbor at retirement.)*

The Sailors' Snug Harbor came into existence when a ship's master and former Revolutionary War hero, Captain Robert Richard Randall, bequeathed his entire estate, including 21 acres of valuable farmland located in the heart of New



York City's Greenwich Village, to provide a haven for aged seamen. Tradition has it that his will was drawn by his close friend Alexander Hamilton. It clearly states Captain Randall's objective: "To establish an asylum or hospital for the purpose of maintaining and supporting aged, decrepit and worn-out seamen." The seamen of Captain Randall's time rarely knew the meaning of a secure retirement. Their life was hard, their wages were mean and shipboard discipline was cruel. They sailed ships until they could sail them no longer. Often infirm or disabled, they returned to the shoreside world to eke out a careworn existence working at odd jobs or, with luck, to find a refuge with some kindhearted relative. The kindhearted relative generally turned out to be their true friend, the late Captain Randall. Over

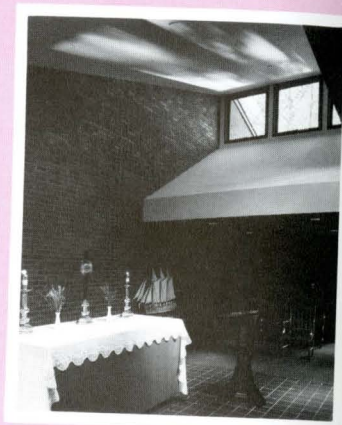
A portion of the "new" Sailors' Snug Harbor at Sea Level, N.C.

the years he has been the benefactor of over ten thousand retired mariners. The vision he had of a safe haven for older seamen has been a reality for almost a century and a half. Captain Randall's will provided for the establishment of an asylum on the old family farm located northeast of Washington Square in New York City. When the estate was settled in 1830, property values had escalated so rapidly that the Trustees decided to lease the land and to establish the seamen's home elsewhere. On August 1, 1833, 30 seamen moved in the the new home built for them on a vast tract of farmland on Staten Island's Kill Van Kull, looking north across the bay toward another island, Manhattan. The number of residents began to grow steadily. Before the turn of the century more than 900 mariners lived in this sailors' village which had come to resemble an independent colony. Here "the Governor," as the superintendent has always been called, provided for the comfortable sheltering of his residents, the growing of the crops that fed them and the grazing of the Holstein cattle that supplied milk and beef for the communal larder of this unique, self-contained realm.

Change came slowly and so quietly at the Harbor as to pass almost unnoticed by the residents. Practical economy was the motivating factor that brought about the first major sign of physical change with



the abolition of the farm. The Holsteins were sent to market and the grazing lands and corn fields were turned into broad green lawns. Eventually some of the buildings met the same fate which economy had imposed on the farming activities of a more graceful past. No act roused the community as much as the demolition in 1952 of the Randall Memorial Church, a small-scale replica of St. Paul's Cathedral.



The number of residents which had declined from 400 in 1955 to 150 by 1975 reflected the skyrocketing costs of operation. Faced with a financial crisis in which deficits had been running at the rate of \$300,000 a year for more than a decade, the Trustees considered a plan which called for the replacement of the stately old buildings with new, efficient facilities. A 1967 "historic landmark" designation of the Greek Revival buildings caused this building plan to be abandoned. At this point, a survey was undertaken to locate a new setting for the Harbor where climatic conditions would be optimum for an older population and where building and operating costs would tend to assure the continued operation of such a community with its costly medical services in an era of spiraling inflation. The findings of the survey indicated that the temperate, year-round climate of the North Carolina coastal area, combined with the advantages of

building and operating costs at half of what they would be in the New York City area, were compelling reasons for relocation.

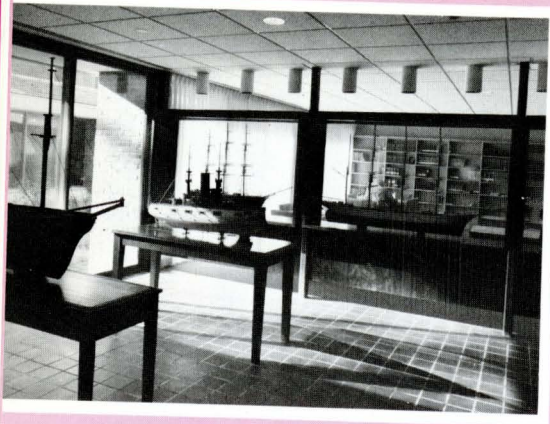
The search for a site focused on Carteret County, a comparatively undeveloped region of rich farmland, tiny hamlets, pine-scented forests and innumerable secluded coves on a quiet sound, protected by the outer banks. This is an area which rightly enjoys the reputation of being a sportsman's paradise. Sea Level, a small village of fewer than 300 inhabitants, had for some time asserted a claim for regional attention as a summer boating and fishing resort when The Sailors' Snug Harbor acquired the 75-acre parcel of land fronting on Nelson's Bay as the site for relocation. Ed-



ward H. Noakes and Associates of Washington, D.C., an architectural firm specializing in the design of health care facilities, was commissioned to plan the new 100,000 square foot complex which now houses a maximum of 122 residents.

Randall Hall is the social center of the four-wing, 6.5 million dollar plant. Within this impressive east wing are administration offices, library, chapel, main lounge, combination barber shop and beauty salon, massive dining room and traditional "Bum Boat" where the residents may purchase items for their personal needs as well as light snacks. The bedrooms for the 80 ambulatory residents are housed in the south and west wings; each bedroom has a private terrace and private bath with such built-in conveniences as hand grips, heat lamps and an emergency call button.

Captain Leo Kraszeski, Governor of the Harbor since 1969 and a former ship's master with Moore-McCormack Lines, notes with pride that only the best quality of materials have been employed in construction: steel superstructure, brick walls, slate roofs, non-combustible materials for all interior furnishings, fire doors that react to a system of smoke sensors, automatic sprinkler system, and shatterproof glass. The entire complex is equipped with a controlled air-conditioned environment system with a standby electrical power plant for emergency use. Every aspect of the design and construction is related to the needs and safety of the residents. The careful planning of the north wing, Tompkins Hall, makes it the most impressive area of the complex. It houses the medical facilities, including a 22-bed infirmary providing skilled nursing care and a 20-bed intermediate care section. This wing is staffed around the clock by a corps of 27 nurses and aides and has the on-call services of four physicians. The adjacent Duke University Medical Center operates an 87-bed acute care unit where any critically ill residents may be cared for. The pledged cooperation of this ultra-modern facility was crucial in the decision to relocate at Sea Level.



Old traditions continue to be observed in the new setting. Individual privacy is respected, the mariners may dress as they see fit and those who wish to consider a vacation are encouraged to get away for a change of scene once each year. (Since Sea Level is regarded by some of the more active residents as being uncomfortably *remote*, for the nearest town is 30 miles away, those who wish may go by chartered bus to Morehead City at least twice weekly.)

One old tradition has been amended: qualified seamens are now eligible for admission and several lady mariners are currently in residence. The general requirements for admission are that applicants be 65 years of age and provide documentary proof of at least ten years of deep-sea service. Consideration is given to those of advanced age and to those who have special medical problems. In a time of high crime against the elderly, especially in urban areas, of environmental stress and spiraling living costs, the need for such a haven is reflected in the increased number of applications for admission. With most applicants receiving both Social Security payments and union pensions, those who are admitted are requested to pay \$75 a month toward their support.

In 1975 at the close of a stormy, change-filled decade when difficult decisions had to be made and when, at last, the relocation of the Harbor at Sea Level became a reality, an observant mariner

wrote the following sentiments which appeared in *The Sailors' Snug Harbor 1975 Yearbook*:

"Captain Robert Richard Randall knew at first hand the rigorous perils of seafaring men on sailing ships of the eighteenth century. From the uttermost depths of his bountiful, compassionate heart he had a very sincere desire to do something meaningful, real and lasting for seamen.

"The Sailors' Snug Harbor is indeed a restful haven for seafaring men who led a hard, rigorous life at sea. It is thought by some that Captain Robert Richard Randall would be well pleased with the sailors' home, if he could see it today."

May that enduring breed of seafarer, whose spirit Captain Randall so fully exemplified, continue to find in the years ahead at The Sailors' Snug Harbor, a safe port in the midst of a changing world, "an isle where good men rest."

**NOTE: The preceding article was written by Chaplain Haynsworth after he had visited the Harbor at Sea Level this past Spring. As senior counselor to seamen here at the Institute, Chaplain Haynsworth has not only known many of the Harbor's inhabitants during their sailing years but he has also helped many of them "prepare and process" for retirement. He tries to keep in contact with these retired seamen and was particularly interested in how those men at Sailors' Snug Harbor have adjusted to their new home. He was pleased to report that in most cases, very well.**



## A.S.T.A. meets at Institute

Rear Admiral Joseph Wylie, USN (ret.) presides at an American Sail Training Association (A.S.T.A.) board meeting held here at the Institute.

Founded in 1973, the association is now a member of the international Sail Training Association and will be a member of its governing council whose chairman is Commander, the Hon. Greville Howard, R.N. (ret.)

One of the prime responsibilities of the A.S.T.A. is to foster and coordinate the interests of sail training in American waters.

To this end, last year it worked closely with the S.T.A. in effecting the final leg (Bermuda to Newport) of the great Sail Training Race which preceded Operation Sail '76. It also helped sponsor the 310-mile Coastwise Race for U.S. registered vessels who were not licensed to go to Bermuda but who wanted to participate in the Newport In-Shore Regatta and "Tall Ships '76".

Such S.T.A./A.S.T.A. combined efforts can only heighten America's interest and participation in sail training as an excellent character-building, youth education program ... as well as fostering international goodwill among young and old alike.



### Editor's Note:

This is the sixth of 16 articles in the series "Oceans: Our Continuing Frontier." In this article Sir Edward Bullard describes how great rigid plates of the earth's crust are moving, how a new sea floor is being formed, and how the continents are drifting apart – in sum, the recent findings of geologists that have revolutionized our concept of the earth's history.

These articles, which explore the whole range of human involvement with the sea, were written for COURSES BY NEWSPAPER, a program developed by University Extension, University of California, San Diego, and funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Through special permission we are offering this course to our readers in monthly installments.

The views expressed in this series are those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the University of California, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the distributing agency or this publication.

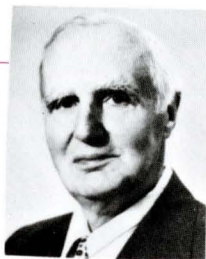
## OCEANS: OUR CONTINUING FRONTIER Lecture 6.

# A NEW WORLD FUTURE

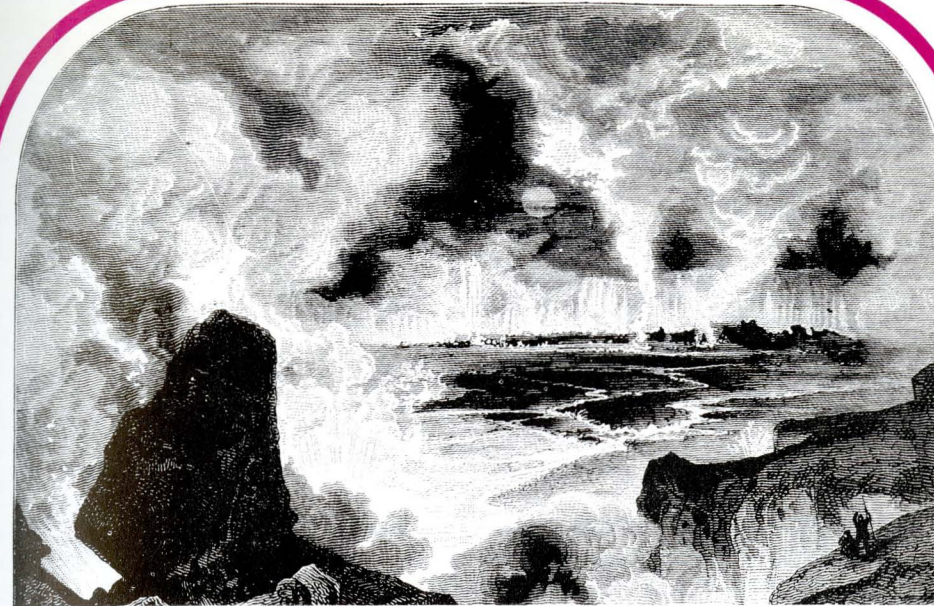
by  
Sir Edward Bullard

### About the Author:

SIR EDWARD BULLARD is Professor of Geophysics at the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at the University of California, San Diego.



He was formerly director of the National Physical Laboratory in Teddington, England, and chairman of the Department of Geodesy and Geophysics at Cambridge University, which made major breakthroughs regarding the theory of sea-floor spreading and continental drift. One of the pioneers of modern geophysical oceanography and a participant in many expeditions at sea, he was knighted in 1953. His other honors include awards from the Royal Society, the Geological Society of America, the Royal Astronomical Society, and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences.



Ageologist studies the earth, but until a few years ago the two-thirds of the earth's surface that lies beneath the oceans was almost totally unknown.

When it was studied, it turned out to be a new world. Everything was different from what we see on land.

On land the mountains, such as the Alps, are formed from once flat-lying rocks that have been squeezed and folded. Such mountains never occur in the deep ocean. There the mountains are all volcanoes.

The rocks are different, too. Beneath the sediments of the continents and in the cores of the mountains, we usually find granites. At sea, the rocks are black basalts that have flowed out as lava from the volcanoes. Basalts and volcanoes do occur on the continents, but they are by no means the commonest rocks or the commonest kinds of mountains.

### A YOUNG OCEAN FLOOR

Perhaps the most remarkable difference is that the rocks of the oceans, both sediments and lavas, are all quite young. Young, that is, as geological ages go. The rocks on the continents are of all ages: some we can see being formed today; some were formed 4,000 million years


ago. At sea we find rocks about 160 million years old, but nothing older. The entire floor of the ocean was formed in the last four percent of geological time. This was a quite unexpected discovery.

The landscape of the ocean floor also had its surprises. Its most striking feature is the great mountain range, the mid-ocean ridge, which runs right around the world.

It starts off at the mouth of the Lena River in Siberia, runs across the Arctic Ocean, through Iceland, down the whole length of the Atlantic, round the south of Africa and into the Indian Ocean. Between Madagascar and India it splits. One branch runs northwest into the Red Sea, the other goes south of Australia and New Zealand, across the South Pacific and northwards into the Gulf of California.

This ridge is by far the longest mountain range on earth. In height above the neighboring plains, it is comparable to the great mountains of the continents.

Along the axis of the ridge there is a crack-like valley in which earthquakes are a daily occurrence. Records of these earthquakes have been taken by seismographs all over the world, and also, in recent years, by seismographs on the



floor of the valley itself. They show that the sea floor is splitting apart. The opening cracks are, naturally, filled with lava, which emerges like toothpaste squeezed from a tube.

On each side of the valley the sea floor has no earthquakes. It seems that new sea floor is being formed by the splitting open of the central valley of the ridge. The sea floor on each side is moving away as a pair of rigid plates, with no breaking or splitting except along the joint.

### CONTINENTS ON THE MOVE

In the Atlantic there is no sign of crumpling where the sea floor meets the continent. The moving plates appear to include not only the sea floor, but also the continents around the ocean.

Not only is the floor of the Atlantic moving outwards from the ridge, North America and Europe are moving, too, and getting farther and farther apart. Similar processes are at work in the South Atlantic where Africa and South America are separating, and in the Indian Ocean where India and Africa are getting farther apart. Australia and Antarctica are also separating.

Clearly it is not possible for all the oceans to widen at the same time. If the continents move apart in some places,

they must come closer together in others. To put it in another way, if the sea floor is being created on the ridges, it must be destroyed somewhere else. (The process is much too rapid for the extra sea floor to be accommodated by swelling of the whole earth.)

The place where the sea floor disappears is marked by the great belts of earthquakes around the Pacific and in some other places, such as the Caribbean and the arc of islands between the southern tip of South America and Antarctica. These belts of earthquakes are shallow on the ocean side and run down under the continents to depths of six or seven hundred kilometers.

It is now clear that, along these belts of earthquakes, the outward moving plates of ocean floor are plunging down beneath the continents and returning again to the depths from which they emerged when they were formed at the volcanoes in mid-ocean.

By a wonderful and quite unexpected piece of good fortune it is now possible to trace the whole history of the movement of the ocean floors.

When a piece of lava cools in the central valley of the ridge, it becomes feebly magnetized by the earth's magnetic field. This magnetization is in the direction of

the field at the time the rock is formed.


However, the earth's field has not always been in the same direction. At irregular intervals, on the average every few thousand years, it flips over and points south and up instead of north and down as it does at present in the Northern Hemisphere. These flips are recorded by the magnetization of the rocks being formed at the time, and can be observed by an instrument towed behind a ship.

As the sea floor moves away from the ridge, stripes of opposite directions of magnetization are formed. The sea floor thus forms a giant tape recorder which preserves a record of the reversals of the field in the past.

A double record, one on each side of the ridge, covers the whole of the floors of all the oceans and enables us to say with some certainty, "This place of floor was formed on the axis of the ridge, as a hot and molten lava, at this date and has moved out to where it is now." The speeds turn out to be from one to ten centimeters each year.

Very recently the drilling of over 400 holes in the floor of the deep sea has wonderfully confirmed the ages expected from the magnetic lineations.

The idea that the continents have moved apart is not new. It was argued



most persuasively by Alfred Wegener, a German meteorologist, 60 years ago. What is new is that a study of the ocean floor has demonstrated that it really happened. Wegener was right, but it is only the great effort of the last 20 years that has persuaded most people of the correctness of his beliefs.

We have, in fact, what is nothing less than a world view of geological change.

The new views have developed as more or less academic science, but clearly we cannot change our views of global processes without effects on practical affairs. We look for oil and minerals in the light of what we know about geological processes, and here is a whole new insight into the processes.

If continents have split apart, moved about, collided, and had plates of ocean floor thrust under them, then these processes must be connected with mineral formation and the genesis of oil-containing basins of sediments.

The application of the new knowledge has hardly begun. It is a task of outstanding interest for the future.

\*\*\*

**NEXT ISSUE:** Willard Bascom, archaeologist and director of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, considers some popular myths about the sea when he discusses "Science and Ancient Sea Stories."



## TO THE SEACHANTRESS

*Into a slip lightly swaying,  
Into a gentleness berth,  
Home from the heavily sea-roam lonely  
    (Seagulled steaming  
    through re-counted days),  
Home from the openness stamight dreaming  
    (Seasprayed sleeping  
    on figments of earth),  
Tethered and moored with a tentative hawser,  
Briefly beguiled by the landchanted song;  
Then back, back away  
    to the seachantress streaming,  
Slip slips away  
    to the heavily seaing,  
Slip, slip away  
    to the freeseated sway.*

Warren C. Norwood