

SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE HAD A
YEAR OF SPLENDID ACTIVITY

Reports Read at Annual Meeting Held Last Evening Showed That 38,212 Seamen Have Taken Advantage of Privileges of the Institution—H. C. Schofield Re-elected President—Societies Have Assisted.

A very large increase in the number of men attending the Seamen's Institute and a year of successful effort for their comfort and entertainment was reported at the annual meeting of the Seamen's Institute held last evening. H. C. Schofield presided and in his address spoke of plans for the erection of a balcony in the main hall, and enlargement of the sleeping quarters. The services of Walter Bridle as manager had more than fulfilled all expectations. The death of Charles A. McDonald was regretted by the board. He expressed gratitude for the assistance given by the League. Y. W. P. A. and the Ladies Guild.

The report of the Ladies Guild, signed by M. Watt, told of co-operation and splendid support especially in hospital work among sailors. Knitting is being done and furnishings have been supplied.

A vote of deep appreciation for the endowment fund secured from the Dominion Council of the Navy League and for the efforts made to secure this by officers of the N. B. Division was moved by H. J. Evans, seconded by George A. Henderson and passed. Officers were elected as follows:

H. C. Schofield—President.
Capt. Mulcahey—Vice-President.
J. N. Rogers—Secretary.
H. A. Evans—Treasurer.
Board of Management—George A. Henderson, Thomas Graham, R. T. Hayes, L. P. D. Tilley, R. Morton Smith, Z. S. Plator, Captain Walsh, D. W. Leddingham, C. B. Allan, Miss Alice Fairweather, President Y. W. P. A., Mrs. Archibald, President Ladies' Guild, R. B. Armstrong.

Manager's Annual Report.
The Board of Management of the Seamen's Institute Society.

Gentlemen,—After perusing a collection of past reports of this Association, I think we are entitled to say that the year 1925 and 1926 heads the list in the way of something attempted, something done.

Last season is said to have been an exceptionally large one, in the way of shipping coming to this port, but this season goes one better, showing an increase over last year of 12 ships. Our attendance for season 1925-26 with a total of thirty-eight thousand, shows an increase of eleven thousand over last year, which proves that the popularity of the films from the Red Cross is being maintained among the men in whose interest it was built. This total is entirely apart from the attendance of the public at our open concerts.

The social side of our work has been well cared for; not only have the rooms for writing, reading and recreation, been open every day from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. at night, but the refreshments have been well maintained. Over the great grand piano of the various film exchanges in loading to us free of charge, the various pictures which they control, we have been able to put on the great appreciation of the men, sixty picture shows and we are very much indebted to the managers of the exchanges, who have supplied the films from week to week, with a willingness that made it appear as if the pleasure was all their own.

In addition to this, the Y. W. P. A. have helped out the picture on twenty Saturdays, by providing vocal and other items to make the evening pass more pleasantly for the boys, and we are truly grateful to the many artists, who have so willingly given of their time and talent in this connection.

The canteen, run so ably by the young ladies, has again proved a great attraction, as is vouched for by the crowds that have lined up at the counter, and the mountains of cakes and other eatables that have disappeared over the counter night after night. We have found it necessary to run the canteen through the day this year, and this has been run by your staff, and we have found this arrangement has paid a real want during the severe winter weather. We have closed up at 5 o'clock, when the girls with whom we made arrangements as to gas, etc., took it over.

The bed this season have proved a good source of income and the need for a larger dormitory has been fully demonstrated. We have been called upon to shelter 800 men in the ordinary way, in addition to the many who have come to us as the result of shipwreck, etc.

This season has been a very hard one on shipping, and as a result we have had more over to us for shelter through the season, no less than 65 shipwrecked men who have been cared for, some two, three and four days, as the case demanded, until they could be forwarded home. We have to thank Major Fugh, of the Ordnance Corps, who very kindly loaned us 30 blankets on a night when our beds were filled, and 18 shipwrecked men came in as one of the results of the arrangement has worked well.

The billiard tables have been well patronized, having brought in over \$50, whilst the expense has been very low.

The ships' concerts which have been thrown open to the public, have proved a great success; we have equally divided the seating accommodation between the seamen and the public and there have been no complaints from the men who were admitted free all the time. There have been 19 of these concerts, and they have brought in over \$600, proving very popular, as hundreds have had to be turned away.

Mrs. Seymour, who has been the moving spirit in the Sunday services for so long, in consequence of advancing years, felt herself unable to continue the work this year, and so our manager shouldered the task of providing a speaker's list for the season. The task was much easier than he expected, as he was not met by a single refusal when he approached the clergymen of the various denominations in the city. The ministers have loyally kept their appointments, and it has only been necessary for the manager to take the platform on four occasions and this was only by reason of unexpected removals.

The addresses have been most patently listened to by the men and the attendance has been very good, showing an average of 145. The choir in most cases accompanied their ministers, and we appreciate most highly the services they have rendered.

Refreshments were served to the men at the close of each service, in the way of cake and tea, the cost being met out of profits of the day's concert.

Another attraction has been added this season in the way of a well-stocked library of 235 volumes, which were very kindly furnished at the request of your manager by the girls of the Y. W. P. A. The greatest attraction of the whole season was, as usual, the Christmas treat which took place on the 30th of December. At the outset we figured on 800 bags, but we soon found this amount to be insufficient and the number was increased to 1200 and not one was left.

The Empress of France, the Sicilian, and the Manchester Hero, sailed the night before the treat, but they were not forgotten. Your manager hired an automobile and 350 bags were taken to the Empress, 350 to the Sicilian, and 24 to the Hero, and the fact that the institute thought enough of the boys to go to this trouble was made the subject of much comment among the officers of the respective ships, and the delight of the boys themselves was unbounded. No praise could be

too great to bestow on the ladies who so cheerfully shouldered the task of cutting, sewing and filling the bags, and providing the good things to eat at the end of their other labors.

We are also very grateful to the branches of the Navy League, the W. C. T. U. and the I. O. O. F., who each sent in a number of well-filled bags. This year fifty half-pound boxes of chocolates were given to the stewards and much appreciated.

Some 350 men filled the hall on the 30th, when an excellent programme was provided and the chair was taken by Captain Mulcahey, who officiated in the absence of the president.

A ladies' guild was formed in March. They have met three times already and the guild gives promise of much good work for next season, as the members are mostly tried friends of the institute and are showing much enthusiasm.

The hospital work has again been carried on most efficiently by the friends of the institute and are showing much enthusiasm. The one medicine that can legitimately claim to do all this is Hood's Sarsaparilla. If a mild laxative is needed, take Hood's Pills, an active cathartic, more Hood's Pills.

When your food does taste good it is a sign of good or returning health; shows that the blood is becoming rich, rousing scrofula, eczema, rheumatism and other diseases, and that the system is being built up to overcome that tired feeling and the prostration after influenza and fevers. The one medicine that can legitimately claim to do all this is Hood's Sarsaparilla. If a mild laxative is needed, take Hood's Pills, an active cathartic, more Hood's Pills.

The plan right through the season, and to Mr. Turner Howard, who has so faithfully attended to the making up of rolls or magazines.

The film exchanges for their most generous help with their picture entertainments and all who have contributed magazines, carpet for handbags, etc. Mr. P. F. Horne for his help as usher at the concerts, and the Misses Irvine, Leslie, Leo and Goss for their help with the refreshments on Sunday evenings, and the ladies of the W. C. T. U. for their excellent treatment of the men in port which were enjoyed by all, and to all others whose help has proved so valuable in the season's work.

Below are the statistics for the official year:—

Attendance of sailors	85,212	27,231
Concerts open to pub.	19	54
Concerts for sailors only	30	54
Moving pictures	60	63
Hospital visits	62	...
Magazines, etc., distributed	10,441	5,739
Handbags for women	907	400
Comfort bags given	1,200	1,120
Letters mailed	5,584	6,988
Visits to ships	60	724
Visits to goal	2	...
Money exchanged	2,027	5,000
Religious literature	2,027	1,876

W. BUNNIE, Manager.

Through the kindness of Captain Kenny, master of the Aberdeen, 90 parcels of magazines were sent to the leighthouse on the coast. The magazines were donated by Mr. Monro, and parcelled by Mother Tiltson.

I cannot but say this report to a close without thanking again all those who have helped make this season such a success.

The Y. W. P. A., who have been so faithful in their attentions to the canteen, and in the Saturday concerts and also for practical help to the value of \$10 for a very needy case which I brought to their notice.

To the Red Cross Association for the gift of 400 pairs of socks through Mrs. Sturdee; the Canadian Bible Society for the gift of over 700 portions of Scripture for the Christmas bags; the clergymen and choirs of the various churches who have helped so splendidly in our Sunday services; to Miss Thompson, who has presided at

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NOTICE
The Sanitary Cafe, 32 Charlotte Street, will be closed until the first of the week, during which time it will be thoroughly renovated and will resume business under the name of the "Frisco Cafe."
Dated this tenth day of May, A. D. 1926.
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