

For the Glory of God
and the Welfare of Seamen.



MELBOURNE

No. 14.

Easter, 1909.

QUARTERLY

JOTTINGS FROM OUR LOG

THE VICTORIA MISSIONS TO SEAMEN

(being the Victorian Seamen's Mission and the
Melbourne Missions to Seamen amalgamated).

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His Excellency Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael.

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W. FORSTER HAIRE, Assistant Chaplain.
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J. COOPER, Boatman, "Southern Cross."

Other Australasian Stations—

SYDNEY	-	Rev. Allan Pain.
NEWCASTLE	-	Rev. Louis Ives.
WELLINGTON	-	Mr. J. Moore.
ADELAIDE	-	Mr. F. S. Shell.
AUCKLAND	-	Mr. A. P. Cowie.



Central
Institute,
Australian
Wharf.

WE congratulate SYDNEY on the commencement of the enlarged Church and Institute which, under the name of the "Rawson Memorial Institute, is now in process of erection. The old buildings there have done good service, and none better than during the last thirteen years, when the "blue flag" has been flying under the command of the Rev. H. Distin Morgan (now succeeded by Rev. Allan Pain) and Mr. Charles Moss; but the need of larger and more up-to-date premises was greatly felt. Sir Harry Rawson himself laid the foundation-stone; and this is one more of the many acts by which the retiring Governor of N.S.W. has shown the value he sets upon the welfare of sailors of all classes.

THE DEDICATION of our new CHAPEL at the Australian Wharf Institute was performed, in the presence of a crowded congregation, by the Archbishop of Melbourne on 26th January. His Grace also dedicated at the same time the handsome PULPIT which has been given by Mr. Haire in memory of his mother. All our friends are pleased with the little Chapel, which has been made as worthy as possible of its sacred purpose. We want 36 more church chairs, at a cost of £15, if any of our readers will help us in this respect. The time of our daily service has been changed so that it *concludes*, instead of commences, the evening. This, we believe, will enable a larger number of men to attend, besides affording a happy finish to a happy evening.

Most of the men who use the Institutes appreciate these services of prayer, at which we commend to God sailors and all at sea, and our workers look upon these acts of worship when they kneel with the toilers of the deep in common prayer and praise as the best part of the evening.

We have now at the Central Institute a very nice BILLIARD ROOM for officers, which will be a boon to many, and will be more and more appreciated as it is made acquaintance with.

Our ANNUAL MEETING was held at the Central Institute on 26th February. The Lord Mayor (Councillor Burston) presided, and in the course of his speech expressed himself as surprised and gratified at the efforts being made for the social and moral benefit of the thousands of sailors frequenting the port. He acknowledged that the Seamen's Institute, so largely due to the liberality of city men, had not so far come under his immediate notice. He thought the Mission in its various branches ought to be well supported by the community.

The Rev. Wm. Hancock's speech was addressed to the hearts of his audience when he appealed for more thought for the lives of our sailors, because of their kindness of heart and their courage.

Among other telling speeches from the Archbishop, Mr. F. White (of the P. and O. Co.), Mr. R. J. Alcock, and Mr. W. H. Allard, it was nice to hear the words of such an old and trusted friend of sailors as Mr. Charles Moss, from Sydney. Mr. Moss's presence helped to give that useful sense of the solidarity of the Missions to Seamen, as, speaking from a New South Wales point of view, he wished the Victoria Mission God-speed.

On Friday, 5th March, the Archbishop held a special CONFIRMATION Service in our Chapel, when two sailors were confirmed. We all felt it was a solemn service, and our prayers go up for these Soldiers of the Cross, that they may have grace to persevere in that Christian life so hard to live at sea, where there are no public means of grace, and where, too often, the man or boy who "sets God before his eyes" is looked upon with suspicion, if not dislike. May the day come when true, manly Christianity will be more commonly seen, and more generally respected, both on land and sea.

This quarter, two sailors (A.B.'s) joined the Brotherhood of the SEAMEN'S GUILD, and were admitted as Probationers during the time of Evening Service.

We thankfully welcome MR. KINGSTON VICKERY as a worker amongst us. Mr. Vickery is at present a student at St. John's College, preparing for holy orders. He gives three days a week to ship-visiting and helping at our evening concerts and socials. Sailors are already getting to know him, and, with their usual heartiness, appreciate his visits on shipboard. The Missions to Seamen in London are generously finding the greater part of the means whereby we are able thus to enlarge the scope of our efforts.

We hope Mr. R. J. Alcock's words spoken at the Annual Meeting will bear fruit, and that church congregations, as well as private individuals, will do more to provide the NECESSARY FUNDS for the maintenance and extension of the Seamen's Mission. We cannot help noticing that comparatively little money comes in from the country, and yet what a rich and prosperous summer has been given us in Victoria this year. Harvest thanksgiving might well take the shape of an annual contribution towards a work which provides for the moral and spiritual good of those who man the ships which carry the produce, and thus help to circulate the wealth which we owe to God.

SAILORS THEMSELVES, it must be remembered, are doing what they can towards the upkeep of the Institutes, as our church offertories and ship contributions show. We do not send begging appeals on board ship, but gladly place collecting cards in the charge of one of the crew when we are invited to do so.

We shall be glad of contributions towards the upkeep of the MISSION BOAT, "SOUTHERN CROSS." She costs about £200 a-year, including wages, oil, and repairs. Visiting ships in the Bay is a most important part of the Mission. Nowhere are our visits more appreciated than on

board ship at anchor, and these visits often including a short bright service, are among the happiest memories of the staff. Mr. Haire has drawn up a scheme (called "The League of the Southern Cross") which we invite the public and private schools to take up. The boys and girls of Melbourne can do grand work for us by joining the League. All information can be obtained from the Chaplain in charge, or from the Rev. W. F. Haire (Assistant Chaplain), 32 Beaconsfield Parade, South Melbourne.

Our CORDIAL THANKS are again tendered to our many professional and other friends who have helped to make our evenings pass so pleasantly with music and song; and also to those who have sent parcels of literature for sending away to sea, book bags, woollies, &c.

A branch of the LADIES' HARBOUR LIGHTS GUILD has been formed at Gisborne through the kindness of the Rev. G. N. MacDonnell and Mrs. MacDonnell. Sermons were preached there on 7th March, and a Lantern Lecture given on the following Tuesday. A Lantern Lecture was also given at Oakleigh, on 31st March, and the Rev. H. H. J. Norwood has put the claims of the Mission before his people. Other clergy are kindly offering their pulpits and schoolrooms for sermons and lectures, and we thus hope for much enlarged help from our shore friends during the year. DRAWINGROOM MEETINGS convened by the Lady Mayoress and by Mrs. Jacomb (East Melbourne) are already fixed.

As we go to press the English mail brings us the good news that the Missions to Seamen in London are sending out an ADDITION TO OUR STAFF. Mr. A. T. Pitt (Lay Reader) is to come out to Melbourne, the London Society providing his salary for two years. The grant of £100 which the Society has been contributing towards salaries of workers will now cease, so we shall have to look to the friends of sailors in Victoria to make up this amount for the existing staff. Why should this money be hard to get?

All Sea-going Men are cordially invited to use the Institutes for Reading, Smoking, Writing, &c.

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SERVICES IN CHAPEL—Sunday, 8.30, Holy Communion; 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. A short daily service at 9.45 p.m.

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