

# A SEAMAN'S BETHEL WITH A SMOKING ROOM.

## Miss Bertha Edson Lay Writes of Christian Endeavor Work Among the Jack Tars in This City.

Mission work in New York among seamen was first begun under Christian Endeavor auspices in August, 1862, when Mrs. Jane Cassera organized the "Floating Society of Christian Endeavor." Mrs. Cassera at that time was a missionary for the Fort Society and also an Endeavorer.

Her work among seamen resulted in such a great interest in religious matters that she soon saw the advisability of organizing her converts into a distinctive branch of the Christian Endeavor Society, and of calling for aid to assist in enlarging her sphere of usefulness. Responses to her appeals came in but slowly.

Heed, that he won't be preached at all the time, he is a fixture at the mission and a firm adherent to his shore friends.

As a rule Jack takes to religion with much reluctance. But once assured him it is the only true course to steer by and he will follow it cheerfully. Often he will slip back, often will he threaten to throw the whole thing overboard, but he soon sees the folly of such a step, and is glad to be welcomed back to the fold.

Eight members of the "Floating Society" have become church members recently. One must take into consideration the drawbacks which beset a sailor on every hand. They are by no means hardened cases, ignorant and uneducated.

The C. E. Bethel, in branching out, has

deavorer in New York City would contribute 1 cent a week, yearly, the sum total would more than pay all Bethel expenses. Surely that is a small sum to donate to so worthy a cause.

**BERTHA EDSON LAY,**  
Captain C. E. Endeavor Bethel,  
No. 303 Hudson street, New York City.

### ITS REAL BIRTHPLACE.

The Reason Why Some Peoples Say Christian Endeavor Was Born in Brooklyn.

Was the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor really born in Brooklyn? Did Dr. Clark model the movement which has now swept around the world upon the lines of an organization which he there discovered in successful operation?

There are a great many people who say aye to both of these inquiries.

In his history of the society, Dr. Clark says:

"In many churches, too, conspicuously in the Lafayette Avenue Church, of Brooklyn, of which the honored Dr. Cuyler was pastor, were strong and vigorous young people's associations, which, though they did not have the distinguishing characteristics of the Christian Endeavor Society of today, nevertheless accustomed the mind of the Christian public to the idea of organized activity among the young people of the churches."

Rev. Dr. Clark has in his pulpit utterances on at least two occasions rendered a little more definite recognition of the suggestion of the source of the Chris-

### JUNIOR SOCIETIES.

The Object and Purposes of These Rapidly Increasing Bodies.

The necessity for a special organization for children of tender years became apparent early in the history of the Christian Endeavor movement, but it was not until 1884 that the first of the existing 10,000 Junior Endeavor Societies were formed.

It was at Tabor, Ia., that the first of the "Juniors" organized. It was made up of ten boys, all of whom have since become prominent in the affairs of the present organization.

The boy or girl who joins a Junior Christian Endeavor Band becomes an active member by signing the following pledge:

"Trusting in the Lord Jesus Christ for strength, I promise Him that I will strive to do whatever He would like to have me do; that I will pray and read the Bible every day; and that, just so far as I know how, I will try and lead a Christian life. I will be present at every meeting of the society when I can, and will take some part in every meeting."

The actual numbers of junior societies is given out by Secretary Baer as 10,084, and the membership is in excess of a half million. The members of a junior association are expected to make themselves useful about the church and Sunday-school.

Each juvenile member is put on a committee, and given a sense of importance. The labors of the committees are set forth

along the same lines as their older friends.

It cannot be said that the Junior Endeavor movement has met the general endorsement of pastors. By many such an organization is looked upon as an interference with the regular Sunday school work.

The Junior Endeavor receives considerable attention at the annual gatherings. At Washington yesterday was given over to the children and known as Junior Endeavor Day. At the State Convention they do much of the chorus singing. There has been a lot of good music written for the little ones.

The Junior branch or order of the Christian Endeavor movement seems to thrive especially in England, and the general society has many encouraging reports about its growth in the Asiatic and Australian missions.

### AN INDIAN PLEDGE.

Curious Form of Promise of the Dakotas Who Join the Endeavor Society.

There is no limit to the enthusiasm of a Christian Endeavorer. Hence it is not surprising that a feature of the General Secretary's report to the assembled host at Washington relates to work among the Dakotas.

If the Indian read the language in which the Journal is printed, he would subscribe to these terms:

As an active member of the Christian Endeavor Society, I promise:

1st. To read the Bible every day.

2d. To pray every day.

# CHRISTIAN WORK AMONG POLICEMEN.

## Secretary Spicer Tells How an Endeavor Society Was Formed for Them and What Is Now Being Done.

Among other lines of special effort for the good of mankind in the great metropolis, there are many which specialize, taking one particular class in the community. The City Missions had made some effort for policemen by the distribution of a paper published in London, called "On and Off Duty."

A wealthy lady had supplied the various precincts with libraries for the men, and special effort is made from time to time in the Salvation Army. But the first continuous, systematic effort was commenced four years ago as a branch of the "Inter-

This work is in no sense a charity. It is the outcome of some interested persons having become recently aroused to a sense of responsibility in the gratitude they owe to a body of efficient public officers.

New York City owes a debt of gratitude to these men above the mere maintenance of the force.

Believing that God loves them, and gave His Son Jesus Christ to die for them in common with other men, the N. Y. C. P. A. was started by members of various religious denominations, upon a strictly non-sectarian basis, having the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of the men in view. A free reading room was opened at No. 233 West Thirtieth street. A Police Band of

## VARIOUS FORMS OF USEFULNESS OF THE CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR SOCIETY.



But the friends she had enlisted in the cause were earnest in their efforts to further the work. When Mrs. Cassera's term at the Fort Society expired, May, 1866, her Floating Endeavor Society numbered three hundred members.

Her friends came forward, and through their efforts she was able to establish a shore home for her boys. When it was decided to establish a purely Christian Endeavor mission for the extension of the work among seamen, money was raised and individual contributions promised.

A committee to take charge of matters was formed, composed of delegates from representative societies in each of New York's six districts, and including many of the most efficient Christian Endeavor workers in the city. The result was shown on the evening of July 2, when the Christian Endeavor Seamen's Bethel was formally opened at No. 303 Hudson street. It was officially commended to all Christian Endeavor societies whose pastors approve of their giving a share of their time and money to this object, it was joyfully welcomed by the seamen, and cordially recognized by hosts of appreciative land people.

The location is an excellent one, and the three rooms devoted to the work are admirably adapted to the purpose. The main rooms are well worth a visit, filled as they are by all sorts of gifts to Mrs. Cassera, from her seafaring lads. Pictures, flags, odd and pretty bits of china, and many curiosities are tastefully placed, and the picture frames and mats made by the sailors attest the interest which prompts "Jack" to spend many moments in making some gift for "Ma Cassera," who is known far and wide as the sailors' friend.

This Bethel is a pioneer in several respects, each of which is worthy of consideration. It is the only mission in this city conducted and supported by Christian Endeavorers. It is the home of the first Christian Endeavor Floating Society in New York State, and the second organized. It is absolutely non-sectarian, being purely Christian Endeavor. While founded on the truest, grandest principles, it is broad and liberal in its views and treatment.

The permanent committee having in charge the management and expenses of the mission consists of four members, all of whom have adopted nautical titles. They are: Captain, Miss Bertha Edson Lay; first mate, Mr. John J. Haddley; second mate and ship's clerk, Miss Grace E. Reed; purser, Mr. John M. Kyle.

Just here it may be well to explain that while Christian Endeavor societies are supporting the "Bethel," the "Floating Society of Christian Endeavor," which has its headquarters there, is a distinct and separate organization, composed exclusively of seamen and officers by themselves. Its membership is constantly increasing, and branches of it are being organized among the crews of ships. It is, of course, governed by Christian Endeavor rules. The pledge differs somewhat from that of the national body, and includes a promise to abstain from drink.

The committee having charge of the C. E. Bethel appeals to friends of the cause to aid it by contributions of money, which may be sent to the purser, Mr. John M. Kyle, No. 303 Lexington avenue, and by supplies of reading matter, comfort bags and other useful articles, which may be sent to Mrs. Jane Cassera, No. 303 Hudson street. A ditty or comfort bag is a bag about a foot and a half square, filled with needles, buttons, pins, thread, comb, brush, scissors, soap, a Testament or Bible, a letter from the donor, and anything else that will fit in the bag. And the prettier the material of which the bag is made the better the recipient will like it, for all sailors admire pretty things.

It is found that with careful financing the "Bethel" can be run at a cost of less than \$3,000 a year. If each Christian En-

deavorer touched the sailor where he is most sensitive—instead of forcing him to go to church seven times a week, thereby libelling him as being more in need of exhortation than is a landsman, it gives him a judicious number of religious services, intermingled with musical entertainments and other social enjoyments. The cosy rooms are supplied with reading matter, chess and checkers, to which will be added any games not played with cards or dice.

As to the smoking room, it doubtless will be condemned by persons who are extremely narrow, as well as by those who do not understand what a sailor's life is; but smoking deters many a sailor from drinking, and it also keeps him out of many a scrape. His pipe furnishes him with food and warmth, when he is hungry and cold. It cheers him up when he is blue and discouraged; he gets much satisfaction out of clinching his teeth on it when the mate has been unjust and the boat's mugging. It soothes him when he is trembled, and increases his pleasure when he is pleased, and it becomes his most cherished possession when he is ordered to give it up.

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opened it was supposed that most of the men would spend their time there. But Jack is, after all, only a great big boy, and the fact that he can't smoke as much as he pleases takes away the desire. His pipe remains in his pocket, and he reads or sings or talks, with seldom a thought of smoking until he starts for the ship. But if smoking was a prohibited indulgence he would do nothing but smoke, at the doorway or on the street corner, all evening long.

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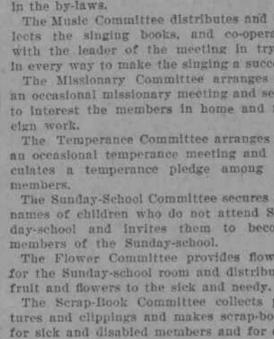
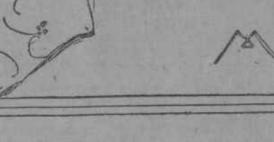
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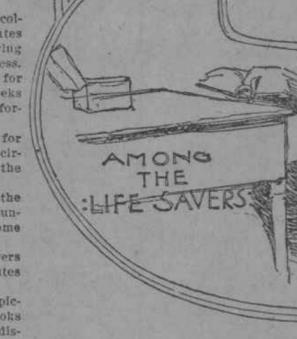
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national Christian Police Association."

This association with headquarters in London, has now girdled the globe. Far away Japan, China, India and Australia having flourishing organizations.

The indefatigable, honorable secretary, Miss Catherine Gurney, of London, some fourteen years ago, conceived the idea of opening a special service for policemen. The work began in a small way, but grew to a present membership of over 3,000 in London.

Miss Gurney has since twice visited America in the interests of this work. The last time, accompanied by Mrs. Walker, she went around the world, accomplishing much for policemen.

The first meeting in New York was held in the Messenger Boys' Reading Room, on Fourth avenue, about Twentieth street. Two interested ladies, two men (one the organist) and one New York policeman were present.

For some weeks subsequently meetings

Prayer was organized, having 300 men, pledged to pray daily for their families and for meetings held for them.

A Police Society of Christian Endeavor was organized and maintained with interest for many months. Then it was suffered to lapse, owing to the few active workers who could give attention to details in addition to the regular work of the association.

Frequent meetings are held for policemen, their families and friends. Veteran policemen are also in attendance. Special entertainments, lectures, the singing of patriotic songs, together with refreshments, are provided.

Friday's "children's hour" is well attended, eighty children of policemen having been enrolled. Saturdays there is a meeting of workers for Bible study, praise and prayer.

Sundays at 2:30 p. m. there is a special service for all. This meeting is more largely attended than the others. Good music, the vivid practical presentation of some gospel theme, together with many prayers, and some informal conversation, seem to be much enjoyed. Each alternate Thursday a meeting is held at 2:30 p. m. in Y. M. C. A. parlors, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street.

The possibilities of this grand work are limited only by the liberality of the citizens of New York. From this modest beginning there might grow a well equipped building, centrally located, for a police institute, with a complete gymnasium, class rooms, lecture rooms, reading room, restaurant, etc.

Members of this association have worked along the quiet lines of faith and prayer, sedulously avoiding publicity and deserving only to know and do the Master's will.

Success, as men count it, may have been small, but new faces are being seen and new interest developed. An address was recently sent to the citizens of the city inviting co-operation and the prayers of their congregations.

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J. L. SPICER,  
Secretary N. Y. C. P. A.

Prayer was organized, having 300 men, pledged to pray daily for their families and for meetings held for them.

A Police Society of Christian Endeavor was organized and maintained with interest for many months. Then it was suffered to lapse, owing to the few active workers who could give attention to details in addition to the regular work of the association.

Frequent meetings are held for policemen, their families and friends. Veteran policemen are also in attendance. Special entertainments, lectures, the singing of patriotic songs, together with refreshments, are provided.

Friday's "children's hour" is well attended, eighty children of policemen having been enrolled. Saturdays there is a meeting of workers for Bible study, praise and prayer.

Sundays at 2:30 p. m. there is a special service for all. This meeting is more largely attended than the others. Good music, the vivid practical presentation of some gospel theme, together with many prayers, and some informal conversation, seem to be much enjoyed. Each alternate Thursday a meeting is held at 2:30 p. m. in Y. M. C. A. parlors, One Hundred and Twenty-fifth street.

The possibilities of this grand work are limited only by the liberality of the citizens of New York. From this modest beginning there might grow a well equipped building, centrally located, for a police institute, with a complete gymnasium, class rooms, lecture rooms, reading room, restaurant, etc.

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