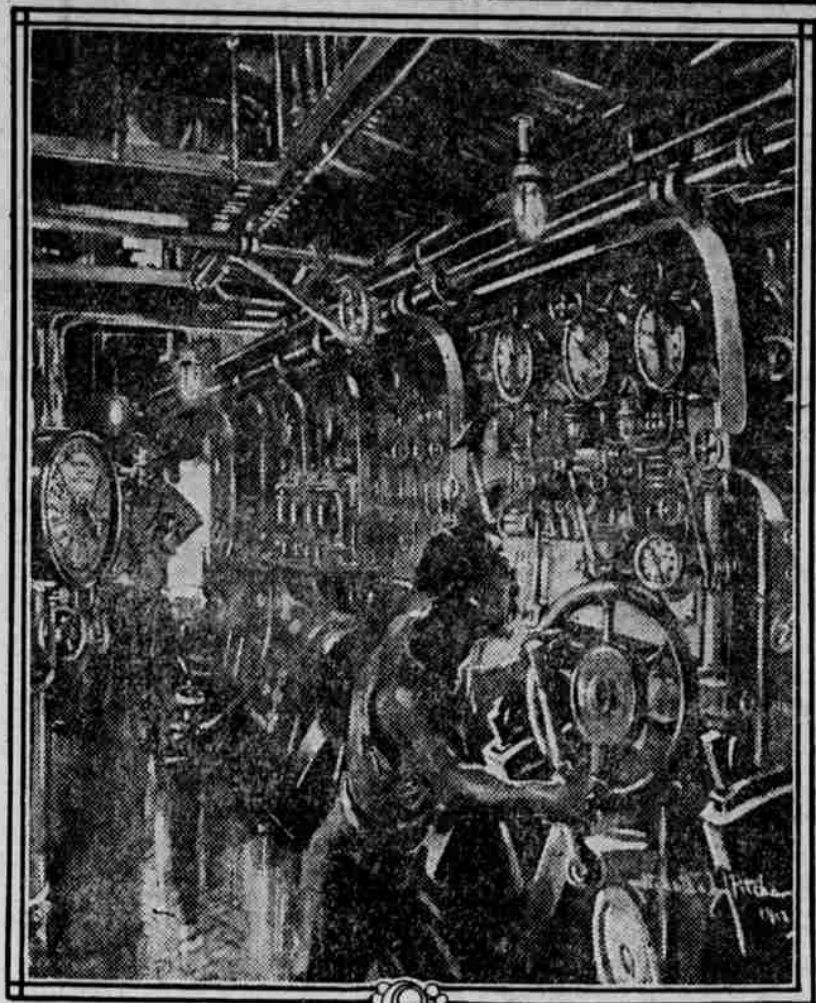


# Men in the Engine Room



STARBOARD ENGINE OF A MODERN LINER

**F**REIGHT on a sailing ship from New York to London used to be 14 shillings a quarter of wheat; now it is just over a shilling a quarter by steamer from New York to Liverpool. Not all of the engineering which has brought about this result has been done in the drawing office and the factory. Much of it has been done by workmen who took the raw inventions out to sea, struggled with their crudities and put the needful improvements into the minds of the designers ashore. In big ships and little the process is going on and it is a stern one still in spite of modern refinements. In the old days, when boiler pressures were so low that a steamer had to slow down to raise enough steam to whistle with, an upholstered settee was often provided in the engine room for the use of the man on watch, so that he need not stand more than was absolutely necessary. Today it is probable that not one seagoing vessel could show such a thing. A man who cannot walk about for four hours in the temperature of a Turkish bath is not wanted now.

While the ship is at sea all the engineers except the chief keep two watches of four hours each in the twenty-four. The same man always has the same hours. The third engineer takes the 12 to 4 a. m. and p. m. watch, the second takes the 4 to 8 and the chief's watch, 8 to 12, is taken by the fourth engineer, or by the donkeyman, if there are only three engineers carried. In this case the chief is always within call. The duties of watch-keeping largely lie in seeing that this or that does not happen. As well as the main engines there are the pumps and other auxiliary machinery and the boilers always seeking to go wrong if given a chance. Then in port all hands are busy with the adjustments that have been noted down as necessary while the ship was steaming, and these entail the handling of tremendous weights with hand tackle only. Such work does not seem very formidable, perhaps, but seagoing engineers know that Commander Willetts, U. S. N., spoke truly of their work when he told the American Institute of Naval Engineers that "it requires the most strenuous and exacting atten-

tion of any known pursuit, and, while requiring skill and intelligence to accomplish well, it has to be performed under such severe stresses and in such dirt and heat as to rob it of all interest except in its speedy completion.

#### In the Silent Hours.

An engineer does not readily forget his first voyage or that first night in the "graveyard" watch (12 to 4 a. m.) when he sat on a bucket to consider the novelty of his surroundings and reviled the heat, and woke up from a few seconds of troubled sleep to find the chief engineer vigorously kicking the bucket away from under him. In a few weeks he becomes ashamed of wanting to sit, even in the tropics; but he has not conquered human weakness even then, for after a few voyages nature will have provided him with the trick of sleeping while he solemnly paces the engine room. Usually this only happens after a spell of exhausting labor, such as is consequent on breakdowns, and usually it only lasts until he walks into the boiler-room bulkhead and wakes, feeling foolish and uncanny, after, perhaps, fifteen seconds of jerky somnambulation. Then he learns to keep a bucket of cold water handy to dip his head into, and the same intelligence that contrives this antidote warns him that it were unwise to mention the circumstance in the messroom. Indeed, a hint of even feeling sleepy is as horrifying to the ear as the smell of a heated bearing is to the nostril. A hot bearing once smelt is never forgotten. It is not by any means an overpowering smell—just burning oil—but to the man on whose watch it occurs it reeks of certain disgrace. When he has eased the engines and hears the other engineers warned by the change of speed, coming tumbling down the ladders, while he is frantically searching for the source of the smell he would give five years of his life to undo the oversight of the last five minutes.

Discipline in the merchant service begins well enough at the top, but it does not work all the way down. It stops at the lowest grade of man who has a certificate to lose, the junior engineer. In the evidence at a recent nautical inquiry one read of a man

smilingly informing the court that he was ashore having a last drink while he should have been on board joining in boat drill. A junior officer or engineer dare not do such a thing. The law and the owners deal severely with him. He is supposed to behave with naval obedience himself, while his own authority is frequently flouted by those nominally at his command. Anything less like the navy could scarcely be imagined. The idea that engineers are given to chastising firemen with any handy weapon is often found in fiction. It is fiction. In real life discipline below decks depends almost entirely on the good nature of the firemen.

#### Surroundings Are Degrading.

Socially the merchant service engineer is equally remote from the naval type. His accommodation does not often rise above the level set by oil-clothed tables and kitchen cutlery. Such conditions have not an expanding effect on the intellect. His conversation in the messroom is commonly personal and bitter. If he comes from the "upper middle classes" his relatives too often find him morose at 40, or vulgarized, or disappeared altogether from their ken. If he resists the social influence of his environment the result is often a curious mental combativeness which seems to arise out of the well nigh incompatible requirements that he is supposed to meet—an artisan with supposedly the prestige of a lieutenant and actually less authority than a corporal. The better educated men strive to rise above seafaring. Examinations must be passed and they can only be entered for by men with a certain amount of sea service to their credit. Twelve months at least must be passed at sea to enable a man to go up for a second class certificate of competency—that is to say, the certificate which legally qualifies him to act as a second engineer or on a very small ship as chief engineer. After obtaining that he must serve another year as engineer in regular charge of a watch on board an ocean going steamship before he may sit for his first class certificate, which enables him to sign on as chief engineer of any sort of vessel, from an excursion steamer to the last thing in Atlantic flyers.

When he is "up for second" he has to pick out the answers to questions about, say, the temperature of the hot well under imaginary and distressing conditions dear to the hearts of examiners, from mixed memories of raucous laughing nights ashore and of days of anxious vigilance over racing engines, when the propeller would be flung clear of the wintry western ocean and the ship quiver as though from earthquake. When he is "up for chief" he is set more difficult questions, but still not beyond the reach of simple arithmetic. If he aspires to the honorary examinations—"extra chief" it is called—the questions become more academic, and he unlocks the brain cell which contains the integral calculus. The calculus is probably stored next to visitors of the most important objects which it is to achieve for him—a surveyorship or superintendentship ashore, a nice little home in Forest Gate or North Shields, and wifely companionship unbroken by voyaging, or perhaps the protection of a widowed mother.

#### The Japanese House.

The new members of the house of representatives are classified in the following occupations: Barristers 49, bankers 43, farmers 42, journalists 29, merchants 27, ex-government officials 8, government officials 8, traders 7, land owners 3, cattle breeders 3, weavers 2, ex-Buddhist priests 3, educationalists 2, printers 2, notary public, tea trader, sake brewer, timber merchant, communal mayor, transport agent, hotel proprietor, marine products trader, 1 each; while those having no fixed occupation number 153.—Japan Weekly Mail.

#### To a Finish.

Poet (to his wife)—"Now, let's have a race and see whether you finish your cake first or I my sonnet."—Fliegende Blaetter.

Minamee, who was the "oracle" of that part of the state, arrived on the course and was made one of the race judges. As he took his place on the stand he was told of the folly of the owner of the strange entry. Running his eye over the track the judge instantly recognized Pete. "Gentlemen," said Minamee, "there's a dark horse in this race, as you'll soon find out."

He was right, Pete, "the dark horse," lay back until the three-quarter pole was reached, when he went to the front with a rush and won the race.

#### Built Ships in the Woods.

In Colonial days the shipping for our home trade and for sale abroad was built chiefly in the district of Maine and in New Hampshire. These two colonies built rather more than one-half the entire American tonnage in the days immediately preceding the Revolution. The older ports could not compete with the new settlements amid the timber.

When the great trees had been exhausted on the river banks, gangs of shipwrights went a mile or two

Very Unusual.  
"From Chicago, isn't she?"  
"Yes. A very unusual woman. She has such remarkable luck in keeping her help."  
"How's that?"  
"Why she told me she had four husbands and only one cook."

#### Undesired Superlative.

He—If you'd only consent to marry me you would help to make me a better man.  
She—I can't do that; but I'd be willing to help make you a best man.



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Eat Golden Cereal Foods and recommend them to your acquaintances. You get better quality and more for your money. They are made in your home state from the best Oregon Oats and Wheat. Large packages contain a Handsome Premium and all goods are guaranteed. Ask your grocer.

Golden Rod Oats. Golden Rod Pancake Flour.  
Golden Rod Wheat Flakes. Ralston Select Bran.  
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### SHE BLAMES "SPIRIT WIFE"

Mrs. William Phelps Dodge Divorced Husband Because Uncanny Influence Ruled Him.

The uncanny influence of a "spirit wife" is said to have been responsible for the divorce action which Mrs. William Phelps Dodge has just won against her millionaire husband.

The decree, which was signed in Philadelphia, would have been granted several weeks ago, it is understood, but the judge wanted to make a longer investigation of the unusual charges brought by the girl wife of the widely known author and lawyer.

According to the papers in the case, Mr. Dodge, who is forty-eight years old, met his young bride here at Sherry's on election night, 1909, and after an impetuous wooing, married her in London on January 19, 1910.

Prior to that time she and her sister had been in the chorus of "Havana," a musical comedy playing at the Casino.

Despite the difference in their ages—the bride was only eighteen—the couple lived happily for a couple of months after the wedding. Then Mrs. Dodge charges that the spirit of Mr. Dodge's first wife, Ethel, appeared before him and began to "pick on" her successor.

Young Mrs. Dodge said that whenever she wore a jewel, a veil or anything that the first Mrs. Dodge had possessed, the latter's spirit would appear before her husband and demand that he have it removed at once.

And, according to the girl-wife, the spirit-wife was always obeyed.

This treatment got on the nerves of the youthful Mrs. Dodge finally, and she packed up and returned to this country, leaving Mr. Dodge in London.

Immediately on her arrival here, she applied for the divorce through her mother, as guardian, and charged that cruel, barbarous and inhuman treatment had been inflicted upon her by her husband.—New York Evening Mail.

Red Cross Ball Blue gives double value for your money, goes twice as far as any other. Ask your grocer.

#### Snow Yourself.

Little Marjorie was showing her new birthday toys to grandpa, when her mother told the girl to let grandpa show them to himself. Marjorie was unwilling to do this because she wished to do the exhibiting. Then an idea struck her. "Here, grandpa," she said, handing him a toy at a time as she spoke, "show yourself my dolly, show yourself my blocks." And thus she went through the collection.—Judge.

#### The Best Way.

A correspondent wants to know how to pronounce Chihuahua. The best way is to say Chy-hewa-hewa and then laugh as though you knew better. If it is done artistically you can get away with it nearly every time. The same treatment has been frequently applied to decollete with great success.

#### To Break in New Shoes.

Always shake in Allen's Foot-Paste, a powder, it cures hot, sweating, itching, swollen feet, itures corns, ingrowing nails and bunions. At all drug stores and shoe stores, 25c. Don't accept any substitute. Sample mailed FREE. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Le Roy, N. Y.

#### The Wandering Jew.

Matthew Paris and Roger Wendover identified the Wander Jew as Cartaphilus, a porter in the household of Pontius Pilate. Other authorities identify him as Ahasuerus, a cobbler of Jerusalem. The legend is far older than the events which it proposes as its central feature. In the course of its popularity throughout the middle ages it has acquired many foreign elements by accretion.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

#### Preserving the Beaver.

The efforts to prevent the extermination of the beaver in the Adirondacks have been so successful that there are now more than twenty large beaver colonies on the Raquette river alone, and there is fear of serious damage to popular timber through the activities of the beaver little fellows.

#### Need of Greater Production.

If every immigrant that shall enter the ports of the United States and Canada during the next decade were to engage in cultivation of the soil the production resulting would be none too great for the reasonable needs of the people who have to be supplied.—New York Sun.

#### Treachery in Kansas.

A great many people spend all their time talking and call it fighting for principle.—Emporia Gazette.

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Portland, Oregon  
Resident and Day School for Girls in charge of Sisters of St. John Baptist (Episcopal) Collegiate, Academic and Elementary Departments, Music, Art, Elocution, Gymnasium. For catalog address THE SISTERS SUPERIOR Office 35, St. Helens Hall

#### Price of Ignorance.

Many children are never taught to think and to reason out every question in a fair-minded, reasoning manner. That is why we meet with and suffer from so many unreasonable and unreasoning men and women . . . who are governed by prejudice, impulse and personal feelings, instead of by thoughtful and careful consideration. They do not see what is right because they do not know how to judge without prejudice.—Our Four-Footed Friends.

#### Professional Toastmasters.

Probably the most exclusive and mysterious profession is that of the toastmaster at a banquet. It is not an all day job, but the function of the supreme man, who can dominate a babbling assembly, anxious for food, and hold them with "Pray, my lords, ladies and gentlemen, silence for grace by —" and the reverend gentleman gets up and bleats under the patronage of the toastmaster.—London Chronicle.

Be thrifty on little things like bluing. Don't accept water for bluing. Ask for Red Cross Ball Blue, the extra good value blue.

#### Walnut Tree as Bell Tower.

A church bell hung on a walnut tree at Therfield, England, which for 40 years had summoned the villagers to divine service, has been taken down and now forms part of a peal in the newly erected tower of the church. When the present church was erected a tower could not be built owing to lack of funds and a bell from the old church was hung on the walnut tree, which is near the church.

#### That Active Germ.

A single germ in a forty-quart can of milk, if the conditions be favorable, will divide once every half hour, so that at the end of 24 hours it will have increased to 281,474,976,210,656. At the end of the 24 hours one cubic centimeter of the contaminated milk would contain more than 7,438,000,000 germs. This is the report made by the New York Milk Committee in the government's weekly public health reports. What's the use?

#### DAISY FLY KILLER

placed anywhere, attracts and kills all flies. Soot, clean, ornamental, convenient, cheap. Lasts all season. Made of metal, can't spill or tip over; will not soil or injure anything. Guaranteed effective. Sold by dealers or sent prepaid for \$1. HAROLD SOMERS, 150 Dekalb Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.

#### Prisoner Went on Strike.

A "one-man" strike occurred, not long ago, in the Perth (West Australia) jail, when a man who is serving a seven years' sentence and who was employed in the tailoring room, went on strike on the ground that he was competing unfairly with outside trade. Because of his unionistic principles he was sentenced to three days' solitary confinement, and was ordered to resume work.

## For the Hair

Are you so fortunate as to be well satisfied with your hair? Is it long enough, thick enough, rich enough? And your hair does not fall out? Well, well, that is good. But you may know of some not so fortunate. Then just tell them about Ayer's Hair Vigor. They will surely thank you after using it, if not before. Remember, it does not color the hair. Show the list of ingredients to your doctor. Let him decide their value. He knows.

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