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# THE BEACHCOMBERS

By TED ROBINSON

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THE BEACHCOMBERS

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## FOREWORD

Though Ted Robinson ran for years his column in the Cleveland Plain-Dealer, in which he called himself the Philosopher of Folly, he was to me, from the first day I met him, the Philosopher of Wisdom and Kindness. His was no cap and bells, and he struck nobody with a fool's bladder, nor with a stinging whip, unless it was some arrogant pretender who deserved chastisement. Ted played no favourites, rolled no logs for groups or cliques. He had no mercy for bad writing. He afforded help to writers of promise, especially the young and beginners, not only with words of kindness, but often in material ways.

I sent Ted poems which he printed in his column, and I always looked forward to the summers when he came to Provincetown for his vacations. I used to see him sitting at his window fronting the street and passers-by, and I often would drop in to talk with him, on my way to and from my shack in the dunes. His talk was never disappointing, but was much like that discourse we like to think Ben Jonson and his group of poets held, in the Mermaid Tavern.

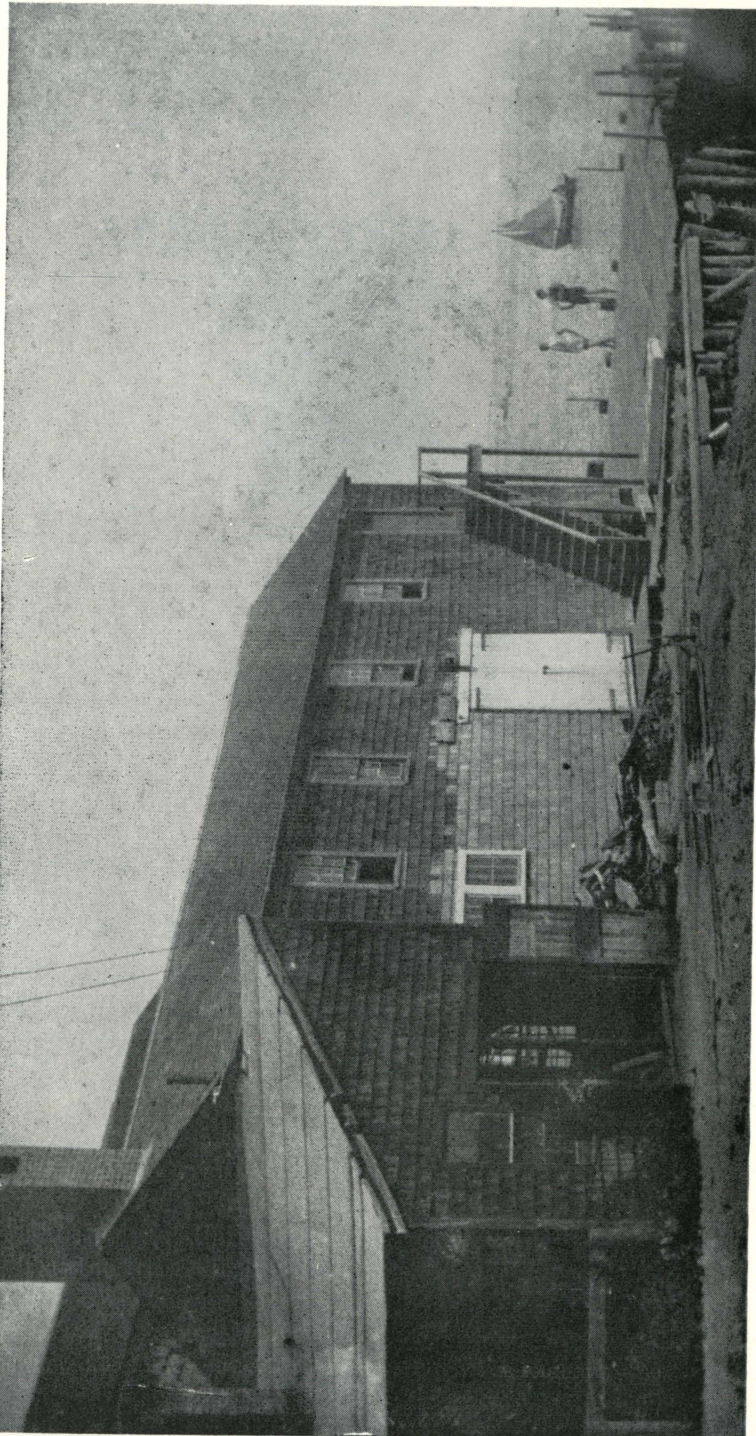
I knew Ted first, when he was a fairly young man, and then through the years when he was greying like myself. When I think of him now I recall Cowley's line, "That which never is to die forever must be young."

For Ted Robinson's regard toward life was that of a young man moving in his first dreams of poetry. For he not only attained, but he preserved, the Great Dream of the Poets; knowing that:

It's not enough to storm a town;  
To hold it brings the great renown:  
Captains that take, must, after, keep  
The fort, with arms that never sleep!

Harry Kemp

The Hulk before it was turned around





# THE BEACHCOMBERS

For the Beachcomber, when not a mere ruffian,  
is the poor relation of the Artist.

—*The Wrecker*, by Robert Louis Stevenson.

Who chose the name for The Beachcombers? That knowlege is lost, with so much other history of the club, in the treacherous memories of members who have always been characteristically averse to making and preserving written records. But it seems probable that when a name was sought, some charter member who knew his Stevenson came forward with the quotation placed at the head of this page—it is too apposite to be a mere accident.

We may as well place in this prominent position, also, the fact to be remembered that the name of the crew is The Beachcombers, and not “the Beachcombers’ Club”. And that its home is not a “Club House” but *The Hulk*.

With this out of the way, we may go forward with such facts of history as we may, with patient search, uncover :

## 1. THE SETTING

Somebody, some day, will write a history of Provincetown’s contribution to the art, literature and drama of the world. And that historian is going to find the hardest going, as far as digging up the facts is concerned, in the first decade of the Twentieth Century. Even before 1900, painters had discovered the Cape’s End; the sea and the dunes were wonderful, living was cheap, and the place was hard to get to. That kept the tourists out. Up to the 1800’s, the railroad came only as far as Wellfleet. The first automobile came in 1901 (a Stanley Steamer) and another didn’t come for quite a while.

Miss Dewing Woodward had an art class here in 1896 and 1897—a class of boys from the Ethical Culture School. One of those boys, a Norwegian kid, really made good. His name was Jonas Lie.

Then Hawthorne came, and Senseney, and George Elmer Browne and some others. And at the same time, some literary people began drifting in, and by 1915, we had Jigg Cook and Susan Glaspell, and Eugene O’Neill and Harry Kemp and Floyd Dell and John Reed, and Wilbur Steele and a lot more. This bunch wrote plays and produced them in an old fish house on a wharf.



*THE ORIGINAL BEACHCOMBER.*



And in 1916, these dramaturgists became famous as The Provincetown Players. And in that same year, The Beachcombers came into being.

Fred Marvin had a very jolly house on Bradford Street which he had turned over to Cesco as a fine setting for a restaurant where artists and guests might eat. It was at Cesco's, on some date early in July of 1916, that a number of artists met to organize a club.

Of the details of this meeting, we know nothing. The bunch established its first tradition and precedent by keeping no minutes and not recording the names of the officers. It is known, however, that these were chosen:

*Skipper*, George Senseney

*First Mate*, George Elmer Browne

*Second Mate*, Charles W. Hawthorne

*Pursuer*, Fred H. Marvin

(This last item is not generally remembered, and is put down only as a matter of curiosity. For Fred Marvin resigned the office before the evening was over, and Harry Campbell was put in his place. Harry Campbell little suspected that he was thereby taking over a life job!)

A house on Knowles Wharf was leased and put into shape, and meetings were held there during the rest of the summer and into the late fall. It appears that winter meetings were not thought worth while, during the early years.

The new club got busy at once, and got up a Minstrel Show. Mr. Stanley Muschamp, A. B., arranged and produced the musical numbers; he had under his direction Melzer Chaffee's string quartet, reinforced by clarinet, cornet, trombone, piano and drums. The show was under the general direction of Frederic Burt, A. B.

Skipper Senseney acted as Interlocutor. He was flanked by these Beachcombers as "Bones"—Brown, Blondheim, H. E. Smith, Hall, Desch, and Ericson; and these as "Tambos"—Beneker, Campbell, Hornby, Bohm, Parkhurst, Sand, and Cranford Smith. Beachcomber Oscar Fehrer played the Town Crier.

In the first part, those fellows not only cracked jokes (now, alas! lost to the world) but sang solos. Howard Smith sang "Midshipmite," George Elmer Browne sang "Camptown Races," Frank Desch sang "Nancy Lee," Charles Hawthorne

sang "Old Folks at Home," and the others tackled songs no less familiar, and the full chorus sang "Dixie."

And then, after an intermission and an interlude by "The Provincetown Symphony Orchestra," there was a one-act comedy called "Freedom." Who do you suppose wrote it? A fellow named John Reed. He was just a fellow loaned by the Provincetown Players. Later he became famous. Is this sketch included in his works?

The exit music was a piece called "On to Plattsburg." And that reminds us of what we were heading for.

We cleared \$363.17 on that show. And the Pursuer's report, as of January 1, 1917, showed also receipts of \$300 from dues. So there must have been at least 61 members. We sold keys to the Hulk at a nickle apiece to those who wanted them, and took in \$1.10 on that. Total receipts, \$669.27.

On the other side, we had to pay out \$250 for rent, \$223 for repairs, and \$43.41 for stove, dishes and such equipment. We bought a piano for \$35; and for cleaning, light, water, incidentals and shortage on dinners we managed to spend \$111.74. So we ended our first year with a balance of slightly over \$6 in the treasury.

## II. EVENTS OF 1917

At the annual meeting held on August 29, 1917, the retiring skipper, as well as the Pursuer, made a report. This report should be preserved, and I insert it at this point.

Charles W. Hawthorne having been elected Skipper, Retiring Skipper George Senseney spoke as follows:

"Able Beachcombers—The following pages comprise my first annual report as Skipper of the Beachcombers, written by hand while sober, clothed, and in my right mind.

"The Beachcombers have justified their right to existence as a club. The interest in this fraternal and beneficial organization has not flagged in spite of a hard summer, and my observation is that we as individuals, have not lost interest in ourselves or in each other.

"This F. and B. O. of B. was conceived in the cave I call my studio, and later born and baptized at Cesco's Restaurant in the early summer of 1916. It was started on faith, and without visible means of support, and now confidently shoulders a debt of \$2,000. It embraces members from two continents, and embodies the strength and frailties of the human race. Since



signing articles, I have striven with what little strength I possess, and with the help of the members, to make this an absolutely perfect organization.

"Have I succeeded?"

"During the past year the activities of the Beachcombers have been amazing and manifold. To enumerate them would be momentous. The officers have proven loyal and worthy. I thank them tumultuously. The various Watches have performed their arduous duties as true Beachcombers are expected to, as only beachcombers could. For their loyalty and co-operation I thank them. I thank also collectively and individually the A. B.'s who have assisted me loyally as were the prophets of old.

"An organization that can masticate and digest the mysteries and miseries of our culinary experts is bound to survive the centuries; hence, this is an historic document.

"The Beachcombers will prosper as long as they remain faithful to their name and past traditions; if they become prigs instead of mercenaries, they will perish from the earth. May they live long and plunder!"

"Beachcombers, I am about to leave the helm, and I do so on a full stomach and with a full heart. What friends I have made en voyage, I will cherish always; if I have made enemies, may they be eternally damned.

"The old Hulk is fairly launched for the coming voyage; may the new Skipper sail with as loyal a crew of artistic cutthroats as I have. I am going quietly below decks as a well trained Beachcomber should, before being invited to walk the plank. Before going, I say all hail to the new Skipper, all hail and ahoy to the crew of 1917-18."

The new officers were:

*Skipper*, Charles W. Hawthorne

*First Mate* (re-elected), George Elmer Browne

*Second Mate*, Max Bohm

*Pursuer*, Harry Campbell

*Deck Watch*: Beneker, Norfeldt, Melzer Chaffee, Burt, Steele

*Crimp Gang*: Gieberich, Oliver Chaffee, Marvin, Blondheim, Young

*Chantey Gang*: M. Chaffee, Steele, Hornby, Burt, Gaul

Trustees were elected for the first time at this meeting. Elected were Webster, 3 years; Campbell, 2 years; Stevens, 1

year. It was also voted to create the rank of Ship's Surgeon; and Dr. Eaton was elected as first incumbent. And finally there was voted a by-law that seems to have been forgotten during the years—that the Retiring Skipper was hereafter to have the brevet rank of Commodore.

The big event of this meeting was the vote to buy the property at the foot of Bangs Street. That was the assumption of a \$2,000 debt referred to in Senseney's report. The Pursuer's Report showed receipts of \$579.17, which included receipts of \$298 from a show, of which we shall speak later. It should be recorded here that half these receipts were given for the benefit being raised for the families of 19 men lost in the terrible gale of August 14.

This was an impromptu charity—for the show had been designed to help pay our newly assumed debt on the Hulk, and it took place on the day after the gale—August 15.

The Show, held at Town Hall, was called "The Beachcombers' Chat-Talk-Qua and Pierrot Party." In other words, there was a dance at the end of the show. Muschamp managed the music, as during the year before.

I wish to state my belief that there was no such person as "Muschamp" and that it was an alias for Harvey Gaul, who remained anonymous in another show where I know he wrote the music. I cannot find the name of "Muschamp" anywhere but on the programs and in the newspaper accounts. And it sounds phoney!

Melzar Chaffee and his amplified orchestra performed the music for this second show. It was more elaborate than the first. Special scenery for the two parts was painted by Paxton, Nordfeldt, Bergland, Byrd and Gieberich. The Chantey Gang had done such yeoman service at meetings that they came very near having to give the whole show. Seven of the seventeen numbers were "Solo and Chorus", the solos being given by Paxton, Hawthorne, Skinner, Bicknell, R. Simboli (?), and George Elmer Browne. (Two numbers were by Sig. Simboli.) And there was a dance by Miss Nora Nickerson and Miss Dorothy Paine, a duet by Bicknell and Beneker, a talk by George W. Stevens and another by Reggie Bolles; some deep sea chanties and English coaster songs by the whole crew, and a Grand Finale "Where Do We Go from Here?" by principals, chorus, lady ushers, beachcombers, orchestra and what have you.

Something else happened that summer, of which the historian



can speak only from hearsay. The late William M. Paxton told me the whole story, many years ago, but I have forgotten the details. The broad facts were these:

Rumors began floating about Provincetown about the first of September to the effect that the Ambassador from Bulgaria (or maybe it was Brazil) was going to visit Provincetown. On the day when this important visitor, with entourage, was expected, the Railroad Wharf was more crowded than usual to meet the Str. Dorothy Bradford. And out at the end of the wharf were a barouche and pair, with other formal equipages, and a Reception Committee in plug hats and Prince Albert Coats. These waited at the gang plank, whence presently debouched the important visitors, in equally formal clothing.

After much bowing and scraping, and conversation in French and other languages, the visitors got into the carriages with the Committee, and were driven about the town. Just where they got to eventually was not noticed by all—but quite a number of people saw that the parade consisted of Beachcombers in costume, and that they brought up at the Hulk on Knowles Wharf.

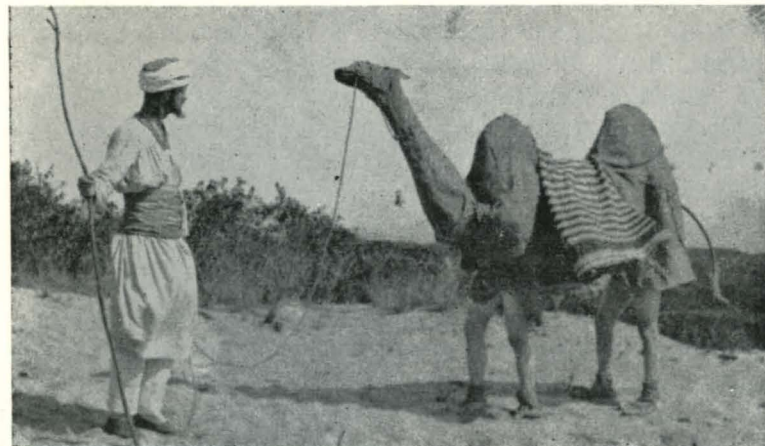
Furthermore, the editor of the *Advocate* was evidently too downy a bird to be caught by all this chaff, for in his issue of September 13, 1917, he says nothing of Ambassadors. He merely relates that Mr. Paul Bartlett and Mr. Griffley, sculptors, arrived on the steamer, were met by Mr. Charles Hawthorne and a committee of Beachcombers in costume, and were presented with an enormous Key to the City. The procession is described, but the hoax is not mentioned.

### III. THREE BIG YEARS

In 1918, we borrowed some money, moved into the Bangs Street home, and spent \$984—for improvements, pool table, taxes, lights and all sorts of things. And we gave a very colorful show called "The Streets of Bagdad."

There is no doubt that this show, held at the Town Hall on August 22, was musically directed by Harvey Gaul. The picture of Harry Campbell as The Camel Keeper (with camel) was turned into an etching, and quite a number of copies are preserved. This picture was reproduced in a national art magazine; the Beachcombers were getting famous.

Max Bohm played Caliph Haroun Al Raschid; Richard Miller was Grand Vizier; Col. F. B. Jones was Hunchback, and



Harry Campbell and Camel

George Senseney was Priest. And there were Brown, Bicknell, Hawthorne, Webster, Gieberich, Kogan, Lyman, Desch, Harlowe, Miss Nora Nickerson, Miss Margaret Morawski, Miss Grace Crossman, Mrs. Roy F. Brown, Dance Girls, Water Boys, Merchants, Eunuchs and so on. Who played the Camel, I do not know. Many of the songs were, of course, patriotic, or songs of the Allies.

In 1919, The Beachcombers really went to town with their show. Instead of giving a minstrel show or a vaudeville, we got up a musical comedy. It was called "All-A-Din" and was founded on the story of Aladdin and His Wonderful Lamp, from the Arabian Nights. The costumes were gorgeous, the scenery (representing a Chinese setting) was remarkable. A great hit was scored by Walter Hayn, in the part of The Genie; his lurid make-up was a triumph, and his uninhibited acting and singing were things to remember forever.

Charles W. Hawthorne, W. H. W. Bicknell, Max Bohm, Harry Campbell, Felix Mahoney, William M. Paxton, are particularly remembered as contributing to the success of the show. Ted Robinson wrote the book and lyrics, Harvey Gaul did the musical arrangements and drilled the singers, and Jack Greene devoted his professional talents to stage management and training of the performers. The songs, by the way, were mostly current popular hits, with new words adapted to the occasion. One of them was the occasion of a jest that kept it



on the informal program of the Club dinners for many years. Only those who participated will be able to tell you of "Good Morning, Mr. Bick, Bick, Bick."

Mr. Harold E. Somerville came down from Boston and wrote a full-page story about this show, with drawings by Courtney Allen. It was a good story—the reporter told the entire plot of the play. One is reminded of many things that might have been forgotten—how magnificent was the appearance of Max Bohm and J. O. Siebert as Temple Guards. (Each was over six feet in height and weighed over 200 pounds—and they wore many dollars' worth of gold paint, spread on gunny-sack.) How strange it was to have Bicknell play the part of Aladdin, a boy. How Hawthorne was the head waiter at Tsches Ko's Chop Suey Palace, and V. B. Rann and Pat Finley were waiters. And how Bill Paxton did a remarkable imitation of Cesco himself. And George Elmer Browne made a hit in several directions.

And how the Sixes and Sevens (called the Hi-Lo Sextet for the occasion) sang for the first time in public. They were Walter Hayn, Jerry Farnsworth, Courtney Allen, V. B. Rann, Eddie Euler and Pat Finley. And how Miss Morawski played the heroine, Sum Gal, who, at the end, overcame Aladdin "because he had only one Wonderful Lamp, and she had two!" And dozens of other things that we talked about for the rest of the season.

After the show that night, we had a house warming at the Hulk—and two days later we went to the Art Association Ball. There were Giants in those days!

The show in 1920 was even more successful—it was the climax, it seems; and unfortunately it was the last of the Beachcomber shows. This elaborate performance was called "You, Lysses; or The Beachcombers of Greece." It was described as "A Classical Jazz in Two Acts," and the book and most of the lyrics were by Ted Robinson, much of the music and all the musical direction by Harvey Gaul (this time he called himself R. L. Harlowe) and the production and management by Jack Green. They worked harder, this time, and produced a more unified and less amateurish performance. It made such a hit that it became necessary to give a second performance—and the house was crowded again. So we made a heap of money, that time.

Few who saw that show will ever forget the performance of

Walter Hayn as Ulysses—of Bill Paxton as his drunken companion—or of Jerry Farnsworth, Courtney Allen, V. B. Rann, W. J. Vinton, Bruce Evans, Pat Findley, in other roles. Much of the success of this extravaganza was due to the help of some extraordinarily good-looking girls who appeared both as principals and in the chorus. There were three heroines: Helen Sawyer as Calypso, Margaret Morawski as Circe, and Nell Patterson as Penelope. Betty Chaffee, Carol Campbell and Ruth De Witt, as the Nymphs of Circe, added to the impression that beautiful girls were the rule in our colony.

Penelope dominated the scene in which she appeared—a memorable scene for many reasons. The back drop, representing the blue Mediterranean seen from the marble portico of the palace of Ulysses, had been painted by the great mural painter, Max Bohm. Against this lovely background, Penelope was discovered at her loom—singing the "Left All Alone Again Blues"! And then came the banquet scene, where the suitors are challenged to bend the bow of the absent hero—

" 'Tis the bow of great Ulysses,  
He who bends it is a bear!"

and Ulysses himself appears in disguise, bends the bow easily, and proceeds with a little target practice on the suitors.

The earlier scene in which the followers of Ulysses are turned into swine by the sorceress, Circe, is often called to mind by the papier mache pigs' heads, which are still kicking about in the club's permanent rubbish heap.

I may be thought to have spent a disproportionate amount of space on this single show. But the names in the cast of characters will explain why I have done so. I must be allowed a further word about some of the children who appeared in these early shows—kids who went on as messengers, elves, attendants, fan bearers, etc. One notes the names of Master Jimmie Gaul, Master Jo Hawthorne, Master Ted Robinson, Jr. Jo and Ted grew up and became Beachcombers themselves. So did Jimmie—who so recently gave his young life for the rest of us. He was an archaeologist in civil life; in the war, he was one of the really brilliant and heroic special officers of our Navy. On a splendidly daring undertaking in Central Europe during the final phase of the War, he and his comrades were captured by the Germans, and most foully assassinated.

Harvey Gaul survived his son less than a year. We are proud to remember that the city of Pittsburgh went into mourning



when he died, and that national honors were paid to his memory. He was one of the greatest American musicians and composers.

From 1921 to the present year, we have had no shows; and many think that we have made a mistake not to adhere to a tradition so well begun. The reasons for refraining from theatrical activity are apparent to all who have given the matter their attention. We can make a nice little profit out of an annual Costume Ball. And a Costume Ball involves work only by a small committee. But a Show demands good, hard work by a preponderance of our membership, and this work extends over a good part of the summer. Participants find that they have not only been cheated out of their vacations, but have been overworked as well. The writer of these reminiscences discovered that. The story is brief but significant:

At the beginning of the summer season of 1921, the question was asked "When are we going to have The Show?" And nobody answered. Finally somebody made the motion that a committee be appointed to arrange the preliminaries. And Mr. Jack Greene was to do the directing, and Mr. Ted Robinson was to write the book and lyrics. But Mr. Ted Robinson arose and declined the honor. He stated that having come to Cape Cod to rest, he had in fact worked harder here than he did at home, and had gone back home exhausted. He stated furthermore that we had quite a lot of literary and dramaturgic talent, and that it was somebody else's turn. At this point, Mr. Jack Greene said that he, too, would have to be excused, for he had a living to earn, and certain contracts to fulfill. And it turned out, after a good deal of futile conversation, that these two members meant what they said. It was immediately decided that we would not have a show, but would concentrate on the Costume Ball.

The Costume Balls that followed during the next few years were exceedingly picturesque. People did not turn their coats inside out, put on a burnt-cork mustache, and claim that they were in costume. They vied with one another for the prizes, and many gorgeous costumes appeared. The prize for originality one year went to a masker who came as The Monument. Does not everyone remember Hy Myer as Queen Victoria, and Mrs. Moncure Robinson as Benjamin Franklin?

We were pretty strict, during that decade, about not letting people without legitimate Costumes on the floor at any part of the evening. I am afraid that many of our restrictions were

gradually relaxed, and for a while our parties were not so picturesque. At the beginning of the Depression, things weren't so hot. We have recovered from those doldrums; though of course the war has handicapped us. But let us not cease to be careful of our traditions, and to keep the Beachcombers' Costume Ball up to standard. It is a valuable piece of property and must not be allowed to run down.

#### IV. THE TWENTIES

At the end of 1920, the Executive Board had a meeting, and Gerrit Beneker and Dr. Eaton were appointed to re-write the Constitution. I do not know how long it took them to do it, nor when the original constitution, approved and adopted in September, 1916, was abrogated. The amendments now in force were mostly adopted in 1928. The original Constitution and the amendments will be found in the Appendix of this volume.

In 1920, George Elmer Browne was elected Skipper; the other officers were re-elected. Miller, Bicknell, Beneker, Gieberich and Slade were the Deck Watch; Slade did not return, and Hawthorne was elected in his place. The Crimp Gang was Desch, Beal, Beneker, Birren and Frazier. The Chanty Gang was M. Chaffee, Green, Hayne, "Harlow" and Farnsworth. It is interesting to note that this year the dues for A.B.'s were raised to \$10, and for Gobs to \$5. An A.B. by the old constitution, was a professional artist; an artist being interpreted as one who pursued one of the fine arts as a vocation.

It was in 1920 that we put in our handsome mantelpiece and installed our pool table.

In 1921, we took in a lot of money and spent a lot. The receipts from the Ball were nearly \$800; we also gave a "Bridge Benefit" that netted \$113, and collected \$365 in dues. But we had to spend a lot of money on repairing, plumbing, kitchen and so on. We finished with \$434 in the bank.

In 1922, we appear to have made over \$700 on the Ball. We re-elected Bohm as Skipper, but put in Bicknell as 1st mate and Young as 3d.

In 1923, the two big things were the Tercentenary Pilgrim celebration, in which we marched in the parade and had a Float; and an Auction of Sketches, which netted us \$545.75. We quit the year in very satisfactory shape, \$1,448 to the good.

Miller was elected Skipper in 1923, with Beneker, Young





Beachcombers in the Early '20s

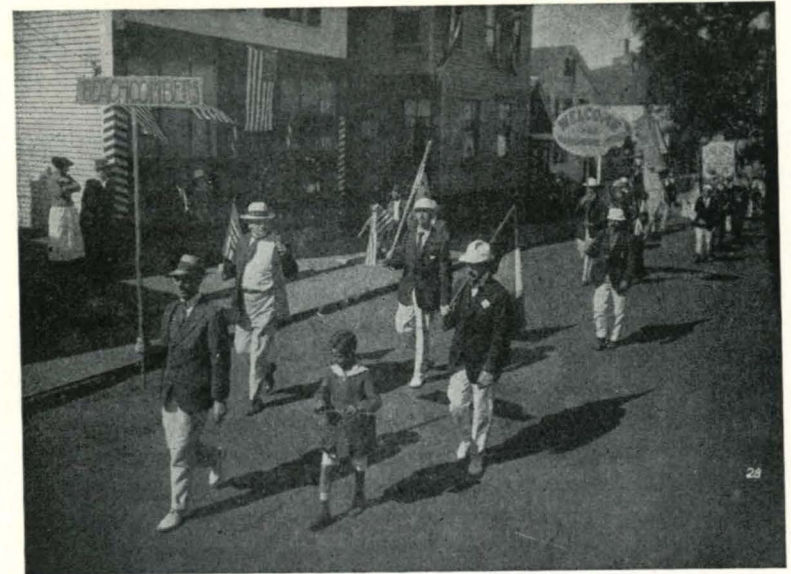
and Kaeselau as mates, in that order. In 1924, we paid off \$1000 on our mortgage and still finished the year about \$600 ahead. In 1925, we re-elected officers for the fourth year in succession. In this year, a mysterious item appears in the treasurer's report: "Sale of whiskers, \$10." In this year, also, we spent considerable money on repairs of wharf and roof and on the second floor. A good deal of that was wasted, as it turned out later—but that was nobody's fault.

Beneker was elected Skipper in '26, and re-elected in '27. But in '27 occurred a storm that so shook the poor old Hulk as to require some extraordinary repairs. The Hulk was on a wharf, its long dimension stretching out into the harbor. In spite of recent repairs, the wharf was weak, and the storm so weakened its essential piling that the whole structure threatened to go afloat. It cost us \$1,200 to get the building put into its present position, at right angles with its original orientation, and \$500 more for a new bulkhead.

So we had an art auction and took in \$1,566, and we borrowed \$1,300, and we started the next year with a balance of \$1,800. And in 1929 we paid off \$1,500 of our debt.

The depression must have made us draw our horns in a bit, for 1929 was the last time we gave a ball until 1934. So end the Twenties.

I think this may be a good place to insert a paragraph about certain expenditures made by the Beachcombers which have not been made a matter of public record.



In the Tercentenary Pilgrim Parade

At the beginning of our corporate existence, there occurred a disastrous gale along our coast, in which nineteen families of fishermen were rendered fatherless. The Beachcombers started a subscription with \$185, and Harry Campbell became treasurer of a state-wide fund which eventually reached its goal of \$25,000 to take care of these destitute families.

Twice, during the decade ending with 1930, the Beachcombers used their funds to help out their own members who had come upon illness and misfortune; once for \$500 and once for \$250. I mention these two instances as occurring during our earlier years; an examination of the books for more recent time would divulge similar items. During the War, we have divided the proceeds of the annual Ball with the Red Cross, or the U. S. O., or other patriotic organizations.

## V. SHIP NEWS

It was in 1932 that we rented the hulk, in the evenings, to The Ship. That was a delightful night spot, the legitimate successor of the "Sixes and Sevens" which went out of business after the old Provincetown Players' wharf house was burned. I shall speak of the Ship later.



The Ship was succeeded by The Flagship, which nearly ruined the Beachcombers by making things too easy. The art of cooking and of purchasing food was almost lost by us during that lazy era. The Flagship management contracted to furnish our dinners, and the dinners were good. But interest in the club waned, and after a few years we brought the arrangement to an end. How much pleasanter when we no longer felt that we had to share our quarters—and when we no longer had to get out on Saturday nights at 9 o'clock, to make room for the Flagship customers. The era was instructive.

At the end of 1932, we had \$568 in the treasury. Coulton Waugh was Skipper then, and again in 1933. Gerritt Beneker was Keeper of the Log and self-appointed Guardian and Interpreter of the Constitution. It was currently reported that he had this document tattooed upon his person.

In 1934, we resumed the custom of the Annual Beachcombers' Ball. Carpenter ran it, and reported a net profit of \$254.41. We ended the season with \$526 in the clear. In 1935, Mahoney was Skipper; Van Derek, First Mate; Euler, Second Mate; Foster, Third Mate. The Ship was a real asset, that year, and the Ball was well attended; we closed with nearly \$1,000. Mahoney was re-elected. This year, Dr. Eaton having died, Dr. Fred Hammett was made Surgeon.

At the 1936 meeting, we made the distinction between A.B.'s and Gobs more exact and made a list of the A.B.'s. The dues were reduced to the present figure, and the Constitution received revisions on these matters. We paid debts, taxes, etc., and were \$729 to the good at the annual Gam. John Whorf was elected Skipper; the other officers as of the previous year, except that Phil Malicoat substituted as Second Mate.

Officers were re-elected in 1937. And we had a balance of \$845.

In 1938, Rann was Skipper: the mates were Van Derek, Beauchamp and Malicoat. There was a balance of \$1,113.67 at the end of the season. All officers were re-elected in 1939. We continued prosperous in this year and in 1940, in spite of a big repair bill. Malicoat was made Skipper in 1941, and we bought \$518 worth of War Bonds. In spite of all we could spend, we were still \$500 ahead. That year, Ted Robinson, who had never held office, was made Honorary Skipper, or Skipper Emeritus, to preside in the summer time, when anyone would

let him. He has taken undue advantage of this privilege, but there seems no chance of curbing him.

Officers were re-elected in 1942. Witherstine was Skipper in 1943 and 1944. Bruce McKain was elected in 1945 and 1946.

## VI. UPS AND DOWNS

There have been 17 Skippers in 30 years: Senseney, Hawthorne, Browne, Bohm, Miller, Beneker, Bicknell, Dickinson, Waugh, Mahoney, Whorf, Euler, Rann, Malicoat, Witherstine, McKain. Eight of these have died.

Lost in the mists of antiquity or in the treacherous memories of old men, are the origins of many of the traditions of the Club. The process of Initiation, for instance, has tended to follow a pattern, though at first it was entirely without form, and of course without precedent. Why do we make every candidate crawl under the table before he stands in position for interrogation, with his arse to the Mast? Whence arose the invariable procedure of rejecting the candidate with a rousing chorus of "No's" and immediately following the vote with the Skipper's announcement that the candidate had been unanimously elected, and that he is the first who was ever unanimously elected?

What became of the Bilge Gang? The Chantey Gang? When did we stop calling the Purser "the Pursuer"?

Who remembers the days when we had broiled porterhouse steaks for dinner, and the steaks were broiled over charcoal, in the fireplace?

Who remembers the early days of Prohibition, when excellent cocktails were prepared from bootleg for our dinners, each found his cocktail at his place when we sat down, and there was one dividend, and only one, for each. There was enough liquor for stimulation, but not enough for drunkenness and loud noise.

Who remembers the delightful simplicity of *The Ship*, conducted by the Eulers and Nez Hogan in this room; when without liquor, and only the simplest of food and soft drinks, people enjoyed themselves visiting and dancing, playing chess and anagrams and cribbage, singing?

One notes in passing that dues paid in 1931 came to \$310, and in 1932 to \$175. The next year, they got down to less than \$100. The Depression was on. However, we carried \$150 over



from 1931, and the following year we rented the Hulk to the Ship for \$175.

"The Ship" was a night club of the most innocent variety ever known during the Prohibition era. Candles in beer-bottles, electric bulbs shaded by nutmeg graters, furnished the so-called illumination. Prices were low and the crowds were well behaved and respectable. For four years, we shared our quarters with this very home-like place of entertainment, and accepted \$200 a year in rent from the ladies who conducted it.

There was a new deal in 1935, when the Ship was succeeded by the Flagship. A bar was put into the main cabin of the Hulk, and we began to be tenants in our own place. The Flagship furnished our dinners at a set price, and paid us a higher rent than we had been getting. There started a period of ease and laziness that lasted down to war time. In return for which, we submitted to a good deal of pushing around. This proved so unsatisfactory that when the Flagship expanded to the building on the west, which had once been the studio of E. Ambrose Webster, we abrogated our agreement, and re-entered into possession of our home. We also went back to the old system of getting our own meals.

The Beachcombers can always find use for their money—usually in patching up the old hulk, and in repairing the bulkhead. In contrast to the Depression figures, we may cite a report for 1928 when we had \$4,000 in the bank—and had to move the building and build a new bulkhead—another for one of the war years, when we bought \$700 worth of bonds and put them away (we still have them)—and another from the Purser's report of 1946, when we cleared more than \$1,000 on the Ball. We don't like to boast, but we can earn money when we need it!

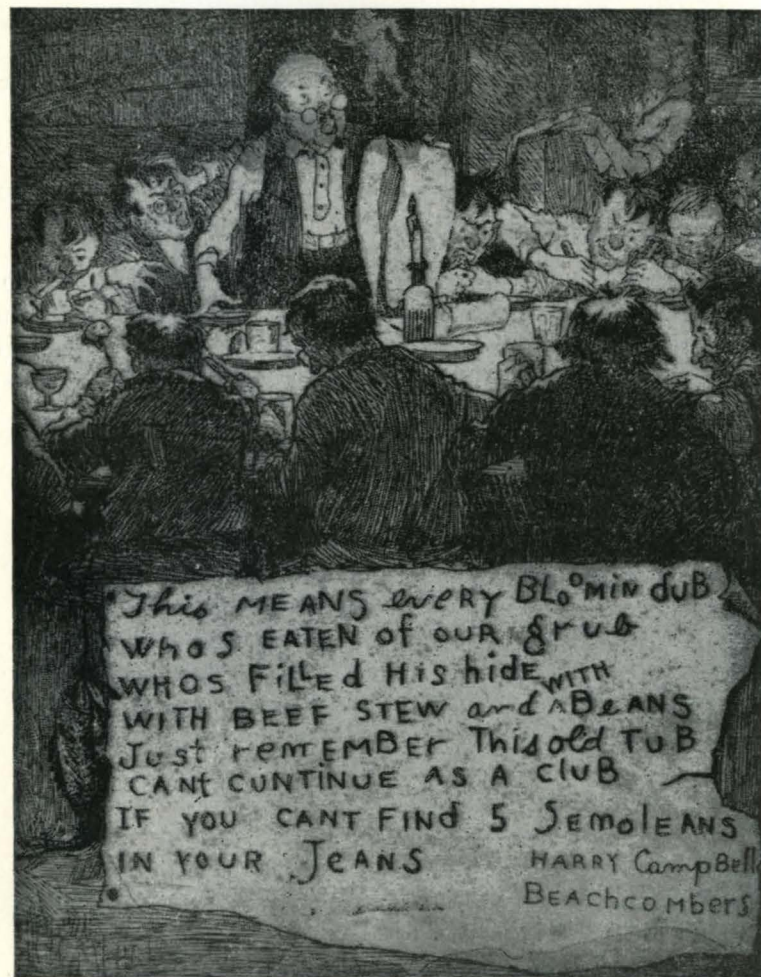
### THE ANNIVERSARY

The year 1946, being the 30th anniversary of the Beachcombers' founding (and, incidentally, the thirtieth anniversary also of the beginning of the Provincetown Players) found the club in a period of unprecedented prosperity. The Ball, under the able management of Perry Strassburger cleared more than \$1,000, establishing an all-time record. Costumes and accessories reproduced the pre-World-War I era; the publicity was skillfully managed, and the occasion was a notable one. It begins to appear that the first thirty years were the hardest, and that there is smooth sailing ahead for the beachcombers.

### A FEW OVERSIGHTS

In the early years, it appears to have been quite a task to collect dues. Harry Campbell sent out elaborate notices, etchings or dry-points, with facetious appeals for money. One of these should be a collectors' item. It is a picture of the Beachcombers at dinner, and they are not observing any rules of etiquette. Under the picture is this legend:

This means every bloomin Dub  
Who's eaten of our grub,



Appeal for Dues



Who's filled his hide with beef stew and with beans.  
Just remember this old Tub  
Cant cuntinue as a club  
If you cant find 5 semoleons in yor Jeans

Another appeal is headed by an etching of the Pursuer leading the stage Camel—I have referred to this picture in the account of the 1918 show. Beneath the picture (with its inevitable association of Harry Campbell and the hairy camel) were these lines:

“Avast! Shivur my Timburs! Ahoy! A camle can go 1 weak or maybe one & ½ weaks without water. All rite! That aint no sine he can go 20 or 30 weaks or 1 yere thoagh. He can go without eatin for a long while! But that aint no sine he can go Frever. And he can't live on sand. Can he? Well!

“Beachcombers—Lissen! I gut too Feed the Camle! ! !

Hairy. Persuer.

N. G. A camle has gut 5 stumacks. A \$ a stumack.”

The first World War absorbed a good many Beachcombers in various services. In August, 1918, a circular letter to these absent heroes was drafted by 29 members in session. Since it is of historical interest, it is here reproduced, with the names of the signers:

DEAR FRIEND AND BROTHER BEACHCOMBER:—

We, THE BEACHCOMBERS, write this letter to you out of our hearts. We think of you often and you are present with us and we follow you in our minds where ere you go. We speak of you at every dinner; we drink, standing, to our almost thirty absent ones in the war. What concerns one of us concerns us all for we stand together, each rejoicing in the others success. We hope you will be among us again as soon as possible, when this fight is won. We are proud of the work you are doing; we would like to help as much as we can; we think of you in warm appreciation and admiration for the part you have in the war. All of us remaining here would like to go too, we are most of us just a little bit too old.

When the cool night comes on and the dark blue shadows fall outside there is a warm glow in your

BEACHCOMBERS CLUB, faces shine and eyes glisten in the candle light. We sit at our long tables, friends all together, and you are not forgotten, No! we wonder how you are and where you are. We would like to have news of you very much; when you return you will see how interesting we have made the interior of our new club house look.

The Commodore, George Senseney, has just returned after almost a year of absence and we were so glad to see him that we danced around him. Skipper Charles Hawthorne is fine, so is George Elmer Browne the First Mate. Of course we are getting up a theatrical show again, we think we must do it and it is probable that we will do it every year (Don't groan.) We are terribly busy with such things as interfere with the painting of our pictures. Posters for the show, etc.

Nothing ever stops Hawthorne and Bohm from starting to sing (?) “Silver Threads Among The Gold” when the dinner is over, but it must be said that we do not make quite as much noise as we used to; we are a little subdued on account of the War, but what a noise we will make when the boys return, WOW!

It seems that the whole country is going dry for the duration of the War but we will take the lid off and open up something when you return and the Huns are whipped.

There is our Art Exhibition in the Town Hall as usual. Lots of the boys are doing Range Finder pictures; we have been having good dinners because the wives help such a lot with the cooking; we have some very good comrades in our new members.

The Club is fine, the finest in the world. Beachcombers from the ends of all the earth, loose, free, wild, unattached, unincumbered; having all travelled far, we soar in unlimited ambitions. We the laughing outcasts upon the beach, spurn the clogging mere material things to appreciate the fullness of life. We lead! new paths, new visions are ours for we are the boldest, we break new trails, we are with you.



May we go from victory to victory to triumph.  
Dear friend we will value your letters, tell us all  
about it. Here's to you!

Please write to your

*BEACHCOMBERS.*

Provincetown, Mass.  
August 10, 1918.

*R. E. Miller*  
*John G. Syman*  
*George Senseney*  
*W. D. Young*  
*E. A. Webster*  
*W. A. Morawski*  
*Walter F. Brown*  
*F. B. Imes*  
*W. H. W. Bicknell*  
*Geo. Elmer Browne*  
*C. W. Hawthorne*  
*W. G. Hinckley*  
*Max Bohm*  
*O. H. Gieberich*  
*Joseph Pierre Birren*

*Oliver N. Chaffee*  
*Frank H. Desch*  
*Tod Lindinmuth*  
*F. H. Marvin*  
*James Weiland*  
*Edward A. Filene*  
*W. F. L'Engle, Jr.*  
*Henry I. Eddy*  
*Martin Borgood*  
*Eugene P. Ullman*  
*Wm. M. Paxton*  
*H. N. Campbell*  
*Sol Koger*  
*Melzar Chaffee*

The present historian does not feel inclined to follow the records year by year through the recent seasons; he feels that he has done his part by attending to the remote past, and that some future revisors may bring the narrative up to date. There have been, of course, many remarkable and memorable happenings that have never been recorded at all.

Not the least of these have been the high class of entertainments we had from our own members. For many seasons, a bright feature of our dinners was the singing of original songs by Bobby Edwards. Nobody who heard him sing "The Sultan's Wives Have Got the Hives" will ever forget it. Nor will memory let slip the glee that accompanied the stories and impersonations of Hy Myer, that great cartoonist who could have been equally great as a vaudeville artist.

These, and a hundred other pleasant memories have been somehow omitted from our formal records, or the records have been lost.

## APPENDIX I

Original Constitution of the Beachcombers  
Approved and adopted, September 27, 1916  
CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF

THE BEACHCOMBERS  
Provincetown, Mass.

### CONSTITUTION

#### ARTICLE I.

Section 1. **Name.**—The name of this organization shall be "The Beachcombers".

Section 2. **Purpose.**—The purpose of the Beachcombers shall be to promote good fellowship among men sojourning or residing in or about Provincetown who are engaged in the practice of the fine arts or their branches.

Section 3. **Membership.**—The Membership of the Beachcombers shall consist of men engaged in the practice of any of the fine arts or their branches, or who are intimately connected with the promotion of the fine arts.

Section 4. **Definition of an Artist.**—This club recognizes as an artist one who practices the fine arts or their branches: Painting, etching, engraving, sculpture, architecture, designing, illustrating, writing, music, acting; and whose work has been accepted in any reputable institution of fine arts. Members qualifying as artists, together with those who are actively engaged in promoting the fine arts, shall be known as Able Beachcombers (A. B.) and all other members as Gobs.

#### ARTICLE II

##### Officers, Elections, Vacancies

Section 1.—The officers of the Beachcombers shall be:

a Captain  
a First Mate  
a Second Mate  
a Third Mate  
a Purser and Keeper of the Log  
a Cabin Boy or Shipkeeper  
a Ship's Surgeon

all of whom shall be elected at the annual gam, and shall assume



office at once. Any vacancy in office shall be filled by the Deck Watch.

Three Trustees, one to be elected every year to serve 3 years.

Section 2. **Captain.**—The Captain of the Beachcombers shall be a resident of Provincetown for at least six months of the year, and shall preside at all regular confabs of the Crew.

In case of equal division on any question, he shall have a casting vote.

He shall annually, in a written report, give an account of the condition of the club, as well as a summary of events of the past year.

He shall be, ex officio, chairman of the deck watch and a member of all gangs.

He shall not hold office longer than two successive years, but he may again become eligible for the chair after such chair has been filled by another A. B.

Section 3. **First Mate.**—The first mate shall discharge the duties of the Captain, in his absence.

Section 4. **Second Mate.**—The Second Mate shall discharge the duties of the Captain and the First Mate in their absence.

Section 5. **Third Mate.**—The Third Mate shall discharge the duties of the Captain, the First Mate and the Second Mate, in their absence, and he shall keep the crew in order at all times. He shall be keeper of the Brig, and custodian of the Cat o' Nine Tails.

Section 6.—The Purser and Keeper of the Log shall receive, collect, hold, and under the direction of the Deck Watch, disburse the funds. He shall receive and answer all communications, sign all notices issued by the Beachcombers. He shall furnish a report at every annual gam and more often if required, on the state of the funds. He shall keep a roll of the crew and shall record matters of import at the gam, in the log book.

Section 7.—The Cabin Boy or Shipkeeper shall have charge of the brig or fo'c'stle during the absence of the crew. He shall appoint his own gang to care for the upkeep of the fokstle.

### ARTICLE III

#### (Committees) Watches and Gangs

Section 1.—There shall be a Deck Watch (executive committee), a Crimp Gang (membership committee) and a Chanteymen's Gang (entertainment committee).

Section 2.—The **Deck Watch** shall consist of the officers, five members of the crew, chosen at large, and the bosses of the several gangs. They shall have general charge of the affairs of the club. They shall act as a ways and means committee. Any sum greater than \$10 shall be expended only by their direction. They shall report at the annual gam. They shall appoint the other gangs. All members of the Deck Watch shall be A. B.'s.

Section 3.—The **Crimp Gang** shall consist of five A. B.'s. It shall be their duty to admit or reject any application or proposal for membership of the crew.

Section 4.—The **Chanty Gang** shall consist of five A. B.'s. They shall have charge of and arrange for the entertainments (other than culinary); attend to invitations, be present to receive and welcome visitors, and promote, prepare and publish such affairs of the Beachcombers as will bring the name of the Beachcombers before the public when desired.

### ARTICLE IV

Section 1.—This constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the A. B.'s present at any regular gam, but the quorum necessary for that purpose shall be not less than twenty A. B.'s, and such proposed amendment must be offered and posted at a previous regular gam.

### BY-LAWS

#### ARTICLE I

##### Conclaves, Confabulations, Gams, Parleys

Section 1.—The annual conclave of the Beachcombers for the choosing of officers and for the transaction of business shall be held in the Hulk on the evening of the last Wednesday in July. A majority of A. B.'s present shall be necessary to elect.

Section 2.—Regular confabulations\* shall be held in the fo'c'stle every Wednesday evening if so desired but other confabs\* may be called at anytime by the captain or by the Deck Watch.

Section 3.—One week previous to the annual conclave, the A. B.'s shall elect by ballot a nominating gang of A. B.'s who shall present a list of names to be voted upon by ballot for officers, and 5 A. B.'s to be voted upon by ballot to serve on the



Deck Watch. No officers or members of the Deck Watch shall serve on the nominating gang.

This By-Law shall in no way prevent the consideration or election of candidates otherwise nominated.

Section 4.—The Order of Business shall be the reading of the log, and purser's report; reports of watches and gangs; old business; general business; new business.

Section 5.—Twenty A. B.'s shall constitute a quorum at any regular confab.

## ARTICLE II

### Members

Section 1.—Membership in The Beachcombers shall be divided as follows:

- a. Able Beachcombers (A. B.'s) Dues, \$5 a year
- b. Gobs Dues, \$5 a year
- c. Lubbers (Guests)

d. Honorary membership may be thrust upon any clean-minded, well-trimmed gentleman for whom the crew wish to express their respect. It shall not involve the payment of dues. Honorary members shall receive a unanimous vote at a regular gam, provided said candidate's name is presented previously to the Crimp Gang and approved by them.

Section 2.—Able Beachcombers (A. B.'s) must be artist members residing or sojourning in Provincetown for a period of not less than two weeks.

Section 3.—Gobs shall be those members who are apprentices or amateurs in art residing or sojourning in Provincetown for a period of not less than two weeks.

Section 4.—Lubbers shall be those artists, amateurs in art or promoters of art who sojourn in Provincetown for a period of less than two weeks. From such members, payment of dues shall not be expected.

Section 5.—Shore Leave. Any member desiring shore leave for a period of time exceeding one year on account of absence from Provincetown shall present an application in writing to the Purser-Keeper of the Log, stating if possible the duration of such absence, and the Crimp Gang may grant his request. He shall not be subject to dues until he again appears in Provincetown.

Section 6. Visitors.—A. B.'s may extend the privileges of the

Hulk to a resident of the town for one day; but such visitor shall not again be introduced by any member for a period of two weeks.

An A. B. who introduces a visitor in the Beachcombers shall obtain a card of invitation for him, record his name and residence in the visitors' book, and shall be responsible for any indebtedness incurred by him. At the request of an A. B. one of the Deck Watch may issue to anyone not residing within 25 miles of Provincetown a card of invitation entitling him to the privileges of the club for one week; but such invitation shall not be renewed until the expiration of 4 months.

The Deck Watch may invite any stranger of distinction to use the privileges of the Hulk, and may, for cause, cancel and revoke any invitation given by themselves or by any member of the Beachcombers.

Visitors shall not have the privilege of introducing guests.

Section 7.—Dues: The fiscal year shall date from May 1. Membership dues shall be payable after the first day of May (?) and the dues of anyone who shall qualify in membership after May 1 shall be good only until the end of the club year.

When the dues of a member have remained unpaid for the space of one month, the Purser shall send him a bill for the same, and official notice that unless dues are paid within the next 30 days the said member's name shall be dropped from the roll, subject to reinstatement by the Deck Watch.

Section 8.—A roll of members together with their address of residence shall be kept by the Purser and Keeper of the Log, whose duty it shall be to see that new members are entered upon, such list immediately after qualifying by payment of dues; and that the names of members of the crew resigning, lost, or found in mutiny, be removed from said list, except those on shore leave.

Section 9.—Any man who is an artist or apprenticed to art may become a Beachcomber provided his name is proposed and seconded by A. B.'s in good standing at any regular gam.

Section 10.—If at any time a member of the crew mutinies or makes himself objectionable to the Beachcombers, the Crimp Gang may revoke his membership, provided such action is approved by the Deck Watch; and the Third Mate shall then cause such member to walk the plank.



### ARTICLE III

The By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the A. B.'s present at any regular gam; but such proposed amendment must be offered and posted at a previous regular gam.

This Constitution and By-Laws approved and adopted September 27, 1916, at Provincetown, Mass., at the end of Cape Cod, where the Pilgrim Fathers first combed the beach in November, 1620.

Prepared by Able Beachcombers

Blondheim  
Paxton  
Beneker

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Amendments to Constitution and By-Laws of  
The Beachcombers. Adopted October 13th, 1928.

#### CONSTITUTION—ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1

The officers of the Beachcombers shall be, a Captain or "Skipper", a First Mate, a Second Mate, a Third Mate, a Purser or treasurer, a Keeper of the Log or Secretary, and a Ship Surgeon, all of whom shall be elected at the annual gam and shall assume office at once; and three trustees, one to be chosen each year to serve three years. Any vacancy in office shall be filled by the Deck Watch.

#### ARTICLE 2, SECTION 6

The Purser shall receive, collect, hold, and under the direction of the trustees, shall disburse the funds. He shall furnish a report at the annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE 2, SECTION 7

The Keeper of the Log (Secretary) shall keep a record of the members, check up on dues. He should be chairman of the Crimp Gang. He shall receive and answer all communications and sign all notices issued by the Beachcombers. He shall record matters of import.

ARTICLE 2, SECTION 8 (formerly Section 7)  
Ship Surgeon.

ARTICLE 2, SECTION 9 (formerly Section 8)  
Trustees.

### BY-LAWS—ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1

Membership in the Beachcombers shall be divided as follows,—

- (a) Able Beachcombers (A. B.'s),
- (b) Gobs or Apprentices,
- (c) Honorary.

#### ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1

Able Beachcombers are those who are actively engaged in the profession of the Fine Arts or in promoting them, who have paid their dues, and who are in good standing.

#### ARTICLE 2, SECTION 7

Dues—The fiscal year shall end with the annual meeting.

Membership dues are due June 1st and if not paid within 30 days such members' names shall be posted, and, if the dues of such members still remain unpaid for another 30 days, (by August 1st), said names shall be dropped from membership.

Old members or former members who have been absent for a year or longer should fill out a card for reinstatement to be passed upon by the Crimp Gang and the Deck Watch.

New applicants for membership shall fill out application blanks to be presented to the chairman of the Crimp Gang, and such applicants shall be posted for one week.

#### AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 3, SECTION 2, OF THE CONSTITUTION

(add) A quorum of the Deck Watch shall consist of seven members.

#### REVISIONS—1928

In regard to suggestions and recommendations for revision of Constitution and By-Laws of the Beachcombers:—

The committee appointed,—Desch, M. Chaffee, Beneker, and Bicknell (member ex officio) in session September 23rd, 1928 at Beneker's, Truro.

#### CONSTITUTION—ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1

To change "Purser and Keeper of the Log" (now one person) to "Purser, and Keeper of the Log (Secretary)" (two persons).

#### ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1—Change to

The Purser shall receive, collect, hold, and under the direction of the Trustees, shall disburse the funds. He shall furnish a report at the annual meeting.



The Keeper of the Log (Secretary) shall keep a record of the members, check up on dues. He should be chairman of the Crimp Gang.

He shall receive and answer all communications and sign all notices issued by the Beachcombers. He shall record matters of import.

#### BY-LAWS—ARTICLE 2, SECTION 1

(a) Able Beachcombers are those who are actively engaged in the profession of the Fine Arts or in promoting them, who have paid their dues and who are in good standing.

(b) Gobs or Apprentices (none voting)

(c) Honorary.

Note:—provide for quorum of the Deck Watch. Recommended 7 as quorum.

Decided that new applicants for membership should be posted one week, and that membership application blanks be printed for each applicant to fill out; same to be presented to chairman of the Crimp Gang.

It was decided to enforce the Constitution and By-Laws.

Note—decided that old members or former members who have been away for a year or longer should fill out a card for reinstatement to be passed upon by the Crimp Gang and the Deck Watch.

### MEMBERSHIP CARD

19

*The Beachcombers*



## OFFICERS

1916

No complete list of officers has been preserved for this first year. Those we have recorded are:

Skipper, George Senseney  
First Mate, George Elmer Browne  
Second Mate, Charles W. Hawthorne  
Pursuer, Fred H. Marvin, succeeded by  
Harry Campbell

1917

Skipper, Charles W. Hawthorne  
First Mate, George Elmer Browne  
Second Mate, Max Bohm  
Pursuer, Harry Campbell\*  
Trustees: Ambrose Webster (3 years)  
Harry Campbell (2 years)  
George Stevens (1 year)  
Ship's Surgeon, Dr. Percival Eaton

1918

All officers re-elected. Dr. Eaton succeeded George Stevens as trustee

1919

Skipper, George Elmer Browne  
First Mate, Max Bohm  
Second Mate, William M. Paxton  
Surgeon, Dr. Eaton\*\*

1920

All officers re-elected. Charles Hawthorne succeeded Ambrose Webster as trustee.

1921

Skipper, Max Bohm  
First Mate, Richard Miller  
Second Mate, John Noble  
Third Mate, Gifford Beale\*\*\*

\*Harry Campbell remained Purser until his death in 1945, and therefore his name has not been repeated in each year's list.

\*\*Dr. Eaton was re-elected surgeon each year until his death in 1934.

\*\*\*This is the first appearance of a Third Mate.



1922

Re-elected same officers, with these exceptions:

First Mate, William Bicknell  
Third Mate, William Young

1923

Skipper, Richard Miller  
First Mate, Gerritt A. Beneker  
Second Mate, William Young  
Third Mate, Charles Kaeselau

1924

Re-elected all officers, and made Charles Hawthorne a trustee.

1925

Re-elected all officers, and made Dr. Eaton a trustee.

1926

Skipper, Gerritt A. Beneker  
First Mate, William Bicknell  
Second Mate, Edwin Dickinson  
Third Mate, Coulton Waugh  
Trustee, Harry Campbell

1927

Re-elected officers

1928

Skipper, William Bicknell  
First Mate, Edwin Dickinson  
Second Mate, Coulton Waugh  
Third Mate, Felix Mahoney  
Trustee, Charles Hawthorne

1929

Re-elected officers

1930

Report missing. It may be guessed from the 1932 report, since the rotation of officers has been faithfully followed, when possible.

1931

See above

1932

Skipper, Coulton Waugh  
First Mate, Felix Mahoney  
Second Mate, Henry Hensche  
Third Mate, Edwin Euler  
Keeper of Log, Gerritt A. Beneker\*\*\*\*

1933-34

All officers re-elected

1934-35

Skipper, Felix Mahoney  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Edwin Euler  
Third Mate, Jack Foster  
Keeper of Log, Gerritt Beneker

1935-36

Skipper, First Mate and Third Mate re-elected. These changes were made, on account of absences:

Second Mate, John Whorf  
Keeper of Log, Ralph Carpenter  
Surgeon, Dr. Frederick Hammett  
Trustee, Ralph Carpenter

1936-37

Skipper, John Whorf  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Philip Malicoat  
Third Mate, Jack Foster

1937-38

Skipper, John Whorf  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Philip Malicoat  
Third Mate, Jack Foster

1938-39

Skipper, V. B. Rann  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Jack Beauchamp  
Third Mate, Philip Malicoat  
Trustees, Harold Lund  
William Bicknell  
Bruce McKain

\*\*\*\*This is another new office. Previously, the Purser had to act as secretary also.



1938-39 and 1939-40

Skipper, V. B. Rann  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Jack Beauchamp  
Third Mate, Philip Malicoat

1940-41

Skipper, Reeves Euler  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Philip Malicoat  
Third Mate, Bruce McKain

1941-42 and 1942-43

Skipper, Philip Malicoat  
First Mate, Anton Van Dereck  
Second Mate, Bruce McKain  
Third Mate, Oscar Gieberich

1943-44 and 1944-45

Skipper, Donald Witherstine  
First Mate, Bruce McKain  
Second Mate, Henry Helmer  
Third Mate, Charles Heinz

1945-46 and 1946-47

Skipper, Bruce McKain  
First Mate, Henry Helmer  
Second Mate, Charles Heinz  
Third Mate, LaForce Bailey

## MEMBERS PRESENT, 1917

Fred Marvin	William H. Young
George Elmer Browne	Louis Hurd, Jr.
George Senseney	E. L. Byrd
Oliver Chaffee	Percival J. Eaton
Adolphe W. Blondheim	Philip A. Swords
Oscar Gieberich	Gerritt A. Beneker
Wilbur Daniel Steele	Melzer Chaffee
Harry Campbell	Albert Groll
Ambrose Webster	John Frazier
Tod Lindenmuth	Frederick Burt
Frank H. Desch	Harvey Gaul
Lester E. Hornsby	Richard Miller
Max Bohm	Lawrence Grant
Samuel Burton	----- Gardiner
Joseph P. Birren	Charles Kaeselau
Wendell W. Chase	Charles W. Hawthorne
William M. Paxton	George Stevens
Ross E. Moffett	Nicola D. -----
Francis B. Jones	Bror Nordfeldt