



THOSE WHO KNOW

I saw a valve without a doubt
I never had seen before.
And when I traced this line out
it led to number four.

Now this is one among many
a submariner has to know.
In fact it's his main duty
to know which lever to throw.

Now every man aboard it
takes his shipmate's life in his hands
and to know his job to perfection
he is quick to understand.

For well he knows the verdict
if his mind does fail to click
because in that same instant
those unbelievable things are quick.

A visitor comes lumbering down the hatch.
He hasn't a submariner's style
and when he reaches the bottom step
we're underway for a trial.

"What kind of a world am I in
with all these gauges and valves?
It looks like a pirate's weirdest den".
And the crew looks mighty wild.

He looks aghast and shudders
when he hears the motors grind.
And his eardrums begin to flutter
as to greater depths we wind.

With a wild and surrounded look
he seeks for a friendly eye
"I have read of submarines in a book
but a top-side sailor am I"

Written, in 1943, by C. Booker and Elmer Baumgartl
Passed on to us by deceased WWII Submarine Veteran Barney Wixon