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The "C.P.O."

"Ask the Chief" is one of the "by" words of the sailors' language. Many say it in jest but others say it with the confidence that they are getting the best and right answers.

As the backbone of the service he is the man who has weathered many storms, mental and physical, as well as the elements. He has learned from experience, from long hours of study, from others before him, and from common sense. It takes a special breed to make a chief. He has to be a father as head of his men, a magician at some of the tasks he is called upon to perform, a mediator between the officers and enlisted men, and a mother to the weak.

So in the course of every day life you will see the chief at many a varied task and if you eavesdrop on two chiefs in conversation about a problem you can always hear one of them say "let's have a cup of coffee and think about it".

