

NEW TYPE OF LIFEBOAT

Power Craft That Refuses to Stay Upside Down.

RIGHTS AND BAILS ITSELF.

Engine Stops When the Vessel Is Upset—Shuttered Holes in Bottom Let the Water Out, but Permit None to Come In.

Those who saw the tests of O. R. Ingersoll's self righting and self bailing power boat at Governors Island, New York, the other afternoon almost were persuaded to believe being shipwrecked would be a pleasure. Though the craft is large enough to carry fifty persons, after it was turned keel up by means of a derrick on board the steamboat General Johnston, it righted itself in five seconds and bailed itself in twenty-seven seconds. Moreover, its gasoline engine stopped automatically when the boat was keel up. The test was made after the boat made a trip against the tide from Bayonne. Then it was sent darting around the island, displaying speed and ability to turn quickly.

An army officer who saw the test said being in such a boat when it upset would be no more dangerous than taking a bath. There is no danger of the provisions and water casks being lost overboard when the boat turns over, for they are in water tight compartments. The twenty-five horsepower motor is in a water tight inclosure in the stern. The gasoline tank for the motor is in the bow. It will hold twenty-five gallons and a larger tank in the bottom of the boat seventy-five, the total being sufficient to keep the boat going for twenty-five hours.

The craft is of steel, so there is no danger from fire. Between the deck and keel is a series of horizontal air tight tubes in four water tight compartments, so that the boat might be rammed and broken at any point without seriously affecting its ability to keep afloat. There are eight holes through the bottom, each with a peculiarly constructed shutter, which permits water which may be taken aboard to run out, but none to run in.

One of the features which make it available for life saving purposes is its weight. The builders of other boats who attempted to accomplish the same thing made them so heavy they could not be taken on board a ship. Ingersoll's boat is 30 feet 7 inches long, 7 feet 6 inches wide and 3 feet 8 inches deep. It weighs only 5,900 pounds. Small boats launched from a vessel in a storm are often smashed or sunk by overcrowding. It makes no difference how the Ingersoll boat is launched, because it rights itself anyway. It will sustain three times the weight of all the persons who could crowd into it and hang on the gunwales.

Ingersoll's boats, built on the same model, have been used by the quartermaster's department of the army several years. The new feature recently demonstrated was equipping one with power. There was no difficulty about putting a motor in this style of boat, nor was it difficult to store the gasoline where it could not become ignited and explode. The problem was to have the engine stop automatically when the boat was overturned. If it did not stop and the passengers were thrown into the water the craft would leave them in its wake after it had righted itself. Moreover, the rapidly revolving propeller might cut persons struggling in the water to get on board after the upset. The easiest way to overcome the difficulty was to let the water on to the engine, but that would put it out of commission until it could be cleaned and repaired. In the type tested the other day Ingersoll solved the problem.

The test was conducted under the supervision of Major Richard Schofield of the quartermaster's department, aided by Captain William H. Williams, marine expert. With him were Lieutenant Colonel A. Cronkhit, an expert in the artillery corps, and Colonel I. W. Littell and Captain F. A. Grant of the quartermaster's department. They were pleased with the work of the boat and congratulated the inventor, who lives in Wilmington, Del.—New York Press.

FLAGPOLE FROM MASTS.

Yacht Constitution's Spars a Liberty Staff at New York.

Probably no yacht ever had as fine a memorial (though this is not intended as such) as the Constitution will have. The steel mast, topmast and other spars of that racer, a contender in the 1901 trials to select a defender of the America's cup, were transferred the other day from City Island to Battery park, New York, where they will be made into a 175 foot Liberty pole. The spars were bought by Park Commissioner Henry Smith for \$600, their original cost having been \$3,000. The pole will be put up near the sea wall east of the aquarium.

There has been a liberty pole near this spot since the Revolution. The last one was removed when the subway was built.

Searchlights as Aid For Travelers. Two immense searchlights, throwing their beams vertically into the air at night, will be a novel feature of the new passenger station which the Chicago and Northwestern railway is building at Chicago. These will be on the Canal street side of the structure, over the Washington and Randolph street subways, and will serve to direct attention to the station from any part of the city.

TAFT A BASEBALL DEVOTEE.

It's the One Clean Sport, the President Told His Hosts.

All doubts concerning President Taft's opinion of baseball were dispelled the other day at Pittsburg when the president said that in his opinion baseball was the cleanest, the finest and the manliest sport in all Christendom.

"Baseball appears to me as the one clean sport," said Mr. Taft. "There is no jockeying, no flimflamming, no chicanery, as in some other sports—horse racing, for instance. I enjoy baseball. Especially did I enjoy the magnificent contest between Pittsburg and Chicago."

This indorsement of the national game was uttered in a general talk at the residence of T. K. Laughlin, Jr., where Mr. Taft spent a recent Sunday. In the discussion the president reiterated his dislike for the bunting game. Several times during the game when a hit meant a run and when the batter was ordered to bunt the president gave utterances to impatient remarks. "I believe," he said, "they should hit it out. I like the games where there is plenty of 'slugging.' I believe the sporting writers call it."

TEST OF MONSTER GUN.

Fired Two Hundred and Fifty Shells a Minute at Cleveland, O.

An automatic gun throwing 250 shells every minute which was recently tested at Cleveland, O., may revolutionize phases of modern warfare. This gun is the McClean-Lissak, the largest automatic in the world.

Three pound shells were thrown three and one-half miles out into Lake Erie at the rate of 250 a minute. The gun has been contracted for by the English government and will be used in guarding the English channel. The inventor, S. N. McClean of Cleveland, says that the gun would mow down an advancing line of infantry. The three pound shells replaced by canister would throw 100 shots to a load and 200 loads a minute. The gun is eleven feet long and weighs 900 pounds. The war car, equipped with ammunition and a crew of ten, can travel on ordinary roads at twenty-five miles an hour, wheel into position and shoot while the regular artillery is unlimbering, it is asserted.

CLUB OF OFFICE LOSERS.

"Mutts" of Elgin, Composed of Men on Wrong Side in an Election.

Disappointed office seekers who supported Mayor Albert Fehrmann of Elgin, Ill., in the recent municipal election found some consolation the other night by organizing the "mutt" club and talking over the "ifs" and "mights" over the banquet board.

The whims of each "mutt" were in some measure satisfied by the creating of a dummy cabinet analogous to the municipal heads of departments, to which the "mutts" were assigned positions.

Eighteen "mutts," the ones who thought themselves almost sure of positions, received invitations to the affair.

NEW CHINESE RAILROAD.

Shanghai-Hangchow Line Chiefly Built and Run by Chinamen.

The Kiangsu section of the Shanghai-Hangchow railway in China was officially opened the other day, a train bearing a number of officials traversing the Shanghai section of the line. It is expected that through traffic to Hangchow will be inaugurated in three months.

Only Chinese engineers were employed and Chinese capital used in the construction of the railway, which is fairly built. The rails were made by Chinese. The rolling stock and the bridges were built by Americans.

THE "COHERENT LIFE" NOW.

Professor Perry Wants Some Idea That Will Put the Race in Order.

At Boston university commencement the other day Professor Bliss Perry spoke on "The Coherent Life."

"We are hearing much about the simple life and the strenuous life," he said, "but the ideal life is the coherent life. The strenuous life doctrine was one of the most superfluous gospels ever preached."

"We need coherent thoughts, some idea that will beat time for us and help our ragged human regiment to march forward in order."

Praise For Panama Canal Builders.

Henry Savage Lander, the famous explorer, who recently arrived in London after completing a thorough investigation of the work being done in the Panama canal zone, said:

"I always had a very high idea of the American people's ability to accomplish a big task, but in the matter of building this canal, so gigantic is it, I am all admiration. I was particularly impressed with the personnel of the staff, especially the engineers in charge of the various sections of the work. These young army men show ability and enthusiasm which, I believe, cannot be equalled by any other body of men."

New Kind of Persimmon.

Professor Frank Bush, a Harvard botanist, who recently returned to his home in Courtney, five miles north of Independence, Mo., has found a new variety of persimmon. He made the find on a recent "tree hunt" in southern Missouri. The fruit of the new variety is somewhat flattened in shape and has only one or two seeds. Professor Bush says it is very large and luscious.

LADY'S BRACELET

By GRACE ETHEL WEEKS.

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Zeke Jenks, a native of Missouri, at twenty years of age lost his father and gained thereby a farm. Not finding the state big enough for him, he sold his farm and went to Texas, where he invested the proceeds in oil territory, of which the Octopus Oil company kindly relieved him for a consideration. Zeke took the consideration to New York, where he became a great stock and cotton speculator and by the time he was thirty was worth so many millions that he didn't know what to do with them.

Meanwhile Zeke, having determined to see something beside his own country, went to London, where he kept house in fine style. Having made the acquaintance of several impetuous noblemen who gave him introductions (for consideration), it was not long before he found himself a member of the celebrated smart set headed by the king of England. Certain professional beauties of the British capital, without stopping to consider the origin of his accumulations, proceeded to lay plans to transfer as much of them as possible to themselves. A few preliminary efforts in the way of moderate amounts were so successful as to encourage them to strike for something higher.

Among the reigning belles of that season—married belles, not young ladies; the belles of London usually are encumbered with husbands—was Lady Arabella Richmond. Twenty years before her mother had been so favorably noticed by the king as to be unfavorably noticed by some of the puritanical families of England. Lady Arabella had inherited a number of splendid jewels and when she wished to crush a rising rival would put them all on at some aristocratic function.

But unfortunately, the beauty's expenditures being greater than her income, she was obliged now and again to sacrifice a gem, and at the time Zeke Jenks appeared on the London social stage she had reached a point where her stock of jewels needed replenishing. Indeed, without certain additions her supremacy was in danger. She was among the first to take up "that unique American, Mr. Jenks," who by this time was the talk of the town. Furthermore, a rival had appeared from the American colony in the person of Miss Lillian Lee, a native of Maryland, whose beauty, delightful manners and naturally amiable disposition was slowly making her a favorite. Notwithstanding these advantages Miss Lee could not have rivalled the highborn Lady Richmond had not the latter reached an age where even cosmetics failed to preserve her beauty. The charm of the whole matter was that Miss Lee did not seek to rival any one and was unconscious that certain prophets were whispering that she would be at the head of the reigning belles at no distant date.

It was at this time that Lady Arabella was winding her tentacles about Zeke Jenks. He had been growing more and more devoted and gave every evidence that he was not only enraptured with the position he occupied before the London social world, but with Lady Richmond herself. One day he called upon her at the hour for afternoon tea to ask a favor.

Desiring, he said, to make some acknowledgment to a lady of high social standing who had graciously accepted his attentions, he asked Lady Richmond to name a gift that would be acceptable. It being obvious that Lady Richmond herself was to be the recipient, she eagerly consented. She was, however, a trifle surprised at Mr. Jenks giving her a limit of £5,000. At the end of a week's inspection the lady gave a jeweler an order to send a bracelet set with a single diamond to the American with the bill, which amounted to the limit he had given her. Then she waited to receive the gift from Mr. Jenks, hoping it would come in time for a function to take place at Buckingham palace, where she expected to meet the "chit from America," as she called Miss Lee, and to blind her with the sparkle of the new gem.

But the gift came not, and the queen of the belles was obliged to go to the palace without it. What was her chagrin to see it on the wrist of Miss Lee! Lady Richmond, after saluting the king and queen, retired and never again appeared as the reigning beauty. The next day she read in a society paper the announcement of the engagement of the two Americans, Mr. Ezekiel Jenks and Miss Lillian Lee.

Zeke Jenks married Miss Lee in the early springtime and instead of seeking further social preferment at the British capital went off to Egypt without even saying goodbye to a number of persons to whom the husband at least owed his elevation. But, having paid well for what he had received, he did not consider any farewell necessary.

Before the next London season came on Lord and Lady Richmond appeared in the divorce courts. One of the charges against the wife was that she had sunk £1,000 in a bracelet which she had never received. It came out that when Zeke Jenks had asked her to select a gift, supposing it was for her, being limited to £5,000 and coveting a bracelet worth £6,000, she had directed the jeweler to send it to Mr. Jenks with a bill for £5,000, charging her with the remaining £1,000. The Londoners found this item more delicious than certain scandalous features connected with the trial.

Meanwhile Mr. and Mrs. Jenks were on the ocean returning to America.

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Money To Pay Warrants

Notice is hereby given that there is money on hand to pay General Fund Warrants endorsed to November 22, 1904, and all endorsed street warrants. Interest will stop on same from this date, June 5, 1909.

Z. H. DAVIS, City Treasurer.

6-5-10-17

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