

CHAMBER PACKED TO HEAR SPEAKERS

Mr. Schwab, Mr. Piez and Dr. Eaton Hold Big Audience of 800 Spellbound.

COMPETITION GREAT THING

Head of Emergency Fleet Corporation, Whose Magnetism Is Well Known, Makes Stirring Address to Portlanders.

The dining room of the Chamber of Commerce was taxed yesterday when 800 Portland men were inspired to greater optimism coupled with a more vigorous determination to do their part as best they can in helping to win the war, when they listened to Charles M. Schwab, head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, following the luncheon. There were covers laid for 840 and those who had not made reservations were delighted to have an opportunity to stand to hear the man whose magnetism is so remarkable in realizing the possibilities of men. And there was likewise deep appreciation for the other two members of the party who were heard in addresses—Charles Piez, vice-president and general manager, and Dr. Eaton, head of the National Service section of the organization. H. L. Corbett, president of the Chamber of Commerce, expressed pleasure in having the official visitors here and delegated to Mayor Baker the privilege of welcoming the guests and introducing them to the assembly. Mr. Schwab was introduced as "One of the biggest leaders of men in the world."

East to Be Told of West.

"I am aching and dying to get back East and tell the men back there what I have seen out here with my own eyes of what you are doing in building ships here. This introductory address of the director-general, when I was asked to undertake this work, I said there were two things that would help tremendously in producing ships—enthusiasm and competition. We found that the men had the enthusiasm and now we have the competition. Admiral Fletcher was placed at the head of a board to keep check on what the different shipyards are doing, and to decide each month which yards were entitled to the honor of a special award for the work accomplished. While on our way here we received a telegram saying that the six flags for the month of May were all won by the Pacific Coast and that two of them came to the Pacific Northwest."

"Today I have checked over with the representative of the Emergency Fleet Corporation here the estimate of what this district can do in the next year, and we have decided that it should be able to produce \$200,000,000 worth of ships. I want to be sure to come back next year and find that Portland has measured up to the expectations. I will tell you how you can help. Encourage the men down to the water front by patting them on the back. Help to make them understand that the men who are doing their best in building ships are doing as patriotic and loyal service as anyone can do for the winning of the war."

"During the past 60 days we have been turning out ships at a rate equal to the production of one 10,000-ton boat every day. We must go on and on and on; we must build ships and ships and ships, for we need a tremendous amount of ships after the war to gain and maintain the commerce to which America is entitled. And I don't want you to get the impression that we are going to have a little war that doesn't call for the best you have, and we have got to go to it with a spirit that we have nothing else that is worth our attention except to win this war."

Our Flag for Just Wars Only.

"This flag of ours has never gone into an unjust war; it never will. It never has been defeated and it never shall be. There are no longer doctors, or lawyers or preachers. We are all just plain Americans, giving all there is in us to win the war. "Money doesn't bring comfort. Riches bring only responsibility and sometimes the ability to do something for the world. I am going to tell you that there is nothing worth while in this world but the consciousness of duty well performed."

Mr. Schwab closed with a tribute to the Portland shipbuilders for having done their duty splendidly and assurance that the Emergency Fleet Corporation will do everything that it properly can to aid and encourage the splendid progress that is being made. He seasoned his remarks with a number of anecdotes that emphasized the truth which he drove home with dynamic force.

Work Proved Wonderful.

Charles Piez prefaced his address with a glimpse of the tasks which the corporation was called upon suddenly to solve and the preparation that was essential as a prelude to beginning to make any showing whatever. He modestly disclaimed credit for any great achievement, such as his chief had bestowed upon the second in command, and characterized the work of the different departments as something wonderful and incomparable. Mr. Piez said in the course of his address: "We think of Portland as a part of the Northwest when we think of shipbuilding, and as the heart of the producing section of the United States. With only 15 per cent of the yards of the country you are shown as having built nearly 40 per cent of the ships, according to our latest reports."

"We did not get started in preparing to begin shipyards in the East until last September, and the yards there are now just getting started on the real work of building ships. In the next ninety days we expect to make a showing at Hog Island that, if we can duplicate the speed records you have set out here, will make Kaiser Bill feel that the end is in sight for his empire."

Tribute Paid Mr. Schwab.

"I want to assure you that all the departments of our Government are making splendid headway and are worthy of your support and your hearty enthusiasm and I want to say to you that in the Fleet Corporation Mr. Schwab radiates the enthusiasm and the ability to keep it going; he is the real motive power."

Dr. Eaton, head of the National Service section of the corporation, who organized and directed the work of caring for the morale of the employees and directs the speakers who deliver the messages to the workers, was introduced as a "Baptist preacher who swears and gets away with it," and who convinced his auditors in a short address that he is a convincing speaker and that only the men of the yard were an intimate knowledge of the minds of men.

"This country has demonstrated ability to develop more efficiency in one year than an autocratic power has shown in 40 years," said Dr. Eaton. "We certainly didn't know much about shipbuilding a year ago, when I was

OREGON DISTRICT OF WOODEN SHIP CONSTRUCTION IN EMERGENCY FLEET CORPORATION ATTAINS HIGHEST MARK IN NUMBER OF LAUNCHINGS IN SINGLE DAY BY ONE ORGANIZATION, WHEN SIX FERRIS TYPE SHIPS ARE FLOATED, AND CHARLES SCHWAB SEES HIS FIRST WOODEN SHIP TAKE THE WATER.



1—First Four Hulls Floated Ranged in Row at Plant of G. M. Standifer Construction Corporation. 2—Mayor George B. Baker, Secretary Charles M. Schwab, Miss Elizabeth Boschke, Sponsor of Moosabee, and Montezuma. 3—Mayor George B. Baker, Secretary Charles M. Schwab, Miss Elizabeth Boschke, Sponsor of Moosabee, and Charles Piez. 4—Hull of Benzonia, Sixth Vessel Floated. 5—Moosabee as She Entered the Water. 6—Mrs. Frank Gollan, Sponsor of Benzonia.

SIX CRAFT FLOATED

Launching of 21,000 Tons Is Tribute to Chas. M. Schwab.

STANDIFER YARD IS SCENE

Every Launching Blow at German Militarism, Asserts Steel Wizard in Complimenting Men Who Constructed Craft.

SUPPLY COMPANY IS NEXT

New Organization Will Be Attached to Multnomah Guard.

NURSES TO BE TRAINED

Schools Will Be Established Where Women Will Be Instructed.

TRAFFIC PLAN IS FAVORED

Proposal of Mayor Baker Approved by East Side Business Men.

MR. SCHWAB ARRIVES

Industrial Leader Says More Boats to Be Built Here.

INFORMATION IS GATHERED

Distinguished Government Official and Party Pass Busy Day, Included in Which is Viewing of Great Workers' Parade.

MRS. JAMES FRENCH VISITS

Columbia Highway Declared to Be "Lovelier Than Switzerland."

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steel plant of the G. M. Standifer Construction Corporation. That followed the launching of the hull of the steamer Moosabee at the wooden ship plant of the corporation on the Washington side. Guy M. Standifer, president of the organization; Charles F. Swigert, vice-president, and J. W. Hall, general manager of the steel plant, acted as directors for the party and about the only thing Mr. Schwab did not do was to go down to the bank of the Columbia to test the water. Nothing else escaped him. From the administration building he went into the big plate shop, which covers four acres and has punched the first hole in the initial keel plate for the pioneer ship, part of the material for which is on the ground. Inspection Is Thorough. Then out to the ways he marched. There was found the building berths marked with the markings for laying down ships standing out boldly in black, and Mr. Schwab expressed surprise on being told that when 1918 was a month or a start made on filling the property and erecting the plant. His keen eyes took in the space between the hulls and the ways and the plate shop, where abundant room for temporary storage of steel on its way to the vessels is provided, and he acted for the three-story warehouse. Finding his way back to the plate shop, he mounted three flights of stairs to scrutinize the moulding loft, 30 feet wide by 400 feet long. There he wanted to look over every part of the work laid out on the floor. On gaining the ground again Mr. Standifer apologized for having him tramp through the yard. "Why, say, this is the greatest exercise imaginable. I enjoy every minute of it," came from the head of the Fleet Corporation. When he had gained cover from the warm sun, off came his hat and he mopped his brow a few times. Yard Deemed Good One. "This is a dandy yard; you made no mistake about it; this is a bird," came from Mr. Schwab as he at last stood where he could survey most of the 65 acres inside the fences. "I wish you had it in full operation, for I would like nothing better than to see it working."

"We will get some ships in this year," said Mr. Standifer, and Mr. Schwab smiled. "You people out here have the greatest spirit I have seen. It is wonderful. But go to it. We will the ships and we will see that you will never want for more steel to build as long as you keep working and delivering them."

Then he faced the men, a few hundred of them and really only a skeleton of what will be engaged in another few weeks. He told them of his impressions and said: "I am delighted to see this yard, which should be capable of turning out 20 big 5000-ton ships in a year. You have an organization and with the Emergency Fleet Corporation to help you, as well as other branches of the Government I can see looking into your eyes, we don't need to have any fear of your not helping out in the big ship programme. I'm fond of stories, are you?" and then he called for one of his famous yarns brought forth that about the cowboy and the duchess, and he told of Pat being fired and coming back next day because his wife gave him fits.

Stories Are Told. "I wish I were one of you," he continued, "the most fun I ever had was in the steel works and I had no worry about spending my money or having some one else spend it for me." Then he told a story of a yellow dog that chased the train coming into Bethlehem every day, and the brakeman wondered one day when the "damn dog would go with the train if he caught it."

"That's the way with us, just like the train," he said, "we're going onward and forward majestically and no yellow dog of a Kaiser is going to stop us."

On the way from Vancouver to the city the party went to the St. Johns plant of the Grant Smith-Porter Ship Company to inspect the property and vessels on the slight ways, and from there proceeded to the Peninsula Shipbuilding Company's yard, going over one of the ships on the stocks. As the day shifts had departed no exercises were held at either.

The visiting representatives of the Emergency Fleet Corporation dined at 6:30 o'clock at the Arlington