

LIVERPOOL TUBE WILL SPEED UP BOROUGH TRADE

New \$35,500,000 Tunnel Under Mersey River Makes Engineering History—Older Projects Dwarfed

By CHRIS HOLMES
LIVERPOOL—(AP)—In carrying out the new \$35,500,000 tunnel under the Mersey river, the rulers of Liverpool and Birkenhead have made more than engineering history.
When King George officially opens the traffic-way July 15, the traders of Merseyside will find themselves for the first time independent of the caprice of the elements so inseparable from the crossing of this broad, tidal river these many years.

Four Trifle Lanes.
The tunnel is such a colossal undertaking that it swarms into insignificance the 50-year-old Mersey railway tunnel and makes the transport bridge 10 miles up the river look like a toy.
Running from Old Haymarket, Liverpool, to Chester street, Birkenhead, the main tunnel measures a little more than two miles, is 44 feet in diameter and has a 36-foot roadway capable of handling four lanes of traffic.

But this is not all. There are branches at both ends leading to the docks. These have a diameter of 26½ feet and will accommodate two lanes of traffic. With the branches, the tunnel measures 3.5 miles.

Freight Steamers Hit.
Finished after eight years of work in which more than 1,000,000 tons of rock have been excavated, the tunnel will be open day and night for motor traffic only. It is estimated upwards of 1,000,000 vehicles will pass through it annually.

The passenger ferries are not expected to suffer from the new enterprise, but the freight steamers between Liverpool and Birkenhead will not be able to hold more than five per cent of their present traffic, it is estimated.

Motor trucks will be able to double or treble their trips and the link which the tunnel makes with a new \$15,000,000 East Lancashire road from Yorkshire and Lancashire, will speed up commercial traffic to Wales and the Midlands.

"We Match America."
Sir Thomas White, who succeeded Sir Archibald T. Salvidge, the pioneer of the scheme, as chairman of the committee governing the undertaking, said:

"It has been a sort of hackneyed convention for Britainers to look to the United States for great constructional works, but here we have something which we proudly claim is worth showing to America.

"Indeed, we are hopeful that the tunnel will be the forerunner of great advances for the four great Merseyside boroughs whose ideals of co-ordination now show some promise of materializing to the benefit of 1,250,000 citizens on both banks of the river."

Makes Golfing Easy.
America will have a special interest in the undertaking as the distribution of American goods arriving here will be expedited not merely by hours but by days as the result of dock entrances to the boro.

On the social and recreative sides, also, Americans will draw benefits. Hoylake, the venue of international golf combat, will have its links brought practically to the doorstep of visitors who stay in Liverpool hotels as a result of the tunnel to the links will reduce the journey to half an hour.

To strip the tunnel of fume-laden air, six huge ventilating towers have been built, three on each bank, equipped with electrically-driven fans. They will remove 2,800,000 cubic feet of foul air a minute.

As fire protection, stations have been built at intervals of 150 feet throughout the tunnel. Signs that may be lighted from a central control room will warn motorists in times of emergency.

Captain Stow To Canal Zone Duty

Word has been received at Medford district CCG headquarters from Captain Harold E. Stow, 4th Infantry, that he has been ordered to duty in the Panama Canal Zone. Captain Stow is now at Letterman's General hospital at San Francisco.

Captain and Mrs. Stow plan to return to Medford for a few days before going to Panama, according to the captain's letter.

Presbyterian Humbug Sale, I. O. O. F. Bldg., W. 6th, May 18 and 19.

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