

LOUISIANA LAUNCHED WITH GREAT CEREMONY

Newport News, Va., Aug. 27.—In the presence of 20,000 persons the battleship Louisiana was launched today by the Newport News Shipbuilding Company. In addition to the official party from New Orleans there were present delegations of naval officers from Washington, Philadelphia and New York, and visitors from numerous other points.

The naming party was escorted to the platform by C. B. Orcutt, president of the shipbuilding company. The sponsor, Miss Juanita Lillard, of New Orleans, was attended by several young ladies as maids of honor. Governor Blanford and other official representatives of the state of Louisiana were present.

As soon as the ceremonies were over President Orcutt conducted the guests, numbering some 500 persons, to the steamboat Newport News, aboard which the party went to Old Point Comfort, where they were entertained at a banquet in the dining room of the Hotel Chamberlin.

Description of the Battleship Louisiana.

The Louisiana and her sister ship, the Connecticut, which is to be launched at the New York navy yard a few weeks hence, are counted upon to be the most powerful fighting machines of the new American navy. They will usher in one important innovation, inasmuch as their batteries will contain 12-inch guns in the place of 6-inch rapid fireers, which have prevailed since the vessels of the Kearsage-Kentucky type was planned. It is doubtful whether any ship afloat will match the Louisiana in armament. In addition to four 12-inch guns, in fore and aft turrets, she will have eight 8-inch rifles. In the main battery these will be supplemented by twelve 7-inch rifles, each throwing a projectile weighing 165 pounds.

The 12-inch guns carry a shell weighing 850 pounds at a velocity of 2,000 feet a second—a speed one-fourth greater than that attained by the 13-inch guns on the ships of the Indiana class. The 7-inch shells have a bursting charge of thirteen pounds of black powder. The explosive shell may be

replaced by an armor piercing projectile, which attains a velocity of 3,000 feet a second driven by a charge of 101 pounds of smokeless powder.

Hitherto the secondary batteries of the battleships have been composed mostly of 3-pounder and 6-pounder rapid fire guns. On the Louisiana these will be superseded by twenty 3-inch rapid fire rifles, throwing a 14-pound explosive shell. There also will be twelve 3-pounder semi-automatic guns, eight 1-pounder automatic guns and two 3-inch field guns and eight machine guns for the fighting tops.

The armor for the Louisiana will cost about \$1,500,000. While the greatest of her steel protection will be concentrated at the water line amidships, she also will be protected the full length of her hull, and above the main belt of armor plate there will be three thinner belts of plates—the lower casemate, the upper casemate and the superstructure armor.

Electricity will be employed to as large an extent on board the Louisiana as on any ship in the navy. There will be electric ammunition hoists and conveyors, and it is more than probable that electrical devices for both aiming and discharging the guns will be installed. There also will be an automatically controlled motor for the purpose of keeping the big guns on a horizontal line while firing in a heavy sea.

The Louisiana has a length of 450 feet on the load water line, an extreme breadth of 76 feet 10 inches and a total displacement of 16,000 tons. She will be fitted with twin screw vertical expansion engines of an indicated horse power of 16,500 and capable of developing a speed of 18 knots or better.

The mean draught of the vessel will be 24 feet 6 inches and the coal supply 900 tons. Twenty-six feet nine inches is the maximum draught, and if a shot should pierce the hull beneath the water line, a layer of corn pith, placed between the outer and inner shell, will swell and effectually stop the leak. The ship's complement will include 42 officers and 761 men.

The total cost of the Louisiana will

be in the neighborhood of \$4,000,000. The progress of her construction is being watched intently by naval officers, constructors and shipbuilders generally owing to the competition between the private company that is building her and the New York navy yard which is constructing the Connecticut. The construction of these two battleships, which are practically identical and the keels of which were laid at the same time, is intended to show whether the government can successfully compete with the private shipbuilders in constructing our warships. The Newport News Company has won the race so far in regards to time and naval experts seem to be of the opinion that the private concern will also succeed in turning out the battleship at a lower cost than the government navy yard.

New Oregon Magazine.

O. L. Williams has resigned his position as city editor of the Coast Mail, and, in company with his mother, sailed on the Breakwater, en route for their old home in Texas.

Mr. Williams intends to return to Coos Bay about October 1st, and begin the publication of a monthly magazine, entitled "United West." The office fixtures and other paraphernalia of the new publication will be purchased by Mr. Williams in San Francisco on his return journey.

The new magazine is being promoted and backed by several prominent Marshfield business men, and the first issue will appear about November 1st.—North Bend Post.

Murderous Dog Catcher.

San Francisco, Aug. 26.—Gustav Sherf, a deputy pound keeper, shot and killed Rudolph Shultz in front of the latter's home yesterday. Sherf was endeavoring to capture Shultz's dog, and the owner drove the animal into the yard, whereupon the dog-catcher drew a revolver and fired the fatal shot. He escaped, but was later captured and booked at the city prison on a charge of murder.

Ringling Brothers' great canvas pavilions cover more than 15 acres of ground and constitute a veritable city of tents. The mammoth stage for the spectacular production of "Jerusalem and the Crusades," which is embodied in the hippodrome amphitheater, is the largest ever constructed and is absolutely impervious to rain.

Liberal Arts Day at Fair.

St. Louis, Aug. 27.—This was "Liberal Arts Day" at the fair, and the exhibitors in the Palace of Liberal Arts took advantage of their innings to make an impression that will not soon be forgotten by the tens of thousands who visited the big exhibition buildings during the day and came away loaded down with souvenirs of every description.

In addition to being a fete day at the Palace of Liberal Arts, the day was made an occasion for numerous extra attractions about the grounds. In and about the big building there was music of every kind, including recitals upon pianos, organs, band and orchestra instruments, and programs performed by mechanical instruments of all kinds, including the larger orchestra that was ever built, which is one of the features in the German section.

California Prohibitionists.

San Jose, Cal., Aug. 26.—Nearly every county in the state is represented at the Prohibition state convention begun in San Jose today. The accredited delegates number nearly three hundred and in addition there are many other visitors. The convention met for organization in the Unitarian church this morning. Tomorrow presidential electors will be named and the candidates nominated for congress.

Footlights for Fitz.

New York, Aug. 27.—Bob Fitzsimmons has forsaken the roped arena for the stage. Tonight, at the Metropolitan theater, the former heavyweight champion will make his debut in an intense melodrama, called "A Fight for Love." Fitz will be the hero of the play, and his actress wife, formerly Julia Gifford, will be the heroine.

This will not be the first appearance of Fitz behind the footlights, but it will mark his debut as a real live actor of the melodramatis school. His neighbors at Bensonhurst say that he has been rehearsing faithfully during the hot summer and they predict a glorious success for him as a thespian. Upper Broadway is much interested in the debut, and the many friends of the pugilist are expected to fill the theater tonight.

CASTORIA.

Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

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Wilderness Wars	75c
Secrets of the Woods	75c
Wood Folk at School	75c
Beasts of the Field	\$1.75
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School of the Woods	Net \$1.50
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A Little Brother to the Bear	Net \$1.50

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