

BLUE RIBAND FIRST TRY!

After clipping ten hours off the "Queen Mary's" Atlantic crossing record, the "United States," fastest liner in the world, proudly approaches Le Havre to make her first docking in Europe, and the French turn out to give a royal welcome to the new "Queen" of the Atlantic.

As she nears the quay, men of the British carrier "Indomitable" add their welcome. The American flyer lost quite a bit of paint racing through the waves at over forty miles-an-hour. She's a real American job, practically all metal. Since the "Queen Mary" set her record fourteen years ago, big advances have been made and builder William Gibb (seen here with Commodore Manning) had a free hand in the new ship's design, with results that make Commodore Harry Manning the happiest skipper afloat. Now the "United States" leaves Le Havre, bound for Southampton. As she drove through a blinding gale to win the Blue Riband, British radar guided her. The official run is from Ambrose Light, New York, to the lonesome Bishop's Rock light off Land's End - 2,942 miles - which she covered in 3 days 10 hours 40 minutes, averaging just over 35 knots.

England in sight, the "United States" makes her number - otherwise they might not know who she was!

Though only thirty feet shorter, she's 28,000 tons smaller than the "Queen Mary" Now she's approaching the home port of the two great Atlantic "Queens" where she will get a truly British welcome. The "Queen Elizabeth" speeded up her turn round by twenty-four hours for the occasion. The two captains are old friends.

The traditional brooms will go up if she beats the record both ways. We don't know what the "Queen Elizabeth" can do; she's never had a crack at the record. But there's no question of a battle of the Atlantic! Reports say that with the record won, the "United States" will settle down to the 30-knot service of the "Queens."

From the great Ocean Terminal at Southampton (the Atlantic gateway to Britain) here's hearty congratulations to a sprightly youngster who has started life with a big splash!