

2-PZF 201

5/21

02F 201

2-12F 201

SEA NEWS:

Britain's new submarine Explorer awaits its launching at Barrow-in-Furness. It is the first of the Navy's subs to be powered by Hydrogen peroxide fuel. The slipway is made ready and Lady Reid Young, wife of the chairman of Vickers-Armstrong, sends the top-secret craft on its way.

Explorer's new method of propulsion was developed from a German invention which helped to power their flying bombs. Although it carries no Snort apparatus, the new sub can cross the Atlantic under water.

"OPERATION EMPRESS".

At Liverpool's Gladstone Dock, "Operation Empress" begins. For fourteen months plans have been prepared to pull the 20,000 ton Empress of Canada upright again from the place where she lay after being gutted by fire. Cables run from winches on the quayside to the wrecked liner which is surrounded by buoyancy chambers. Sixteen winches, bedded in nearly four thousand tons of concrete, are started up. A pulling weight of 330,000 foot-tons has to be overcome, but slowly, the Empress begins to move as the nine-inch hawsers take the strain.

Muddy water bubbles up as compressed air, pumped into the hull is released. The Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, who are directing the salvage, stand to recover only about £50,000 for the liner when she goes to the scrapyard, although "Operation Empress" is costing more than seven times that figure.

Hoppers from Merseyside provide the steam for the winches. Although the Empress has slid along the bottom for about twelve feet, she has a list of only about ten degrees after less than an hour's work.

Blackened with mud from the dock-bed, the once-proud giant is pulled almost upright. Her buoyancy tanks are out adrift - the operation has ended. Captain Dobson (nearest camera) her old skipper, looks down on the hulk of the Empress, upright again after this great feat of salvage.

UNDER WATER WEDDING.

At the San Marcos Aquarena, Bob Smith and Mary Sanger, two underwater swimming champions, take the plunge - in both senses. From a water-tight chamber, a minister prepares to marry the couple. Bob and Mary met underwater during a display so, publicity being what it is, they decided on this watery way to wedded bliss. "I do" says Bob with a gurgle and, witnessed by fishes, his diving belle follows suit. You've had it now Bob - you're caught - hook, line and sinker.