



## Zenith bulletin. March 19, 1943

Duluth, MN: Zenith Dredge Co., March 19, 1943

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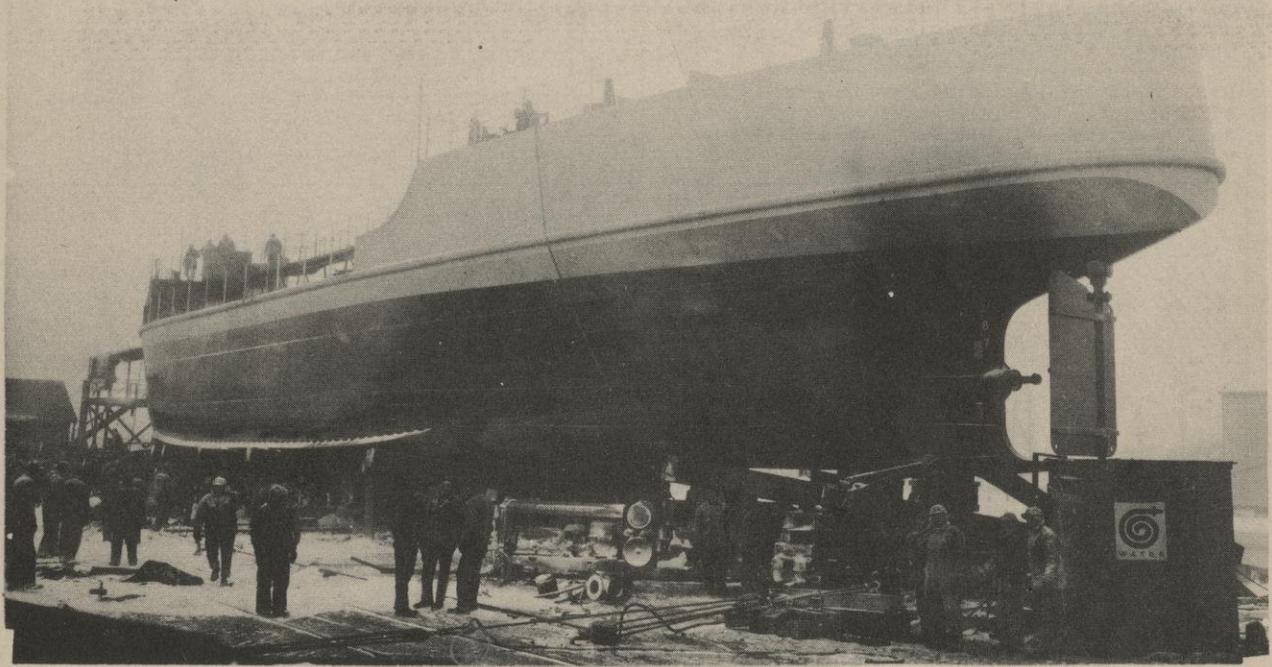
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# ZENITH BULLETIN

March 19, 1943



## FIRST TANKER IS LAUNCHED

Undaunted by the worst March blizzard in many years, Zenith Dredge Company launched its first Navy Tanker (YW-85) at noon last Sunday.



# -THANKS~ TO ALL WHO PARTICIPATED IN SUNDAY'S LAUNCHING-

## TO ALL EMPLOYEES:

Your management wants to thank every employee who participated in the launching of the first Navy Tanker (YW-85) last Sunday. It is doubtful if any side-launching ever took place under more adverse weather conditions; and yet the tanker was launched in the same, smooth, efficient manner that has always been associated with Zenith launchings.

Present at the launching were the commanding officers of 4 of our tankers waiting for us to finish them so that they can sail them wherever Fate decrees.

All of these officers are tough, hard-bitten fighting men who have spent the greater part of their lives in the fighting Navy. Many other officers were present from the Coast Guard and at least one officer with a distinguished service record in the Pacific warfare.

To all of these officers it meant something to see the men of Zenith launch their ships in the face of the Winter's worst gale and blizzard. You men showed the Navy and our country at large that you knew your job, and that you had the "guts" to go through with it no matter how tough was the going.

The spirit you displayed with this launching, if carried through in the construction and delivery of these vessels will show that we are going to do our share of fighting and winning this war and will insure the future of shipbuilding here at the Head of the Lakes. THANK YOU, boys, we are proud of you.

- Stephen G. Rockwell -



HOSPITAL INSURANCE  
FAMILY GROUP HOSPITALIZATION  
GROUP SICKNESS and ACCIDENT INSURANCE

For Employees of  
ZENITH DREDGE COMPANY  
DULUTH, MINNESOTA

RULES: All employees may have Hospital, Sickness and Accident Insurance regardless of age or physical condition, provided he makes application for a policy within the period of his eligibility.

Any employee is eligible after being actively employed by the Zenith Dredge Company for thirty days. He should make application for a policy, selected from the various forms available, within thirty days after becoming eligible. If he does not make application within the time designated he may have to furnish evidence of his insurability, and the issuance of a policy is optional with the Insurance Company. For instance: His age or physical condition might restrict his benefits, or prevent him from being an acceptable risk. Or, in the case of Family Group Hospitalization, some member of his family might not be in good health, and this might mean restricted coverage, or a waiting period for maternity benefits.

This is extremely liberal insurance at low rates, and you should make application within the time stated to get the most benefit for both yourself and your family.

KINDS OF POLICIES: Every effort has been made to provide Zenith Employees with a wide selection of policy forms, so that protection may be provided within the reach of all employees. Briefly, these forms are as follows:-

FORM "GA": This is the usual "Group" type of policy covering Sickness and Accidents happening away from your work. Benefits for both illness and accident start the FOURTH DAY, and may extend to a limit of THIRTEEN WEEKS for any one period of disability. A principal sum of \$1000 for accidental death and dismemberment is provided. (Off-Job coverage). This policy terminates with your employment unless you transfer to another Mutual Benefit Group, elsewhere.

FORM LGBS: These are individual Health & Accident policies, and may be retained if an employee changes jobs. They are available in three sizes, paying \$50, \$75, or \$100 per month, with principal sums of \$1500, \$2250, and \$3000. Disability benefits begin the FIRST DAY for both illness and accident, and may continue for up to FIVE YEARS for any one accident, and up to ONE YEAR for any one sickness. Benefits payable while in the Hospital are 50% additional.

This form of policy is available to employees on either a NON-OCCUPATIONAL or an OCCUPATIONAL basis. The Non-occupational form does not pay benefits if the employee is injured while at work, where he is covered by Workman's Compensation insurance. The Occupational form pays FULL BENEFITS for all injuries both ON and OFF the job, and is paid in addition to compensation benefits.

LGBS policies may also carry a rider, providing larger benefits for hospitalization for the employee, and may include hospital benefits for his Wife and Children from three months to eighteen years old.

LIFE INSURANCE: All forms of individual life insurance policies, including Family Group Life Insurance may be applied for through this employee payroll plan arrangement. These policies may be continued at the same rate, on termination of your employment.

(Save this page for future reference)

HOSPITAL INSURANCE:

Two plans of Family Group Hospital Insurance are available to Zenith Dredge Company employees:-

FORM "TC" This policy provides benefits of up to \$3.50 per DAY for Hospital Room and Board, up to 31 days for any one period of hospitalization. It also allows up to \$25.00 for miscellaneous hospital expense, such as Operating Room, Anaesthetic, X-Ray, Medicines, etc, for each entry. FULL BENEFITS are paid for each member of the Employee's family including Wife and all children from 3 months to 18 years old. The monthly premium for this policy is \$1.50 for the entire family. On changing your job, this policy can be retained by paying premiums of \$6.00 quarterly, direct to the Mutual Benefit Health & Accident Association.

All of our Hospital policies can be used in any licensed hospital in United States, Canada, Alaska or Hawaii. Payment of benefits will be made direct to the insured employee, unless assigned to a hospital by him.

SPECIAL "LGBS" FAMILY HOSPITAL RIDER: This is a special rider which may be attached to and made a part of any LGBS form of policy, but no others. It provides benefits up to \$5.00 per DAY for Hospital Room & Board for the Insured employee, his Wife and Children from 3 months to 18 years old. Also included for miscellaneous hospital expense, is an unallocated sum up to \$35.00 for any one hospital entry. The limit for one sickness or accident is 30 days, but may be used as many times each year as necessary.

The premium for this liberal coverage of \$5.00 per day, varies with the size of the family, from 50¢ per month for single employees, to \$1.50 per month for the entire family. This rider may be continued as part of his LGBS policy if an employee changes his job.

INDIVIDUAL HOSPITAL POLICIES FOR OTHER DEPENDENTS: In cases where an employee wishes hospital protection for Mother, Father, Sister or others, Mutual Benefit will consider applications for any one of a number of popular hospital policies at standard rates.

HOW TO APPLY FOR POLICIES UNDER THIS PLAN:

Ask for a circular fully describing all of the policies available at the Employment Office, or the Clock Gate. Look them over carefully, and discuss with your family which forms are most suitable to you. When you have decided what ones you are interested in, leave your name and number at the Clock Gate, and a representative of Mutual Benefit will contact you personally as promptly as possible. Gas, tires and TIME are scarce things these days, and we ask your co-operation in eliminating unnecessary trips, as far as possible.

If there is any additional information you wish, please do not hesitate to request it. We are anxious and willing to co-operate with Zenith Dredge Company employees and their families in every way we can.

MUTUAL BENEFIT HEALTH & ACCIDENT ASSOCIATION  
UNITED BENEFIT LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY

Gibson Wright, District Manager,  
Phone Melrose 3849

302 Lonsdale Building  
Duluth, Minn

(After hour calls, - Melrose 833, Room 345)

THE OLD GRAY MARE  
WON'T BE WHAT SHE  
USED TO BE!



## What Are The Facts?

Too many persons these days seem to have the wrong idea about a plant which is engaged in war production work...

The belief is all too common that a defense plant has UNLIMITED money and hasn't a care in the world - because the government is standing behind it ready to pay all its bills and make good all its losses.

Do you mind if we stop here and get things straight?

In the first place, Zenith Dredge is operated and financed JUST LIKE ANY RETAIL BUSINESS in Duluth.

It has a product to sell (ships) and is just as interested in operating its affairs efficiently as your neighborhood grocery...

Zenith Dredge was financed ENTIRELY by private capital - - it did NOT obtain a single loan from any governmental agency - nor did the government purchase any tools for it to begin operations - nor did the government construct any buildings in which it could conduct its operations.

### HOW ABOUT THAT NEW CONTRACT FOR 10 COAST GUARD CUTTERS?

There seems to be some opinion that Zenith's new contract for 10 cutters is on a "cost-plus" basis - which means that the government pays the entire cost of its construction, plus a profit to the company.

Neither Zenith Dredge or Marine Iron has any such contract!! Zenith will receive \$704,500 for each ship delivered. If costs are greater than \$704,500, Zenith will stand the loss and NOT the Treasury of the U. S.

In the same way it receives \$ 471,000 for each Navy Tanker delivered .... not a penny more, nor a penny less!

### WE HAVE COMPETITION, TOO

Believe it or not, Zenith Dredge has competition in securing contracts to build ships, just like a wholesale house must compete for the business of its customers.

This figure of \$704,500 per cutter is not a GUESS on the part of the government. It is determined by competitive bids from other shipbuilders all over the country.

A shipbuilder down South receives the SAME AMOUNT for building these ships that we do. Yet the southern shipbuilder has some decided advantages in meeting this price of \$704,500, compared to a shipyard like ours.

In Duluth bad weather cuts production and increases costs. This cost must be absorbed by the shipyard - not by the government!

Then, too, Duluth yards do not have the same amount of skilled labor to draw from, nor the years of experience in this type of work that many other yards have. All this adds up to GREATER COST in the construction of each vessel for yards like ours.

### WHAT'S THE ANSWER?

We all know that the security of any company depends entirely upon its ability to operate efficiently.

This efficiency is dependent upon ALL OF US! If we can help cut waste and step up production, the company we work for will continue to give us employment and assist us in finding security for ourselves....

# LAUNCHING PARTY

Shown below are the members of the launching party for Zenith's first tanker, YW-85, which was launched last Sunday.

Left to right: A. S. McDonald, chairman of the Board of Zenith Dredge Company; Donald C. MacDonald, president; Commander G. A. Bergman, U.S.N.R.; Mrs. A. S. McDonald, the sponsor of YW-85; E. D. Twiehaus, Bos'n, USN; and Stephen G. Rockwell, general manager of Zenith Dredge.



## Start Digging, Chum



The weather has temporarily postponed the Red Cross drive in our yard - but is expected to get underway either late this week or the first part of next week.

REMEMBER - every worker is expected to donate at least 4 hour's pay for this worthy cause.

If you wish these deductions may be made from your paycheck. To make it easier for you men these deductions are being held up until May, when your paychecks will be larger.



← **Here's the Only**  
**man who can**  
**afford to lose**  
**his head!**

DATING as far back as 2100 B.C., the christening and launching ceremony originated as an offering to the gods of the elements. At first wine was used, but the Greeks and Romans introduced water as a token of purification. Chinese launching rites are elaborate and have not been changed for centuries. In 18th Century France there was small difference between church baptismal ceremonies and those of sending a ship down the ways on her maiden voyage. Today this religious significance has faded. Only the name is bestowed as the lady sponsor cracks a champagne bottle over the prow. Tradition has it that the *Constitution* balked on the first two attempts to launch her using a water-filled container. But "Old Ironsides" responded nobly when choice old Madeira doused her stout timbers.



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