

500 at Launching of \$912,000 Ferry Boat

Charlotte Murray of Flushing smacked a champagne bottle on the nose of a \$912,000 streamlined ferry boat yesterday and immortalized in city records a Revolutionary heroine.

The new municipal ship, second of three, is the Mary Murray. In 1776, history has it, Mary Murray beguiled British brass hats with wine and cakes—and covered the retreat of Gen. George Washington from the Battle of Long Island.

Mary Murray was Charlotte Murray's great-great grandmother.

Mayor LaGuardia looked on at the ceremony in the yards of United Dry Docks, Inc. at Mariner's Harbor, Staten Island. The ship, with its streamlined mates, will go into the Staten Island-Battery service.

With the Mayor were Frederick J. H. Kracke, Commissioner of Plant and Structures, and 500 others.

The Mary Murray's hull is 227 feet over all, with a 49-foot beam. She will draw 13 feet. The S. S. Gold Star Mother, first of the trio, will go into service early this Fall, Kracke said. Work on the third ship will start next month.

After the ceremony LaGuardia and his party left for a celebration dinner in the Murray Hill Hotel, Manhattan.

Are you overmothering your husband? Doris Blake in her new leaflet, "How to Be Happy Though Married," says wives should avoid too much pampering! For further details get a free copy of her leaflet by sending a self-addressed, stamped envelope to The News Information Bureau, 220 E. 42d St., N. Y. C.

BRUNNER SEES SLASH IN CITY WATER RATES

City water rates may be slashed within a month, Aldermanic President William F. Brunner predicted in a talk before the Astoria, Queens, Property Owners Association.

The prediction came after a number of Queens civic groups adopted resolutions condemning the existing high rates, some even threatening legal action to force a reduction.

"The emergency which brought about the increased rate is over," Brunner said, "and there is no need to continue the levy. The city has restored the pay cuts of its employees and also has reduced the penalty on delinquent taxes from 10 per cent. to 7 per cent."

"I don't think there will be more than a month before some action is taken on the water rate matter."

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