

BATTLESHIP ARIZONA GETS SET OF SILVER

Mayor of Mexican Border Town,
Many Times Under Fire, Tells
Story of the Launching.

NOT A PROHIBITION AFFAIR

Champagne Bottle Broke, but Mate,
with Spill from Roosevelt Dam,
Withstood the Shock.

A silver service of sixty pieces, the gift of the people of the State of Arizona, was presented to the battleship Arizona yesterday afternoon at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. The presentation was made by Captain L. W. Mix, who has been Mayor of Nogales for three terms, and who represented Governor Thomas E. Campbell of Arizona.

Several hundred persons, representatives of the State of Arizona, friends of the officers, officers of the various ships in the yard, and of the Brazilian cruiser Sao Paulo were present on the after deck of the Arizona to witness the presentation.

As six bells struck, the officers and crew were brought to the after deck, where, under a canopy that covered the three fourteen-inch guns, the silver service was displayed, with a naval guard of honor around it.

Captain John H. Dayton, who is in command of the Arizona, introduced Captain Mix as a "resident of Nogales, which is on the border line of Mexico, and who, as resident of that place, had been under fire more times than many of us veterans of the great war."

After giving a brief description of the endeavors of the people of Arizona to have one of the three new battleships in the course of construction in 1914 named after their State, Captain Mix went on to tell a new story in connection with the launching of the ship.

"When the time arrived for the launching, Governor Hunt then being in the chair, made me the Chairman of the committee to go to New York to be present at the christening ceremonies. One of the party carried a bottle of water, the first over the spillway of the Roosevelt Dam, and he wanted to have this broken over the bow of the Arizona at the launching. We were received by Secretary Daniels at the Navy Department, and by President Wilson at the White House.

"The morning of our arrival, the newspapers had large headlines saying that the battleship Arizona was to be christened with water, and that 375 bluejackets had refused to ship on her, if it was done. During our reception, Secretary Daniels asked Governor Hunt if he saw the article about the bluejackets refusing to ship on the Arizona, to which the Governor replied: 'Yes.' Then Secretary Daniels said: 'Well, Governor, notwithstanding that, we leave the question entirely to you whether it is to be water or otherwise.' The Governor turned to me and said the matter was entirely up to the committee, of which I was Chairman. I accepted the 'passing of the buck,' and replied: 'Well, Governor, our committee settled that question before our party left Arizona, and our decision is that the ship will be christened in the good old way—with champagne.'"

The water member of the party, Captain Mix said, felt crestfallen about this decision, but Captain Mix said, "I relieved his feelings by telling him that he

could hang the bottle of Roosevelt Dam water—or any other dam water—on the same cord with the champagne."

According to Captain Mix the bottle was "prepared" at a jeweler's, and when the time for the launching arrived, and Miss Ross swung the cord with the two bottles, the bottle containing the champagne broke. Some one in the crowd said, "Oh the bottle of water did not break," and some one else in the crowd said, "Of course not, it was not intended to."

"When the bow of the ship arrived at the end of the ways," Captain Mix said in conclusion, "a tall bluejacket drew up the bottle of water and dropped it into the river and the good ship Arizona went on her way with honor."

"I am for a great navy," said United States Senator Henry F. Ashurst of Arizona in his address. "One of the first votes I cast was for a great navy. When I look about and see all these submarines, battleships and destroyers I feel glad, for it has been sea power that has won wars. We must not have a navy that is 'just large enough,' but one capable of protecting our entire coast. We had hoped to have a league that would have prevented war, but I am for both, a league to prevent war, and a large navy."

Captain Dayton accepted the gift in the name of Secretary Daniels, and for the officers and members of the crew. To Captain Mix he said: "Accept our thanks to you, and through you to the people of Arizona."

Among those present were Rear Admiral C. B. Brittain, Lieut. Commander P. M. Bates of Annapolis, aid to Captain Mix; Lieut. Gen. Bullard, Rear Admiral Plunkett, Captain John H. Dayton, Admiral McDonald, commander of the navy yard; Admiral Henry B. Wilson, commander of the Atlantic Fleet, and Mrs. L. Bradford Prince, who presented the silver service to the battleship New Mexico from the people of that State.