

Dedication of the Ellen B. Scripps (ship)

September 24, 1965

Dedication of the Ellen B. Scripps on Friday, October 1, as the newest in the fleet of research vessels serving the University of California, San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography will bring to three the number of the Institution's ships that have borne the name of Scripps. The dedication is set for 11:00 a.m. at B Street Pier at the foot of Broadway. The public is invited.

The first vessel named Scripps was a 64-foot purse seiner, Thaddeus, a motor vessel purchased in 1926. Her name was changed to Scripps and she served the Institution for ten years, until an on-board explosion in San Diego Bay in November, 1936, wrecked the vessel and ended her usefulness.

The second was a wooden auxiliary-motor vessel of the Gloucester schooner type, privately built in 1924 for ocean racing and extended cruising. Her original name was Aurora; it was later changed to Serena. The late Robert P. Scripps purchased her from motion picture actor Lewis Stone in 1927, and ten years later gave her to the Scripps Institution to replace the ill-fated Scripps. She was converted for scientific purposes and renamed the E. W. Scripps in honor of Edward Wyllis Scripps, father of Robert, half-brother of Ellen Browning Scripps, and one of the founders of Scripps Institution. The 93-foot vessel, transferred to The Regents of the University of California in late 1937, was used for the first of the longer Scripps' expeditions. She was sold after 20 years' service with Scripps and subsequently remodeled for use in the film, "Around the World in 80 Days."

The Ellen B. Scripps is the first all-new research vessel to serve the Institution. All others have been conversions of other types of vessels. She will be used for various types of short- and long-range oceanographic research expeditions.