

Sunday June 17, 1923
Waska Graham



TWO HOURS
ON
SAN DIEGO BAY

BY JACK MAY



Sunday June 17, 1923

Full page illustrations in this booklet
courtesy of
CALIFORNIA CLUB, San Diego

Foreword

Through the pages of this booklet I have tried to set forth principal points of interest in both word and picture, that it may bring back the enjoyment and pleasant memories of the Harbor of the Sun.

JACK MAY





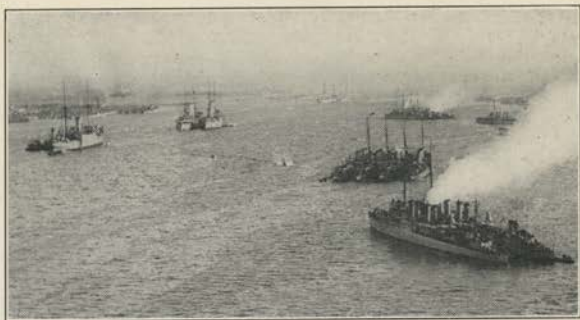
SEÑOR JUAN RODRIGUEZ CABRILLO

Three hundred and eighty-one years ago, in 1542, a vessel sailed from Spain, manned by a band of Spanish soldiers under the leadership of Senor Juan Cabrillo, who was a Portuguese in the service of Spain as a navigator and explorer, and, acting under vice regal instructions, cruised along the Pacific Coast. On September 28, 1542, he sailed in past Port Loma and discovered San Diego Bay. This was on St. James day (St. James in Spanish meaning San Diego), it being just fifty years after Columbus discovered America.

Many years ago Senor Juan Cabrillo stood here overlooking San Diego. He marveled at its beauty. Little he knew what the future had in store or what great things Father Time would unfold hundreds of years hence. The city is old, very old, yet its life has just begun. San Diego is the oldest town in California—the birthplace of California.



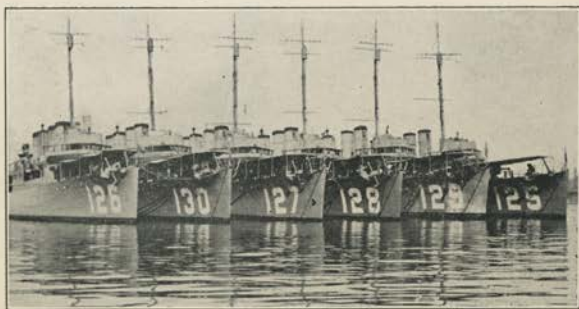
San Diego Bay has an area of 22 square miles, Three miles across the widest part, and one quarter of a mile across the narrowest at the entrance of the harbor, It has a depth of from thirty five to seventy nine feet throughout the channels, and is called the Harbor of the Sun.

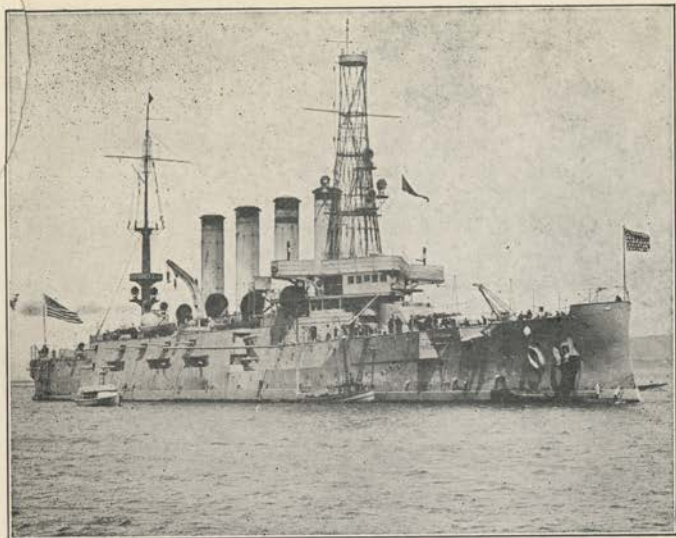


From ninety to 140 Government ships are at anchor in this harbor every day. There are 345 destroyers in the United States Navy, eighty-five of them making this their home port of the Pacific fleet. The six vessels anchored side by side are destroyers, which constitute one complete division. To each division there is one commander, insuring unity in command, ease in visiting from vessel to vessel, and only necessary to keep fuel and power going aboard one vessel to accommodate the rest of the division. It costs one million dollars to build one destroyer. They are 310 feet long 32 feet wide and have four 4-inch guns, two 3-inch anti-aircraft guns and twelve torpedo tubes. It costs \$8000 to fire or shoot one war-type torpedo.

The two vessels passing by are mine-sweepers, used during the World War for gathering up enemy and submerged mines. Their work entails so much danger that they were often called and termed the suicide fleet.

The vessel we are passing is the flagship for the destroyers of the Pacific fleet. The sailor on the bridge waving the flags is talking to another vessel in the harbor. This method of communication is called semaphore wig-wagging, each movement of the flag signifying a letter in the alphabet.





Flagship of the Destroyers



Navy Officers' Speed or Motor Launch

You can see the spirals of the Hotel Del Coronado, the world's largest all-year hostelry and one of America's most famous society resorts. It is thirty-seven years old, has 500 guest rooms. The meaning of the word Del Coronado is of the crown, meaning "Spanish royalty," Del meaning (of the) and Coronado meaning (crown). Coronado is a city of about 4000 residents. To the left of the hotel is Tent City the famous summer resort. The large gray building is the dancing pavilion. The strip of land is the Silver Strand, a long, narrow neck of land extending south some seven miles and connecting on the mainland, land-locking this end of the bay and cheating Coroado out of being an island.

The vessel we are passing is a miscellaneous supply ship, which supplies the destroyers with practically everything except fuel oil.

The other vessel is a floating machine shop and foundry and mechanical repair ship.

The two vessels lying far up the bay are oil tankers which supply the government vessels with their fuel oil. They carry 56,000 barrels of oil each.

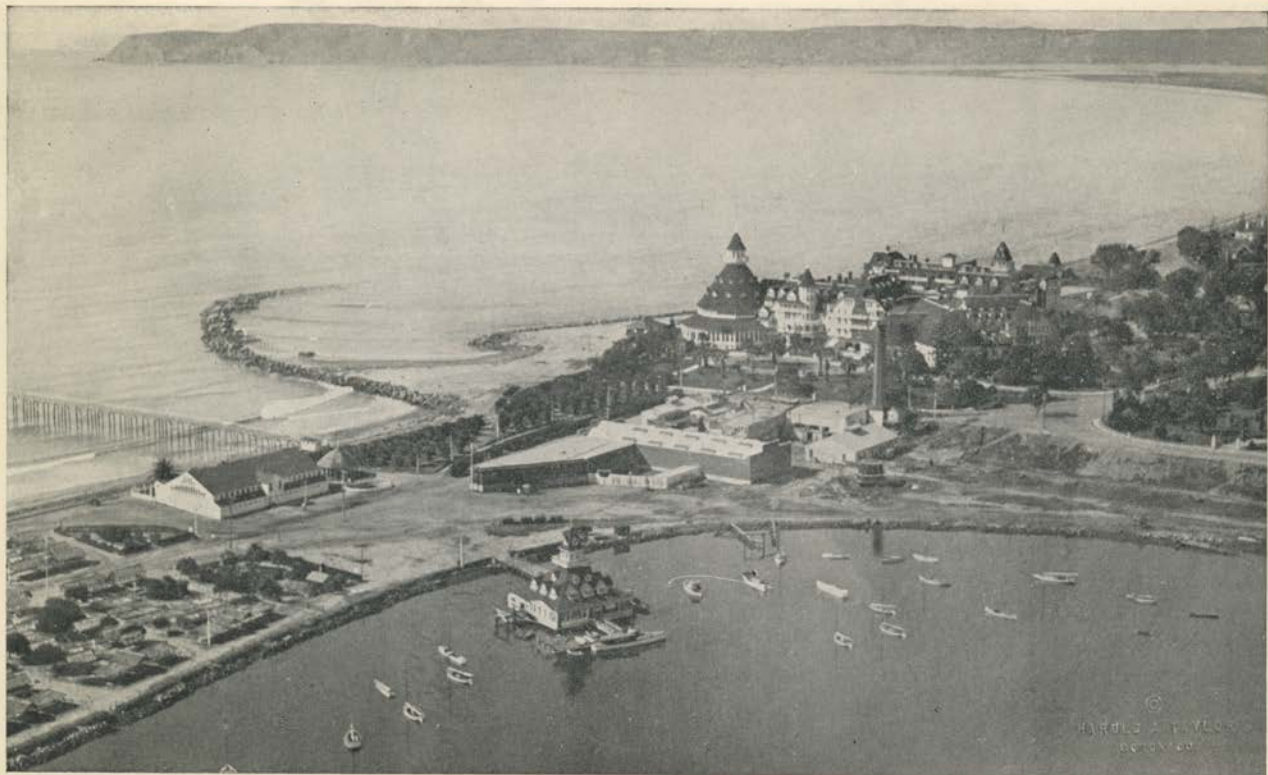
The white vessel we are passing is a private yacht, Venecia, owned by John D. Spreckels and valued at \$500,000. The two gold stars upon her smokestack credit her as being instrumental in sinking two German submarines during the World War, in which she served as a submarine chaser. England honored her with one star and France and the United States with the other. The three countries credit her with sinking the U-39, the German submarine that sank the Lusitania.

The vessels on your left are destroyers, eighty-one being tied up at this base—all shelved, decommissioned, out of the service, coming under the treaty or disarmament plan. We pass so many of them they become quite common. These vessels were used extensively during the World War for conveying our transports across to France. The large vessels are supply vessels out of the service, being decommissioned.

The marine repair base is on shore, where government vessels receive their mechanical aid.

The high wireless you see inland is the Federal Wireless High-power Radio Station at Chollas Heights, costing \$375,000, and has a radius of from 8000 to 12,000 miles, and during the World War daily intercepted messages from the enemy's station at Nauen, Germany.

The little white vessels are fishing boats. They take out forty million pounds of fish each and every year adjacent to the waters of San Diego harbor, of twenty-five different varieties.



Bird's-eye view of Hotel del Coronado



All day long is bathing hour at the beaches bordering San Diego

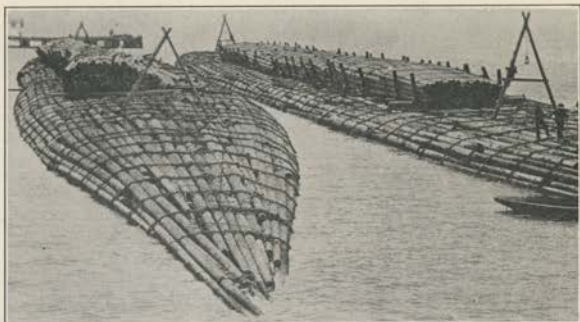


Star and Crescent vessel that makes pleasure trips on San Diego bay every day. Seating capacity, 118 passengers.



JUST A BIT OF BALBOA PARK

This is the third largest park in the United States.



Log rafts have been towed from Columbia River and down through the open ocean, a distance of 1050 miles. Three rafts are towed down each year and sawed up into lumber. Each raft is 800 feet long 60 feet wide and 30 feet deep and consists of 5,000,000 feet of Douglas fir and Oregon pine. The chains binding them together weigh 150 tons.



U. S. GRANT HOTEL AND PLAZA

U. S. Grant Hotel, built by U. S. Grant, Jr., and named in memory of his father, General and President U. S. Grant.



With all our sports we have plenty to do in this busy down town district



Standing as a sentinel in Balboa Park is the tower of the California Building, surrounded by a fairylard of flowers and shrubbery. Here was the setting for the Panama-California Exposition of 1915-16.



Stadium in Balboa Park, Seating capacity 30,000 people.



The largest Out-door Pipe Organ in the world. Located in Balboa Park.
By the organ are given by famous organists, these concerts being free to the public

NAMES OF VESSELS

Super-dreadnaughts are named after states, cruisers named after cities, destroyers named after national heroes, transports named after planets, supply and tender vessels named after animals and landmarks, oil tankers named after rivers, ammunition vessels named after explosives, colliers named after stars or a constellation of stars and mine-sweepers named after birds.

The vessel we are passing is the fire boat or tug of this harbor, named after ex-Congressman Bill Kettner.

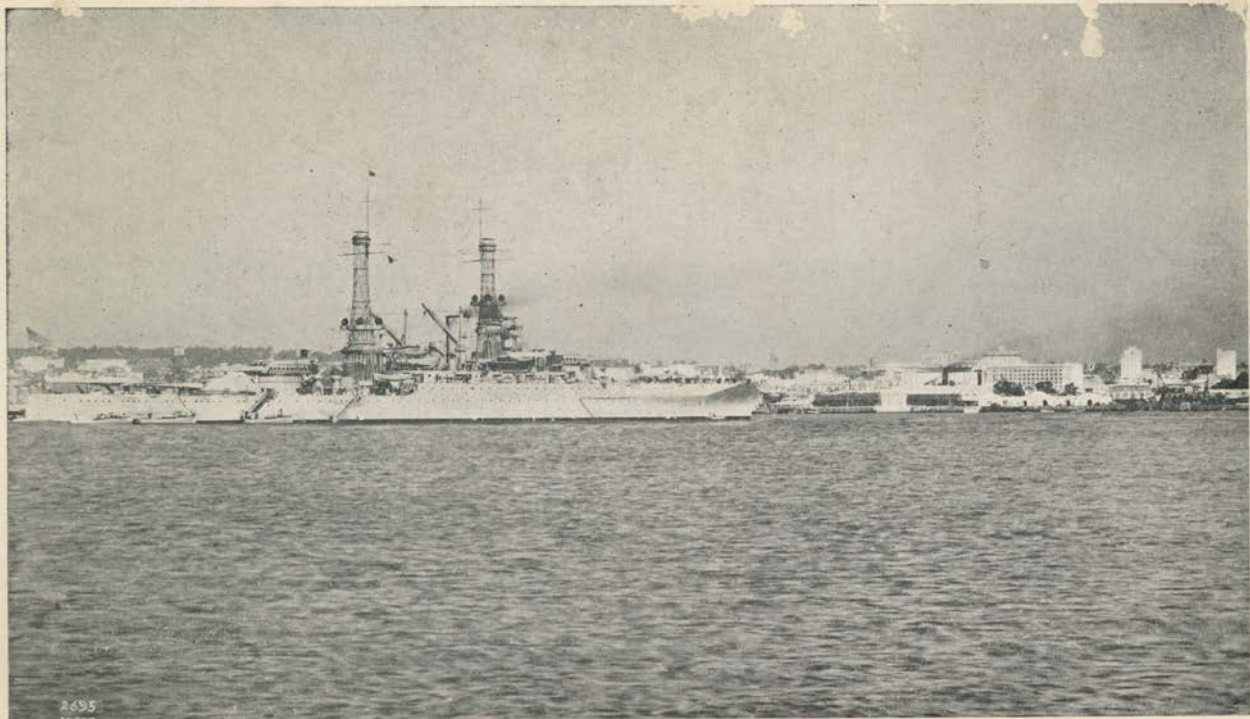
On our extreme right, at the end of the bay, is the United States Marine Corps' second advanced base, costing \$5,000,000 and accommodating 5500 officers and men.

A little farther on, bordering the shore, is the United States Naval Training Station, costing \$6,000,000, and will house 5000 officers and men.

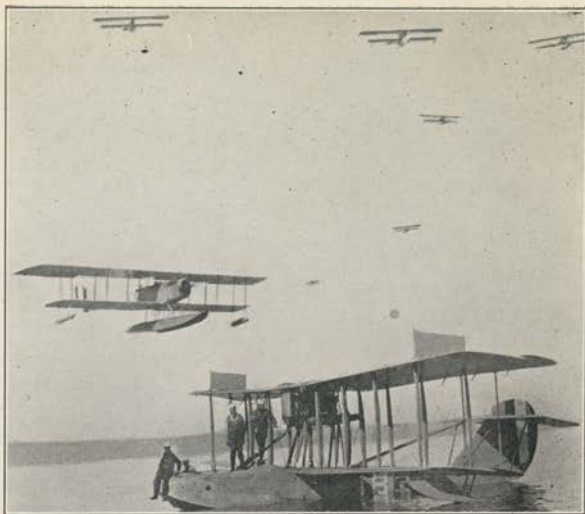
The vessel we are passing is the U. S. Aroostook, an aircraft tender vessel, and mother ship to the seaplanes. During the World War she was used as a mine-layer in foreign waters. The vessel is given credit for laying practically all the mines in the North Sea. The mines she layed were instrumental in sinking nineteen German submarines. Prior to the war she was the old Bunker Hill, a passenger boat, plying between New York and Boston.

No, not whales—just porpoises, leaping from the water. They are neither fish nor animal, but a warm-blooded mammal, being a baby species of the whale. They weigh from 50 to 800 pounds, and measure from three to nine feet in length. They are highly entertaining with their queer antics and races which you see them staging alongside our boat.

The pole you see in the water is a spar buoy, marking the center of the channel in the bay, and leaning out signifies outgoing tide. When leaning in towards shore it signifies an incoming tide. We have two high tides and two low tides in every twenty-four hours, our average tide being five feet. The tide comes in approximately 35 minutes later each and every tide. The moon controls the tide. When we have full moon we have extra high tides. Seattle has a 22-foot tide, and the Bay of Fundy, in Nova Scotia, has the highest average tide in the world, 40 feet.

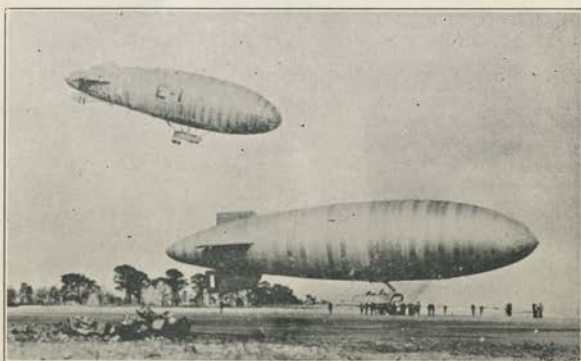


Superdreadnaught New Mexico in San Diego harbor, the home port of half of the warships of the Pacific Fleet



North Island consists of 1400 acres and is given over to army and navy aviation. Seven hundred aircraft are housed here, the buildings representing an investment of \$8,000,000. Visitors are welcome on North Island and are shown about the island by officers and enlisted men. Ferries leave the Star & Crescent wharf, foot of Broadway, at frequent intervals. The round trip fare is 20 cents.

The seaplane you see in the water is the largest we have in the navy and weighs seven tons. It is equipped with two Liberty motors and makes a speed of ninety-seven miles an hour, its operating crew being from two to six men and a carrying capacity of fifteen passengers in all.



Dirigible or Blimp, a lighter-than-air craft, propelled by a motor and carries from 2 to 6 men. This type is used for bombing and observation purposes



Flight over San Diego celebrating peace November 27, 1918. 227 planes, the greatest number in the air at one time in the United States



PALA MISSION, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

In the background of the Marine Corps base we have Old Town, one of the old Missions and Ramona's marriage place. Old Town is one of the most historic spots in California. Here is where General Fremont raised for the first time in California Old Glory, away back in 1846, and where mission bells once sounded the call for Indian and Spanish worshippers. Ramona's marriage place, immortalized by Helen Hunt Jackson's novel. Ramona is also one of Old Town's attractions. A visit to this historic village is well worth any one's time. The lecture regarding the old and early missions of California, together with the many relics and spots of historic fame you will see, prove intensely interesting.



PATIO AT RAMONA'S MARRIAGE PLACE, OLD TOWN



Valleys famed for their prductiveness dot the uplands of San Diego County



View of Barracks, Fort Rosecrans, Cal.

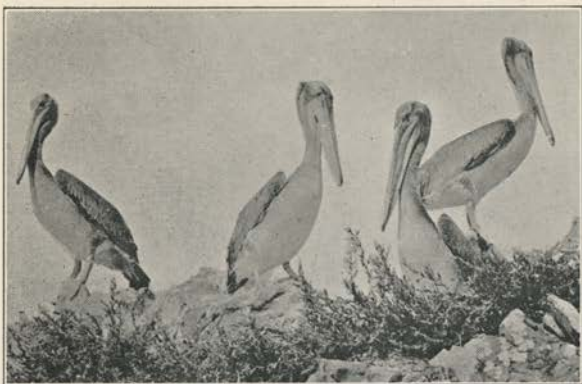
The wireless high on Point Loma marks the beginning of Fort Rosecrans, the military reservation, which extends from here to the extreme end of Point Loma. It is all army coast artillery for the protection of the city and coast. The fort is very old, being established in 1870, by the late General William S. Rosecrans, who was a hero of the Civil War. They have many large disappearing rifles, motor guns and anti-aircraft guns and rapid-fire guns secreted away throughout Fort Rosecrans.

From this point a most picturesque view of San Diego, Coronado and the mountains in the back country may be enjoyed.



Firing 10-inch Rifle. (Note Projectile Leaving Gun)

Copyright, T. A. Wilson



Pelicans on San Diego Bay

*A wonderful bird is the Pelican,
Who holds more food in his bill than his belly can.
He stores in his beak enough for a week,
And I don't see how the hellecan.*

The birds you see along the shore are sea gulls, cormorants and pelicans, and make their home and nest on the Coronado Islands. These birds are not edible, still they are all protected by law.

The little settlement you see on shore is the little town of La Playa, the first trading post on the Pacific Coast, dealing in hides and whaling, also immortalized by Richard Henry Dana in his story of "Two Years Before the Mast." Dana, who was a student from Boston, who, on account of ill health, tried the open ocean, sailing from Boston in 1830 in an old sailing vessel, coming around the Horn, working his way 'round as a common sailor, upon regaining his health, after a two-year sojourn at La Playa, sailed back to Boston and wrote the story, supposed to be the best of its kind ever written of a sailor's life.

High on top of Point Loma is the Bennington Memorial, marking the burial place of sixty sailors who lost their lives on July 21, 1905, due to the explosion of the boilers of the gunboat Bennington.

The buildings along shore are the U. S. Emigration and Quarantine Stations, the tall crane work is the U. S. Naval Coaling and Fuel Stations, the coal being brought from the Pocohontas mines, West Virginia, around through the Panama Canal, a distance of 5920 miles.



Far out on the top of Point Loma is the old Spanish lighthouse, the first and highest on the Pacific Coast, built in the year of 1855 and abandoned in 1891. It proved impractical, as the high fogs hid its warning rays. The new lighthouse, built close to the water's edge on the extreme end of Point Loma, now warns navigators of the points, shores and bluffs, and can be seen sixteen miles at sea. A wonderful sight is to be had of San Diego bay, city, ocean and back country from the summit at the old Spanish lighthouse.



View of New Lighthouse on Extreme Point of Point Loma



LIGHTHOUSE ON THE EXTREME END OF POINT LOMA

We are now passing through the Silver Gate, the narrowest and deepest part of San Diego Bay and the only entrance into San Diego Harbor. It measures one-quarter of a mile across and is seventy-nine feet deep. We are now afloat on the largest body of water on earth—the Pacific Ocean.



SURF BREAKING ON THE END OF POINT LOMA



Cove at Coronado Islands, with glass-bottom boat in foreground
Viewing Submarine Gardens

The islands you see are the Coronado Islands, twenty-five miles out from San Diego, in Mexican waters. Excursions leave the Star and Crescent wharf at the foot of Broadway every Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday at 9 a. m. Visits to the Pirates' Cave and other spots indicate the fact that the islands were once inhabited by Spanish pirates. The round trip excursion fare is \$1.50, no charge being made for the glass-bottom boat trip to see the wonderful Submarine Gardens. Seal herds and thousands of strange and interesting sea birds are additional attractions at the islands. In taking the island excursion, be sure to take your lunch and cameras.



Old Veteran Seals on Coronado Islands



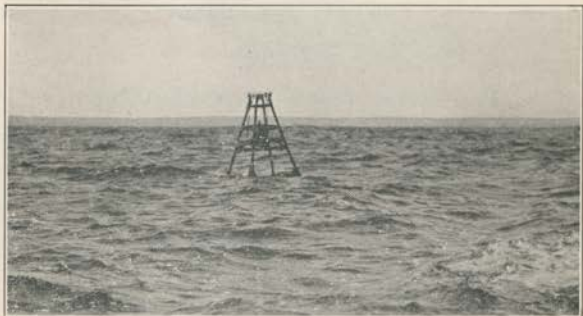
Sea s and Paps on Coronado Islands



Baby Pup Seals



Excursion Boats at Star and Crescent Boat Co., Foot of Broadway



Bell Buoy, $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles out into the Pacific Ocean



Internâtionâle Boundary Monument Dividing the United States and
Old Mexico, at Tijuana, Mexico



Santa Fe Station, San Diego, Cal.



Aquaplaning on San Diego Bay



"Sunshine and Surf" at Sunset Cliffs

Spec. Col.

F

869

.322

M37

19202

Q. What makes the ocean swells and waves so big and strong?

A. Because they have so many mussels in them.



Q. What do the jelly fish live on?

A. Why, the currants in the ocean.



Q. Why is the ocean so restless?

A. Because it has so many fish, crabs, lobsters and rocks on its bottom that it cannot lie still.



Q. When is a ship foolishly in love, elegantly in love and deliciously in love?

A. Foolishly in love when she is chasing a buoy, elegantly in love when tied to a peer, and deliciously in love when resting on the bosom of the ocean.



If you have enjoyed the outing, pass along the good word to friends, who will also experience the many thrills of pleasure and enjoyment while riding on San Diego Bay.

I THANK YOU

