

Late in the autumn of 1988, McKeil Work Boats Ltd., of Winona, Ontario, officially renamed its craneship canaller CONDARRELL, (a) D. C. EVEREST (81), which the firm purchased from Marine Salvage Ltd. during 1987. As promised, the motorvessel has become (c) D. C. EVEREST, perpetuating the name under which the ship was best known. The 1952-built vessel has been given another deck crane to replace the one which Marine Salvage removed, but she has not, as yet, seen any service in McKeil colours, although she is all painted up and ready to go.

Another vessel purchased recently by McKeil Work Boats Ltd. is the former carferry barge OGDENSBURG, which was built in 1930 by AmShip at Lorain for the Prescott-Ogdensburg service of the Canadian Pacific Car & Passenger Transfer Company. Along with the specially designed tug PRESCOTONT, she ran on her original route for many years, and eventually wound up hauling containers across the Detroit River. The 290-foot OGDENSBURG was towed to Hamilton by McKeil tugs late last season, and is wintering there. As yet, there is no indication whether McKeil has any particular trade in mind for OGDENSBURG, or whether she will simply be used for general duties.

Yet another unusual vessel now calls Hamilton home. She is the outboard-powered bunkering barge SILLERY, which was upbound in the Seaway on November 27 in tow of the McKeil tug GLENBROOK. SILLERY has been purchased by Provmar Fuels Inc., and will provide bunkering services in Hamilton harbour, thus allowing HAMILTON ENERGY more time to attend to bunkering trips to vessels anchored off Port Weller, and to Toronto and other Lake Ontario ports. SILLERY was built in 1963 at Port Weller as (a) IMPERIAL VERDUN, and she operated, along with her sistership IMPERIAL LACHINE (II), in the bunkers service at Montreal. In 1979, she was sold to the Power Corporation of Canada Ltd., was renamed (b) SILLERY, and was taken to Quebec for bunkers service there. She later passed to another C.S.L. affiliate, Quebec Tugs Ltd., but this firm was sold on January 1st, 1988, to Groupe Ocean Ltd., and it would appear that the new owners were not interested in running a bunkers tanker. We presume that a more suitable name will be given to SILLERY now that she is on the waters of Lake Ontario.

Algoma Central Marine will proceed with an additional self-unloader conversion after the completion of this winter's work on ALGOMARINE. The second conversion will be ALGOGULF, (a) A. S. GLOSSBRENNER (87). She will operate as a straight-decker in the spring if business conditions warrant (she presently is wintering at the Welland Dock), but the steel for her conversion has already been purchased and the work will begin at Port Weller next October. It is said that a third Algoma conversion may involve ALGOCEN (II) at a later date.

Yet another small motorship has been sold out of the fleet of N. M. Paterson & Sons Ltd., Thunder Bay. LABRADOC (II), which operated earlier in 1988 but latterly was idle at Montreal, was built in 1965 as Hull 656 of the Davie Shipbuilding Ltd. yard at Lauzon, Quebec, 299.0 x 49.0 x 26.5, 3610 Gross and 2239 Net. LABRADOC was, perhaps, best known for the April 1979 incident wherein the vessel was abandoned by her crew on Lake Erie off Ashtabula after her cargo of corn shifted in heavy seas. Fortunately, the storm abated in time for the heavily-listing ship to be saved. LABRADOC, under the name (b) FALCON CREST, cleared Montreal for Sorel under her own power on January 8th, 1989, having been re-registered at Valletta, Malta. The departure of LABRADOC leaves only three of the small, diesel-powered stemwinders in the fleet; ONTADOC remains on the lakes, while SOODOC and KINGDOC presently are flagged-out to an off-shore affiliate.

We have received information on the overseas arrivals of four more old lakers. KINSMAN INDEPENDENT (II) and OAKGLEN were sold to Cukurova Celik Endustrisi A.S., and arrived at Aliaga, Turkey, on September 14, 1988. CONSUMERS POWER and JOHN T. HUTCHINSON made it safely across the Pacific Ocean and arrived at Kaohsiung, Taiwan, on October 2nd.