

LEVIATHAN SAILS TO-MORROW ON LAST VOYAGE

Being Towed To Germany FOR BREAKING

The Mersey waterfront will say farewell to-morrow to the 8,877-ton suction hopper dredger Leviathan—the second largest sand pump dredger in the world, and once its pride and joy.

Seefalke, the big German deep sea tug, will tow the Leviathan out to sea, through the channels which for over 50 years she has fought to keep open to allow passage for the world's great ships.

The giant dredger has been sold by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board and will be towed to the German ship-breaking yard of Walter Ritscher, of Hamburg-Harburg.

50-YEAR RECORD

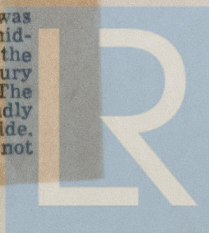
Built in 1909, the Leviathan has for many years played an important role in keeping the Mersey and its approaches clear for shipping. With a dredger capacity of 10,000 tons, she was for nearly half a century the largest sand-pump dredger in the world.

Her life on the river has not been without incident. In 1947 she was holed after a collision with an 11,000-ton tanker, the Franz Klasen, in the Mersey approaches. The salvage vessel Salvor went to her aid, but Leviathan was able to come up-river under her own steam.

RESCUE

The dredger was involved in a rescue in 1949 when an officer and four members of South Liverpool Sea Scouts were picked up after their 36ft. launch developed engine trouble and started to drift near Crosby.

In 1956 the dredger was again in collision in a mid-Mersey fog bank with the Wallasey Ferries luxury cruise vessel Royal Iris. The Royal Iris had her bows badly dented on the starboard side. The Leviathan was not damaged.



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