

A NEW OIL LAUNCH.

Vice-Commodore F. V. Sanderson, of the Royal South Australian Yacht Squadron, is having an oil launch built at Mr. A. McFarlane's yard at Birkenhead. The vessel is Mr. Sanderson's own design, and those who have had an opportunity of inspecting her are unanimous in their praise of her beautiful lines. She is 40 ft. over all, with a beam of 7 ft. 8 in., and will have a draft of 18 in. A cutwater bow and long overhang aft give her a graceful appearance, and this, added to a fine sheer, will make her the most handsome pleasure craft on the river. Her construction has been carried out by Mr. McFarlane with a view to give her great stability, and her size will enable her owner to extend his cruising much beyond the limits of the Port River. The bottom planking was selected from specially imported Western Australian jarrah, her topides consist of American yellow pine, and her timbers of blue gum. Special attention has been given to the planking, which has been so closely adjusted that caulking will not be necessary. A deckhouse, to include the space for the engine, is to be erected amidships, rising to a height of 20 in. above the deck level, and will be elaborately furnished. The oil engine will develop five horsepower. Yachtsmen are assured that Mr. Sanderson will not abandon the "white wings," but during the next yachting season will as hitherto be found in his accustomed place at the tiller of the Matangi. Oil launches, like motor cars, are becoming fashionable with those who can afford the luxury. Mr. A. G. Rymill, another prominent member of the yacht squadron, has purchased the well-known racing yacht Valeria, and is converting her into an oil launch.