

from Brian N. James

## TWO FAREWELLS

Doctor Richard Heald, the Surgeon of the *Pretoria Castle*, left the ship in July. Some fifty members of the crew, including Captain Smythe and several of his Officers subscribed to a fund for a presentation for Dr. Heald. At a short ceremony in the First Class Dining Saloon on Sunday, 7th July, the Captain presented the Doctor with a ship's clock which chimes in ship's bells on the hour and half-hour. The clock is brass, has Roman figures, and a black wooden ship's wheel surround. The Captain said that he thought it would be appropriate for the clock to be fitted with a special alarm device so that Dr. Heald would be awakened by it at his usual "getting up" time, that is, one bell! Dr. Heald said in reply that two bells was nearer the mark! He expressed appreciation of what he called "this wonderful gift" and said he would be extremely sorry to leave the *Pretoria Castle*.

Dr. Heald is making one voyage in the *Windsor Castle* and then takes up an appointment as Junior Surgical Registrar at Guy's Hospital on 1st October, this year. All his shipmates in the *Pretoria Castle* wish him well in his new job.

Another very popular member of the ship's company of the *Pretoria Castle*, Christopher Lloyd, the Assistant Purser, decided to swallow the anchor, and left the ship in July. All his colleagues in the Purser's and Catering Department, and the Captain, Chief Officer, Doctor, Nursing Sister and the First and Second Radio Officers subscribed to a presentation fund for Mr. Lloyd, and, at a Cocktail Party held on the 7th July, Captain Smythe presented him with a pair of binoculars.

In his short speech, Captain Smythe said, "We all of us reach at sometime or other a cross roads in our lives, but in this instance I think it would be more appropriate to say that Mr. Lloyd has reached a 'Chris-cross road'." He also said that he regarded Mr. Lloyd as a man of vision, and hoped that the binoculars would enable him to scan the far horizons of life with equanimity. In his reply Mr. Lloyd thanked all his friends for this fine gift.



*Captain J. P. Smythe making the presentation to Dr. Heald*



*Our picture shows Mr. Lloyd receiving the binoculars from Captain Smythe and in the background (l. to r.) Nursing Sister Lewell (partly obscured), Dr. Heald, Mr. Barnes (Second Purser Catering), Miss Hicks (Children's Hostess), Mr. Poletyllo and Miss Plumpton (Purser's Clerks) and Mr. James (Purser)*

## Retracing their Steps

The *Transvaal Castle*, homeward bound, and the *Perthshire*, heading for Cape Town, had actually passed each other during their May voyages when Captain N. M. Lloyd received a radio message that the *Perthshire's* Chief Engineer had been taken ill and required medical aid. The *Transvaal Castle* slowed down and the *Perthshire* steamed back for about 16 miles. When the vessels met passengers lined the deck rails of the Mailboat as Dr. J. E. Latham went over to the *Perth-*

*shire* by boat. He treated the patient but found it was not necessary to transfer him to the liner.

The vessels proceeded on their respective ways and when the *Perthshire* reached Cape Town Mr. G. Bowie, who was accompanied by his wife, was landed into hospital. He returned to the U.K. in the *Stirling Castle* in June and is at present undergoing treatment at home—we hope he will soon make a complete recovery.