
readers' letters

They love us not; they love us

Sir,

As a member of the seagoing staff, at present released to follow a degree course at Cardiff, I beg the opportunity to remark on the change of name of the company magazine.

In the past I have always been prepared to criticise, particularly students, who are so often ready to condemn anything which is established or traditional.

This time it is not the young and inexperienced who I criticise, but the experienced editor, or is it some other person, as I do not see any editor's note in the announcement of a new name for our magazine?

The B&C Review had established itself as an excellent magazine for those afloat, as well as for those ashore. So why the change?

The reasons put forward for the change I suggest are extremely weak. Your closing lines amuse me . . . "The new CLANSMAN is for the whole group, not any section in particular (was it before?). And when you think about it, it does make a good title doesn't it?"

My only suggestion at this stage is that if it becomes necessary to change the title again, be democratic and please publish your intention and ask for suggestions. I'm certain that we have more imaginative personnel in the group.

J. M. JONES,
Second officer,
The Students Union,
University of Wales, Institute,
Cardiff.

Sir,

At the risk of being designated a tribal reactionary, I must record a protest against the decision to revert to the title of CLANSMAN for the house magazine.

I would ask you to believe that those of us who feel this way (and I think there are many, not only of Union-Castle stock, but throughout the group as a whole) are not motivated by any desire to perpetuate old rivalries and ancient loyalties. On the contrary, we accept that the sum is greater than the parts and have long since ceased to think in terms of Clan and Union-Castle, or for that matter any other aspect of the group's activities, as separate or in any way conflicting entities.

The name CLANSMAN must inevitably be associated in the mind with one particular area and is thus, in this context, an emotive word which can only revive sectional differences that should have been forgotten. The theory advanced in your editorial that the mere omission of the definite article invests the word CLANSMAN with a special quality of unity, although ingenious, can only be regarded as a piece of sophistry which lacks real conviction.

Granted that the Review was not a title of startling originality, it at least had the merit of being non-controversial. Surely it should not be impossible to devise an alternative which combines that virtue with something more stimulating.

K. J. BRETT,
Passenger department,
Rotherwick House.

Sir,

Many thanks for sending me a copy of the new CLANSMAN. I welcome most warmly the new look of the group magazine and congratulate you on the success of this venture.

J. J. SWAN,
Cartside Shipyard,
Greenock.

Sir,

I like the new name for the magazine. It fits nicely, in my opinion.

J. HODGSON,
24 Kennedy Road,
Maybush,
Southampton.

Third time lucky, we trust

Sir,

My name is perhaps relatively uncommon and is occasionally spelt and pronounced in a variety of ways. I should, however, like to draw your attention to pages 20 and 23 of the first edition of CLANSMAN wherein it is spelt in two different ways—both of them incorrect.

It may be of interest that the original spelling was Brakenryggis deriving from the lands of Brakenryggis in the old Barony of Avondale in Renfrew. The present spelling in my branch of the family is as under.

J. M. BRACKENRIDGE,
Staff commander.

Becomes a rustic

Sir,

May I request a little space in CLANSMAN to express my sincere appreciation of both the gift (a splendid clock) from the directors and a generous cheque from my colleagues on the occasion of my retirement from the company's service?

As you will notice from the appended address, I have now become a rustic, but shall be very pleased to welcome here any old friends who may be motoring through the West Country on holiday.

GEORGE LEVER,
Tudor Cottage,
Copsie Shute Lane,
Barrington,
Nr. Ilminster,
Somerset.



■ South Africa were hosts for the annual summer conference of the South and South East African Conference Lines and toward the end of March members were entertained by Safmarine at the Mount Nelson Hotel. Among the delegates were (left to right): W. M. Graham (Harrison Line), R. Hazlitt (Blue Star-Port Lines), D. A. Lloyd (Ellerman and Bucknall), A. E. Lemon (Union-Castle Line and chairman of the meeting), M. de W. Marsh (Safmarine) and G. M. Fullerton (Safmarine).