

Manifest

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Retirements

Capt. A. A. Freer, who retired on March 1, joined Union-Castle as a fourth officer on June 5, 1939 having obtained his master's certificate earlier that year. Capt. Freer's earlier sea service had been entirely with the Blue Star Line, first as a cadet and then as a junior officer.

He was appointed chief officer (cargo vessel) on February 9, 1945, chief officer (intermediate vessel) on September 24, 1952, and to a mail vessel on March 8, 1955. He received temporary command of *Routenburg Castle* in May, 1956, and later that year temporary command of *Riebeck Castle*, being promoted to permanent command of *Routenburg Castle* on February 27, 1960.

Since then he has commanded a number of vessels including the *SA Vaal* (from which, during 1970, a passenger who fell overboard was rescued after 11½ hours in the sea). His last command was *SA Oranje*.

Capt. F. J. Pye retired on January 1 after 33 years with the company. He joined as a junior officer on August 29, 1939 after previously serving with BP Tanker Co., and City Line. He was appointed second officer on December 29, 1941. While he was serving in that capacity on *Richmond Castle* the vessel was torpedoed and sunk. Capt. Pye was awarded the MBE for his conduct while in charge of the ship's lifeboat from August 4-10, 1942.

In 1944 he was promoted to chief officer and received temporary command of the *Roxburgh* and *Winchester Castles* before gaining his first permanent command, *Rochester Castle*, in 1960. He thereafter commanded *Warswick Castle*, *Rhodesia Castle*, *Kenya Castle*, *Edinburgh Castle* and *Clan Sutherland*. His last command before retiring was to *Glan Macgregor*.

Capt. W. H. Keith, who retired on November 1, served his apprenticeship with Robert, Stanley Dalgleish, joined Court Line as a third officer and served throughout the last war with Cory Brothers. He joined King Line as a chief officer in January 1946 and was appointed to *Empire Antigua*. From November 1946 to March 1950 he served in *King Robert* and from 1952-56 aboard *King Malcolm* receiving his first command, *King Robert*, in May 1956. He served in various King and Clan vessels until being appointed to the tanker *Scottish Lion* in 1960. After that he commanded other group vessels until his last command, *Clan Macnair*.



■ A day in late February, Southampton docks. The bustle of the mailship arrival is over. Time to be still; time to go home. A chap in mufti walks along the quay. Commodore R. M. Wright leaves Windsor Castle after his last voyage in command of the flagship. Picture: H. J. Wood.

Harold S. James, engine room storekeeper, retired on March 1. He joined the company on November 16, 1960 as a greaser and was appointed to *Athlone Castle*. In August 1969 he was promoted to engine room storekeeper on the *Southampton Castle*.

Ernest G. C. Tupper, bedroom steward on the *Pendennis Castle*, retired from the company on March 1. He joined the *Dorban Castle* on April 19, 1950, moved to the *Garnarvon Castle* later that year and joined *Pendennis Castle* in 1962, where he remained until retirement.

J. Cullen, chief radio officer, who joined the company in 1938, retired on January 1 after 34 years service.

J. Davies, baggage steward, retired from *Edinburgh Castle* on February 1. He joined *Winchester Castle* in February 1937 as a tourist class assistant steward. Since then he has served on many vessels in many capacities, joining *Edinburgh Castle* in 1965.

First class bedroom steward A. C. Barnes joined *Balmoral Castle* in 1924 as a saloon boy and was promoted to assistant steward the following year. From 1936-39 he served as a lounge steward, leaving the company during the war years to serve in the Navy, and rejoining in 1947 as a lounge steward on the *Garnarvon Castle*. In 1951 he was promoted to a smoke room steward and to assistant batman in 1955. He became a first

class bedroom steward in 1960, being appointed to *Pendennis Castle*. His last ship before retiring on February 1 was *Edinburgh Castle*.

H. S. Guthrie, radio officer, joined the company in 1957 from Siemens/AEI and retired on January 1 after 15 years service.

C. F. Read retired on February 1 after more than 32 years with the company. He joined *Winchester Castle* on August 3, 1940 as a second cook and his last ship before retirement was *Pendennis Castle*.

J. Eager, chief radio officer, who retired on February 1, joined the company on November 26, 1934 as third radio officer *Llandaff Castle* and was promoted to second radio officer on December 3, 1937. While he was serving as a second radio officer in *Llandaff Castle*, the vessel was torpedoed in the Indian Ocean on November 22, 1942. The radio room was severely damaged by the explosion, but a distress call was sent by the emergency lifeboat transmitter and after five days in the boats the officers and crew were picked up by a British naval vessel. J. Eager later served in *Arundel Castle* during the last period of hostilities when allied prisoners of war were being exchanged via Sweden and Marseilles.

He was promoted to chief radio officer *Garnarvon Castle* on February 2, 1949, and thereafter was appointed to *Capetown Castle*