

readers' letters

Clan Lindsay

Sir,
Inside the front cover of *Clansman 47* is a turret ship picture. As far as I know there was a fourth such vessel which is not mentioned—Clan Lindsay. I joined her in August, 1929, in Manchester and served in her last four voyages. The final trip was to South America with coal—35 days to B.A.—non-stop, more or less. I will remember cleaning the holds ready for a grain cargo back. The ship we took on to Inverkeithing for breaking up in 1931. There was a cabin for the two cadets on top of the galley, etc., on the poop. It was said to have been built for gunners in the Great War. The Master was Captain Malpas, Chief Officer J. Townsend, Second Officer J. Dumphy, Third Officer H. R. Peister.

It would be marvelous hearing from anyone still remembering Clan Lindsay.

R. R. DENNIS
2 Droveaway Gardens,
St. Margaret's Bay,
Dover, Kent CT15 6BS

Warwick Castle

Sir,
In the Summer of 1935 I was a junior assistant purser in the Union-Castle Flagship Warwick Castle. We took a large party of company guests to the King George V Jubilee Review. Whilst we were anchored at Spithead, the Master, W. Morton-Betts, was invited aboard the Royal Yacht and presented to His Majesty.

I wonder how many members of the ship's company on that occasion are still *Clansman* readers?

M. J. CAWS
24 St. Anns Road,
Barnes SW13 9LJ

Windsor Castle II

Sir,
I was interested to read Commodore Byles' letter about Windsor Castle II as she was the ship on which I made my first voyage to South Africa. We left Southampton on January 23, 1931, and during the voyage I was invited to visit the engine room and the stokehold of the ship, where I saw the stokers feeding the furnaces with coal and sampled the very hot conditions under which they had to work, in spite of the draught of fresh air which was fed into the stokehold. I was intrigued with the noise or tune which the stoker used to make from time to time with his shovel and which one could hear right up at the top of the vent shaft which came out, I think, on the Bridge Deck. It was a signal of some kind, possibly to indicate



the end of their shift, but I have forgotten what it meant.

The Captain was Captain Kerbey and Captain Traynor was one of the junior officers. I also remember that Sir August Cayzer, our Chairman's Father, was a passenger to one of the South African ports.

These two ships, Windsor Castle II and Anundel Castle III, were the first Union-Castle ships to be fitted with purpose-built swimming baths and these were located up top, level, if I remember rightly, with the Bridge Deck. When the slightest sea was experienced the water used to rush backwards and forwards in the bath until it became too rough to go in!

A. H. ROBSON
Stonewick,
Oswell,
Horton, Devon.

Thanks

Sir,
May I thank the editorial staff and their predecessors for their considerable help in my articles and contributions to the House Magazine during the last 17 years. I would also like to express thanks to my various contacts in the Port of Southampton, especially those in the B.T.D.B., for their advice and information.

NORMAN HODSON
29 Bellemoor Road,
Shirley,
Southampton

Sir,

After 25 years in the Purser's and Catering Department I regret that I have been unable to say good-bye personally to all my friends at sea. May I through the magazine express my gratitude for the co-operation I have received over

the years and extend to them my best wishes for the future.

R. H. PLACE
19 Brock Way,
Romsey,
Hants SO5 8JZ

"Boobies"

Captain B. S. Biggs writes to tell us about a very fine bird which perched on the bridge wing of the Causeway when the ship was just off the Panamanian Coast en route to Sacramento, California.

The bird, remarkably tame, had an enormous beak and webbed feet. Captain Biggs tells us it was a "Booby" bird—so named because some people feel that they look stupid. They earned their name years ago, partly from their appearance, partly from their habit of landing on sailing ships and sitting quietly in the rigging for a hungry sailor to grab them. Boobies are fond of flying fish and frequently accompany ships, coasting back and forth over them waiting for flying fish to break cover.

Captain Basil Biggs pictured with the booby bird on the bridge wing of Causeway.

