



[Photos Turners (Photography) Ltd.]

Left: Mrs. Carel de Wet with Sir Nicholas Cayzer and (left) the South African Ambassador and Sir John Hunter on the launch platform



## Launch of the *GOOD HOPE CASTLE*

THE LATEST MAILSHIP to be built by the Group is the 12,000 ton *Good Hope Castle* which was launched by Mrs. Carel de Wet, wife of the South African Ambassador in London, from the Tyneside Shipyards of Messrs. Swan Hunter & Wigham Richardson on Tuesday, 16th February.

*Good Hope Castle* is the second of two new fast Mailships for the South African Mail Service; her sister ship *Southampton Castle* was launched from the same yards last October. These two ships, and the five existing Mailships, *Windsor Castle*, *Transvaal Castle*, *Pendennis Castle*, *Pretoria Castle* and *Edinburgh Castle*, will form the fleet of seven Union-Castle liners operating the accelerated mail service to South Africa. The faster service will be introduced on 16th July this year and will cut the sailing time between Southampton and Cape Town from 13½ to 11½ days.

*Good Hope Castle* will enter the South African Mail Service in August. She is 597 feet 6 inches long overall, 77 feet 3 inches breadth moulded and 10,200 tons deadweight. Her service speed is 22½ knots. She has 382,600 cubic feet of insulated and 210,340 cubic feet of non-insulated cargo space, which includes 13 tanks totalling 60,000 gallons for the bulk carriage of wine or other liquids, and provision for container stowage.

The latest navigational, control and communication equipment will be fitted and operated from consoles in the combined wheelhouse and chart-rooms. The air-conditioned machinery control room will have a comprehensive panel enabling one Engineer Officer and one rating on each watch to handle all machinery installations, including alarm systems for engines and the remote control and temperature checking of 27 cargo chambers. The ship also has a system for producing electricity from engine exhaust heat.

Each member of the ship's company will have a single berth cabin; private showers and toilets will be provided for all Senior Officers. All accommodation will be fully air-conditioned. Other features include a Hobby Room which will be provided on deck for members of the crew, a swimming pool and a crew cafeteria mess.