

group trade review

SHIPPING: bulkers join King Line fleet

The 53,000 ton dwt. bulk carrier *King Charles* has recently been delivered to King Line, a member of the British & Commonwealth Shipping group. Built by the Matagorda Yard in Cadiz of Astilleros Espanoles SA, *King Charles* was launched last December by the Hon. Robina Cayzer, daughter of Lord Rotherwick, a deputy chairman of the group.

The ship has seven holds suitable for grain, coal, ore and other dry bulk cargoes and a service speed of 15½ knots. She was the second bulk carrier to be launched last year for King Line and a third, the 80,000 dwt. *King George* was launched from the Sestao Yard of Astilleros Espanoles in Bilbao on September 14.

Low mailship fares

The 1974/75 thrift season fares on Union-Castle/Safmarine northbound sailings were introduced on August 27 when the *SA Vaal* left Cape Town for Southampton. The

thrift season rates for tourist and hotel class travel continue through the autumn and early part of the winter finishing with the sailing of the *Pendennis Castle* from Cape Town on January 28 1975.

Tourist class fares begin at £136 for the 12½ day voyage from Cape Town as compared with the normal minimum fare of £171. On the hotel class ship *SA Vaal* fares range from £190 up to £402 for a de luxe cabin, representing a saving of up to £100.

In February 1975 the southbound thrift season rates come into operation and extend up to the end of June. The fares will be the same as those for northbound sailings and all rates mentioned above are subject to a 10 per cent fuel surcharge.

Inclusive tours by U-C mailship

Union-Castle's new 1974/5 African Holidays brochure follows their traditional pattern of sea safaris, air/sea holidays and main centre holidays. Although sold as inclusive tours these holidays are individually booked and the holidaymaker does not travel in a group.

Sea safaris—a sea voyage in both directions with an inland tour in South Africa—are either 39 or 46 days although one 46 day tour can be extended to 53 days. The

attractive Garden Route from Cape Town to Port Elizabeth and Durban and/or a visit to a game reserve are the main attractions on these inland tours. Prices range from £630 for tourist class travel on a 39 day safari up to £1,245 for first class travel on a 46 day safari.

One centre holidays can be at Cape Town (28 or 39 days), Durban (25, 31, 46 or 53 days) and at Johannesburg (28 days). For the Cape Town and Durban holidays, travel can either be by sea in both directions or one way by sea and the other by air. Air/sea arrangements only are available for Johannesburg. A wide range of accommodation is offered in each centre and it is possible to combine Cape Town and Durban into a two-centre holiday lasting 28 days.

The exciting range of air/sea holidays varies in length from 22 to 41 days. A tour of Kenya's Game Reserves is a feature of some of the longer holidays. A six day visit to the Seychelles is the highlight of a 38 day holiday, while Mauritius, the Victoria Falls and Kruger National Park are the highlights of other tours. A 28 day holiday with tourist class sea travel is available from £704 while a 41 day holiday with first class sea travel on *Windsor Castle* (outer twin bedded cabin with shower) would cost £1,187.

Union-Castle are offering a special Sea Safari to South Africa during the Christmas season. The tour starts with a 16 day cruise to Cape Town aboard the one class *Reina*

■ B&C's new bulk carrier *King Charles*, 53,000 tons dwt, seen during her recent trials. Picture: Astilleros Espanoles, SA.

