



■ Behind the scenes, the mailship cameraman becomes the white-coated technician. Tony Freeman-Cosh sets colour filters in the enlarger.

Tony has this to say about his work: "Many people may think that a ship's photographer has an easy time on board just taking a few photographs each day. The reality is not quite so simple. The work starts before a voyage begins with all the cameras, electronic flash units and other items of darkroom equipment being prepared and checked with a representative from our office.

"During a round voyage in *Windsor Castle* about four thousand photographs of the various events are taken. These commence with shots of the passengers boarding the vessel and continue with the captain's cocktail parties, fancy dress parade, bridge visits, aquatic sports, crossing-the-line ceremony and many more besides. Taking these photographs is quite enjoyable as it enables us to meet the passengers as well as being in the centre of all that is going on.

"However, after the various shots have been taken we begin the side of our work that passengers don't see. The films are first developed and once they are dry each negative is numbered for future reference. Test prints then have to be made in order to obtain the right colouring in the final results. When the correct colours have been ascertained the finished prints are made, which in itself is a time-consuming job. After the photographs have been dried, checked and numbered, they are displayed for passengers to view and order. The orders then, of course, have to be prepared and despatched to the passengers. Each day there is at least one event to be photographed, when this entire procedure has to be followed.

"The developing and printing is carried out in the dark, which can at times be uncomfortable to say the least, particularly in a storm around the Cape of Good Hope or in the Bay of Biscay with the ship rolling to and fro. Fortunately it is not like that very often.

"There is also a certain amount of paperwork to cope with and time has to be allocated for this too.

"We do have time to relax as well, though. In order to keep a semblance of fitness, I play deck tennis most evenings for an hour



■ In the ship's darkroom, processing prints is made no easier by the movement of a vessel at sea.

■ The day after a passenger event finds the photographer displaying his work on specially-prepared racks in the ship's public areas.



*continued on page 22*