

Smoke Signals

New chief

Mr. Arthur D. Mailer was appointed commodore chief engineer on August 20. He joined the company on August 26, 1929, as a junior engineer officer and his first appointment was to *Llandovery Castle*. Following service on various vessels, he resigned on December 12, 1933, rejoining on August 13, 1934 as third engineer officer, *Dundrum Castle*. He passed his first class steam certificate on August 4, 1937, and his motor endorsement on December 23, 1940.

Mr. Mailer was promoted to chief engineer of *Llandovery Castle* on the intermediate passenger service. He was 39 years old and at that time was the youngest officer to have attained the rank of chief engineer in passenger service.

He stood by the building of *Transvaal Castle* (later *S.A. Vaal*), and served in her up to June 1969. His present vessel is *Pendennis Castle*. He is married and has two married children. His home is in Perth and his main interest is golf.

Capt. James retires

When *Reina del Mar* arrived back at Southampton on October 24 her popular master, Captain John James, came ashore for the last time. When in 1964 this ship was converted to carry out a full-time cruising role, Captain James was chosen to take command, and except for periods of leave he has served on the ship ever since.

Reina del Mar has proved a great success as a cruising ship, and there is no doubt this success is due to Captain James and his team who work so hard for the entertainment of passengers. During his five years in *Reina del Mar* he has met close on 90,000 passengers.

Captain James commenced his sea career as a cadet with the Pacific Steam Navigation Company in 1925. After obtaining his master's certificate in 1936 he joined the Union-Castle Line in October that year. In this he was following in the footsteps of his father, who also had been a master with the company.

In 1954 Captain James was promo-



Arthur D. Mailer



Captain A. J. Tyrrell (left) and Mrs. Wilson admire the British Empire Medal which Mr. J. J. Wilson received on September 26. (Reported in February issue)



Barrie C. Twiddy, ex-third radio officer S.A. Vaal, was married to Evelyn Elmes, ex-hair stylist, S.A. Vaal, at Lady St. Mary's, Wareham, Dorset, on August 29

ted to the command of the first *Good Hope Castle*, a cargo ship of 9,879 tons, and he was given command of a passenger ship, *Rhodesia Castle*, in July 1959.

Captain James, who is married, has his home in Cardigan. He is an enthusiastic gardener, and he has also accepted the honorary secretaryship of the R.N.L.I. branch in Cardigan.

Captain William J. Freestone retired from the company on November 1 after 44 years' service. He joined as apprentice in June 1925 on *Clan Macwilliam* and was promoted to second officer in *Clan Munroe*. He was awarded the M.B.E. while serving in *Clan Ogilvy*. The vessel was sunk by enemy submarines in March 1941. He was promoted to chief officer of *Clan Maciver* in 1943 and master of *Clan Macbride* in January 1955. He has served in various of the company's vessels including *Clans Macbean, Macdonald and Keith*.

Captain Freestone received a gold watch from the chairman on behalf of the board on October 29.

Captain Norman Willcock retired on October 21. He joined Union-Castle as a cadet in September 1920 and in 1925 took up a teaching post in *Indefatigable*. He returned to the company two years later as fourth officer in *Glen-gorm Castle* and continued his sea-going career until just after war broke out, when he was in command of *Walmer Castle*.

In 1940 he was appointed to the marine superintendent's staff at Southampton, but the following year he was transferred to Cape Town as assistant marine superintendent. He was later appointed deputy nautical adviser to the Ministry of War Transport in Cape Town. After the war he came to London as assistant to the Union-Castle marine superintendent and was appointed marine superintendent on July 1, 1959.

Assuming wider responsibilities in January 1966, he was made joint marine superintendent.

A widely known and popular figure, Captain Willcock hopes to devote more time to practical gardening and bird watching. On October 21 he was presented with a cheque and a book (*Birds of Town and Village* by W. D. Campbell) by Mr. R. J. Bloxam on