

charming and friendly people. A most striking couple they are. After dinner we watched the tele for a while, a game of ice hockey." Now to get on with my storey. Mary had provided us with some very nice sandwiches and a nice cake. so we-- we enjoyed our lunch in the shoddy third class carriage. everyone seems to travel third. The other occopants declined to share our fare but I am sure their mouths watered. We found that most English passengers were disinclined to talk.

We were very glad to arrive at Paddington Station and on to the Regent Palace where we had booked rooms in the annex as these rooms are better furnished than those in the main building.

Having settled in we decided to go for a short stroll and would have liked to walk in St. James Park but as it was raining we decided to go down Shaftsbury Avenue . down Coventry Street. the Haymarket and back to the Regent then after dinner we watched, from our room, people queing up for the theatre. We were rather tired and as we were to have a long day next day we decided after a very nice hot bath to go to bed.

We were up early next morning to repack our goods but as Lorna found she had packed not too well I had to go off to Marks and Spence to buy another suit case. We then shot along to Euston Station from which our special train was to start for Liverpool. We arrived about an hour too early and our Porter put our suit cases on the platform next to a bench round which were strewn fruit peels which we hoped people would not think we had dropped. Lorna being somaticulus U thought she was going to pick them up and deposit them in a near-by bin.

The train eventually pulled in and people began to arrive and we entrained in most comfortable Pullman Coaches. We shared with our Durban friends Mr and Mrs Jack Cartwright and soon after starting we made up a bridge foursome.

We left at 3-30 p.m. and straight away tea was served and this we enjoyed very much. I remarked that the Company was certainly doing things on a big scale- Wonderful accommodation on this special train carrying I should think some three hundred, typists, clerks, senior officials and a few visitors from South Africa.

Before arriving at Liverpool station we were served with a very fine dinner where we sat. Everything was very done and the food very tasty. We eventually arrived at Liverpool station and were taken aboard the Ulster Prince and were served with tea and other drinks before being shown to our cabins. and then turned in about ten having arrived at eight. and sailed just after midnight.

We had a very pleasant trip across and I wondered if some of the people had been sea sick for many of them had never been at sea before.

On arrival at Belfast next morning we were taken by bus to the docks where we boarded the Bloemfontein Castle and after being shown to our cabins went to the dining saloon and enjoyed a very fine breakfast. This trip was to be at no expence to any one and we were informed that there would be no tipping and we would at certain times have drinks and issued with cigarettes. It must have been a real treat for the Union Castle staff from London and other brach offices. I did not learn how the lucky ones were chosen.

After dinner we were shown a very fine film 'The Blue Light' and so passed a very pleasant day. Every one seemed to find something to do, even deck games.

The weather was rather cold and our cabin was very cold but we had plenty of blankets and so kept warm. and waking in the morning we looked out on Lands End which we were rounding.

I was glad to again Captain Mayhew who was in command and whom I had known on various of the Company's ship in South Africa, He was later made Commandor of the Union-Castle ships. As we passed the Isle of White we attended, being Sunday, a church service which was, as is customry, by the Captain.

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