

LOG of the ROMANCE



around the world

1975—NO. 1.

Dear Shipmates,

It's about time for our first world voyage newsletter. Our crew is now nearly complete, with a number of applicants yet to sail aboard Romance on get-acquainted cruises. We'll wait a bit longer for a complete biographical crew list, but will start by introducing 3 crewmen new to Romance. First is Randy Jones, at 24, skipper of Tabor Academy's training schooner Lordfall. Randy's a natural sailor, writes, plays (guitar) and sings his own sea ballads, and has been commissioned to film TV documentaries around the world. Next, John Campbell, a young geologist and engineer from the schooner yacht America, who plans to do the same sort of filming for British TV. And the most important man aboard (after the skipper)—the cook! Bruce Fisher from the square tops'l schooner Shenandoah—wait til you sample his cooking.

Visa information is flooding in, thanks to research by our good friend and shipmate, Carolyn Potts, (Caribbean, Galapagos and world voyages.) Details later, but please make sure you have a dozen extra passport type photos. Letters expressing good wishes for the world voyage have come from Captains Irving Johnson and Alan Villiers, circum-navigators of worldwide fame, and we pass them on to you. The Oceanic Society (Oceans Magazine) are interested in putting a scientist aboard Romance, probably for the Galapagos portion. Our guide, Gus Angermeyer, writes, too, from the Galapagos. And from Jeanne Shaub ('72 South Pacific crew,) comes news that Pitcairn's population has dropped to 61. Surely the time is near when this 'greatest sea saga the world has ever known' must come to an end. We are fortunate indeed to visit Pitcairn again.

Last month Romance made an advertising film for Cutty Sark—helps to pay for the \$2,500 worth of ropes and \$5,000 in engine spares we put aboard today. Our sailmaker, Jim Brink, is racing to finish a new jib, to make room for another big shipment of flax canvas from Scotland. He'll get expert advice this trip from Capt. Archie Horba, retired U.S. Lines Master, and well known veteran and champion of square sail.

The humpback whales put on quite a show for us this year in the Virgins, their long white 'arms' sticking up high enough above the water to be mistaken for sails. And the magnificent full rigger, Danmark, the most beautiful of all sail training ships, paid her annual visit to the Virgins last week, quickening our desire to be soon bound deepsea again, around the world.

It won't be long now!