

The sight that no one will ever see

If the ships of the New Zealand Overseas Shipping Lines used on the homeward run in 1956 could take time off and gather together, this is the picture they would present....You would see, lying at anchor, no less than 91 ships which were required during the year to provide the 146 sailings from this country (this does not include any additional sailings by vessels chartered from other Lines). In size, the ships range from the "Dominion Monarch" of 26,463 tons to the "Napier Star" of 7,165 tons. Their carrying capacity, all told, is 415,213 tons of refrigerated cargo, 205,394 tons of wool and general cargo, plus accommodation for some 5,000 passengers. They represent a

capital investment of about £90,000,000, but to replace them at today's prices would cost roughly £200,000,000. So great a fleet would make a fine show, but no one will ever see it. For these ships are on active service, carrying the trade upon which we all depend. During 1956, they linked ten New Zealand ports with 34 ports in the British Isles, the Continent of Europe, the Mediterranean, the eastern seaboard of North America, the West Indies and other parts of the world. And so, on every day of the year, the ships we picture here are scattered in the ports and across the seas of the world, going steadily about their business... which is, of course, your business, too.

... which is, by course, your vasiness, 100

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NEW ZEALAND OVERSEAS SHIPPING LINES

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