9.

Ship of the Month - cont'd.

1945 Lloyd's Confidential Index Freigh had showed FLEETWOOD, after her return to the U.S., as "hulked".

Secondary sources have indicated that FLEETWOOD was used as an aircraft bombing target during 1946 and that she may have been sold for scrapping on the east coast in 1947. None of this is confirmed. However, it seems possible that the damage and consequent leaks caused by little practice bombs may well have become too numerous and difficult to keep plugged, such that the Navy might well have taken FLEETWOOD out into deep water, set off a charge or two, and simply let her go. We probably never will know for sure, but in the absence of any confirmation of scrapping details, we can only wonder.

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Ed. Note: Just like the BRITON feature last issue, this feature was inspired by a photo—the fantastic one from member Al Hart showing FLEETWOOD in the Cuyahoga River at Cleveland. It shows her at her very best.

Credit must be given to the records of the late Ivan S. Brookes, James M. Kidd and John H. Bascom, and to Capt. Gerry Ouderkirk for doing some digging for us. However, our most heartfelt thanks go out to longtime member and "Scanner" supporter Bill Schell, of Holbrook, Massachusetts, for his help with the details of FLEETWOOD's World War One and World War Two activities and, as well, to his U.K. correspondent, Roy Fenton, for invaluable assistance.

As always, if anyone can assist with further information concerning this steamer, please contact us. You may either snail-mail us, email the Editor personally at jay.bascom@sympatico.ca or go to the T.M.H.S. website www.tmhs.ca and click on the link to the Editor.

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A LAY-UP LIST FROM THE PAST

In order to put people in the mood to send us their lay-up listings for the current winter, we now present a "golden oldie" list from forty years ago, the winter of 1967-1968. That winter, no less than 38 major commercial ships wintered at <u>Toronto</u>. So here they are, to bring back happy memories.

R. BRUCE ANGUS DOUGLASS HOUGHTON HOWARD L. SHAW ELMBRANCH B. A. SENTINEL PARKER EVANS HUTCHCLIFFE HALL SPRUCEBRANCH BLUE RIVER FORT YORK GORDON C. LEITCH SPRUCEDALE BRICOLDOC FUEL TRANSPORT MAUNALOA II STONEFAX C. W. CADWELL GROVEDALE VICTORIOUS METIS CHICAGO TRIBUNE JAMES NORRIS HAGARTY WHEAT KING COASTAL CARRIER HALLFAX NORTHERN VENTURE WIARTON COASTAL CREEK HILLSDALE ONTADOC WILLOWBRANCH CONGAR MARTHA HINDMAN PARKDALE WINDOC EASTCLIFFE HALL RIDGETOWN

This was to be the last winter afloat for several of these ships. And of all of them, only three still serve in a transportation capacity. JAMES NORRIS is still running for Upper Lakes Shipping. METIS is a barge for Essroc Cement, and the bow section of NORTHERN VENTURE is the storage BARGE LAVIOLETTE. The HOUGHTON, SHAW and VICTORIOUS are breakwater hulls at Ontario Place and RIDGETOWN at Port Credit, while GROVEDALE and WIARTON are dock facings at Hamilton. And the hull of C. W. CADWELL became a small drydock at Hamilton.

* * * * * GREAT LAKE MEMORIES

For our memory this month, we have chosen one of the most spectacular brochure covers ever done for a lake passenger ship operator. It features the magnificent four-stacked SEEANDBEE built in 1913 for the Cleveland & Buffalo Transit Company. We wish we could show the cover to you in full colour, including the steamer's green hull. The brochure, for her 1934 cruise season, featuring seven-night round trips between Buffalo and Chicago, has a poster-sized image of the steamer inside, along with deck plans and many photos.

Watch for a full history of SEEANDBEE in a future issue. It will be something very special.

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