

Basic Detail Report

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Title

Dinner menu from MV JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT

Date

3 June 1962

Primary Maker

Nederland Line [Stoomvaart Maatschappij Nederland]

Medium

Ink on paper

Dimensions

Overall: 250 x 184 mm

Name

Menu

History

MV JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT was the largest motor-ship to be built in Holland at the time of its launch in Amsterdam by Nederland Shipbuilding Company, in 1929. It originally served on trade routes between the Netherlands and the East Indies, however, throughout World War II, it was requisitioned by Britain as a troop transport. In the years between 1950 and 1958, MV JOHAN VAN OLDENBARNEVELT carried Dutch and European immigrants wanting to escape their war-torn countries to Australia. The ship served as a passenger vessel until the Dutch migrant-transport charter expired in 1958. Nederland Line transformed the ship into a luxury cruise liner in 1959 and it toured from Amsterdam to England, Australia, New Zealand, South America and North America. There are a large number of these colourful menus in the museum's collection. This series of menus feature a selection of prints by renowned ornithologist and artist John Gould. The prints consist of native animals from various destinations included in the ship's voyage around the world. This particular illustration reproduces Gould's illustration of the Grey-chested Birds of Paradise, found in Birds of New Guinea and the Adjacent Papuan Islands, 1875-1888, volume I, plate 27.