

ROYAL LAUNCHING.

The Scottish-born Queen Mother always enjoys an occasion in her home country - and there's always a special welcome for her there. Even so, this is an extra-special occasion - the launching of Britain's biggest tanker, the 50,000-ton "British Queen", at John Brown's world-famous shipyard.

Familiar ground for the Queen Mother - for this is her fourth launch at John Brown's. It's almost exactly 21 years since she launched the "Queen Elizabeth", from this spot - so there is particular emphasis in the words she used today: "I am happy to name this ship British Queen; may God bless her, and all that sail in her".

"All at John Brown's may be proud of the record of this yard", the Queen Mother declares. "There are no better ambassadors than ships!"

MALAYA CELEBRATES.

So newly independent, it may seem odd that Malaya is already celebrating a centenary - but it's the centenary of its federal capital, Kuala Lumpur. In the East, where most capitals are older than history, here is one that only began a century ago. Then it was a tin mining village; now it's a great city of a quarter of a million people. And most of them seem to be here tonight, watching or taking part.

Some of these floats are just for fun, of course, but some recall heroes and villains of the early years, including one Sultan Abdul Samad, who is reputed to have killed 99 men with his own hands. Apparently he didn't make his century - but Kuala Lumpur has - more peacefully, if not exactly quietly!