

CAPE ARGUS

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Delight on S.A. entry for Atlantic race

The Argus Correspondent

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OFFICIALS of the Royal Western Yacht Club of England, which organises the single-handed transatlantic yacht races, are delighted to hear that a South African entry will take part in next year's event.

'I think it is simply splendid news,' the Royal Western secretary, Capt. T. W. B. Shaw, said today. 'We don't know much about the South Africans except that they are pretty tough sailormen.'

News of the entry reached the club in a letter from Mr. Brian Lello of Cape Town who disclosed that the project was being organised by a national committee of leading sailing and smallcraft men with support from the South African Navy and, possibly, the Ministry of Sport.

Mr. Lello's letter went on: 'We have successfully laid the groundwork for a South African entry. Construction of our ship starts this week. It is a light displacement Van de Stadt ketch just over 50ft. overall, round-bilged with a good combination of windward and off the wind capacity.'

NEW RULE

A new rule for the transatlantic event requires a qualifying cruise of not less than 500 miles at sea single-handed and without anchoring or entering port.

Captain Shaw said the club expected at least 15 entrants next year. There are no money prizes — only a trophy.

So far, five entries had been received — two from the United States, one from Sweden one from Britain and the South African entry.

Next year's race starts at Plymouth and ends at Newport, Rhode Island.

Sir Francis Chichester came second in the 1964 race to Lt. Eric Tabarly of the French Navy.

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