

WOKINGHAM COPY.

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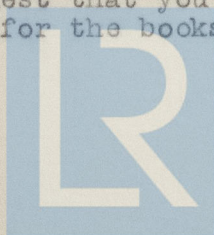
25th February, 1941.

Dear Sir,

I enclose herewith a copy of a letter dated 18th November last received from the Society's Surveyor at Port Adelaide from which you will observe that in the case of the steamer "ARMADALE" he withdrew the Load Line Certificates on board and issued a provisional Certificate. In connection therewith I have to point out that the Load Line Certificate which he withdrew was issued in December 1937 and remains valid until the 28th December 1942. He was therefore not in order in withdrawing it and, added to this mistake, he failed to indicate in his provisional Certificate any date of limiting validity.

An annual Load Line Survey became due on the 28th December 1940; this inspection, however, was carried out by the Wellington Surveyor before the vessel left for Adelaide and the Certificate was clearly endorsed by the Wellington Surveyor. It should therefore have been apparent to Mr. Ackland-Horman that the annual Load Line Survey had in fact been carried out and on receiving the request he should either have communicated with the Wellington Surveyor or cabled for instructions from you or from this office before proceeding further with the matter.

As the vessel is now in this country it has happily been found possible to return the Freeboard Certificate on board and withdraw the provisional Certificate wrongly issued by him but in all the circumstances it is considered the fee charged by him, namely £7. 10. 0. should be returned to the Owners. I have therefore to request that you will make arrangements for this to be done and for the books to be amended accordingly.

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25th February, 1941.

The Committee regard this as a most unsatisfactory case and I am directed to point out that this is not the first occasion upon which they have had to make complaint regarding the duties at Port Adelaide, the last occasion being in the matter of over charging for loading port surveys. I shall therefore be glad if you will take disciplinary action accordingly.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the
Classification Committee.

A. J. McCowan Esq.,

SYDNEY.



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