

Declassified
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1st July, 1921.

Dear Mr. Cox,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 11th May, regarding the withdrawal from classification of the steamer "CHOSEN MARU", belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, and I am much obliged to you for the particulars which you have furnished, and I trust that the action you have taken and the formation of the Japan Committee will result in an alteration in the policy proposed in the letter, dated 11th April, which you received from Mr. Nakane, the Manager of the Engineering Department of the Company.

In the present instance the Committee have decided to withdraw the vessel's class from the Register Book and to insert three dots in the usual way, but we are not writing an official letter to the Owners conveying this decision as it is thought best to leave it to you to take whatever steps may be necessary in this direction.

You will notice that the Company's steamer "KONAN MARU" is considerably overdue for the First Special Survey No. 1. This is one of nine vessels named in a letter from Kobe of the 14th July, 1918, as being entirely engaged in the Coasting Service, for which reason the Company proposed to withdraw them from classification, but in a later letter, dated 15th December, 1918, Mr. Jones suggested that the Committee might consent to allow the vessels to remain classed for the present, so that an

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effort might be made to induce the Owners to submit them for survey at the same time as the Government Surveys become due.

This course has actually been adopted by the Owners in the case of the steamers "AMERICA MARU" and "HONGKONG MARU" (which are two of the nine), but of the others all the classes have now been withdrawn and three dots inserted with the exception of the "KONAN MARU", and I shall be glad if you will kindly let me know whether the Owners intend to carry out the survey in this case or if they wish the class withdrawn.

With kind regards,

Yours faithfully,

H. Jasper Cox, Esq.,

KOBE.



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