

COPY.

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING

126. HIGASHI MACHI,

KOBE, April 19th 1921.

T. Z. Nakane, Esq.,  
Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Ltd.  
O S A K A.

Dear Sir:-

I duly received your favour of the 11th inst. stating that it has been decided to withdraw your SS "Chosen Maru" from classification in this Society's Register Book.

While I regret this decision, I note with pleasure that it is taken in order to support a National Bureau and not on account of any dissatisfaction with this Society's service.

For many years Lloyd's Register of Shipping has been the only society which has attempted to provide any sort of adequate classification service for the shipping industry of Japan. They have sent over to this country highly trained shipbuilders and engineers to act as surveyors and to assist in the construction of strong, and seaworthy vessels for Japanese shipowners. They have placed at the disposal of Japanese shipowners and underwriters the services of similarly highly trained men at practically all ports of the world to which your ships may go. Men who are not permitted to have any interests outside of classification and whose judgement and honesty is recognized throughout the world.

It has been said that Lloyd's Register of Shipping held

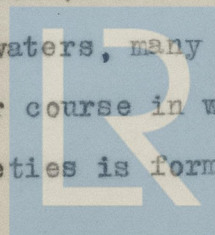


a monopoly in classification in this country, but if such was the case, it was not because of force or compulsion, but because that Society alone voluntarily undertook to supply this service.

The Society's Register Book is the only publication of it's kind, which is placed at the disposal of Japanese subscribers; a register book containing particulars of over 32,000 vessels, which is kept constantly up-to-date by information from all over the world. I do not wish to criticise others, but I have read that the service of Lloyd's Register of Shipping is no longer necessary to the shipping community in Japan. The gentleman responsible for this statement has not even commenced to publish a register for your use, and it is important that you should know that it has taken Lloyd's Register over 150 years to bring their book into it's present state of perfection.

Japan is now a great maritime nation and it is right and necessary that you should have an organization of your own representative of the shipping community to deal with such an important matter as classification, but it is open to question whether such an organization should associate itself with two or three independent national organizations, practically unknown outside their particular sphere of local support, or with one large organization of world-wide repute and establishment.

Since the ocean-going vessel (unless tied up) spends most of it's time outside of "Home" waters, many shipowners and underwriters consider that the former course is wrong, particularly so as each of these national societies is formed to further the



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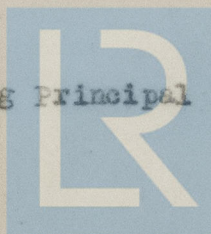
interests of one particular nation. In Japan many important business men consider that their particular interests may not be so well protected abroad by these "foreign" national bodies as by one large universal society, of which they themselves might be members upon conditions compatible with their national requirements.

So pronounced is this feeling that at a recent assembly of representatives of the shipping industry in Tokyo a resolution was carried unanimously to create a representative classification body and seek alliance or association with Lloyd's Register of Shipping. Under this arrangement the representative members of the shipping community of Japan will become members of Lloyd's Register of Shipping and the whole of the work in this country will be conducted under their supervision. The details of this change are now being determined and will, I hope, prove of very great benefit to the shipping community of Japan.

It is evident from your letter that you are keenly interested in the question of classification, and it would give me great pleasure to discuss the subject further with you at some time. In the meantime I beg to thank you for your courtesy in explaining your reasons for withdrawing the SS "Chosen Maru" from class, and remain -

Yours faithfully,

Acting Principal Surveyor



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