



Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

Merchants' Exchange, Bute Street,

Cardiff, 28th May 1924.

PRIVATE & CONFIDENTIAL.

LLOYD'S REGISTER
Recd. 29 MAY. 1924

Ans'd. 4/6

Dear Mr. Mayne,

LONDON

I informed you in my letter of the 19th instant, that I was trying to get an interview with Mr. Nelson Neale, of the firm of Messrs Neale & West regarding the withdrawal of the class of the steamer "KODAMA" and the class of any new trawlers they contemplated building.

I have had a very satisfactory interview to-day with seven of the Neale brothers who constitute the firm, as they all wished to place their views before me and talked over the whole situation.

They explained to me that when their trawlers become twelve years old they sell them and replace with new ones and that has been their practice since the inception of the firm, although it had to be departed from somewhat during the war years.

At the moment they cannot obtain more than £2000 to £2500 at the sale of these vessels and that the No. 3 survey would cost them from £1000 to £1500.

They sell these vessels to foreigners, largely to French Owners, who desire their national classification, for which the survey costs when carried out in their own country considerably less than if done here.

It therefore pays them to take £500 off the price in selling the vessels, as they live with no classification, then to spend £1000 to £1500 over the survey which would possibly only enhance the value about £250 on the sale.

They also mentioned that they had two other vessels which were now twelve years old, and on which they proposed to adopt the same procedure. They pointed out that the class of these vessels was being withdrawn not from any prejudice against Lloyd's, or for transference to other classification Societies, but solely for the reason stated above.

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I then raised the question of the classification of any new trawlers they proposed building, and they explained why the classification of the four trawlers recently built had been given to the British Corporation. I know nothing of our side of the question but I thought it better to let you know exactly their feelings on that matter in order that you will understand the difficulty of my position in trying to get their confidence back.

They stated that they had always had their trawlers classed with Lloyd's Register but that by our action, as they put it, Lloyds had "kicked them out".

They said that when the plans of these four trawlers which were duplicates, of recently classed vessels, were submitted to London, amendments were made to them to bring the vessels up to the Revised Rules which made them totally unsuitable for fishing vessels.

When this was pointed out to the London office they informed me that they were practically told to take them or leave them and were compelled to go to another classification society.

They consider that they were treated with very scant courtesy when these points were brought up, and that if they had been Owners of larger vessels they would have received more consideration.

That is their case as they put it to me. - I have done my best to remove this impression but they stated that they had correspondence which could prove all they said.

They state that they are not placing any new orders in the immediate future but that when they do they will let me know and have promised to build to Lloyd's Classification if they can persuade the Smith Dock Co., to adopt that course, although the builders were anxious to keep them with the British Corporation. They have also promised me that should any difficulties arise in the discussion on these proposed vessels they will inform me immediately so that I will be in a position to advise you.

This is the position I am up against and these impressions are very difficult to remove.

The Neale brothers treated me in a very friendly manner and stated that they had always had every confidence in the local staff and were sorry that these difficulties had arisen.

They are expecting Mr. Reed of Smith's Dock in the course of a few weeks and said they would try and get him to call on me to discuss the situation.

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Hoping that this letter is not too verbose but I wished you to know exactly the feelings of Messrs Neale & West in the matter.

I am,
Yours Sincerely.

J. A. Neale

F.A. Mayne, Esqr.,

LONDON.



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Foundation

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For the ~~chief~~ Surveyors

at

29/5/74



For Mr. Redman

via Mayne

to note

Spl. G. R.

Mr

W. R.

H. R.



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