

COPY.

30 MAR 1948

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING,

PARIS, 27th March, 1948.

The Secretary,
LONDON,

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, concerning the "COLONEL VERLJEN" and other vessels, and enclosing a copy of a letter received from Mr. Brunelliere, of Nantes, regarding which you ask me to furnish you with my remarks.

Your letter crossed mine of same date regarding the "COLONEL VERLJEN" and you have observed, from my letter, that, contrarily to what has been said to Mr. Brunelliere, the instructions to class the vessel with the Bureau Veritas emanated from the Managers themselves, not from the Ministry of the Marine Marchande.

Same remark regarding the case of the "JACQUES BENOIR" referred to in Mr. Brunelliere's letter and concerning which a correspondence was passed last year between the Ministry and this Office.

Respecting the "LA HAGUE" and "LA HUYE", the matter is dealt with in a separate letter, but in results from my inquiries that the transfer of class to the Bureau Veritas was due to a misunderstanding, or a mistake of the Managers.

As far as the "CASSARD" is concerned, it would appear, from my personal inquiries to the officials concerned at the Ministry, that the decision - which is surprising them - that the conversion of the vessel for carrying wine in bulk should be carried out by the Bureau Veritas, did not emanate from them. It is supposed that it is due to a local initiative. In this connexion, it has been pointed out to me that the practice of the Ministry, of issuing instructions regarding the existing vessels is to refer to the Rules and Supervision of the "Classification Society", without specifying which, this meaning necessarily "the recognised society with which the vessel is classed". Perhaps, Mr. Brunelliere should be requested to obtain from the Owners, if possible, more particulars regarding this case, which do not agree with the Ministerial Act. of September 1948 by which the Society was recognised in France.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

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