SURVEY FEES ON THE STEAM TRAWLER "CHICAGO", BUILT AT SEATTLE.

The Seattle Surveyor reported in March last the survey during construction of the hull and machinery of the steam trawler "CHICAGO", 419 tons, the survey fee charged by him being Hull £44.0.0 and Machinery £30.0.0.

The fees contemplated by the Society's Rules in this case would be Hull £14.0.0 and Machinery £16.16.0.

The Surveyor was recently informed that by Circular No. 1071 the fees for special surveys are to be divided equally between the Surveyor and the Society.

He now states that when it was first proposed to build this vessel the Owners' representatives brought the plans and specification to him, and said that the vessel would be built equal to the Society's Rules, but not for classing. They requested him to look after the building of the vessel in their interest. Finding that the proposals then made were not equal to the Society's Rules he advised them to have the vessel built for classification, so that this would be a guarantee to them that the vessel was built equivalent to the Rules.

It further appears from the Surveyor's statement that it was understood by the Owners that the fees would include a charge for his personal services. Had he known that the Society would require one half of the fee he would have made other arrangements, and charged a larger fee.

The total fee of £74 actually charged by the Surveyor is £43.4.0 in excess of that laid down by the Society's Rules. If the Rule fee were divided equally between the Surveyor and the Society, then of the total sum of £74 received by him for the survey of the hull and machinery, the Surveyor would retain £58.12.0 and the Society would receive £15.8.0, it being understood that the excess sum, over and above the

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Rules, charged by the Surveyor, amounting to £43. 4. 0. was charged for personal services other than the survey for classification.

It is submitted that the fee may be divided in that way.

It is further submitted that the Seattle Surveyor should be informed, in reply to his inquiry, that it is the practice in the United States to charge special survey fees on new vessels and machinery in accordance with the scale laid down in Section 28 on page 29 of the Rules, whereby the survey fee on the hull of the S.S. "CHICAGO" would be £14 and that on the machinery £16. 16. 0. These fees are for classification surveys, and do not of course include any charge made by the Surveyor in his capacity as a private marine Surveyor for services rendered as the Owners' private adviser.

J.T.M. J.B. 30/6/08 C.B.

Lr. Sea. 1/7/08.

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