

S.S. "FRANCES", "KATHRYN", "ELIZABETH",  
"BÉATRICE" and "SUZANNE".

New York Reports 48059, 48060, 48061,  
48062 and 48063.

New York letter dated 3.6.48.

RMC notations have been assigned by the American Committee for these vessels but it was found that the plant did not comply with the Rules in so far as there is only one section to the air coolers whereas the Rule requires a minimum of two.

It was suggested that the class assigned might be amended by the addition of "For New York - Puerto Rico Service" which would bring the vessels in line with the practice for allowing single units in installations on vessels engaged on voyages of short duration.

The Owners have objected to any restriction as to service although they state that the plant was designed for the above service.

In view of the objections raised, and that it is considered there will be little risk of breakdown of plant due to the omission of the alternative coil, it was suggested that if a further approach to the Owners failed to obtain agreement the restriction on the service proposed need not be further pursued. The latest letter repeats the previous objection.

The difficulty regarding the classification of the refrigerating installations of these vessels, which do not fully comply with the Rules, has been discussed with Mr. Bennett in this Office and he appreciates the position. Mr. Bennett states that the Owners have objected to any restriction on the class in the R.B. or on the certificate and that he is anxious to avoid upsetting the present good relations with the Company.

Mr. Bennett suggests that the position might be brought more into line with general practice by allowing the notation to stand, without restriction as to service, but at the same time obtaining an assurance from the Company that the vessels will be engaged on voyages of short duration only, and in the event of a sale the Company undertake to advise purchasers that the refrigerating machinery certificate has been issued on this assurance. It is further suggested that the following note might be made in italics in the S.R. list against these vessels "RMC for Voyages of Short Duration only". (Mr. Bennett suggests that a request be made to him to approach the Owners on the above lines, the letter to be addressed for his personal attention).

The above is submitted for the favourable consideration of the Committee.

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