

S.S. "SOUTHERNER" and sister ships.

A letter has been received from Messrs. Robinson, Brown & Co. stating that they have an enquiry for the purchase of these vessels subject to the issue of a certificate of seaworthiness to enable them to proceed to a Mediterranean port loaded, and they desire to know what the Committee's requirements will be to enable such a certificate to be issued. They add that they understand that the "ENTERPRISE", which was sold lately to go out with cargo, had to incur very little expense

S.S. "SOUTHERNER" Laid up, undertaking furnished. In 11,28 the 2nd S.S.No.2, due 7,28 was partly held, and to complete same all Rule requirements remained to be complied with except :- Examination in dry dock, holds and open bottom in way, anchors, cables, steering connections, fore peak store, chain locker, hawsers and verification of freeboard. 60 fathoms of chain cable stored in the after peak require to be examined at the Special Survey.

A Special Survey No.3 (after an early S.S.No.3) became due 7,32, and no part of this survey has been held.

A general examination was held in May 1931, and on 2nd instant a further examination was required to be held to entitle the vessel to retain her class. The Committee agreed, however, to this remaining in abeyance for the time being, as the Owners stated that they hoped to sell the vessel, in which case the overdue Special Survey would be carried out before the transfer.

A few deck plates and floors in way of the boiler may require attention at the Special Survey.

The vessel was last seen in dry dock in April 1930, when the bottom and rudder were cleaned, examined and recoated, the rudder lifted, and minor repairs effected.

S.S. "BOMBARDIER" The class is subject to the stem and stem plating being repaired at Owners' convenience.

The 2nd S.S.No.2 became due 8,28 (after an early No.3) The vessel has been laid up since August 1928, and the usual undertaking has been furnished.

A Special Survey No.3 became due 8,32, and no part of this survey has been held.

General examinations with a view to retention of class while laid up were held in 11,30 and 11,32, on the latter occasion the Surveyors reported the decks, hatches, hatchways, casings, coamings, machinery space, bunkers, holds, steering gear, windlass and equipment in a satisfactory condition.

The vessel was last seen in dry dock in May 1928.

S.S. "CURLER" 2nd S.S.No.1 became due in 3,32, and no part of this survey has been held. The vessel has been laid up in the Tyne since March 1928, and the usual undertaking has been furnished. The vessel was last placed in dry dock in 2,30 when the bottom and rudder were cleaned, examined and recoated.

It is a matter for consideration whether these vessels might not be allowed to proceed to a Mediterranean port with a non-perishable cargo, provided they be generally examined in accordance with the requirements of Circular No.1605, on the distinct understanding that the Special Surveys are held in their entirety on arrival.

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In the case of the "ENTERPRISE", referred to, the Owners stated that she had been sold to Italian buyers, subject to a certificate being issued to enable her to load a non-perishable cargo to Italy, it being stated that after discharge, the purchasers intended to carry out the Special Survey which was overdue. It was pointed out that the ship had already been partly examined at Sunderland by the Registro Italiano, and that he was generally satisfied with her condition. The Committee agreed to the proposal, subject to a general examination of hull, machinery and boilers in dry dock, and on the definite understanding that the Special Survey would be completed at Fiume, and the vessel retained in the Society's classification.

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