

Steel Screw Steamer "VENDÉMIAIRE", Messrs. Deutsche Werft's No. 119, built for the Compagnie Nationale de Navigation, Paris, with a view to class 100A1 "Carrying Petroleum in Bulk".

A letter was received from these Builders on the 24th instant, taking exception to the payment of the Society's usual fees for the classification of this Tanker.

The matter was referred to Mr. Chisholm, the Society's Principal Surveyor at Hamburg, for his remarks on the subject.

A letter has now been received from Mr. Chisholm, in which he points out that, although the correspondence regarding the approval of the plans for this vessel took place from January to June 1928, the actual construction of the vessel was commenced only at the latter date, and the Society's Surveyors were in attendance and supervised the construction of the vessel and her machinery from start to finish.

The usual concession has been made when vessels are built on the Continent to class with this Society and another Classification Society, in as much as the Builders have not been called upon to pay double fees for the testing of the material used in the construction of the hull and machinery.

This Tanker is also being classed with the Germanischer Lloyd, and the Principal Surveyor for the Elbe district of that Society has called on Mr. Chisholm, and stated that he had refused to make any concession in the matter of the classification fees to these Builders, and that this decision had been upheld by the Committee of the Germanischer Lloyd in Berlin.

Mr. Chisholm is of the opinion that no concession should be made regarding the fees.

* He is ^{also} of opinion that the fact that the testing of the tanks was not carried out separately by each classification

Society has no bearing on the question of the fees, as the testing of each and all of the tanks was attended by one of the Society's Surveyors.

Mr. Chisholm points out in conclusion that the fact that the vessel has dual classification did not entail any reduction in the amount of work carried out by the Society's Surveyors.

Mr. Chisholm's Views are concurred in, and it is submitted the Builders be informed to the above effect.

(It might be remarked that, from the correspondence, it will be seen that these Builders appear to have placed every possible objection in the way of this ship being classed with this Society. At one period it was necessary to send Mr. R.J.L. Ward, ^{then} a Senior Surveyor on the Chief Ship Surveyor's Staff, to Paris, in order ~~to~~ specially interview the Owners and the Builders' Representative, regarding the classification and the construction of the ship. During the time the plans were being dealt with and while the construction was proceeding the greatest difficulty was experienced in getting the Builders to carry out the Society's requirements).

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