

EX KAIRANGA X NN. Amelia

S.S. "SAINT ROMINIQUE", 2830 tons gross, built by Messrs. Livingstone & Cooper Ltd., of Hessle, Hull.

The First Entry Report on this vessel was received in July 1922, when the question of date of build came under consideration. The launch took place in February 1921, but the completion was delayed, and the last date of survey on the First Entry Report <sup>of the hull</sup> is 29th June 1922. A date of build of January 1922 was subsequently assigned by the Committee.

The Hull Surveyors recently reported that the ship had been practically sold to the Union Steamship Co. of New Zealand, and that the prospective Owners desired to know, in view of the vessel never having left the Builders' Yard, whether it would be possible to obtain a later date of build. The matter received consideration on the 30th July 1924, when the previous decision was adhered to.

The Builders have since called at this Office regarding the matter, and now forward a letter from which it would appear that the only point which is delaying the actual sale is the question of the date of build. It is pointed out that although the vessel has been classed, the classification is subject to certain items in connection with the completion of the machinery being carried out, and therefore on this account the Builders consider that the ship is not yet completed.

The Builders also state that the vessel has been remarkably well kept up, having been dry docked on two occasions since the launch, and various parts having been painted and oiled on several occasions. The boilers have also been carefully preserved. They add that if this proposal can be considered they are prepared to open out the machinery and boilers, tanks &c., and carry out any survey that the Committee may require.

When Mr. Cooper, representing the Builders' Firm,

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called at this Office yesterday, he stated that the ship had been placed in dry dock during the last few days, and that the Society's Surveyors had carefully examined all underwater parts and found them in order.

Since the war the Committee have on several occasions assigned a later date of build in cases where the period that elapsed since the date of launch was considerably longer than in the present instance, the work of completion having been delayed for various reasons, and in the circumstances it is submitted for consideration that provided the boilers and double bottom tanks be opened up so as to enable the Surveyors to satisfy themselves that no deterioration has taken place, and that the structure is well preserved; a general examination of the hull and machinery be made ( for which purpose it will not be necessary to open up the machinery); and a favourable report be received from the Surveyors on the above and on their examination of the vessel in dry dock, a date of build corresponding to the date of the last dry docking might be assigned in this instance.

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