

C O P Y

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING,
71, Fenchurch Street,
London, E.C.3.

17th August, 1949.

Dear Sirs,

Mr. Townshend, Principal Surveyor for Sweden, has recently paid a visit to Helsingfors to look into the question of the Society's surveying duties there. During the course of his visit he interviewed Mr. Astron regarding the position of work on British Corporation classed ships, and I give you below the following extracts from his reports:-

"Mr. Astron stated that fees for his surveys on B.C. vessels had not yet been claimed from the owners and that they therefore stood to his credit in their books. He had adopted this arrangement because he thought it preferable pending the settlement of the question of remittances."

"Mr. Astron, the former B.C. Surveyor at Helsingfors, who is also acting for American Bureau and Germanischer Lloyd, stated that after a long illness, his wife, who was blind, died a month ago. He had been unable to write his reports because of his wife's illness and her personal claim on his time, but he was now free and he promised that they would be written and forwarded soon. He furnished, verbally, the following information, viz:-

- "KIRSTA" He will ascertain the position respecting the cable and will report thereon.
- "SARNEY" Surveys completed. Vessel now laid up.
- "T.1" The survey was finished but structural alterations were made, particulars of which he will obtain and report.
- "HELMY" Survey completed and vessel now laid up.
- "AURA" Will send report of what was done in May/August, 1948. Ship is now controlled by the Russians, but Owners are endeavouring to arrange for the completion of the survey.

Mr. Astron stated that he has no B.C. Report forms but will write his reports on this Society's forms, which Dr. Rybeck promised to furnish.

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The construction of this vessel was, according to Mr. Astrom, who surveyed it, begun when this Society was not allowed by the Trading with the Enemy Department to function in Finland. The Owners had therefore no alternative but to employ the Germanischer Lloyd, whose representative is Mr. Astrom. The vessel was completed about four months ago."

Yours faithfully,

Secretary

ayers,
ood Square,

0044 2/2



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