

COPY.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

71, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

ENCLOSURES.

20th January, 1940.

STRICTLY PRIVATE &
CONFIDENTIAL.

Dear Sir,

I have to confirm the cablegrams sent to you on the 10th and 11th instant regarding the steamers "DELAWAREAN", "LOUISIANAN", "INDIANAN" and "TENNESSEAN" and to acknowledge the receipt of your reply of the 12th, from which it is noted that, although you are unable to obtain any plans of these vessels except from the American Bureau, you are of opinion that they were built substantially equivalent to the Society's Rules and that any departures therefrom would be of relatively small importance.

For your confidential information, I may say that this enquiry was made as the result of a proposal that the vessels indicated on the enclosed list should, if purchased on behalf of British interests, be classed with this Society. It was particularly desired that there should be no hitch or delay in granting such classification; and following further conferences, authority was obtained for you to get into touch with Sir Ashley Sparks so as to obtain permission to be present at the Sales Surveys now being held, it being thought that at this time advancement of the requisite Classification Surveys could be made.

I accordingly sent a further cablegram on the 18th instant, as per copy enclosed and would emphasise the Committee's anxiety to accelerate the classification of these vessels.

You will observe that the "OAKWOOD" was included in my cablegram attached but the cases of the "TEXAS RANGER" and "TEXAS BANKER" were separately dealt with in my cablegram of the 17th instant, a copy of which is also enclosed.

Further representations were received yesterday, however, re-emphasising the urgency of delivery, as the result of which I cabled to you authorising the issue of Interim Certificates for any contemplated voyage subject to the completion of the classification details at a later date.

This morning I received your cable regarding the

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"DEFACTO", and to confirm my reply to the effect that as this vessel is to be classed with the British Corporation Register no action should be taken by you.

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

William Bennett, Esq.,
NEW YORK.



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Foundation