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# LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING.

OFICINA PRINCIPAL FENCHURCH STREET, 71, LONDRES, E.C.3.

Ibáñez de Bilbao, 22

Apartado, 286

RECEIVED

24 MAR 1949

Bilbao, 17th March, 1949.

ANSD.....

Dear Mr. Sladden,

I have to thank you for your letter of the 9th inst. regarding First Entry Reports in the cases of the M/V "TIO PEPE" and the M/V "EXPLORADOR IRADIER", and I must admit the justice of your censure in these cases, although in the case of the former vessel, I would plead extenuating circumstances. In the case of the "EXPLORADOR IRADIER", I have again written to Mr. Larrucea telling him to give this matter his immediate attention.

With almost all small coasters for which Classification has been requested, we find that the Owners are not really interested in the Class. The fact that the vessels were built to plans approved by the Society is the point that really interests them, as this enables them to obtain more readily a Subsidy from the Government. As you know, even a small vessel takes a long time to complete here and at the end, Owners will accept almost anything so long as they can get the vessel into commission. We have had endless trouble over these cases and the collection of the fees for the survey during construction is always a difficulty. In the case of the "TIO PEPE" we were assured that the vessel <sup>would</sup> return to this port to complete, "in a short time," and the Reports were held back for this reason. Now, the Owners state that they intend to complete at Cadiz. I find that all the Machinery information has been sent to Mr. Scullard so that he can deal with the matter. The Hull report was finished, more or less, a year ago and will be forwarded as soon as the Builder's signature is obtained.

I am arranging to take a holiday next month and I will visit the London office. I will then



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have pleasure in discussing this and other matters relative  
to the Society's affairs in Spain with you.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

*A. J. Sladden*

R.J. Sladden Esq.  
LONDON.



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