

S.S. "VASCO" & "CELTA"

In this letter, received from Messrs. John Bovey & Co., who are acting as Agents for the Owners of the above vessels, it is stated that the Owners are disturbed to find that, in the case of the "VASCO", the freeboard has been increased by 6½" Summer and 8" Winter, and in the case of the "CELTA" the increase is 1". These assignments they state they recognise may have been made by an Authority other than Lloyd's Register, but they cannot understand why so substantial an increase has been necessary in these cases.

Freeboards were assigned to these vessels/when they were built, but no application for re-assignment of Convention Freeboards has been made to this Society. From an examination of the particulars available in this Office, however, no facts are observed which would constitute a reason for the increases in freeboard mentioned.

It is probable that the assignments have been made by the Spanish Authorities in Valencia, but it is submitted for consideration whether it would not be advisable to communicate the facts to the Bilbao Surveyors with a view to their approaching the Spanish Authorities diplomatically on this subject. The Surveyors will ~~will~~ notice that the Owners, through their Agents, have made a request that the vessels be visited by the Society's Surveyors in the Bristol Channel with a view to the readjustment of these freeboards, and it might be well for the Bilbao Surveyors to endeavour to ascertain the facts of this case without suggesting that any correction of the assignments which have been made, if these have been made by the National Authority, is necessary. The Bilbao Surveyors should be asked for an early reply.

The Owners' Agents might be informed that, as suggested by them, the assignments in question have not been made by the Society, but enquiries are being made through the Society's Surveyors in Spain with a view to eliciting the facts in regard to these cases.

JW
22.9.33 / *WJL*



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