

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

71, Fenchurch Street, E.C.3.

3rd July, 1950.

Dear Sir,

I duly received a letter from you on the 17th ultimo regarding your new pilot boat "THAMES PILOT" which is under construction at the Yard of Messrs. H. McLean & Sons of Renfrew, for the class of BS* (Pilot Service).

With regard to your query, I would explain that the Classification Societies of Lloyd's Register and the British Corporation have been fused. This fusion involves both staff and administration, and until unified Rules are issued, it is still open to Owners and/or Builders of new ships to choose whether they would prefer that such new construction should be built to the existing Rules of Lloyd's Register or the existing Rules of the British Corporation.

Fundamentally there is very little difference in these two sets of Rules, but as they vary in small detail, my advice is you should continue with the construction of your pilot vessel with a view to obtaining classification of BS* (Pilot Service) for her on completion.

The work is of course being undertaken by Surveyors to the fused Society who took over the Technical Staff of both Institutions.

As regards the sister vessel, you will still have the option of classing her either to British Corporation Rules or Lloyd's Register Rules as it is most unlikely we shall be formulating unified Rules for some little time to come.

I trust that this explanation will clarify the position although I would add that we cannot subscribe to your Contractor's statement that the B.C. Rules are much more stringent than those of Lloyd's Register as the points of difference are very small.

Yours faithfully,

The Hon. Secretary,

Clerk to the