

8/5 "Masilia"

S.S. "ALGERIA" & "VALENCIA".

Freeboards were computed for these vessels in accordance with the International Convention and the reports and computations were sent to Mr. Bulow to enable him to confer with the Swedish Authorities and to fix the freeboards to be assigned and the conditions to be complied with.

In the case of the "ALGERIA", the Convention freeboard as computed in this Office was 1492 mm., but on 20th ultimo Br. Bulow intimated that the Board of Directors had decided to retain the 1906 freeboards, viz: 1969 mm., and certificates in accordance therewith were forwarded to the Gothenburg Office for issue to the Owners.

In the case of the "VALENCIA" the Convention freeboards as computed in this Office was 1477 mm., but as in the case of the "ALGERIA" the Directors decided to retain the 1906 freeboards, viz. 2045 mm. and certificates in accordance therewith were forwarded to Gothenburg.

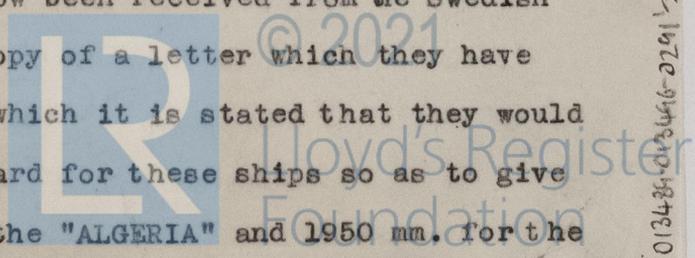
In a letter from Mr. Bulow dated 20th ultimo he stated:-

"I may add that the Owners' Superintendent states "that with regard to the steamers "ALGERIA" and "VALENCIA" they "would have preferred if a freeboard, 5 inches less than that "computed in accordance with the 1906 rules, could be assigned, "but I informed him that the Society can only issue certificates in accordance with 1906 Years regulations or with the new "Convention rules. I shall, however, be glad if you will kindly "confirm if this statement of mine is correct."

In reply he was informed that:-

"the Society can only issue certificates in accordance with 1906 year's regulations or with the new Convention rules" is correct in so far as it applies to British ships, but with regard to other countries on behalf of which freeboards are assigned by the Committee, the Committee must be guided by the decisions and interpretations of the Authorities in the respective countries."

A letter has now been received from the Swedish Board of Trade enclosing a copy of a letter which they have received from the Owners in which it is stated that they would like to strike a mean freeboard for these ships so as to give a freeboard of 1850 mm. for the "ALGERIA" and 1950 mm. for the "VALENCIA"



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The Board desire an expression of opinion regarding this application, after consultation with the British Board of Trade if thought fit.

The question involved has already been discussed with the Board of Trade and their attitude is expressed in the Secretary's letter of 24th ultimo, above quoted.

In these circumstances it is submitted that a copy of the letter from the Swedish Board of Trade and the letter from the Owners be sent to Mr. Bulow and his attention be called to the contents of the Secretary's letter of the 24th ultimo.

He should confer with the Swedish Authorities on the question and should advise this Office as to the result of the interview, in order that, if necessary, freeboard certificates in accordance with their decision may be issued.

8.10.32.



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