

5th May, 1952.

Dear Mr. Pilditch,

With reference to your letter to Mr. Sladden on the 4th ultimo regarding the steamer "SANDHOLM", I am sorry to say that he is likely to be away from the Office for some considerable time as he is being required to take a rest owing to over work.

It therefore falls to my lot to answer your letter, and I would inform you that the case has received the necessary consideration in the Plans Department and provided the vessel is not below her marks when in sea-going condition with the sand tank full of water, the class could be amended to LOOAl "For U.K. Service - fitted for pumping and carrying sand in bulk".

Perhaps, therefore, you will discuss the case with the Owners on these lines.

It is considered that, at the same time, you should inform them that the responsibility for stability does not rest upon the Society, and that in this case it is understood the Ministry of Transport will require to be satisfied regarding stability and loading without hatch covers. It is therefore suggested they should approach the Ministry in this connection.

The Ministry's concurrence on this point would of course be necessary before we could issue a certificate of service around the coasts of the U.K.

With kindest regards,
Yours sincerely,

H.G.L. Pilditch, Esq.,
BRISTOL.



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014480-014491-0046