

LLOYD'S REGISTER OF SHIPPING

UNITED WITH THE BRITISH CORPORATION REGISTER

Järntorget 3

Gothenburg C., 30th May, 1953.

Dear Mr. Sladden,

I have your letter of the 27th inst. and enclosure regarding the "BALTICIA".

The Owners' Superintendent recently told the Helsingborg Surveyors quite frankly that the Owners could not afford the repairs necessary for such an old ship to maintain Lloyd's high standard and they were therefore transferring the class to B.V.!

This, though gratifying in one respect, is rather disappointing but, although at the last special survey the Surveyors were not in any way too severe, the repairs which were found necessary were fairly extensive and costly and it is probable that further repairs would be required at the S.S. due next year.

As you know, freights for this type of ship are very low now and, with high operating and repair costs, the margin between profit and loss is often very small, so that it is understandable that the Owners should wish to transfer the class to B.V.

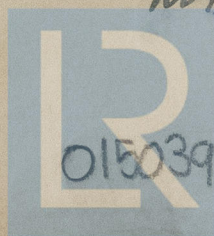
It is not thought that this indicates any change of heart on the Owner's part and in the circumstances no useful purpose would be served by taking the matter further.

The "sister ship" to which Mr. Allan refers is the "Norania", about which we wrote you on the 27th instant, the class being transferred for the same reason.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

R.J. Sladden, Esq.,
LONDON, E.C.3.



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