

16th December, 1960.

Steam Tug "EMPIRE ACE"

Built in 1942 by Messrs. Cochrane & Sons Ltd.,

Yard No. 1255

Owners: Ministry of War Transport

Gross tonnage: 274

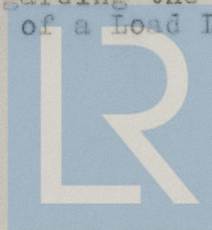
The above tug was classed on the 26th January 1943 + 100 AI for towing services and Load Line Certificates were issued on the 17th December 1942, valid until the 17th December 1947.

In reply to enquiry regarding the first Annual Load Line Survey, the Ministry of War Transport wrote that this tug was then on service ~~which~~ did not necessitate compliance with Load Line Regulations and in April 1944, the Ministry advised that the vessel had been lost by enemy action. Her particulars were therefore removed from the Register Book.

It would seem that the vessel was subsequently salvaged because Mr. D. V. Cook telephoned from the Leith Office yesterday stating that the tug was being operated by the Admiralty under the name "DILIGENT". She was recently in drydock at Rosyth and the Admiralty Officials there state that a Load Line Certificate is now required. It is understood that they wish the tug to be re-named "EMPIRE ACE".

The Leith Surveyors pointed out to the Admiralty Officials that a Survey would be required for issue of a Load Line Certificate bearing in mind that the tug is unclassified and at the same time, attention was drawn to the advantages of having her re-classed.

The Admiralty Officials were not clear as to what arrangements would be made regarding the carrying out of the necessary Surveys and Mr. Cook suggested that the Admiralty in London be approached from this Office in the matter with a view to obtaining their wishes regarding the re-classification of this tug and the issue of a Load Line Certificate.



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