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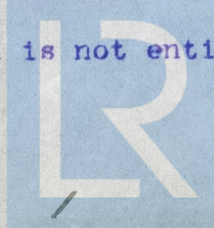
Steel S.S. "LOCH RANNOCH", 1623 tons Gross, No. 404 in the  
Register Book, built in 1880-9mo., and classed A1\* 1.  
2nd. Survey Nwc. 5, 88.

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The Dundee Surveyors reported that, in April last, at the request of the Owners' Representative, they examined the double bottom under the Boilers. Subsequently, they examined the iron work in the fore peak bunkers and holds as part of the S.S. No. 3 requirements. It was found that the frames and reversed frames in Nos. 2 & 3. holds, in the fore peaks, and in the bunkers, especially in way of the deck and hold stringers, were badly wasted. The main deck stringer, deck plating, and outside plating also appeared much reduced in thickness in the coal bunkers, although the plates were not drilled to admit of the Surveyors ascertaining the actual thicknesses. The Surveyors' recommendations for the necessary repairs were not proceeded with, and the Owners, in a letter dated 20th. June, stated that they had made other arrangements for the classification of the steamer.

In reporting the case on the 18th. June, the Surveyors recommend that the class of the vessel should be deleted, and a black line, thus \_\_\_\_\_, inserted in the Register Book.  
6,92

The Classing Committee on the 27th. June considered the case, and decided to inform the Owner that, unless the vessel be repaired to the satisfaction of the Society's Surveyors, the class of the vessel would be expunged with a black line, indicating that, from reported defects, the vessel is not entitled to a character in the Register Book.



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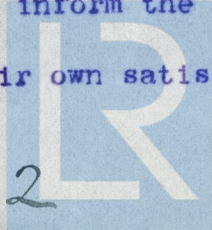
The Owners replied on the 30th. June that the vessel was under survey for the highest class in the Bureau Veritas and they do not see that this Society has any right to expunge the class with a black line. They also state "all that you have to do is "to indicate that the Owners have withdrawn her from your Register "and classed with the Bureau Veritas".

The Chief Surveyor then submitted that the Owners could have no cause for complaint if a black line be inserted in the Register Book, as already intimated to them.

The Classing Committee, on the 5th. July, decided to inform the Owners that they would have no other course open to them but to expunge the vessel's class with a black line, unless she be repaired to the satisfaction of the Society's Surveyors and they be afforded every facility to inspect the repairs which may be carried out.

The Owners replied on the 8th. July that they decidedly object to this course, and again dispute the right of the Society to expunge the class with a black line, and request that three dots be inserted to indicate withdrawal of the class. They add "if you "carry out what we consider to be a most unwarrantable, high-handed, "and possibly illegal action, we will have no alternative but to "consider withdrawing all our steamers from your classification "Register, as also ceasing to build again under the inspection of "Lloyd's".

The Classing Committee considered this letter on the 12th. July, when it was decided to inform the Owner that, as the vessel was being repaired to their own satisfaction, provided an



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opportunity be afforded for a Surveyor to this Society to see, on completion, the repairs which have been effected, the Committee would again take the case into consideration, with the object of meeting the Owners' wishes to have three dots inserted. To this the Owners replied on the 15th. July that the Surveyors would ~~be~~ <sup>for</sup> given an opportunity ~~of~~ inspecting the vessel after the repairs are carried out, and promised to forward specifications of the repairs, which are to cost between £5000 and £6000. This reply received the consideration of the Classing Committee on the 22nd. July, and they requested the Owners to give notice when the vessel would be ready for inspection.

On the 13th. instant, the Owners write stating that the repairs are about completed, and that they have been done under the inspection of the Chief Surveyor of the Bureau Veritas. They add, "Regarding our promise that your Surveyors should have an opportunity <sup>ity</sup> of inspecting the ship before going to sea, we desire to say that "we brought this understanding before the Surveyor to the Bureau Veritas. That Society, however, points out that it would be most "unfair to them that your Register should be at liberty to inspect "and criticise work undertaken and passed by them. We trust, "therefore, that, in agreeing to our request regarding markings in "your Register, you will dispense with an inspection of the steamer "by your Surveyors, not that we have anything to suppress in any "form or way, but only out of regard to the standing and position "of the Society in which the "LOCH RANNOCH" is now classed".

~~Accounts~~ Amounts, contracts, and information as to the repairs are also offered by the Owners.



The Dundee Surveyor now states that the only reason given by the Owners for not complying with his recommendations was the cost of the repairs, and they have declined to permit an examination of the repairs on each occasion that this has been suggested. He is unable, therefore, to state whether the defects reported have been made good.

It is respectfully submitted that, under these circumstances, and as the Owners have withdrawn their undertaking to allow the Surveyors to this Society to examine the repairs on completion, the class of the vessel should now be expunged with a black line, thus \_\_\_\_\_, in accordance with the Rules and with the  
6,92  
Classing Committee's previous decision, indicating that at that date the vessel, from reported defects, was not entitled to a character in the Register Book.

*J.B.M.*

*G.S.*  
19/10/92.

*Ltr Vto Own 20/10/92.*



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