

S.S. "INCH CRAG"

Mr. Hone of Harley Mullion & Co. Ltd., the Owners' London Agents, called stating that the sale of this ship with delivery in Japan has now been negotiated.

The purpose of Mr. Hone's visit was to discuss the question of getting the ship from Hong Kong to a Japanese port. The issue of a Certificate for the voyage by the Society's Surveyors has been considered by the Owners but they thought it probable that the resultant repair recommendations to enable the ship to proceed under her own power would be considerable and therefore the alternative of having the ship towed was under review. Mr. Hone wished to know whether the Society would be prepared to authorise the Surveyors to carry out a survey in order to establish the ship's efficiency to be towed to Japan. It became clear that there is no question of further class maintenance and that the sale contract contains no classification clause.

In the event of the Society declining to undertake the desired survey, the Owners have the alternative of obtaining a certificate from the local Hong Kong Authorities and in view of the circumstances of the case as shown by the reports, it was suggested to Mr. Hone that it would be preferable from all points of view that this alternative were employed.

He was quite agreeable to this but stressed that Harley Mullion & Co., Ltd., were anxious not to leave an impression of discourtesy with the Society, having regard to the fact that the ship held the Society's classification since she was built until the Committee's decision to qualify the class by the "Laid up pending repairs - Class suspended" notation.

I assured Mr. Hone that since he had invited the Society's co-operation there could be no question of discourtesy and the Owners were therefore quite free to make their own arrangements without prejudice to their relation with Lloyd's Register.

Mr. Hone appreciates that when the ship leaves Hong Kong the existing classification records in the Register Book will require to be deleted and he has therefore promised to advise this office of further developments.

19th September, 1951.

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