

LEGRAMS: REGISTER, SHANGHAI.

TELEPHONE: 12262



Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

Glen Line Building,

2, Peking Road,

Shanghai, 15th August, 1933.

reference

The Secretary,
London.

LLOYD'S REGISTER
RECEIVED

16 SEP 1933

27
LONDON

18/11/33

Dear Sir,

I enclose two letters received from the Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd. relative to the withdrawal from class of their tugs, and which explain themselves.

It appears that the Harbour Master at this port stated some little time ago that he was unable to grant a towing licence unless the tugs held a certificate of Survey of the Bureau of Navigation which, I understand was formed about 1930, their intended functions being the measurement and survey of all vessels, Chinese and Foreign, trading to Inland Waters and Non-Treaty ports (this applies to tugs and lighters and other small craft - other ^{foreign} vessels do not trade there, of course) and an effort has been made from time to time to compel foreign vessels trading to Treaty ports to submit to their surveys for the purpose of obtaining a Customs' Permit.

The Harbour Master at Shanghai formerly issued Towing licences for this harbour on presentation of survey certificates of the Customs' Surveyors (now abolished), Lloyd's Register and

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other Approved Societies but it was recently stated that he was no longer able to do so, for the reason given above. I understand that according to the treaties, Foreign Owners are required to produce annually to their respective Consuls certificates regarding the condition of their vessels, but that this has not been carried into effect for some years, and thus strengthens the position of the Bureau of Navigation, against which body there is considerable feeling - chiefly on the grounds of incompetence and usual Chinese methods of business - and efforts have been made from time to time through the Chambers of Commerce and by individual firms to prevent the Bureau from interfering with Foreign vessels.

The Consular Body takes no action in the matter.

The tug "Saucy", which became due for Special Survey in October last was recently dry docked, but submitted for survey to Messrs. Parker, Reilley who, it is stated, represent the Board of Trade, and it was ascertained that their certificate was accepted by the Harbour Master for the purpose of issuing a towing Licence.

The matter was taken up with the Bureau of Navigation, the Harbour Master and the Shanghai Tug & Lighter Co. and the position at present is briefly as follows.-

- (a) There will be no acceptance of the Certificates of other Societies or firms if those of this Society are not acceptable.
- (b) Lloyd's Register Certificates are accepted for the purpose of issuing Towing Licences.

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(a) The Tug & Lighter Company will deal with the question of retaining their vessels in class at the next Board meeting, which takes place in October.

I beg leave to suggest, therefore, that action be deferred until hearing further from this office.

I might add that the Bureau of Navigation appears to be in a state of confusion, and I was informed by their Surveyors that they lack a definite policy owing to their Chiefs at Nanking constantly changing posts.

Regulations, however, are likely to change just as frequently.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

S. S. S. S.



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Referred to the Chief Surveyor,
and the Chief Engineer Surveyor.

hms
18 SEP 1933

also for Mr. Spinks to note.
Also for Mr. Carey to note.

Spk

Submitted the further communication
from the Shan Surveyors to
Mh

communication
20-9-33
JMS



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