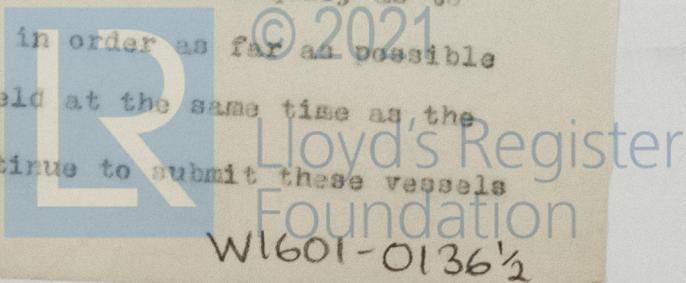


Steel Tw/S/S	"AMERICA MARU", 2nd No. 3, due 12.22.	Kob Rpt. No. 2267
"	"HONGKONG MARU", 2nd " 2, " 12.18	" " " 2268
Sc.	"KOHOKU MARU", 1st. " I, " 10.19	" " " 2269
"	"KONAN MARU" 1st. " I, " 9.19	" " " 2270
S.S.	"KOTSU MARU" 2nd " 2 " 1.21	" " " 2271
"	"TAICHU MARU" 2nd " 2 " 6.18	" " " 2273
"	"TAIHOKU MARU" 2nd " I " 6.18	" " " 2274
"	"TAINAN MARU" 2nd " 3 " 12.19	" " " 2275
"	"NIITAKA MARU" 2nd " I " 7.21	" " " 2272

The Kobe Surveyor stated ~~xxxxxx~~ on the 14th July last he had received a letter from the Superintendent of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha informing him that the Company had decided to withdraw from classification the nine vessels referred to above as the vessels in question were to be employed entirely in the coasting service. He added that he had not had a favourable opportunity of interviewing the principals at Osaka in order to ascertain further details and that it might not be to the advantage of the Company to have the classification maintained even though the vessels were to be engaged in the coasting services.

The following letter has now been received from the Kobe Surveyor:-
 Having reference to the classification letter of the 20th inst. relating to the nine steamers, named in my letter of the 14th July, which the Owners, Messrs. The Osaka Shosen Kaisha, desire to withdraw from classification, I beg to say that upon speaking of the matter to the Chief Superintendent at Osaka he stated that while the reason for the withdrawal was that, the vessels having been placed on China Coast services, the classification was no longer necessary for insurance purposes, a minor reason was that certain inconveniences had arisen owing to the dates when the Society's Surveys become due coinciding with the dates of the Government surveys. In particular, Government Special Surveys do not occur at uniform intervals, but vary according to the class and age of the vessels. To the inquiry as to whether if certain concessions were made in order as far as possible to have a few of the Society's Surveys being held at the same time as the Government surveys, the Company would continue to submit these vessels



for survey Mr. Kojima replied that he thought they might do so.

If the Committee will consent to allow these vessels to remain as classed for the present every effort shall be made to induce the Owners to submit those vessels overdue for survey to inspection at the earliest convenient dates, which will necessarily be, in general, at the time of the annual docking.

Of the nine vessels named only six appear to be overdue for survey and the three others, viz:- the "KONAN MARU" "KOTSU MARU" and "KOHOKU MARU" not to be yet due for survey.

The case is submitted for the consideration of the Committee.

10.2.19



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