

COPY.

16a, Marime Nishi,

Kobe.

15th December 1918.

The Secretary,

London.

Dear Sir,

Having reference to the classification letter of 20th September relating to the nine steamers, named in my letter of 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 main reason for the withdrawal was that, the vessels having been placed on the China coast services, the classification was no longer necessary for insurance purposes, a minor reason was that certain inconvenience was caused owing to the dates when the Society's surveys become due not coinciding with the dates of the Government surveys. In particular, the Government Special Surveys do not occur at uniform intervals, but depend upon 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 allow of the Society's surveys being held at the same times as the Government surveys, the Company would continue to submit these vessels for survey Mr. Kojima replied that he thought they might do so.

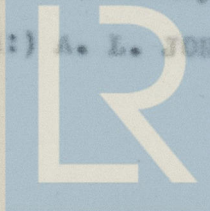
If the Committee will consent to allow these vessels to remain as classed for the present every effort shall be made to induce the owners to submit these vessels overdue for survey to inspection at the earliest convenient dates, which will necessarily be, in general, at the time of the annual docking.

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

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

(Sgd:) A. L. JONES.



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