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Secretary

5th November, 1928.

Dear Mr. Dekkers,

I am favoured with your letter of the 2nd instant, and carefully note your remarks regarding the case of the steamer "ZONNEWIJK", but I am afraid that you did not fully appreciate the Society's position in the matter of the survey and classification of new vessels.

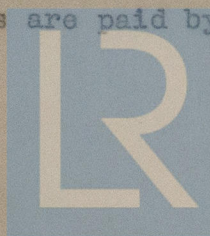
If you will kindly refer to the Society's Rules, page 5, you will find that Section 28 reads as follows:-

"The following fees to be charged to the owners of ships prior to their vessels being classed and registered in the Book:-

and on page 8, Section 30, reads as follows:-

"The class of a vessel is liable to be withheld, or, if already granted, may be withdrawn, or expunged from the Register Book in the case of non-payment of any fees or expenses chargeable on account of such vessel".

The Society's fees must be paid before a new ship receives her classification, whether the vessel is built in the United Kingdom, in Holland, or in any other country. Shipbuilders and Shipowners all over the world are in precisely the same position in relation to this requirement. Whether the fee is paid by the Shipbuilder or the Shipowner is quite immaterial to the Society and is in reality a question of contract. As a rule the fees are paid by the shipbuilders,



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but there have been cases where the Shipowner has elected to pay the fees direct to the Society.

There need be no practical difficulty in obtaining the classification certificate immediately upon completion of the vessel, and upon the payment of the fees, but even if there should be a little delay it is always open to the owner, in any case in which he considers it desirable to do so, to deduct the amount of the Society's fees from the last instalment in order to ensure that he obtains the Society's classification certificate.

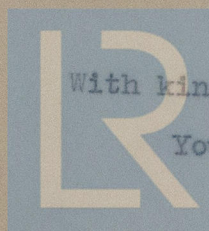
I had not overlooked the fact that you had kindly offered to guarantee the Society against any loss, but there is some doubt as to whether with such a guarantee the Society would be free to swear an affidavit in the terms prescribed in the form required by the Liquidator. You, as owner, would be quite free from this difficulty, but in any case, however, I understand from the statement of affairs which has been prepared by the Liquidator that there will be little, if any, dividend payable out of the estate to ordinary creditors.

I hope that with this further explanation before you you will kindly give instructions for the fees to be paid in order that the certificate may be issued and the classification inserted in the Register.

Z.W.C. Dekkers, Esq.,
P.O. Box No. 313,
ROTTERDAM.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,



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