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THE JAPAN TIMES & MAIL THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1939

## SHIP ONCE THOUGHT USELESS, REBUILT, NOW WORTH ¥5,000,000, BACK IN SERVICE

The British freighter Silver Cypress, 6,710 tons, which was burned in January, 1937, off Manila and which was then bought by an Osaka scrap iron dealer for only ¥400,000 has been rebuilt into a first-class cargo-boat worth about ¥5,000,000 at the Asano Docks at Tsurumi, Kanagawa prefecture, according to the Asahi.

The ship belonged to the Silver Line. When fire broke out in her engine-room during the ill-fated voyage in 1937, and burned for 10 days and was beached and abandoned by the crew as useless. An Osaka dealer in scrap iron bought the Silver Cypress for ¥400,000 and later sold her to the Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha for ¥800,000. Reluctant to scrap her because there was then a great shipping shortage, the company towed her to the Asano Docks in January, 1938 to repair her, with the permission of the Communications Ministry.

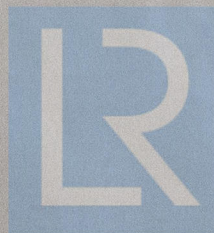
After nearly two years' work there, the Silver Cypress was rechristened recently as the Yasukawa Maru. A sum of ¥2,100,000 was spent for the repair work but the price of the Yasukawa Maru, recog-

nized by the Communications Ministry as a first-class cargo-boat, is estimated at ¥5,000,000.

The resurrection of the Silver Cypress as a Japanese freighter is an unprecedented success in the history of ship repairing of the world, according to the Asahi. Experts of the Asano Docks had thought one year's work would be enough to rebuild her but actually it took twice as long.

The new Kawasaki Kisen Kaisha liner will leave Yokohama Thursday morning with 4,000 tons of tangerines aboard and take on 3,000 tons of cargo at Nagoya a few days later on its maiden voyage to Dairen via Osaka. She is expected to be put on the Pacific service in the near future.

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