

PACIFIC STEAMSHIP LINES

San Francisco

June 13th 1933

Mr. David Millar  
San Francisco.

Dear Mr. Millar,

With reference to our conversation yesterday concerning our 16 ships which are laid up in New York harbor.

We wrote you March 23rd 1932 regarding these vessels. Since that time there have been no new developments that would be of interest to your Society. These ships were carefully laid up in their present location, and in addition to our own representatives a surveyor representing the United States Salvage Association Inc. of New York, passed upon the manner in which the vessels were moored and the fire protection provided. ~~Ever~~ since they were laid up in this location we have had one of our own Captains and some men on board these ships for the purpose of looking after them, and we also employed an organization in New York to scale and paint some of the hulls. The machinery and boilers have been looked after and in our opinion, no undue deterioration is taking place.

In the circumstances we can see no advantage in arranging for a general examination to be carried out by the surveyors of your Society. It is our intention to take care of necessary surveys at such time ~~in the future~~ as these ships are placed in commission and at that time the surveyors of your Society will have ample opportunity to satisfy themselves with regard to the physical condition of these ships.

We are unable at this time to definitely say when we shall be able to employ more of these ships in our coastwise service, but recently there has been an increased demand for tonnage in our local trades and we are hopeful that this may develop to such a stage as would warrant us placing in commission some of these ships that are now laid up in New York.

In our opinion it would be more beneficial to all concerned to conduct examination and survey of these ships just before entering service rather than do this work now and then allow the ships to remain idle for an indefinite period.

These are the reasons why we decided to postpone the surveys until employment could be found for the ships, and in view of the manner in which they were laid up and are being looked after by our own people we cannot see how the interests of your society are being in any way impaired.

Hope that when you explain the circumstances to your principals they may concur in our desire to hold the surveys in abeyance for the time being. If, however, it would be entirely contrary to the policy of the society to do so then we would be quite agreeable to carrying out their suggestion that the ships be withdrawn from Lloyd's classification.

Very truly yours,  
Signed:- C. King.



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