

s.s. "TRECII"

23 FEB 1935

This vessel touched bottom on the 6th August 1933, and was subsequently examined by a diver, and by the Society's Surveyor at Split, ^{Mr. A. J. Brown} who issued an interim certificate. The vessel proceeded to sea on the 9th August and foundered on the 10th.

An action regarding the loss is pending in the Law Courts, following refusal by the Underwriters to pay the claim.

The Society's Surveyor at Split stated in his report (Split No. 217) dated 8th August 1933 :-

"Witnessed diver go down for examination of vessel under water, and afterwards took statement from him to the effect that the bottom, sternframe, rudder and propeller appeared to be undamaged".

On 17th January last the Salvage Association desired to know if the Surveyor at Split could proceed to this Country to give evidence in the case, but later they stated that an Affidavit by him would be accepted as evidence. Mr. Brown swore an Affidavit in which the following statement appeared :-

"I witnessed the Diver go down for examination of the vessel under water and afterwards took a statement from him to the effect that the bottom stern frame rudder and propeller appeared to be undamaged and on the strength of this report I issued to the owners a Certificate of Seaworthiness.

A semi-official letter, addressed to Sir Andrew Scott, has now been received from Mr. Brown, in which he states that he has had a further interview with the Diver who conducted the examination. It now appears that the Diver only made an examination of the underwater parts of the vessel from waterline to centre keelson on the port side, and that no examination was made of the starboard side.

As the Surveyor's Affidavit conveys the impression that the whole of the bottom was examined, it is a matter for consideration whether the matter might not be referred to the Society's Solicitors for guidance as to the action which should be taken.

*Consent by
Diver's parent
etc*



2020
22.2.35

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