

*Special*S.S. "TRECİ"

The case of this vessel, which was surveyed afloat by the Surveyor at Split, and by a diver, after grounding, and which foundered while at sea two days later, is fully stated in previous endorsements.

A letter has now been received from the Salvage Association stating that the Underwriters have refused to pay the loss, and that proceedings are to be taken in the Courts in this country. The Plaintiffs have made a statement that the Society's Surveyor at Split informed a Mr. Mario Lusic that there were possibly some rivets broken when the vessel grounded in her loading berth immediately prior to her sinking, and that these may have been unnoticed by the diver owing to the muddy water. They understand that Mr. Brown disputes having expressed any such opinion, pointing out that had such been ^{his} view his ~~his~~ whole course of action would have been altered. When the case comes to trial it may be necessary to call evidence to rebut the statement made by Mr. Lusic, and the Salvage Association desire to know if the Committee would permit Mr. Brown to come to London to give evidence. If the Committee agrees to this, they desire to have some idea as to the fee that would have to be paid in connexion therewith.

Mr. Brown has been requested by cable to state if he can conveniently attend, and, if so, what the arrangements for a ^{would} substitute/approximately cost. He replies that attendance can be arranged and suggests that the Susak Surveyor should undertake the duties at Split. He adds that the question regarding cost is not clear.

It is submitted that Mr. Brown might be authorised to proceed to this Country for the purpose of giving evidence in this case, if desired, and that the ~~the~~ Exclusive Surveyor at Susak be requested to arrange to undertake the duties at Split in his absence, if required.

If this arrangement is agreed to it is considered that it would not be reasonable to charge the Owners of vessels concerned ~~for the~~ expenses incurred in travelling from Susak to Split, and it is submitted that these should be charged to the Salvage

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Association. From an examination of the Susak travelling expense sheets it appears that the travelling and subsistence expense for a three-day visit to Split amounts to approximately £7, and assuming that during Mr. Brown's absence say 4 visits are paid to Split, the expenses for this would cost say £30.

Mr. Brown's travelling expenses and subsistence in coming to London and returning might be estimated roughly at £70, and it is a matter for consideration whether the Salvage Association might be informed that it is not possible to state definitely what the proposed arrangement will cost, but it is expected that the expenses will not exceed say £110.

It might be noted, however, that this figure includes no provision for the cost of Mr. Brown's salary to the Society during his absence, from his post.

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21.1.35

Mr. Brown's salary and allowance amounts to £750 per annum less cut.

*age for 1/2
on the assumption
presence in London
would be 210 days - if a longer
period is required for a longer
period 240 days would be required
240 days adjusted accordingly* *JB*
22.1.35



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