

Fees for Shelter Deck Vessels

(Mr. Leeuwenburg's letter of 19th December regarding two Motor Vessels Yard Nos. 161 & 162 proposed to be built by Messrs. J. Koster Hzn. Scheeps. "Gideon")

Mr. Leeuwenburg's letter refers to a matter to which the attention of the Committee has frequently been directed. The hull fees for new ships are based on gross tonnage, and in the case of shelter deck vessels the tonnage of the shelter 'tween deck space is, of course, not included. This shelter 'tween deck space is a part of the structure of the vessel, and requires to be surveyed with the same amount of care as if the vessel were of the flush deck type.

It follows that there is a decided disparity between the amount of fees received from two vessels possessing the same physical characteristics and requiring the same amount of time and attention from the Society's Staff. The following table gives an idea of the disparity:-

HULL FEES FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION

	<u>SHELTER DECK VESSEL.</u>	<u>VESSEL HAVING NO SHELTER DECK.</u>	<u>£</u> <i>544</i>
250 ft.	£135	£167	32
300 ft.	£180	£215	35
350 ft.	£227	£275	48
400 ft.	£292	£337	45
450 ft.	£352	£392	40

As the proportion of shelter deck vessels to other types is considerable, it will be seen that a large amount is involved.

There are two factors which are not generally appreciated which render this disparity more pronounced. One is exemplified by the case Mr. Leeuwenburg cites, where the vessel is only 143 feet in length. In that case the proportion of the shelter deck space to the total tonnage is greater than in larger ships.

The second point is that frequently shelter deck ships are built with deep shelter 'tween decks and the second deck is parallel to the keel. In two cases recently completed in Gothenburg the difference in the fees would amount in each case to £85 to £90.

On former occasions when this matter has been raised, the view has been taken that any possible rectification of the basis could only be considered and discussed as part of a much larger general question.

*No action at present
Etk
MWS*

Jay
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