

"ABEILLE NO. 10", &c.

The Owners of the above vessel have raised the question as to whether all their sea-going tugs are required to have International Load Line Convention Certificates.

1. Article 2 of the International Load Line Convention applies the requirements of the Convention to all vessels engaged on international voyages, which carry passengers and cargo, and which have a gross tonnage of 150 tons and above.

2. French Law requires all merchant vessels of 150 tons and above engaged on International voyages to be provided with International Load Line Certificates, and vessels of under 150 tons gross which are engaged on either international or national voyages to be provided with French National Load Line Certificates.

3. The British Board of Trade only exempts tugs of less than 80 tons net register from the requirements of the Load Line Regulations provided they are engaged solely on the coasting trade and do not carry either passengers or cargo.

It would therefore appear that all the sea-going tugs of Messrs. Cie de Remorquage et de Sauvetage "Les Abeilles" will require Freeboard Certificates, those engaged on national voyages only will require French National Load Line Certificates and those engaged on international voyages will require International Load Line Certificates if of 150 tons gross and upwards, and ~~French~~ French National Certificates if of under 150 tons gross.

IT IS SUBMITTED the Havre Surveyors be advised as above. They should also be advised that French National Load Line Certificates are required by all French fishing vessels having a gross tonnage of 250 tons or less, but having a length of 12 metres and upwards. The Minister of the Marine Marchande may exempt fishing vessels of less than 100 tons gross from the requirements of the Freeboard Regulations provided they are not



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mechanically propelled trawlers, or trawlers engaged in the Great Overseas Fishing Industry. Fishing vessels of over 250 tons gross should have International Load Line Certificates.

Periodical Load Line Surveys are necessary in the case of French vessels to which French National Load Line Certificates have been issued.

It is concluded that the Owners will require the Society to issue the requisite Freeboard Certificates and upon receipt of a request from the Surveyors, the usual particulars taken from the previous freeboard report will be sent for their guidance in each case.

IT IS FURTHER SUBMITTED the following cable be sent to the Havre Surveyors:

FRENCH SEAGOING TUGS REQUIRE INTERNATIONAL LOAD LINE CERTIFICATES IF ENGAGED ON INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES AND 150 TONS GROSS AND OVER STOP. FRENCH NATIONAL LOAD LINE CERTIFICATES NECESSARY FOR SEAGOING TUGS UNDER 150 TONS GROSS STOP WRITING".

S.B.

15.2.38.

With regard to the statement in the Surveyors' letter that the freeboard marking had been verified and the Certificate produced on the occasion of the Board of Trade Surveyor's visit at Southampton, they should be advised that the only Certificate issued by this Society was issued in 1909 under the pre-Convention Regulations and is therefore no longer valid.

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