

6th August, 1948.

Dear Sir,

I duly received your letter of the 27th ultimo from which it is noted that the Owner of the motor coasters "VIRGEN DE LA LUZ", "VIRGEN DE LA ESPERANZA" and "VIRGEN DE NA LLUCH" has decided not to continue the classification of these vessels with this Society.

Owing to the unusual circumstances surrounding these cases, the Committee have had some difficulty in deciding upon the method of withdrawal.

The "VIRGEN DE LA ESPERANZA" only became due for survey in January last, and in this case the Committee would be prepared to withdraw the class and insert three dots indicating withdrawal at Owners' request.

The "VIRGEN DE LA LUZ" was sunk by collision in the Guadalquivir River on the 16th ultimo, and so far no report has been received at Lloyd's as to whether salvage operations will commence or whether she has been adjudged a total loss. Obviously it would be absurd to withdraw the class of a vessel when she may never be refloated and, accordingly, action has been deferred for a month by which time the extent of the casualty may make deletion of class unnecessary.

The "VIRGEN DE LAUCH" present even more unusual circumstances as although the vessel was completed for classification so long ago as October 1946, this has never been assigned owing to the fact that, until recently the torsional vibration characteristics of the main propelling machinery had not been approved. It was not until the 16th July that we received information regarding the G.D² of the propeller, and so we are faced with the problem of withdrawing the class of a vessel before it has been assigned.

She has, however, now been endorsed by the Surveyors for classification and the Owner is entitled to a first entry classification certificate. To post particulars in the Register Book and then withdraw them again a little time afterwards causes unnecessary work here, but the Committee feel that, having built the ship to class, the Owner is entitled to every consideration. They will, therefore, be

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glad if you will ascertain from him and advise me whether he would like the class assigned and then taken away, or whether he would be content if we inserted in the Register Book the Cross for the hull indicating survey during construction.

Yours faithfully,

Clerk to the
Classification Committee

A. E. Scott, Esq.,
BILBAO.



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