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23rd November, 1937.

Dear Mr. Johnson,

With reference to the vessels ordered by Messrs. Knohr & Burchard, and to the conversations which Mr. Chisholm and you had with Director Aldag of that firm, I have to inform you that the matter has been very fully discussed in this Office, but it is not felt that the fees of this Society can be reduced in accordance with the request made by Director Aldag.

I shall be glad if you will take an opportunity of calling upon this gentleman to acquaint him with this decision of the Committee, and at the same time explain the reasons which have influenced the Committee in deciding upon this course of action.

While they would be prepared to make some concession in the case of these vessels, they feel that a precedent such as would be granted might have far reaching effects, and they would experience considerable difficulty in withstanding arguments in favour of similar reductions in other countries all over the world.

Director Aldag will, I am sure, realise that  
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is not possible for this Society to treat one Owner differently from another, unless the circumstances of the case are dissimilar, and while the Committee appreciate and sympathise with him in the position which he is forced to occupy, they do not see that they can assist him by giving a concession such as he wishes.

I hope you may be able to persuade Director Aldag to build these vessels to the classification of this Society as well as that of the Germanischer Lloyd, which has been made obligatory, particularly in view of the value of this Society's class and the relatively small sum of money which is in question when compared with the cost of the vessels.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

R. S. Johnson, Esq., B.Sc.,

HAMBURG.



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