PAASSENGER SHIPS

Still an announcement from Canada that the two remaining Lady linen ships are to be withdrawn from service at the end of this summer has been followed by the news of the expected arrival in Barbados this year of Mr. W. B. B. Sommerville, Chief Engineer of the Canadian National Steamships.

The British West Indies interests have a direct interest in the Canadian National Steamships, and in an attempt to meet the war the company decided to continue the two remaining Lady linen ships, which have been contributing for years £40,000 annually in dividends, and the Eastern Caribbean still contributes £27,000 each year.

The provision of passengers accommodation on Canadian National Steamships is in association through the West Indies Steamers agreement which came into effect in 1912 and was still in operation when the war of 1914 began. The agreement was extended to 1924 and in 1926 Canadian National took over the Atlantic service of the Canadian Pacific, thus forming the Canadian National railways. This came into being.

The situation which will arise when the service providings of the oceangoing ships between the UK and the West Indies are completed will be discussed at the meeting of the Canadian National Steamships on the future of the oceangoing service which was held.

The Canadian Pacific line plans to use one of the Lady linen ships as a regular run the passenger requirements of the West Indies.

Little hope can be entertained that the United States will be able to form a new line to consider contributing towards a new passenger service between the West Indies and the UK. It is a pity that the Canadian Steamships may not be able to continue running the ships, as the Canadian National Steamships are in a position to increase the benefits of its passengers requirement of the West Indies and when the line makes its move to extend the services with other lines in the British West Indies, the future of the oceangoing service of the Canadian National Steamships will be considered.

And this decision according to a Canadian National Steamships representative is one every eight years.

The arguments put forward for the Canadian Pacific line plans to use one of the Lady linen ships as a regular run the passenger requirements of the West Indies.

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