

It is also the opinion of this Board of Inspectors that steam vessels, navigating the lakes, should be fitted with sufficient sails to control them in case of accident to the engine. They would also suggest that better means be taken to secure the hatchways and other openings in the decks of steam vessels, and more especially of propellers, as it is believed that many of the serious disasters occurring, are in consequence of some of the above named deficiencies, and from being overloaded.

CLASSIFICATION OF LAKE VESSELS.

There shall be three Classes—A, B and C—with two grades to each class, namely: A 1, A 2, B 1, B 2, C 1, C 2.

Vessels hereafter built in accordance with the Rules of the Association, shall be entitled to Class A 1 five years. At the expiration of which time, if sound, and in good order, she shall class A 2 three years, B 1 two years, B 2 two years, and then into Class C.

New vessels, classing A 2, shall be entitled to remain in that grade five years, B 1 three years, B 2 two years, and then into Class C. At any time, however, vessels are liable to be surveyed, and if from any cause whatever, such as stranding, collision, dry rot, or deficiencies in materials, &c., a vessel be found unworthy to remain in her class, the Inspector for the District shall place her in the grade to which she is entitled.

But if the damage or deficiencies be promptly made good to the satisfaction of the Inspector, the vessel shall remain in her class, until in due course of time she lapses from it.

New vessels that are not qualified to class so high as A 2, shall be classed in the grade to which it is deemed by the Inspector they are entitled.

Vessels already built shall have the benefit of the foregoing