

## 1,200 Passenger Boat To Make Boston-Cape Tip Run This Summer

A 1,200 passenger boat owned by the Tolchester Lines of Washington, D. C., will begin making the Provincetown-Boston excursion run on June 22, following a vote by the Board of Selectmen Monday night agreeing to a three-year contract between the Town and the Washington company. The ship, presently named the District of Columbia, has been operated on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay between Washington, D. C., Old Point Comfort and Norfolk, Va., and between Baltimore and the above points. It needs a crew of about 28 and is also equipped as a car ferry.

Provisions of the contract include a payment to the Town of \$3,000 the first year and \$4,000 for each of the next two years with an option to renew for another three years. The firm will also have to provide a \$50,000 bond to cover possible damage by the vessel to MacMillan Wharf.

Representing the Tolchester Lines at the Monday meeting was Attorney John C. Snow. Also present was B. B. Wills, a member of the firm. Town Counsel Judge Robert Welsh represented the Town.

A second applicant for the available contract, the Potomac River Lines of Bethesda, Md., operators of an excursion vessel to Nantasket Beach, were also represented at the meeting. This company offered to provide a 500-passenger vessel, for the Provincetown-Boston run, but the Selectmen rejected this proposal as they felt this ship was too small.

## Boat Expected Next Week

Provincetown can expect the arrival of a Boston excursion boat, the S. S. District of Columbia, on her first trip some time next week, according to Attorney John C. Snow, who has been in contact with B. B. Wills, president of the Tolchester Lines, Inc., a Maryland outfit which will operate the vessel.

A telegram confirming the report of the arrival was received by Attorney Snow Tuesday morning and it stated that there had been some delay while the vessel was in drydock and that it has been a considerable job converting staterooms and freight space into a passenger excursion type boat.

The boat underwent its Coast Guard stability tests this week and her arrival was expected in Boston this weekend. It is expected that more definite information will be furnished within a few days.

The S. S. District of Columbia is approximately 297 feet in length with a beam of 50 feet, of 2,500 horsepower, speed of 15 miles an hour and a capacity of at least 1,000.

Mr. Wills, head of the Tolchester Lines, Inc., will be remembered as the operator of the Wills Line, which ran the S. S. Chauncey Depew between Boston and Provincetown several years ago.

Wharfinger Arthur B. Silva has reported to Town Manager Walter E. Lawrence that the Provincetown-Boston excursion boat carried 16,441 passengers to Provincetown this season. He also reported that the vessel missed coming 21 days during the Summer runs. Also reported by Mr. Silva was the fact that during the period September 10 to 24 there were 48 yachts in the harbor and at the dock.

September 27, 1962

- July 5, 1962 -

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From Provincetown: Leaving 4:30 P.M. Arriving Boston 8:00 P.M.

*Did they change the name  
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