Unit 5

TYPES OF SHIPS
TRAMPS

Basic terms

tramp	***bulk cargo***	***shipload***
tween-deck	***charter party***	***draft***
beam	***deadweight tonnage***	***multi-purpose ship***

The tramp, or general trader as she is often called, does not operate on a fixed sailing schedule, but merely trades in all parts of the world in search of cargo, primarily bulk cargo. Such cargoes include coal, grain, timber, sugar, ores, fertilizers, copra etc., which are carried in complete shiploads. Many of the cargoes are seasonal. The tramp is an unspecialized type of vessel with two to six holds, each with large unobstructed hatches, and primarily designed for the conveyance of bulk cargoes. Some ships are built with special facilities particularly suitable to the five main tramp trades: grain, coal, bauxite, phosphates and iron ore. A typical modern tramp vessel is a multi-purpose ship. She normally has a crew of 30, a speed of 15 knots and has 'tween deck accommodation. The ship is of 9,100 **G.T.,** with a N.T. of 6,100 and loaded mean draft of 8.84 metres. The vessel length is 140 metres and she has a beam of 21 metres. Five holds are provided. The accommodation is placed amidships aft. Each hold is served .by derricks and her total grain cubic capacity exceeds 764,000 cu. ft. The total cargo deadweight tonnage is approximately 14,000. Tramp vessels are engaged under a document called a charter party, on a time or voyage basis.

Tramp ships vary considerably in size and are sometimes of lesser quality than the liner ships. Because the cargoes usually don't have to be transported at a high speed and the ship doesn't need highly sophisticated equipment, tramp ships are relatively slow and cheap. However, the present-day tramp fleet counts numerous modern bulk carriers suitable for different sorts of cargoes, including tankers and specialized ships.

Owners of modern and cost-effective tramp ships have a better chance than their competitors who offer inferior and less flexibility in the freight market.

THE CARGO

The cargo consist of unpackaged bulk goods (ore, coal, grain, phosphates, and others) or a massive amount of general cargo (e.g. sawn wood) or seasonal products; with preferably a full cargo which belong to one shipper. No special care is given to manipulation and stowage; speed of delivery is not of primary importance.

CHARACTERISTICS OF A TRAMPING COMPANY

In tramp shipping, tramp ships are being used. As the name indicates, this branch of the shipping industry is very irregular in its activities. Tramp ships are sent in where the most paying freights are available. Therefore, tramping is very unstable and very little organized.Tramp ships are, in accordance with the demand, contractually put at the disposal of charterers, to carry, for one or more voyages, a quantity of goods between named harbours (in voyage charter) or to carry out a number of transport consignments in a certain period of time (in time charter). In the broadest sense of the word, tramp shipping is the activity that is done with ships in voyage charter.

Usually, under a charter agreement, they have to perform only one voyage so that each voyage stands completely apart from the other. The vessel is an independent operating and competing unit and its operation is highly individual. The sailing schedule of a tramp ship is consequently very irregular.

The ship operator must see to it that his ship is rarely idle and in the port of discharge - or in a harbour as close as possible to the port of discharge - he must always try to get a new charter for the ship. Ballast voyages must be avoided at all cost and are, for the ship operator the main problem.

Abbreviations

G.T. - ***gross register ton***
N.T. - ***net register ton***
Cu.ft. - ***cubic feet***

A. *Comprehension & vocabulary*

A.1 Tick the correct box:

	LINER	TRAMP
1. A ship operating on a fixed sailing schedule.		
2. A ship sailing to ports where there is some cargo to pick up.		
3. Freighter.		
4. General trader.		
5. A ship designed to carry ore, coal, grain.		
6. A ship engaged on a charter basis.		
7. A ship carrying primarily bulk cargoes.		

A.2 ***Complete the text below with the appropriate words using the following basic terms:***

• charter party • deadweight • tramps • tramp • deadweight tons • shipload • bulk cargo

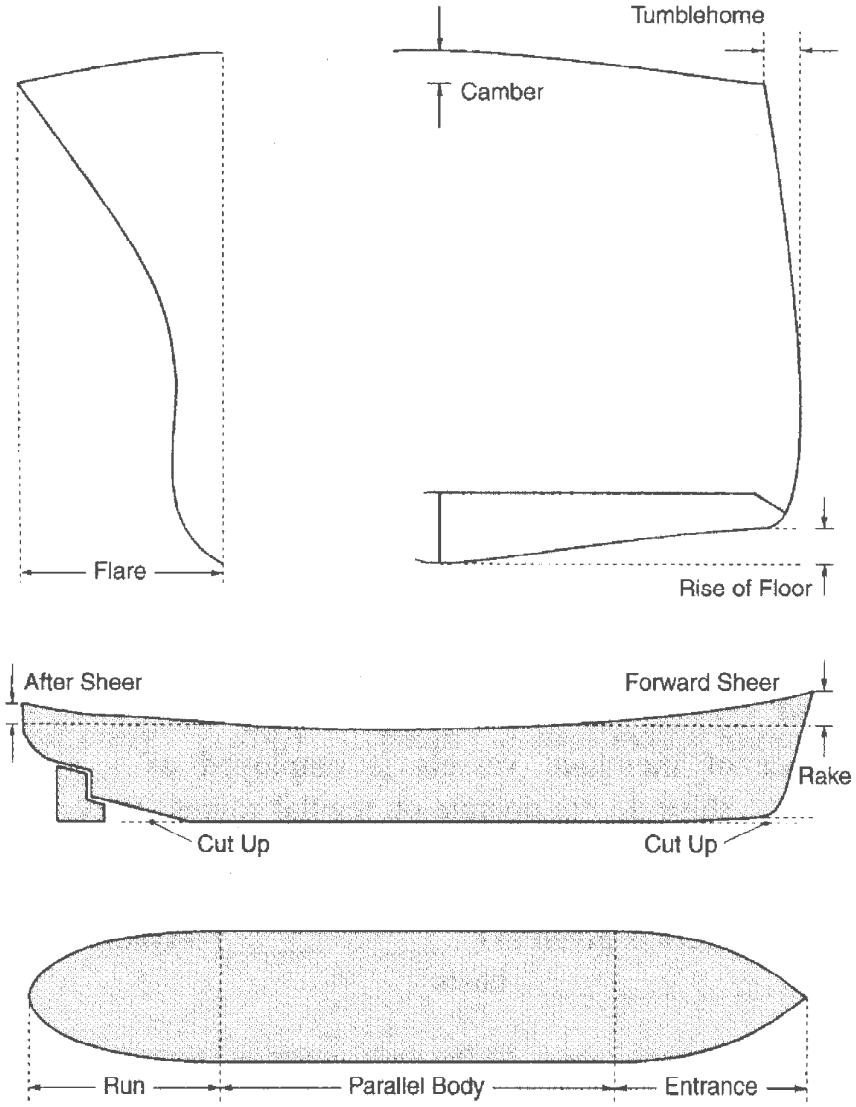
A great number of merchant vessels is employed as _____ . _____ ships do not operate on regular routes. They mostly carry oil and _____ . The cargo of oil is often carried as a complete _____ . DWT is the abbreviation for _____ . The capacity of bulk carriers is given in _____ . Tramp ships are usually employed on a _____ basis.

A.3 Rearrange the words below to make meaningful sentences:

1. Tramps, to carry, general cargo, some, are designed.
1a _____
2. Tramp ships, on regular, do, routes, operate?
2a _____
3. Complete, as, bulk cargoes, most, shiploads, are carried.
3a _____
4. Vessels, under, tramp, a charter party, are engaged.
4a _____
5. Ship, in, holds, five, this, are provided.
5a _____

A.4 Find the sentences or passages in the reading text which refer to the following questions. Then work in pairs and answer these questions:

1. Where do tramp ships sail?
2. What cargoes do they carry?
3. What are the holds and hatches of tramp ships like?
4. What are the five main tramp trades?
5. What are the main features of a typical tramp ship (crew, speed, accommodation, tonnage, dimensions, draft, holds)?
6. How are tramp vessels engaged?


Tumblehome
Camber
Flare
Rise of Floor
After Sheer
Forward Sheer
Rake
Cut Up
Cut Up
Run
Parallel Body
Entrance

B. Grammar

B.1 Make questions for the following sentences using the question word in brackets. The question word refers to the underlined part of the sentence.

EXAMPLE

The accommodation is placed aft *(where?).*
Where is the accommodation placed?
The accommodation is placed aft *(what?).*
What is placed aft?

1. Each hold is served by two derricks *(what?, what... by?).*

2. Tramp vessels operate on fixed sailing routes? *(which?, where?).*

3. Bulk cargoes include coal, grain, sugar etc. *(which?, what?).*

4. Coasters ply on coastal routes *(which ships?, where?).*

5. Tramps are designed for the conveyance of bulk cargo *(which ships?, what for?, what kind of cargo?).*