

s.s. "DALIA"

The attached confidential correspondence has taken place in view of a question raised by Mr. G.H.Court, of the Maritime Insurance Co.Ltd., as to whether the bottom of this vessel was hogged. The Port Natal Surveyor was informed and requested to examine the bottom when next the vessel was placed in dry dock in his district. He now states that the vessel was dry docked at Colombo, but so far as is known, the vessel was examined by the ship's officers only. The Master stated that he had specially examined the bottom to ascertain if there was any sign of hogging, as ever since the vessel was new there had been about 2" difference between the loadline and the corresponding draft marks, and he suggested that the draft marks were wrongly cut in, and asked whether they could be corrected. The Surveyor states that it is difficult to check the marks in Durban Harbour, on account of the swell, and suggests that this might be deferred until the vessel is next placed in dry dock.

It is submitted the Owners might be informed of the Captain's statement regarding the draft marks being wrongly cut in, and requested to state when and at what port the ship will next be placed in dry dock, so that these may be verified.

When their reply is received, the Surveyor at the port in question could be confidentially informed regarding the alleged hogging, and requested, when verifying the draft marks, to examine the bottom for hogging.

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