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s.s. "AMARANTE", No. 12816 in R.B., 7678 tons gross, built at Vegesack in 1914.

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This ex-German vessel recently underwent survey for classification at Lisbon, and Mr. Engledow, the Society's Senior Surveyor at Bilbao, on several occasions joined the local Surveyors in the survey.

On the 9th July last, a letter was written to Mr. Payne asking what fee he proposed to charge in this case, and he replied on the 13th July that he considered the fee should be at least 1/- per gross ton, and he thought that this was agreed to by Mr. Ives at the interview when the matter was discussed.

On the 21st July Mr. Engledow was asked to take the matter up with the Lisbon Surveyors, and he was informed that based on the cases of other ex-German steamers it was considered that an inclusive fee of £200 would be suitable in addition to the Bilbao and Lisbon expenses, and that 50 per cent of the fee should be credited to the local Surveyors and the balance to this Office. In reply Mr. Engledow stated that Mr. Payne considered £200 too low in view of the duration of time of survey, and he believed that he could obtain a much higher fee which should be divided as follows, viz. one-third to London and two-thirds to the Lisbon Surveyors.

In October last the Bilbao Surveyors were informed that the question of the fees should be deferred until the result of the drillings was known, and they were also informed that it was considered in view of the work entailed in this Office, and the number of Mr. Engledow's visits, the apportionment of the fees should be as intimated on the 21st July, (a copy of this letter was sent to Lisbon).

No further correspondence has taken place regarding the fees, and on the survey reports of the vessel received on 31st ultimo, the fees are given as follows:-

Special Survey (inclusive)	£300
Expenses	<u>146. 10.</u>
	<u>£446. 10.</u>

A letter has now been received from Messrs. H. Clarkson & Co., forwarding a copy of the Surveyors' Account, and stating that the owners consider the fees exceedingly high and quite unjustified, particularly drawing attention to the amount of the expenses.

The account shows

	<u>Hull</u>	<u>Machinery</u>
First entry fee	<u>£</u> 50	<u>£</u> 25
Survey fee, damage	80	35
do. Freeboard		
repairs &c.	170	65
Travelling expenses		
2nd surveyor, &c.	<u>106.10</u>	<u>          </u>
	£406.10	£125.

TOTAL: £531. 10.  
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Note; Mr. Engledow's expenses (per his returns) were 2,683 pesetas or say £80.



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