

s.s. "ALI WAL" ex "HOEVELD"

It is clear that the Owners have tried in turn Lloyd's Register, the American Bureau, the South African Port Authorities and finally the Registro Italiano in an endeavour to get a certificate to take the ship with cargo from Durban to Cape Town.

Notwithstanding the willingness of the Registro Italiano through the medium of the ubiquitous Hean, Robinson & Cruikshank to sponsor such a voyage, the Port Authorities have stepped in and from their knowledge of the case have vetoed the voyage in the ship's present condition.

Presumably Mr. Balfour will, if subpoenaed, be required as a witness on behalf of the Port Authorities and will testify as to the ship's condition from his knowledge in consequence of his survey.

In these circumstances, the usual instruction to the Surveyor requires him to confine his evidence to statements of fact, within his knowledge, and to avoid any expressions of opinion.

R. a. J.

10th January, 1952.



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Lloyd's Register
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014751-04762-0170