

REINFORCED CONCRETE BARGES, building for the C.G.M.S.

by Mr. John ver Mehr.

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A letter has been received from Capt. Humphrey R.N representing the Ministry of Shipping, stating that great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining dry docking accommodation at Southampton for the "CRETESTILE", P.D.130, and requesting that is possible, as the result of the examination of this vessel in dry dock at Southampton, certificates for the sister vessels, the "CRETESHADE", P.D.131, and "CRETESTREAM", P.D. 132, also built by Mr. John ver Mehr, should be granted without their having to go into dry dock.

It is submitted the Ministry of Shipping be informed that it is considered necessary - in those cases in which it has not been possible to examine the bottom of the vessel from the outside while building - to place the vessel in dry dock for the purpose of examining the bottom prior to issuing the classification certificate; it is therefore regretted that their proposal to forego the docking of these vessels cannot be acceded to.

It should also be pointed out to the Ministry of Shipping that rust spots are shewing on the surface of the concrete, obviously as the result of corrosion of the imbedded steel, possibly of loose ends of slab bars and wire, and it is considered, in order to prevent the probability of corrosion developing farther, that any defective concrete should be removed and replaced by new concrete. It is suggested that it might be advantageous to coat the outer surface - especially that portion below water - with a bitumastic composition.

Lr. 22.5.19.

Ansd. 27.

P.C.Lon. Surs.

26.5.19.

C.F.

B.C.L.

J.T.M.



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