

s.s. "CORABELLA" - Built in 1937 by Messrs. J.L. Thompson & Sons - Class: 100A1.

*Sunday*

Dr. Pickworth telephoned this afternoon and asked that the following message be given to Dr. Montgomerie:-

The "CORABELLA" built by Messrs. J.L. Thompson & Sons has just come under survey in dry dock at Sunderland. After six months service the solepiece of the sternframe has developed fractures where it joins the aftermost sole plate. The fracture follows the curve of this plate and is possibly 14 inches in length both port and starboard sides. Corrosion fatigue is indicated.

Dr. Pickworth's difficulty is in assigning the cause of the fracture, in view of the short time the vessel has been in service. He noted slight scoring with evidence of some blow to the starboard side of the solepiece. There is marked corrosion on the rudder and sternframe and at the shell plating, also defects in the rudder, but these are not serious as in the case of the "NEWTON MOORE".

He has had no hesitation in recommending the lower portion of the sternframe to be renewed.

The Owners cannot agree with the Builders as to liability. He has been asked whether the new solepiece should be put in of increased size. In view of the large number of other ships having similar sternframes being satisfactory in service he hesitates, as a result of one occurrence, to recommend increased scantlings; moreover, this would be equivalent to saying that the present sternframe is weak.

The case is so interesting that he thought it well to notify Dr. Montgomerie at once, in case he would like to see it.



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