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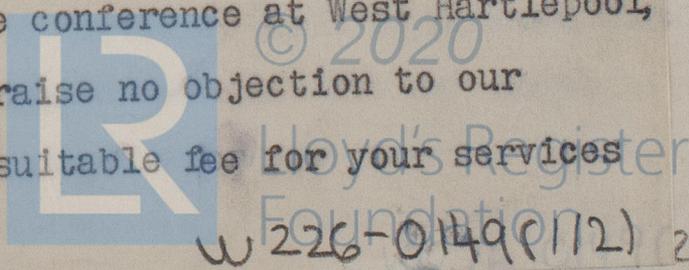
6th February, 1936.

Dear Mr. McKinlay,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th instant regarding the case of the Dutch steamer "VEERHAVEN", from which I note that the Owners' Superintendent Engineer has called on you and informed you that it is proposed to arrange for a conference to be held at West Hartlepool with the Manufacturers of the Boilers on the 11th instant.

It is, as you will certainly realise, our wish to assist Owners wherever possible, but in this case it is not seen how a conference such as is proposed can serve any useful purpose at the present time, and one would have expected that the time for a conference such as that now contemplated would have been after a further examination of the vessel's boilers had taken place upon her arrival at Antwerp in March.

However, if the Owners make a special point of your coming over to attend the conference at West Hartlepool, it is assumed that they will raise no objection to our charging your expenses and a suitable fee for your services



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A letter received from Mr. McKinlay, Principal Surveyor for Belgium, stating that the Owners' Superintendent Engineer called on him yesterday and informed him that the Managing Director of the Shipping Company

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while you are away from your port, but I shall be glad to have confirmation of this.

It is also assumed that there will be no difficulty in the work of your port being carried on during your absence.

As time is getting rather short, I shall be glad if you will settle this point and let me know the Owners decision as soon as possible so that the necessary authority may be given to you to enable you to make the journey.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

The Managing Director expressed himself as being anxious that Mr. McKinlay should attend at this Conference if and when it should be held. Although no definite date for such a Conference has yet been decided, Mr. McKinlay states that it is provisionally proposed that the Owners' Superintendent should W. G. McKinlay, Esq., office on the morning of the 16th instant,

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W226-0149(2/2)