

TER LIVERPOOL.

TELEPHONE: ~~XXXX 5226 0043~~

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Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

201, Tower Building,

Liverpool, 3. 22nd. September, 1942.

Sir,

In reply to the London letter of the 18th. instant, respecting the steamer "UMARIA", I beg to inform you that a report is being forwarded at the end of this week, the vessel being still under Survey.

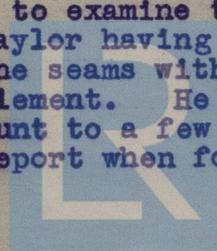
As regards Messrs. Barclay Curle's letter asking for a copy of my report, I should say that I have not examined the boilers personally, the Survey being held by Mr. H. Taylor in my absence.

My visit to the vessel was at the request of the repairers, called on me to ask if I would go and have a talk with Mr. [Name], the Superintendent Engineer. Resulting from this I ascertained that a sister vessel in the Clyde appears to show signs of embrittlement in the boilers, and that the matter is now being dealt with by Mr. Lewis.

It was natural that other vessels should therefore be kept closely watched, and it was on these lines that our conversation tended.

I was informed that slight leaks were taking place in the combustion chambers and furnace landings of the "UMARIA", and I formed the opinion that as they were leaks only, this was not a symptom of embrittlement, which requires a concentration of caustic, but that such concentration is less likely to be formed if the seams leak through. I enquired as to feed water treatment and was informed that since new, the feed has been treated with Clensel tablets, which I understand are composed largely of carbonate of soda.

I arranged for Mr. Taylor to examine the boilers the following day, and this was done, Mr. Taylor having previously been asked to pay particular attention to the seams with an eye to detecting any possible case of early embrittlement. He made a meticulous examination and his findings amount to a few really very slight leaks as you will see from his report when forwarded.



Lloyd's Register
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In my opinion these leaks or bleedings are caused by unequal expansion and contraction of what amounts to "scale-free" boilers, and that the unscientific use of borax or compounds in new boilers, feeding always with fresh water is less beneficial than their proprietors claim.

I, therefore, came somewhat reluctantly to the conclusion that this was not so far a case of chemical embrittlement and would be much interested to have a copy of Mr. Lewis' report on the boilers of the sister vessel.

Yours faithfully,

W. L. Suter

The Secretary,

LIVERPOOL.

