

10.12.24.

S.S. "GRETASTON".

Dimensions: 401.54 x 52.73 x 30 feet.  
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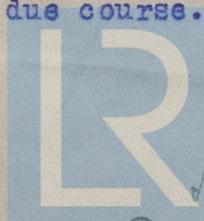
The "GRETASTON", whice on her first voyage from Glasgow to Bahia Blanca, experienced buckling of the bridge deck plating in the vicinity of the machinery casing. She has one deep tank, and at the time of the occurrence this tank was filled with 860 tons of water, while the vessel also carried 990 tons of coal in the bridge 'tween deck spaces, as well as 944 tons of coal in the reserve bunker forward of the machinery space.

Although there is not yet any definite rule, it has been the practice for some years past that where two deep tanks are fitted (one at each end of the machinery space) additional strengthening in the form of deck girders is required. As far as is known, such strengthening has been satisfactory.

Analysis of the case of the "GRETASTON" has shown that with the loading adopted the stress is as great as if the vessel were fitted with two deep tanks. It is probable that the vessel could have carried the 1934 tons of coal quoted without damage, had the deep tank not been filled. It therefore appears that on voyages in the light or ballast condition vessels having one deep tank may be liable to experience high structural stresses.

It is considered that the Society's practice of requiring additional strengthening where two deep tanks are fitted amidships should be extended to cover cases where only one deep tank is fitted amidships.

A submission on these lines is to be placed before the Technical Committee in due course.



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