

on the Builders' proposal.

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31st March 1920.

Dear Sirs,

I have to acquaint you that Mr. Williamson of Messrs. R. Williamson & Son, Workington, called at this Office a few days ago respecting an incident in connection with the recent launching of the steamer "H.M.S. " built by their firm.

Mr. Williamson stated that just previous to the launch when the shores were removed from the bottom of the vessel, it was found that there was a blind hole in the outside plating behind the margin angle.

The hole had not been drilled or punched through the margin bar, and one of the shores had covered the hole in the outside plating. It was too late when this was discovered to drill the hole through the margin angle and put in a rivet, without delaying the launching of the vessel until the following tide.

Mr. Williamson stated that he referred the matter to the Society's Surveyors, and he produced a letter signed Mr. Shute intimating that before any decision was arrived at the consent of the Owners should be obtained to postponing drilling for and fitting of this rivet until the vessel was placed in dry dock.

The steamer is stated to be for Sir John Ellerman, and Mr. Smith of the United Shipping Company, one of the lines associated under the management of Sir John Ellerman, called here after Mr. Williamson's visit, and said they had received a telephone message from Mr. Williamson asking if they had any objection to the matter standing over until the vessel was placed in dry dock.

Mr. Smith called here with a view to ascertaining the views of this Society. He was informed that no opinion

Mr. Smith called here with a view to ascertaining the views of this Society. He was informed that no opinion formed here regarding the matter until we received a report

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could be formed here regarding the matter until a report had been received from you, but the letter which Mr. Williamson produced gave the impression that you were willing to defer the fitting of the rivet at the part in question until the next dry docking, if the Owners raised no objection.

As so far no report on the case has been received you regarding the matter I have to request that you will be good as to report fully on the matter, and state your opinion on the Builders' proposal.

I am, Dear Sirs,
Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

Surveyors,
BARROW.



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