s.s."CRISTOBAL COLON"

RETAI

A confidential letter has been received from Mr. Thomas, the Society's Surveyor at Barcelona, in which it is stated that freeboards have been assigned to this vessel by the Government Inspector at that port and that, in accordance with these freeboards, the centre of the disc is 120 cms. (48 inches) above its original position.

He has had an interview with Sr. Don Miguel Andonegui in which he said that the Company feels that there is something wrong with the assignment and he considers the vessel is not safe if sailing at the amended marking, and he desires to know approximately what freeboard would have been assigned by this Society.

It is submitted the Surveyor be requested to inform Sr. Don Miguel Andonegui that the freeboards of this vessel were restricted to correspond to a ~~Summer~~ moulded draught of 25 feet 6 inches in view of the position of the coaling doors and side scuttles which were fitted and no reduction in this freeboard could be granted under the International Convention, unless the ports were made watertight and the present side scuttles were replaced by scuttles of an approved underwater type.

From an approximate estimate made in this Office, it would appear that if the coaling ports and side scuttles were amended as indicated above, a freeboard approximating to that assigned by the Spanish Authorities could be approved.

It is noted that only in the cases of this vessel and that of the "SAN SEBASTIAN ELCANO" will the freeboards be assigned by the Government Inspector and that in all the other cases the freeboard will be assigned by this Society.

25th October, 1932.

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WS06-0115