

"SILVERCYPRESS".

A letter has been received from the Hong Kong Surveyors stating that this vessel has been badly damaged ^{by} fire which originated in the Engine Room, and enquiring what tests the Society would require, particularly regarding the engine forgings, apart from a visual examination.

This refers to the possibility that the physical properties of the materials may have been adversely affected by heat and/or the method of extinguishing the fire.

Enquiry has been made of the Engine Builders through the Belfast Surveyors as to whether the machinery contains any special materials which would be affected in this way, and the reply is in the negative.

Nevertheless it is quite possible that the physical properties of some parts of the machinery have been affected, but in the absence of information as to the intensity of the fire and the method by which it was extinguished, there is no ~~point~~ ^{ground} on which to base a precise opinion.

In the circumstances it is submitted the Hong Kong Surveyors should be instructed to use their own judgment in the matter after obtaining the fullest possible information of the circumstances, and if they are in any doubt they should apply tests on the lines given in their letter. They should also be informed of the Builders' statement given above.

A reply by air mail is desired.

Answer



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