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139.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

71, Fenchurch Street, E.C. 3.

26th August, 1935.

Dear Sir,

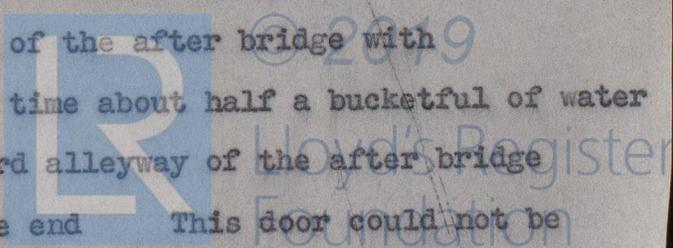
M.

With reference to the enquiry to be held into the loss of the s.s. "LA CRESCENTA", I have to inform you that the Solicitor to the Board of Trade has forwarded to this Office a copy of the statutory declaration made by Mr. Samuel Frederick Marks, who was a fireman on board the vessel on her last voyage but one. Paragraphs 13, 14, 16 and 17 of this declaration read as follows :-

Para. 13 During the heavy weather on the voyage from San Pedro to Yokohama water came down in sheets on me while I was in the stokehold. It came through the fidley and I was wet through. It came down like very heavy rain. No important quantity came through the stokehold ventilators. We were able to turn them away from the weather. One could be turned readily and the other only with very considerable difficulty.

Para. 14 In bad weather the seas would strike the bulkhead at the forward end of the after bridge with considerable force and each time about half a bucketful of water would come into the starboard alleyway of the after bridge through the door at the fore end. This door could not be closed quite tight. No important quantity of water however

W604-0260 1/2



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138

S.S. "LA CRESCENTA"

accumulated in the alleyway

Para. 16 There was also a broken ventilator over an empty cabin but this was plugged

Para. 17 During the voyage a man was chipping the plating of the crew's companion on the starboard side of the steering gear house His chipping hammer went through the plating about 5 feet 6 inches above the deck and about 2 inches from the companion door leaving a hole about one and a quarter inches square The companion doors closed tightly and water did not enter the companion in bad weather

The voyage referred to commenced on 18th September 1934 and was from San Pedro to Yokohama and Shimitzu and back to Port San Luis in California, and in view of the freeboard annual survey held by you on 23rd October 1934 at Yokohama, I am directed to request that you will furnish me with your remarks on the above paragraphs at the earliest possible moment.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

Secretary.

G.H. Macdonald, Esq.,

NAGASAKI.



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W604-0260 2/2