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EXTRACT

SOLICITOR'S DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF TRADE
GREAT GEORGE STREET
LONDON, S.W.1

10th April, 1935.

Dear Sir,

"LA CRESCENTA"

I think you are aware that the above-named vessel is one of those into the loss of which the Board of Trade have ordered a Formal Investigation. The kindness which you have shown me in the "USWORTH" case leads me to ask for your assistance in this case also.

The Surveyors would like to have the information which is set out below if you can give it to them, and I shall be very grateful for any help which you can give us in this matter.

(1) Report from Lloyd's Surveyor in Yokohama dealing with the condition of the ship and repairs required and effected when the Annual Load Line Survey was conducted in October 1934. Detailed information should be given as far as is possible as to the hatchway to the fore hold and to the coal bunker hatchway on the upper deck, to the coal bunker hatchway on the after bridge deck, and the hatch in the forecastle to the fore peak stores, particularly in regard to the clammings, including their stays and horizontal stiffeners, shifting beams, wood covers, tarpaulins, including their number, bearing surfaces for covers and beams, battening cleats, including their spacing, and any lashing

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arrangements provided; also in regard to the structure of the front and after bulkheads of the after bridge, the fidley and engine casing tops, covers for fidley openings, engine skylight and machinery space and other ventilators; further, in regard to the after gangway, shifting boards to the forecastle, and doors to companions and to the after bridge.

It is understood that two boilers were surveyed in Japan about this time and information should be given in such case as to their condition and repairs required and effected to these.

Also whether from hearsay or from his observations the Surveyor or Surveyors had any reason to suspect that the hull, machinery, including the oil fuel installation and auxiliary machinery, steering gear or equipment, were in a defective and unsatisfactory condition.

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