

THE SURVEYORS
—
TELEPHONE No. B.W. 7023
G.P.O. Box 333 F

Lloyd's Register of Shipping.

BANK OF QUEENSLAND CHAMBERS.
251 GEORGE STREET.

SYDNEY, 14th June 1927. 192

N.S.W

The Secretary,

Sir,



I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 3rd May 1927 re Steam Collier "GALAVA" Inquiry requesting a short personal account of the proceedings at the Inquiry held by the Superintendent of State Navigation, Capt. Morris, and am pleased to say I am now able to mail you a copy of this Preliminary Inquiry.

I told Capt. Morris, although this does not appear in his Report, that a most complete and thorough survey had been held by Mr. Cartwright, and that I had visited the vessel while under survey at the Adelaide S. S. Co's Wharf, and saw that a most thorough survey was being carried out, and also that the Freeboard was carefully checked, and found properly cut in. Mr. Cartwright confirmed the foregoing in his evidence.

I understand that £2977 was spent on this Survey, S.S. 2nd No.2, in January 1927.

At the Court of Marine Inquiry held later, each witness was questioned separately, and not allowed in Court at any time, other than when called for his evidence.

Upon applying to the Secretary, Marine Dept.,

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Board of Trade, London, you would be able to see the Marine Court Inquiry evidence, as I understand from the Registrar of the Court here, that a copy of the Inquiry was mailed to the Marine Department, London.

The general inference formed by water front men at the time of the loss, was, that the vessel either grazed over the outer edge of Tuggerah Reef, en route Catherine Hill Bay to Sydney N.S.W., or struck flotsam which allowed water to enter the vessel, or by ranging or striking wharf which started a land or butt and allowed water to enter after loading, resulting in foundering by capsizing.

I am, Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. C. Heron



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