

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE COMPANY.

DRS:
HUNT FURNESS.

GRIFFITHS, R.C.B. D.S.O.

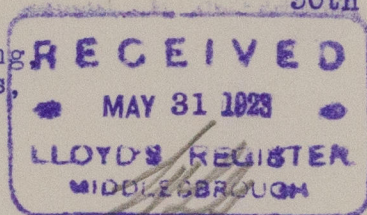
501 }
TELEPHONES 502 } MIDDLESBROUGH.
503 }
TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS: "FURZE"

FURNESS SHIPBUILDING CO., LIMITED,
HAVERTON HILL-ON-TEES.

/IMP. SDO.

30th May 1923.

Yd's Register of Shipping
Lloyd's Bank Chambers,
Middlesbrough.



r Sirs,

S.S. "LONDON MERCHANT" - NO. 19.

Further to the discussion with your Surveyor to-day, we desire
place on record the fact that the above vessel was launched
5th November 1921, but was only handed over after a successful
trial on 25th May 1923.

The unusually lengthy period between launch and completion,
been entirely due to the decision of the Owners to revert
double reduction to single reduction geared turbines, on
ant of the unsatisfactory performance of the former type
achinery on service, which involve^a complete rearrangement of the
nery, the construction of which has been seriously delayed
to labour troubles whilst in process of manufacture.

During the fitting out period the Owners' and ourselves have
special care to maintain the efficiency of the Hull construction.
The vessel has received special protective coatings and was
ocked in Messrs. Smith's Dry Dock at Middlesbrough, first on

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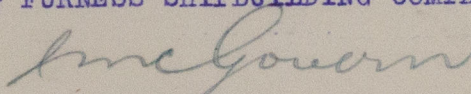
he 29th July 1922, and also on the 10th May 1923.

In view of the foregoing, the Owners are desirous of obtaining special concession in regard to the Date of Build in accordance with Paragraph 7 of your Regulations relating to the Classification of Steel Ships. The Date of Build under these Regulations would be automatically taken as August 1922, or nine months before he was actually in service.

In making your First Entry Report we shall be much obliged if you will kindly bring this matter to the notice of your Committee, and arrange to notify us of the concession granted, in order that we may advise the Owners.

Yours faithfully,

For FURNESS SHIPBUILDING COMPANY LTD



Managing Director.



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Foundation

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