

COPY.

Your ref.
G.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping,

71, Fenchurch Street, E.C.

16th January, 1918.

Dear Sir,

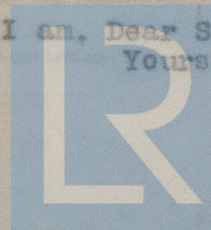
With reference to your letter of the 31st ultimo, respecting the steamer "WAR BARON", I beg to acquaint you that the circumstances to which you allude have been carefully looked into, and as regards the first paragraph of your letter, I have to say that the statements therein are correct.

With regard to the buckling of the fore peak bulkhead referred to in the second paragraph of your letter, the Society's Surveyors at Southampton who have been communicated with in the matter state that in their opinion an undue pressure was put upon the tank when it was filled, but they are unable to ascertain definitely whether this was so.

The Surveyors further report that they found a 3" air pipe to the tank extending up to the forecastle deck, the filling pipe being also 3" in diameter. The air pipe was covered over at the outlet with a very close mesh wire gauze. Two additional 4" air pipes are stated to have been fitted at Southampton, extending up to the forecastle deck, with an outlet in each pipe immediately above the upper deck.

The Director of Transports
& Shipping,
Ministry of Shipping,
Transport Department,
St. James's Park,
S.W. (1).

I am, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,



Lloyd's Register
Secretary.
W763-0005

This report is forwarded for the information of the