

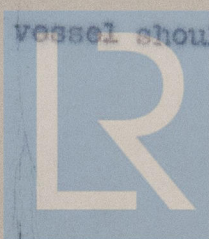
18th April, 1913.

Sir,

D. I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th instant, in which you are good enough to transmit, for the information of the Committee of this Society, a copy of the report of the Formal Investigation recently held into the circumstances attending the abandonment of the S.S. "RIVER MEANDER", and call the attention of the Committee to the remarks of the Court with regard to the survey of the vessel at New York by one of this Society's Surveyors.

It is observed that the Court states that "Lloyd's surveyor was called in on arrival at New York to examine the vessel and to determine the cause of the influx of water into the No.3 hold or deep tank, on the passage from Smyrna to New York", and I am directed to point out that this statement is not in accordance with the fact for, as appears from the report of the Surveyor (which is before me as I write), the survey was held at the request of the Owners' Agents, in consequence of a statement having been made that cargo had been damaged in the tween deck of No.3 hold, and that the Surveyors to the Cargo Underwriters had attributed the same to the deck having leaked under the ice box. The Surveyor caused the deck to be flooded in way of ice box, and found it in sound condition. This was all the examination he made, and it is evident from his report that no representation was made to him of any other damage or leakage.

In these circumstances the Surveyor had, of course, no reason to recommend that the vessel should be placed in



Lloyd's Register
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W795-0025 1/2

dry dock, or that anything further should be done.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

Secretary.

The Assistant Secretary,

Marine Department,

BOARD OF TRADE,

7, Whitehall Gardens, S.W.



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