

COPY. of a letter dated Dec.30th
received January 6th 1917 from the Society's Surveyor at
Lisbon.

Dear Sir,

Trawler "MARIA LUIZA".

In reply to your letter of December 22nd re the
above named trawler, enclosing copy of Messrs Cilia Ltd's
letter, I have to state that the supposed said letter advising
me was not delivered at this office & having no recollection
of receiving a letter, I went at once, on receipt of yours,
and saw Messrs Cilia, father & Son, who at once said:
"Oh yes, we sent you a letter delivered by hand & have same
noted as having been received in our delivery book"
so I asked them to produce their book but nothing could be
traced therein, then they showed me their copy book, both in
regard to their letter to you & and to me, remarking at the
same time that the letter to me may have been lost or that
their man did not deliver it.

I asked them if they still wished the survey held
& when, when they replied " Not now at any rate" & that they
would write to you direct.

I may add that it is very difficult to get on
board these trawlers which are in charge of the Government,
they seem to consider them as their private property. etc.

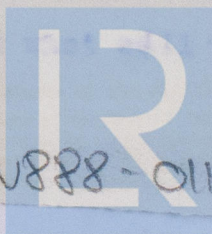
I am now waiting to see what will result from your

(2).

letter to the Parceria Beral de Pescarias re their trawler, "LITE" which is also in the hands of the Government & will not fail to communicate Owners instructions when received. I met Mr. Barclay their Superintendent Engineer and he said he would see them and let me know. I may further add that Messrs, Cilia Ltd. had a case against Messrs Salles Ltd. owners of the trawler "GERMANO" which collided with their vessel moored alongside quay wall and in which case I was a witness so that we met several times but never a word was mentioned about any particular survey to boiler or otherwise except what I wrote you on December 11th no mention being made of a letter to me which was all the conversation that passed between us & naturally I replied to them that if the Government did not wish any outsider on board I would not go and would report to the Committee. This exactly what passed.

I am, Dear Sir,

(Sgd) G. Payne.



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