

"FULHAM II"

Boiler Explosion.

Today's issue of Lloyd's List contains an account of a preliminary enquiry <sup>conducted</sup> ~~reported~~ by the Ministry of Transport <sup>into</sup> ~~of~~ an explosion from the donkey boiler of the above ship on May 23rd, 1958 while the vessel was lying alongside the quay at Clelands (Successors) Ltd.

From the comments of the Ministry's Engineer Surveyor in Chief it appears that the explosion was caused by the excessive clearance between the spigot of the hand-hole door and the aperture into which the door fitted. The boiler had just been surveyed and at the time of the explosion a Surveyor and a fitter were on the boiler top adjusting the safety valves. The Surveyor apparently over-balanced and slipped down between the boiler and the ship's side to the stokehold floor level and succeeded in escaping round the boiler on the side remote from the leak. The fitter was unable to descend from the boiler top by means of the access ladder and eventually fell to the stokehold floor clear of the boiler. He suffered shock and scalding.

Reference to Nwc.Rpt.11535 shows that the boiler was examined internally on the 8th May 1958 and the last day of survey was 29th May 1958. The report also stated in regard to the donkey boiler "hand-hole doors renewed; waste <sup>ed</sup> ~~of~~ after seating plate fitted with doubling plate." No mention is made of the above boiler explosion.

IT IS THEREFORE SUBMITTED the Newcastle Surveyors be notified and asked for their comments.

26th November, 1959

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