

COPY.

26th September, 1918.

Paterson,

I am in receipt of your letter of the 24th inst, regarding the freeboard of the S.S. "ABEREDEN". The case has been considered today and a letter is being sent to you with the necessary instructions.

When the tonnage opening is closed as in the present case, the vessel virtually becomes an Awning deck vessel, and hatch webs are required to be in accordance with Table A 2 of the rules. The webs in Nos. 2 - 3 and 4 hatchways are slightly in excess of Table B, and the freeboard will be subject to the webs being strengthened by fitting either a steel bar or two angle bars to the bottom of each web in these hatchways.

In a number of cases where the tonnage opening has been closed, the hatch webs have had to be similarly dealt with. Recently we dealt with two vessels built by the same firm.

In vessels built prior to the introduction of the hatchway rules, the webs were much stronger and consequently on these vessels no strengthening was required.

I am enclosing herewith, for your information, a copy of hatchway particulars taken from the original freeboard.

With kind regards to yourself and Mackirdy.

Yours sincerely,

(Sgd.) W. Watt.



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