

Messrs. Swan, Hunter & Wigham Richardson's  
Yard No. 1477.

Newcastle

It is submitted the ~~xxx~~ Surveyors be requested to inform the Builders that the question of scuppers and freeing ports in tonnage opening shelter deck ships having small freeboards has now been discussed with the Board of Trade, and in a letter to this Office the Board state that:- "if your Society, as the loadline assigning Authority, consider that the freeing ports required by the second clauses of Paragraph 35 of the Board's Tonnage measurement Instructions should be dispensed with, the Board would be prepared to accept in lieu thereof scuppers of not less than 5 inches diameter, and, further, the Board would not regard it as infringing the conditions of tonnage exemption if such scuppers were fitted with screw down non-return valves in order to satisfy loadline requirements. As regards that part of the shelter deck spaces which is forward of the tonnage well, the Board would not regard the omission of scuppers (if such omission is considered necessary by your Society as a condition of loadline assignment) as affecting the question of the eligibility of the spaces concerned for tonnage exemption".....

They desire the Society to inform the Owners that they should make formal application to the Board in respect of any proposed alterations under the conditions on which tonnage exemption of the shelter tween deck spaces were granted. Such applications should give details of the proposed alterations and indicate the Port in the U.K. at which the ship could be inspected by the Board of Trade Surveyors after the alterations have been approved and carried out.

In view of the fact that the freeboard in this case is only 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and the probable trim of 18" by the stern, it is considered that the ordinary overboard scuppers from the shelter <sup>tween</sup> that the freeing port in the tonnage well should also be dispensed with and that a screwdown non-return valve not less than 5" in diameter capable of being operated from the shelter deck should be fitted in the tonnage well on both sides of the ship.

ans (3) should be returned to the Surveyors.

14.4.32.

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