

H

s.s. "ALABAMA".

No.19787 in Register Book.

Engineers: Messrs. Imprese Marittime e Industriali.

The proposal to fit to these boilers an arrangement whereby the exhaust gases after leaving the smoke tubes are passed round the exterior of the shells of the boilers before entering the uptakes was dealt with in the Secretary's letter of the 13th December, 1937, at which time the Surveyors were requested to forward further information for consideration.

The additional information has now been received.

IT IS SUBMITTED the Genoa Surveyors be informed that the plans showing arrangement and details of the proposal to pass the exhaust gases round the shells of the boilers have been examined and no objection will be taken to the proposal provided,

- (1) the boiler shells be examined after the removal of the present insulation and found satisfactory.
- (2) the boiler seatings be suitably protected from the action of the hot gases and collision chocks be fitted to the Surveyors' satisfaction.
- (3) arrangements for the examination of floors, ventilation of space under boilers and arrangement of fire extinguishing pipes be to the Surveyors' satisfaction.
- (4) provision be made for the ready examination of the boiler mounting stand pipe attachments to the shell.

It is concluded that the wing bunkers described on the plans as "former bunkers" are now empty spaces and that the oil fuel connections or the structure of the bunkers are so amended that these spaces cannot be used for the storage of oil fuel, but this should be confirmed. Further, the ventilation of these spaces should be to the Surveyors' satisfaction.

It is noted from the plan of stand pipes for 60 mm. dia. valves that they are of welded construction and the Surveyors should be requested to state where and by whom these fittings are being made.

Further, in view of the length of the standpipes and distance pieces for the boiler mountings it is essential that they be rigid and of robust construction and the Surveyors should be requested to forward details of all standpipes and distance pieces proposed for the main and auxiliary boilers as stated in the Secretary's letter of the 13th ultimo.

Since this proposal to pass the hot gases round the shell of the boiler is of a novel character, it is *in the initial stages of their service* considered that the boilers should be examined more frequently than required by the Rules and the Surveyors should consult the Owners and ascertain the service in which the vessel is engaged with a view to arranging a schedule of examinations. As a basis for discussion, it is suggested that the boiler should be examined after one voyage or after 3 months service, whichever is the greater; that a second examination should be made after 2 voyages or 6 months service.

From the reports received relating to these examinations, a decision would then be made as to whether it would be necessary to institute further additional inspection or whether the normal procedure required by the Rules should be resumed.

The results of the Surveyors' deliberations should be forwarded to this Office for consideration.

Return 2 copies of each plan except plan No. 7171.

Retain 1 copy " " " " " No. 7171.

Retain 3 copies of plan No. 7171.

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W.D.

S.D.

R.M.

8th January, 1938.

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