



# SEMAPHORE

Newsletter of the Maritime Law

Association of Australia and New Zealand



## A Century of *Lloyd's Law Reports*

October 14 saw Informa Law celebrate 100 years of dedicated maritime and commercial law reportage through the publication of *Lloyd's Law Reports*.

The first judgment reported was a dispute concerning a shipbuilding contract – *Nitrate Producers Steam Ship Co Ltd v Short Bros Ltd* (pictured). This entailed an appeal from a judgment against a claim for damages, with the case ultimately concluded on October 17, 1919 with the appeal dismissed.

Today available in print and via [www.i-law.com](http://www.i-law.com) – the Website reportedly equipped with an intuitive search engine “to provide readers with the information they need more conveniently than ever before” – *Lloyd's Law Reports* were conceived to provide dedicated sector coverage.

“Prior to this, *Lloyd's List* – the specialist daily shipping newspaper – had regularly published notes on judgments as they were handed down,” stated the publisher.

“There were also various series’ of law reports offering brief summaries of court cases, but none in any great detail.

“In October 1919, *Lloyd's* launched the first series of law reports dedicated to shipping matters. Although the judgments were not at first reported in full, *Lloyd's* sought to offer a comprehensive service, including judgments that did not appear elsewhere or which were reported in an inferior fashion by other outlets. Unsurprisingly, *Lloyd's* became the leading series of maritime reports.”

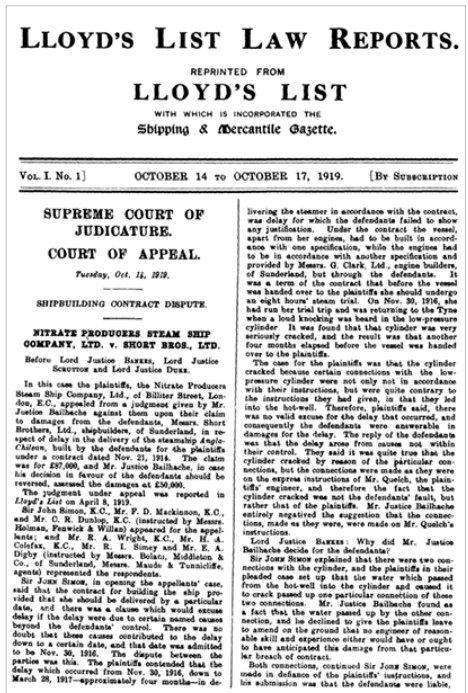
*Lloyd's Law Reports* is understood to have to date reported on over 18,000 judgments, with its continuous coverage provided even during war years.

“The series quickly developed into fully-fledged law reports, offering expert commentary alongside the court judgment in each reported case. It gradually expanded its coverage into commercial cases and since 1950 has published two volumes per year.”

Informa Law notes that current editors – Professor Robert Merkin QC and barrister Michael Daiches – have now been at the helm of *Lloyd's Law Reports* “for many years”.

“Their extensive knowledge and experience ensures we always publish the most significant and relevant cases, with their unique headnotes giving full explanation of the important issues.

“Informa Law wishes to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Rob and Michael for their enormous contribution to the successful publication of countless reports over the years. Their expertise and support continues to be invaluable in maintaining *Lloyd's Law Reports*’ status as the leading source of reported maritime and commercial cases.



“Informa Law is proud to be the publisher of *Lloyd’s Law Reports* at this milestone in its history and we are hopeful that it will still be going strong on its 200th anniversary.”

### **Background**

Publisher, Informa Law, has issued the following background comment:

- *Lloyd’s Law Reports* is published by Informa Law, part of Informa’s Maritime Intelligence division, which also includes *Lloyd’s List*, *Lloyd’s List Intelligence Consulting* and *Insurance Day*
- *Lloyd’s List* has remained the most trusted source of news, analysis and insight in global shipping since 1734. We provide accurate in-depth insights and market knowledge that help users anticipate market shifts, avoid risks, spot opportunities and make better business decisions
- *Lloyd’s List Intelligence* has been the trusted independent partner and source of maritime data, insights and expertise for 300 years. Trusted by more than 8000 professionals, it provides the right information at the right time in the right format to help you manage risk, drive operational efficiency and grow your business
- Additionally, *Lloyd’s List Intelligence Consulting* offers an unrivalled fleet and shipbuilding forecasting and strategic planning service to give you guidance on market positioning and competitive advantage, help you understand how seaborne trade and traffic trends – whether international, regional or country-specific – will affect your business
- Providing specialist legal research, *Lloyd’s Law Reports* and i-law.com enable our customers to carry out legal research in minutes rather than hours. We offer a timely cutting-edge solution in a format that suits each user: combining case reports, analysis and news from industry-leading publications
- *Insurance Day* covers the maritime insurance and reinsurance markets, with news and market intelligence delivered from an industry perspective, taking into consideration the inter-related trends and issues that influence our customers’ businesses. Our news, analysis and intelligence service is available on multiple platforms to keep users informed whenever and wherever they work and to help them to make better decisions, faster

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