NOTES FROM SEA

Readers are invited to discuss either the extracts or the comments in the Correspondence section of the Journal.

Turbo Generator Maintenance

Maintenance schedule E.55.B 6M.1 states:

Examine mechanism for wear of:—

(*a*) Overspeed trip gear linkage

(*b*) Governor weights and linkage (do not strip unless performance is erratic)

(*c*) Vacuum trip gear

(*d*) Lubricating oil safety device.

During a recent maintenance period this item was carried out. On the subsequent trial the turbine started hunting and no amount of adjustment would stop it. Subsequent examination of the governor weight linkage disclosed wear greatly in excess of the maximum laid down.

There had been no sign of erratic running before the examination and the note in item (*b*) of the schedule seems to have been translated as: 'Don't strip and don't look at it'.

Comment

Planned maintenance should be spiced with some good engineering common sense and the schedules should be used as a guide, not the law.