

WRECK SECTION No. 598

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Wreck Report No. 14011

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 07307 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 35/54 Date of writing this report 1st April, 1954.
 Ship's Name s.s. "DARFIELD" of London Tons { Gross 7109 Net 4294
 Built at Victoria, B.C. When 1943 7 Casualty notice sent to Owner Owner's reply
 Owners Windsor Overseas Freighters, Ltd.
 Managers Nomikos (London) Ltd.
 Address Wormwood Chambers, 23/24, Wormwood Street, London, E.C.2.

RETAIN COMPLETE

Classification details

100A1	IMC
10,53	MS9,52
ssAms.-9,52	BS10,53

of Casualty 28th February, 1954.

Is of Casualty

This ship stranded on a reef of rocks 10 miles N. of Los Angeles, to which port she was towed after being refloated.

Examination in dry dock revealed extensive damage, and Owners now state that she has been declared a constructive total loss.

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Feb. 28. — Steamer Darfield (New Westminster for Liverpool) ran aground to-day off Flat Rock Point, approximately 10 miles north of Los Angeles harbour.

Los Angeles, Feb. 28. — Steamer Darfield, with a cargo of timber, ran aground on rocks in thick fog to-day. United States Coast Guard vessels are proceeding to the scene. The crew of 37 has remained on board and is reported to be safe. The vessel ran into a rock reef at low tide after she became lost in the fog. — British United Press.

Los Angeles, Feb. 28. — Steamer Darfield ran aground about three miles north of the Point Vicente Lighthouse between Point Vicente and Redondo Beach. The master radioed that the vessel's bottom sustained damage, but he felt she could reach Los Angeles harbour under her own power. — Exchange Telegraph Company.

London, Mar. 1. — The following radio telegram has been received from the master of steamer Darfield, timed noon, Feb. 28: Vessel ran aground in dense fog between Rocky and Vicente Points, about seven miles west of San Pedro. Have requested tug assistance. Vessel in no immediate danger.

London, Mar. 1. — The following cables have been received from the New York agents of the owners of steamer Darfield: Dated Feb. 28, 6 14 p.m.: Darfield ran aground seven miles off San Pedro owing to dense fog. Tug assistance is on the way.

Dated Feb. 28, 7 50 p.m.: Darfield. Agents advise tugs have been dispatched to assist vessel to refloat at per diem rate. Vessel aground on reef up to No. 2 hold on low tide. Expecting high tide within two hours, when hope vessel will refloat. Extent of damage unknown.

Los Angeles, Mar. 1. — Three American tugs have fastened tow lines to steamer Darfield, but no success in freeing the vessel has yet been reported. — British United Press.

DARFIELD. — London, Mar. 2. — The London managers of steamer Darfield have received the following radio message from the master, via Portishead Radio, timed 4 50 p.m., Mar. 1: Second attempt to refloat vessel unsuccessful. Arranging to discharge forward deck cargo to lighten vessel. Suspect damage in Nos. 2 and 8 double bottom tanks. London Salvage Association's surveyor in attendance. (See issue of Mar. 2.)

Los Angeles, Mar. 1. — Steamer Darfield: We have been in attendance and appointed Sims as salvage master. Unable to refloat vessel at high tide on Mar. 1 with three tugs on daily hire. Vessel holed in No. 2 double bottom, shaft alley leaking. Heavier salvage equipment now in attendance and preparing to discharge forward deckload of lumber to lighten, with good prospects of refloating. Vessel approximately 400 ft. off shore at Flat Rock Point, approximately 10 miles north of Los Angeles harbour breakwater. Salvage equipment now on daily hire considering prospects of prompt refloating. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 2. — Steamer Darfield refloated and now in tow to Los Angeles harbour for survey. (Later) Darfield arrived at Todd's, under flat tow, at 2 p.m., Mar. 2. Diver's examination of bottom now being made. Vessel has 8200 tons of lumber on board, including 1230 tons on deck. Discharged approximately 50 tons of lumber into barge and jettisoned approximately 125 tons of lumber to refloat vessel. Will require discharge of part cargo in order to drydock for survey and repairs. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 3.)

Los Angeles, Mar. 3. — Tugs yesterday hauled steamer Darfield off the rocks and towed her to Los Angeles harbour for repairs. — Reuter.

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 4. — Steamer Darfield: Deckload of lumber discharged and vessel will drydock on Mar. 5 for survey. Diver's report shows shell plating split in way of No. 7 double bottom, port side, and numerous indentations from light to heavy through bottom. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 4.)

LL2/3/54

LL3/3/54

LL4/3/54

LL6/3/54

Record Committee's Minutes

FRIDAY - 2 APR 1954

Condemned after stranding 2, 24
 Record in port damages - class suspended

TUESDAY 13 APR 1954

Condemned after stranding 2, 24
 class suspended
 R. Hunt

002038-002050-0162

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 5. — Steamer Darfield: Preliminary examination in dry dock discloses stem paravane casting bent, keel strake port and starboard A B C in entirety and D 80 per cent. for renewal, and stern frame set up with slight crack. Badly buckled condition of bottom plates indicates extensive floor damage but unable to inspect internally until all cargo discharged. Now making bottom air tight to undock and discharge cargo, then make further examination internally to determine extent of damage. Nos. 1 and 4 holds were flooded with 24 ft. of water. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 6.)

LL8/3/54

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 9. — Steamer Darfield is expected to complete discharge and be ready for internal survey on Mar. 18. We intend to invite repair bids both locally and from San Francisco. After internal survey will advise if vessel can proceed under her own power or in tow to United Kingdom. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 8.)

LL11/3/54

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 19. — Steamer Darfield: Discharge of all cargo to be completed on Mar. 20. We are anticipating dockside internal survey, then draw up specifications and invite bids in the early part of next week. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 11.)

LL22/11/54

DARFIELD. — Los Angeles, Mar. 23. — Steamer Darfield: Internal survey reveals extensive internal damage. Shaft out of alignment and other damage convinces surveyor that vessel could not proceed to United Kingdom under her own power without extensive repairs being made here. Owners' representatives and our surveyor now preparing specifications for repairs to submit to San Francisco and Los Angeles yards. Proposal is that bids be opened and examined on Mar. 29. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Mar. 22.)

LL25/3/54



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