

WRECK SECTION No 698

Wreck Report No. 15632

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

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No. 91059 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 147/60 Date of writing this report 9th November, 1960. Ship's Name s.s. "ITHAKA" of Nassau Tons Gross 2057 Net 1168 Built at Three Rivers When 1922 10 Casualty notice sent to Owner 19.10.60. Owner's reply --- Owners Ithaka Shipping Co. Managers --- Address c/o Federal Commerce & Navigation Co., Ltd., Coristine Building, 410, St. Nicholas Street, Montreal 1, Que., Canada.

Classification details

Table with classification details: BS*, MBS* 4,55, BS M 9,59, sp 5,58, ts 4,59 CL, etc.

Details of Casualty

Stranded on rock shore at Birdcove, lat. 58 57N., long. 93 58W., after breaking rudder and anchor cable in strong gale; subsequently abandoned and declared a total loss.

No reply has been received to a letter addressed to the owners on 19th October, 1960.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

ITHAKA.—Winnipeg, Sept. 14.—Officer in charge advises that after steamer Ithaka left Churchill, on voyage for Rankin Inlet, her rudder broke. Vessel not steering and after drifting, dropped anchor, but anchor cable broke and she lost anchor with all cables. Vessel drifted aground with strong gale in position lat. 58 57 N., long. 93 58 W. After preliminary survey found engine tank leaking.

LL 16/9/60

ITHAKA.—Montreal, Sept. 15.—Steamer Ithaka driven ashore on Sept. 14 near Churchill, Manitoba. Vessel reported badly holed, machinery space flooded, rudder torn off and missing, lying on boulder-strewn beach. Expected attempts to rescue crew to-day. We requested New York brokers attend survey. Surveyor and owners proceeding to Churchill.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Sept. 16.)

LL 17/9/60

ITHAKA.—London, Sept. 19.—The following message has been received from steamer Ithaka, dated Sept. 18: Crew now abandoning vessel, retaining two watchmen to protect movable assets. (See issue of Sept. 17.)

Winnipeg, Sept. 18.—Members of the crew of the steamer Ithaka, driven aground off Churchill, in the Hudson Bay, have been rescued in a landing barge launched from the Canadian Government diesel-electric icebreaker Sir William Alexander. The Ithaka lost both anchors and unshipped her rudder in heavy seas during an 80-miles-per-hour gale. The rescued men say that she is split through the centre from stem to stern and will be a total loss. An attempt may be made to salvage the cargo. The vessel was chartered by the North Rankin nickel mines on Rankin Inlet.—"The Times" Correspondent.

LL 20/9/60

Montreal, Sept. 18.—Steamer Ithaka: Surveyor Simpson, now at Churchill, telegraphs: Draught fore and aft before stranding forward 5 ft. 10 in., aft 12 ft. 6 in. Present soundings at high water 7 ft. forward, 10 ft. aft and hard on bottom full length. Cargo consisting of two generators and plywood panels for Department of Transport. Approximately 30 tons involved. Facilities at Churchill inadequate, consider impracticable to attempt refloating operations in view of engine-room and stokehold flooded with oil in bilges and above tank top level. Strong suspicion vessel fractured transversely in way of No 2 tank and liable to disintegrate. All oil fuel tanks and fresh-water tanks flooded and contaminated with salt water. Steam piping port boiler fractured and oil fuel in stokehold above floor plates. Crew, with owners' consent, have abandoned vessel p.m. to-day. Consider vessel total loss. However, valuable navigational instruments and other fittings could be salvaged. Suspicion rudder stock broken and prime cause of casualty.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

ITHAKA.—Montreal, Sept. 20.—Steamer Ithaka: Surveyor returned to Montreal and reports vessel's position lat. 58 46 12 N., long 93 53 24 W., hard on rock shore at Birdcove, about 10 miles east of Churchill. Vessel reached only with great difficulty due to bad weather, travelling four miles in small boat from Government icebreaker. Casualty inaccessible due to shoal water. Vessel dry at low water, bottom damage appears very extensive and machinery space tidal. Vessel on voyage from Churchill to Rankin Inlet, Northwest Territories, but only had port anchor, which broke when used to prevent vessel drifting ashore, steering having failed initially. Starboard anchor apparently lost on previous voyage and not replaced.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Sept. 20.)

LL 22/9/60

Suggested Record

"WRECKED 9,60"

Date of Committee

FRIDAY 18 NOV 1960

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 9.60

Noted for Header bsh



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