

WRECK SECTION  
REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

Date of writing this report 13th October, 1948

No. 70435 in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 59/48

Vessel's Name S.S. "Orion" of Piræus Tons Gross 4798 Net 3054

Built at Glasgow When 1909 8 Casualty notice sent to Owner x Owner's reply x

Owner's Name P. Lyras

Address To Lyras &amp; Lemos Bros. Ltd, 9, Cannonmole Street, E.C.3.

Case previously before { Date  
Classing Committee. { Last Minute

## Particulars of Classification.

T100A1  
 Spark 2.48  
 Examined 10.47  
 SS 2nd No 3-1,35  
 SS No 1-40  
 TLMC 1,40  
 BS 9,47  
 TS 1,44 CL

Date of Casualty 20th September, 1948

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This vessel stranded to the west of Flower  
 Island Lighthouse, Newfoundland, on the  
 20th September, 1948.

An explosion occurred in No. 1 hold and this  
 was followed by a fire which was confined to the  
 fore-castle.

No. 1 hold became flooded and owing to  
 heavy pounding, No. 2 hold and the engine and  
 boiler rooms were flooded two days later.

Efforts to save the vessel were fruitless  
 and she was subsequently abandoned.

The Owner's London Agents concur.

T.S. 15" CL M.

8.18 Limer frash.

## SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

ORION.—Belle Isle Radio, Sept. 20.—  
 Following received from SVIT, steamer  
 Orion (Sydney, N.S., for Botwood):  
 At 9.58 a.m., G.M.T.: Aground, posi-  
 tion unknown.  
 (Later) Aground west of Flower  
 Island Lighthouse, afloat and in no  
 danger of sinking.  
 At 11.37 a.m., G.M.T.: Explosion in  
 No. 1 hold, need help urgently. (Later.)  
 We have wounded, still aground, ship  
 on fire fore, Confusion, crew abandoning  
 ship, we can get ashore, which is near.  
 Master orders abandon ship.  
 New York, Sept. 20.—New York  
 coastguard cutter Andros Coggin was  
 to-day on her way to steamer Orion  
 which sent out SOS signals that she  
 had gone aground and was on fire in the  
 Strait of Belle Isle, between Labrador  
 and Newfoundland. Coastguard officer  
 here state that the Orion reported that  
 she went aground in sight of Flower  
 Island Lighthouse and that fire had  
 forced the crew to abandon ship. The  
 Andros Coggin, about 440 miles east of  
 the burning vessel, was expected to  
 reach the Orion about 9 a.m. to-morrow.  
 The Coastguard stated.—Reuter.

ORION.—St. John's, N.F., Sept. 21.—  
 Greek steamer Orion, Sydney, N.S., for  
 Botwood, cargo coal, reported aground in  
 sight of Flower Island, Strait of Belle  
 Isle. Ship on fire and crew abandoning  
 upon master's orders. (See issue of  
 Sept. 21.)

New York, Sept. 20.—Salvage  
 vessel Foundation Josephine is proceed-  
 ing assist steamer Orion.

New York, Sept. 21.—Steamer  
 Orion: Coastguard reports fire under  
 control. Eight injured removed, thirty  
 still on board.

ORION.—St. John's, N.F., Sept. 21.—  
 Steamer Orion: Latest reports indicate  
 that master and part of crew reboarded  
 the vessel, but efforts to extinguish the  
 fire, which is apparently confined to the  
 fore-castle, were abortive. No report as  
 to condition of vessel, but we think there  
 must be some prospect of refloating as  
 her master, in a message to vessel's local  
 agent, states that he is now awaiting a  
 tug. Salvage vessel Foundation Josephine,  
 diverted by Foundation Company  
 from sea, is due alongside at 10.30 p.m.  
 on Sept. 21. No arrangement yet made,  
 but presume it will be on "no cure no  
 pay" basis.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage  
 Association. (See issue of Sept. 22.)

Suggested Record

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 9,48

In Lyras 15/10

FRI. 15 OCT 1948

Wrecked 9,48

15/10



**ORION.**—St. John's, NF., Sept. 22. — Steamer Orion: Following received from master of salvage vessel Foundation Josephine to-day: Alongside casualty this morning. No. 1 hold tidal, No. 2 hold leaking through tanks into hold. Weather worsening; if wind shifts to west or north-west vessel will be a total loss. Have clams and four-inch pump on board with shore labour. Vessel working on bottom. Towed at noon high water with engines of Orion full astern; vessel shifted a few yards. Jettisoning cargo now; will try again on to-night's tide. Now awaiting result of second attempt to refloat. Meanwhile have suggested that if refloated, vessel be taken to St. Barbe harbour, which nearby, where she could be safely held pending diver's examination and arrival of surveyor to determine next move. Cannot recommend immediate tow to any distant port without examination as tug and tow must traverse considerable distance in any direction along coastline without safe harbour for sheltering after leaving St. Barbe. Unable to dispatch surveyor until local weather improves as must fly him by seaplane and all aircraft grounded for past several days.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Sept. 23.)

St. John's, NF., Sept. 23. — Steamer Orion: Master of salvage vessel Foundation Josephine reports: Casualty pounded heavily during NE. gale to-night, flooded No. 2 hold, engine-room and stokehold; crew abandoning. Will examine in morning but fear further salvage not practical.—Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

LL24.9.48

**ORION.**—St. John's, NF., Sept. 23.—Salvage vessel Foundation Josephine reports: Have abandoned steamer Orion. Our salvage vessel Traverse is proceeding to collect pumps and clam shell buckets. Leaving for another job. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Sept. 24.)

Harbour Grace, NF., Sept. 23. — Greek steamer Orion was abandoned to-day after fruitless salvage efforts. A heavy NE. gale forced the crew to abandon the vessel.—Reuter.

"25/9

**ORION.**—New York, Sept. 27.—Greek steamer Orion: Tug Traverse is standing by to remove cargo; at present she is sheltering from strong NE. winds. Local authorities believe Orion will probably be a total loss. (See issue of Sept. 25.)

"1/10

**ORION.**—New York, Sept. 28. — The Foundation Maritime Company considers that Greek steamer Orion is a total loss, and that salvage is impossible. Tug Traverse has abandoned the wreck and is proceeding to Trinity Bay. (See issue of Oct. 1.)

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