

WRECK SECTION

No.

Wreck Report No.

13614

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 35575 (S) in R.B. Wreck Book, p. 71/51

Date of writing this report 23rd October 19 51

Ship's Name s. hopper barge "J. P. WEBB"

of Melbourne

Tons { Gross 972
Net 309

Built at Port Glasgow When 1951

YEAR MONTH

6

Casualty notice sent to Owner 4th October Owner's reply ---

Owners Melbourne Harbour Trust Commissioners,

Managers

Address Port Authority Building, Market Street, MELBOURNE, Victoria, Australia.

Classification details

+100 A 1	+LMC 6,51
Hopper barge	
5,51	
Fitted for oil fuel 6,51	
FP above 1500	

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

J. P. WEBB (hopper barge). — Perth, W.A., Aug. 22. — Hopper barge J. P. Webb, en route for Melbourne from (Glasgow and) Djakarta, reported on reef 55 miles north of Fremantle; crew taking to boats.

Fremantle, Aug. 22. — The new hopper barge J. P. Webb, which was being delivered to the Melbourne Harbour Trust, has run aground off the Western Australian coast. The barge is reported to be hard and fast on a reef at Ledge Point, 55 miles north of Fremantle. One of two lifeboats was smashed in rough seas during the night but the crew of about 14 took to the other and reached shore safely, according to reports reaching here. — Reuter.

J. P. WEBB (hopper barge). — Perth, W.A., Aug. 22. — Hopper barge J. P. Webb: Crew of 17, who came the mile and a half to shore in her sole remaining lifeboat, were directed from a plane to Lancelin crayfish processing settlement, five miles to the north. — Reuter. (See issue of Aug. 23.)

Perth, W.A., Aug. 23. — New hull No. 397 (hopper barge J. P. Webb): Surveyor proceeded to scene of casualty in afternoon of Aug. 22 by sea and reports sighted vessel at 200 yds. distance high on reef one mile from shore, broadside to sea, facing ESE. Reef on which vessel stranded protected from NW. and SW. weather by a further west in which there is a four miles wide shallow draught salvage vessel to approach sea. Vessel safe except for way from due west. Further inspection in air in morning of Aug. 23 reveals no water in well, proving bottom doors tight, vessel about 50 yards from eastward side of reef which 400 yards long running north to south and 150 yards wide, no prospect of prompt refloating but surveyor considers salvageable and recommends using Army barge to proceed lee side with air compressor pumps, assuming side tanks holed. Unless otherwise directed proceeding accordingly, engaging competent diver and crew and available equipment to proceed to scene of casualty soonest. Little or no salvage equipment here and if salvage vessel available necessary to be of shallow draught owing to reef studded vicinity. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association.

J. P. WEBB (hopper barge). — Perth, W.A., Aug. 23. — New hull NO. 397 (hopper barge J. P. Webb): Special officer and party arrived, hope to proceed to wreck on Aug. 29. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Aug. 24.)

J. P. WEBB (hopper barge). — Perth, W.A., Aug. 30. — New hull NO. 397 (hopper barge J. P. Webb): Salvage Association's special officer returned in the evening of Aug. 29 and reports vessel not salvageable. Ship's bottom, keel, stern frame and rudder extensively damaged, shell plating on starboard side buckled and vessel tidal throughout. Recommends sale as is and where is. — Lloyd's Agents per Salvage Association. (See issue of Aug. 29.)

Date of Casualty

21st August, 1951.

Details of Casualty

This ship ran aground on a reef at Ledge Point, 55 miles north of Fremantle during heavy weather on the 21st August. Extensive damage made her tidal throughout, and she was abandoned as a total loss.

No reply has been received to the casualty notice addressed to the Owner on the 4th October.

Suggested Record Wrecked 8,51.

Date of Committee

FRI. 26 OCT 1951

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 8.51

lm, 8.51.

margin plate

Spacing

EVERY FRAME