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REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c. 9213

WRECK BOX
No. 123

No. 71114 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 24/36 Date of writing this report 22nd October 1936

Vessel's Name Steel S.S. "Avon River" of Bristol Tons Net 3203 Gross 5386

Built at Sunderland When 1918 - 11 Casualty notice sent to Owner 9/10/36 Owner's reply +

Owner's Name Avon S.S. Co. (Mark Whitwell Son. Mgr.)

Address Mill Avenue, Queen Square, Bristol 1.

Case previously before Date
Classing Committee. Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.
+100 A1 ss. Bly 103-331
4.36 ss. Bly 101-35
+LMC 10.35

Casualty 16th September 1936.

Particulars of Casualty

This vessel was reported to have driven ashore on the west coast of Mansel Island, N.E. Hudson Bay, after her engines had broken down in a gale, on the 16th September.

It was stated that she was badly aground fore & aft on rocky bottom; engine room & Nos. 2, 3, 4 & 5 holds tidal; and pounding & straining heavily.

The Salvage Association's Surveyors reported on the 19th September that the wreck had been abandoned owing to her exposed position & was considered to be unsalvageable.

A Casualty notice was sent to the Owners on the 9th October, but no reply has been received.

Upon inquiry at Lloyds, however, it was stated that the Underwriters had accepted the vessel as a total loss & settled all claims.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

AVON RIVER. - Ottawa, Sept. 16. - Steamer Avon River, of Bristol, belonging to the Avon S.S. Company, bound for Churchill, was driven ashore on the west coast of Mansel Island, N.E. Hudson Bay, after her engines had broken down in a gale. Steamer N. B. McLean and motor vessel Jean L. D. are going to the assistance of the crew. The crew of the Avon River are in no danger. They can go ashore if necessary. The Jean L. D. is now standing by. - Reuter.

AVON RIVER. - Ottawa, Sept. 17. - During the night the storm moderated and it is now hoped that the crew of the steamer Avon River will be rescued when daylight breaks. A Government vessel is standing by ready to rescue the crew of thirty. There is no danger of the vessel breaking up. - Reuter.

London, Sept. 17. - The following cable has been received by the owners of the steamer Avon River from the master: Engine and boiler rooms flooded, making water in Nos. 2, 3 and 4 holds.

AVON RIVER. - Montreal, Sept. 17. - Hudsons Bay Company advises that steamer Avon River is ashore in lat. 62 6 N., long. 80 18 W. At 3 23 p.m. G.M.T., master of Avon River advised icebreaker N. B. McLean vessel pounding heavily, considers prospects of salvage very poor, crew still on board. At 6 20 p.m. G.M.T. motor vessel Jean L. D. sighted Avon River. Weather improving, wind WNW., fine, strong swell. At 8 20 p.m. G.M.T. Jean L. D. standing by. - Salvage Association's Surveyor.

London, Sept. 18. - The owners of the steamer Avon River have received the following radio from the master via motor vessel Jean L.D., timed 11 55 p.m., Sept. 17: Hard aground on rocky bottom, vessel pounding heavily, weather conditions bad. I consider prospects of salvage poor. All crew on board until weather moderates.

The owners have received the following cable from Louis Dreyfus & Co.: Understand Jean L.D. will probably take off crew Avon River, in distress.

AVON RIVER. - Montreal, Sept. 18. - Steamer Avon River: Master reports vessel badly aground fore and aft on rocky bottom, draught 4 ft. forward and 9 ft. aft, upright, engine-room and Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 holds tidal, engine-room tank top working. No indication of ship's side or deck plating buckling or breaking. - Salvage Association's Surveyor.

London, Sept. 19. - The owners of the steamer Avon River have received the following cables: -

Received yesterday evening from their agents at Churchill: Master wires: Aground forward and aft on rocky bottom well inside of outer edge of breakers, stem close up to beach, making water in Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 holds, engine and boiler rooms, water in compartments rising and falling with tide. Gale abating slightly, vessel pounding and straining heavily.

Received early this morning from the master via Churchill: Weather continues bad, awaiting improvement Canadian Government patrol steamer standing by.

AVON RIVER. - Montreal, Sept. 19. - Steamer Avon River: Master considers wreck unsalvageable owing to exposed position, abandoned her to-day. Crew now on icebreaker N. B. McLean. Master of N. B. McLean reports has diver and three steam pumps on board, but as wreck is so far inside ledges he cannot supply steam, therefore considers salvage beyond resources of equipment now at Hudson Bay: doubts possibility of successful salvage. Quebec Salvage and Sinmac not interested. Tug Foundation Franklin offers only usual daily hire. Position evidently hopeless. - Salvage Association's Surveyor.

Suggested Record Wrecked 9.36.
Date of Committee FRI. 23 OCT 1936

Committee's Minute Wrecked 9.36

In Dec. 30/10/36

WS14-0003

1/2 WS14-0005