

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c. 9262

No. 10965 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 8/37

Date of writing this report 11th February 1937

Vessel's Name *Steel S.S. "Totnes"*of *London* (Net 131 Tons Gross 283)Built at *Slidrecht* When *1918*Casualty notice sent to Owner *2/2/37* Owner's reply *8/2/37*Owner's Name *Regent Coasters, Ltd.*Address *59, Marischal Street, Aberdeen.*

Case previously before

ing Committee.

Date

Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.

100 A1

8.35

SS. Ins No 3-2.28

SS. Bly No 1-33

+LMC 2.33

RS 5.36

+NB 3.28

+NE 5.00 *refitted*

28

Casualty *12th January, 1937.*

of particulars of Casualty

This vessel was reported to have gone ashore outside Little Ferry, Dornoch Firth, on the 12th January.

It was later stated that she was lying in an exposed position & heavy seas had been breaking over her for some days. Salvage was considered to be hopeless, as her back appeared to be broken & it was impossible to board owing to weather conditions.

The Owners concur.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 12.—Steamer Totnes ashore Little Ferry, Golspie. 13/1/37

TOTNES.—Golspie, Jan. 13.—Steamer Totnes. Position and condition unchanged. Underwriters' and owners' surveyor arrived. 14/1/37

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 12.—Steamer Totnes, ashore outside Little Ferry, Golspie, is lying on the lee shore of the sandy beach. A strong SE. gale is blowing here to-day with heavy seas. Helmsdale, Jan. 14.—Steamer Totnes is still in same position. Endeavouring to refloat this afternoon tide with help of local fishermen. Sea now moderate. 15/1/37

TOTNES.—Glasgow, Jan. 14.—The master and crew of eight of the steamer Totnes were rescued by life-saving apparatus yesterday afternoon at Little Ferry, Dornoch Firth, where the vessel was driven ashore by the heavy southerly gale. The Totnes grounded on Tuesday night (Jan. 12) and Cromarty lifeboat went to the rescue, but the crew decided to remain on board, four of them later coming ashore. The gale increased yesterday and life-saving apparatus was requisitioned, and all who remained on board were brought to safety. The Totnes, which was bound with a cargo of coal to Golspie from the Tyne, lies in an exposed position and is in danger of breaking up if the stormy weather continues. "The Glasgow Herald." (See issue of Jan. 15.) 16/1/37

Golspie, Jan. 15.—Steamer Totnes: Regret unable to float vessel yesterday, tides now taking off. Had arranged for tug from Aberdeen but owing to heavy weather impossible to get near vessel.—Lloyd's Agent, Helmsdale. 18/1/37

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 14.—Steamer Totnes shifted about one length to eastward on yesterday afternoon's tide. It was impossible to get near the vessel owing to the heavy ground swell. The master states that the vessel's bottom is up amidships and that she is making some water. She received a very bad pounding yesterday and her bottom is bound to be in a bad condition. (See later report in issue of Jan. 16.) 19/1/37

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 16.—Steamer Totnes will have to lie where she is until next spring tides. In the meantime arrangements are being made to put out anchors and kedges and fill up her water ballast. The weather was very stormy yesterday, and it was impossible for the tug to get near the vessel, which is lying on a lee shore. 20/1/37

Helmsdale, Jan. 18.—Steamer Totnes still lying on exposed lee shore with heavy seas breaking over her for past three days and now impossible to get in contact. All crew ashore. Consider she is now in very dangerous position.—Lloyd's Agent. 22/1/37

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 19.—Steamer Totnes: Position worse, heavy seas still breaking over vessel, impossible determine exact condition but bottom appears to be badly up amidships. 23/1/37

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 19.—It would not be surprising if the back of the steamer Totnes is broken, as the deck even appears to be up amidships and there appears to be an opening of about 2½ in. on the ship's rails. The weather is still very stormy with a tremendous ground swell.

TOTNES.—Helmsdale, Jan. 22.—Steamer Totnes: Consider position hopeless for salvage, vessel's back appears to be broken but owing to heavy sea impossible to get on board for proper inspection.

Suggested Record

Wrecked 1.37

Date of Committee

FRI 12 FEB 1937

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 1.37 RB