

casualty notice
7/1/23

10 JAN 1923

98A.

S/S "MARGIT"

TALCAHUANO (CHILE)

29th. November 1922

J. E. ALFARO M.

Messrs. Gibbs & Co., Lloyd's Agents, I proceeded at noon to-day to visit the above mentioned steamer, which caught fire whilst at anchor at one o'clock this morning, in Talcahuano Bay, for the purpose of examining the ship and giving my report and recommendations on the case.

The ship was shifted to a safe place in the North part of the bay where it is at present anchored in 3 fathoms of water.

During my inspection I saw the ship burning from fore and aft; all fore-castle, fore main deck, bridge, after main deck, poop deck, both masts and all rigging were completely burnt out, or about to be burnt out, and the fire was still in progress. All beams were twisted down and the bulk-work plating was buckled inwards practically in all the length of the ship, with some exceptions amidships, on way of bridge.- The fire had commenced to diminish in holds 1 and 2 owing to cargo of gasoline and paraffin having been apparently consumed by fire; No 3 hold still continued burning and also the coal bunkers. Under the circumstances I recommend the the fire be watched closely so that as soon as it is safe, measures are taken to put the fire completely out by boarding ship and pumping water from alongside, in order to prevent further damage to the engines and boiler etc. I will personally at your request proceed on board at 6 p.m. to take these measures and to let go more anchor chain as ship is anchored with only 15 fathoms chain.

Should there be any danger later on of the ship drifting owing to bad weather, I recommend that ship be sunk where it lies, as Port Authorities state will not obstruct in any way.

I consider the ship and cargo an apparent total loss and shall be pleased to report further on the matter as soon as the fire has been completely extinguished.

J. E. Alfaro M.
J. E. ALFARO M.
Constructor Naval
INSPECTOR DEL Lloyd's
REGISTER OF SHIPPING
TALCAHUANO



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