

WRECK BOX
No. 65 Tok

31 DEC 1929

WRECK BOX
65 (10W)

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

7967

No. 21066 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 143/29

Date of writing this report 6th February 1930

Vessel's Name *Reel Tonnage "Fort Victoria"*

of *Hamilton, Bermuda*

Tons (Net 4532 Gross 7784)

Built at *Glasgow* When *1913*

Casualty notice sent to Owner 2. 1. 30 Owner's reply

Owner's Name *Bermuda & West Indies S.S. Co.*

Address *Furness House, Whitehall St. New York U.S.*

Case previously before
Classing Committee.

Date
Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.

100 Hk With Freeboard
Fitted with oil fuel 2.20, F.P. above 150°F

Date of Casualty *18th December 1929*

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer was sunk by collision off Sandy Hook on 18th December. On 21st December Merritts stated they considered salvage impracticable; salvage together with repairs would exceed insured value.

On 9th January it was stated that the Owners had definitely abandoned the vessel as a total loss.

A casualty notice was sent to the Owners on 2nd January, but no reply has yet been received.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

FORT VICTORIA.—New York, Dec. 18.—Coastguard reports American steamer ALGONQUIN and British steamer Fort Victoria, both outward bound, have been in collision in fog off Sandy Hook. Fort Victoria reported with stokehold flooded, vessel will keep afloat, send tugs to tow to New York. Tug Columbia, probably Columbine, on way out to assist. All passengers reported transferred to pilot boat. Skeleton crew on Fort Victoria. ALGONQUIN returning.

New York, Dec. 18.—British steamer Fort Victoria has sunk near outer entrance Ambrose Channel, depth about 40 fathoms.

London, Dec. 19.—The owners of the steamer Fort Victoria have received the following cables from their New York office:

Steamer ALGONQUIN rammed steamer Fort Victoria while latter stopping to land pilot, outward bound. Fort Victoria stuck (2 stoke) hold flooded.

Landing passengers by ship's boats on to pilot boats. Vessel will keep afloat. We are sending tugs to tow the ship back to New York.

Received 9.30 a.m.: Received advice from steamer Fort Victoria that she has been abandoned after having taken heavy list to starboard. Passengers all safe, and while we have not received definite advice about crew think they are probably safe also. Fort Victoria sank at 7.30 p.m., all the crew and passengers saved.

New York, Dec. 18.—British steamer Fort Victoria, owned by the Bermuda & West Indies Steamship Company, Ltd., has sunk following her collision in the harbour in a fog earlier in the day with the steamer ALGONQUIN, belonging to the Cherokee-Seminole Steamship Corporation, of New York. Her 280 passengers were all safely transferred to the pilot boat immediately after the accident. At 7.30 this evening, three hours after the collision, the ALGONQUIN was off the Ambrose Light-vessel. The collision made an ugly gash on the port side of the Fort Victoria, and she kept listing more and more and finally went down. There was no loss of life or injuries, although Captain Francis and six members of the crew remained on board as long as possible. During the evening the pilot boat from Sandy Hook landed 144 passengers at Staten Island, while other craft with the remainder made for the liner's pier on the Hudson River. The ALGONQUIN is apparently in no danger and is anchored in Ambrose Channel. All the passengers and crew are on board. The fog is still very thick. There were 289 passengers on board the ALGONQUIN. The ALGONQUIN now reports that she has a big hole in her bows.—Reuter.

FORT VICTORIA.—New York, Dec. 18.—Buoy have been placed over the spot where the steamer Fort Victoria sank. The cost of raising the sunken vessel may be prohibitive and in that case the hull will have to be destroyed in order to prevent it constituting a danger to shipping.—Reuter.

New York, Dec. 19.—American steamer ALGONQUIN has stem damaged; anchored Ambrose Channel in dense fog.

New York, Dec. 19.—Steamer Fort Victoria sank two miles outside Ambrose Light in approximately nine fathoms of water, probably on side, consequent collision with steamer ALGONQUIN. ALGONQUIN has bows damaged and is now anchored awaiting return to harbour when fog conditions improve.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

New York, Dec. 20.—After lying at anchor in mid channel since Wednesday's collision with the Fort Victoria the ALGONQUIN passed the quarantine station en route for her pier early this morning, the fog having lifted. Her 189 passengers have remained on board the vessel since the accident.—Reuter.

Suggested Record *Sunk by Collision 12-29*

Date of Committee *FRI. 17 FEB 1930*

Committee's Minute

Sunk by Collision 12, 29
14/1/30

5c, 10, 27.

Character Assigned

100 Hk With Freeboard

Fitted with oil fuel 2.20, F.P. above 150°F.



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Lloyd's Register

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ONTR.

FORT VICTORIA.—New York, Dec. 20.
—Steamer Fort Victoria lying completely on side, partially visible low water at entrance Ambrose Channel. Open sea exposed position. Danger to navigation. Instructed authorities mark wreck, this now in progress. Authorities not intervening present time. Arranged proceed personally vessel morning with Merritts salvage steamer and divers to examine for prospective salvage. Salvage prospects extremely doubtful. Will cable results examination.—Salvage Association's Surveyor.

New York, Dec. 20.
—Steamer ALGONQUIN returned to pier this morning.

FORT VICTORIA.—New York, Dec. 21.
—Steamer Fort Victoria lying flat on side entirely submerged, sinking in sand, seas breaking over. Will probably break up before spring. Merritts consider salvage impracticable. We consider salvage together repairs will exceed insured value. Salvage Association's Surveyors.

FORT VICTORIA.—London, Dec. 24.—The Postmaster-General announces that mails for Bermuda containing letters posted at London Chief Office between 2 a.m. on Dec. 6 and 2 a.m. on Dec. 7, and printed papers posted between 5.30 p.m. on Dec. 5 and 5.30 p.m. on Dec. 6, and corresponding times elsewhere, and probably parcels posted at London Chief Office between 11 a.m. on Dec. 4 and 9 a.m. on Dec. 6 and corresponding times elsewhere have been lost in the steamer Fort Victoria, which sank in New York harbour on Dec. 18.

FORT VICTORIA.—New York, Jan. 9.—U.S. army engineers are expected shortly to advertise for bids for the removal of the steamer Fort Victoria, which sank off Sandy Hook on Dec. 19 after being rammed during a fog by the steamer ALGONQUIN. The owners of the liner, the Furness Bermuda Line, have definitely abandoned her as a total loss.—Reuter.

FORT VICTORIA.—Providence, Jan. 9.—The Gulf Refining Company steamer Gulfcoast, which arrived yesterday from Port Arthur (Texas), brought into port one of the lifeboats of the British steamer Fort Victoria sunk at the entrance to New York Harbour two weeks ago. The boat, which had drifted more than 100 miles from the wreck, was sighted on Tuesday afternoon (Jan. 7). The tanker picked it up and took it on board. The boat was put ashore here on the Gulf Refining Company's wharf in East Providence.—New York Herald Tribune.



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