

REPORT of SURVEY for REPAIRS, &c.

WRECK BOX
No. 56 TopWRECK BOX
No. 56 Top

9586

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 5600 in R. B.

Wreck Book, p. 3727

Date of writing this report

1920

Vessel's Name *Reed F. L. Essex Isles*

YEAR.

MONTH.

of London

Tons

(Net)

2717

Built at Sunderland When 1904 Casualty notice sent to Owner 26 3 27 Owner's reply 28 3 27

Owner's Name Essex Transport & Trading Co. (Metrum & Wilson Agg.)

Address 16 Gracechurch Lane, London E.C. 3

Case previously before
Classing Committee.

Date

Particulars of Classification.

Last Minute

+ 100 ft	11 m 11 ft
Shelli deck	13 ft 2 in
wt probab	14 m 6 ft
	12 ft 6 in

13th January 1927

Particulars of Casualty

This steamer is reported to have been badly damaged by fire after explosion at Tampico on 13th January.

In reply to a special ^{stake} casualty letter the Owners state that they concur in a record of casualty being made, as far as they are concerned, the vessel has been abandoned to the Underwriters, who have almost completed payment for Constructive Total loss.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Jan. 13.— British steamer Essex Isles took fire in port and is still burning. Present chances of saving the vessel are now considered favourable. Had part of her outward cargo on board. Full particulars not yet received, but it is feared that there has been a serious loss of life among labourers. All the crew saved except one. Every means being taken to extinguish fire.—Lloyd's Agent.

Tampico, Jan. 13.— Thirty-seven longshoremen are believed to have been killed to-day by the explosion of a gasoline tank on the British steamer Essex Isles. The men were engaged in loading the ship at the time of the disaster. A spark caused by the crashing together of two steel girders which were being removed ignited the gasoline, and terrific explosion followed, which set fire to the ship.—Reuters.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Jan. 13.— Steamer Essex Isles: Beached on the left bank of the river in a safe position. Fire in forepeak Nos. 1 and 2 holds extinguished with assistance of two tugs. Small fire in bunkers. Forepeak and midship houses burnt out. Cargo in forepeak probably total loss. Cargo in afterpeak approximately similar amount undamaged. Fire caused by explosion produced by falling hatch beams. Proposed retain services one tug for emergencies. Proceed to pump water from forepeak and discharge goods in afterpeak then hold preliminary survey, in the meantime preparing vessel for passage to nearest port for repairs as it is our opinion Surveyors will recommend vessel proceeding under her own steam for repairs to Gulfport United States. Think it unnecessary send Special Surveyor. Local Surveyor may be relied on in this case.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Jan. 13.— Steamer Essex Isles: Present position. Cargo in forepeak probable loss, cargo in afterpeak damaged seriously water, but will have salvage value. Considerable quantity of coal in bunkers burnt out. Vessel is being pumped out for unloading cargo when survey will be held. Surveyors are of the opinion such repairs as are absolutely necessary to enable vessel

to prosecute voyage cannot be done here. Surveyors report that vessel can be sufficiently repaired here to enable her to proceed to United States, where she can be thoroughly repaired.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Jan. 21.— Steamer Essex Isles: All cargo badly damaged and must be removed to permit vessel to proceed to dry dock for repairs. Am attending Underwriters interests on cargo.—Lloyd's Agent per Salvage Association.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Jan. 26.— Steamer Essex Isles: Vessel has been pumped out, not (^{? now}) afloat in a safe position but full gas. Cargo will have to be discharged preparatory to survey.—Salvage Association.

ESSEX ISLES. — Tampico, Feb. 9.— Steamer Essex Isles will probably proceed Mobile in 12 days under her own steam.—Salvage Association.

IX ISLES. — New York, Feb. 14.— Steamer Essex Isles: Surveyor returned advice north side shell plating from amidships to stem buckled together (with) frames (for) six staves. Starboard side under water consequent on list reported less damaged. Shelter deck plating from amidships to stem buckled together with beams hatch coamings foremost. Amidships accommodation destroyed. Main and lower deck plating amidships to stem buckled and consequence debris cargo. Cross bunker side bunkers holding 1800 tons coal probably removed for repairs. Boilers submerged, under steam, engine room filled water over cylinder heads, etc. holds filled water. Vessel now adrift pumped out discharging slowly.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

Suggested Record

Damaged by Fire 1:27

Date of Committee

TUES. 29 MAR 1927

Committee's Minute

Damaged by Fire 1:27