

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

WRECK SECTION No. 1250

5904 in R.B. Wreck Book p. 115/55 Date of writing this report 23rd February, 19 56.

Name s.s. "SAINT RONAIG" of Glasgow Tons Gross 504 Net 200

at Larne When 1921 10 Casualty notice sent to Owner 16.2.56. Owner's reply 17.2.56

ers J. & A. Gardner & Co., Ltd.

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Address 228, Clyde Street, Glasgow, C.1.

WRECK SECTION No. 1250

M.M.C.C.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION

SAINT RONAIG. — Portpatrick Radio, Dec. 14. — Following received from British steamer Saint Ronaig at 6 42 a.m., G.M.T., addressed Mayday (distress signal): Ashore somewhere near Torr Head, breaking up. Following received from Swedish steamer Katia at 7 8 a.m., G.M.T.: We are 16 miles south-east of Torr Head at 7 a.m., proceeding to Torr Head, maximum speed 7 knots. Following received from Malin Head Radio at 7 8 a.m., G.M.T.: Portrush lifeboat expects to be with Saint Ronaig in about two hours. Following received from coastguard at Portpatrick at 7 20 a.m., G.M.T.: Saint Ronaig: Ballycastle Life-saving Apparatus assembling and proceeding.

Ballycastle, Dec. 14. —Portrush lifeboat was launched at 7 30 a.m. to assistance of steamer Saint Ronaig.

Portpatrick Radio, Dec. 14. —Following received from Saint Ronaig: At 7 46 a.m., G.M.T.: We are just to the southward of Torr Head, at Torcor Point.

At 8 54 a.m., G.M.T.: We are now trying to get connected up to the Life-saving Apparatus and abandon ship. Will call you before we leave.

At 9 37 a.m., G.M.T.: I am the last, they are all ashore, now cabin full of water, I am leaving now.

Portrush, Dec. 14. —Steamer Saint Ronaig went ashore at 6 45 a.m. to-day and is now reported to be breaking up.

London, Dec. 14. — Steamer Saint Ronaig went on to rocks on the rugged coast about six miles from Ballycastle, in a storm and heavy seas. Captain William Smith said: We went aground about 6 35 a.m. and had been got ashore by 10 a.m. The vessel is fairly full in the engine-room. We were going to Westport, County Mayo, from Garston, carrying coal and salt.

Ballycastle, Dec. 14. —Portrush lifeboat returned at 2 p.m. Crew of Saint Ronaig saved by Ballycastle Life-saving Company.

Belfast, Dec. 14: — Master and crew of nine of Glasgow steamer Saint Ronaig, Garston for Westport, County Mayo, with coal, were safely brought ashore by coastguards using breeches buoy after vessel went ashore on Torr Head, County Antrim,

at 6 30 a.m. to-day in gale and mist. Fireman Patrick Welsh was admitted to hospital at Ballymoney suffering from exposure. Vessel's engine-room is flooded, but other damage not yet ascertained.—LLOYD'S LIST Correspondent.

SAINT RONAIG. — London, Dec. 14. — The master of the steamer Saint Ronaig said that the first he knew of the grounding was when the ship gave a jolt. Heavy seas were running and there was a dense fog. (See issue of Dec. 15.)

Belfast, Dec. 15. — Attended steamer Saint Ronaig at Torcor Point, Co. Antrim, yesterday afternoon. Vessel, fully loaded, with coal

and salt, went ashore at about 7 o'clock yesterday morning during south-easterly gale while on passage from Garston to Westport docks. Crew abandoned vessel by breeches buoy. Found vessel on rocks, head lying about north, with considerable starboard list. No means of boarding but vessel undoubtedly flooded in hold, boiler-room and engine-room. No. 1 hatch covers missing and seas washing over vessel, one lifeboat washed overboard. Owners have appointed surveyors but too late for them to attend yesterday. Have conferred with owners' surveyors this morning and recommended that they endeavour interest salvors to inspect. John Lee, salvage contractor, Belfast, probably interested. Weather has now moderated but vessel exposed from north through east to south and have urged owners' surveyors to do all possible immediately as deterioration in weather would be serious. In view of time of year, probable damage and lack of local facilities, salvage must be considered doubtful.— Salvage Association's Surveyors.

Classification details

Table with classification codes: \* 100A1, 9,55, ss(Dr)9,47, Irv9,52, \* LMC9,52, BS8,54, sp9,52, ts 3,54N CL

341

Date of Casualty 14th December, 1955.

Details of Casualty

Wrecked on Torr Head, County Antrim, in heavy weather and dense fog.

The Owners concur.

12/15/55

12/16/55

Wrecked Record "WRECKED 12,55" FRIDAY 24 FEB 1956

Committee

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 12,55



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**SAINT RONAIG.**—Belfast, Dec. 17.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig: We boarded vessel yesterday in conjunction with owners' surveyor and John Lee, salvage contractor, Belfast. John Lee offered to attempt salvage on Lloyd's Open Form "no cure no pay," delivery either Belfast or Ayrshire repair port, which owners accepted by telephone. We approve and owners arranging for agreement to be signed. John Lee hopes to reach vessel to-day with salvage vessel and equipment.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Dec. 16.)

L 19/12/55

**SAINT RONAIG.**—Belfast, Dec. 20.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig: Salvage operations have been impeded in the last few days by north-easterly winds, to which this vessel is completely exposed, and there is very little progress to report up to date. However, the salvage vessel is in the vicinity of the Saint Ronaig and available to make a start as soon as the weather moderates.—Salvage Association's Surveyor. (See issue of Dec. 19.)

**SAINT RONAIG.**—Belfast, Dec. 23.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig: Continuous bad weather this week has prevented salvage vessel Gossa Water from approaching Saint Ronaig except for four hours on Wednesday (Dec. 21), when one winch, radio telephone and Decca navigator were salvaged. One lifeboat now washed away and all hatch covers. Indications are that vessel is holed in way of hold as well as engine-room. Position is undoubtedly deteriorating and is serious unless weather moderates for several consecutive days.—Salvage Association's Surveyors.

L 24/12/55

**SAINT RONAIG.**—Portrush, Dec. 23.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig has both hatch covers torn off and it is reported that she fills at each high water and appears to be badly holed. According to the local Press, an attempt may be made to salvage the cargo of coal on board the vessel. (See issue of Dec. 24.)

L 29/12/55

**SAINT RONAIG.**—Belfast, Jan. 2.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig: The salvage contractor intended to resume salvage operations on Wednesday last, Dec. 28, but unfortunately it was necessary to send his salvage vessel Gossa Water up to Belfast to repair a winch, which work was not completed until Friday, Dec. 30. However, even if Gossa Water had been available, the weather during most of last week would have prevented her going alongside Saint Ronaig; there are rocks on both sides of the latter vessel, and Gossa Water is restricted to going alongside the other vessel's bow or stern. We were concerned for the Saint Ronaig on Saturday and yesterday, as in this area there was one of the worst gales for some years, fortunately it was mainly from the north-west, but a shift of wind to north, or anywhere east of north, would probably have resulted in the destruction of the Saint Ronaig. Information received this morning shows that the vessel is still much in the same position as when she ran ashore. The contractor's divers expect to make examinations inside the vessel to-morrow, and, weather permitting, Gossa Water should be alongside the day after to put the salvage pumps in place; the pump suction are already in position.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Dec. 29.)

L 5/1/56

**SAINT RONAIG.**—Belfast, Jan. 13.—  
Steamer Saint Ronaig: Attended vessel again yesterday in conjunction with owners' surveyor and Mr. Lee, salvor. Vessel has moved and sustained considerable additional damage, due to recent gale, and on this account Lee proposes to abandon efforts to refloat. Salvaged equipment consists of anchors, cables, winch, lifeboat and sundry small items. Consider recovery of cargo doubtful, having regard to vessel's exposed position.—Salvage Association's Surveyors. (See issue of Jan. 5.)

L 6/1/56

