

REPORT OF SURVEY for REPAIRS, &c.

Date of writing Report 24/11/25 When handed in at Local Office 19 Port of Port Natal

Attach to P.N.L. 1458

54 1/2

7450

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 17/55 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 106/25

Date of writing this report 28th January 1926

Vessel's Name Red SS "Competitor" of Whitby Tons { Net 2216
Gross 3126

Built at W Hartlepool When 1907 & Casualty notice sent to Owner 23. 1. 26 Owner's reply 25. 1. 26

Owner's Name Leeston Shipping Co

Address 131 The Exchange Cardiff

Case previously before { Date
Classing Committee. { Last Minute

Date of Casualty 27th November 1925

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer was reported to have sent out an S.O.S. during a terrific storm on the 27th November about 75 mile S.W. of Algoa Bay. She was abandoned in a sinking condition. Six of the crew reached land.

The Owners concur.

Particulars of Classification.

1100A 3.10.20
2.25 11.23
14.5 11.23
11.25 2.25
5.25 6.25

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

COMPETITOR.—Port Elizabeth, Nov. 29.—British steamer Competitor reported abandoned in a sinking condition. Three Europeans and three Arabs landed Bushmans River. Tag searching vicinity.

COMPETITOR.—Port Elizabeth, Nov. 29.—Steamer Competitor, Port Natal for Las Palmas, with maize, sent out an S.O.S. call at midnight on Friday (Nov. 27) during a terrific storm. One of her lifeboats containing three European, two Arabs and a Malay reached the shore near the mouth of the Bushmans River yesterday, but the fate of the vessel and of the remainder of the crew is still unknown. A vigorous search is proceeding.—Reuter.

COMPETITOR.—London, Dec. 10.—A Press Association message states:—A Cardiff message says there is now little doubt that the steamer Competitor, of Cardiff, has been lost with all except six of the crew. The owners announced to-day that the men, who landed in one of the ship's boats off the south-east coast of Africa, during a storm on Nov. 27, are Albert Potts seaman; A. L. Brown, cabin boy; Carl Leimi, boatswain; and three Arab seamen.

COMPETITOR.—Port Elizabeth, Dec. 1.—According to the local press, one of the survivors of the steamer Competitor states that the vessel's No. 4 tank was found to be leaking on the afternoon of Nov. 27 and all hands were ordered to the pumps. The water, however, gained, and the Competitor began to fill rapidly during the night, and at 11 p.m. the master ordered the crew to take to the boats. Twelve men got into the starboard boat and the painter parted and they had to head to sea. When being released the port boat was dashed to pieces against the side of the steamer and the rest of the crew got into two jolly boats; not a trace of these has been seen. When the starboard boat was approaching the land, two men were lost overboard; the boat afterwards capsized and another four men were lost; the remaining six reached land. The starboard boat was afterwards washed ashore. Up to now three bodies have been recovered. Eighteen of the crew and one passenger have been lost.

Suggested Record Abandoned at Sea 11.25

Date of Committee FRI. 29 JAN 1926

Committee's Minute Abandoned at sea 11.25

W575-0034

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