

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

7863

No. 71769 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 33/29

Date of writing this report 16th April 1929

Vessel's Name *Steel S.S. "Giesse"* of BremenBuilt at *Newcastle*

When 1925

Casualty notice sent to Owner 10.4.29 Owner's reply 13.4.29

Owner's Name *Norddeutscher Lloyd*Address *Bremen*

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

GIESSE. Shanghai, Mar. 11. Steamer Giesse, inward bound, struck Button Rock in Bonham Pass, yesterday. Reported by steamer Khiva to have broken in halves. Crew saved, partly on board Khiva and remainder on rocks. Assistance has been sent.

Shanghai, Mar. 11. The inward-bound Norddeutscher Lloyd cargo steamer Giesse has been totally wrecked on the Button Rock, near the Middle Islands, off the coast of Chekiang Province, 20 miles from Shanghai. The P. & O. liner Khiva, which was on her way to Hongkong, answered the German vessel's distress signals, and found the Giesse broken in halves. She took off three passengers and part of the crew of nine officers and 13 men, the remainder taking refuge on the Button Rock. The salvage tug Sancy and St. Sampson are on their way to the spot but the latest reports state that the Giesse has slipped off the rock and is a total loss. It is believed that there are no casualties. Reuter.

GIESSE. Shanghai, Mar. 13. The salvage tug Sancy has reported up wireless that the steamer Giesse is submerged fore and aft and that the salvage of her cargo is impossible. Forty-nine members of the crew of the Giesse are still on the Button Rock without food and the heavy weather is preventing their being taken off. (Later.) A wireless message from the tug Sancy states that the crew of the Giesse have been taken off and are being brought into Shanghai. Reuter.

Shanghai, Mar. 14. German steamer Giesse, salvage tug report vessel submerged fore and aft. Salvage of cargo impossible.

GIESSE. London, Mar. 16. Steamer Giesse struck Button Rock in Bonham Pass. The Tokio Salvage Company have dispatched their salvage steamer Nani Maru to inspect the wreck.

GIESSE. London, Mar. 22. Steamer Giesse. Information received states that a contract has been signed with the Tokio Salvage Company on Lloyd's Open Standard Form of Salvage Agreement, "no cure no pay."

GIESSE. London, Apr. 4. In reply to inquiry cabled to the salvage contractors, the Tokio Salvage Co., on Mar. 25, as to the possibility of salvaging a submarine cable stowed in lower No. 3 hold, the following cable, dated Mar. 29, was received from the salvage company: "Referring to your cable of Mar. 25 ship afterpart physically unsalvageable, forepart not worth refloating though not impossible. At owners' request we are now salvaging gear, copper pipes, &c., which can easily be removed. Hull itself will not be worth further stripping. Submarine cable: Consider its salvage prospective."

GIESSE. London, Apr. 9. Steamer Giesse. In response to an inquiry the following cable has been received from the salvage contractors from Tokio, dated Apr. 9: "Salved following cargo: 29 bags mail, 33 cases plate-glass, 26 paper, 8 machinery 416 indigo-paste, 820 merchandise, 370 iron bar, 63 wire, 3 submarine cable."

GIESSE. Shanghai, Apr. 12. Steamer Giesse. Surveyor appointed ship's agent report of survey Apr. 11 states all salved cargo landed badly damaged muddy sea water, mostly broken; paper changed pulp, practically no value; iron totally mixed, rusty, sorting expenses will be heavy; woollens badly damaged by sea water, hardware rusty; glassware unfit delivery owing to handling; electric machinery, dynamo wire spoiled; liquids damaged by sea water; chemicals melt, practically no value; provisions unfit consumption. Recommend sale of cargo immediately. Do not recommend forwarding cargo Japan Vladivostok. Do you authorize settlement claims for total loss against bills of lading endorsed. This is to certify that cargo covered by this bill of lading is considered total loss as per surveyor's report dated Apr. 11. Salvage of cargo continuing in the meantime. Lloyd's Agents.

GIESSE. London, Apr. 13. Steamer Giesse. The following cable has been received from the salvors, dispatched from Tokio to-day at 3 37 p.m.: "Salved further three lengths of or 23 miles submarine cable."

GIESSE. London, Apr. 17. Steamer Giesse. The following cable has been received from the salvors, from Tokio, dated Apr. 17, 11 a.m.: "Salved remainder of submarine cable."

Shanghai, Apr. 17. Steamer Giesse. Salvage of cargo continuing about two months weather permitting.

Case previously before

Classing Committee.

Date

Last Minute

Particulars of Classification.

Flammable	5573 5-27
Shell in oil	
in fusible	4146 5-27

Date of Casualty 13th March 1929

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer is reported to have been wrecked near Button Rock, Bonham Pass, 80 miles from Shanghai, on 13th March. She has broken in two & mostly submerged. The owners concur.

W 69/10/11

Suggested Record,

Date of Committee

Committee's Minute

Wrecked 3.29

FRI. 19 APR 1929

Wrecked 3.29

12.29/29