

Attach to Sta Rpt No 1866

7350

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 70221 in R. B.

Wreck Book, p. 135/24

Date of writing this report

2nd April

1925

Vessel's Name

Red S.S. "Fukki Maru"

of Kobe

Tons Net 3448 Gross 5699

Built at Tokio

When 1924 2

Casualty notice sent to Owner 17.12.24 Owner's reply

Owner's Name

Hashimoto Kisen. K.K.

Address 174. Nigochi, Nishinomiya Cho, Muko Gun, Higashiken, Japan

Case previously before

Date

Particulars of Classification.

+10081

Classing Committee.

Last Minute

2.24

+6.110.2.24

Date of Casualty

8th December 1924

Précis of particulars of Casualty

This steamer was abandoned on fire off Swatow on 8th December, and eventually drifted onto the bar at Swatow, after unsuccessful efforts had been made by a tug to extinguish the fire and take the vessel in tow.

On 20th December it was reported that all holds were gutted, badly sagged, plates broken both sides amidships, forcing up bows and stern; salvage hopeless. Salvage tug has left as she can do nothing more.

A casualty notice was sent to the Owners on 17th December, but no reply has yet been received.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

FUKKI MARU.—Hongkong, Dec. 9.—Fire broke out in hold of Japanese steamer Fukki Maru, Osaka for Bombay, general cargo, in lat. 24 N., long. 117 E., and spread to bunker. It is reported that vessel was abandoned on fire. Crew landed Namoa Island.

FUKKI MARU.—London, Dec. 10.—The following cable has been received from Tokio, dated Dec. 9: Suzuki's steamer Fukki Maru, chartered Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Japan for Bombay, with cotton goods, been on fire off Swatow Dec. 8. Crew left her at Namoa Island.

FUKKI MARU.—Hongkong, Dec. 11.—Japanese steamer Fukki Maru, before reported, now lying at anchor in lat. 23 19 N., long. 117 E., still burning.

—London, Dec. 11.—The following cable has been received from Tokio, dated Dec. 11: Steamer Fukki Maru: Report from Swatow says: Anchored five miles south of Namoa Island in eight fathoms. When visited evening Dec. 9, all holds furiously burning, heavily listing starboard, impossible get on board. Henry Keswick reported attending with hoses. Azuma Maru (salvage steamer) left Moji Dec. 10 but fear too late.

FUKKI MARU.—London, Dec. 15.—The following cable has been received from Tokio, dated Dec. 13: Hongkong reports steamer Fukki Maru now beached 12 miles from her original position. Hull apparently intact but gutted. All holds smouldering; too hot for investigation. We understand Henry Keswick attended voluntarily (to) removing vessel present position, returned Hongkong. (Mutilation.) Azuma Maru due Dec. 16 make further investigation and report fully.

FUKKI MARU.—London, Dec. 22.—The following cable has been received from Tokio, dated Dec. 20:—Salvage steamer Azuma Maru, after close inspection, reports:—Steamer Fukki Maru: All holds gutted, badly sagged, plates broken both sides amidships forcing up bows and stern. Keel embedded, probably lost structural strength otherwise broken. Breaking up expected owing to exposed position and salvage hopeless; stripping economically impracticable. We are considering sale of wreck as it lies.

FUKKI MARU.—Hongkong, Jan. 3.—According to the report of the Marine Surveyor at Swatow, the fire on board the Japanese steamer Fukki Maru originated in No. 2 lower hold and was discovered at 5 a.m. on Dec. 8, when the vessel was in the vicinity of the Brothers. Attempts to subdue the outbreak proved ineffectual, and, owing to the fire spreading so rapidly, the vessel proceeded to the nearest sheltered anchorage, off Namoa Island, and was anchored five miles off shore. The crew had to abandon the vessel and landed at Namoa Island. The salvage tug Henry Keswick arrived on the scene at 7 p.m. on Dec. 9. Her efforts to extinguish the fire being unsuccessful, she took the Fukki Maru in tow at 1 30 p.m. on Dec. 10. The hawser at once parted; connection was again made, but at 2 30 p.m. the hawser parted again and fouled one of the tug's propellers. The tug then left the wreck and proceeded to Hongkong under one engine. Next day, the Fukki Maru was found to have stranded on Swatow bar, about 2 miles 6 cables from Sugarloaf Lighthouse, at the entrance to Swatow harbour. On Dec. 16 it was found that the wreck had moved 5 cables closer to the navigable channel across Swatow bar and was then a danger for navigation. The Fukki Maru was loaded with general cargo, including matches, porcelain packed in straw, celluloid ware, teakwood, cotton goods and cotton yarn, umbrella sticks and empty match boxes.

Hongkong, Jan. 3.—Steamer Fukki Maru: Following advices received from Swatow, dated Dec. 24: The salvage tug Azuma Maru is leaving to-day for Moji, as she can do nothing more. She has salvaged 46 tons of brass and, as far as can be ascertained, the salvage engineer can salvage no more.

Suggested Record

Abandoned on Fire 12.24

Date of Committee

THES. 7 APR 1925

Committee's Minute

abandoned on fire 12.24



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W649-0103

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