

7352 1924

REPORT OF TOTAL LOSS, CASUALTY, &c.

No. 65761 in R. B. Wreck Book, p. 15/25 Date of writing this report 20th April 1925

Vessel's Name Steel S.S. "Canadian Navigator" of Montreal Tons Net 1929 Gross 3099

Built at Montreal When 1919 " Casualty notice sent to Owner 27. 2. 25 Owner's reply

Owner's Name Canadian Navigator Ltd (Canadian Government) Merchant Marine Ltd. Address Pacific Coast S.S. Co. 1. Toronto Street Toronto Ont.

SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

CANADIAN NAVIGATOR. - Barbados, Feb. 17. - Steamer Canadian Navigator took fire while discharging and loading cargo this morning. Vessel was cut adrift and is now drifting seaward. Anticipate total loss. - Lloyd's Agent.

CANADIAN NAVIGATOR. - Balboa, Feb. 19. - S O S from British steamer Canadian Navigator, says on fire lat. 13 14 N., long. 49 58 W., approximate drift one knot W.N.W. (See issue of Feb. 18.)

Kingston (Ja), Feb. 18. - Steamer Canadian Navigator: On fire 20 miles west Barbados; abandoned. - Salvage Association.

CANADIAN NAVIGATOR. - Barbados, Feb. 27. - British steamer Canadian Navigator, on her return voyage from Demerara to Canada, arrived here from Trinidad during the afternoon of Feb. 16. The work of loading and discharging was going on when about 1 30 p.m. on Feb. 17 there was an explosion on board (presumably in No. 2 hold, where some gasoline loaded at Trinidad for this port was stowed) immediately followed by fire, which spread so rapidly that by 2 15 p.m. the master and crew were compelled to abandon the vessel. The Eighth Cruiser Squadron was in port at the time and rendered assistance. To prevent the burning vessel becoming a menace to shipping in the harbour and to the shore, the anchors were unshackled and the vessel was taken in tow by the Local Government water boat, the intention being to beach her, if possible, on the shoal to the N.W. entrance of the harbour. The two 1-in. steel hawsers parted, however, and it was not then possible for anyone to get on board to make fast a heavier tow line, and the vessel was carried out to sea by the wind and current. She was visible from the higher points of the island until about 3 a.m. next morning burning furiously. Next day H.M.C.S. Patriot, with Lloyd's Agent on board, was detailed to search for the Canadian Navigator, and she was found 30 miles N.W. of Carlisle Bay, still burning in Nos. 1, 3, 4 and 5 hatches, though not so furiously as before. She also had a heavy list to port, her rails being under water, and it was only the hatch coamings which kept out the big water, though some was slopping in. The starboard side abaft the engine-room was badly crumpled in. Salvage was impossible, as no one could have gone aboard to attach a tow line, and apparently she could not keep afloat many hours. The steamers Maraval and Bogota were instructed to look out for her, and both reported on arrival here that they could not find any trace as they passed her position, the former at noon on Feb. 19 and the latter on the morning of Feb. 20. The squadron, which left here on Feb. 21, intended to envelop her position and no reply has yet come to hand. All the cargo shipped at Trinidad and Demerara is destroyed, also a portion of what was being shipped from here. Four local labourers, who were working in No. 2 hold, were killed, and three others injured.

Case previously before Date Particulars of Classification. Classing Committee. Last Minute H10001 SSN. 1. 23 9.24 H.M.C.F. 13

Date of Casualty 17th February 1925

Précis of particulars of Casualty This steamer was reported to have caught fire at Barbados on 17th February, while loading and discharging. She was cut adrift, and drifted seaward. On 18th February she was stated to have been abandoned 20 miles W. of Barbados; she had a heavy list to port, her rails being under water. Search has been made for the vessel, but no trace of her could be found.

No reply has yet been received to the casualty notice sent to the owners on 29th February

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Suggested Record Main Loss by Fire 2.25 Date of Committee TUES. 21 APR 1925

Committee's Minute Lost by Fire 2, 25



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