

RETURN OF WRECKS AND CASUALTIES TO SHIPPING REPORTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT FROM THE 1ST APRIL, 1923, TO THE 31ST MARCH, 1924.

Date of Casualty.	Vessel's Name, Age, and Class.	Rig.	Number of		Nature of		Number of Lives lost.	Place where Casualty occurred.	Wind.		Finding of Court of Inquiry.	Name of Master.
			Passengers.	Crew.	Cargo.	Casualty.			Direction.	Force.		
1923. Feb. 1	Edna, sail, 19 years	Ketch ..	15	3	Explosives, 19½ tons	Stranded; total loss, £2,000	..	North Parenga Bar ..	N.E.	10	At the Magisterial inquiry the master was exonerated, but on a rehearing before a Supreme Court Judge and two fresh assessors he was held to have committed an error of judgment in not altering course to northward and in not having the deep-sea lead handy, but the Court did not deal with his certificate and made no order as to costs. When crossing bar inward was carried by heavy southerly on to beach at north of entrance.	Henry J. Burke.
April 7	Elsie, o.e.v., 19 years	Ketch ..	24	5	Cement and corrugated iron	Stranded	..	Hokitika ..	W.	4	When crossing bar inward was carried by heavy southerly on to beach at north of entrance.	A. Ingram.
"	Hurunui, s.s., 2 years	..	5,871	78	Refrigerating and general, 2,890 tons	Collision ..	..	Lyttelton ..	S.W.	9	Owing to strong south-west gale blowing ship slightly grazed port bow on western mole when entering breakwater under tow, but no damage was done.	J. Burton Davies.
"	Kaikoura, s.s., 19 years	F. and A.	5,631	70	Frozen meat, &c.	Fire ..	..	Off East Cape	S.W.	Fresh ..	A fire was discovered in starboard side No. 2 hold, and measures taken to suppress same, but flames eventually burst through the hatch, and, although subdued four hours later, heavy smoke was seen issuing from hatch at 10 p.m. when entering Auckland, and fire was extinguished at midnight.	Myles M. Down-ton.
"	Orepuki, s.s., 15 years	Schooner	225	17	General, 90 tons	Stranded	..	Lyttelton ..	S.	Fresh ..	When proceeding down channel vessel stopped to avoid launch in fairway, resulting in wind causing vessel to sag to leeward, touch ground and become fast.	F. McKenzie.
"	Ngapuhi, s.s., 23 years	F. and A.	311	33	General, 200 tons	Damaged by sea ..	..	Off Castle Rock, Coromandel Peninsula	N.E.	Strong..	A heavy sea struck vessel, damaging boats, &c., and washing sundry small gear overboard, but doing no damage to hatches or cargo.	T. Haultain.
"	Rana, s.s., 27 years	Schooner	244	21	Fish, 27 tons ..	Stranded	..	Kaingaroa, Chatham Islands	S.E.	6	Owing to smooth ground, anchor dragged and vessel drifted broadside on to reef at harbour-entrance, doing sundry damage to vessel's bottom.	Ed. Cartner.
"	Motu, aux., 2 years	Schooner	109	9	General, 150 tons	Touched bar; damage	£9	Opotiki Bar	..	Calm ..	Owing to continual shallow water on the bar, and although vessel was in the channel, she bumped on bar, crashing shelving-piece and diagonal and breaking rudder-band.	W. Gash.
May 5	Waitangi, s.s., 34 years	Ketch ..	74	11	Chaff and general, 46 tons	Stranded	..	Patea ..	S.E.	Strong..	Owing to heavy set when entering harbour vessel refused to answer her helm, struck western wall at entrance, and was subsequently beached.	W. Bridgen.