

RETURN OF WRECKS AND CASUALTIES TO SHIPPING REPORTED TO THE MARINE DEPARTMENT FROM 1ST APRIL, 1927, TO 31ST MARCH, 1928.

Date of Casualty.	Vessel's Name, Age, and Class.	Rig.	Tonnage	Number of		Nature of		Number of Lives lost.	Place where Casualty occurred.	Wind.		Finding of Court of Inquiry.	Name of Master.
				Crew	Passengers.	Cargo.	Casualty.			Direction.	Force.		
1928. Feb. 5	Wairua, s.s., 14 years	Cutter ..	220	14	25	30 tons general	Struck submerged object	..	Northern Wairoa River, N.Z.	Calm	..	Vessel struck a submerged object on her way up river. Next day, as she was leaving Mangawhare Wharf, the tail-shaft propeller and bracket fell off, probably caused through vessel striking the object the day before. While vessel was proceeding down harbour outward bound, smoke was observed rising from ventilators. No. 2 hold. Fire-hoses were connected up and flames extinguished. About 45 cases tobacco damaged.	W. F. Courtts.
Feb. 6	City of Bath, s.s., 2 years	Schooner	3,154	65	..	General	Fire ..	..	Otago Harbour, N.Z. ...	E.N.E.	5	Launch struck submerged rock off the western side of Waimate Island. Rock covered by 4 ft. of water. Vessel drawing 5 ft. Damage to launch about £50. Master navigating on N.Z. Chart No. 2 instead of on Coromandel Chart, which is on a larger scale	W. S. Coughlan.
Feb. 8	Muriwai, o.e.v., 20 years	Cutter ..	6	2	..	..	Grounded	..	Waimate Island, Coromandel, N.Z.	N.	Light ..	Launch struck submerged rock off the western side of Waimate Island. Rock covered by 4 ft. of water. Vessel drawing 5 ft. Damage to launch about £50. Master navigating on N.Z. Chart No. 2 instead of on Coromandel Chart, which is on a larger scale	F. G. R. Brocas.
Feb. 8	Dauntless, o.e.v., 19 years	F. and A.	3	1	..	..	Fire; total loss	..	Off Maraetai Point, Auckland, N.Z.	S.	1	Vessel caught fire owing to ignition of benzine and benzine-fumes caused by engine back-firing. Vessel beached on Maraetai Reef and burned to water's edge, becoming a total loss	A. Cole.
Feb. 9	Kestrel, s.s., 47 years	Barge ..	159	4	16	..	Grounded	..	Auckland, N.Z.	S.W.	Light ..	When approaching the Northcote Wharf and when a line had been made fast, owing to the engineer mistaking an order, the vessel drifted past the wharf and grounded in the mud, remaining there until the next morning	T. F. Jeathart.
Feb. 10	Huon Belle, o.e.v., 64 years	Ketch ..	20	4	..	60 tons sand	Stranded	..	Whangapua bar, Bay of Islands, N.Z.	S.W.	Light ..	When crossing the bar at night the vessel was caught on the bow by the tide and turned a little to port. Owing to the narrow bar, vessel struck a rock and partially damaged the stem	J. Carey.
Feb. 16	Waikawa, s.s., 8 years	Schooner	3,525	48	..	8,000 tons general	Stranded...	..	Papeete, Tahiti	Calm	..	While entering Papeete vessel touched a submerged object, probably a coral head, at a place where there should have been 10 fathoms of water. Very slight damage to vessel	E. Harris.
Feb. 17	Huanui, o.e.v., 18 years	Ketch ..	56	7	..	30 tons empty drums	Foremast sprung	..	2½ miles off Taurakirae Head, N.Z.	N.N.W.	7	A sudden squall struck the vessel and sprung the foremast under the trestle-trees	T. C. Thomsen.
Feb. 18	Mako, s.s., 15 years	Schooner	247	21	5	360 tons general	Fractured condenser-door	..	Between Auckland and Napier, N.Z.	N.W.	Light ..	Main condenser-door became fractured through deterioration. No damage to hull of ship, or cargo	W. S. Clark.