

No. 321.—The following Finding of the Marine Court of Enquiry held on the 18th and 19th day of May, 1927, to enquire into the circumstances attending the collision between the British Steamship *Moonshine* and the Chinese Steamship *Leung Kwong*, is published for general information.

W. T. SOUTHORN,
Colonial Secretary.

27th May, 1927.

FINDING.

We find that the *Moonshine* a British ship of 33 tons nett of which Li Hung is the Coxswain was at the Northern Entrance of the Kap Sing Mun Pass proceeding from Liu Tin to Hong Kong at about 7.30 p.m. on 9th May, 1927. Her speed was about 6 knots.

At the same time the *Leung Kwong* a passenger steamer of 398 tons nett under the Chinese flag was at the Southern Entrance to the Pass bound for Wangmun at a speed of about 8 knots. Her Master was James Wilson who holds a British Certificate of Competency as Master.

The *Leung Kwong* passed close round Kap Sing Island and altered course across the Pass towards its Western Shore, having signalled her intention of doing so by sounding 2 blasts.

The *Moonshine* simultaneously proceeded along the Western side of the Channel and the vessels collided. The *Leung Kwong* was struck on the starboard bow by the stern of the *Moonshine* and sank in less than ten minutes.

Prior to the sinking of the *Leung Kwong* the *Moonshine* proceeded alongside her and embarked a large number of the passengers and crew.

The collision occurred close to the Western shore of the Pass.

The S.S. *On Lee* and the S.S. *Kwong Fook Cheong* who were in the vicinity were instrumental in saving a large number of lives.

The Court finds that the *Moonshine* was navigated in a proper manner and that no blame is attributable to the Coxswain of the ship.

Given under our hands at Victoria, in the Colony of Hong Kong, this 19th day of May, 1927.

(Signed) J. B. NEWILL, D.S.O., Lieut. Commander,
Stipendiary Magistrate and President of the Court.

„ C. A. MERRIMAN, R.N., Commander,
H.M.S. Tamar.

„ T. B. NELSON,
Master, British S.S. Protesilaus.

„ G. A. G. MORSE,
Master, British S.S. Antung.

„ R. N. STEPHENS,
Master, British S.S. Kwangtung.