

(No. 7409.)

"COLAC" (S.S.).

FINDING of a Court of Marine Inquiry held at Fremantle, Western Australia, on 21st October, 1910, to investigate the circumstances attending the stranding of the s.s. "COLAC," of Adelaide, South Australia, on a sandbank in King's Sound, on 17th September, 1910.

Finding of the Court.

The Court finds that the s.s. "Colac" left the jetty in King's Sound on the 17th September, 1910, to proceed to sea at a time when the tide had been on the ebb for about two hours, and about one hour after the vessel took the ground and suffered serious damage thereby.

The master of the s.s. "Colac" committed an error of judgment in leaving the jetty at Derby to proceed on his voyage at a time when the tide was two hours on the ebb.

Having committed that error of judgment he was subsequently guilty of laxity in navigating the vessel, inasmuch as that when she took the ground she was considerably to the westward of the course she was supposed to follow, also in not making allowance for any possible westward set of the ebbing tide which he ought to have known would cause the vessel to come into shoal water; and also knowing that there was shoal water at each side of a narrow passage he was endeavouring to get through, that he did not take all possible precautions such as heaving the lead to see that he was in that passage.

The certificate of the master, Walter John Snadden, No. 574, is therefore suspended for two months from 17th September, 1910.

E. P. DOWLEY,

Magistrate.

We concur.

J. McCONNACHY, }
J. H. FOXWORTHY, } Assessors.

(Issued in London by the Board of Trade on the
27th day of January, 1911.)

(18674—4.) Wt. 72—57. 120. 1/11. D & S.