

MONTHLY SUPPLEMENT

No. 2—DECEMBER, 1937

TO THE

MARINE OBSERVER—VOL. XIV, No. 128.

MARINE METEOROLOGY.

Co-operation of Shipowners, Masters and Mates.

Captains and Officers of ships registered in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who wish to co-operate regularly with the Meteorological Office should apply to the appropriate Port Meteorological Officer or Agent, a list of whom, with addresses, is given below.

In accordance with the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, the Meteorological Office arranges for certain "Selected Ships" to take meteorological observations at specified hours, and to transmit such observations by wireless telegraphy, for the benefit of other ships and the various meteorological services.

Arrangements are also made for a limited number of ships to keep meteorological logs in certain trades for the purpose of completing the meteorological survey of the oceans.

Ships regularly performing these voluntary duties are known as Observing Ships; the whole as the Voluntary Observing Fleet; and the commanders and officers of these ships as the Corps of Voluntary Marine Observers.

At present the observing fleet is limited to a number not exceeding 360 observing ships. The number of British "Selected Ships" is determined upon the British proportion of world tonnage, on the assumption that there should be a total of 1,000 "Selected Ships" of all nations.

The observing fleet list indicating which are "Selected Ships," with the names of commanders, officers, and other particulars, is published in THE MARINE OBSERVER and kept up to date monthly.

The Organization of Voluntary Meteorological Observation at sea is described in Chapter VII of THE MARINE OBSERVER'S HANDBOOK, sixth edition.

THE QUARTERLY MARINE OBSERVER or MONTHLY SUPPLEMENT is sent regularly to the captain of every observing ship, for the information and guidance of his observing officers, and in the case of "Selected Ships," the wireless operators also. The Captains of observing ships are also supplied on request with charts, and atlases, according to trade, if available, as meteorological equipment.

To ensure the accuracy of data collected for the purpose of research and for weather forecasting, ashore and afloat, and to provide a pattern which may be copied with advantage to all concerned for general use in merchant ships, sufficient tested instruments are lent by the Meteorological Office to the Captains of observing ships.

The commanders of observing ships keeping the meteorological log are requested to return it (accompanied by Form 138 in the case of "Selected Ships") through the appropriate Port Meteorological Officer or Agent at intervals of not more than five months.

Commanders of observing ships keeping Forms 911 are requested to return them (accompanied by Form 138 in the case of "Selected Ships") by post direct

to the Meteorological Office, London, at the end of each voyage, or at intervals of not more than two months.

These forms have the address and "On His Majesty's Service" printed upon them, and should be folded for posting accordingly.

The Port Meteorological Officers and Merchant Navy Agents inspect instruments in Meteorological log ships half-yearly, and in "Selected Ships" quarterly, when possible; and they will replace as necessary any gear lent by the Meteorological Office. These officers will also check the accuracy of barometers, etc., in observing ships, but marine observers should themselves frequently check by comparison.

The work of the British observing fleet, that of the observing fleets of other nations party to the Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, together with Weather Shipping Bulletins and Gale and Hurricane Warnings conforming to the International Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, provide the necessary information for shipping. Thus a world wide service for all shipping, at the minimum cost to national funds, is provided. Shipowners are asked to facilitate this voluntary work which is done by the commanders and officers of their ships.

Shipowners will greatly assist by facilitating the forwarding of postal matter from the Air Ministry addressed to the Captains of ships.

The masters of all British ships fitted with wireless telegraphy are asked to assist in this service in aid of navigation by making routine wireless weather reports in accordance with the Selected Ship scheme where and when there are not Selected Ships carrying out the service. As far as possible the Merchant Navy Agents will visit British foreign going ships registered in Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and give assistance and advice if desired.

This supplementary service to that of Selected Ships is particularly desirable in the regions and seasons of tropical revolving storms, and at present on the more northern routes across the North Atlantic and in far northern waters.

A pamphlet entitled "Decode for use with the International Code for Wireless Weather Messages from Ships", M.O. 329, Fourth Edition, can be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office. This gives a description of the world wide system of voluntary Selected Ships routine wireless weather telegraphy, the Tables for decoding reports received from Selected Ships, and notes for the guidance of the masters of British ships.

"A Handbook of Weather, Currents and Ice for Seamen" published by H.M. Stationery Office, may be obtained from the Stationery Office or through any bookseller, price 4s. This provides information of the elements named, the Laws of Storms, and gives guidance for weather forecasting at sea. It also gives some information of Ocean Pilotage and is intended as a guide for making use of the services specified in Article 35 of the Convention for Safety of Life at Sea.

NAUTICAL OFFICERS AND AGENTS OF THE MARINE DIVISION OF THE METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, AIR MINISTRY.

LONDON ... Captain L. A. BROOKE SMITH, R.D., R.N.R., Marine Superintendent.
Commander J. HENNESSY, R.D., R.N.R., Senior Nautical Assistant.
Room 205, Victory House, Kingsway, W.C.2.
(Telephone No.: Holborn 3434 Extension 421).
Nearest station, Temple, District Railway.

THAMES ... Commander C. H. WILLIAMS, R.N.R., Port Meteorological Officer, P.L.A. Building, King George V Dock (south side), London, E.16.
(Telephone No.: Albert Dock 2659. Telegraphic Address: Barometrie Aldock, London).

MERSEY ... Commander M. CRESSWELL, R.N.R., Port Meteorological Officer, Dock Office, Liverpool.
(Telephone No.: Bank 8959. Telegraphic Address: Meteorite, Liverpool).

Agents.

BRISTOL CHANNEL Captain EDWARD HALL, 21, Dowlais Buildings, West Bute Street, Cardiff. (Telephone No.: Cardiff 1268).

Agents (contd.).

CLYDE ... Captain W. HENDERSON, 80, Buchanan Street, Glasgow, C.I. (Telephone No.: Central 3775).

FORTH ... Captain G. MORE, Chief Dock Master's Office, Leith. (Telephone No.: Leith 35481).

HONG KONG, China. Lieut. Commander M. V. KEOGH, R.N., Chart Depot, H.M. Dockyard.
(Telephone No.: 108 Dockyard).

HUMBER ... W. H. CARR, Esq., Master Mariner, Ferensway Chambers, Ferensway, Hull. (Telephone No.: Hull 16063.)

SOUTHAMPTON Captain Sir BENJAMIN CHAVE, K.B.E. Room 35, Royal Mail House.

SYDNEY, New South Wales. Captain N. G. ROSKRUGE.
Captain G. B. MERCER.
Customs House. (Telephone No.: B6421).

TYNE ... Captain F. B. WEST, Customs House Chambers, Quayside, Newcastle upon Tyne, I. (Telephone No.: Newcastle 23203).

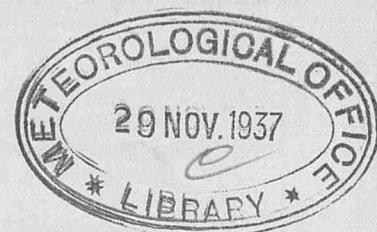






CHART OF THE WESTERN NORTH ATLANTIC.

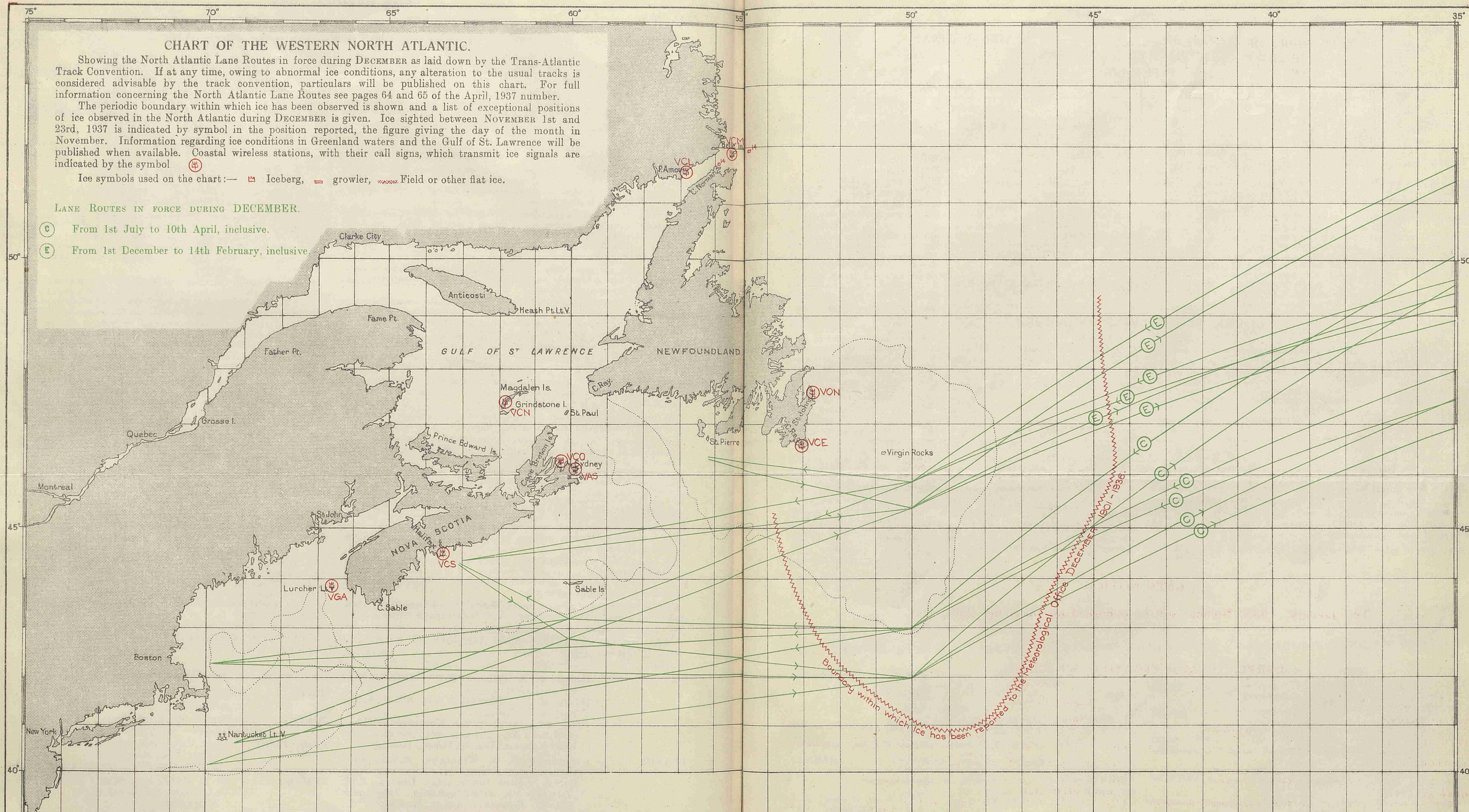
Showing the North Atlantic Lane Routes in force during DECEMBER as laid down by the Trans-Atlantic Track Convention. If at any time, owing to abnormal ice conditions, any alteration to the usual tracks is considered advisable by the track convention, particulars will be published on this chart. For full information concerning the North Atlantic Lane Routes see pages 64 and 65 of the April, 1937 number.

The periodic boundary within which ice has been observed is shown and a list of exceptional positions of ice observed in the North Atlantic during DECEMBER is given. Ice sighted between NOVEMBER 1st and 23rd, 1937 is indicated by symbol in the position reported, the figure giving the day of the month in November. Information regarding ice conditions in Greenland waters and the Gulf of St. Lawrence will be published when available. Coastal wireless stations, with their call signs, which transmit ice signals are indicated by the symbol .

Ice symbols used on the chart:—  Iceberg,  growler,  Field or other flat ice.

LANE ROUTES IN FORCE DURING DECEMBER.

- (C) From 1st July to 10th April, inclusive.
- (E) From 1st December to 14th February, inclusive.



EXCEPTIONAL POSITIONS OF ICE.

Date.	Ship or Source of Report.	Position.		Remarks.
		Lat.	Long.	
Dec. —, 1903	S.S. Lord Antrim ...	42°00'N.	55°00'W.	Ice.
" 22, 1915	S.S. Carolyn ...	42°53'N.	57°39'W.	Large Berg.
" 16, 1920	S.S. Oriana ...	43°53'N.	44°39'W.	Berg.
" 16, 1927	S.S. Ascania ...	47°52'N.	40°50'W.	Four large Bergs.
		(Approximate).		

LATEST ICE REPORT FROM CANADA.

The following cablegram, dated 19th November, 1937, was received from the Canadian Signal Service, Quebec:—
All points no ice in sight.

CORRECTIONS

UP TO NOVEMBER 15TH, 1937.

MADE SINCE PUBLICATION OF THE OCTOBER, 1937 MARINE OBSERVER
AND SUPPLEMENT No. 1, NOVEMBER, 1937.

FLEET LIST.

Additions.		Deletions.		Alterations.			
Name of Vessel.	Met. Equipt.	Name of Vessel.	Met. Equipt.	Name of Vessel.	Met. Equipt.	Name of Vessel.	Met. Equipt.
*†Cape Barfleur S.T. ...	S.	115†† Arandora Star ...	M.-S.	*† Anselm ...	S.	to 040*† Anselm ...	S.
*†Don ...	S.	102†† Atlantis ...	M.-S.	†† Arundel Castle ...	S.	to 092†† Arundel Castle ...	S.
*†St. Cathan S.T. ...	S.	092†† Carnarvon Castle...	S.	*† Discovery II R.R.S. ...	M.L.	to 115*† Discovery II R.R.S.	M.L.
*†Siversandal ...	M.L.	062†† Lancastria ...	S.	*† Loriga M.S. ...	M.	to 268*† Loriga M.S. ...	M.
		*† Maron M.S. ...	M.L.	*† Mahia ...	S.	to 062*† Mahia ...	S.
		070†† Montcalm... ..	S.	*† New Zealand Star M.S.	M.	to 102*† New Zealand Star	M.
		040*† Port Adelaide ...	S.			M.S.	
		268*† Port Bowen ...	S.	*† Oxfordshire ...	S.	to 070*† Oxfordshire ...	S.

NOTICES TO MARINE OBSERVERS.

COVER FOR MARINE OBSERVER.

Marine observers, regular recipients and subscribers to this Journal are informed that a binding cover for Volume XIV of "The Marine Observer" may be obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, through any bookseller, price 2s.

The arrangements for assembling the numbers for binding is described in the October, 1937 number page 130.

It should be clearly understood that this cover is not the cover used for binding "Excellent" awards, which is far superior: but it will be found to be of good quality and a useful means of preserving the yearly numbers, for which a title page is issued with each October number.

ICE REPORTS (FORM 912).

Ice Report Forms are supplied with the MARINE OBSERVER or Supplement each month to all regular observing ships employed in the Trans North Atlantic and Southern Ocean trades. They may also be obtained by any British Ship on application to the Port Meteorological Officers or Agents, addresses of whom are given on the front page of this Supplement.

Commanders of ships in these trades are asked to have this form

completed and returned without delay at the end of each passage. A nil return is desired should no ice be sighted.

Selected Ships on the Trade Routes of the Southern Ocean are requested to add to their routine Wireless Weather reports information of floating ice seen or reported within the last 24 hours so that this information may be disseminated to the utmost advantage of all concerned.

LATE NOTICE.

The January, 1938, Number will be published on December 29th, 1937.

DERELICTS AND FLOATING WRECKAGE.

Date.	Position.		Description.	Date.	Position.		Description.
	Latitude.	Longitude.			Latitude.	Longitude.	
ENGLISH CHANNEL.			Red buoy, iron cage without structure.	North Atlantic—(continued).			
13.11.37	49°48'N.	3°06'W.		2.11.37	38°39'N.	69°35'W.	Spar buoy about 7 ft. high with lantern and barrel buoy attached.
BALTIC SEA.			1000 planks floating, all marked "Nationaltidende"	4.11.37	52°40'N.	24°50'W.	Large wooden spar about 30 ft. long, diameter about 15 in.
1.11.37	15 miles S.E. of Moen			5.11.37	27°40'N.	59°50'W.	Capsized gas buoy.
MEDITERRANEAN.			Large cylindrical object floating S.E. Spherical object floating under water.	6.11.37	37°00'N.	10°08'W.	Wreck.
3.11.37	36°53'N.	0°25'E.		7.11.37	40°32'N.	9°26'W.	Large log covered with barnacles.
15.11.37	36°15'N.	2°46'W.		GULF OF MEXICO.			
NORTH ATLANTIC.			Wreckage about 60 ft. long, apparently the side and rail of a vessel.	4.11.37	28°03'N.	92°28'W.	Survey buoy adrift, 15 ft. out of water; wooden superstructure and white flag marked "BAT"
2.11.37	39°12'N.	73°30'W.					

LONDON

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80 Chichester Street, Belfast;
or through any bookseller

1937

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