

*Blaine. October 24, 1900. Load of lumber 8 persons on board saved.*

While towing through the canal behind the steamer Niko the schooner collided with a mud scow and had a hole stove in her bow. Station crew at once ran lines from her to the dock and made her fast; then covered the hole with a tarpaulin to keep her afloat. Upon the arrival of a diver, the surfmen assisted him to make temporary repairs so that the vessel might continue her passage. (See letter of acknowledgment.)

SAULT STE. MARIE, MICHIGAN, *October 26, 1900.* DEAR SIR: I wish to express my gratitude to the captain and members of the Ship Canal Life-Saving Station for the timely assistance rendered to my consort, the schooner *James O. Blaine*, which struck a scow on the 24th in coming into the canal and knocked a hole in her bow. This caused her to leak badly, and without doubt she would have sunk in ten minutes but for the quick work of Captain McCormick and his crew, who succeeded in having a jacket over the hole before the water had a chance to rise in the vessel. They worked faithfully with our crew for five hours, until we had the hole patched so as to proceed. I consider that crew "Johnnies on the spot." Yours, very truly, 'THOMAS BEGGS, *Master of Steamer Niko.* USLSS Annual Report 1901.