

Freighter May Get Off Reef To-day

DARWIN, Friday.—The small coastal freighter, Illawarra which ran on a reef between Marchinbar Island and Cape Wessel, off the North-east coast of Arnhem Land late last night, may be refloated late to-morrow.

The naval tug H.M.A.S. Emu arrived in the area this morning but could not approach the Illawarra because the water was too low.

The naval officer in charge, Commander A. H. Green, said to-day it was expected that the Illawarra could refloat itself during high tide if its engines were working properly.

However a waterjacket on the engine was fractured as the ship struck and the engine could only be run for a short time.

Commander Green said the Frigate H.M.A.S. Shoalhaven, which would arrive in the area to-morrow, would send off a small boat with a welder to repair the jacket.