MC 2035 POOR DOCUMENT

When Eight Yachtsmen Drowned Off Harbor

Old Time Sporting Event Marked by Awful Tragedy—Yacht Sank Off Mahogany Island and Crew Went Down to Graves in The Deep

The following is an account of the yacht race which took place in the harbor on August 21, 1896, for the Corporation Cup, and which had such a tragic ending. The article gives a detailed account of the catastrophe which befell the yachts when a squall struck them, and as a result of which eight men lost their lives. The details follow:—

Five yachts started from Reed's Point yesterday afternoon in the second race in the series for the corporation cup. Four boats returned to the starting point, but two of them were almost dismantled. The fifth yacht, the Primrose, sank off Mahogany island and eight out of her crew of twelve were drowned. The men who lost their lives were:—

Samuel Hutton, of the customs, who was about fifty years of age.

Fred Priest, aged twenty, son of Capt. Priest, of the North End, who worked with George E. Holder, the sail maker.

Geo. Heathfield, aged twenty-two, a carriage maker, employed in Crothers, Henderson & Wilson's factory.

Albert Akerley, aged twenty-six, a carpenter, who lived on Adelaide road.

Henry Bartlett, aged twenty-seven, a sailmaker, who leaves a widow and two children.

James Hurley, about fifty-two years of age, who was a stevedore, and leaves a widow and several children.

Wm. Russell, aged twenty, a son of Wm. R. Russell, the King street clothier.

Harry Hoyt, aged nineteen, whose parents live on Exmouth street.

The four men saved were:

Howard Holder.
Thos. H. Miles.
Fred S. Heans.
James McKeever.

When the yachts left the harbor there was a northwest wind and the boats flew out before it in great style. The first turning point was the whistlly buoy and it was done in the following order. The Primrose, Sunol, Clytie, and the Maple Leaf and Grace M. together. Then the wind shifted and came in from the south, but this breeze did not last, and when the Primrose and Sunol were half way on the stretch to Mahogany Island it died out. The Maple Leaf, Grace M. and Clytie which kept away off shore, got quite a fresh breeze and they overtook and passed the other two boats. All the contestants then became becalmed. But away to the westward there were indications of a squall and a shower. The tug Lillie which had on board the referee, Judge King; the timer, E. H. Fairweather; the measurers of the boat, a Sun representative (the only newspaper man on the boat) and a number of ladies and gentlemen, was close in to Mahogany island. The yachts had to go outside of her in order to round the island, which all the contestants were required to do. A number of sail boats and a steam launch were close at hand watching the manoeuvres of the yachts in the absence of wind. But the storm could be seen approaching and the wonder of everyone on the Lillie was that the boats did not prepare for it. First there was

A Heavy Squall

Then came rain and later on a heavy hail storm. It was a gale, and no boat carrying the sail that the yachts had set was safe in it. They were about a mile off Mahogany Island at the time. The squall struck the Maple Leaf (Elijah Ross' boat) first, carrying away her topmast.

The crew ran up and were taking in the light sails but they did not have time to accomplish this work. Away went the topmast, and this was all that saved her from a fate similar to that which the Primrose suffered. The Gracie M. got it next but she escaped without any injury. The Primrose was the third boat that the squall struck and she went down. The Sunol had her mainsail split, her topmast carried away and her centre board broke. But for the destruction of her topmast there is no telling what might have occurred to her. The Clytie was as fortunate as the Gracie M.

When the squal struck the Primrose she was close hauled. She was knocked down on her beam ends and nothing could be done with her. She filled with water and sank.

Sank Bow First.

The twelve men were left struggling in the water. Just as the breeze sprang up, Mr. Hutton gave orders to have all the light sail taken in, but the order was never obeyed. This was not because of the failure of her crew to respond promptly, but because the boat was under water before anything could be done. Every man looked out for himself. Thos. Miles was down in the cock pit and just as the boat sank Howard Holder pulled him out.

Nothing but the topmast could be seen and for this Jas. McKeever and Bartlett struck out. It disappeared and the two men had to look out for themselves.

McKeever never saw Bartlett again. Hutton, when last seen by the survivors had hold of the tiller. As he was a poor swimmer it is supposed he went right down. Akerly could not swim and probably sank at once.

Those on the Lillie fully expected to see the Maple Leaf capsize, but when it was seen that she had come out of the squall all right their attention was given to the other boats. If ever a lot of people were excited, it was those on the Lillie. One saw the Sunol go under. Another knew the Clytie was gone, and others expressed fears for the Safety of the Gracie M.

It was felt by those who knew the boats, however, that the Primrose was the most unsafe boat of the lot. In fact, when the storm came on, one man said he was afraid she would never weather it, carrying the sail that she had on. A yacht was missed by the Lillie's passengers. It's the Primrose," cried Geo. Holder, and away in the direction of the place where she was last seen steamed the Lillie. It was not an easy thing to locate her position exactly and the steamer came very near passing the place where her crew were battling for their lives.

The deck hand was the first to see one of the men. He was swimming along towards the tug, and when the crowd called out to him he said: "Never mind me, I'm all right; go on and pick the others up." A life buoy was thrown to him. The man was Howard Holder. The other survivors, Heans, McKeever and Miles called out that they required no assistance. Their great anxiety seemed to be for the people they had left behind them fighting for their lives.

Life Buoys Thrown.

Life buoys were thrown out to these men, but they hardly required them, being good swimmers. Two men disappeared from sight as the tug neared them, ready to provide them with the means to keep themselves above water till a boat could be launched to pick them up. One man (he was taken to be Hurley) sank almost under the bow of the tug, when a buoy was thrown within his reach.

Fred Heans, although a good swimmer, kept himself up by the use of a bucket. It floated out from the Primrose, and as soon as he saw it he struck out for it. Emptying the bucket, he thrust it down into the water, and the air in it kept him afloat. When he was picked up he was swimming on his back with the bucket under it. He says he could have kept another man above water with him with the bucket as an assistant.

When Heans started in the direction of the bucket, he felt a man catch hold of his foot, but who it was he does not know.

When the Lillie found she could rescue no one else, she returned to the four men whom she had supplied with life buoys. Holder was pulled in over the side of the steamer. The other three were picked up by Geo. Holder and some of the crew of the Lillie, who were in the boat launched from the tug.

Priest's coat was picked up and Hurley's hat. That is all that was saved except the four survivors.

The Lillie was about a quarter of a mile from the Primrose when she sank, and the rescued men were picked up in less than half an hour. Of course, they could have been landed sooner, but once they were furnished with life buoys the tug went on after any others that might be waiting to be picked up.

The Primrose's survivors say that when picked up the Lillie steamed off to assist any of the other yachts which might need assistance. She towed the Sunol in. The other boats sailed in.

Harry Lauder Issues Maxims on Thrift

After aiding in recruiting, after sending his only son to the colors, after nursing him of wounds so he might quickly return to the trenches. Harry Lauder puts $50,000 of his savings into the newest British war loan, saying: "I am proud today that I am 'mean,' as some say, for I have been able to lay my little bit of money out to fight the Germans—and get paid for doing it, too. Yes, 4 1-2 per cent for fighting the Germans.' '

His maxims on thrift, once quoted only in raillery, are today circulating in Britain because of the solemn need for economy. "Mither wadna waste, and I should only be disgracing her memory if I wasted,' 'is his explanation of his habit, and here are the rules he went by:

1.—Behave towards your purse as you would to your best friend.

2—View the reckless money spender as a criminal, and shun his company.

3.—Dress neatly, not lavishly. A bank pays higher rate of interest than your back.

4.—Take your amusements judiciously. You would enjoy them better.

5.—Don't throw away your crusts; eat them. They are as strengthening as beef.

6.—It is more exhilarating to feel money in your pocket than beer in your stomach.

7.—Remember it only takes twenty shillings to make a pound, and twelve pennies to make a shilling.

8.—You can sleep better after a hard day's work than after a day's idleness.

9.—Always get good value from tradesmen. They watch they get good money from you.

10.—There is as much pleasure in reading a good bankbook as a novel.

The enrollment in colleges and universities in the United States is only 216,000 or less than 1 per cent of a total of 22,000,000 in all the educational institutions of the country, according to the annual report issued by the United States Commissioner of Education. More than 19,000,000 were enrolled in the elementary schools, while 1,374,000 were in secondary schools, both public and private.

Grape seeds, for which hitherto no use has been known, have been found to contain an oil which is especially valuable in the manufacture of soaps, and a South American industry is making preparations to produce it on a large scale.

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HARRY LAUDER SOUNDS A CALL FOR REGRUITS

Famous Scotch Comedian, In Appealing Curtain Speech

GENERAL STAGE AND FILM NEWS

Will Howard in Worcester; Allan Doone in Australia; John Philip Sousa to Hippodrome; Notes of the Studios; New Photo Plays and Players

Some time ago it was announced that Harry Lauder was to appear in St. John this fall, playing at the Imperial. This announcement created much interest.

Mr. Lauder is now making recruiting appeals in Liverpool. Speaking at the conclusion of his act and dressed in the uniform of a Scot, he says: "Some of you will ask why I stand here and talk like this. Well, because our country needs everything we can give her to day and he who has his country at heart must respond. While you are in this world, do what you can. I tell you this because one day when you have lived to be an old man, you may have a wee bairn on your knee, and that wee bairn will look you into your wrinkled face and say: 'How old are you, granddad?' You will say, 'I am a very old man, but I was nineteen or twenty when the great European war was fought.' You may forget your age, but you will never forget this war. And the wee bairn will look into your face and say. 'Did you fight in the war, and did you do something granddad?' You have a heritage to hand down to the children. What are you doing?"

Those who grew to like him in his engagement here last fall with the Thompson-Woods Stock Co, when he was leading man, will be interested in knowing that Will D. Howard is now playing with success in Worcester, Mass. He is leading man with the Poli Stock.

Because the motion picture art has made such rapid strides during the last seven years Eva Tanguay is seeking to obtain an injunction stopping the showing of the film called "Success" in which she appeared at that time, alleging that the crude work seven years ago would be detrimental to her if shown before the public today. The temporary injunction is against Joseph F. Lee and John W. Heaney of 1400 Broadway.

Joined the Colors

Selwyn & Company received yesterday from Halifax the following letter from John May, stage manager last season for "Under Cover" at the Cort Theatre, New York:

Gentlemen:

"Have been called out by the government and received my appointment as Lieutenant R. N., C. V. R., I am sorry to have to tell you that I shall be unable to be with Selwyn & Company this coming season and that someone else will have to rehearse "Under Cover."

"Had I not been called by telegram, I would have let you know before I left New York, but I had to leave very hurriedly.

"Please accept my thanks for the long and happy season at the Cort Theatre in "Under Cover"—and if, after the war I should want employment, I hope Selwyn & Company will not forget me.

"Please have any letters for me sent to the address appended.

"My kindest regards to you all.

"JOHN MAY.

"Lieutenant R. N., C. V. R., H. M. S. C. "Diana.' Naval Dockyard, Halifax, Nova Scotia."

Mr. May was a member of the original cast of "Under Cover" when the play was produced in Boston. And he acted in it during its thirty weeks' run at the Cort Theatre, New York. He was to have gone on tour with the play next season had he not received his call to the service.

Allen Doone, who played with success in "The Kerry Gow," in St. John in the title role, is touring Australia in "The Village Priest."

V-L-S-E announces the addition of a special feature to its August list in a four part production featuring Raymond Hitchcock, and produced by Lubin. The picture is a comedy. "The Ring-Tailed Rhinosceros," and was written especially around the comedian's talents by Lawrency McCloskey and staged by George Terwillinger.

Playing opposite the well known comedian is Flora Zabelle and a strong cast especially selected for this picture. "The Ring-Tailed Rhinoceros" marks Raymond Hitchcock's screen debut.

Margaret Mayo, co-author of the sempiternal "Twin Beds," who is the only established woman stage director in this country, except for one or two "actress managers," says that women should always, direct comedy and farce, because of their superior sense of humor. And with one eye on the run of "Twin Beds" and the other gazing backward toward the run of "Baby Mine," nobody has dared to dispute her.

Donald Brian's Debut.

Donald Brian, musical comedy star of the Charles Frohman Company, who is at the studios of the Lasky Feature Play Company at Hollywood, California, appearing in a picturization of "The Voice in the Fog," by Harold MacGrath, has become one of the most popular members of the big professional colony in Los Angeles and vicinity. It is said there are 10,000 persons in Los Angeles and Hollywood whose livelihood depends on the motion picture industry.

Several years ago Mr. Brian originated the "Merry Widow Waltz," which was the forerunner of the national dancing epidemic. Following "The Merry Widow" Mr. Brian appeared as the star in "The Siren," "The Marriage Market," and "The Girl from Utah." In each of these his dancing was a feature.

The Halifax Recorder says of the Marcus Musical Comedy Co., which played St. John a few weeks ago, that the S. R. O. sign has been displayed frequently in their engagement at the Academy.

The Revue Players.

The engagement of the Homan's Revue at the Opera House continues to attract popular attention. Although they are entering upon their fourth week, they are still drawing good houses, and winning applause in various numbers. Jere McAuliffe in "O'Reilly at the Cabaret" made a furore of fun, supported by the company, early in the engagement, and this piece is now to be repeated. It is one of the most amusing in the company's repertoire.

Tom E. Davies has entered into arrangements with David W. Griffith for a London presentation of "The Birth of a Nation,' 'either late in August or early in September. Mr. Davis also plans to organize a tour of the provinces with other prints of the picture following the London opening which will take place at the Alhambra, or some equally well known house. The Londoner has come to this country solely for the purpose of seeing the Griffith production and judging its suitability for English audiences.

W. Ernest Crosby, of Portland, Ore., clerk in the grocery store of his father, W. A. Crosby, has just signed a contract for sixty weeks with Henry W. Savage's "Sari" company in which Mizzi Hajos is starring. He has been engaged as understudy to H. W. Marsh, who plays the part of Lacsi, and when he has mastered the necessary stage technic he will be cast as Lacsi himself. Mr. Crosby, who is twenty-six years old, has a powerful appealing tenor voice.

After an absence of several years, William Hodge will return to the New York stage next season under the direction of the Shuberts in "The Road to Happiness,' 'a comedy in four acts by Lawrence Whitman. Mr. Hodge has been appearing on the road in this play for the past few years.

Frohman Memorial.

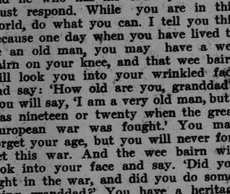
Sir James Barrie, Pauline Chase, and Edna May are planning to erect a drinking fountain in memory of Charles Frohman in Marlowe, a village on the Thames, for which the late manager had always professed a great love.

Henrietta Crosman has been granted a discharge in bankruptcy by Federal Judge Hand. On Jan. 18 last she filed a voluntary petition, giving her liabilities as $17,670 and her assets as $80,000, consisting solely of a claim against her husband, Maurice Campbell, who himself went into bankruptcy at the same time.

John Philip Sousa has been engaged by Charles Dillingham as musical director of the Hippodrome. His band of sixty-five pieces will replace the regular orchestra, and in addition to accompanying the performance will play a half-hour concert before each performance. On Sundays special concerts with operatic soloists will be given.

The use of a band in place of an orcestra is one of the most radical changes ever recorded in theatricals, but it is expected that the public will respond to the new policy with enthusiasm. Mr. Sousa will write a new march to signalize the opening of the playhouse and will contribute other compositions from time to time. The Hippodrome is to open early in September.

Mrs. Delmus Young of Lincoln County, Ky., missed a china egg from her henhouse for a few weeks. Recently a snake was killed near her house, and to see what made a portion of the reptile protrude, it was cut open, and the china egg rolled out.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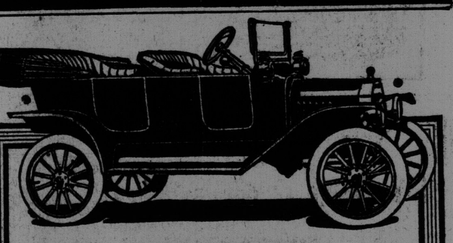
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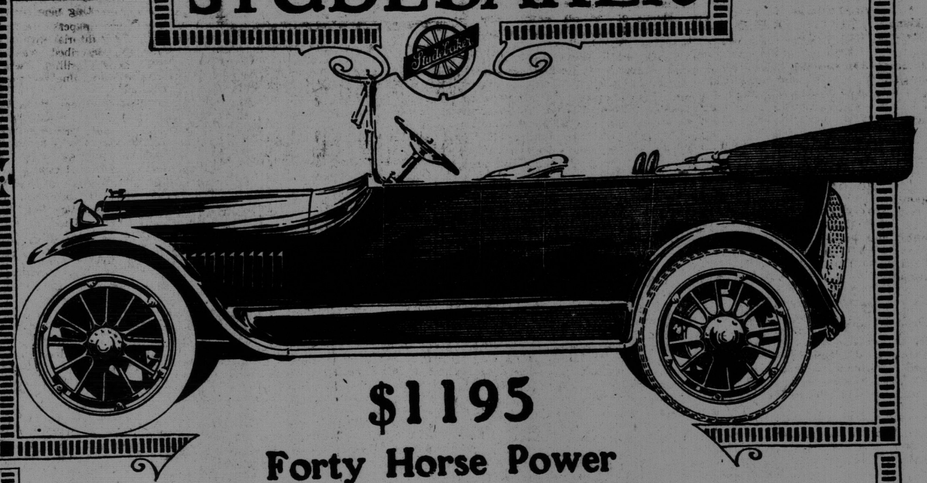
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