

WOMEN WRITERS GREET REAL HERO

Hear Captain Robinson Tell of Japanese Quake

CAPTAIN OF C. P. LINER

Skipper Lauds Good Work of Chinese Crew

BY ISOBEL C. ARMSTRONG, Special to The Free Press.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Sept. 30.—"All the nice girls love a sailor," sang 15 members of the Canadian Women's Press Club, including several from Western Ontario, in chorus on Saturday afternoon, as they arose to their feet to pay tribute to their host of the occasion, Captain Robinson, of the C. P. R. steamer Empress of Australia, hero of the recent Japanese earthquake catastrophe.

For the last day of a triennial convention week, crammed with hospitality and interest, had been reserved a crowning event, luncheon on the ship which had rescued so many of the refugees, and the privilege of meeting Captain Robinson and hearing him tell of the disaster as he had witnessed it.

A remembrance left with him by the club was a handsome smoking set, presented by the president, Miss Kenneth Haig, of Winnipeg.

IN GREAT CAPTIVITY.

On Saturday morning, the voice of Col. George Ham vibrated with deep feeling as he said, "We are honored through being in the presence of a hero who shares in rank with Drake and Nelson. Captain Robinson has shown to the world that the British tradition of the British navy brought down from them have not degenerated. We have met a man to-day whose name will be handed down as that of one of the greatest heroes of the 20th century."

Standing at attention in the great first-class dining-room as Captain Robinson spoke were half a hundred or more Chinese waiters in native costume, who, with other members of the Chinese crew, had emulated their commander in doing unflinchingly their heroic bit.

Eloquent tribute was paid by the captain to his men.

"I cannot say enough for the way they behaved," he declared, "especially the deck department. When they were told to go to the burning wharf for rescue work, they went without a word of protest, through the flames, knowing they might not return again."

"It was a unique experience to stand on the bridge of the ship and see the earth absolutely moving, rolling in waves, pling up like breakers on a beach. The people were rolled on the crest like boats on the waves of the sea. When the cracks opened in the cement those who were caught were crushed as the earth closed again."

"It was just a minute from our sailing time when the quake came. There were perhaps 200 or 400 people on the wharf waiting to see friends off."

"The shaking of the ship reminded me of nothing so much as the sitting of clinders."

WHARF DISAPPEARS.

"At first, we did not grasp the magnitude of the disaster, though a large portion of the wharf had disappeared and the buildings fell like packs of cards. It was incredible that a whole city should be damaged. We pulled alongside the wharf to take the injured aboard."

"The wind calmed for five minutes, then a gale of terrible velocity, 60 to 75 miles an hour, sprang up, one of the worst features in connection with the fire which followed the quake."

"Continuing, Capt. Robinson told of a new menace to his ship, five or 1,000 regular passengers and crew, and hundreds and hundreds that had been rescued."

"Masses of burning matter began to

Classified Adages

HE CAN'T be

wrong whose life is in the right. And he can't be financially wrong who habitually peruses the A-B-C Classified Columns.

Read them to-day!

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creep over the water, oil burning on top in patches, the least of these possibly 150 by 200 feet, and sending up a wall of flame 300 to 400 feet high.

"It was a most terrible feeling," he said, "to see the fire approaching on the very medium used under ordinary circumstances to quench it."

PRaises HOLLANDER.

"Unfettered praise was bestowed upon the captain of a small, single screw Dutch steamer, who at risk of his own boat, with its cargo of benzine and kerosene and without thought of salvage, played the good Samaritan in aiding the Empress to maneuver to a safety zone."

As the speaker resumed his seat three lusty cheers and a tiger rang out for the ship's captain, all the warmer because of his modesty with reference to his own share in rescue work and the generosity of his praise for others.

On Saturday afternoon there was laughter and song in the great dining saloon of the Empress of Australia, where just a few weeks before refugees huddled and prayed in their terror and sorrow too deep for tears. But profound emotions were stirred in the hearts of the press women guests, voiced by one who declared, "I feel the place where we are standing is holy ground."

\$25,000 FIRE AT GUELPH

Section of Malt Products Company's Plant is Destroyed

GUELPH, Sept. 30.—Fire broke out in a two-story stone building, part of the plant of the Malt Products Company of Canada, Waterloo avenue, about 12 o'clock on Sunday morning, causing considerable damage to the building and stock estimated at about \$25,000.

The firemen succeeded in confining the flames to half the building and by 1 o'clock had the flames under control. A section of the building 70 by 40 feet, was badly gutted, the walls only being left standing.

ESCAPES INJURY WHEN CAR SWERVES INTO DITCH

Robert Coates, 36 Bruce street, escaped without injury when the car he was driving swerved into a ditch and turned a somersault near Lucknow on Saturday afternoon.

The car was laden with travel's samples and as the car swerved these were all thrown to one side causing the machine to overbalance.

With the aid of near-by farmers the car was again righted and, although it was damaged, the journey was completed without any repairs being made.

"Masks of burning matter began to

the street while she attended the theater. Later her brother, wishing to use the car, discovered that it was gone. The chief of police was notified and the car was discovered proceeding along Nelson street. When he was called upon to stop, Dacatsay stepped on the gas and drove away. Without slowing down he attempted to make the turn on to Eglinton street, and went up over the lawn and crashed into the veranda of Reeve Saint's home.

The lad attempted to run away after the crash, but was caught. Another lad, of 14, who was along with him was also arrested.

Glass baking dishes are easy to keep clean and the food may be brought directly to the table in them.

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FIGURING OUT HOME BANK ASSETS

Much Speculation As To Amount That Is Gone

CLAIMED SITUATION BAD

Toronto Telegram Forecasts Report of Curator

PAYMENT DECIDED.

TORONTO, Sept. 30.—An early payment of 25 cents on the dollar to depositors in the Home Bank of Canada has been decided upon. The payment will be made through the other chartered banks doing business in Canada.

This announcement was officially made to-night by A. P. Barker, curator of the Home Bank of Canada, who is engaged in completing his report on the affairs of the bank now under suspension.

The payment of the dividend on the deposits has been arranged through the Canadian Bankers' Association.

TORONTO, Sept. 30.—(Canadian Press Dispatch)—Any estimate of the value of the assets of the Home Bank of Canada, or the probable amount of the dividend must be purely guesswork at this juncture, it is claimed by financial men in close touch with the situation. However, in view of the fact that the realization of the assets will probably occupy a considerable time it is highly probable that the banks will arrange to advance an amount to permit of an early payment of about 25 cents on the dollar to the depositors on account of their claims.

A. B. Barker, the curator, to-night declined to comment on the forecast of his report published yesterday in The Toronto Evening Telegram.

The Evening Telegram intimates that the report of the curator will advocate the following:

1. Depositors in the Home Bank may be paid back 40 cents on the dollar if they wait long enough and the realization of slow assets comes up to the modest expectations of the curator.

2. The shareholders of the Home Bank will have to pay every cent that can be collected of their double liability.

3. The assets and liabilities of the Home Bank show a deficit of approximately \$3,000,000 when all the assets are realized, plus the money of the shareholders and the original subscriptions of stock plus the double liability and plus the depositors' money except a possible salvage of 40 cents on the dollar.

SECURITIES HYPOTHECATED?

The Telegram says: "That the Home Bank, some time prior to its suspension, borrowed money in New York on something like \$1,000,000 of securities on which it had already made loans to the shareholders. The report that is to-day finding some credence in financial circles."

Whether or not such a loan was negotiated can neither be affirmed nor repudiated through the officers of the bank, but one or two persons who profess to know claim that, irrespective of whether the amount is \$1,000,000 or not, certain securities in the custody of the bank were thus hypothecated.

"Depositors and shareholders can find little reason for hope that they will get anything out of the quick assets."

"The quick assets are all gone. The curator's report will show that the assets were all disposed of for cash before the Home Bank closed its doors."

"The curator's report will show that the wreck of the Home Bank was a cruel inquiry as to the whereabouts of shareholders and depositors as the wreck of any bank in the annals of Canadian finance."

"It seems to be certain that the curator's report is complete and already in the hands of the authorities of the Canadian Bankers' Association in Montreal, and the Minister of Finance, at Ottawa, says The Telegram. "It is absolutely certain that the curator has finished his work. The curator's report has justified, or will justify, the worst estimates that were made seven weeks ago yesterday, when the Home Bank closed its doors. The report has shown, or will show, that the liabilities of the Home Bank call for the payment of the following losses:

"Shareholders' fully paid-up stock, \$1,960,000.

"Shareholders' double liability, if fully paid up, \$1,960,000.

"Possible loss to shareholders, \$3,920,000.

"Depositors' money in open account, \$7,208,281.

"Depositors' money in savings account, \$12,080,454. (Less ultimate salvage of 40 cents on the dollar for depositors).

Depositors' probable loss on depositors' money, \$11,000,000.

SAD READING.

"These are the figures of the bank report for June, the last one made."

"The curator's report will be sad and tragic reading for the shareholders and depositors in the Home Bank. The curator's report has shown, or will show, the following big losses: the shrinkage or loss on money loaned by the Home Bank:

1.—Loaned to one prominent speculator and his associates on suburban lands for subdivision purposes, \$1,400,000.

2.—Loan to backers of New Orleans Street Railway, including a well-known federal politician, \$1,000,000.

3.—Loan to Montrealers said to be interested in rum-running and other maritime ventures, \$1,100,000.

4.—Loan to Western Canada pulp and paper interests (not the Whalen Company), about \$2,500,000.

"Two other items must be added to the \$5,000,000 had investments, enumerated in the above record of losses. The labors of the curator will show in general that after the shareholders' money is gone and the depositors' money is gone, there will still be a shortage of about \$3,000,000 in comparison between quick liabilities and assets."

"The curator's report has left or may leave some loophole for hope that the slow realization of the assets may ultimately give back to the depositors something more than 40 cents on the dollar."

MONTREAL, Sept. 30.—"I cannot say anything at all about the matter," said C. A. Barnard, K.C., of Montreal, one of the directors of the defunct Home Bank, when informed on Saturday afternoon of the reported finding of the curator in the case.

"I simply await further information. It is probable that, following the finding and the official announcement by the curator, a meeting of the board will be called to discuss ways and means of dealing with the situation."

The Montreal Standard says: "From a reliable source to-day The Standard is informed that the Canadian banks are prepared to advance the sum of 25 cents on the dollar to the ordinary depositors of the Home Bank of Canada. This is not known definitely, but from the source from which the statement emanated there can be little doubt but that the depositors of the Home Bank may accept the statement as absolutely reliable."

PRINCE SAYS GOOD-BYE TO THE E. P. RANCH

Royal Rancher Reaches Calgary On Return Trip To England.

CALGARY, Alta., Oct. 1.—Lord Renfrew bade au revoir to Prof. W. L. Carlyle and the other employees of the E. P. Ranch at Peikisto on Sunday afternoon. Before leaving the prince, told Prof. Carlyle that he had enjoyed his holiday very much and intimated that he would pay another visit to the ranch just as soon as it was possible. The prince then shook hands with his employees, Jimmy, the Japanese cook, being the last to be so honored. On his way back to High River the prince stopped at the Bar V Ranch for a few minutes to say good-byes to George Lane, the ranch owner; Alex. Fleming, the foreman, and several other ranchers of the district. The royal rancher and his party spent the evening in Calgary.

PROPERTY DAMAGE AT COUNCIL BLUFFS RUNS CLOSE TO \$1,000,000

OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 30.—Nebraska and Iowa to-day appeared to be slowly recovering from the tornado, cloud-bursts and floods which brought death and destruction to the state on Friday and Saturday.

Property damage at Council Bluffs, it was said, would run close to \$1,000,000, while at Omaha, it was estimated as high as \$300,000. At Louisville, it was believed, the damage would be in excess of \$300,000 and at Lincoln the loss was reported considerable.

A man was drowned at Lincoln last night when he drove his team of horses into a ditch. Two others were killed at Seneca Lake late on Friday, when their horse was reared by a tornado.

At Council Bluffs, 22 persons were killed outright. Four of them were struck by a falling tree as they ran from their homes, and another was struck by flying debris.

Twelve were killed at Louisville, Neb., when the house in which they were congregated to mourn the death of Mrs. Mary McCarver, was washed from its foundation into Mill Creek, trapping all the victims.

OPPIUM CONFERENCES TO BE CONVENED SOON

GENEVA, Oct. 1.—According to the views of the United States delegation that the projected international opium conferences be held as soon as possible, the council of the League of Nations decided to convene them in Geneva early in 1924.

The Chinese delegation has sent a protest to the League of Nations relative to the failure of the assembly to re-elect China to membership in the council of the League of Nations. The delegates declare that the assembly did not respect the principle of geographical distribution of the seats recently emphasized by unanimous vote of the assembly.

The delegation considers that the decision to drop China endangers co-operation of the great powers in the work of bringing their moral and material contributions to the council.

GIVE CREDIT TO ARMEN IN LIONS HEAD SEARCH

LION'S HEAD, Oct. 1.—Relatives and friends of Capt. Corson and Rob Parker, believed to have been drowned in Georgian Bay, pay high tribute to the work of searchers who have been on the job for nearly a week, and especially to Lieut. George Brooks and Corp. Bortman, of the air force, who conducted several flights over the lake in an effort to find trace of the two men. Great credit is also given to the members of the search party who worked night and day with very little food and sleep.

QUEBEC DAIRY FARM DESTROYED BY FIRE

OTTAWA, Oct. 1.—What was perhaps the worst fire in the history of the local agricultural institutions, and one which almost completely wiped out the finest dairy farm in Eastern Ontario, broke out on the Silver Spring Dairy Farm, at Deschenes, Quebec, late last night, causing damage that at a conservative estimate totals between \$60,000 and \$70,000.

ONE LIFE LOST IN ARNPRIOR HOTEL FIRE

OTTAWA, Oct. 1.—Levi Leblanc, 33, of Richburg, N. B., a lumberman, was burned to death when the Campbell House, Arnprior, was completely destroyed yesterday morning. Total losses were estimated at \$50,000, partly covered by insurance.

DEATH OF MRS. THOMAS McCOLL.

BLENNHEIM, Sept. 29.—A most lamentable death took place here to-day, when Mrs. Thomas McColl passed away after a week's illness which overcame her when she collapsed in Thompson's store a week ago to-night. She survived her husband by only two months, and was considered a hale and hearty woman. She is survived by a family of two, Duncan, at home, and Margaret, a nurse in training at Grace Hospital, Detroit. The funeral will be held on Monday, the service being held at the house in charge of Rev. Dr. J. F. Smith. Burial will be at Evergreen Cemetery.

TOURING CAR UPSET.

A seven-passenger touring car, which is stated to have borne license No. 66-004, was found on its side alongside a culvert, near Clarendon, early yesterday morning. No one was in the machine and no persons were in the immediate vicinity. A London Motor Club emblem was fastened on the front of the car, and police officials state that license No. 66-004 was issued to Daniel McCullum, 10 Wharfedale road.

THEY LOOK ARTISTIC.

Potatoes, cut into balls the size of a marble with a special cutter are decorative as well as delicious when served surrounding the roast or dressed with oil and vinegar and served cold boiled as a salad.

End Corns

The simplest way to end a corn is Blue-Jay. Stops the pain instantly. Then the corn loosens and comes out. Made in clear liquid and in thin plasters. The action is the same.

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CUSTOMS OFFICER HAS DISAPPEARED

Joseph Vance, New Hamburg Man, Gone Two Weeks

WENT IN BORROWED CAR

Officials Refuse To Comment On Condition of Accounts

KITCHENER, Sept. 30.—Joseph Vance, a New Hamburg man, who for three years was in charge of the New Hamburg branch of the customs, has disappeared. An audit of the books has been made, but the customs authorities would make no statement with regard to the condition of his accounts. Vance disappeared on September 17, borrowing a car from E. Niklas and stating that he merely wished to go as far as Baden.

For days it was expected he would return, but his failure to come back after a week's time convinces his relatives and friends that he intended to leave town permanently when he borrowed the motor car. He has a wife but no children.

GREECE WANTS ITALIAN SHIPS TAKEN FROM CORFU

LONDON, Sept. 30.—A Central News dispatch from Athens says Greece has lodged an energetic protest with the allied council of ambassadors in Paris against the return of the Italian fleet to Corfu. Rome dispatches have contained official denial that Italian war vessels were still in Corfu harbor. Small units of the fleet were cruising near the island, it was declared, but beyond the territorial limits.

PRINCESS GIOVANNI SUFFERS RELAPSE

LONDON, Oct. 1.—Princess Giovanni of Italy, has suffered a relapse, and her condition is again dangerous, a Central News dispatch from Rome said to-day. The princess, with her sister, Mafalda, has been ill at Reconnig for several weeks with a fever.

ALL INDUSTRIAL TOWNS IN SCOTLAND TO VOTE UNDER TEMPERANCE ACT

LONDON, Oct. 1.—(Canadian Press Cable).—A keen campaign on the part of both wet and dry is promised in Scotland, where returns have shown that at least 250 polls will be necessary as a result of requisitions lodged under the Temperance Act. All the large industrial towns are this year included in the present arrangement. In Glasgow, for instance, a poll will take place in 34 out of 37 areas. Two of these areas are already dry and several are under limitation. For a majority of the areas there will be three options, while for the areas under limitation there will be four options, namely, repeal, continuance, further limitation, no license.

In the dry areas the voters will decide simply for repeal or continuance.

LAD IN STOLEN CAR CRASHES INTO HOUSE

Attempting to Turn Corner Too Fast to Escape Pursuit Belgian Boy Comes to Grief.

WALLACEBURG, Sept. 30.—In attempting to make a get-away on Saturday night in a