

STORY OF FATEFUL VOYAGE WHICH COST THIS COUNTRY FOUR SCORE OF HER SONS

(Continued from page 1)

hardiness of those brave men who were to shortly meet a terrible doom he got up and said: "Well that's the quickest way to get down." It was a twenty foot fall at least and he hit on the broad of his back.

At noon we were back in our pans, having lost sight of the poor fellows, most of whom were later to be picked up perished and dying.

At 2 p.m. a storm came in from the N.E. with blinding snow, falling fast, making it exceedingly difficult to pick up pans. At 4.30 p.m. we had brought all our men aboard, some in a deplorable condition.

The Doctor's Log.

Our Doctor recorded in his log: "The Newfoundland men had a hard time getting aboard their steamer when night fall set in. We steamed towards their last position and blew our whistle but got no response. We guess therefore that they've escaped to their own ship. God bless them if they haven't, as it is an awful night and a terrible blizzard." "Little did he or any one else think of the news we should hear the second morning following."

Snowed All Day.

It snowed most all of the next day and we did little. That evening we, of the Stephano, had a total of 21,000 seal pelts stowed in the hold. This was about all that happened on April First (All Fools Day).

One other incident happened late in the afternoon: a man fell down number three hatch but although it was a twenty foot drop, was only bruised a little.

In my wireless log I had recorded for April 1st: "Blowing a beautiful northerly gale showing a regular blizzard. Guess this is where they make the weather. Wind shifting to westerly and may clear later. We have about 2,500 seals on the ice, but goodness knows if we'll ever get 'em. About 3 feet of snow on them now."

Saw Distress Signal

Early on the morning of the 2nd of April, seeing an ensign on the forward mast of the Newfoundland, we sent two men out to her and advised them to fly two flags if any assistance was needed. This signal was hoisted immediately after our messages arrived on the Newfoundland. Then they started back to tell us the news, but before they reached us we had a wireless from the Bellaventure saying two men had made their way aboard with the news that they had been out ever since leaving our ship and that fifty men, dead and dying, were just ahead of her on one pan of ice.

Our two men arrived back shortly after this and reported Captain Wes, nearly frantic over the news of his crew which he believed had taken refuge on the Stephano or Florizel.

Saw Nine Men

They said he had seen nine men walking toward the Newfoundland this (Thursday) morning. These turned out later to be George Tuff, the second hand (corresponding to chief mate) and nine men. Tuff had gone on the search for seals to lead the men.

At 8.50 the Bellaventure reported by wireless: "15 reported dead on one pan; 5 on board; one in serious condition. Men have been sent out with stimulants, blankets and stretchers." In the meantime all our crew had been despatched with first-aid supplies to the rescue.

Some of our men arrived back at 11 a.m. bringing one man in a not serious condition, but reporting at least forty men dead on one pan.

At 10 a.m. the Florizel sent a message to Bowring Brothers, of St. John's, reporting the catastrophe. Wireless conditions were interfered with somewhat, owing to continual jamming and constant clammering for news.

Flashed News to Fogo

I sent the news to the operator at Fogo about 10.20 a.m. At 10.30 a.m. the Bellaventure wireless: "Men coming toward ship leading others. Men on board now report 50 or 60 dead on ice near us."

At 11.35 a.m. the Bellaventure reported: "26 survivors on board, fear at least 40 dead. Ice tight; hard work getting to men. Three men on ice too weak to be moved."

Our position at noon was 48.28 N., 52.17 W.

The ice continued very tight and made progress toward the men tediously slow and very difficult. The excitement was great and every one was doing his utmost to aid in the rescue. The engineers "opened her out" and there was nothing left undone to help make speed. My wireless gave signs of trouble, but on request the engineers changed to the night dynamo which worked O.K.

Picked Up Body

At 3.25 p.m. we picked up another poor unfortunate and put him (on board). I held the flap up from over the door of our hospital while they were taking him inside. The stretcher was too large to go in through the door and our doctor told the boys to lift him out but to be careful not to jar him.

The man replied, "Don't bother about me boys. I can't feel anything I haven't a bit of strength left in the world."

This made two survivors for us with some dead bodies right ahead. We picked up two bodies late in the afternoon and placed them on the fore'd hatch with a couple of our panning flags over them.

Our report to Bowring's that evening said: "Very sorry to report worst disaster in connection with seal-fishing. Newfoundland's crew caught out Tuesday and Wednesday. Have waited to give you full particulars, but owing to tight ice could not get around. Think we have picked them all up; 47 rescued alive; about 70 dead. We, Bellaventure and Florizel proceeding toward Newfoundland when we shall call roll and send you full particulars late to-night or early to-morrow morning. Captain of Newfoundland frantic with grief. I have been forwarding letters all day to console him as best I can. Capt. Randall, of the Bellaventure, has done noble work in rescuing men. Stimulants, blankets and fires have saved some lives that would have succumbed a few minutes later. Barometer gave no sign of storm."

Alongside in Morning

We didn't arrive alongside the Newfoundland until about 7 a.m. the next morning. The Bellaventure arrived about 10 a.m. The Bellaventure then reported 35 living and 58 dead. I walked over to the Bellaventure and the fore'd hatch was piled up three and four deep with bodies, 58 in all. The Florizel next reported having picked up nine bodies. This gave a total of 47 alive, counting the ten that reached the Newfoundland the morning before, and 69 dead, out of 124 men that went out from their ship to this terrible fate.

After calling the roll on the Newfoundland and comparing notes I sent a 442 word message to St. John's, giving names of the survivors and a full account of the calamity.

Thank goodness I had a live operator at Cape Race, or I should have had no end of trouble, as they were a most peculiar and puzzling bunch of names.

The Bellaventure received orders from Harvey & Co., of St. John's, their owners, also the owners of the Newfoundland, to have all survivors and dead bodies transferred aboard her and make all haste for St. John's.

The ten men from the Newfoundland and the four we had were immediately transferred and the Bellaventure left our company at 3 p.m., having taken our doctor along to look after the seriously ill.

What those poor brave men must have gone through during the two nights they were out is impossible to describe. That they suffered untold tortures is a fact that cannot be doubted, yet even we who have been out here for days on these sealing steamers can only partially realize the tragic scenes that must have taken place during their exposure to the blizzard of April First.

Now and then an inkling of the events reaches one's ears and I shall tell of one or two incidents I heard. George Tuff, the second hand, said that if he had died it would have been from the weakness of hunger as he had only two biscuits in his haversack. But luckily when he was nearly giving up he spied a seal and Tuff says the longest minute he ever spent in

his life was from the time he saw the seal until it was killed. The interval he said could not have been more than a minute. He and his party immediately set to and ate the raw flesh and Tuff said that it was the sweetest morsel of food he ever tasted.

Another incident where a boy and his father were chumming along and his father gave out; the boy was found frozen in his father's arms.

Went Insane.

Some of the survivors were wild and insane when found and fought their rescuers when they attempted to build fires of seal pelts on the ice and administer stimulants. Luckily none of these had much strength left else they might have been numbered among the dead.

The dead were often so distorted as to be beyond recognition and doubtless there are some who will never be identified. Some had bitten their fingers clean into the bone in order to try and force some heat into them. The scenes all during that first day of the discovery were too horrible to describe accurately. But they are ones I shall never forget as long as I live if I live to be a hundred. God help the poor unfortunate families that have lost one or more bread-earners in this terrible disaster; and not only God help them but those who can afford to and who would have gained by their toil had they not met with such a horrible fate.


It is now April 7th as I finish this narrative and the Southern Cross, another sealing steamer, has been long overdue. She was caught in the terrific gales and blizzard off Cape Race the same night. There are 173 men aboard her.

God help them and bring them safely home.

GEORGE F. SHECKLIN,
Wireless Operator,
S.S. Stephano.

King George the Fifth SEAMEN'S INSTITUTE,

St. John's, Newfoundland.
PATRON:—His Majesty the King.
Bedrooms can be booked at all hours; night porter in attendance. Small rooms 20 cents, and large rooms 35 cents per night, including bath.
Meals are served at moderate prices.
Girls' department (under the charge of a matron), with separate entrance.



"ARMADA"

Is the Best CEYLON TEA that can be bought, and is only procurable at two seasons in the year.

In 1lb. Tins From All Grocers.

For the Lenten Season

100 bbls. Pickled Trout 150 Cases Salmon

Job's Stores, Ltd.

Grocery Department.

MADRAS MUSLINS.
This lot contains 8 pieces altogether, pretty half blind muslins with frilled border and loops. Casement Muslins and Curtain Muslins with frilled border. Madras washes well. Values up to 30c. **Saturday and Monday. 19c.**

OWING to Friday being a general holiday, our Sale this week will be confined to Saturday only to make your purchases for Easter. Sale continues on Monday as usual. Intending purchasers would do well in making their selections early Saturday.

MEXICAN LACE TABLE CENTRES, 16c.
3 dozen only. These are very serviceable. They come in Circular shape, 23 inches in diameter. Will wash perfectly; edges firmly finished. Very suitable for side tables and dining room tables. **Special Saturday & Monday 16c.**

WOMEN'S ASSORTED HOSIERY, 18c.
25 dozen in this lot, assorted makes, plain and ribbed. About 6 dozen of fleeced hose in the lot. This is a special clearing line. Reg. to 22c. **Saturday & Monday. 18c.**

MEN'S BLACK CASHMERE 1/2 HOSE, 29c.
This is a limited quantity only, about 7 dozen in all. A nice weight Spring Sock fast black, not too fine but just the correct weight for present wear. Regular 35c. **Saturday & Monday. 29c.**

IT PAYS TO PAY CASH.

James Baird LIMITED

WE SELL FOR LESS.

TEA COSIES, 29c.
Just to hand a big assortment of pretty Tea Cosies, light and dark shades, pretty floral patterns; some with cord edging, others with saten pipings. Nothing inferior about them. All good values at their regular prices up to 40c. **Saturday and Monday. 29c.**

EGG COSIES, 33c.
These are made to cover egg holders, such as those we sold at Christmas time. They come in the much favoured "Willow" patterns; they can also be used to cover a half dozen egg cups. Try one for Easter morning Special. **33c.**

Pocket Books, 14c.
4 dozen of these in the 'Where is it' make. Just such a handy little book required every day. Lined cover, good paper. Have one on your desk, you will find it handy; will fit the vest pocket. **Special. 14c.**

Summer Wash Fabrics, Our Regular 25c. Line For 19c.

These are all New Spring Goods. Our stocks are rather heavy and to introduce we make this special offer for this week. Take advantage of it. You'll find dainty striped and check Gingham and Mercerized Cottons, in striped and flowered effects, plain white muslins and many other pretty summer dress fabrics marked regular. **19c.**

White Damask Table Cloths, \$1.98
Just in time for Easter comes along a shipment of Table Cloths and to introduce we offer this line: size 67x90, satin finish, bought from a leading English house where quality is always to be depended on. **\$1.98** Reg. \$2.30. **Saturday & Monday.**

NUN'S VEILINGS, 30c.
Amongst our New Dress Goods came along a lot of pretty shades in Nun's Veilings, such shades as Navy, Royal, Cardinal, Nile Green and Cream. This material of many uses is popular as ever. Reg. 35c. **Saturday and Monday. 30c.**

From the Showroom



FAST OFFERINGS THE NEWEST OUT

Ribbons For Easter, 6 inches wide, 18c.
60 pieces of Coloured Silk Taffeta and Merve Ribbon, 6 inches wide, in shades of Brown, Tan, Pink, Grey, Green, Champagne, Gold, Cerise, Amethyst, White, Cream and Black. Ribbons of quality 6 inches wide. Reg. 25c. **Saturday and Monday. 18c.**

Ladies' Fine Net and Chiffon Coat Collars, 67c.
They are very dressy, being nicely trimmed with wide net and lace ruchings; others with wide lace insertion, and Coloured Satin covered Buttons, in Royal, Cerise, Saxe, Emerald and White. **Reg. 75c. Saturday and Monday. 67c.**

The "Boston" Garter For Men, 31c.
Has always demonstrated its comfort, durability and neatness. We have them in separate boxes, assorted colours, in silk elastics, nickel and rubber fittings. Always sure grip and fits so comfortably that you scarcely know you wear them. **Reg. 35c. Saturday & Monday. 31c.**

JOB LINE OF LADIES' SILK SCARVES, 69c.
These come in very fine Knitted Silk. Shades of White, Brown, Pale Blue, Pink, Wine, Champagne, Navy and Black and many others in pretty mixed colors. **69c.** Reg. up to 90c. **Sat. & Mon.**

LADIES' AMERICAN HAND BAGS, 67c.
Quite new, with good leather handle, nice, convenient and serviceable shapes; fitted inside with small mirror and purse; rigid frame, nickel and gilt clasps. **67c.** Reg. 75c. **Saturday & Monday.**

LADIES' "DAND A" CORSETS, 99c.
This make is well and favourably known, they come in long and short hips, long and medium hips. Suspensory attached to each pair. Regular \$1.10. **99c.** **Saturday and Monday.**

A SWELL DISPLAY OF LADIES' AMERICAN BLOUSES
For this week we offer a particularly pleasing line of Blouses, the latest and most approved styles in fine White Lawns and Voiles; high and low neck, styles, long and 3/4 sleeves, superbly trimmed with fine Valenciennes lace and insertion. Others with lace ruching at neck and down the front; some showing pretty Kimona sleeve. Many other styles not mentioned. **\$1.49** here. Reg. up to \$1.80. **Sat. & Mon.**

CHILDREN'S WHITE LAWN AND EMBROIDERY DRESSES.
Faultless styles permeating this dainty exhibit of Snow White Dresses, very handsome trimmings of Swiss Embroidery and Insertion; others with lace and insertion box pleat fronts, narrow lace edgings; high and low necks, the styles and various; some belted. This is one of the prettiest lines we have shown for some time. **72c.** Reg. 80c. **Saturday & Monday.**

LADIES' WHITE LAWN AMERICAN CAMISOLES, 29c.
These perfect fitting garments need no special mention, pretty trimmed with lace and insertion, ribbon heading; others with embroidery edging; size from 34. **29c.** to 44. Reg. 35c. **Saturday & Monday.**

JOB LINE CHILDREN'S VESTS.
This is a mixed line of Children's fine Jersey ribbed Vests. They come in assorted sizes, have high neck and 3/4 sleeves. No imperfection, all in good condition. We specify a price for. **14c.** **Saturday and Monday, each.**

Stair Oil Cloths, 8 1-2c. per yard.
18 pieces of American Stair Oil Cloths. A good range of patterns, assorted widths, pretty borders, plain and fancy centres. Special for Easter Sale. **8 1-2c.** Per Yard. **Saturday and Monday.**

White Curtain Nets, 24c.
470 yards of Pure White Nottingham Lace Curtain Nets, up to 66 inches wide. The new spring patterns are strong here. Values to 30c. **24c.** **Saturday and Monday, per yard.**

Dainty White Tray Cloths, 47c.
6 dozen of them, size 18x27. Very neatly embroidered on white linen, hemstitched border; all stitchings and workings firm. Will stand the most vigorous wash. **47c.** Reg. 55c. **Saturday & Monday.**

Glassware Special!
360 pieces of plain and fancy Glassware. Vases, Urns, Water Jugs and. **19c.** Jardiners. **10c.** Preserve Dishes and Milk Jugs. Clear. **10c.** Crystal Glass, in fancy designs. **10c.**

It pays you to Trade with us. We are leaders of low prices.

RUBBERS.
The season for Rubbers bids fair to last for some time. What about your Rubbers, don't risk wet feet and persuade yourself that another week will see the last of wet walking. We offer you good dependable Rubbers at the very lowest possible prices for Saturday and Monday.
Ladies' Low Cut. **44c.**
Ladies' Storm. **49c.**
Gents' Storm. **68c.**

MEN'S CAPS, 69c.
JUST IN TIME FOR EASTER.
20 dozen of Men's Spring Caps. The newest cuts in London styles. Light and Dark Tweeds with Silk Linings. Special range for. **69c.** **Saturday & Monday, Reg. up to 80c. for.**

47c.
\$1.15.
33c.
60c.
\$1.15.
65c.
55c.
\$1.25.
\$1.60.
55c.
90c.
70c.
50c.
\$1.00.
55c.
60c.
25c.
60c.
7c.
6c.
each.
8c.
each.
each.
each.
g.
"ail"
ice.
LIE
material
ve.
alle with
skled with
border the
size and
er cream.
ite taffeta
The girle
bow fin
fnty shape
and trim-
ompletes
the illus-
coupon,
15 days.
ostal note.
Mail Pat-
TO-DAY
PRICE 10