

Page 7 - Wreck of the 'Iceland II'

ISSUE: Issue 31

Published by Ronald Caplan on 1982/6/1

roar from the sea. You wouldn't hear any? body without they were--I don't know, if they could fire a gun or something you might hear it--but you wouldn't hear any? body down inside of her. But if they would have stayed inside of her, they would have lived. Down in the front compartment. They would have survived. Because a day or so after that, when it calmed down that I could get aboard, I swam out to her, and I got aboard of her. And I was down into her. And the clothes were dry, down into the lockers. So the sea was going over the back part of her. You see, they didn't know what v/as going on, I guess, and ac? cording as they came up from down below, they were washed overboard and that was the end of them. Because if the clothes stayed dry down below, the men would have survived. Because she couldn't go down any further than she was. She was already on the bottom. (If only they had realized that, and hadn't taken to the dories.) Oh, I don't think they even got near the dor? ies. Those dories got beat apart as soon as that thing went in there. They just beat to pieces. Just as soon as she struck, the sea just smashed everything that was on her to smithereens, and drove it off of her. And as soon as they came up or went out, they got washed off of her, and that was the end of that. The only thing--down in the front section of her, it was water? tight. It was just the same as you were in a big tank. It could break over it all it wanted, and the water wasn't going down. Because the stuff was dry. As soon as you came out, that was it Sticking your head out was just the same as walking out in front of a machine gun. There was only one fellow that was found a- board--the Coast Guard took him off--he was frozen to the ladder--that was down on the stern section. He had been, I dare say, down in the engine room when she struck the rocks, and he started trying to come up. There was so much sea probably, coming down from up above, because it smashed all the windows out of her, all the back win? dows and everything were smashed out. And I guess he just froze. He couldn't get up and he couldn't go back down--he froze there. I guess he just held on at a death grip--that's about the size of it. And then he froze there. See, once the sea calmed down a little bit, that there wasn't a continuous pour of water coming down there, then it was cold, and he froze there. He just froze there. Because you take the steering wheel. I took the steer? ing wheel off of her. But now that steer- REWARD Tht Prince Edward Island Department of Fisheries will pay one hundred dollars (S100.00) reward to the person or persons recovering any of the bodies of the five remain? ing crew members of the motor vessel Iceland II wrecked on the shore at Fourchu, Richmond County, Nova Scotia on February 23, 1967. The finder must report the recovery to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at St. Peters or Sydney, Telephone numbers St. Peters 8 or Sydney 564-8360 and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police will, by investi? gation, determine the authenticity of each recovery. Only one reward of \$100.00 will be paid for each body recovered. All claims for a reward should be made to the Deputy Minister of Fisheries, Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, whose decision will be final. B. R. Saunders HEARING AIDS SALES & SERVICE 226 Charlotte St., Sydney 562-4462 REPAIRS TO ALL MAKES We Make



House Calls Anywhere in Cape Breton or Eastern Nova Scotia Ivan B. Melanson {Certified Hearing Aid Audiologist) The Grnbstake "Your meal with us may just be the best you'll have on your vacation" (902) 733-2308 Dining Room • Cocktail Lounge Main St., Louisbourg, Cape Breton ANTIGONISH SHOPPING MALL, ANTIGONISH, N.S. THE INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORE SERVING CAPE BRETON? EASTERN NOVA SCOTIA LOCAL HISTORIES, GENEALOGIES AND PICTORIALS GAELIC BOOKS A FULL LINE OF ARTIST'S SUPPLIES LUIRGEAN EACHAINN NILL FOLKTALES f'ROM CAPE BRETON COLLECTED BY M. MACDONELL AND J.SHAW St. Peters Drug Store Ltd. Don Stone, Ph. C, Proprietor Open 6 Days a Week Mon. to Thur. open until 8 p.m. 535-2203 Fri. imtil 9 p.m. Sat. until 5 p St Peters, N. a