

WOMAN'S PREMONITION SAVES TWELVE LIVES

Peculiar Ether Freak Enables Hamilton Woman to Hear Signal That Passed All Coastal Stations

LUCKY "HUNCH"

Radio Coastal Stations missed an S.O.S. when Coastal Patrol Boat B1 wirelessly for aid on a 700 meter wavelength. Due to some unexplainable freak of ether waves it remained for an amateur—a mere "listener" in her home-made set, get a hunch it was an S.O.S. call and secure services of a local "fan" to read the Morse, and so save the lives of twelve.

HEARD STRANGE TICKING.

The incident almost defies belief, yet there are many facts to substantiate it. Thursday night at 7.30 o'clock as Mrs. Parke sat listening to the radio she heard a ticking come from the loudspeaker. She immediately recognized it as a message of some sort in the Morse code. She feared, too, that it was an S.O.S. call, as she had heard the same sound before and then read next day of disaster at sea. This strange message was picked up by her radio at 700 metres, and it persisted until after midnight. There was no response. When Mr. Parke returned home about 11 o'clock he was told of the strange call, and he, too, was convinced it was some message

in Morse. Mr. Parke knew a friend who could interpret the Morse code, and this friend was rushed to the Parke home.

"IN TROUBLE—IN TROUBLE."

He listened to the call and this was his interpretation of it: "Boat in trouble—in trouble. Water in hold. Lights out. Battery down. Shaft gone." That was all that could be gathered early Friday morning.

Mrs. Parke phoned the operators at the local C.N.R. Telegraphs and they rushed the strange news to Toronto. Toronto flashed it to the Atlantic coast. Word came back that efforts were being made to locate the stricken craft and learn its name.

The proper authorities at last tuned in on the appeal and a message hours later read: "On our way. Three cruisers in tow. Two knots. Latitude 23, longitude 20. Back about midnight."

As near as could be determined, the boats position in the foregoing message would be in Hamilton Bay, off the coast of Labrador, itself a strange coincidence, inasmuch as the only point to get her cry in the night was Hamilton, Ont.

Another message picked up advised that the B-1 was rescued by the Coast Guards G-134, G-24 and B-129.

The radio set in the Parke home is an amateur production, made by Mrs. Parke's brother.

Lloyd's Marine Insurance thanked Mrs. Parkes and wanted to know the make of the set used.



THE SEA CAN HIT HEAVY BLOWS

Pierce storms sweeping Great Britain have not left Ireland undamaged. The promenade at Whitehead, County Antrim, smashed by heavy seas during the severe gales.

IRAQ GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO PUNISH WARLIKE WAHABIS

Are Asking Royal Air Force To Assist But Neighbors Attitude May Alter Situation

SHEIK FLEES

The Iraq Government has concurred with the British Government in sending a punitive expedition against the Wahabi tribesmen, who have been carrying out raids on Iraqi frontier tribes. Making announcements in Parliament, Jaffar Pasha El Askari, the Prime Minister, said:

"In co-operation with the British military forces, we are preparing a sufficiently powerful punitive expedition to punish the Nedji tribesmen responsible for the outrages. Our military plans have been sanctioned. Operations will not be prolonged for more than a month."

The Prime Minister added that Iraq was not in a state of war with the Wahabi tribe, which had disclaimed responsibility for the acts of Sheikh Feisal Ed Dowish, leader of the raiding tribesmen, and said he would cooperate against the latter with a loyal Wahabi force.

It is possible that the King will find difficulty raising a large force for his proposed attack on Feisal Ed Dowish's headquarters at Artawiyah, as the Sheikh's two tribes dominating that locality are believed to sympathize with Feisal Ed Dowish.

The latter, for the moment, has vanished into the desert. Survivors of his last raid speak with terror of the barbarous savagery of his tribesmen.

It is understood that the Royal Air Force in co-operation with the Iraqi army is preparing to act with the utmost vigor.

FLOODS IN ENGLAND CAUSE UNTOLD MISERY

Thames Four Miles Wide in County of Surrey; Nearly at Maximum

Private dispatches begin to come in descriptive of England's plight when real winter weather sets in. Fires from overheated grates, suffering of an acute nature causing many deaths among very old and very young. The impossibility to keep warm are the high points of the recent unusual cold snap accompanied by heavy snows. Now comes the milder weather, rains and floods, the press despatches say.

While flood conditions have improved in some sections of the country, they have become worse in others, and new areas affected by the rising waters include Dartford, Kent, where 200 families were marooned in their homes during the night, but they were released before experiencing any undue hardship as the waters rapidly subsided.

The River Thames also burst its banks at many new points, but the Conservancy Board expressed the opinion that the floods in the upper reaches of the Thames have nearly reached a maximum, providing no more rain falls. Cool weather accompanied by frosts at night is helping the evacuation of the floods.

Between Chertsey and Weybridge,

in Surrey, the floods are four miles wide, while near Maidenhead, Berks, they are two miles wide, and deep enough to enable one to enjoy a swim on the King's Highway. The River Thames at Windsor is four and a half feet above normal, resulting in Eton town presenting an island-like appearance, while the grounds at Windsor Castle are also inundated. In the meantime responsible meteorologists declare that the unusual weather of the present winter is merely a sample of what is to come next year when the River Thames freezes over.

City of Liverpool Trains Her Boys

Object Being to Make Them Good Canadian Citizens

Liverpool.—Liverpool City Council decided to adopt a scheme for the training of prospective boy migrants to Canada. One member of the Council objected that boys trained in England for Canadian farm work had to milk wooden cows and harness timber horses.

Councillor Richardson said boys sent to Canada could save \$500 in five years out of wages of \$150 a year, and then receive grants of \$500 each from the Canadian Government to en-

The Result of the Death Blow



THE BOW OF THE CUTTER PAULDING
A view of the unfortunate cutter that sank the B-4, near Cape Cod, showing the damage done in the accident.

Reduced Express Rate Instituted

Parcels of 15 Pounds are Now Cheaper to Send

Charges on express parcels, whose weight is not in excess of 25 pounds and not over 5% that in length, width and depth, were reduced on Jan. 1. The arrangement under which the express companies give protection against loss and damage up to \$50 on such parcels without extra charge is also continued.

The reduced rates are calculated upon packages ranging from 5 pounds or less; 6 to 10 and 11 to 15 pounds inclusive. The three Maritime Provinces are linked as one. Between points in the same province the rates are from 30 cents to a maximum of 60 cents, according to weight. Between points in adjoining provinces, from 40 cents to a maximum of 80 cents; and between more distantly separated provinces the rate is from 50 cents to a maximum of \$1.55 for the greatest distance.

Goods prohibited under the regulation and to which the regulations will not apply, are money, bonds, bullion, securities, live animals, birds, fowl, food, and liquid oils and greases unless packed in sufficient absorbent material to fully absorb the contents should the container be broken. A package will not be accepted whose length and girth combined exceed six feet.

Winter Sport in Canada



"SKIING" THE GREATEST THRILL

Wonderful popularity is developing for this Norwegian sport in every city and town with hills in Canada.

G. B. S. Human

Shaw Champions Cause of an Old Postman Who Stole Ten Shillings and Lost Pension

London.—George Bernard Shaw came vigorously to the defense of a sixty-year-old London postman who recently lost his job, his pension, his state insurance and his wife because of his theft of ten shillings from a letter. When arraigned in Marylebone a police magistrate released the postman, who was a first offender, stating that he already had been punished enough.

It was said in court that the postman's wife died from shock when she learned of her husband's crime.

"In your issue of Dec. 17," writes Mr. Shaw to The Evening Standard, "you rightly feature as appalling the consequences to a postman aged sixty who had been convicted in Marylebone police court of the theft of ten shillings. It was obviously one of those cases of sly pilfering which indicate that the pilferer should be retired as worn out for positions of trust."

"This man earned by thirty-six

years of public service state insurance, a £200 pension and two pounds and fifteen shillings a week. The appalling consequences to which you call attention are not the ordinary consequences incurred by the theft of ten shillings but the assumed intention of the Government to confiscate his insurance. May one ask under what law the Government has power to commit this monstrous outrage?"

"When eminent financiers, criminally negligent company directors, fraudulent trustees, income tax evaders and other gentlemanly culprits pass through the dock to penal servitude, are their insurances confiscated? I have never heard of such practice."

"What I want to know is why after this confiscation has been abolished and forgotten in the case of property classes it is still calmly continued without a word of protest as if it were the most natural thing and obvious course on earth in the case of poor men like postmen, police constables and weekly wage earners generally."

"Is there any warrant except thoughtless usage at the expense of men too poor to appeal to the courts for a declaration of law for this Kilburn infamy, which not only inflicts on the postman punishment savage enough for the most brutal crime but reduces his innocent dependents to penury as well?"

The Kaiser "Wasn't Speaking"

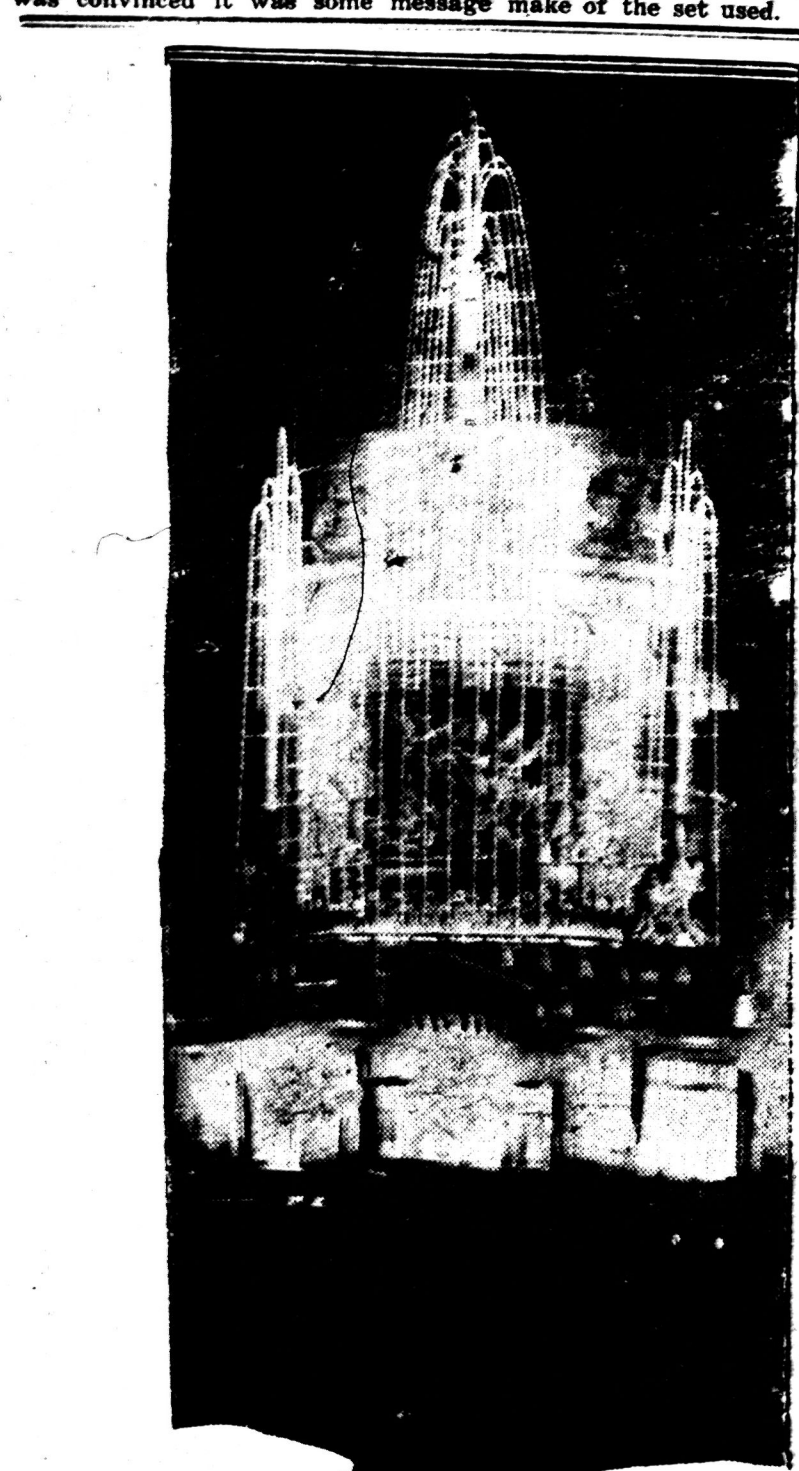
Critic of Emperor's Policies in War Refused to Meet Chief of Cabinet

Berlin.—After having carried on his relentless editorial warfare against William II. for many years, the late Maximilian Harden toward the end of the World War thought the time had come for a heart to heart talk with the Kaiser with the object of finding a way to avoid the ultimate disaster to the German fatherland.

On October 16, 1918, Harden telegraphed the Kaiser at the latter's headquarters: "My conscience urges me to request an interview at the earliest possible. As every hour now is fateful I neither fear a refusal nor the imputation of being considered presumptuous, and shall hold to account that official who suppresses this request."

Harden received the curt official reply that though the Kaiser had taken cognizance of his dispatch, his majesty was not in a position to grant the desired interview, but that the chief of the imperial cabinet had been instructed to receive any information Herr Harden might have to convey for transmission to his majesty.

As a "palaver" with the chief of cabinet did not in the least conform with Harden's intentions, the projected trip of the severest political critic of the Kaiser's reign to the imperial headquarters did not come off.



SPECTACULAR PARIS

The French love electrical display, above is the Bazar de L'Hotel de Ville as it appeared putting on a realistic electrical waterfall.

Blackmail Cases Worry England

Crime Rampant in London and Scotland Yard is Busy

REGULAR GANGS

Members of Society Fall Victims to Decoys and Rogues

London.—The blackmail racket is worrying Scotland Yard.

Since the celebrated "Mr. A" case several years ago, in which a wealthy and influential Indian potentate was involved blackmail has become rampant in this country. So serious has the menace become, that judges now agree that the names of the victims should be kept secret in order that they may be encouraged to prosecute cases in which they are involved.

Sir Henry Maddocks, the recorder of the city of Birmingham, advocated a further step in the suppression of this crime, and suggested that all blackmailers should be fogged as a part of their punishment.

Several gangs who live and carry on their operations from a prominent section of the exclusive West End district of London are said to be responsible for the increase in blackmail. Recent police investigations have disclosed that these gangs have women members who act as decoys. They sit in the lounge of the most exclusive hotels and night clubs where they become acquainted with

wealthy business men, particularly those from the provinces.

SOME METHODS.

The usual method is for the woman to take her victim to her flat, where they are surprised by her alleged husband, who demands money as the price of silence. Once the victims part with money, there is always a demand for more.

It was recently revealed that the son of a well-known peer fell into the hands of a blackmailer, who knew that the victim's father was a millionaire. In three years the father paid more than \$3,000,000 to keep the case quiet. Then the blackmailer was prosecuted. The names of the persons involved were kept secret.

There are other methods equally favored by blackmailers. One is to find a professional man, preferably one who is just starting out in his profession. The woman coolly demands money, threatening to complain publicly of the man's conduct.

Dancing partners in public dance halls are another reason why some men or women become bankrupt. A young man who was engaged as a dancing partner in a public place recently tricked the daughter of a prominent peer into a compromising position. He then proceeded to blackmail her and had practically bankrupted her before her father learned of the circumstances of the case and had the man prosecuted.

Four years of penal servitude is the usual penalty in such cases and many judges are demanding alterations of the law to permit more severe sentences.

It's entirely proper to give our murderers plenty of rope, provided the rope is properly applied.—Arkansas Gazette.

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