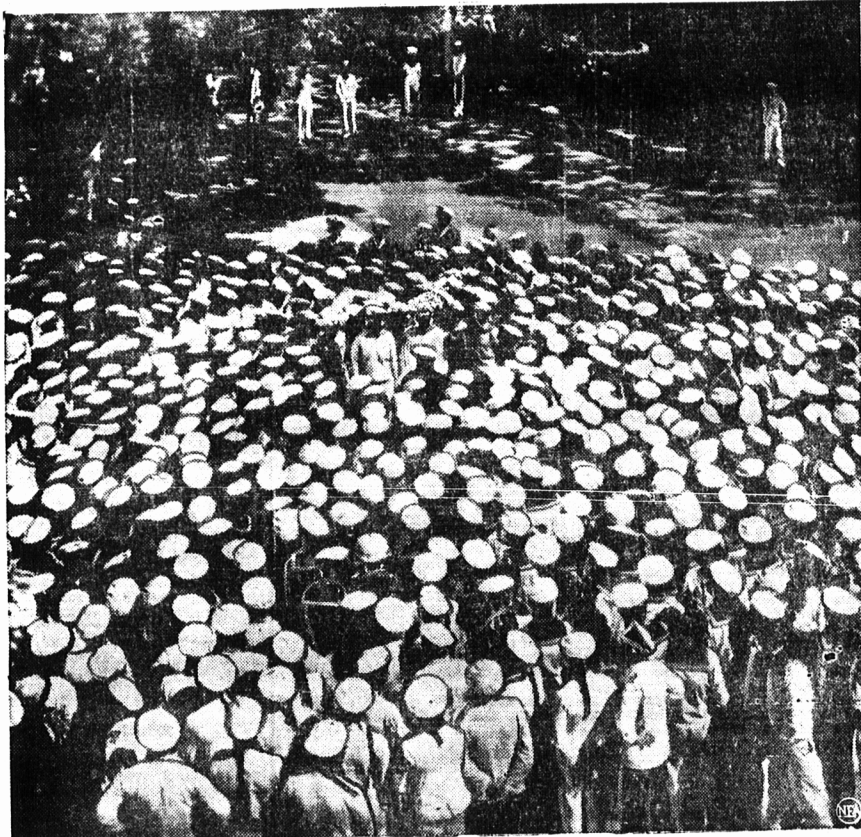




"A fight to the finish" being fought by Western Front troops—But, in this case, it's with a check-board instead of artillery and hand weapons, as French troops indulge in a battle royal across the "table," in continued lull along Maginot line.



Massed around three of their officers, the crew of the scuttled German pocket battleship Admiral Graf Spee are assembled for a tragic announcement—the official notification that their commander, Captain Hans Langsdorff, had committed suicide. They are pictured in the patio of the Immigrants Hotel, in one of whose rooms Captain Langsdorff shot himself.



Survivors of the scuttled German liner Columbus will be allowed 60 days of freedom in New York City if immigration officials find them to be "distressed seamen." Bewilderment of many of the crew at the "suicide of their ship and their present predicament shows graphically in top picture. Others survivors included, below, Arnold Scherer, L. Charles Seis, and Selma Sander, stewardess who was injured while being transferred between lifeboats at sea.

The Central Guardian

This column is reserved for news of local interest but advertising of a new nature may be inserted at 5 cents a word strictly payable in advance.

CRASWELL for Photographs. CONFEDERATION LIFE INSURANCE. L-9789-7-21-31L.

ATTENTION ADVERTISERS. - Advertisements for insertion the following day must be in this office not later than 11 A. M.

LUCKY WINNERS. - Parties holding tickets 3414 and 687 call and receive their free watches. Hold your stubs until winners are confirmed. J. R. Williams Jeweller. L-168-12-28-11.

PARCELS APPRECIATED. - In response to an appeal from Lieutenant Commander Buntain the Queen Mary Needlework Guild made and despatched during the first two weeks of December, 29 scarves and 29 pairs of mitts for the Island boys serving in the R. C. N. R. in patrol and convoy work. Letters of thanks have been received from Lieut. Comd. Buntain and the individual recipients.

Murray River And Vicinity

A Christmas concert given by the United and Baptist Sunday Schools was held in the Baptist Church on Friday evening, Dec. 22 under the able leadership of Mrs. Walter Dalziel, Miss Sandra Johnstone presiding at the organ. After a few remarks from the chairman, Rev. Mr. Green, pastor of the United Church the concert opened by hymn "Joy to the World", after a short prayer the following program was carried out in a very pleasing manner. Address of Welcome, Arnett White, Christmas Pageant, Recitation, Elenor Jenkins. Recitation, Violet Moore. Duet, Veneta Keenan, Joyce Nicole. Chorus by school. Recitation, Lorane Horton. Recitation, Sterling Moore. Solo, Shirley Dalziel. Recitation, Joyce Jenkins. Recitation, Catherine McDonald. Duet, Lilia and Zaida McDonald. Recitation, Irene Lowe. Recitation, Emma Glover. Recitation, John Lowe. Exercise, senior girls. Offering, Closing number, "Hark the Herald Angels Sing." Santa Claus then appeared on the scene and from a nicely decorated tree handed out gifts and treats of candy to all the children of the Sunday school also teachers and officers.

Murray River is very fortunate in having such a generous Christian lady, Mrs. Walter Dalziel, giving of her time and talent. Sacrificing the comforts of her beautiful home, going out amongst the girls and boys of the different churches, preparing such concerts which is not an easy task, and she is a faithful worker in all organizations that has for its object a better Murray River for the boys and girls to live in. We appreciate her efforts very much, and we wish her and Walter and Shirley a Happy New Year.

The many friends of Captain John A. Munn are pleased to know he has returned from the Kings County Hospital where he was undergoing treatment.

Mrs. W. B. Butler spent the Christmas holiday with her daughter, Mrs. George McLean, White Sands.

Vance Strickling who was a patient in Kings County hospital undergoing an operation, has returned home and is feeling fine for which his many friends are glad.

Mr. Louis Herring, principal of Murray River School, is spending the Christmas holidays with friends and relatives in New Glasgow, N.S.

Mr. Lance Hooper has returned home from Kings County hospital where he underwent an operation.

Mr. LeRoy White is getting along nicely with the construction of his new house. If the weather keeps mild he may get moved in this winter.

The many friends of Everett Porter are pleased to see him home again after spending two weeks in Kings County hospital.

Mr. George Reynolds, son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Reynolds, who is in the Royal Army is spending the holiday with his parents.

TORONTO, Dec. 26 (CP) - Ned Clarke, 73-year-old frequenter of Toronto's police courts, appeared before magistrate Robert Browne again yesterday, but this time it was not for drunkenness. Clarke was guest at the magistrate's home for Christmas dinner.

New Records Established In Royal Bank Statement

Assets of \$1,014,000,000 Highest in Bank's History - Deposits Up Over \$100,000,000 to Establish New Record - Loans in Canada Increase \$16,000,000 - Profits Moderately Higher.

Marked growth in all departments of the bank's business is reflected in the Annual Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Account for the year ending November 30, 1939 being issued by The Royal Bank of Canada to its shareholders.

Total assets amount to \$1,014,708,000, an increase of \$106,643,000 over last year's figures, and the highest in the bank's history. Only in the Annual Balance Sheet of 1929 has The Royal Bank of Canada previously shown assets in excess of one billion dollars.

Deposits Up Over \$100,000,000 Total deposits including deposits by Governments, banks and the public amount to \$911,519,210, an increase of over \$107,000,000, as compared with the corresponding figures last year. Deposits stand at the highest point in the history of the Bank. To the extent of \$39,000,000 the increase is accounted for by larger balance due to the Dominion Government. Non-interest-bearing deposits increased approximately \$48,000,000.

Current Loans Increase The upward trend in current loans in Canada which began in 1937 has been maintained, the increase for the year amounting to over \$16,000,000. Loans outside of Canada, however, have fallen by approximately \$10,000,000.

WEST ROYALTY SCHOOL CONCERT

The annual Christmas concert of West Royalty School held on Wednesday evening, December 20, was a great success financially and otherwise. The school was prettily decorated for the occasion. Mr. Lem MacKinnon capably acted as chairman and the following program was carried out: Opening chorus, "O Canada" by Junior and Senior pupils. Recitation, "Announcing" by John MacKinnon. Flag Exercise by 6 junior pupils. Dance, Highland Fling by Aurilda Trainor. (encored). Mr. Robert Weeks, violinist. Dialogue, Miss Christmas Acquitted. Recitation, A Present for Santa by Francis Gallant. Duet, "You Can't Go Out to

Strong Liquid Position

As might be expected under existing conditions, the bank's liquid position is particularly strong, immediately realizable assets amounting to no less than 69% of the bank's total liabilities to the public. Cash assets alone, including bank balances, amount to no less than \$234,483,550 Government and Provincial securities amount to \$315,000,000, of which approximately \$180,000,000 mature within two years.

Profit and Loss Account

Net profits, after providing for Dominion and Provincial taxes amounting to \$1,204,867 and after making appropriations to Contingency Reserves, out of which provision for all bad and doubtful debts has been made, amount to \$3,724,842 a moderate increase over the 1938 figures; \$2,800,000 was distributed in dividends, the usual contribution of \$300,000 was made to the Pension Fund Society and \$250,000 was written off Bank Premises Account. The balance of Profit and Loss carried forward amounted to \$3,096,252, an increase of \$374,843. The Annual General Meeting of the shareholders will be held at the Head Office of the bank at eleven a.m. on January 11, 1940.

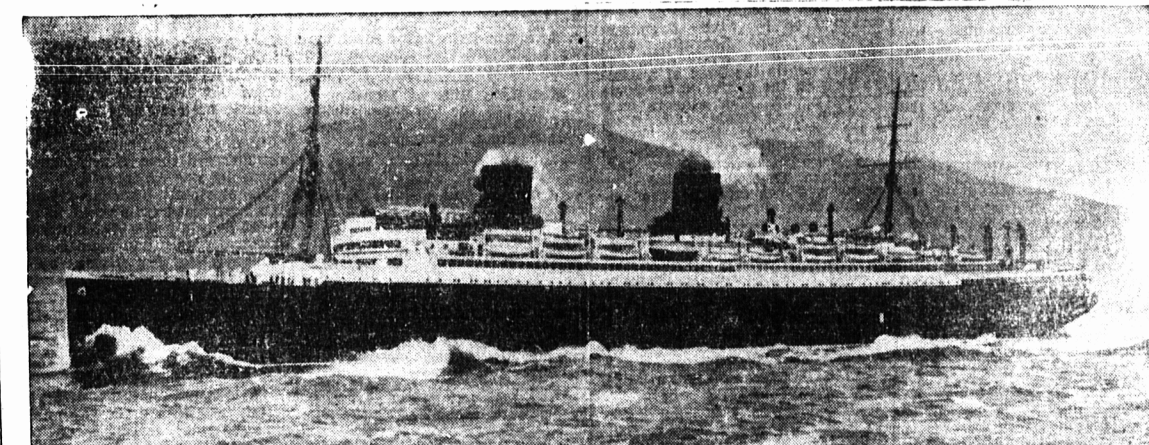
Chorus, "Good King Wenceslas" by senior pupils. Recitation, "What Santa Calls Him" by Eloy MacLure. Exercise, "Christmas Costumes in Many Lands" by 8 senior pupils. Dialogue, "The Day After Christmas" (2 acts). Chorus, "He's Jolly Santa Claus" by junior pupils. Exercise, "A Sign of Christmas" by 6 junior pupils. Monologue, "Presents for All" by Carl Crosby. Exercise, "Making of the Flag" by 4 pupils. Dialogue, "That Long Ago Duet" (3 acts). Chorus, "Gloria" by senior pupils. Camp-fire Sing Song in which the audience participated and for which Miss Catherine Weeks played the guitar. Soon the jingle of bells announced the arrival of Santa Claus and presents from the heavily laden tree were distributed to the children by the teachers, and others. The singing of the National Anthem brought the entertainment to a close. Assisting the pupils and teachers, Misses Dorothy Toombs and Dorothy Jenkins were: Miss Lena MacLure, Mr. Robert Weeks, Misses Catherine Weeks, Helen Hurry and Bircena Frizzell.

STANHOPE SCHOOL CONCERT

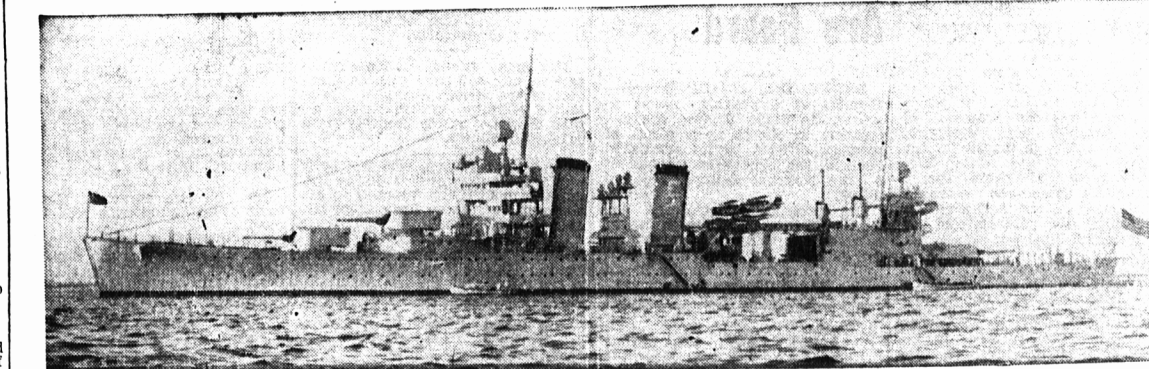
Stanhope School concert was held in the Community Hall, Covehead, on the night of December 20th. A large crowd filled the prettily decorated hall and an excellent program was presented by the pupils, which showed that they had received careful training by their teacher, Marguerite Crosby. Instrumental music, provided by Miss Clare and Mr. Leith Burt, provided splendid entertainment during the program. One of the pupils, Master Junior Gauthier, was the accompanist on the guitar for the evening. Mr. Roy Carr very capably presided and the following program was capably staged: Opening chorus, "O Canada" by the pupils. Recitation, "Welcome", Phyllis Ross. Opening recitation, Ira Carr. Solo, George Shaw. Recitation, "A Glad Welcome", Joseph McCabe. Recitation, "Smiles", Elmer Misener. Acrostic Drill, Christmas, by 9 pupils. Dialogue, "Jackie Frost", Clare and Joseph McCabe (encored). Dialogue, Rastus Ramblers On. Recitation, Clare McCabe. Recitation, Joyce MacLaurichan. Red Cross Song by 4 girls. Recitation, "The Whooping Cough", Gladys Ross. Duet, (in costume), Marion Shaw and Ira Carr. (encored). Mother's Helpers Drill by 6 girls. Instrumental music. Dialogue, Cousin Imogene's Dinner.

YEO THEATRE EXPOSED! Confessions of a NAZI SPY EDWARD G. ROBINSON FRANCIS LEDERER - auth. Sanders - Paul Lohap SOURIS, THUR. 28th. MONTAGUE, SAT. 30th.

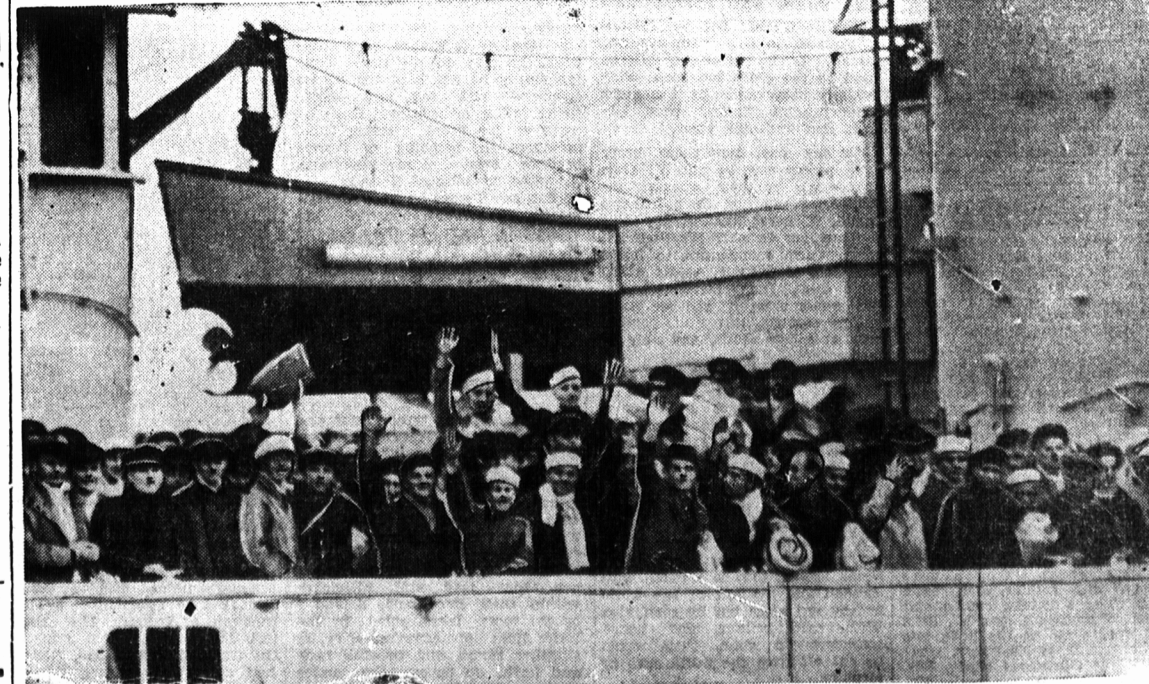
Recitation, Ralph Carr. Solo, "Twilight on the Prairie", Mervyn Robinson. (encored.) Recitation, "Not So Easy", Anna Misener. Song (in costume), "Grandma's Advice", by 6 girls. Recitation, "Can You Blame Him?" Junior Youland. (encored.) Handkerchief Drill by 7 girls. Intermission and instrumental music. Duet, "Down Mexico Way", Reta and Joseph Horgan. (encored.) Dialogue, Advertising for a Servant. Recitation, "Upset", Lee Misener. Solo, "An Old-Fashioned Mother", Junior Gauthier. (encored.) Dialogue, The Census Taker. Epilogue, Anita McCabe and Joseph Horgan. Tableau in action, "Bad Results" by 8 pupils. Recitation, "Closing Thanks", Exilda Ross. Recitation, "Good-bye", Anita McCabe. Closing chorus, "Good Night" by pupils. At the conclusion of the program, Santa Claus made his appearance and distributed presents and candy to pupils and teacher. The singing of the National Anthem brought this pleasant event to a close. (Patriot please copy)



Thirteenth largest passenger liner in the world, the Nazi luxury ship, Columbus, above, was scuttled some 400 miles off the coast of Virginia when intercepted by a British warship. The U. S. cruiser Tuscaloosa stood by to take off the crew.



The U. S. 10,000-ton cruiser Tuscaloosa, above stood by to take off the crew of the Nazi luxury liner, Columbus, scuttled by its crew off the coast of Virginia when intercepted by a British warship.



Survivors of the German liner Columbus were received at Ellis Island Immigrant Station as "distressed seamen," but they seem happy enough here as they wave to spectators. Passengers and crew of the luxury ship, scuttled in the Atlantic, are pictured aboard the U. S. S. Tuscaloosa as it steamed up New York harbor.

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