

"Covers Prince Edward Island Like The Dew"

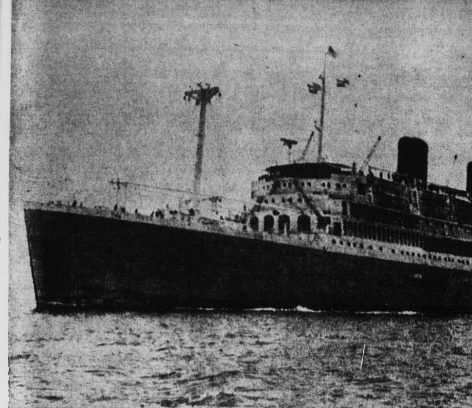
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THIS IS THE GREEK... which Sunday reported it was on fire in the eastern Atlantic Ocean off Madeira. Radio

# Survivors Being Picked Up From Blazing Cruise Ship

LONDON (CP-Reuters)—The British ship Montclair early today started picking up survivors from the blazing Greek cruise ship Lakonia in the Atlantic about 180 miles north of Madeira, a Greek Line spokesman said here.

The British ship steamed to aid the 20,338-ton Lakonia after the radioed that her 1,000 passengers and crew were abandoning ship.

Seas were reported generally high in the area with winds up to 20 knots.

A message sent from the Lakonia evening at 12:22 a.m. (12:20 P.E.S.T. Sunday) said: "508 from the Lakonia last time. I cannot say anymore in the wireless station. We are leaving the ship. Please immediate assistance. Please help."

A spokesman for the Greek Line said in London the Lakonia was carrying about 650 passengers, most of them from Britain.

She has more than 300 crew. Her master is Captain M. N. Zarba.

Three ships were reported making for the disaster scene at top speed.

Most of the passengers were believed to be British.

New York, N.Y., Coast Guard said there were 18-20 knot winds in the area and seas were running high.



CROSS INDICATES approximate location where the Greek cruise liner Lakonia reported

# Rectory Hoopup Attempt Leaves 4 Dead in Ottawa

By STEWART MACLEOD  
OTTAWA (CP)—Four people were shot to death and another was wounded Sunday when two young intruders burst into the rectory of a tiny Roman Catholic church, apparently in search of collection boxes.

Reginald Binette, 17, has been charged with capital murder. His brother, Roger, 31, was found inside the rectory with a bullet through his head. Police said he shot himself.

Shattering a quiet non-hour mass in the little Church of Christ the King on Central Avenue Street, the burst of gunfire took the lives of Paul Mercier, 45, formerly of East Angus, Que., a cousin in charge of the church's boy scout troop; Miss Alberta Gaidon, about 45, niece and housekeeper of the parish priest; and Doris Leach, 42, who had a second-floor apartment in the rectory.

Miss Bechard was shot in the neck and died about 45 minutes later in hospital.

Her sister Genevieve Bechard, 41, an occupant of the same apartment, was wounded but released from hospital following treatment.

In the church at the time was Justice Minister Chevrier, a member of the parish and a

# Fires Destroy Home And Barn

CHAPAUD — Arthur Craig, Lady Paine, his home and his large warehouse-barn, a two fires yesterday and this morning.

At 3:30 yesterday afternoon flames levelled the Craig home, but the Chapaud Fire Department was able to prevent the spread of flames to the barn, which had a sheet metal roof. Then at about 12:30 this morning the barn burst into flame.

The barn contained a large quantity of potatoes, and up until the time of the afternoon fire, had contained several race horses. The animals were removed to the barn of a neighbor after the house burned.

The fire was first discovered by Mr. Craig when, on attempting to go to the second floor, his path was blocked by heavy smoke.

He could not determine what has started the blaze, which he believed to have been

# Parliament At A Glance

SATURDAY, Dec. 21, 1963

The first session of the 36th Parliament elected in April was prorogued by Chief Justice Robert FASCHERRAU at 10:45 p.m. EST.

A government bill intended as a compromise solution to Parliament's divorce problem was killed in the Senate after being passed in the Commons.

The publicly-owned CBC came under heavy criticism from Liberal and New Democratic members.

The Commons completed passage of 1963-64 spending estimates in its 12-hour marathon session.

Finance Minister GORDON indicated that negotiations on a revision of the Canada-U.S. trade treaty may start within two weeks.

Alan MacNAUGHTON suggested that Canadian newspaper publisher build a national press building in Ottawa.

The message will originate in the studio of the Apostolic Palace in Vatican City at 8 p.m. Rome time (2 p.m. EST).

# Parliament Closes

# Reagminates for Christmas Greetings

By ALAN DONNELLY  
OTTAWA (CP)—Exchanges of Christmas greetings among Commons members were followed by angry recriminations Saturday night as the 36th Parliament wound up its first session in a burst of fast-moving activity.

In the wake of a surprise Senate action killing a government's bill on divorce, a possible "double-cross" in a government's deal on parliamentary divorces.

Near the close of the Commons' last-day drive toward prorogation, the NDP lifted its long-standing blockade of 147 divorce bills in return for House passage of a government bill making the Senate's new divorce commission an executive court judge.

MEASURE KILLED  
But in the Senate, government leader Ross Macdonald said it wouldn't be right to push through the judgeship bill in the session's final hours. He presented a motion killing the measure for this session.

Soon thereafter, the Commons members trooped into the Senate chamber to hear Chief Justice Robert FASCHERRAU, deputy to Governor-General Chretien, give royal assent to legislation passed in the last few hours of the session and then declare the Commons closed.

West MP's headed home for Christmas and a seven-week break before the next session opens in the second week of February.

The last session had tolled through 117 sitting days since it began May 16 following the Commons' election. The Liberal-Liberal in office without majority control of the Commons.

# Business Hours

The business office of The Guardian-The Evening Patriot was closed on Thursday this week from 8:30 to 1 p.m.

The business office will be closed on Friday for the regular editions of both papers will be published on both Tuesday and Thursday, however.

PLEA FOR ENGLISH  
"We have heard a lot about the rights of the French," he said. "I want to make a plea for the rights of the English."

Mr. Scott said the CBC had yet proved satisfactorily that it was not a joint venture providing a French-language station by depriving English speakers of the best station in Toronto.

# Freighters Are Picked Up After Ordeal At Sea

# Toll in Storming Reaches 25

ELDERLY WIDOW WINS DAMAGES  
DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) An elderly Des Moines widow has been awarded \$5,340 by a jury in her suit against the Arthur Murray Dance Studio here.

Mrs. Aunes Syster, 69, had sued for \$83,000, contending she was defrauded by the studio, which had sold her three "lifetime" dancing courses.

A jury Friday awarded her \$4,300 in compensation for what she had paid for 4,057 hours of lessons and what her actual benefit was and \$40,000 in punitive damages.

Mrs. Syster contended she had spent more than \$30,000 for dancing lessons with the studio. Part of the money later was refunded.

The studio contended that the money she spent on dance lessons was not a contract, but an ocean cruise or other "such useless services" because it provided her with "salvation from a well of loneliness and despair."

At the time of the fire, both Mr. and Mrs. Craig were home along with their three sons, one of whom had only arrived from Toronto Sunday morning to spend Christmas with his parents.

Mr. Craig estimated that the loss to the house alone would exceed \$100,000, and it was partially covered by insurance.

No other details could be learned on the house and warehouse, but it was known that Mr. Craig had made a number of extensive renovations to both buildings within the past year or two.

# ADB Members Reappointed

OTTAWA (CP) — With one exception, all the original members of the Atlantic Development Board whose terms expire next Jan. 24 are being reappointed, State Secretary Dick Pickersgill told the Commons Saturday.

The exception involves the replacement several months ago of Don Lalonde of Montreal by Armand Cormier of the same city. Mr. Cormier will also be reappointed for another term, the state secretary said.

The other members whose terms were to have expired next month are Frank H. Sobey of Stellarton, N.S., chairman of Nova Scotia's Industrial Estates Ltd.; Melvin J. McQuaid, former provincial treasurer and attorney-general of Prince Edward Island; and Fred Ayre, St. John's, Nfld., president of the Maritime Bankers Ltd.

All were appointed by the former Conservative government. Other members on the 11-member board are serving longer terms.

John B. Stewart, Antigonish-Guyborough had asked Mr. Pickersgill about the reappointment of members whose terms expire next month.

James Andrew, the only boy among the quintets, left the hospital Nov. 30. Mary Margaret and Mary Magdalene joined him at the family home Dec. 14.

# Egypt Backs China's Claim

CAIRO (AP)—President Gamal Nasser has pledged Egypt's support for Communist China's "struggle" to regain Taiwan (Formosa).

Nasser's pledge was contained in a joint communique released Saturday, some 12 hours after the departure of Premier Chou En-lai for Algeria.

The communique contained bitter denunciations of "imperialism" in Asia and Africa but was short on specific pledges.

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LIFEBOAT FROM sunken freighter Douala rescued alongside Canadian rescue ship Sir Humphry Gilbert in rough seas off New Brunswick. The 2,300-ton Douala filled with water and sank during fierce Atlantic storm. (CP Wirephoto)

monitors said the crew and passengers were abandoning ship. (AP Wirephoto)

# Democrats See Passage Of Aid Bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Democratic leaders of the House of Representatives rallied forces Sunday and predicted passage of a compromise \$3,000,000 foreign-aid money bill today or Tuesday.

But the Senate's schedule of taken meetings every three days until the new session starts Jan. 7 leaves in doubt the House's approval of the appropriation and its much-disputed Communist trade amendment.

# Royalty Gathers At Sandringham

SANDRINGHAM, England (AP)—Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip formed the vanguard of a big royal family Christmas reunion here which the talk is expected to be as much about the stork as about Santa Claus.

Four of the royal ladies attending are expecting babies in the new year—the Queen, Princess Margaret, Princess Alexandra and the Duchess of Kent.

Altogether 18 members of the royal family will be attending the traditional get-together at the 17,000-acre estate in the pine and moor country of Norfolk. The Queen and Prince Philip arrived Saturday night.

Christmas Day also will bring a b b t d a celebrations. The Duchess of Gloucester will be 82 and Princess Alexandra, expecting her first child, will be 27.

# Chief Engineer Describes Night Of Ordeal On Ocean

PORT AUX BASQUES, Nfld. (CP)—Chief Engineer Gabriel Stenhouse of the sunken French freighter Douala told of his crew's ordeal in the wintry Atlantic after he arrived here with 15 other survivors aboard a rescue ship Sunday.

The 2,300-ton Douala filled with water and sank Saturday just after her crew took to the boats in mountainous seas kicked up by an early winter storm. Some of them were rescued Sunday after a night of agony.

There were 19 of us in the lifeboat," Stenhouse said. Capt. Michel Labbe stayed on board the Douala with nine other members of the crew.

Our ship was sinking and the captain ordered the second lifeboat, the spotted pick up 16 men.

# SOON VERY COLD

We were soon very cold and were coated in frozen spray. During the night we slinked a large ship. We fired some of our flares but they didn't see. The ship passed quite close by.

After dark we saw the big airplane. We sent up the last of our flares and waited. The plane was an RCAF Argus search aircraft from Greenwood, N.S. Later the Canadian transport department ship Sir Humphrey Gilbert, directed to the spot, picked up 16 men.