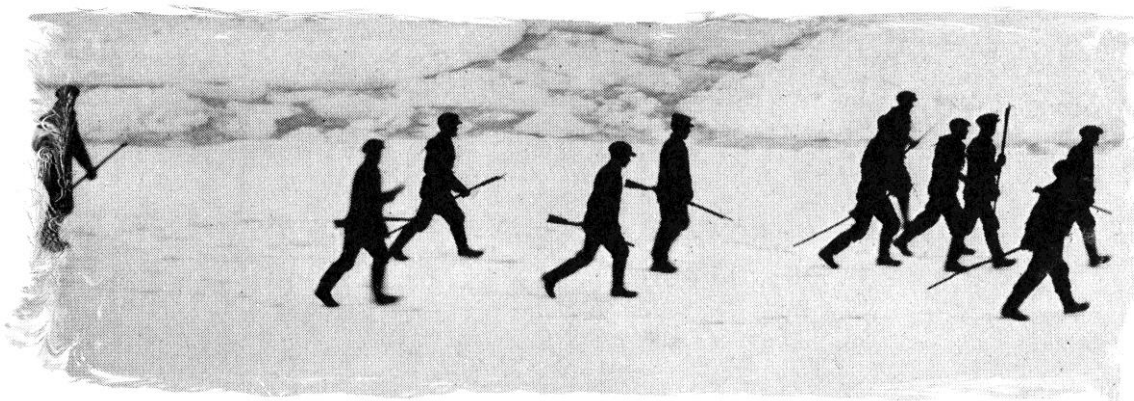

**THE 1914 SEALING DISASTERS
SELECT MATERIALS
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**COMPILED BY
JEWEL COUSENS
2014**



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NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR COLLECTION GUIDE NO. 16

Introduction and Index

The week of March 29-April 4, 1914 was a tragic week for sealers of the country and their families. On two separate ships, the *SS Newfoundland* and the *SS Southern Cross*, sealers risked their lives to catch seals.

The *SS Southern Cross* sank on March 31 or April 1 losing all hands on board – 172 men.

The sealers aboard the *SS Newfoundland* were ordered over the side to make their way to the *SS Stephano*. Of the 166 men who took to the ice, 32 men turned back in the harsh weather conditions and 132 trekked four hours to reach the *SS Stephano*. They were given a meal and then ordered to take to the ice, catch 1500 seals and return to the *SS Newfoundland*. A blinding storm arose and the men spent several days trying to survive. 66 men died and many of the survivors lost limbs to frostbite.

The government Sealing Inquiry in 1915 concluded that no charges were laid but the commission recommended that all sealing vessels carry wireless sets, barometers, and thermometers, and that ship owners be held accountable for any injuries or deaths sustained by their crews. In 1916, the government passed legislation prohibiting sealers from being on the ice after dark and requiring all sealing ships to carry wireless equipment and flares.

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: <i>SS Southern Cross</i>	13

Books – Most of these books will have a chapter or multiple pages devoted to the disasters.

Badcock, T. C. ***Captain Kean's Secret***. St. John's, 2013. 971.8 B14 (Circ).

Bartlett, Bob. ***The Sealing Saga Of Newfoundland: Extracted From National Geographic Magazine, V. 56, No. 1, July, 1929***. Washington, 1929. 639.1 B28 (NL Room).

Brown, Cassie. ***Death On The Ice : The Great Newfoundland Sealing Disaster Of 1914*** . Toronto, 1972. (639.29 B81) (Circ). Also available as an audiobook, an online ebook and an online audiobook.

Busch, Briton Cooper. ***War Against Seals: A History of the North American Seal Fishery***. Montreal: McGill-Queen's University Press, 1985. 639.29 B96 NR.

Candow, James. ***Of Men And Seals : A History Of The Newfoundland Seal Hunt*** . Ottawa , 1989. 639.29 C16 (Circ).

Carroll, Michael. ***The Seal And Herring Fisheries Of Newfoundland : Together With A Condensed History Of The Island*** . Montreal, 1873. 639.2 C23 (Folder NL).

Chafe, Levi. ***Chafe's Sealing Book : A History Of The Newfoundland Seal Fishery From The Earliest Available Records Down To And Including The Voyage Of 1923, 3rd ed.*** St. John's ,1923. 338.3 C34 (Prov Coll).

Chafe, Levi. ***Chafe's Sealing Book: A Statistical Record Of The Newfoundland Steamer Seal Fishery, 1863-1941, 4th Ed.*** St. John's, 1989. 338.3 C34 (Circ.).

Chantraine, Pol. ***The Living Ice: The Story of The Seals And The Men Who Hunt Them In The Gulf Of The St. Lawrence***. Toronto : McClelland and Stewart, 1980. 639.29 C36 (Circ.).

Books – Most of these books will have a chapter or multiple pages devoted to the disasters.

Cole, Doug. ***Elliston: Story of a Newfoundland Outport.*** Portugal Cove: ES Press, 1997. 971.8 C67 NC (Circ.)

Collins, Gary. ***Left to Die: the Story of the SS Newfoundland Sealing Disaster.*** St. John's: Flanker Press, 2014. (on order)

England, George Allan. ***Vikings of the Ice.*** 639.29 EN3 (Circ.)
Available as an audiobook and as an online eBook.

Feltham, John. ***Sealing Steamers.*** St. John's: Harry Cuff Publications, 1975. 639.29 F34 NC. (Circ.)

Fox, Arthur James. ***The Newfoundland Sealfishery.*** [Publication Place Unknown], 1966. 338.37297 F83 (Folder NL).

Harrington, Michael. ***Goin' To The Ice: Offbeat History Of The Newfoundland Sealfishery .*** St. John's, 1986. 639.29 H23 (Circ.)

Kean, Abram. ***Old and Young Ahead: Reprint (With Some Additions) Of The 1935 Edition.*** St. John's, 2000. B K19 (Circ.)

Kean, Abram. ***Old and Young Ahead.*** London, 1935. B K19 (Prov Coll).

Kean, Abram. ***The Seal Fishery : Past, Present And Future - lecture delivered before the Historical Society of Newfoundland on January 13, 1921.*** St. John's, 1921. 338.3 K19 (Folder NL Room).

Mowat, Farley. ***Wake of the Great Sealers.*** Toronto, 1973. 639.29 M87 (Circ.)

Murphy, James. ***The Old Sealing Days: A Project of the Newfoundland Archives.*** St. John's, 1971. 639.29 PAMP.N (Conserv Room).

Books – Most of these books will have a chapter or multiple pages devoted to the disasters.

Newfoundland. Commission of enquiry into the sealing disasters of 1914. **Report of the Commission of Enquiry Into the Sealing Disasters Of 1914.** St. John's, 1915. 639.29 PAMP.N (Conserv Room). Also digitized on the Centre for Newfoundland website - (<http://www.library.mun.ca/qeii/cns/index.php>).

Ryan, Shannon. **Newfoundland Sealing Strikes, 1830-1914: Extract From The Northern Mariner, IV, No. 3(July 1994), P.19-37.** St. John's, 1994. 639.29 R95 (Folder NL).

Ryan, Shannon. **Seals And Sealers : A Pictorial History Of The Newfoundland Seal Fishery Based On The Cater Andrews Collection.** St. John's, 1987. 639.29 R95 (Circ.)

Wright, Guy David. **Sons And Seals: A Voyage To the Ice.** St. John's, 1984. 639.29 W93. (Circ.)

Media: DVD's, Videos and Kits.

Cod, Seals And Survivors. [DVD] {Publication Place Unknown, 2007}. NL DVD Vault 639.2 C64.

Eye Witness. No. 78: Sealing - Still A Dangerous Gamble. [DVD]. Montreal, 1955. NL DVD 639.29 EY3.

I Just Didn't Want To Die : The 1914 Newfoundland Sealing Disaster [DVD]. NL DVD 639.29 IJ8.

National Film Board – I Just Didn't Want to Die

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcQDFgghAQY> (Part One)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nvdSLr8vNc> (Part Two)

The Viking. [DVD]. English Harbour East, N.L., 1931. NL DVD 639.29 V69

Media: DVD's, Videos and Kits.

White Thunder. [DVD]. Montreal, 2002. NL DVD 639.29 W58.

Multimedia Kit:

Men and Seals: The Story Of Newfoundland's Sealing Industry. {A multi-media kit} [Agincourt], 1973. NL Reference 639.29 M52.

Newspaper Coverage

Newspaper articles were so extensive in the days, weeks and months that followed that we won't list them. Also check the papers for coverage during the Commission of Inquiry during 1915.

Daily News March 27, 1914 onwards.

Evening Herald April 1, 1914 onwards

Evening Telegram March 27, 1914 onwards.

Fisherman's Advocate/Evening Advocate April 1, 1914 onwards

St. John's Daily Star (Covered the Sealing Commission in 1915.)

Western Star April 1, 1914 onwards.

Periodical Articles – Many of these articles can be found in our vertical files on the ships and sealing disaster. The first section of articles is about the SS Newfoundland and the second section is about the SS Southern Cross.

Section 1: SS Newfoundland Disaster

Newfoundland Sealers

London Illustrated News 1914, April 11 vol 144 p. 586-89

Newfoundland, S.S.

Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador, 1993 vol. 4 p. 65-66.

Sealing Disaster: Newfoundland petition for Captain Kean's Arrest

Mail & Advocate 1915, Mar 8

Clipping filed in PAMP Box N3G

Sealing tragedy

Newfoundland Quarterly 1914 April 1914 vol. 13(4) p.23

St. John Ambulance Brigade Newfoundland disaster

Newfoundland Quarterly 1914 July vol. 14(1) p.4-6

Worst coastal marine disaster involving a Newfoundland Ship

Atlantic Guardian 1950 August vol. 7(8) p. 60

Brown, Cassie

Death march. [S.S. Newfoundland disaster]

Atlantic Advocate 1965 Sept, Vol. 56(1), pp. 51-66.

Collins, Calvin

Newfoundland Disaster of 1914: interview with Cecil Moulard

Newfoundland Quarterly 1980 Summer v.76(2) p.9-11

Periodical Articles – Many of these articles can be found in our vertical files on the ships and sealing disaster. The first section of articles is about the SS Newfoundland and the second section is about the SS Southern Cross.

Section 1: SS Newfoundland Disaster

Dalton, Marie

Nfld Sealing Disaster

Newfoundland Herald 2006, Feb 19-25: p. 94

Hanrahan, Maura

Day of Mourning: Part 2 Disaster Spring of 1914

Worker's Voice 2005 Spring vol. 2(6): p. 26-30.

Harrington, Michael

Spring of Newfoundland 1914 sealing disaster

Macleans 1961 Jan 28, vol 74(2) p. 14-17, 46-48

Harrington, Michael

Tragedy on the ice[re 1914 Newfoundland Disaster]

Macleans 2000 Nov 27, vol. 113(48) p.76-78.

MacLeod, Malcolm

Disaster Documents 1914: the official Canadian reponse

Newfoundland Quarterly 1981 Summer Fall v. 77(2-3) p. 11-12.

Parsons, Alex A.

The Newfoundland tragedy and the loss of the Southern Cross with passing references to other notable sealing disasters.

Newfoundland Quarterly 1914 July vol. 14(1) p.1-6.

Periodical Articles – Section 1 is about the SS Newfoundland and Section 2 is about the SS Southern Cross.

Section 1: SS Newfoundland Disaster

Payne, Hedley

A Survivor's memories of the ordeal that changed his life

Macleans Jan 28, 1961 vol 74(2) p.46.

Porter, Helen

The Most terrible Event in Newfoundland and Labrador Sealing

Saturday Night 1973 Jan p.36.

Rogers, Tim

Disaster on the Ice

Beaver 2009 June/July vol. 89(3): p. 22-23.

Wakeham, P.J.

Dan Downey, the hero of the Newfoundland disaster, 1914

New-Land Magazine 1962 Summer-Autumn vol 1 p. 3-5 & 11

Wei, Jamie De

Great Disaster fiftieth anniversary

Newfoundland Quarterly 1964 Spring v. 63(1) p.11-12

Whiffen, Bruce

Weather event of the millennium

Downhomer, Jan 2001 Vol. 13(8) p.42.

Periodical Articles – Section 1 is about the SS Newfoundland and Section 2 is about the SS Southern Cross.

Section 2: SS Southern Cross

Brown, Harold.

Forgotten Disaster

Evening Telegram 2002 March 31, vol. 123(353) p.

Bussey, Barry

Their Cross to Bear(re loss of Southern Cross 1914 & loss of 3 sons of Bussey family)

Downhomer 2004 Oct Vol. 17(5) BP30-31.

Hanrahan, Maura

Day of Mourning: Part 2 Disaster Spring of 1914

Worker's Voice 2005 Spring vol. 2(6) p. 26-30.

Morris, Don

Loss of the Southern Cross

Newfoundland Magazine 1982 April/May vol. 4(5) p18-19.

Parsons, Alex A.

The Newfoundland tragedy and the loss of the Southern Cross with passing references to other notable sealing disasters.

Newfoundland Quarterly 1914 July vol. 14(1) p.1-6.

Rogers, Tim

Last Voyage of the Southern Cross

Newfoundland Quarterly 1980 Fall vol. 76(3) p. 21-30.

Rogers, Tim

The Sinking of the Southern Cross

Beaver 2009 June/July vol. 89(3): p. 18-22.

Periodical Articles – Section 1 is about the SS Newfoundland and Section 2 is about the SS Southern Cross.

Section 2: SS Southern Cross

Ryan, Shirley

A Witch's warning: superstitions surrounding the Southern Cross

Downhomer 2000 Nov Vol. 13(6) p.84-85.

Southern Cross photo

Newfoundland Quarterly 1935 Oct vol. 35(2) p. 12.

Selwyn-Brown, Arthur

Southern Cross flies over the Atlantic from the east

Newfoundland Quarterly 1930 Oct vol. 30(2) p. 9-15.

Southern Cross, S.S.

Encyclopedia of Newfoundland and Labrador 1994 vol. 5: p. 242

Photographs

Pictures of the Sealing Disaster – General

C203-C209

Pictures of Sealing Ships

SS Florizel – C223

SS Southern Cross A158

SS Stephano C115

Websites

(These sites were active at date of printing.)

Section 1): SS. Newfoundland

Archival material about Newfoundland and Labrador:

<http://archivalmoments.ca/tag/s-s-newfoundland/>

Elliston Websites:

<http://www.homefromthesea.ca/1914-sealing-disasters>

<http://www.homefromthesea.ca/your-story/late-charlie-martins-story-surviving-newfoundland-sealing-disaster-1914>

Heritage Newfoundland and Labrador Website:

http://www.heritage.nf.ca/law/sealing_disaster.html

<http://www.heritage.nf.ca/arts/agnl/blackwood.html>

National Film Board – I Just Didn't Want to Die

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mcQDFgghAQY> (Part One)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-nvdSLr8vNc> (Part Two)

Websites

(These sites were active at date of printing.)

Section 1): SS. Newfoundland

Provincial Historic Commemorations Website:

<http://www.seethesites.ca/designations/ss-newfoundland-sealing-disaster-of-1914.aspx>

Songs about Disasters (has the lyrics):

<http://disastersongs.ca/1914-newfoundland/>

Section 2): Southern Cross Websites

Newfoundland Grand Bank Website:

<http://ngb.chebucto.org/Articles/southern-cross-hist-car.shtml>

Songs about Disasters (has the lyrics):

<http://disastersongs.ca/1914-southern-cross/>

Yetman Family Genealogy Website:

<http://www.newfoundlandtreasures.com/yetgen/southerncross.htm>