

NEAR DEATH FIGHTING TO SEND RADIO

Member of MacMillan Party Tells of Hard Battle

HUDSON, Nov. 29 (AP)—Two members of the MacMillan Arctic expedition, wintering at Anatalok Bay, northern Labrador, almost lost their lives yesterday in an effort to maintain communications between their isolated scientific station in the Arctic waste and the outside world. The story was told today in messages sent from the schooner Bowdoin of the expedition and picked up here by the amateur radio station IFL.

OVER BAY IN DORY

The Bowdoin, which carries the radio equipments of the expedition, has been deserted for the winter for three shacks which have been built ashore. She lies at anchor in Anatalok Bay more than a mile from shore, and daily the radio operator, Clifford Himoe of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, must traverse the ice-dotted bay in a dory to maintain schedules with the world by radio.

Yesterday was a fearful day in that part of the world, a fierce northeast gale lashing the waters of the bay into a churning maelstrom of foam and ice. Nothing daunted, Himoe set out for the schooner accompanied by Frank Henderson of Provincetown, a member of the expedition, who had volunteered for the dangerous duty.

Bothered by Ice Floes

The little craft was thrown about like a cork and battered by the ice floes and despite their heroic efforts Himoe and Henderson failed to control it. The wind caught the dory and swept it past the Bowdoin in the direction of the open sea. Only one hope now remained for the men. Dog Island, a small wave-swept cluster of rocks, loomed up between them and the empty outer sea, and by a desperate final effort they succeeded in heading the bow of their dory into the rocks. As the boat crashed and began to break up, Himoe and Henderson jumped ashore.

With no shelter but the lee of a great rock, the two men remained on the islet all day, their clothing frozen and the waves drenching them continually. Towards evening the storm subsided and

they were taken off, exhausted and almost frozen, by Commander Donald A. MacMillan. MacMillan had missed the men and had searched the bay in a motor boat for some time, before he caught sight of them.

Himoe was on duty again today. He reported that the sea was calm, but that ice was fast forming on the surface of the bay. He said this might prevent his reaching the Bowdoin for several days and that a suspension of communications might be expected as a result.