### Statesman, Salem, Ore., Wed., Aug. 22, '56 (Sec. 1)-3

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# **3** Frenchmen **Cross**'Atlantic On Log Raft

FALMOUTH, England up-Three bearded Frenchmen stepped ashore from a log raft Tuesday after an epic 89-day drift across Atlantic from Canada. They said they'd go home "in a big

Hundreds of vacationers cheered as the raft L'Egar II - "The Lost One" -glided peacefully under tow into this Cornish port at the end of the 3,000-mile journey.

"We are crazy Frenchfnen, yes?" yelled Henri Beaudot, 29-year-old leader of the expedition Beaudot and three companion set out on their 13 by 17 foot rall of rope-tied cedar logs from Hall fax, N.S., May 24. One man sick-ened 380 miles out in the Atlantic and a fishing boat took him back to Canada, Gasten Vanackere, 31 and Mard Modena, 27, made it across with their leader.

#### Returns to Craft

The sturdy craft sighted Pen zance, southernmost tip of Eng land, yesterday and a lifeboat from the Lizard Lighthouse brought Beaudot ashore. But he in sisted on returning to his rall when another craft took it in tow for the entry into this old English fishing port.

Two kittens also made the voyage. "They cheered us up whenever

we felt a little depressed," said Vanackere, "and, believe me, there, were days of storm and high wind when we did not feel too happy."

### Small Sail

A small wooden cabin covered with a tarpaulin was the voyagers' only shelter, a small sail all they had to help out the Gulf Stream.

"It was not too unpleasant, ex-cept in the worst of gales," Vana-ckere reported, "Bat we have done what we set out to do. nich was to allow the Gull Stream to carry us across the Atlantic using the minimum of sail. Food supplies gave out a month ago and "we practically lived on fish, which we speared or caught with lines." Beaudot said, touching his gaunt cheeks.

For drink we had rain waterand there was never any shortage of that," he added.

### Saw Several Ships

The adventurers encountered several ships during the voyage They also had a hand-powered ra-dio transmitter but were out of touch with land much of the time. All three men sported 30-day beards

"Water was too precious." Beaudot explained. "It was better to go down the throat than on the

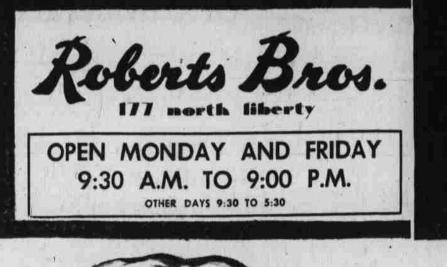
Reaudot told of their crossing: "Day by day, the drift carried us eastward. By July 5 we vere in the middle of the Atlantic. On that day an American froopship sighted us. She stopped and asked us if we were all right,

### Given Medicine

"We said we were okay except for a few bellyaches. A doctor from the ship came over to give us medicine and food. "Then on we drifted. We spent

our time playing checkers or slanding on guard. We each did a three-hour watch, then rested for six hours.

Several times terrific storms hit us. Waves 35 feet high crashed over us and the raft was awash. Still we survived. But 30 days ago we rap out of food. All "e had left was one slice of 'ead, one potate and one meat pie. We shared them. After that we lived on fish "As we neared England, the wind veered to northwest. It was sending us back."





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#### Arranged Tow

Beaudot came ashore vesterday in a lifeboat to arrange for a tow because the raft was drifting teward the rocky Cornish coast and in danger of being wrecked on the reets.

As sonn as the three men came ashore, they dug into double help-ings of eggs, bacon, grilled tomatoes, toast and marmalade and cups of tea. Then off they went for hot baths.

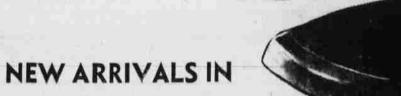
haircuts and beard-trims. They were interrogated by police and immigration officials and finally went to bed to catch up on lost sleep

Beaudot, the only married man of the three, said. "We shall go home to Montreal by liner as soo as possible, and we want to take the raft with us. We think it ought

to be preserved." All three live in Montreal. Beaudot told newsmen he was a Canadian citizen. The other two said they were Frenchmen who had been in Canada two years - not long enough to become citizens.







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