FLORIDA EXPERIENCES

The following letter was received by N. Lieberman, of Melitota, from his nephew, Jos. Wood, who was at Miami, Florida, during the storm:

Tuesday.

Dear Uncle:

Left the store flat and came back to the hotel early before dark as there are no lights to write you as I can imagine that you are pretty much worried on learning of the disaster here and hope you have received my telegrams which was sent from here I understand by mail to Jacksonville and then transferred by wire there to New York, as we are now cut off from communication with the outside world.

This certainly was some disaster which they claim here was worse than the San Francisco earthquake. Believe me, I was pretty much scared during it all and continually thought of you folks at home. I suppose the New York papers came out with everybody killed in Miami.

It certainly was a horrible experience and an awful disaster and put this town on the bum. The hospitals and all large hotels, which they have converted into emergency hospitals, are packed and jammed with injured and although they have been estimating the dead I know substantially that it is yet undetermined as they are finding people dead under debris every hour shooting the death rate up.

Friday night I went to bed under a nice clear sky having been tiredout from working the preceeding night until 3 o'clock in the morning, when about 1.30 in the morning I woke up on account of a flash similar to that when you take a flash-light picture, which blurs everything black in front of you and on looking out my window saw that the lightning had hit a fuse box on an electric pole and was sending out flashes of fire and that it was teaming rain and blowing like the devil. I was of course pretty much scared so put on my pants over my pajamas and my shoes and ran down the stairs to the lobby of the hotel. All other guests in the hotel naturally did likewise so that about half an hour after we got down stairs the fun began. It blew and rained so hard that it broke and pulled down every sign and glass windows in the business section, uprooted big heavy trees, took the roof right off of houses and took big chunks of brick out of big buildings in fact twisted and tore up one big building of about 20 stories that it is now apt to fall any minute.

We all stayed in the lobby of the hotel all night without lights, etc., until 7 a. m., thinking any minute that the building would fall down on us. It tore up and pulled down everything in sight and raised the tide in the bay to such an extent that it was wrecking boats and throwing them around only one block from the hotel which ordinarily is about a mile from the bay. The tide was rushing past the hotel and into the lobby so you can imagine the state of affars.

At 7 a. m. it stopped for about half an hour and then started again even more strenuously that it had before and swept away whatever was left. This kept up until about 11.30 a. m.

I figure that hundreds of people have been drowned that they have not yet located and that will come to the surface in a few days. Martial law has been declared since this thing happened and they clear the streets at 6 p. m. I started this letter in the lobby of the hotel figuring I would get thru before dark, it being about a quarter of six and the soldiers came around clearing the streets so I rushed like the devil to a restaurant to get some dinner where I am now at writing this letter in order to finish same as there are no lights here or in the hotel for one to finish same.

Just got back to hotel and it is dark, so couldn't write more just now. Am feeling fine and hope everything is O. K. at home, love and kisses.

JOE.

HELP FLORIDA !

Contributions will be received by the Kent Chapter of the American Red Cross to be forwarded to headquarters to help with the Florida disaster. Leave contributions at the Chestertown Bank of Maryland or forward them to Howard Turner, of Betterton, Md., acting chairman of the Kent County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

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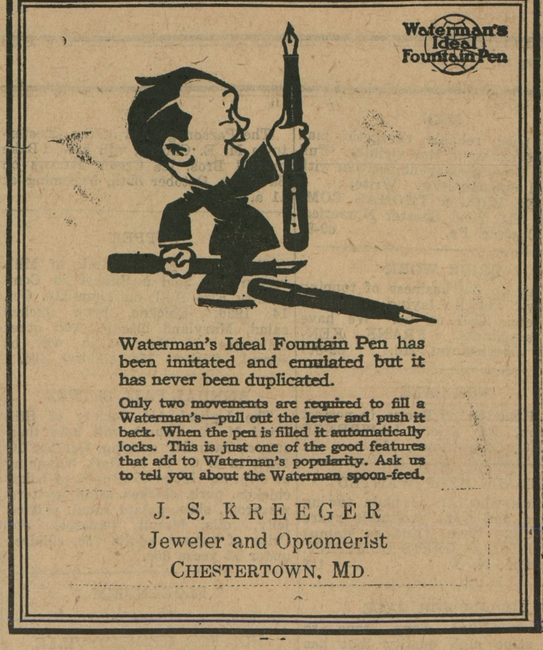
S. G. CALDWELL.

NOTED TENOR AT WASHINGTON COLLEGE



Donato Colafemina, young Italian singer, who is to appear in Chestertown, Tuesday evening, October 19th, at the William Smith Hall, is considered one of the finest tenors on the concert stage today. Several years ago the Chicago "Music News" referred to him as a "rising star in the firmament of song," and today he fully justifies the prophecy. At Pasadena, Cal., he was "conceded by all who heard him the best soloist of the season." —Pesadena News.

Beside Signor Colafemina's vocal genius, his career from the humble ranks of a western section gang to Carnegie Hall, singing under the baton of the world-famous band master, John Philip Sousa, arouses the interest of music lovers everywhere, and his concert here is eagerly awaited. He will be assisted by Edna Coates, violinist, and Emily Sibley Harris, pianist and accompanist.



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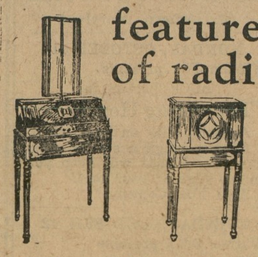
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