

# British Wreck Commissioner's Inquiry

## Day 15

### Testimony of George a. Hogg

Source : <http://www.titanicinquiry.org/BOTInq/BOTIndx01.php#a>

Examined by the ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

17481. You have been at sea for some 13 years and able seaman for 10, I think?

- Yes.

17482. You have been in the employ of the White Star Line how long about?

- Four years, I should think, off and on.

17483. All the time as look-out man?

- No.

17484. Were you first an able seaman and then became a look-out man?

- Yes, able seaman, boatswain's mate, and look-out man.

17485. Was that the order?

- That is what I have been in those ships.

17486. The White Star ships?

- Yes.

17487. How long have you been a look-out man?

- I went one trip in the "Adriatic" and three days in this ship. That is all.

17488. And you have also been employed in ships of the P. and O. Company and the Royal Mail?

- Yes.

17489. The Union Castle?

- Yes.

17490. And other lines?

- Yes, and other lines.

17491. And you have acted as look-out, I suppose, in some of those lines?

- They do not carry look-out men; everybody takes their turn.

17492. You have acted as look-out, but you did not sign as look-out?

- That is so.

17493. In these other vessels, as far as I understand you, there was no question of signing as look-out man. It is only in the White Star that has happened in your experience?

- Yes.

17494. Do you remember when the "Titanic" was leaving Belfast - you signed on the "Titanic" as look-out man, we know - were a pair of glasses given you?

- Yes.

17495. For the crow's-nest?

- Yes.

17496. Who gave them to you, do you remember?

- Mr. Blair, the acting Second Officer then.

17497. Mr. Blair, who was then acting as Second Officer?

- Yes.

17498. Did you notice how they were marked?

- "Theatre, Marine and field." "Second Officer, S.S. "Titanic."

17499. That was on one side, was it?

- Yes.

17500. Was "Theatre, Marine, and field" the same?

- No, you worked them as you wanted to use them.
- 26 17501. When you left the ship at Southampton, what did you do with those glasses?  
- Mr. Blair was in the crow's-nest and gave me his glasses, and told me to lock them up in his cabin and to return him the keys.
- 27 17502. Who returned the keys?  
- I gave them to a man named Weller, as I was busy on the forecastle head.
- 28 17503. As far as you were concerned, the glasses, you were told, were to be locked up in the cabin of the second Officer?  
- I locked them up.
- 29 17504. And they were locked up. When the ship left Queenstown were there any glasses in the crow's-nest?  
- There were none when we left Southampton.
- 30 17505. Did you ask for them?  
- Yes.
- 31 17506. When you left Southampton?  
- I did not exactly ask for them, but my mates asked for them at that time.
- 32 17507. Did you ask for them at all after you left Queenstown?  
- After I left Queenstown.
- 33 17508. You personally asked for them?  
- I personally asked.
- 34 17509. Whom did you ask?  
- Mr. Lightoller.
- 35 17510. Will you tell us what you said to him, quite shortly, about it?  
- I said, "Where is our look-out glasses, Sir?" He made some reply, I did not exactly catch it. "Get them later," or something like that.
- 36 17511. At any rate, you did not get any?  
- I did not get any.
- 37 17512. You went on your look-out duties without glasses for the rest of the time?  
- Yes.
- 38 17513. Have you had experience of glasses; have you used them much?  
- Never before; only in the White Star Line.
- 39 17514. But had you used them before you were on this voyage?  
- On another ship.
- 40 17515. Of the White Star Line?  
- In the "Adriatic."
- 41 17516. You had never had them in any ship you have been on except in the "Adriatic," which was another ship of the White Star Line you had sailed in?  
- No other ship except the White Star.
- 42 17517. Did you find them of use?  
- Well, I believe in my own eyesight.
- 43 17518. Do you mean you believe in your own eyesight better than you do the glasses?  
- Yes.
- 44 17519. It is suggested - I only want to know how far you agree with it - that it is easier, or just as easy, to pick up an object that you may see on the horizon with your own eyesight as it would be with the glasses?  
- You might not see the object, but if you think it is a ship you might just see the smoke.
- 45 17520. With your own sight?  
- Yes, with your own sight. You would not see the ship first; you would see the smoke first.
- 46 17521. Would you see it any better with glasses?  
- You would put the glasses up to your eyes then and make sure.
- 47 17522. What it comes to, if I understand that, is you pick it up with your eyesight, and then if you want to

see as well as you can what it is you would use the glasses?

- That is what they are handy for, Sir.

48 17523. But not for picking up things, you mean?

- No, I pick up things with my own eyesight.

49 17524. I should like to know what your experience is in the use of these glasses. Is that what the rest of the men who were on the look-out with you have done? Is that the way the glasses are used - when you have picked up an object to look closer?

- I could not say; I am speaking for myself. I do not know what they did with the glasses.

50 17525. On this particular night, Sunday the 14th, when the collision happened, your mate was Evans, was he not?

- Yes.

51 17526. You were not on duty - you did not go on duty till 12 o'clock?

- Twelve.

52 17527. That is right?

- That is right.

53 17528. You relieved Fleet and Lee?

- Yes.

54 17529. What were you doing when the collision happened?

- Asleep.

55 17530. Did you feel anything at all of it?

- None.

56 17531. Did you know anything of it at all until you had to get up?

- I knew there was an accident because everybody rushed up into the fore-castle. I asked what was the matter and what the confusion was about.

57 17532. What did they say?

- They said she had hit something.

58 17533. What was the last watch you had had before you relieved Fleet and Lee at midnight?

- 6 to 8.

59 17534. And whom did you relieve at 6? Was it also Fleet and Lee?

- I relieved Lee and Fleet at 6.

60 17535. Did you get any warning about ice?

61 The Commissioner:  
Do you mean at 12 o'clock?

62 The Attorney-General:  
No.

63 The Witness:  
At 6?

64 17536. Yes, that is what I mean?

- All that was handed over to me was, "Nothing doing; keep a look-out for small ice."

65 17537. You did hear it at 6 o'clock "Keep a look-out for small ice"?

- Yes, but I believe it is the usual password in the nests in these ships.

66 17538. I do not understand what you mean by that?

- I do not believe they got it from the bridge at the time.

67 17539. Never mind where they got it from. You got it from them?

- Yes.

68 17540. Who gave it to you?

- Fleet and Lee - I think Lee gave it to me.

69 17541. You say you believe it is a usual password. Had you ever had it given you before, a password of that kind?

- Sometimes.

70 17542. But I mean on this voyage?  
- Yes. I believe I did: I would not be quite sure. It seems a password there from what I can see of it.

71 17543. (*The Commissioner.*) I do not understand what you mean by a "password." What do you mean?  
- A joke, Sir. I should think.

72 17544. (*The Attorney-General.*) A joke to the look-out men to keep a look-out for ice?  
- This is what is passed on to one another.

73 17545. Have you any recollection of their doing that to you on that night at 6 o'clock in the evening?  
- At 6 o'clock in the evening: "Nothing doing; keep a look-out for small ice."

74 17546. (*The Commissioner.*) I am not sure that I understand you when you say you regarded that as a joke. What do you mean?  
- Well, as I say, it seems a password.

75 17547. Do you mean by "a password" a mere matter of form?  
- That is what they always seemed to say to me, Sir.

76 17548. What?  
- "Keep a look-out for ice" as we relieved each other.

77 17549. But I suppose they do not say that to you on board ship when you are going through the tropics?  
- No, there were no tropics there at that time.

78 17550. It is not a message that you get on all voyages at all times?  
- I never heard it before.

79 17551. (*The Attorney-General.*) How often had you heard it, if at all, before 6 o'clock that evening?  
- I heard it several times before that.

80 17552. How often had you heard it before. You say several times. Do you mean half-a-dozen times?  
- I have no idea how many times it was.

81 17553. But several times?  
- Several times.

82 17554. Several days before?  
- We were only out about three days.

83 17555. I know.  
- A couple of days before.

84 17556. Do you mean that every time you went and relieved them they gave you that password, as you call it?  
- Yes.

85 17557. Daytime or nighttime?  
- Any time they would pass it along to one another.

86 17558. (*The Attorney-General.*) This is quite new, My Lord, but I will pass on. (*To the witness.*) At 12 o'clock, when you went there, did you get any message about ice then when you relieved them that night after the collision?  
- We got a message we had hit one.

87 17559. When you went to relieve them at 12 o'clock, was anything said to you then?  
- Nothing was passed on to me at all then.

88 The Commissioner:  
I do not see what the importance of this is.

89 17560. (*The Attorney-General.*) Not of that, but I thought he might say something else. I quite agree it is of no importance at all. (*To the witness.*) Eventually you were saved in boat No. 7?  
- Yes.

90 The Attorney-General:  
We have had evidence about that boat, so I am not going into any particulars about it. I will tell your Lordship why we have called him. We wanted to exhaust the look-out-men. You have had five out of six

before you now. The only one who has not been called is Evans, and I do not think it is necessary to call him, because he goes on with this Witness, to relieve at 12 o'clock.

91 The Commissioner:  
It is of very little importance.

92 The Attorney-General:  
Very little. It was only so that your Lordship should see him as the relieving watch.

93 Examined by Mr. SCANLAN.

94 17561. On the ships of the P. and O., the Royal Mail, and the Union-Castle Lines is there a crow's-nest?  
- In the Royal Mail there was a crow's-nest when I was there in several ships.

95 17562. Was it the practice on the Royal Mail boats to have look-out men on the forecastle head or the stem head, as well as in the crow's-nest?  
- Not stationed men.

96 17563. Are they sent there from time to time?  
- Everybody takes their trick as an able seaman.

97 17564. Are other seamen stationed at the stem head?  
- At the stem head if she has not a crow's-nest.

98 17565. I mean, even when there is a crow's-nest, is it usual at nighttime, or if there is a haze, to station additional look-outs?  
- Double the look-outs, yes.

99 17566. (*The Commissioner.*) That, I suppose, would depend upon the character of the haze?  
- Yes, My Lord.

100 17567. (*Mr. Scanlan.*) Would there not be a double look-out put on, no matter what the haze was, if it was at night?  
- If it was very thick; if it was a slight haze they would not double the look-out.

101 17568. Have you been on any of those lines when ice was reported?  
- No, not in those ships.

102 Examined by Sir ROBERT FINLAY.

103 17569. Only one question. Were you told to get the Jacob's ladder ready?  
- Yes.

104 17570. Is that a rope ladder?  
- Yes.

105 17571. Where was that to be used?  
- I could not say. I left it on the boat deck. I was told to throw it down as soon as I fetched it up from the forecastle head.

106 17572. Who gave you the order?  
- The boatswain.

107 Sir Robert Finlay:  
I only asked that, My Lord, in connection with what was said about the gangway doors, your Lordship recollects, at the side of the ship. He says the boatswain told him to get the rope ladder, the Jacob's ladder, which was obviously, I suggest, for use when those gangway doors were opened, and then he was told to throw it down; it was not used.

108 (The Witness withdrew.)

## 109 United States Senate Inquiry

### 110 Day 7

#### 111 Testimony of George A. Hogg

112 Source : <http://www.titanicinquiry.org/USInq/AmInq01Indxa.php>  
113 (*Mr. Hogg was sworn by Senator Perkins.*)  
114 Senator PERKINS.  
Where is your home port?  
115 Mr. HOGG.  
Hull, near Yorkshire.  
116 Senator PERKINS.  
How long have you followed the sea?  
117 Mr. HOGG.  
About 13 years, sir.  
118 Senator PERKINS.  
In what capacity?  
119 Mr. HOGG.  
As a sailorman.  
120 Senator PERKINS.  
Have you ever been quartermaster or boatswain?  
121 Mr. HOGG.  
I have been quartermaster in six boats. I was mate on the White Star Line; lookout man, boatswain's mate.  
122 Senator PERKINS.  
Were you on the ship's articles as the lookout man in this case?  
123 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.  
124 Senator PERKINS.  
What watch were you on?  
125 Mr. HOGG.  
My watch was from 12 to 2, sir.  
126 Senator PERKINS.  
Were you in the [crow's nest](#) when the vessel struck the iceberg?  
127 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir.  
128 Senator PERKINS.  
What time did she strike this iceberg?  
129 Mr. HOGG.  
I woke up about 20 minutes to 12.  
130 Senator PERKINS.  
Were you in your [bunk](#) at that time?  
131 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.  
132 Senator PERKINS.  
Did you turn out?  
133 Mr. HOGG.  
I turned out, with the confusion in the [forecastle](#).  
134 Senator PERKINS.  
What boat were you assigned to?  
135 Mr. HOGG.  
No. 6 was my boat.  
136 Senator PERKINS.  
By the way, I will ask you this first: After leaving Southampton you were divided into watch and watch; and

then the detail of the lookouts was also made, was it not?

137 Mr. HOGG.  
I signed on the ship as a lookout man.

138 Senator PERKINS.  
You did?

139 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

140 Senator PERKINS.  
You received £5 a month and 10 shillings extra?

141 Mr. HOGG.  
Five pounds a month and 5 shillings extra, sir.

142 Senator PERKINS.  
And 5 shillings extra, for a lookout man?

143 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

144 Senator PERKINS.  
Tell us, in your own way, what happened next, after the ship collided with the iceberg.

145 Mr. HOGG.  
I waked up, at 20 minutes to 12, with the confusion in the forecastle. I rushed up on the deck, and I saw there was not much confusion on deck, and I went below again, with some of my shipmates.

146 I asked the time, then, of my mate [Evans](#), and he said, "It is a quarter to 12. We will get dressed and get ready to go on the lookout."

147 Senator PERKINS.  
Go on and tell us, in your own way, just what happened.

148 Mr. HOGG.  
Very good, sir. I have started it, right now.

149 I dressed myself, and we relieved the lookout at 12 o'clock, me and my mate Evans.

150 We stopped about 20 minutes, and lifted up the back cover of the nest, the weather cover, and I saw people running about with lifebelts on.

151 I went to the telephone then, to try to ring up on the [bridge](#) and ask whether I was wanted in the nest, when I saw this. I could get no answer on the telephone. Also my mate --

152 Senator PERKINS.  
Who was your shipmate?

153 Mr. HOGG.  
My shipmate was a man by the name of Evans, sir. He has gone home.

154 Senator PERKINS.  
Go ahead; continue to tell your story, as to what boat you went to, and what happened.

155 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

156 I went straight to the [boat deck](#). I assisted in starting to uncover the boats. Then I was sent for a Jacob's ladder.

157 Senator PERKINS.  
You have not said to what particular boat you were assigned?

158 Mr. HOGG.  
[No. 6](#) was my proper boat; what I signed for.

159 Senator PERKINS.  
As to this Jacob's ladder: Did you put it over the side and go down that?

160 Mr. HOGG.

No, sir.

161 Senator PERKINS.  
Who sent you for the Jacob's ladder?

162 Mr. HOGG.  
The [boatswain](#). I was told to drop it. As I got past the [No. 7](#) boat on the starboard side, [Mr. Murdoch](#), chief officer, said: "See that those plugs are in that boat." I put the plugs in, and I said: "The plugs are all correct," and I jumped out again.

163 Senator PERKINS.  
Who lowered away at the falls?

164 Mr. HOGG.  
I jumped out to assist with the falls; and he said: "You step in that boat." I said, "Very good, sir." Mr. Murdoch lowered one end, and I am trying to think of the man that lowered the other end. Evans lowered the other end.

165 Senator PERKINS.  
How many people were in this other boat at this time, when it was hanging in the davits?

166 Mr. HOGG.  
As soon as I unhooked her, I mustered her people to see how many I had. I must have had 42.

167 Senator PERKINS.  
While she was hanging in the davits?

168 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir; when I shoved away.

169 Senator PERKINS.  
When you shoved her from the ship's side?

170 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

171 Senator PERKINS.  
This was on the port side?

172 Mr. HOGG.  
On the starboard side, sir. I asked a lady if she could steer, and she said she could. I said: "You may sit here and do this for me, and I will take the stroke oar."

173 I pulled a little way from the ship, about a quarter of a mile, I should think, sir. I went alongside another boat - I can not think of the number of the boat now, sir - and they transferred some of the passengers to my boat.

174 Senator PERKINS.  
You had how many, all told, then?

175 Mr. HOGG.  
I think they transferred four ladies and a baby and one gentleman - I think it was - as I wanted an extra gentleman for oar pulling.

176 Senator PERKINS.  
That made, all told, how many?

177 Mr. HOGG.  
About 47, and the ladies objected to having those men.

178 Senator PERKINS.  
This was one of the lifeboats, was it?

179 Mr. HOGG.  
It was one of the big ones; yes.

180 Senator PERKINS.  
She is measured to carry 65 people, is she not?

181 Mr. HOGG.  
I could not answer that, sir. I did not know at the time what they were capable of carrying.



182 Senator PERKINS.  
She rode the sea cleverly? It was smooth, though.

183 Mr. HOGG.  
It was very, very smooth, sir. The sea was very smooth.

184 Senator PERKINS.  
Of your own judgment as a sailor man, would you have permitted any more people to get into the boat if they had been alongside of you?

185 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

186 Senator PERKINS.  
You were ordered to pull away from the ship?

187 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir; I was ordered to pull away from the ship for safety, for the time being. One lady said I should not take any more in that boat. I said: "I will take all I can get."

188 Senator PERKINS.  
Go on with your story. Tell us the balance of that.

189 Mr. HOGG.  
I stopped alongside those two. As soon as she went down, I went to try to assist them in picking up anybody if I could.

190 I met another boat on my way, and they said to pull away. They said: "We have done all in our power and we can not do any more." I can not remember the number of the boat or who the man was who spoke to me. I laid off, then, until I saw the lights of the [\*Carpathia\*](#).

191 Senator PERKINS.  
But you pulled around in search of other people?

192 Mr. HOGG.  
I pulled around in search of other people before I could pull to the wreck. One man said: "We have done our best. There are no more people around. We have pulled all around." I said: "Very good. We will get away now."

193 Senator PERKINS.  
And you were then within about half a mile of the [\*Titanic\*](#)?

194 Mr. HOGG.  
About that, sir.

195 Senator PERKINS.  
From what quarter was the wind drawing then?

196 Mr. HOGG.  
I did not exactly take notice, sir.

197 Senator PERKINS.  
Was it cold?

198 Mr. HOGG.  
It was bitter cold.

199 Senator PERKINS.  
There was quite a ripple on the water?

200 Mr. HOGG.  
Not a ripple on the water, sir. It was as smooth as glass.

201 Senator PERKINS.  
After that, what did you do?

202 Mr. HOGG.  
I saw the lights of the *Carpathia*. I said: "It is all right, now, ladies. Do not grieve. We are picked up. Now, gentlemen, see what you can do in pulling these oars for this light." It was practically daylight then. Then the passengers could see for themselves that there was a ship there. I pulled up and went alongside, and I

assisted in putting a bowline around all the ladies, to haul them up aboard. After I saw all aboard the boat, me and my friend went aboard, and I put some blankets around myself and went to sleep.

203 Senator PERKINS.

After this accident happened, you pulled away, and did all you could to save life?

204 Mr. HOGG.

I thought of suction, first.

205 Senator PERKINS.

Yes. I understand that you did not think the ship was mortally hurt?

206 Mr. HOGG.

I did not think so at the time, sir, or I should not have remained in the position I was in.

207 Senator PERKINS.

Did you see the *Titanic* disappear?

208 Mr. HOGG.

Yes, sir.

209 Senator PERKINS.

What was her position when she went down?

210 Mr. HOGG.

She seemed to go down by the head, sir.

211 Senator PERKINS.

At an angle of how many degrees?

212 Mr. HOGG.

Oh, her stern was well up in the air as she went down.

213 Senator PERKINS.

You are a sailor man of a great deal of experience. In your opinion was everything done that could have been done to save life and property for the officers and men on that ship?

214 Mr. HOGG.

Everything was done, as far as I can see, sir. Everybody did their best, ladies and gentlemen and sailormen.

215 Senator PERKINS.

Was there any other incident that you can think of that would be of interest to the public?

216 Mr. HOGG.

No, sir.

217 (Witness Excused.)

218 Day 7

219 Testimony of G. Hogg, W. Perkins and G. Symons - Taken Together

220 (Further examined by Senator Perkins - Testimony taken as a group.)

221 Senator PERKINS.

Is there any other one of you who has been in a shipwreck?

222 Mr. HOGG.

I have been in a collision, Senator, but with no loss of life.

223 Senator PERKINS.

On the lookout in the crow's nest did you see any ice?

224 Mr. HOGG.

No, sir; I never seen any ice when I relieved that lookout.

225 Senator PERKINS.

Were instructions given you to keep a sharp lookout?

226 Mr. HOGG.

When I relieved the lookout at 12 o'clock that night I had instructions from my relief.

227 Senator PERKINS.

You men have all had experience, more or less, as lookouts. Is it customary to furnish you

with night glasses?  
228 Mr. HOGG.  
We never had night glasses.  
229 Senator PERKINS.  
Just the naked eye?  
230 Mr. HOGG.  
Just the naked eye. I have always had night glasses in the White Star boats. I asked for the  
glasses, and I did not see why I should not have them. I had them from Belfast to  
Southampton; but from Southampton to where the accident occurred we never had them.  
231 Senator PERKINS.  
You were instructed to report immediately to the officer on the bridge anything that  
occurred or any object on the horizon?  
232 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir. I asked for the glasses several times.  
233 Senator PERKINS.  
What were your instructions when you went into the crow's nest, given to you by the  
officer?  
234 Mr. HOGG.  
None; but my opposite member gave me instructions, "Keep a sharp lookout for ice."  
235 Senator PERKINS.  
When you saw the ice ahead, you struck three bells?  
236 Mr. HOGG.  
The last lookout, the 6 to 8, was my lookout.  
237 Senator PERKINS.  
That is the last dog watch.  
238 Mr. HOGG.  
I got a warning, then, to keep a sharp lookout for ice, and I said, "Very good."  
239 Senator PERKINS.  
Did you discover any ice?  
240 Mr. HOGG.  
None, sir. It was very, very cold, and I said "There is plenty of ice about here, because it is  
so cold." That is what I said to my mate.  
241 Senator PERKINS.  
How far is the foremast, that the crow's nest is on, from the bridge? What is the distance.  
242 Mr. HOGG.  
I am not good at judging distances, sir.  
243 Senator PERKINS.  
You know pretty nearly? This room, perhaps, is 30 feet long. Was it as far as from this  
door to that window (indicating)?  
244 Mr. HOGG.  
I could not swear to that. I should think, however, that it was about 50 feet. That is what I  
should think about it. I could not swear to it.  
245 Senator PERKINS.  
There was a telephone from the crow's nest to the officer on the bridge?  
246 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.  
247 Senator PERKINS.  
Was the telephone always in working order?  
248 Mr. HOGG.  
The telephone was in working order; yes, sir.

249 Senator PERKINS.  
And where they had no telephone, then you hailed, with calls to the bridge?

250 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir; we struck a bell. We never used the phone, only in going into harbors, or into  
ports, or in the case of anything serious.

251 Senator PERKINS.  
And you struck the bell every half hour?

252 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes. And for reporting ships you struck one, port; two, starboard; and three, right ahead.

253 Senator PERKINS.  
That is your signal to the bridge, which is understood, of course?

254 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir; that is the signal that you have seen something.

255 Senator PERKINS.  
Yes.  
Can either one of you men suggest anything by which this accident could have been  
avoided, or by which more lives could have been saved? You are all good sailormen, and  
have had large experience. Could anything have been done to save more lives than were  
saved?

257 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir. The only thing I can suggest is in regard to the glasses. If we had had the glasses,  
we might have seen the berg before?

258 Senator PERKINS.  
The officers on the bridge had glasses?

259 Mr. HOGG.  
They had, yes, sir.

260 Mr. SYMONS.  
It is always customary to have glasses in the crow's nest.

261 Senator PERKINS.  
That has been the custom of the White Star Line?

262 Mr. SYMONS.  
Yes. I served three years and five months on the [Oceanic](#), and they had glasses all the  
time.

263 Senator PERKINS.  
Did she belong to the White Star Line?

264 Mr. SYMONS.  
Yes, sir.

265 Senator PERKINS.  
Also in regard to other ships, do you know?

266 Mr. SYMONS.  
As far as I have heard from other people, they have glasses in all the other ships.

267 Senator PERKINS.  
Your eyes were tested, were they?

268 Mr. SYMONS.  
Last September they were tested by the board of trade by the new test, the latest test out.

269 Senator PERKINS.  
They gave you a certificate that you were qualified as a good lookout?

270 Mr. SYMONS.  
Yes, sir.

271 Senator PERKINS.

And it was the same way with both of you men?

272 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes; about two months ago, I think, my eyes were tested.

273 Senator PERKINS.  
In an ordinary way, can you not see better with your plain eyes than you can with artificial glasses?

274 Mr. HOGG.  
But the idea of the glasses, sir, is that if you happen to see something on the horizon you can pick your ship out, if it is a ship, for instance.

275 Senator PERKINS.  
As soon as you see anything, you signal the officer on the bridge, do you not?

276 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir; you would strike the bell. But you would make sure, if you had the glasses that it was a vessel and not a piece of cloud on the horizon.

277 On a very nice night, with the stars shining, sometimes you might think it was a ship when it was a star on the horizon. If you had glasses, you could soon find out whether it was a ship or not.

278 Senator SMITH.  
As soon as you discover anything unusual, however, you call the attention of the officer on the bridge to it, do you not?

279 Mr. HOGG.  
Quite so.

280 Senator PERKINS.  
And he had glasses, of course?

281 Mr. HOGG.  
He has glasses, sir; yes sir.

282 Senator PERKINS.  
Is there anything that you want to state the could have been done to save these people, aside from that?

283 Mr. HOGG.  
That is all that I can suggest.

284 Senator PERKINS.  
If you had had life rafts on board more could have been saved, could they not?

285 Mr. HOGG.  
If we had had more boats I dare say that we could have got away with a lot more.

286 Senator PERKINS.  
The general feeling, though, you said, was that the ship was safe, and that she was not going to sink. What was the general opinion that prevailed as to the seaworthiness of the ship?

287 Mr. HOGG.  
I should say that I never thought she was going to sink. I went to relieve the lookout 20 minutes after accident. I thought she was not going down.

288 Senator PERKINS.  
There was a general feeling of confidence among the sailormen that she was perfectly secure?

289 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

290 Senator PERKINS.  
And unsinkable?

291 Mr. HOGG.

Yes, sir; that she was unsinkable.

292 Senator PERKINS.  
Unless you have something more to state that you think will throw light on this subject,  
that will be all; and we thank you for what you have said.

293 Mr. HOGG.  
That is all I have to say, except this: I think all the women ought to have a gold medal on  
their breasts. God bless them. I will always raise my hat to a woman, after what I saw.

294 Senator PERKINS.  
What country women were they?

295 Mr. HOGG.  
They were American women that I had in mind. They were all Americans.

296 Senator PERKINS.  
Did they man the oars? Did they take the oars and pull?

297 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir. I took the oar all the time, myself, and one lady steered. Then I got another lady to  
steer, and she gave me a hand on the oar, to keep herself warm.

298 Senator PERKINS.  
One of the boats picked up a lot of people that were on the upturned collapsible boat?  
[Collapsible B]

299 Mr. HOGG.  
I did not see that. I believe that is so.

300 Senator PERKINS.  
You people had no buoy, nor anything but the life preservers that you picked up?

301 Mr. HOGG.  
That is all.

302 Senator PERKINS.  
Is there anything else that you can think of, any recommendation or suggestion that you  
have to make? If so, we would like to have you do so.

303 Mr. HOGG.  
That is all, sir.

304 Senator PERKINS.  
I say that because you are good practical men, and have had a great deal of experience.

305 I thank you very much. We will excuse you now. That is all. Tomorrow morning we will  
take up this matter, and probably you can go home. You want to go home to England, all  
of you, do you?

306 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir; we are all married men, waiting to get back home.

307 Senator PERKINS.  
Are you a married man, Mr. Symons?

308 Mr. SYMONS.  
No, sir; but I have my mother and father waiting for me.

309 Senator PERKINS.  
You are a married man, Mr. Hogg?

310 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

311 Senator PERKINS.  
And you have a wife and children?

312 Mr. HOGG.  
Yes, sir.

313 Senator PERKINS.

How many children?

314 Mr. HOGG.  
Two, sir.

315 Senator PERKINS.  
Your home is in Hull, also?

316 Mr. HOGG.  
All my people are there, but my wife is in Southampton. I make Southampton my home now. I married a Hampshire woman.

317 Senator PERKINS.  
I thank you very much for your statement.

318 There is one other thing I wanted to ask. Are you all temperate men? I want to ask whether there was any drunkenness among any of the crew?

319 Mr. SYMONS.  
None whatever, sir.

320 Senator PERKINS.  
You are personally acquainted with the habits of the crew. Were there any drinking men among them?

321 Mr. SYMONS.  
We never allowed it to be served on board the ship, sir.

322 Senator PERKINS.  
No liquor whatever was allowed to be served to them?

323 Mr. SYMONS.  
No, sir.

324 Senator PERKINS.  
There was none in the fore-castle or in the mess room with you?

325 Mr. SYMONS.  
No, sir.

326 Senator PERKINS.  
You never saw a man under the influence of liquor on the voyage?

327 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir; I do not see where they could get it from.

328 Senator PERKINS.  
None was permitted or allowed on board?

329 Mr. HOGG.  
No, sir.

330 Senator PERKINS.  
One of you has stated that his boat picked up eight people and the other that he did not pick up any. Could you not have picked up some people just as well as this other man? Could you not have done it just as well as this other man?

331 Mr. HOGG.  
I wanted to assist in picking up people, but I had an order from the boat: "We have done our best; go on to the [Carpathia](#); we have picked up all we can find;" and I said "Very good."

332 Senator PERKINS.  
Who gave you that order?

333 Mr. HOGG.  
Somebody in the boat - I do not know who it was - said not to take any more, that we had done our best.

334 Senator PERKINS.  
I merely asked the question because of the natural thought that if one boat picked up eight

persons, the other boat might have been able to do so.  
335 You did not get any orders, Mr. Symons, not to pick up any more people?  
336 Mr. SYMONS.  
No, sir; there were no more around about where I was.  
337 Senator PERKINS.  
Were those two boats the same size?  
338 Mr. HOGG.  
They were the same size.  
339 Senator PERKINS.  
As I understand, one of the boats had more packed into it than the other.  
340 As I understand it, Mr. Symons pulled away from the ship; and then, when he came back  
there, they picked up all the people there were around.  
341 (Witnesses Excused.)

## 342 Seaman Tells of Captain's Death

343 Chicago Tribune

344 Saturday 20 April 1912

345 G. A. Hogg, able seaman, told tonight of the fate of Capt. Smith. Hogg says that, as the  
Titanic

346 sank, a big wave washed him over the side and he landed on a raft carrying thirty-five  
persons.

347 "The next moment I saw Capt. Smith in the water alongside the raft. 'There's the skipper,' I  
348 yelled, 'give him a hand,' and they did. But he shook himself free and shouted to us,  
'Goodbye

349 boys, I'm going to follow the ship. That was the last we saw of our skipper."

350 Hogg said that later they were transferred to a lifeboat in which there was a woman devoid of  
351 clothing. She was numb with the cold and some of the men took off their coats and wrapped  
352 her up in them, but she died soon afterward.

353 [New York, April 19.]

354 Courtesy of Thomas E. Golembiewski

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357 <http://www.encyclopedia-titanica.org/seaman-tells-of-titanic-captains-death.html>