

Monday 20-10-67

And Now Rescued Sailor Simon's Troubles Really Begin

SIMON HOLMES SA'COURT, the 28-year-old yachtsman who was towed into Durban Harbour at the week-end, faces a big problem.

When he was spotted by the French tanker *Ville de Lyon* drifting helplessly with broken sail slats and ripped sails off the Transkei coast on Friday, he thought his troubles were over.

But they were just starting.

Now he is faced with huge bills for towing and loss of time to the vessel.

'APOLOGETIC'

The owners of the *Ville de Lyon* could even claim his R5,000 yacht, although the tanker stopped towing him near Durban when he was taken over by the yacht *Snow Goose* which set out to meet him.

"Before they took my yacht in tow, I had to sign a document saying I had asked to be taken in tow," said Simon last night. "The captain was most apologetic but explained it was the rule of the owners."

'MY REASON'

The Durban agents of the *Ville de Lyon* were handling the matter and he would see them today. "Until I see them I do not know what my plans for the future will be," he said.

If he loses his yacht, the *Carina*, he will still persevere with his plans to cruise Mozambique waters doing diving and underwater photography.

"This was my reason for sailing to Durban. I wanted to recruit a crew."

A former Botswana game ranger, he set sail from Lourenco Marques on October 13.