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ZEPPELIN RAID ON LONDON

RETURNING PASSENGERS RELATE TERRIBLE STORIES OF ON ATTACK.

A handful of persons from the millions who saw the first Zeppelin raid over the heart of London on the night of September 9 reported in New York Monday aboard the steamship Orduna with thrilling stories of the fight in the sky between the invaders and British aircraft and other details of the damage inflicted, which had hitherto been suppressed by the British censor.

There were said to be three Zeppelins in the fleet. They circled over the theater and hotel district of London, dropping explosive and incendiary bombs. One of the latter, it was said, destroyed by fire an entire block of warehouses within five minutes' walk of St. Paul's cathedral. An explosive bomb ripped through a six-story tenement in the center of the city, shattering the building from top to bottom and killing a dozen or more men, women and children as they slept.

Pieced together from accounts given by the Orduna's passengers, the story of the air raid was as follows:

The raid occurred between 10.45 and 11.15 o'clock on the night of September 9. Persons asleep in hotels in the center of the city were awakened by the incessant whir of aeroplane engines as the British air fleet took wing to repel the invaders. Just as the Zeppelins appeared over the Strand, most of the theaters were pouring their crowds into the street.

According to some passengers, a panic impended when the first word of the approaching aircraft was passed from mouth to mouth in whispers. The lights were turned off and the men and women in evening clothes fought for taxicabs and other vehicles to take them home.

Suddenly, from every section of London, the sky was swept by long white beams from scores of searchlights. The tops of these beams were not long in resting upon what they sought.

Two searchlights finally centered on a Zeppelin, while the others continued to search the sky for more aircraft. Already the air was dotted with aeroplanes, which could be seen frequently as they crossed the searchlight beams, circling upward. The roar of guns from the city was punctuated at intervals by the explosions of bombs which fell in Newgate street, not far from St. Paul's cathedral, in Holborn, in Chapside, in Bloomfield street, near the Liverpool station and near the water front of the Thames river in that section of the city in which St. Paul is located.

There was hardly a space of five seconds during the 10 minutes or more that the searchlight beams rested on the raider, eye witnesses said, that the sky was not lighted by flashes of exploding shells.

As the noise of the cannonading grew louder those who had fled at first to cellars gained courage and came out into the streets.

The bursting shells, lighting the sky like meteors, shattered into sudden fire all around the Zeppelin. Meanwhile the Zeppelin maneuvered over the Holborn section of London, circling at least twice. These maneuvers ended when a shell burst almost directly under the aircraft's bow.

A swerve, a sudden dip and the searchlights lost the Zeppelin. They were on her a moment after and it was seen that she appeared to be going down by the head. For a few seconds she hovered as if uncertain what to do, then righted herself, pointed her nose slightly upward and ascended so rapidly that within a minute or two the searchlights could find her no more. There were no further bomb explosions thereafter.

London went to bed that night with hot wrath, but not in fear, these passengers said. The next day they went out to see what damage had been done. Having noticed that the sky in the vicinity of St. Paul's had been tinted red, they went into that direction first. Back of the cathedral, where there are many warehouses near the river front, they came upon the first visible effect of the raid.

An entire city block was in ashes, with only the smudged shells of buildings left standing. The sight-seers heard that the burned buildings had been big warehouses, filled with clothing and other supplies for the British army. There were no munitions in the buildings, however, it was said.

In Bloomfield street, two and one-half miles from Trafalgar square, a row of dwellings had been damaged, as if by artillery fire. The damage extended over an area of about three blocks. There was a cavity in the middle of the street, 30 feet in diameter and about eight feet deep.

Altogether, it was unofficially reported, approximately 40 persons were killed by bombs and 200 or more wounded. About half of these

it was said, were women and children.

Not a government building, not a church nor an arsenal, dock or a hospital had been reached by a bomb. The Orduna's passengers were informed. The greatest material damage was the destruction by fire of the block of warehouses. The chief result of the raid, however, was to swell the number of recruits by many thousands.

SOUTH CAROLINA'S LIQUOR HISTORY REVIEWED.

South Carolina prohibitionists at last have won a victory out of which Senator Tillman tricked them twenty-two years ago. In 1890, when the present senator first gained control, and practical possession, of the state, it was about three-fourths "dry" under local option. There were no saloons except in the cities and larger towns. The prohibition issue was made and an arrangement something like what we had here in Virginia last year was effected. At a very exciting general primary, a separate box was placed at each precinct in which to vote for or against prohibition. Many of the people were so engrossed in the Tillman fight that they neglected this extra box, but prohibition won by a majority of 40,000. Senator Tillman, then governor, practically ignored the prohibitionists. He was king and could do as he liked and he whipped them to heel. He became infatuated with the dispensary idea, which had been adopted by the city of Athens, Ga. He created and established the state dispensary, with supply and executive headquarters at the capital of the state and branches in every important town and city. Some of the prohibitionists became so enthusiastic over this Tillman scheme that they actually accepted employment as dispensers. Men who had worked and voted for prohibition, including a few clergymen, took jobs to sell whiskey over the counter, in packages from a half pint up, and, on pretext of fighting the blind tigers, catered carefully to local tastes for intoxicants. The pay depended on the sales.

The dispensary began in riot and strife and bloodshed, attended with proclamation of martial law, mutiny of part of the militia and mobilization of all the rest, with raids and invasions and searches of private dwellings by armed ruffians commissioned as dispensary constables. On one occasion, at least, the bed room of a prominent gentlewoman of Charleston was invaded and explored by these Tillman agents in pretended search for illicit liquor. Beginning thus, the state dispensary wound up, as a state institution, in an orgy of corruption and scandal as bad as any that developed under carpet bag, scalawag and cornfield negro rule in the reconstruction period. It was proved that the state not only killed and persecuted citizens to establish for herself a monopoly of the liquor business, but that she had swindled and poisoned her enforced customers. The whiskey sold from the state dispensary to the local dispensaries and by them to consumers, at high prices, had been watered freely and doctoring with concentrated lye to give it "age" and "head." The profits were enormous and a large part of them was stolen. Men are living in South Carolina today at ease, enjoying fortunes filched from state and people through the whiskey business.

The state dispensary was abolished and counties and cities were left to decide, by local option, whether they should have dispensaries. Six counties of the forty-two voted for and established official saloons, the profits going into the local treasuries. The counties which voted for prohibition proceeded to ignore the law. They had blind tigers on a scale never known elsewhere, men who imported from other states liquor by the car load and kept goods in warehouses. Broken down tin-horn gamblers and petty merchants made money hand over fist and blossomed out with the finest automobiles money could buy. There was strong suspicion in some counties that local officials and blind tigers formed secret political rings for mutual protection and advantage and divided profits. Anyhow, officers of the law on small salaries became affluent and financially comfortable suddenly and mysteriously. In Charleston the dispensaries and the blind tigers operated peacefully and comfortably cheek by jowl; the blind tigers practically open saloons, supplying the night and mixed drink trade, the dispensaries attending to the original package end. The state dispensary had supplied anything called for from the finest champagne, clarets and liquors to the commonest and hottest corn whiskey, and the local dispensaries followed the example. Grand juries, in Charleston at least, refused to indict even when officials made bluffs at arresting and prosecuting.—Richmond Journal.

Ocean water contains the most salt in equatorial regions.

MUNITIONS BOGY WILL NOT HALT CREDIT LOAN.

Munitions of war will not be allowed to block the proposed big credit loan to Great Britain and France, nor will the \$600,000,000 or \$800,000,000 to be secured be locked up at once in a New York treasure chest, according to a consensus of opinion of those in close touch with negotiations for raising the money.

"It would be absurd," said a banker who has been in almost daily conference with the commission "to assume that the whole problem of stabilizing exchange, and thus providing for continuance of all American exports, will be halted over a discussion as to whether a credit loan should be made available for munition payments. The big thing is to stabilize the exchange; then the matter of paying for munition automatically takes care of itself.

Exports of munitions, it was estimated, constitute considerably less than 25 per cent of the total value of American shipments to Great Britain and France. Leaving them out of calculations, if provision be made for the shipment of soil products and the chief manufactured articles, exchange will, in the opinion of bankers, become stabilized. It would not then be difficult to find a method of paying for munitions, if it were absolutely necessary to adopt a different method, it is believed. Gold or American securities or both, or even some other methods of payment, could be arranged.

Due Caution.
"Bobby," inquired the mother, "did you wash your face before the music-teacher came?"
"Yes'm."
"And your hands?"
"Yes'm."
"And your ears?"
"Well, ma," said Bobby, judicially, "I washed the one that would be next to her."

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