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GIANT AIRSHIP IS A TOTAL WRECK

Roma on Trial Flight Falls 1000 Feet; Wayne Co. Man in List of Dead

NORFOLK, Va., Feb. 21.—Flung earthward, presumably by a broken rudder the giant army airship Roma plunged a thousand feet or more today to strike ground at Hampton Roads army base, capsizing across a high tension electric line and burst into a roaring furnace of blazing hydrogen gas in which at least 35 of her army crew and passengers perished.

Long after dark tonight, many hours after her fall, the ship was still a mass of flames, from end to end of her 410 foot mass. The fire was feeding on the million cubic feet of gas that had distended the great bag for the flight.

Barely a dozen or more than two score men aboard had been picked up alive. One died en route to a hospital. All of those who survived the fire escaped by jumping as the ship struck. The others, penned in the hull beneath the fallen bag, were burned to death. Heat of the fire fought back rescuers for hours.

Three fire departments fought the flames with chemicals and by 7 p. m. it was out. Derricks began picking up the wreckage as the flames were driven back. There was scarcely more than the aluminum frame work and the six liberty motors to move. Within the wreckage lay the bodies, many of them charred beyond direct recognition. Thirty-one bodies had been taken out tonight. Three or four more were thought to be still in the charred mass that alone remained of what had been the largest ship of her type in the world.

Accounts of surviving officers as to what happened were not available tonight. Every man who escaped alive was burned or bruised or both. Eye witnesses who watched the smash agreed, however, that the huge, kite-like structure of the stern rudder, itself as large as a bombing plane, had slipped to one side as the Roma drove along a thousand feet above the army base.

She was making a trial flight with a new battery of Liberty motors. They were installed to replace Italian engines bought with her in Italy, but which have not proved satisfactory. Installation was completed at Langley Field two weeks ago.

It was just before 2 p. m. when those below at the army base at Hampton Roads base, their attention caught by the approaching thunder of the six motors, looked up to see the Roma dip down from her straight flight. They agreed that the rudder seemed to have slipped bodily down and to one side.

The ship nosed steeply down. As she came closer it was seen that her crew were hurling out sand ballast from the ports in the fragile fabric that formed the covering of the space between her keel and back, the living and operating quarters of the ship. The dipping blunt nose of the bag did not respond. On the ship came, unchecked in her glide earthward, head first. Her commander could not force her the few hundred feet that would have dropped her into the waters of the bay and comparative safety for her people.

Below ran the high double wires of the high power electric line. It carried a 2300 volt current. The Roma's nose, shod with its aluminum guard thrust into the wires, broke them as the ship flattened to earth and rolled over, and the next moment came the noise of an explosion and the flames burst out along the hull space.

Among the list of dead who lost their lives in the Roma disaster, was a man from Wayne county—Private John C. Thompson. He is the son of Mr. Sam Thompson, whose post office address is Bentonville, Route No. One. The home of the deceased was just across the Johnston county line.

Lobbying Put Under Ban.
All lobbying ought to be put under ban. Governor Hardwick, of Georgia, has learned that the expenses of trustees of state institutions have been paid while lobbying the Legislature for appropriations. He has stopped the practice.—News and Observer.

TOBACCO FARMERS WANT WAREHOUSE

Committee Has Been Directed to Enter into Negotiations With Owners

Control through outright purchase or by lease of sufficient tobacco warehouses and redrying plants in the tobacco districts of Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina was authorized by the Board of directors of the Tobacco Growers Co-operative Marketing Association yesterday, and a committee directed to enter into negotiations with owners of such warehouses and redrying plants.

An immediate survey of the tobacco marketing equipment in the three States will be made by the committee, which is composed of Dr. J. Y. Joyner, North Carolina chairman, N. H. Williams, South Carolina, and T. B. Young, of Virginia. The committee is vested with authority to buy or lease any property that is regarded as essential to the furtherance of the plans of the association.

In Virginia the association has already been offered the use of practically the entire equipment of the warehousemen who have been marketing that State's crop of tobacco. Numbers of owners of such property in North Carolina and South Carolina have offered to place their equipment at the disposal of the association and no difficulty is anticipated in making ample arrangements for crop movement.

During the next few weeks members of the committee will inspect every tobacco marketing plant in the State, appraise its value, and determine which of such plants are essential to the marketing of tobacco by the association, beginning with the next season. When a plant is deemed necessary, or suitable, to the plans of the association, negotiations for its purchase or lease will be opened. It is believed that little difficulty will be experienced in securing control of all needed property.

Active business has begun by the association, Secretary M. C. Wilson is in Raleigh, and within the next few days expects to secure permanent offices here, and all the affairs of the organization will be directed from here. Directors in Raleigh for the meeting are enthusiastic over the development of the organization, and see for it tremendous ultimate success.—News and Observer, Feb. 22.

SAYS THAT THE ROMA WAS FAR FROM SAFE

Letter Written By Lieut. Clifford E. Smythe Who Was Killed, Published By Relative.

CHICAGO, Ill., Feb. 22.—Lieut. Clifford E. Smythe, of Chicago, killed in the Roma disaster, wrote to his father just after the dirigible's recent flight to Washington that the airship was so unsafe that it would be "criminal negligence to fly her again without making changes in her construction," according to Dr. J. M. Nicholson, a friend of the Smythe family, who made public the letter tonight.

The Roma behaved so badly in her first trial over Washington that she was declared unsafe," said the letter, according to Dr. Nicholson, "and majority of those on board were advised to make the return trip by train. If anything has been done to alter her, except to change the engines, I don't know what it is. It looks to me like criminal negligence to fly her without making changes in her construction. But, what can I do?"

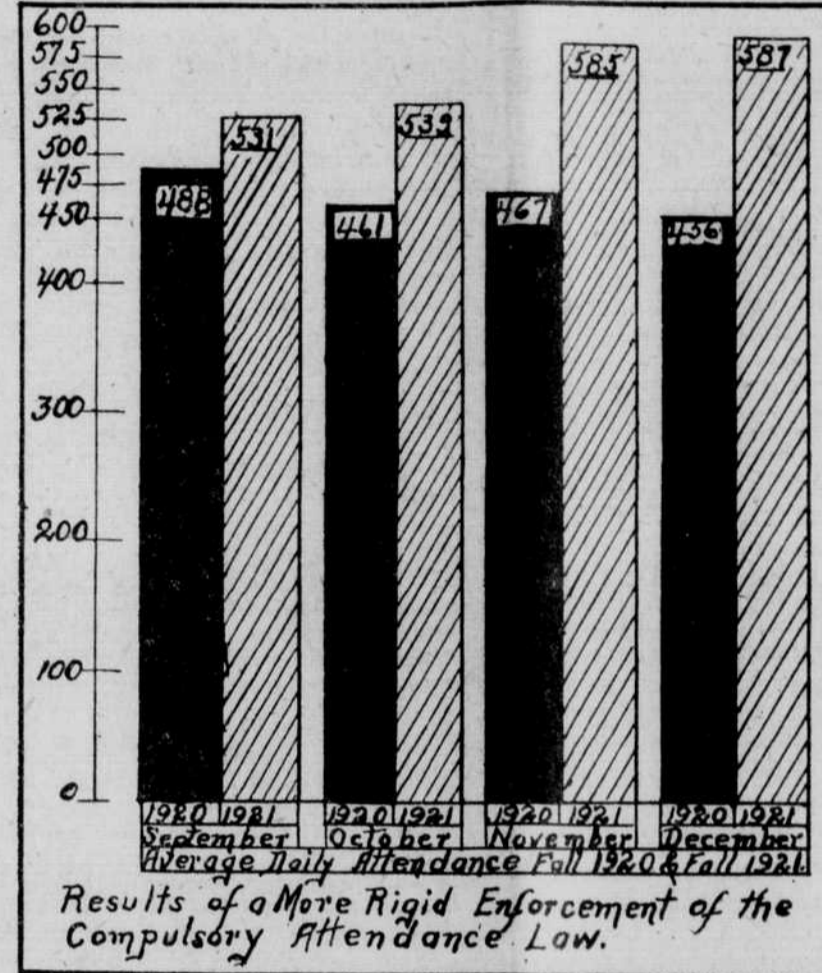
"The dirigible seemed sluggish and slow to respond to the controls. While she ended the trip all right she disobeyed her rudder several times in a way that was alarming. The result was that on her return trip from Washington unnecessary passengers and all members of the crew who could be spared were advised to go back by train."

Robert Smythe, Jr., Lieutenant Smythe's brother, said Lieut. Smythe made the return trip from Washington by boat.

Services at Episcopal Church.
There will be preaching Sunday morning at 11 o'clock, February 26th, at the Smithfield Episcopal church by Rev. John Loyd, the new pastor.

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE COMPARISONS

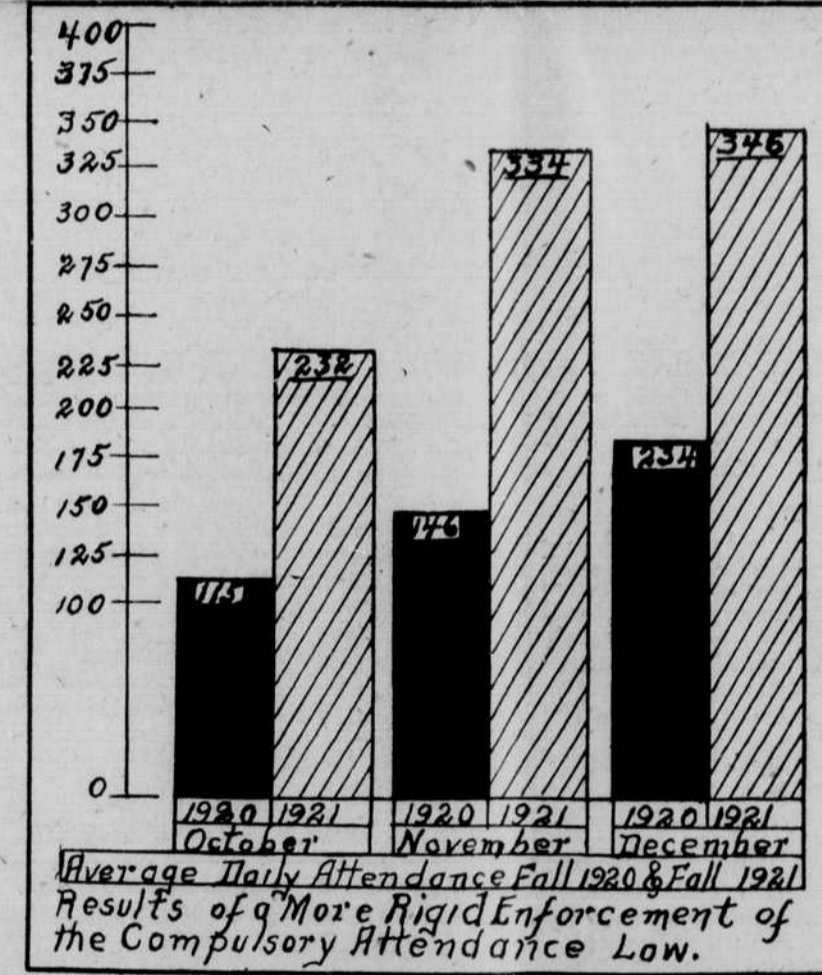
For the first four months this year, 1921-22, and the first four months last year, 1920-21, Turlington Graded School, Smithfield, N. C.



The average daily attendance for the fourth month this year was 131 more than it was last year, an increase of 28%. For the first four months the increase over last year was 20%. This was brought about without any increase in the school population of the district.

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE COMPARISONS

For the first three months this year, 1921-22, and the first three months last year, 1920-21, Johnston County Training School (Colored), Smithfield, N. C.



In the school for the colored the average daily attendance for the first three months last year was 165; this year it was 304. This is an increase of 84%. The increase comes from the Smithfield Graded School District.

Free Will Baptist College.

KINSTON, Feb. 22.—The Free Will Baptist will start construction of the first of three buildings for a combined college and high school at Ayden during the latter part of March or the first of April. At least \$200,000 will be expended, according to local estimates. The construction of all three buildings will not be undertaken at one time, it was understood here today. The institution will be the principal seat of learning of the Free Will Baptists in the Southeast. The denomination is particularly strong in the eastern part of North Carolina. It maintains an important publishing plant at Ayden. A ministerial class is now being conducted there at which a number of young preachers are being trained.—News and Observer.

A Queer Lot.

Some of those Bolsheviks in Russia appears to be willing to allow the Russian peasants to starve rather than permit them to accept food possibly tainted with American capitalistic doctrines. A queer lot those communistic doctrinaires in Russia.—News and Observer.

Death of Mrs. Scarborough.

The many friends of Mrs. J. C. Scarborough, whose distinguished husband was for sixteen years State Superintendent of Public Instruction, died at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Nicholson, in the city of Raleigh last Wednesday morning. She was buried beside her husband in the cemetery at Selma on Thursday afternoon. Dr. T. W. O'Kelly, pastor of the First Baptist Church, accompanied the funeral party to Selma. Services were held at the home of Mrs. Nicholson in Raleigh. Dr. R. T. Vann, who knew Mrs. Scarborough for many years, made a very appropriate talk and Mr. Hartwell Scarborough, the only son, paid a beautiful tribute to his mother. Mrs. Scarborough leaves three children: Mr. Hartwell Scarborough, who teaches at Macon, N. C.; Mrs. Nicholson and Mrs. Lawrence who live in Raleigh. To all these the Recorder extends sincere sympathy.—Biblical Recorder, Feb. 22.

The ambition of many a man is to be able to pay his debts.

T. G. S. REMAINS ON ACCREDITED LIST

Course Offered Enables the Graduates to Enter College Without Exams

Supt Thos. H. Franks has just received the report of the Commission on Accredited Schools of the Association of College and Secondary Schools of Southern States. This report shows that the Smithfield High school still remains on the accredited list of the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of the Southern States. There are forty-four High Schools in North Carolina on the accredited list of this association. The number of accredited schools in other Southern States follows:

Alabama 31; Arkansas 30; Florida, 43; Georgia, 64; Kentucky 38; Louisiana, 30; Mississippi, 19; South Carolina, 22; Tennessee, 52; Texas, 79; Virginia, 43; West Virginia, 54.

Only High schools are admitted to membership in the Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools of Southern State which meet the requirements regarded as necessary for first class High school work. Before a High school is admitted to membership it must first have High school teachers who are graduates of standard colleges. They must also meet certain requirements as to laboratory equipment, libraries, number of students per teacher, number of recitations per day, etc.

The advantage of being a member of this association is that the graduates of the High schools which are members are admitted to colleges without examination. The North Carolina accredited schools are as follows:

- Asheville School, Asheville.
- Asheville Normal School, Asheville.
- Asheville High school, Asheville.
- Bingham Military School, Asheville.
- Blue Ridge School for Boys, Hendersonville.
- Burlington High School Burlington.
- Chapel Hill High School, Chapel Hill.
- Canton High School, Canton.
- Davenport Preparatory School, Lenoir.
- Durham High School, Durham.
- Edenton High School, Edenton.
- Elizabeth City High School, Elizabeth City.
- Fassifern High School, Hendersonville.
- Fayetteville High School, Fayetteville.
- Gastonia High School, Gastonia.
- Greensboro High School, Greensboro.
- Greenville High School, Greenville.
- Grove Park School, Asheville.
- Hendersonville High School, Hendersonville.
- Hickory High School, Hickory.
- High Point High School, High Point.
- Kinston High School, Kinston.
- Laurinburg High School, Laurinburg.
- Lenoir High School, Lenoir.
- Mars Hill College, Mars Hill.
- New Hanover High School, Wilmington.
- Oak Ridge Institute, Oak Ridge.
- Raleigh High School, Raleigh.
- Reidsville High School, Reidsville.
- Roanoke Rapids High School, Roanoke Rapids.
- Rocky Mount High School, Rocky Mount.
- St. Genevieve's Academy, Asheville.
- Salem Academy, Winston-Salem.
- Shelby High School, Shelby.
- Smithfield High School, Smithfield.
- Snyder Outdoor School for Boys, Lake Junaluska.
- Statesville High School, Statesville.
- Tarboro High School, Tarboro.
- Trinity Park School, Durham.
- West Durham High School, West Durham.
- Wilson High School, Wilson.
- Winston-Salem High School, Winston-Salem.

The Limit Reached.

Since Washington was inaugurated President the United States has spent \$67,000,000,000, of which amount it is said that 53 billions of dollars has gone to pay for war and \$9,000,000,000 for peace. Surely the limit of the patience and endurance of the people has been reached.—Wesleyan Christian Advocate.

NO HURRY ABOUT SOLDIER BONUS

House Committee to Take Its Time; Canadian Plan Favored to Raise Cash

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The financing of the soldiers' bonus by means of a manufacturers' or wholesalers' tax was discussed in what was described as "a general sort of way" at two sessions today of the Republican members of the house ways and means committee dealing with this subject. It was announced that there would be no further sessions until Friday and members indicated that there was no disposition to hurry a decision.

Representative Longworth, of Ohio, ranking member of the special committee, said it was his judgment that a general manufacturers' and wholesalers' tax similar to that in force in Canada would be recommended. He thought the rates would be lower, than those in Canada, as treasury experts had estimated that the Canadian rates, if put in force in this country, would yield \$580,000,000 a year, or more than \$200,000,000 in excess of the sum which it has been estimated will be needed to finance the cash payments to the former service men.

Mr. Longworth said he did not think the bonus bill would be ready for the house this week or next. He stated that there was some disposition on the part of many house members to postpone action on the measure for a time to await the opening of the refunding negotiations between the United States and the debtor nations. Calling attention that the refunding commission had been appointed by the President, the Ohio member said there was reason to believe that before July the United States would have some of the refunded bonds in hand.

The President, Mr. Longworth went on to say, undoubtedly would not be opposed to the sale of some of the foreign bonds in this country to obtain money for the bonus. He added that before this could be done Congress would have to enact a law giving authority to the secretary of the treasury to so dispose of the securities, as the present law provides that he must use them in retiring a part of the public debt.

The Ohio member said the President was opposed to the enactment of bonus legislation without any provision for raising the funds. If the proposed sales tax provision was beaten in the house, he added, the bill then would simply be a charge against the treasury. It was his opinion that if a sales tax were reported the house would be given an opportunity to vote separately on that tax.

A separate vote has been demanded by opponents of a sales tax, who continued today to tighten their lines for the fight which now is regarded on all sides as almost certain. Opponents said that, if necessary, there would be a fight all along the line from the ways and means committee to the party conference, then to the rules committee and finally to the house. They did not think the fight would last that long, but continued to circulate petitions among house members.—Associated Press.

Preparing for Truett Meeting.

The Raleigh pastors are busy preparing for the Truett meetings. Large crowds are expected from the several sections of the State. This will be the first meeting Dr. Truett has ever held in his native State, and many will want to hear this matchless preacher. A high power radio station will soon be installed in Raleigh, making it the eighth city in the country, and the first in the South, to have such a distinction. Arrangements will be made to use this instrument in the Truett meetings, so that those who cannot come to Raleigh may hear Dr. Truett if they can connect with the Raleigh radio. The meetings will begin March 1, and continue twelve or fifteen days.—Biblical Recorder.

Fourth Sunday Appointments.

Rev. E. B. Booker asks us to publish his preaching appointments as follows for Sunday, February 26th: Oliver's Grove church at 11 o'clock; Benson Grove church at 3 o'clock; Beatty Chapel at the Smithfield cotton mills at night.