

London's "Doom" From the Air

Necessity of Superior British Air Force Pointed Out by Experts

London was "wiped out"—theoretically—in a recent attack by the Royal Air Force, which staged a four-day attack on the city and defense test, and the question of what is to be learned from such a demonstration of the helplessness of great cities in the "next war" raises discussion here as well as overseas. "High explosives and gas bombs will be used freely in the next conflict," says Brigadier-General Groves, secretary of the British Air League, and "it will be the aim of each side to terrorize the civilian population of the other." The London Times and other papers call for a bigger, better, and faster air force that will make an enemy slow to attack because of the danger to nerve centres of its own homeland. Liberal and Labor organs, however, discount the maneuvers as propaganda. Lloyd George takes occasion to declare that "of all the armaments that should be cut down, armament of the air is the most urgent."

British Army experts agree that the capital of the Empire is absolutely at the mercy of an air attack launched from the Continent, because in this sham battle in the air at least half the "enemy" bombers were effective. They made fifty-seven daylight raids, in six of which they completely evaded the defense; they theoretically laid vital points in ruins, and they made all other sections uninhabitable by means of gases. Theoretically, 300 tons of bombs loaded with gas and high explosives were dropped in these maneuvers, equal, it is said, to all that the Germans dropped on England during the World War, and it is calculated that an attack from the coast would be so swift that destruction could be accomplished before defending airplane squadrons could get out of aerodromes into fighting altitudes.

Considerable comment in American papers is condensed in the Baltimore Evening Sun's editorial, which says: "John Smith, taxpayer, long ago learned that whenever military men stage a sham battle to test the defenses of a city, whether the attack be by land, by water, or by air, the defenses are going to prove inadequate. It is by convincing him that he is practically naked to his enemies that John Smith can most easily be scared into supporting huge military expenditures."

"So we here and now make a general prophecy: The next time London is the objective of a sham battle, its defenses will prove inadequate again." Nevertheless it is quite generally assumed by our editorial writers that, as the Washington Post declares, the results of the sham bombardment of London were ominous and "vindicated the contention of experts that that city—and presumably any other—that in future be utterly defenseless against this mode of warfare." The progress in aviation leads naturally to the conclusion that London is not the only "peculiarly vulnerable" city, according to the South Bend Tribune:

"Citizens of the United States have seen their traditional natural safeguards, the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, spanned by planes. The cruising power of airplanes is increasing rapidly, and the theory held only a few years ago that planes would be important unless they had warships accompanying them to serve as fuel and supply stations is less forcible. The lessons to be learned from the British Royal Air Force maneuvers are valuable to all governments. The balance of power may rest within a generation with the nations that take a rational view of aviation."

The Chicago Tribune, which admits that the airplane and airplane bomb have been considerably improved since the armistice, sees no reason to believe that these offensive weapons will not be successfully countered by improved defensive methods. In the World War bombing never "proved a serious menace to the Allied cause or, for that matter, to the German, although all the important railroad centres in western Germany were subjected to repeated attacks from the air." Further, we read:

"One reason for the failure to cause permanent damage is the inability of the airplane, moving at high speed, to hit a mark; as most bombing is done at night the difficulty of striking the target is considerably augmented. A more fundamental reason for failure over cities lies in the nature of the target itself. A great city is a collection of a vast number of buildings. A bomb which penetrates the roof of one will explode within four firmly built walls. It may do much damage in the building it strikes, but the damage will be strictly limited to that small area. Cities built of wood might be considerably more vulnerable from the air than the masonry cities of western Europe, but modern American buildings of steel and reinforced concrete are far better able to resist bombing than the older masonry types."

"The possibilities of destroying a civilian population in a rain of gas are easily exaggerated. The amount of gas required to maintain a lethal concentration in an area as vast as that of a modern city is so far greater than can be carried by a fleet of airplanes that the possibility of disposing of a civilian population by these means can be considered fanciful. The war that gas bombs can accomplish is to render a limited area temporarily uninhabitable, and there is no doubt that this means can be met by the organization of chemical warfare, fire-fighting companies, equipped with neutralizing apparatus."

Aviation in Australia

Sydney Bulletin: It is a curious paradox that in Britain, where the railways are privately owned, their most formidable competitors, the airplane and the motor-car, have been discouraged by the Government from entering into competition with them; whereas Australia, which has a national liability for all its railroads, and is sorry for it, leads the whole Empire in the matter of developing commercial aviation.

Moving of Grain in Full Swing

Wheat Crop Estimated as Largest in Canada's History

Winnipeg—The rush to move what is estimated as the largest wheat crop in the history of the Canadian west is on in earnest, with 2,325,750 bushels of grain marketed Tuesday at various points. The rush is earlier than ever before, railway officials said. With threshing reported general all over the west, cutting virtually completed in Manitoba, and more rolling stock and general equipment massed at strategic points on the Prairies than ever before, indications are that the whole operations of taking off the crop and marketing it will be completed in record time.

Cutting is reported to be 75 per cent, completed in Saskatchewan and fifty per cent, in Alberta.

Interior elevators are swept clean and ready for the pouring in of the new grain. Stocks in the Lake head terminals have been reduced to 4,531,000 bushels.

Reports of wheat yields are favorable on the whole and at most points the grading is high.

Winnipeg—Good harvesting weather is reported from the three Prairie Provinces and threshing is on in full swing, according to the weekly crop report issued by the Canadian Bank of Commerce. Frosts affected the crops slightly in Saskatchewan and Alberta, but on the whole excellent yields are expected. The report follows:

Manitoba—Harvesting is well advanced throughout the province. Cutting is about 90 to 95 per cent, completed and threshing operations are general. The weather is ideal. The wheat crop promises to be a satisfactory one although in some small areas which suffered from excessive moisture in July, the yields are a little below expectations. Coarse grains are turning out well with the possible exception of barley in isolated districts where the yields are somewhat below average. Harvest help is plentiful.

Saskatchewan—Good harvesting conditions have prevailed throughout the week. Cutting of wheat has proceeded without interruption and it is expected that the bulk of it will be done within the next few days. The nights have been cold and further frosts have occurred at many points. Estimates of the amount of frost damage, however, vary widely. It would seem to be undoubted that the late wheat and coarse grains generally have been quite seriously affected. It is estimated that about 15 per cent, of the crop has suffered. Very few points estimate that oats will produce better than a feed crop. Little threshing has been done so far, but operations are expected to begin within a few days. Labor appears to be sufficient at all points.

Alberta—Weather excellent for harvesting and probably 40 per cent, has been cut. Moderate frosts reported at scattered points and later crops may suffer by lowered grades and lessened yields. With continued good weather cutting will be completed and threshing general in ten days.

Man Says He Was Rescued by Bruin

Algoma Trapper Relates Queer Experience in Wilderness

Sault Ste. Marie, nt.—A graphic tale of how an Algoma bear saved his life from the hollow interior of a huge pine stump is related by Skeffington E. Thomson, Algoma trapper, woodsman and prospector, who has just returned to the Soo from his camp in the Goulais Bay wilderness, avowing eternal friendship to the entire bruin family.

"Miles from camp," said Thomson, "I was trapped by a pack of timber wolves and sought refuge at the top of an old weather-beaten pine stump 15 feet high and about three feet through, with a hollow interior. Darkness was coming on, and I was dead tired and soon fell asleep."

"Morning came and I heard a scratching on the outside of the stump. The hole at the top darkened and some living thing—I soon discovered it was a bear—was backing down the hole. I whipped out my knife, and when old Bruin came within striking distance I jabbed him in the flank, and grabbed hold of his fur."

"With a cry of pain the bear shot upwards. In a twinkling I was drawn to safety."

All Ready to Protect London



ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS REPELLING THE RAIDERS

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Praises Radium As Cancer Cure

Times Editorial Refers to Increasing Efficacy of Treatment

Modern Methods Much More Hopeful Than Former Experiments

London—An editorial in the Times captioned "Radium and Cancer," refers to recent statements on the increasing efficacy of radium treatment and continues: "Radium if properly used can be counted upon, according to well-informed opinion, to kill the cancer cells. It is not a new discovery for as long as 1913 the efficacy of radium was discussed but the treatment achieved in those early days was much less than hopeful, which in consequence discounted it to some extent."

"New claims now being made are based on modern methods of using radium and of bringing radium into contact with the cancer cells. What is called 'Surgery of Access' is as important as proper preparation of the needles of which the object, briefly, is to surround the cancer with points of radium so that every part will receive a lethal dose, an operation demanding a very high degree of skill on the part of the surgeon who must know where to place the tiny batteries so that the cross-fire from them will be most effective."

"He must know how to reach the areas where batteries are to be placed and also the power of the needles and the period for which they ought to be employed."

"Unhappily, this knowledge is not the only requisite for, without radium, nothing can be accomplished, and the medium is lacking in sufficient quantities to meet existing needs while the study of cancer is hindered by the same want. Radium, it happens is nearly everlasting so that a donation of radium is a gift of which only the interest can be spent while the capital remains intact for many centuries and will go on saving lives year after year and ventury after century."

Alfred—"In New York a man is run over by a motor car every 20 minutes." Albert—"Poor fellow!"

Long Distance Swims Should be Prohibited

Twelve Miles Suggested as Limited for Future Races

Members of the Ontario Government strongly disapprove swimming "marathons" of the dimensions attempted here on Wednesday, on the ground that beyond a certain distance the contest can no longer be classed as sport, but an endurance test, which imperils the health and even the lives of those participating. Premier Ferguson is inclined to consider that 12 miles, involving about five hours in the water, is the maximum which ought to be attempted, and Hon. Forbes Godfrey declares "they have got to shorten these races."

There is great danger of swimmers being injured for life, it is pointed out by the Minister of Health. "No swim marathon should be longer than 10 miles, for men and six for women," he said. "Fifteen miles is far too much of an endurance test, too exhaustive, and proves nothing. I do not want the youth of the province to take such sport as an example of the proper kind of athletics to improve their physical condition. I have known more than one great swimmer of other years whose heart has 'blown out' at 50 years of age."

Brass and copper products produced in Canada in 1927 were valued at \$24,54,667. This is the highest value ever recorded for the Canadian industry.

To handle Western Canada's crop this year the Canadian railways have despatched to key points on the prairies 80,000 box cars and 1,913 locomotives.

Engineer Tells of Arctic Conditions

Major Burwash Says Message to Ottawa From For North

Native Population and Wild Animal Life to be Studied

Ottawa—Valuable information concerning the native population of Canada's Arctic coast between the mouth of the Mackenzie River and Hudson Bay and wild life conditions was obtained by Major L. T. Burwash, exploratory engineer of the North West Territories and Yukon branch of the Department of the Interior during his trip by auxiliary schooner to the region around Boothia Peninsula. Word of the successful completion of the 1,000-mile voyage was contained in a wireless dispatch received at Ottawa from the Hudson's Bay Company's steamer, Baymaud, while calling at Cambridge Bay, Victoria Island.

Major Burwash left Ottawa in June for Edmonton en route to Akharik in the Mackenzie River delta. At that point he took over the Department's motor schooner, Ptarmigan, a 40-foot craft which had been brought down to that point from Great Slave Lake. About August 1, he began his trip eastward along the coast, inspecting native settlements and visiting trading posts and Royal Canadian Mounted Police detachments.

On August 31, he arrived at the trading post and police detachment of Cambridge Bay on the southeast coast of Victoria Island. Replenishing his supplies at this point, he continued the next day up through Victoria Strait to the west coast of Boothia Peninsula where he will establish his winter camp in the vicinity of the magnetic pole. This winter he will travel south by dog team, making investigations around King William Island and a survey of the proposed tractor route from Cookburn Bay to Wager Bay.

In May, Major Burwash expects to proceed northward on board the Ptarmigan through Franklin Strait and Peel Sound and then eastward up Lancaster Sound to the post at Dunderbas Harbor, Devon Island. Major Burwash hopes to complete his work and return to Ottawa in the fall of 1929.

Sir Austin In Bermuda

Will Later Go to Havana and Will Make a Brief Stay There

Havana, Cuba.—Sir Austin Chamberlain, Great Britain's secretary of foreign relations, whose impaired health caused him to embark on an ocean voyage, is scheduled to arrive at Hamilton, Bermuda, on Sept. 12, and here Sept. 16, aboard the Ormosca, according to an official cable received at the British consulate here.

It is expected that Sir Austin, Lady Chamberlain and two children will make a stay in Havana for only the duration of the ship's stay, going to Panama and thence to San Francisco aboard the steamer President Adams. Visits at California and another at Vancouver are planned prior to embarking at Montreal for the return to London, it was made known at the British consulate.

In Memory of Arctic Hero



BUST OF AMUNDSEN—ODERN VIKING unveiled at the Pacific Southwest Exposition, Long Beach, Calif.

Premier Ferguson Commends French

Writes Letter of Appreciation of Course for Ontario Teachers

THANKS TO QUEBEC

Quebec—Premier Ferguson of Ontario, greatly appreciates the French courses for Ontario teachers conducted in the Province of Quebec each Summer, and is particularly interested in the medals presented to the teachers this year, so much so that he has written the following letter to Premier Taschereau, voicing his appreciation.

"On my return there was shown to me the medals which the authorities of your province so generously presented to the Ontario teachers who took the Summer course in French at Quebec this year."

"It is needless to assure you how much my department and myself appreciate this token of appreciation and encouragement. Will you kindly convey to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, my thanks for the medal bestowed in his name; to your Minister of Education, Hon. Mr. David; to the superintendent, Dr. Delage and all the officials of the Department of Public Instruction, and other persons for the courtesies and attention shown to those who attended this valuable course of instruction. Let me thank you personally, as head of the Government, for your friendliness in this, as in all other good causes, of common concern."

The Prime Minister of Quebec is also in receipt of a copy of a letter of thanks sent by the Ontario teachers in connection with the course. This letter, sent from the Jesus-Marie convent at Sillery last month, and signed by eight of the teachers, reads:

"At the close of the second Summer school in French held in Quebec, we, the Ontario teachers in attendance, wish to express to you our thanks and appreciation."

"To us and our pupils, French is no longer merely a subject in a text book, but a living language of the Dominion of Canada. Those of us who attended last year can speak with assurance of the actual classroom value of this course."

"At Sillery, one of the finest colleges in the province, we are living in a charming and thoroughly French atmosphere. In the dining-room, in the dormitories and in the garden, as well as in the classroom, capable French teachers from the city of Quebec, are always ready to assist us in acquiring the French language in its purity and perfection."

"It is our sincere hope this course, which you have instituted and put in the competent hands of Mr. Jeanneret of the University of Toronto, will continue and become more widely known among the teachers of French in the Province of Ontario."

Samoa Home Rulers Decide on Boycott

Also Demand Substitution of Native Missionaries for White

Wellington, N.Z.—According to a despatch from Samoa, the Samoan native home rule league at a recent meeting decided to ignore the report of the League of Nations mandate commission and reinstitute a boycott on shops. There would be no picketing, however, it was decided.

The meeting also demanded that the London Missionary Society withdraw all white missionaries and substitute natives, failing which the league would establish a "Pan-Samoan" church.

The league, or "Mau," as it is termed, has been extremely active for the past week and several disturbances have occurred.

Agitation by natives of Samoa, largely sponsored by the native home rule league, was considered by the League's mandate commission last June, and the commission decided that most of the blame should be attached to C. F. Nelson, known as the "uncrowned King of Samoa," for the activities among the natives. The commission also suggested that greater firmness in future was necessary on the part of the mandatory administration under the New Zealand Government.

The "Mau" has made general complaint against the administration of native affairs, and whites in the islands complained of the prohibition of liquor and of extravagance in administration.

Bumper Potato Crop

Charlottetown, P.E.I.—A bumper potato crop throughout Prince Edward Island and the other Maritime Provinces of Canada seems assured. Potatoes are one of the chief farm products of this part of the country. They are of excellent quality and are noted as far south as Cuba.

The potato crop of Prince Edward Island has in recent years been averaging about 4,000,000 cwt. Nova Scotia averages over 3,000,000 cwt. and New Brunswick over 6,000,000 cwt.