

THE WEATHER
Fair tonight and Friday; little change in temperature; gentle winds, mostly northerly.

Evening Public Ledger

NIGHT EXTRA

VOL. VII.—NO. 295

PHILADELPHIA, THURSDAY, AUGUST 25, 1921

Published Daily Except Sundays

Subscription Price \$4 a Year by Mail

PRICE TWO CENTS

ONLY ONE AMERICAN SURVIVED IN WRECK OF ZR-2

Haverford Man and 15 Other Members of U. S. Navy Are Killed; British Losses Total 26

DIVERS EXPLORING WRECK OF AIRSHIP TO LOCATE BODIES

Texas Rigger and Only Four British Members of Crew Escape Death

BRIG. GEN. E. M. MAITLAND, NOTED AIR EXPERT, KILLED

Breaking of Girder, Not Explosion, Caused Disaster

Howden, Eng., Aug. 25.—(By A. P.)—The cause of the disaster to the ZR-2, according to the best information obtainable here, the base of the destroyed dirigible, the breaking of a longitudinal girder amidships, made of an aluminum alloy, cutting the airship in halves. An explosion of either hydrogen or petrol occurred immediately after the girder gave way, and flames burst through the structure, but the explosion, it is declared, was not the cause of the breaking up of the airship.

The break occurred in the part of the airship where a girder was strained when she was first brought to Howden. The girder had been reinforced, however, and the ship found to be perfectly airworthy, it was determined. None of the authorities here would venture any opinion regarding the cause of the break.

By the Associated Press. Hull, England, Aug. 25.—Divers began at dawn today to explore the fire-wrecked wreck of the dirigible ZR-2, which last evening exploded above this city and fell into the Humber, carrying with her more than forty of her crew.

No Chance to Escape. All hope that there might be other survivors of the disaster was dissipated during the night. The wreckage fell only 200 yards from the shore, and the six gondolas in which most of the airship's personnel was riding sank instantly to the bottom of the Humber. The men in the gondolas, it was believed, would have little chance to escape after the dirigible struck the water, as the weight of the engines and machinery quickly carried the ruined structure beneath the water. Experts here were at a loss to account for this greatest of peace-time air disasters.

Eyewitness Acted Promptly. Residents of Hull who were watching the ZR-2 when her cruise came to its sudden and tragic end declared that it seemed when the craft attempted to make a sharp turn during a speed test that she suddenly buckled and broke probably because of a strain too heavy for the structure to bear. Some members of the crew appear to have this same idea of the cause of the accident.

ZR-2 Owned by Britain at Time of Disaster. The dirigible ZR-2 was still the property of the British Government at the time of its loss. The airship was built by Great Britain at the order of the United States, and was expected to be turned over to its new owners soon after the completion of the trip which ended in disaster.

HAVERFORD ZR-2 VICTIM, WIFE AND CHILD



COMMANDER TRIED TO SAVE AIR CREW

Says He Did All That Was Humanly Possible at Time of Catastrophe. QUICKLY EMPTIED BALLAST. By the Associated Press. Hull, England, Aug. 25.—Most of the British and American members of the crew of the dirigible ZR-2 were killed by the explosion which followed the buckling and snapping of girders amidships, declared Flight Lieutenant A. H. Wann, in command of the craft as navigating officer at the time of the disaster, in a statement to the Associated Press today.

Commander Wann, who was slightly injured, said the ship had run beautifully at sixty knots an hour and he had reduced the speed to fifty knots when there came a violent cracking sound. He thought several of the girders had broken. The whole thing happened in five seconds.

There was no sign of anything wrong when we passed over Hull, he added. "But everything happened afterward. I was in sole control at the time."

2 THIEF-HUNTS WITHIN HOUR KEEP POLICE STATION BUSY. Catch One of Alleged Robbers. George Chichester Home Entered. Two thief chases within a half hour and within half a block of one another kept police of the Twelfth and Pine streets station on the jump this morning.

YEAR FOR DRUG PIEDLER. Tried to Bribe Police, Testimony Shows. Albert Gealt was sentenced to one year in the House of Correction by a city judge today, after he had pleaded guilty to unlawfully having narcotic drugs in his possession.

PLOT TO KILL OREGON. Three Mexicans Arrested, Including General Jesus Salas Topex. Mexico City, Aug. 25.—(By A. P.)—The discovery of an alleged plot to assassinate President Obregon resulted last evening in the arrest of General Jesus Salas Topex, commander of a small body of troops in the State of Morelos; Anastacio Narvez and a number of other men, according to an announcement by the chief of police of Mexico City today.

KING CONSTANTINE ILL. Paris, Aug. 25.—(By A. P.)—King Constantine, of Greece, who has been visiting the battle front in Asia Minor, is ill from intestinal trouble at Eskishehr, says a dispatch received here.

GREAT FIRE IN MOSCOW. Hundreds of Houses Destroyed, With Flames Still Raging. London, Aug. 25.—(By A. P.)—Fire started in the most thickly populated part of Moscow several days ago and still is burning, it is asserted by the Helsingfors correspondent of the Central News.

DIES OF MUSHROOM POISON. Man's Death Results When He Uses Wrong Spoon in Test. Because Joseph Legree, forty-seven years old, a boarder at 8122 Shore street, mistook a pewter spoon for a silver one, he died this morning in the Chestnut Hill hospital from mushroom poisoning.

SEVERAL THIEVES. Several hundred houses have been destroyed, the correspondent says. A group into the house Legree brought out a spoon and rubbed one on a mushroom. The spoon failed to turn color and Legree ate a large amount of the mushrooms. He became violently ill a short time later and was removed to the hospital, where he died this morning.

2 WIVES WIDOWED HERE BY DISASTER TO HUGE DIRIGIBLE

Mrs. Bieg, Haverford, and Mrs. Little, Wildwood, Hear Husband's Fate

LEUTENANT NULL SAFE, SAYS MESSAGE FOR WIFE

"Was Not on Board Ship," Haddonfield Man Cables

"Howden, England.—Was not on board ship. An safe." "TULFORD." This brief message in a cablegram this morning relieved a long agony for Mrs. Tulford B. Null, wife of Lieutenant Null, of Haddonfield, N. J., a member of the crew of the ZR-2.

It is the first definite word that she has had since the first flash that told of the catastrophe yesterday afternoon.

Cables from England concerning the fate of the crew of the ZR-2 brought grief today to two families living near Philadelphia, but joy and the ending of long suspense to a third. Mrs. Eileen Bieg, of Haverford, wife of Lieutenant Commander Valentine Nicholas Bieg, was compelled to give up hope for her husband's safety when she received official information that he was among the missing.

Mrs. Bieg is broken down with grief over her husband's death. Their thirteen-month-old daughter is playing in the big house at Haverford, where Mrs. Bieg was staying with her mother, Mrs. H. J. Barlow, noted golfer, in ignorance of the terrible fate of her father.

FEAR 1000 LIVES LOST IN BRITISH INDIA RIOTS. Malabar District Reported Scene of Murderous Outbreak of Natives. London, Aug. 25.—(By A. P.)—More than one thousand lives, it is feared, have been lost in the rioting in the Malabar district of British India, as the Treasury is concerned unless there should be a decided change in the congressional attitude.

SENTECED IN DRUG CASE. South Fifteenth Street Man Gets Year in Correction. Judge Cassidy, in the Criminal Division of Municipal Court today sentenced Howard Moody, of 702 South Fifteenth street, to one year in the House of Correction and deferred sentencing his brother-in-law, James Evans, after both had been convicted of having drugs in their possession.

GAS IN BELLEVUE BASEMENT. Valve on Ammonia Tank Blows Off, Fumes Flood Floor. A valve on an ammonia tank in the engine room in the basement of the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel blew off at 2:30 o'clock this morning, flooding the basement with ammonia fumes.

MAN ROBBED OF \$1107. Bandits Also Steal Victim's Car at Fifteenth and Huntingdon. Three men lay in wait for Harry Goldberg, 4725 North Eleventh street, at Fifteenth and Huntingdon streets last night about midnight and robbed him of \$1107.

DEATH CASE CONTINUED. Motorist Who Killed Boy to Produce Witnesses. In the case of the death of Charles Decker, ten years old, 2150 East Albert street, who was killed by a motorist driven by Edward Hancock, 2007 Susquehanna avenue, on August 14, Coroner Knight held the case over for one week so the defense could produce witnesses.

Penrose Plays Both Ends Against Middle, It Seems

His Vague Statement Disappoints Mayor and Gives Vare Chance to Claim Support. Brown's Attitude Is Senator's Real One

By GEORGE NOX MCCAIN

The stilted utterance of Senator Penrose on political conditions in Philadelphia has produced an effect which doubtless its author intended—that of leaving the situation, like Mahomet's coffin, suspended in mid-air. This is all the more remarkable because the senator is not given to speaking in riddles, unless, perhaps, it is when the inquisitive interviewer endeavors to penetrate his reserve concerning the purposes of the Philadelphia political pilgrims to the senatorial shrine in Washington.

What Silence Will Mean. At the same time, if Senator Penrose purpose letting his statement go without further word or act, and permits Clerk of Courts Cunningham and Judge Brown, his recognized personal representatives, to shout for and support the Vare ticket, the inevitable conclusion will be that the Senator's words were mere rote talk; that he has committed himself body, soul and breeches to their hands.

BRIDAL PAIR CALL EACH OTHER 'THIEF' Carefully Deposit \$79,454 Particle, Carried in Old Suitcase, in Bank Vault. WIFE HAS HUSBAND ARRESTED FOR PASSING BAD CHECK AT CHESTNUT STREET HOTEL. "ACCOMPLICE," HE SAYS FOR USE IN CITY CLINIC.

When the second gram is added to the first the city will have accumulated what might be called a "large" quantity of the most precious of all metals known in the world, and probably the most imperishable of all things owned in or by the city.

POLICE IN DETAILED FIGHT WITH MOTOR THEFT SUSPECTS. Patrolmen Dever and Horwitz, of the Fifteenth and Locust streets station, exchanged a dozen shots with two suspected motor thieves in a chase of several blocks through the business and residential section near Twenty-first and Market streets today. James Neely, Twenty-sixth street below Bainbridge, was captured. The other suspect escaped.

TREATY BETWEEN U. S. AND GERMANY SIGNED. BERLIN, Aug. 25.—The treaty of peace between Germany and the United States was signed here at 7 o'clock this evening.

APPEAL FOR FEDERAL TROOPS FOR MINGO. WASHINGTON, Aug. 25.—An urgent appeal for Federal troops to restore order and prevent further lawlessness on the part of striking miners in the Mingo coal fields of West Virginia was received today at the War Department.

SPRING LAKE MAN MURDERED BY BURGLAR. SPRING LAKE BEACH, N. J., Aug. 25.—John Woolley was found dead in a bedroom of his home this morning with a bullet in his right breast. The police express the belief that he was murdered by a burglar.

DEATH CASE CONTINUED. Motorist Who Killed Boy to Produce Witnesses. In the case of the death of Charles Decker, ten years old, 2150 East Albert street, who was killed by a motorist driven by Edward Hancock, 2007 Susquehanna avenue, on August 14, Coroner Knight held the case over for one week so the defense could produce witnesses.