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ZR-2 IS WRECKED ON TRIAL FLIGHT

**GIANT DIRIGIBLE EXPLODES
OVER HULL, ENGLAND, AND
PRACTICALLY ALL OF BIG
CREW BELIEVED TO HAVE
BEEN LOST.**

London, Aug. 24.—The new American dirigible ZR-2 was wrecked by an explosion near Hull today.

It is known at least six survivors have been picked up, one of them with a broken leg and one severely burned.

The two jumped from the blazing bag in parachutes and came down safely.

The machine was nearing the end of a trial flight trip, which was to establish her fitness for a trans-Atlantic trip to America.

Going up late yesterday the great machine worked perfectly, responding readily to the control levers and riding easily despite a high wind which was encountered.

While over Hull at 5:45 p. m. today, shortly after she had signalled that she was going to make a test flight for speed, the huge gas bag exploded.

The dirigible broke in two and plunged into the River Humber.

Captain Maxfield, of the United States navy was on board.

The remainder of the crew was composed of thirty-one British air service men who were instructing the Americans in the handling of the giant bag, preparatory to starting the flight for the United States within a few days.

A dispatch to The Press association from Hull says five men were saved from the crew of forty-nine.

A message from Hull received shortly before 7 p. m., said the airship's captain had been rescued. Some bodies, the message, added had been recovered.

Following are some facts about the ZR-2:

Length: feet 695; diameter, feet, 85; capacity, cubic feet, 2,700,000; total life, tons, 83; engines 6; ceiling or maximum altitude, feet, 25,000; cruising radius at 60 miles per hour 6,000; officers and crew, men, 42; gasoline supply, gallons, 8,000.

Tells of Tragedy.

Hull, Aug. 25.—Most of the British and American members of the crew of the ill-fated dirigible ZR-2, were killed by the explosion which followed the buckling and snapping of the 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.

Lieutenant Wann said the ship had run beautifully at 60 knots an hour and that he had reduced the speed to 50 knots when there came a violent cracking sound. He thought several of the girders broke. 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."

"There was no sign of anything wrong," said Lieutenant Wann, whose injuries are not serious, "the craft had been sailing perfectly. She had been passing through various difficult tests and the speed had been reduced, when suddenly, while crossing the broad estuary of the Humber, I heard the grinding and cracking of girders and the airship pitched forward nose down, from an even keel.

"As soon as humanly possible, I emptied the water ballast to enable the craft to resume its normal position but at this instant, a tremendous explosion occurred. The great ship seemed to halt for a moment and then it dropped like a rock. The concussion threw me down in the navigator's car where I was pinned by the wreckage. The section of the craft in which I was riding remained above

SWINDLE SCHEME INVOLVES BIG SUM

**FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS UN-
EARTH PLOT THAT MAY CON-
CERN TWELVE MILLION DOL-
LARS—OPERATING ON NA-
TIONAL SCALE.**

Chicago, Aug. 25.—Federal investigators delving into the affairs of Charles W. French, alleged head of a group of swindlers operating on a national scale, today estimated that twelve million dollars might be involved in the band's activities. Its manipulations, it is charged, were the most audacious ever uncovered by federal agents and included alleged banking schemes bond manipulations and stock transactions involving seventeen companies and three banks.

Three alleged confessions were in the possession of federal authorities today. Government agents have also recovered a million and a half dollars worth of doubtful notes and have made eight arrests.

Alva Harshman, for the last six years French's secretary, confessed yesterday to John V. Clinkin, assistant United States district attorney regarding the band's activities, Mr. Clinkin said. He was released in \$5,000 bonds and is expected to be the star witness for the government.

French was arrested sometime ago in connection with the activities of John W. Worthington, alleged head of a group engaged in disposing of securities obtained in mail robberies.

French is held here under \$25,000 bond. Besides French and Worthington, both of whom are under arrest, Harshman in his alleged confession implicated a number of others. C. K. Strobel, Akron, Ohio, real estate man, Elmer Gerber, of Cleveland and A. E. Strelzin, of Milwaukee were yesterday taken into custody in those cities as agents of French. Today federal officials were said to be hurrying to Washington to question the cashier of a bank there.

MRS. JOSEPH L. JOHNSON

After a severe illness lasting two weeks, Mrs. Joseph L. Johnson, wife of Chief of Police Johnson, died Thursday afternoon at her home on Church street. Funeral services were conducted at 3:30 this afternoon by the Rev. C. E. Peele and the Rev. J. B. Hillhouse, interment following at Sharon.

Mrs. Johnson, whose maiden name was Miss Minnie McKenzie, was 45 years of age. She was the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. W. M. McKenzie of this county. Mrs. Johnson spent all of her life in Abbeville, having been born near the place of her death. She was an active and zealous member of the Presbyterian church and had a wide circle of friends, as well as an extensive family connection, who join in extending sympathy.

Surviving Mrs. Johnson are her husband, Joseph L. Johnson, chief of police force, two daughters, Misses Lena Belle and Frances Johnson; three sons, Maxcy, Fletcher and Alpheus Johnson; six sisters, Miss Belle McKenzie, Mrs. Essie Nickles, Mrs. Oscar Jackson, Mrs. Frank B. Jones, Mrs. Frank McNeill and Mrs. Motte Gilliam; three brothers, Charles M. McKenzie, Ray McKenzie and Robert McKenzie all of whom live in Abbeville.

the water after the ship plunged into the Humber and I was rescued after being imprisoned for 15 minutes. That is all I am able to say."

Lieutenant Wann denied local reports that he had heroically plunged the ZR-2 into the river rather than on shore which was crowded with thousands of spectators. The disaster occurred so quickly, he said, that any such action was impossible.

CONGRESS RESTS TILL SEPTEMBER 21

**BOTH HOUSES QUIT WORK FOR
TIME WITHOUT VOTE ON BILL
PREVENTING MANUFACTURE
AND SALE OF BEER TO SICK.
HARDING SIGNS MANY BILLS.**

Washington, Aug. 25.—Congress took a recess tonight until September 21, without a vote by the senate on a bill prohibiting the manufacture and sale of beer to the sick. The senate ended its work at 11:34 o'clock and the house at 11:58.

President Harding was at the capitol late tonight to sign a number of bills. The last to be put before him was the dye embargo extension, the last measure to be passed by the senate.

The senate is expected to resume work upon reconvening but Representative Mondell, the Republican leader, obtained an agreement to have the house declare three-day recesses from September 21 to October 3.

Announcement of adoption by the house of the recess resolution was made to the senate while Senator Stanley (Democrat) of Kentucky, was in the midst of a speech attacking provisions of the anti-beer bill. After it had been laid aside temporarily, senators opposing it were on guard to see that it was not called up again in an attempt to obtain a quick vote. Prohibition leaders early in the night abandoned their effort to hold up the recess until it had been passed, failing even to obtain an agreement fixing a date for a vote on it by the senate, after congress reassembles next month.

President Harding arrived at his office at the capitol while the debate on a bill for three months' extension of the dye embargo was under way, ready to sign bills. Among the first to be signed was the shipping board deficiency bill with an amendment carrying \$20,000 for expenses of the disarmament conference.

Objection by Democrats prevented senate consideration of a bill passed by the house imposing a duty of 90 per cent. on war supplies sold by the government in France and shipped back to this country.

SUNDAY SCHOOL FIGURES

University of South Carolina Bulletin Gives Interesting Facts.

A bulletin recently issued by the Department of Rural Social Science, University of South Carolina, entitled, "The Rural Sunday School," gives some interesting facts in regard to this branch of Christian endeavor. The following is one paragraph of the bulletin:

"In 1825, the American Sunday School Union reported 1,150 Sunday schools with 11,295 teachers and 82,697 scholars. In 1831, the semi-centennial of the founding of the system of Raikes, the American Sunday School Union reported 600,000 scholars enrolled. In 1910 the Sunday schools of the United States numbered 193,495, with 1,749,894 teachers and 15,380,894 scholars. In 1917 the Protestant and miscellaneous Sunday schools had over 19,000,000 scholars enrolled and the Roman Catholic schools 2,850,000. The Protestant enrollment was distributed as follows: Methodist, 7,000,000 scholars; Baptist, 3,800,000; Presbyterian, 2,000,000; Lutheran, 1,000,000; Disciples, 940,000; Congregationalist, 750,000; Episcopal, Reformed, and United Brethren, 500,000 each."

REPRESENTING THE TEAM

Billy Long and Bruce Galloway leave Saturday for Columbia where they go to attend the practice school for coaches now in progress in that city. The boys will represent the Abbeville team and will bring back to the boys enough new stunts to put the team in the champion class.

SOLDIERS' BODIES SAVED FROM FIRE

**FIVE HUNDRED REMOVED
FROM PIERS—FLAMES REACH
SIDE OF GREAT LINER BUT
ARE DRIVEN BACK AFTER
STUBBORN FIGHT.**

Hoboken, N. J., Aug. 25.—Five hundred bodies of American soldiers dead, awaiting shipment to the home of relatives, were removed in safety late today when fire of unknown origin swept over the army waterfront reservation here, destroying piers five and six and adjoining army storehouse and barracks.

Pier four, at which the giant Leviathan and the transport Wheaton were docked, was saved with difficulty. The flames licked the sides of the Leviathan, damaging a small section of woodwork on the bow and the forward mast, but a fire boat wedged its way between the liner and the burning pier and successfully fought off the flames as they spread to the huge craft.

When the fire broke out there were 500 bodies in the large rooms at the junction of piers four and five. As soon as the alarm was sounded, Captain Wilbur, officer of the day, called out the entire army personnel, about 150 men, who started removing the bodies. Four hundred longshoremen on duty at nearby piers assisted.

One thousand other bodies were lined up on pier four, but inasmuch as the flames did not come near them they were not disturbed. The transport Wheaton, which recently arrived here with 5,000 bodies, still had 2,000 aboard when the fire broke out but it was on the opposite side of the pier from which the fire was located.

ATTENDS POTATO MEETING

Hodges Farmers Interested In Production of Tubers.

Secretary G. T. Banes of the Chamber of Commerce, attended the meeting yesterday at Hodges in the interest of sweet potato production. He said there was much enthusiasm among those present and that steps were taken that will lead to a full storage room another year.

There is already a potato curing house at Hodges. Enough pledges were secured yesterday at the meeting to insure that the plant will be taxed to capacity next year. The plan is that the farmers will simply store their potatoes and agree that costs of storage shall be paid out of the proceeds resulting from their sale by a marketing committee or manager. This plan eliminates the necessity of having sufficient capital to purchase the tubers outright, and allows the owners the advantages to be gained by large lot sale and cooperative effort.

Mr. Barnes hopes that plans may soon be perfected for the erection of a potato curing and storing house in Abbeville. From appearances and reports, he says, a substitute crop must soon be found to take the place of cotton. There were present at Hodges yesterday a number of Abbeville county farmers, who appeared much interested in the proceedings, and some of them signed up to plant a definite acreage of potatoes next year.

HUNTING SEASON BEGINS

Open Date Comes September 1 For Some Game.

The open season for the hunting of opossums, rabbits, raccoons, squirrels, fox, plover yellow legs and deer (bucks only) begins September 1, Thursday of next week and continues to March 1. There remains, therefore, only a week in which to secure licenses, oil up the old gun, and acquire a reliable dog.

MOB AT CHAPIN LYNCHES NEGRO

**SLAYER OF NOAH FRICK PUT
TO DEATH—HUNDREDS OF
SHOTS FIRED INTO BODY OF
WILL ALLEN—REMAINS LEFT
BEHIND.**

Chapin, Aug. 24.—Will Allen, negro about 60 years old, was shot to death by a mob of about 150 men two miles from Chapin at 2 o'clock this afternoon for the killing of Noah F. Frick a highly respected farmer, late Tuesday. Immediately after Mr. Frick had been shot, a posse was formed and search for Allen begun. He was known to have gone into a swamp after the shooting and all last night and throughout today until Allen was found crouching in a ditch, the search was kept up:

Though armed with a Winchester rifle, the weapon with which Mr. Frick was killed, Allen made no effort to resist the officers. He came out of the ditch with his hands up. Heber L. Meetze, found Allen in a ditch about ten feet wide and eight feet deep. The negro was hidden by undergrowth. Officers Foy of Newberry county and Rural Policeman Koon of Richland county took charge of the prisoner. They were joined immediately by Sheriff Roof of Lexington and several other officers and private citizens. These were on their way to their cars in which they intended to take the negro to the penitentiary for safe keeping when the mob with masks on their faces took the negro from them. Allen was led a quarter of a mile away and killed.

An inquest was conducted later in the afternoon by Coroner Weed of Lexington. The verdict declared that Allen came to his death from gunshot wounds at the hands of unknown parties.

Late today the body of Allen was still where it fell. Negroes are said to have declared their intention to let it remain unmolested.

Hundreds of shots were fired into Allen's body, the head and chest being largely shot away, while the entire body is literally shot into a shapeless mass.

Allen's rifle was jammed, and but for this people here believed that members of the searching party might have been shot. One cartridge had been snapped but failed to explode. The rifle then had refused to eject the snapped cartridge.

Allen had with him a bag containing a pone of corn bread and a glass of jelly. He bore a bad reputation in the community, even with his own race and is said to have once been tried for killing another negro.

Coroner Weed this afternoon also held an inquest for the killing of Mr. Frick, the verdict of the jury being that Mr. Frick came to his death from gunshot wounds at the hands of Will Allen.

The funeral of Mr. Frick will be held at Mt. Hebron Lutheran church Thursday morning at 11 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. J. M. Senter. Interment will be in the church yard.

Deputy Sheriff H. C. Oswald stated today that the report printed in the morning papers to the effect that Allen had remained on the porch of his home for several hours after the shooting yesterday afternoon with a gun in his hands defying the officers was incorrect. Mr. Oswald says that he arrived on the scene in about an hour after the shooting and that Allen had already left the house when he got there. R. W. Eleazer, T. O. Stoudmire, J. L. Eargle and George Hiller made the same statement.

POSTOFFICE CHANGE

Lucien Lomax is now an assistant in the postoffice, taking the place of Fred Minshall, who resigned.

G. A. Neuffer, Jr., clerk at the postoffice, is taking his vacation.

KENNETH GOSSETT GIVEN NEW TRIAL

**SUPREME COURT ORDERS RE-
HEARING OF CASE—ACCUSED
MAN FAILED TO GET FAIR
SHOWING AT SPECIAL TERM,
DECISION SAYS.**

News was received in Abbeville today to the effect that the Supreme Court has ordered a new trial in the case of Kenneth Gossett, who was tried at a special term of court held here in April, 1920, and after conviction for criminal assault, sentenced to serve 40 years in the penitentiary. Gossett is now in the penitentiary where he has been held pending the decision of the court.

Clerk of Court J. L. Perrin says that as soon as the court's order has been received the case will again be docketed here. He could not say whether it was probable that the case would come up in the term of court convening Monday, September 5, but it is not thought likely that it will be taken up before the February term of criminal court. Appeal for a change of venue was denied.

Associate Justice Cothran wrote the opinion and the entire court concurred, the new trial being granted on the grounds that Gossett was not given a fair trial by the special court. Justice Cothran severely criticizes the statute under which special courts are called and cites a number of incidents to show that an accused has no showing under the present policy of special courts.

The court also severely criticizes the spirit of mobs and says that where trials are held under conditions similar to those obtaining at the Gossett case it is a "judicial lynching." The Abbeville court was called to try the Gossetts alone.

The Gossett case has attracted considerable attention for more than a year. Two brothers, Kenneth and John Gossett, were charged with criminal assault upon two young white women of Abbeville. Feeling against the men was said to have been bitter at the time and a special court was requested by Solicitor Blackwell. This court was ordered and held early in April of 1920.

"The defendant is entitled to be tried in an orderly manner," however guilty he may be, in a calm judicial atmosphere," the opinion says. The nature of the crime, time of trial, circumstances of the trial and the public mind are all of the gravest concern to the accused, it is pointed out, and will have a bearing on the verdict. "What was the reason for a special court at Abbeville?" the court asks. There was apparently no crowded docket, as the Gossett case was the only one tried and this could have waited until the next term. "Circumstances of this trial demonstrate beyond a doubt that Gossett under the operations of the section we are now considering was convicted by due process of law and was denied equal protection of the law."

The fact that ten days' notice is required by the law for the drawing of the jury and only five were given at Abbeville was not allowed to stop the trial, it was pointed out. If the statutory notice had been given, the trial could not have been held at the time, the court says, "but a slight statutory regulation must not stand in the way." The condition of Abbeville at the time is clearly shown, Mr. Cothran says, when after a verdict of not guilty had been directed as to John Gossett the defendant had to be slipped out of town for fear of violence.

In conclusion, the court says that no reflection whatever is meant to be cast upon Solicitor Blackwell.

SPOT COTTON

Fifteen cents was being offered for best cotton today, but none was sold.