BRITISH FLYING-BOAT COLLISION TRAGEDY

ONE OF CREW DROWNED AND MANY INJURED

Dramatic Escapes From the Cockpit

As the result of a collision between a flying boat and a naval launch in Plymouth Sound on Thursday a member of the boat's crew is missing and believed drowned; one was seriously injured, and six others sustained slight injuries.

Three members of the crew of the launch were also injured. They are:—

W. Ellis, of Plymouth.
G. Stibbs, of Plymouth.
N. Shade, of Devonport.

The following announcement was made by the Air Ministry in London last night:—

"The Air Ministry regrets to announce that, as a result of a collision between an Iris Aircraft of No. 209 (Flying Boat) Squadron and a Naval dockyard launch, which occurred in Plymouth Sound on January 12, 1933:—

"No. 562311 Leading Aircraftman Alfred Dore Statter is missing, believed to be drowned;

"No. 363720 Leading Aircraftman (acting Corporal) Frederick Leonard Patch sustained severe injuries;

"The first pilot of the machine, Squadron Leader John Hugh Oscar Jones, and the following members of the crew sustained slight injuries:—362421 Corporal Henry Seward Beale Mace; 561661 A.C.1. Norman William Watson; 562632 A.C.1. James Douglas Frederick Williams; 562898 L.A.C. Francis Joseph Soper; and 562387 L.A.C. Ernest Alfred Fuller.

The second pilot, No. 363748 Sergeant Pilot John Herbert Claude Saffery, was not injured."

Seen by Hundreds

The accident occurred near the scene of the disaster in 1931, when nine of the crew of a similar machine lost their lives. The mishap was seen by hundreds of people on the Hoe at Plymouth, and, within a few moments, emergency speed boats set out from Mount Batten Air Station, and fishing vessels in the vicinity rushed to the spot.

The accident took place when the flying boat was taking off. It had only been engaged in exercises for half an hour and had alighted on the water, and was about to rise again when the tip of one wing came into collision with the launch, which was proceeding to sea.

The flying boat heeled over and immediately began to sink.

The ten members of the flying boat crew were in a closed-in cockpit. They succeeded in opening the sliding roof, and in the few seconds that elapsed before the fuselage sank the majority of the crew had scrambled to safety.

Most of the airmen were cut and bruised and were taken to different hospitals.

The injured members of the crew of the launch were swept off their feet when the wing of the flying-boat struck the vessel.

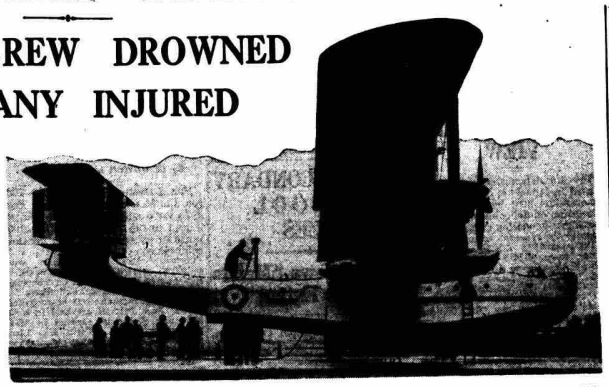
"All In a Flash"

A passenger on board a steamer bound from London to Liverpool, which was at anchor in the harbour close to the scene of the mishap, said that less than three seconds elapsed between the time of the collision and the disappearance of the flying-boat.

"It was all over in a flash," he said.

Squadron-leader John Much Oscar Jones, who was the first pilot of the machine and was one of those slightly injured, is 36 years old. His home is at Marlborough. He was air member of the British Naval Mission to Chile from 1928 until 1930 and served during the war with the R.A.F. in France.

In the accident of February, 1931, a flying boat, Iris III., struck the water in a steep dive, when about to alight after firing practice. Only three of her crew of twelve escaped.



THE GIANT ALL-STEEL NAVAL SEAPLANE Iris III., which crashed in Plymouth Sound in February, 1931. The boat concerned in yesterday's accident was of a similar type.

COSGRAVE'S DRAMATIC BID

Annuities Promise

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

DUBLIN, Thursday.

Mr. Cosgrave made a bold and dramatic bid for power to-day, when he completely outbid Mr. de Valera in an offer for the farmers' vote.

Speaking at a meeting at Naas, Kildare, Mr. Cosgrave said, "We propose, if returned to power, to remit the land annuities for November and December last year, for June, November, and December this year, and June of next year. The first collection we propose to make will be in November and December of 1934.

"In my opinion the farmers are unable to pay more than half of what they have been paying, and I will collect no more than that.

"Do not think that this is a political bribe. It is nothing of the sort. The negotiations in Great Britain, if I am returned to power, will be based on the ability of the farmers to pay."

De Valera's Offer

Mr. de Valera's offer to the farmers consists of the future remission of half the annual annuities payable by farmers and the funding of 4½ per cent. of all arrears over a period of fifty years up to June of this year.

It will thus be seen that Mr. Cosgrave's pledge is not only equivalent to Mr. de Valera's in promising to remit half the annuities payable this year, but he will remove the burden imposed on many small farmers who are in arrears in annuities payable last year and this year. It also relieves them from any anxiety concerning the future until next Christmas.

Mr. Cosgrave's offer had a remarkable reception in Dublin. It was a complete surprise and was interpreted as likely to exercise a big influence upon a section of voters which hitherto has been regarded as an incalculable factor. The offer may materially sway the farmers' vote, and it is more than likely that farmers' deputies, and not those of Labour, will hold the balance in the next legislature.

BIG MERGER PENDING

Coal Export and Depot Enterprises

Negotiations are in progress with the object of creating a further combination of coal export and foreign depôt enterprises. One of the largest undertakings of the kind in the kingdom is proposing to acquire control of two, or possibly three, well-known concerns. The proposals, which have reached an advanced stage, will, if completed, make the combination the largest of the kind in the world.

WHEN YOU SPEND

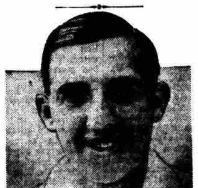
Every time you spend a shilling you are doing something which has obligations as well as rights; you are helping your fellow man to live.

—Mr. Evan Hughes, C.B.E., at Cardiff Publicity Club luncheon on Thursday.

THE THIRD TEST MATCH

ENGLAND'S TEAM CHANGES

Verity and Paynter Included



PAYNTER

Pataudi and Bowes Dropped

JARDINE WINS THE TOSS

ENGLAND made two changes in the side to meet Australia at Adelaide to-day, Paynter and Verity taking the places of Pataudi and Bowes.

Australia made one change from the team successful at Melbourne, Ponsford taking the place of O'Brien.

The following are the sides:—

ENGLAND	AUSTRALIA
D. R. Jardine (Surrey).	W. M. Woodfull (Victoria).
R. E. S. Wyatt (Warwickshire).	S. J. McCabe (New South Wales).
G. O. Allen (Middlesex).	T. W. Wall (South Australia).
Sutcliffe (Yorkshire).	D. Bradman (New South Wales).
Hammond (Gloucestershire).	J. H. Fingleton (New South Wales)
Leyland (Yorkshire).	C. V. Grimmett (South Australia).
Paynter (Lancashire)	W. A. Oldfield (New South Wales).
Ames (Kent).	W. J. O'Reilly (New South Wales).
Voce (Notts).	V. Y. Richardson (South Australia).
Larwood (Notts).	H. Ironmonger (Victoria).
Verity (Yorkshire).	W. H. Ponsford (Victoria).

Jardine won the toss, and had no hesitation in batting first.

THE SCORE BOARD

ENGLAND.—First Innings

Sutcliffe not out	0
D. R. Jardine b Wall	3
Extras	1
Total (one wicket)	4

EARLY SCENES AT THE GROUND

ADELAIDE, Friday.

Sunshine and a cool southerly breeze gave the air a champagne sparkle this morning. All the English players were up bright and early, and many of them took a pre-breakfast swim to tone themselves up for the great struggle.

It was easy to get a swim, as the hotel is right on the sea-front. Adelaide, known in Australia as the "City of Churches"—St. Peter's Cathedral actually overlooks the ground—was crowded, including many visitors from the country and other States.

As early as eight o'clock—four hours before play was due to begin—thousands of people began to wend their way to the Oval, a delightful ground, which is considered to be the most charming in Australia.

Long before the gates were opened at ten o'clock, queues began to form outside the ground, all discussing the coming duel with the greatest enthusiasm.

Australia was the first to announce her team. As was expected, W. H. Ponsford was brought into the side to the exclusion of L. P. O'Brien, who was relegated to the position of twelfth man. This was the only change from the team which won the second Test at Melbourne.

The selected English team showed that Jardine pinned his faith in Ames's ability to find his batting form, and the Kent wicket-keeper retained his place in preference to Duckworth.

Verity, a much-needed spin bowler was brought into the side to the exclusion of Bowes, and the Nawab of Pataudi dropped in favour of the Lancashire left-hander, Paynter.

Actually there were two changes from the last Test team, Verity and Paynter coming in for Bowes and the Nawab of Pataudi.

The Vital Toss

Jardine did England a great service by at last beating Woodfull in the toss. He naturally decided that England should bat first. Australia will thus have to bat in the fourth innings, during which the wicket may crumble.

Thus Jardine broke a sequence of five successive failures in the toss, including the first two Tests.

It was a perfect wicket. The grass was of a beautiful vivid green.

At eleven o'clock—an hour before the start—30,000 people were inside the ground, and there were still long queues outside the gates.

Jardine settled the interesting question who would open the innings by going in himself with Sutcliffe. The batting order was announced as follows:—

D. R. Jardine, Sutcliffe, Hammond, Ames, Leyland, R. E. S. Wyatt, Paynter, G. O. Allen, Voce, Larwood, and Verity.

Larwood's Boots

Larwood's boots have offered the Australian comedians much scope for humour at the expense of the Notts fast bowler. Every theatre in Adelaide is this week presenting some sort of burlesque on cricket, and Larwood and his offending boots are the stock quip.

Adelaide is the scene of two of the closest finishes in the history of Tests. Australia won there in 1925 by eleven runs and England by twelve runs in 1929.

Winning the toss is always an important factor. This is well substantiated by the fact that Australia has won it in eight Tests at Adelaide and has been victorious in seven.—Press Association Foreign Special.

SOCIAL AND PERSONAL

It is announced by the War Office that the Duke of Gloucester has passed his examination for promotion for the rank of major.

The Earl and Countess of Pembroke have left in the Otranto for a round cruise in Australia.

The Mayor of Haverfordwest (Councillor John Nicholas) has now recovered from his indisposition.

The Monmouthshire Hunt meet at Coldbrook to-morrow has been cancelled because of the death of Major Eustace Hill, Llansantffraed Court, Abergavenny.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, M.P., Secretary for the Dominions, will visit Newport to-day and preside at the annual re-union of the Newport National School's Old Boys' Association.

The engagement is announced of Dr. William Farquharson, of Chepstow, to Miss Margaret Light, daughter of the late Major A. Light, of the Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, and Mrs. Light, of Kingston, Ontario. Miss Light is connected with the Department of Mines at Ottawa, Canada. It is believed that the wedding will take place in London next Spring.

Lord and Lady Merthyr have returned to Hean Castle, Saundersfoot.

The Marquis of Crewe, who was Secretary of War in the first National Government, was 75 on Thursday.

Lord Glanely leaves London to-day on board the P. and O. steamer Maloja for India.

Mr. Justice du Parcq was unable to take his seat in the King's Bench Division on Thursday owing to indisposition.

Mr. Robert Hughes, who is in the Cardiff Royal Infirmary, is making satisfactory progress after an operation.

Lord and Lady Hutchison of Montrose and Lord Devonport left London on Thursday for Egypt. Lord Hutchison is chairman of the Liberal National organisation. Sir John Simon, who was accompanied by Lady Simon, was among a number of people at the station to see them off.

Col. H. R. Bowen, D.S.O., who has this week taken up duties as officer in charge of Infantry Records and Pay Office at Warley, commanded the 5th Territorial Army Battalion of the Welch Regiment (headquarters at Pontypridd) during the last two years of the Great War.

SURPRISE IN WELSH RUGBY TEAM

VIVIAN JENKINS AT FULL-BACK

MONMOUTHSHIRE IGNORED

The "Big Five" of the Welsh Football Union met at Neath on Thursday evening and selected the following side to play England at Twickenham on January 21:—

Full-back:
*V. G. J. Jenkins (Bridgend and Oxford).

Three-quarters:
Left wing: *A. H. Jones (Cardiff).
Left centre: *W. Wooller (Rydal School, Colwyn Bay).
Right centre: Claud Davey (Swansea and Sale).
Right wing: R. Boon (Cardiff and Dunfermline).

Half-backs:
Inside: *M. J. Turnbull (Cardiff).
Outside: H. M. Bowcott (London Welsh).

Forwards:
*Bryn Evans (Llanelly).
*Edgar Jones (Llanelly).
A. Skym (Cardiff).
*R. B. Jones (Cambridge).
D. Thomas (Swansea).
Watcyn Thomas (Swansea), captain.
Tom Arthur (Neath).
*I. Isaacs (Cardiff).
*New caps.

The English team will be:—Full-back, T. W. Brown (Bristol); three-quarters, L. A. Booth (Headingley), D. W. Burland (Bristol), R. A. Gerrard (Bath), C. D. Aarvold, captain (Blackheath); half-backs, W. Elliott (Royal Navy and United Services), A. Key (Old Cranleighans); forwards, N. L. Evans (Royal Navy and United Services), G. G. Gregory (Bristol), R. J. Longland (Northampton), G. P. C. Vallance (Leicester), C. Webb (Royal Navy and Devonport Services), A. Vaughan-Jones (Army and United Services), B. H. Black (Blackheath), R. Bolton (Wakefield and University College Hospital).

"OLD STAGER'S" COMMENTS

No Monmouthshire Player in the Team

"Old Stager" writes: In the main the side is a good one—one which should command satisfaction and a fair degree of confidence.

Perhaps the most amazing feature connected with the selections is the number of players in the side who have had considerable portions of their Rugby experience outside of Wales. Even the captain, Watcyn Thomas—who is, for the first time, promoted from the leadership of the pack to the captaincy—is this season's captain of Lancashire, while the two North Walians included—Wooller and R. B. Jones (to whom all Welshmen will offer the warmest congratulations, for they are the first representatives from the North in a national Rugby side for nearly half a century)—by never been in South Wales before proceeding to Swansea for the final trial last week-end and are playing members of the Sale (Lancashire) Club.

What of the others? Boon is lost to Welsh club Rugby; A. H. Jones was last season's captain of London Welsh; Maurice Turnbull has played as much Rugby for Cambridge and Somerset as for Cardiff; Vivian Jenkins was practically unknown as a footballer before going to Oxford; H. M. Bowcott has been with the London Welsh this season, and Claud Davey has played more senior Rugby in Lancashire than in Wales.

The Luckiest Man

Perhaps the luckiest man in the Welsh side is Vivian Jenkins. Had he refrained from playing in the county match at Neath on Thursday it could have been argued that he had been chosen on merit, but in the county match Gwyn Bayliss (Pontypool) was further in front of the Oxonian than Jenkins was ahead of Everson (Newport) in the final trial. Neither the selectors nor anyone else can offer any logical explanation of the full-back selection, unless it was that the "Big Five," for some inexplicable reason, desired to exclude Monmouthshire from representation. At any rate, that is what has happened—and it is improbable that it has never happened before.

Of course, fault-finding is easy, and it is generally easiest of all in regard to the pack. With the present pack, however, little fault can be found, though, in pursuance of the point as to the exclusion of Monmouthshire players, I would add that J. R. Evans (Newport) could have been given a place without the pack losing any of its effectiveness.

If Arthur Lemon (Neath) had been fit, he would doubtless have been placed to guard the short side of the scrummages, but, as no natural successor to Lemon has appeared, the selectors have probably acted wisely in playing seven scrummagers and one wing-forward, Isaacs. By so doing they appear to have restricted the chances which will go to England's powerful quartette, and, at the same time, they have taken the precaution of including Isaacs to assist the centres in any heavy defensive work.

Frank Williams's Exclusion

The persistent ignoring of W. C. Powell (London Welsh) by the selectors this season, and the form shown by Turnbull and Bowcott in the final trial, made it as certain as anything could be that Turnbull and Bowcott would be the Welsh halves. They played themselves into the side, while Frank Williams, in the final trial and the county match, equally clearly played himself out of it.

The side, taken as a whole, may not be what Welshmen—and especially Monmouthshire folk!—had hoped for. It is, however, difficult to suggest how it can be substantially amended for the better, though what method of reasoning was employed in order to give Vivian Jenkins preference over Gwyn Bayliss will be incomprehensible to all who judge solely on what they saw in the county match at Neath on Thursday.

FIGHT FOR BRITISH SHIPPING

MR. HICHENS'S WAY TO KILL SUBSIDIES

SUPER-TAX AT OUR PORTS

"Supposing it was clearly announced that a super-tax would be placed on every subsidised ship entering an Imperial port; it would not be very long before these subsidies collapsed; and I think it is time we looked after ourselves a little more."

This statement was made by Mr. W. L. Hichens, chairman of directors of Cammell, Laird, and Co., on Thursday at a luncheon following the launch of a new steamer for the Birkenhead Corporation.

"Our shipping is steadily declining in relation to other countries," he said. "At the beginning of this century we held half the mercantile shipping of the world. Since then our percentage has steadily dropped until to-day it is only one-third, and it is dropping from year to year."

A TERRIFIC HANDICAP

It was pointed out some time ago that in twelve years from 1920 the United States taxpayers had forked out no less than £600,000,000 to subsidise their shipping.

"This is a terrific handicap to us who have no subsidies at all.

"It is calculated at the present time that the leading countries of the world are subsidising shipping to the tune of £30,000,000 a year.

"It seems to me that if we are prepared to protect any other industry that comes along and asks for protection, or subsidies any other industry that comes along and asks for help, that something ought to be done for the most basic of all the industries of this country—shipping."

FILMS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The President of the Board of Trade has appointed Mr. C. T. Cramp and Mr. Philip Guedalla to be members of the Cinematograph Films Advisory Committee in place of Sir Robert Blair and Mr. St. John Ervine, whose term of office has expired.

Continued from next column.

Mr. Hill is well known in South Wales. He came to Barry when a young man, and became connected with several big ventures. He was associated with the late Mr. Sam Brain in the erection of hotels in Barry. He formed the company of Messrs. Trevor Roberts, Hill, and Co., who carried out big schemes as architects, and was later a partner in Messrs. W. Allan Richards, Hill, and Co.

BOOTS' DEAL HELD UP

Will Chancellor Stop Negotiations?

The bankers concerned in the arrangements for the sale to British interests by American holders of the control of Boots Pure Drug Company, Ltd., have been asked by the Treasury to suspend negotiations until the decision of the Chancellor of the Exchequer has been obtained.

Mr. Chamberlain is at present in Birmingham, and the matter is already before him personally.

In the financial houses directly interested there is expectation that Mr. Chamberlain's decision will be made known speedily.

The position so far as the Treasury is concerned is that the proposed sale is regarded as contrary to the letter and the spirit of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's request concerning new issues. It would represent a large new issue, the proceeds of which would be remitted abroad.

It is understood that no legal binding agreement has been signed, and in these circumstances the bankers have been asked to await the Chancellor's decision.

It appears probable that Mr. Chamberlain's decision will be against the deal being put through. In this event it is not expected that the bankers would act in defiance of a request of such a nature from the Chancellor, which would, of course, represent the full weight of Treasury opinion.

No Influence on Shares

Although the deal had been expected, writes our City Editor, the news of the return of Boots Pure Drug Company to British control aroused considerable interest in the Stock Exchange, especially towards the close of business, when a report was circulated that a hitch had occurred owing to the attitude of the Treasury in the matter. This, however, failed to influence the market, the shares closing very firm at 7 7-16.

It remains to be seen whether the authorities will foment to the deal being consummated with the sterling exchange being officially regulated when necessary. The transfer of anything like £7,000,000 from sterling to dollars presents a problem of considerable difficulty.

Mr. Hill's Interests

If the deal is actually consummated, it means that practically all the multiple chemist shops of the country come under the control of Mr. Philip E. Hill. He is chairman of Beechams Pills, Ltd., which controls many manufacturing units, and also Taylors (Cash Chemists), London, which controls over 220 shops in London

Continued in preceding column.

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