ONE OF THE MYSTERIES OF WAR

LOSS OF 3 BRITISH CRUISERS AT BATTLE OF JUTLAND

Theory That Vessels Were Sunk by Assembling Cordite in Turrets in Defiance of the Regulations.

One of the great mysteries of the war is the loss of Admiral Beatty's three great battle cruisers—the Queen Mary, the Indefatigable and the Invincible—in the battle of Jutland.

Two of these magnificent fighting ships were lost early in the engagement within a few minutes of each other, the third being sunk later in the day. All three sank with great rapidity after being hit, the suggestion being that their magazines were exploded by a lucky enemy shot.

Various conflicting theories have been advanced as to what occurred, but the Pall Mall Gazette professes to have obtained from "a source of unimpeachable authority" an explanation of the true facts. The correspondent also throws some new light on the battle off the Falkland Islands and on other naval matters which have hitherto remained obscure.

The sinking of the Queen Mary, with 1,550 lives; the Indefatigable, with 962 lives, and the Invincible, with 968 lives, off Jutland, on May 31, 1916, has never been explained. The Admiralty has remained silent, and it was a noticeable feature of Lord Jellicoe's and Sir David Beatty's despatches that no account was given of the end of these three mighty battle cruisers.

Various Theories.

What actually occurred will never be known with absolute certainty, but the charge of the critics of the Admiralty has always been that the flash tight doors of the ammunition hoists were at fault, and that explosions in the turrets caused by enemy shells communicated with the magazines and resulted in the destruction of the ships.

That is one theory, but it is no more than a theory, and there is strong presumptive evidence in favor of another. Explosions preceded the sinking of each cruiser—that is known—but there is very high authority for the belief that the explosions did not take place in the magazines.

Again it must be pointed out that no unchallengeable evidence exists, but the second theory of the cause of these grave disasters is that, in defiance of all rules and regulations, but animated by intense zeal and animosity and anxiety, the officers responsible, in preparing for immediate action, had assembled in the turrets the cordite which should have come up the hoists as required for serving the guns. When the enemy were engaged the turrets were struck and the cordite fired.

Among the experts who accept the theory that the magazines exploded there are those who are convinced that the magazines were reached owing to the inadequacy of the protective deck. This involves another charge, but in common fairness it must be recalled that the Queen Mary, Indefatigable and Invincible, which were designed under Lord Fisher, were the first battle cruisers in the world, just as the Dreadnought was the first dreadnought. Speed was the main essential, and they were not designed to fight in the line at all.

Speed the Main Thing.

Lord Fisher summed up his requirements in the words, "Speed and heavy guns." No cruiser had ever carried 12-inch guns before. At Coronel the Germans overwhelmed our cruisers because they had more modern, homogeneous batteries. The Good Hope had two 9-inch and 6-inch guns, but in the early stages of the battle one of the 9.2's was knocked out, and the position was hopeless. The Scharnhorst and Gneisenau had 8½-inch guns. Big guns and speed were obtained at the cost of, among other things, heavy deck armor.

There were other considerations that weighed in favor of the design. The highest naval authorities contemplated a certain maximum range of action, but the enemy had provided for a gun elevation giving a much longer range. A remarkable and little known fact is that a shell from the Emden struck the bridge of the Sydney at a range of sixteen miles. The shot was a lucky one, but it conveyed a lesson.

The value of gun power and speed was demonstrated at the Falkland Islands. By virtue of the speed of his ships Admiral Sturdee reached his destination in time, and by virtue of his 12m. guns he put down the enemy fleet. There was no element of luck in Admiral Sturdee's achievement. Some day Lord Fisher may be able to tell how he knew of on Spee's plans; how, on the principle that it is useless to send a tortoise to catch a hare, he told the Admiral to take the Invincible and the Inflexible; and how, with a fine knowledge of the British sailor's superstitions, he accelerated the Admiral's departure in order to avoid sailing on Friday, November 13.

War Longer Than Expected.

When criticizing much of the new construction of the early months of war—and nearly all the criticisms have regard to the construction of that period—it must be borne in mind that the War Cabinet issued instructions to the Admiralty in the belief that the war would, or could, not last more than a period very much less than was generally suggested at the time. Rapidity of construction was imperative, and desgns were adapted and modified in order that this might be secured. It was only when it became apparent that the first estimates of the duration of the war were wrong that new construction entered upon another phase, and a policy was adopted which has borne wonderful fruit in the shape of the British navy's overwhelming might. The German Admiralty knew more than people at home, and the future was destitute of a vestige of hope.

The monitors, or certain classes of these useful vessels, have been described in scathing terms, but these "gun platforms" have done magnificent work. As a high naval authority remarked, "They were designed for bombarding the Belgian coast and not for pleasure trips." The submarine classes run from E to R, and there is no shadow of doubt that the vessels of many of them—big vessels built for offence—would have caused terrible havoc among the enemy's capital ships in a fleet action.

During the last four years between fifty and sixty vessels of new design have been built and put into the water, many of them multiplied by the score and by the hundred. The test of battle has been denied, but their silent pressure has driven Germany to surrender through despair. The men who have worked during these four years to prepare our "sure shield" for its mighty task are of the Silent Service, but they feel very keenly the attacks, to which they cannot reply, of critics who do not know the facts.

Save Sugar by eating Grape-Nuts as your cereal dish

This standard food needs no added sweetening for it is rich in its own sugar, developed from wheat and barley by the special Grape-Nuts process of cooking.

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THE TOMB OF A U-BOAT

Patches of Oil Rising All Around Showed Grave of Submarine.

Surprise and a cheery call brought me on deck. For part of the "dark hours" throughout which the drifter had maintained her never-ceasing patrol of a stretch of sea where, according to the skipper, "you never know what'll happen," I had kept a "watch below," well rocked but quite cosy. If you stayed awake on drifter patrol while danger threatened you would never sleep at all. For danger is your constant shipmate in one form or another.

"Would you like to see the grave of a U-boat?" asked the skipper.

"Certainly."

"Right O!" The wheel spun around and the drifter, turning to port, tumbled over the wave crests one after another until she reached a patch of strangely calm water.

"The oil causes that," explained the skipper. "Watch and you'll see it coming up."

Leaning over the drifter's side, I could discern patches of oil rising all around. They came up in quite tiny points, which made big, many-hued circles as they spread widely after reaching the surface.

"She lies there," said the skipper. "Oil's been coming up like that for weeks. She must have been chockful of it."

"How did you get her?"

"Depth charges." And then came the story:

"A U-boat, newly commissioned, and just started upon a voyage of piracy, had tried to steal past our drifter sentinels in the darkness. But the keen, never-losing eyes of the night watch "picked her up." Out went the call, and in response to it the hunters encircled their quarry.

Vainly she tried to escape them by diving and doubling. Big cylinders filled with deadly explosive dropped from their decks, torturing the water into a boiling fury on every hand. This continued until the hunters were certain that they had made a "kill."

"Have you got any others?" I asked.

"Yes, there's quite ——lying hereabouts," replied the skipper, indicating with his hand a narrow stretch of sea.

It would bring no consolation to the soul of the Kaiser to learn the number mentioned, though it was big enough to be a fine testimonial to the efficiency of our anti-submarine flotillas.

THE FIRST MAXIM GUN

The Inventor's First Weapon Was a Tin Pea-Shooter.

When the late Sir Hiram Steven Maxim was a boy, opposite his parnets' house in Brooklyn lived a physician who had a pretty servant-girl. It was the custom of the policeman on the beat to pay his respects to this maid in the evening. Young Maxim spent some time at an upstairs window with a tin pea-shooter in his hand blowing peas at the policeman. Finally he became so adept at the gentle art that he could hit the wall of the doctor's house above the heads of the lovers and cause the peas to drop on them. The policeman blamed a small boy who lived next door, and threatened to visit him with the vengeance of the law, and did his best to catch him; but he never found the youth in possession of the incriminating shooter or the ammunition on him.

Wonderful!

An Irish housekeeper was showing to some visitors the family portraits in the picture gallery.

"That officer there in uniform," she said, "was the great-great-grandfather of the present owner of the property. He was as brave as a lion, but one of the most unfortunate of men. He never fought a battle in which he did not have a leg or arm carried away."

Then she added proudly:

"He took part in twenty-four engagements."

Minard's Liniment Cures Garget in Cows

The wireless station at Carnarvon, Wales, has succeeded in sending messages clearly to Sydney, Australia, a distance of 12,000 miles.

The Weekly Fashions

The pin tucks in the skirt and sleeves are very new, and the neck stays collarless to carry out the smartness. McCall Pattern No. 8691, Ladies' Dress. In 5 sizes, 34 to 42 bust. Price, 25 cents.

This new chemisette dress has the overdress pointed in front and the long tight dart-fitted sleeves. McCall Pattern No. 8674, Misses' Dress. In 4 sizes, 14 to 20 years. Price, 25 cents. Transfer Design No. 798. Price, 10 cents.

These patterns may be obtained from your local McCall dealer of from the McCall Co., 70 Bond St., Toronto, Dept. W.

Enthusiasts.

That your real enthusiast is never damped is amply borne out even under the vilest conditions of warfare. At the front the inveterate hair-oiler, moustachewaxer and manicurist exist. There is even found the man who must have his cold bath every morning, though a mug and a little water are his only toilet accessories. He is known to fame who, losing all else, emerges triumphantly from every battle with his old violin. Nor is he unknown who will practice the latest revue song while his comrades can think of nothing else but imminent death. Even the chess fiend survives. Two such having failed to conclude a game played at odd moments throughout the day seated themselves on the parapet where the light was somewhat better than in the trench below. A high explosive shell rudely terminated the game by blowing the antagonists into the trench and scattering the chessmen. Unhurt, this irrepressible pair picked themselves up and immediately fell into a violent altercation as to the respective strength of the positions reached before the abrupt stoppage of the game. Thus, in the face of real enthusiasm, a high explosive shell could stop the game, but could not decide the issue.

For Spanish Influenza

The Liniment that Cures All Ailments—

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THE OLD RELIABLE—Try It

MINARD'S LINIMENT CO., Ltd.
Yarmouth, N.S.

To Keep Eyeglasses Clean.

To keep eyeglasses from steaming in cold weather rub with vaseline and polish with a silk handkerchief.

Minard's Liniment Cures Diphtheria.

"A man's real worth to humanity may be well measured by the conception he has of the true relationship he should bear to his fellows."—George L. Wilson.

ISSUE No. 4—19

YES! MAGICALLY! CORNS LIFT OUT WITH FINGERS

You simply say to the drug store man, "Give me a quarter of an ounce of freezone." This will cost very little but is sufficient to remove every hard or soft corn from one's feet.

A few drops of this new ether compound applied directly upon a tender, aching corn should relieve the soreness instantly, and soon the entire corn, root and all, dries up and can be lifted out with the fingers.

This new way to rid one's feet of corns was introduced by a Cincinnati man, who says that, while freezone is sticky, it dries in a moment, and simply shrivels up the corn without inflaming or even irritating the surrounding tissue or skin.

Don't let father die of infection or lockjaw from whittling at his corns, but clip this out and make him try it.

The Solitary Grave.

Upon the farm he loved so well,
Looking across the acres wide,
Where wild flowers bloom and sunshine streams,
They laid his body, when he died.

He lived apart from marts and men,
And knew the friendliness of trees,
The broad companionship of skies,
And the caresses of the breeze.

His kin might lie in silent rows,
Crowded together, near a town,
But he would sleep where he had lived
As the seared leaf drops softly down.

And so in sunshine and in rain,
And when at eve the night wind sings,
His dust commingles with the life
Of sweet, familiar, growing things.

MONEY ORDERS.

Remit by Dominion Express Money Order. If lost or stolen you get your money back.

Hints To Poultry Keepers.

1. Keep better poultry. Standard bred poultry increases production and improves the quality.
2. Select vigorous breeders. Healthy, vigorous breeders produce strong chicks.
3. Hatch chicks early. Early hatched pullets produce fall and winter eggs.
4. Preserve eggs when cheap for use when price is high.
5. Produce infertile eggs; they keep better. Fertile eggs are necessary for hatching only.
6. Cull the flocks. Eliminate unprofitable producers and reduce the feed bill.
7. Keep a backyard flock to supply the family table.
8. Eat more poultry and eggs to conserve the meat supply.

Minard's Liniment Cures Colds, &c.

You can clean the white painted woodwork beautifully if you use warm water and spread a little whiting over the cloth, then rinse with clear water.

WHEN YOU SUFFER FROM RHEUMATISM

Almost any man will tell you that Sloan's Liniment means relief

For practically every man has used it who has suffered from rheumatic aches, soreness of muscles, stiffness of joints, the results of weather exposure.

Women, too, by the hundreds of thousands, use it for relieving neuritis, lame backs, neuralgia, sick headache. Clean, refreshing, soothing, economical, quickly effective. Say "Sloan's Liniment" to your druggist. Made in Canada. Get it today.

Sloan's Liniment Kills Pain

30c., 60c., $1.20.

LOST

ESCAPED BLACK FOX. PAY SUITable reward. Reid Bros., Bothwell, Ont.

FOR SALE

WELL EQUIPPED NEWSPAPER and job printing plant in Eastern Ontario. Insurance carried $1,500. Will go for $1,200 on quick sale. Box 62, Wilson Publishing Co., Ltd., Toronto.

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER FOR SALE in New Ontario. Owner going to France. Will sell $2,000. Worth double that amount. Apply J. H., c/o Wilson Publishing Co., Limited, Toronto.

MISCELLANEOUS

CANCER, TUMORS, LUMPS, ETC., internal and external, cured without pain by our home treatment. Write us before too late. Dr. Bellman Medical Co., Limited, Collingwood, Ont.

Chiefly for roofing automobiles an imitation glass that resembles celluloid has been invented in Europe.

It has been estimated that Noah's ark was 547 feet long, 91 feet broad and 54 feet high. Its capacity, according to Bishop Wilkins, was 72,625 tons.

Minard's Liniment Cures Distemper.

A Cure for Bad Breath

"Bad breath is a sign of decayed teeth, foul stomach or unclean bowel." If your teeth are good, look to your digestive organs at once. Get Seigel's Curative Syrup at druggists. 15 to 30 drops after meals, clean up your food passage and stop the bad breath odor. 50c. and $1.00 Bottles. Do not buy substitutes. Get the genuine. 6

8 BIG FAMILY GAMES consisting of Checkers, Chess, Dominoes, New Game of Authors, Fox and Geese, Nine Men Morris, The Spanish Prison, and the Game of Flirtation, all for 10c. Best value. 10c
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2 Cakes Cuticura Soap and 3 Boxes Ointment

Heal Two Weeks Old Baby Of Skin Trouble.

"When about two weeks old my baby turned blue, and in a couple of days broke out in a rash. Then she turned sore around her ears and on the top of her head, and on her arms and legs. The skin was red and she scratched till she made it bleed. She could not sleep.

"I wrote for a free sample of Cuticura Soap and Ointment. It was a great relief, so I bought more, and I used two cakes of Cuticura Soap and three boxes of Cuticura Ointment when she was healed." (Signed) Mrs. Alfred Ryan, 167A St. Martin St., Montreal, Que., August 10, 1917.

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