

THE UNLUCKIEST AND THE MOST LUCKY FLYING MAN.



The Monoplane on which Bleriot Flew Across the Channel

London, Aug. 20.—The successful flight of the Frenchman, Bleriot from Calais to Dover is still the topic of conversation and speculation in military circles, and even the government has been forced, as it were, to take cognizance of it.

Aeroplanes, dirigible balloons, tank ships and the expenditure of \$200,000 on the war vessels of the air by this country this year were the announcements of the government to the commons this week, when M.P.'s assembled this afternoon for their fascinating holiday task.

For the first time in the history of parliament, the government had put down a special vote for aerial war in committee of supply. It was passed by the house without a division—without even a dissentient voice. The burden of the criticism, such as there was, pressed the government to do more.

The war minister announced the following:

"A rigid dirigible balloon of the very latest type, to carry twenty persons, is being built at Barrow for the admiralty.

"Re-organization of the aeronautical work at Aldershot, where a large airship shed is being built, as well as a large gushing balloon.

"Acceptance soon of two aeroplanes for experiment, and possibly for purchase."

"Several experiments in progress by the special advisory committee recently appointed by the government.

The secretary of war, Mr. Haldane, had a cold douche for those who think much has been accomplished in the way of a practicable airship of war but facetiously remarked: "We may contemplate pleasant aeroplane parties at weekends."

"I am bound to admit," he said "that there has been very little actual progress in any part of the world."

"It is not enough to make machines to fly; they must be machines which can be made available for the purpose of war."

Mr. Haldane announced that the advisory committee which had been investigating the question had reported that for naval purposes rigid dirigibles were probably the only instruments of real value under present conditions. They had also reported that for the army the non-rigid dirigibles, although they had certain disadvantages, were best.

"The aeroplane may become valuable for army purposes," added Mr. Haldane, "but it will have to rise much higher before it will be safe for reconnoitering."

"The flight of the channel and the experiments in the United States and elsewhere point to the fact that some time hereafter the aeroplane will become an instrument capable of effecting in all probability great results."

"I doubt whether any airship ever constructed could remain a secret for more than a limited period, and therefore I cannot say that I feel much concerned over the fact that this country has not made the amount of initial progress in aeronautics made in Germany and France, and perhaps in the United States."

"The war office," announced Mr. Haldane, "has decided to purchase a site from the London county council at Wormwood Scrubs. The parish

mentary committee has also contracted for the bringing over of a dirigible, so the result will be that two will come over, and if they are satisfactory they will come to stay. One, I understand, will be presented to the other war office purposes to pursue."

"Regarding aeroplanes, the war office before long to possess two with which it can experiment."

Mr. Haldane gave further figures with regard to the financial side of the question, showing the money spent this year:

War office	\$180,000
Admiralty	175,000
Advisory committee	35,000

Altogether this year \$390,000

"When the time arrives for these machines to be adopted for war," he concluded, "we shall be no more behind the remainder of the nations of the earth than we are to-day in the matter of submarines."

Arthur Lee (Fareham, Hants), of the aerial parliamentary committee, advocated the appointment of practical aeronauts to the advisory committee which has been set up by the government.

"While these experiments are going on here men are flying about in other countries," he said. "We know that in France and Germany there are actual effective squadrons of these aircrafts in existence."

Mr. Haldane, replying to criticisms regarding the amount of theoretical, as opposed to practical, work said he would sum up some of the contentions of critics in a sentence: "Spend plenty of money and damp the differential calculus!"

The war minister agreed with Mr. Lee that the aeroplane would be of great use eventually in punitive expeditions.

"What would be the effect?" remarked Mr. Haldane, spreading out his hands. "On the Mad Mullah of the appearance of an airship carrying dynamite?"

The supplementary vote of \$32,300 for aerial warship experiment was agreed to.

Lates Crop Reports.

Toronto Star. From Alberta reports come that here will be an increase of from fifteen to twenty per cent. over last year. In Saskatchewan they look for an average yield of twenty bushels an acre. In Manitoba they look for twenty-three bushels of wheat, forty-five of barley, and fifty-five of oats to the acre. It is easy enough to calculate that the west will have a spending power for the next year or so which will make many an eastern business man experience very comforting sensations.

Bibby's 69c. shirt sale Saturday. Many aeroplanes, including a Wright machine were wrecked and buildings blown over, yesterday, by a cyclone which swept over Brescia, where an aviation meeting is to be held in September. Eight sheds were demolished and parts of the flying machines were blown over the field.

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Bleriot After His Flight

Louis Bleriot in His Machine

DOINGS AT WELLINGTON.

Some of the Visitors to That Lake Village.

Wellington, Aug. 18.—About 200 people came from Sudbury and Frankford to Wellington on C.P.R., on Friday last and crowded the grounds at the Hotel Alexandra. On Saturday last the Ladies' Institute meeting was held at Hotel Alexandra. A large number from all over the country was present. Lottie Mason, Uncle John Hall and Rev. Mr. Houck delivered addresses.

Mrs. Boris Wissmiller and little son of Logansport, Ind., and Mrs. W. B. Stewart, of Rome, N.Y., are guests of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen M. Clark, inchin'd, Wellington. John Hodgson and Philip Terry each had the misfortune of losing a horse last week. Harold Fitzgerald, of Toronto, spent a few days at his home here. Miss Gertrude Rankin, of East Lake, was visiting her aunts last week. Henry Luffman and friend, of Toronto, are visiting friends here. "Sandy" Grant of Chicago, spent a few days visiting friends here. Mrs. Sarah Ann Stinson of Weston was the guest of Mrs. Thomas Stinson last week. Mrs. S. S. Rankin and grandson, Clair Rankin, visited in Wellington last week. The funeral of the late James Taylor was held at his late residence, Rose Hill, and largely attended on Friday last. Rev. Mr. Houck officiated. Charles Huvek, of Alberta, is visiting friends here. Clair Shourds, of Boston, is visiting his grandparents. Mr. and Mrs. H. Vanhorn, Macky Nilson is spending a few weeks at the Lake Shee house. The Misses Ongar, of Picton, are guests at Hotel Alexandra. Mrs. Jones Lloyd, who spent some weeks at her son's, in Toronto, returned home last week. Mr. and Mrs. George Raynor left last week for the coast. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Nixon and daughter, of Picton, spent last week at Hotel Alexandra. Rev. Mr. Owen, of Peterborough, N.J., will preach in the Methodist church on August 26th.

Bibby's new hats are ready.

Watertown Times.

Former Police Commissioner Bingham speaks plainly in his recent magazine article in which he tells of the Tammany graft. He says that the total money value of graft and black mail each year in New York is not less than \$100,000,000. From 1,500 to 2,000 members of the police force in New York are grafters. The police force is absolutely under the control of Tammany. While police commissioners of New York he could have personally cleared \$1,000,000 each year in office.

The picnic, under the auspices of the Methodist Sunday school, was held last Friday, in S. Walcott's grove, and was largely attended. A fine programme of juvenile sports were put on and a special feature was a baseball match between the Invincibles of Toronto, and our Varsity boys. Much credit is due Rev. D. C. Flatt, Meiss, Leaday and Craig, and others, for their efforts to make the affair a success. Miss Beulah Burleigh, Maple Dale, spent Sunday with her grandparents.

Miss Edythe York will resume her studies at Albert College, Belleville, and consequently has resigned her position as organist in the Methodist church. Miss Winnie Clayton, Kingston, will be her successor. Miss Nellie Asselstine is home from a pleasant visit at Ottawa and Pembridge. Mr. and Mrs. William Heath, visiting the latter's parents, Dr. and Mrs. T. A. Abbottson, have returned to Watertown, N.Y. Mrs. E. A. Claxton and daughter are occupying their summer home here, and may not go back to the city until late autumn.

Colin Craig is supplying the farmers around here with twine, made at the Kingston penitentiary. The R. R. Ganey Mining company, Limited, is loading about two cars per day on the new siding, north of the village. Larson Smith, who has lately passed through such a trying ordeal of acute inflammatory rheumatism, is recovering slowly, but is still very weak. Quite a lot of inmates and others took their hogs to Mr. Gallagher, at Harrowsmith, where they obtained \$8 per hundred. Mrs. J. L. Gerakli, Rochester, N.Y., and Mrs. C. Davy, Harrowsmith, were here last week. The Misses Grant and Abrams, camping at

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MGR. SHARETTI ENJOYS A GOOD LAUGH.

Hon. Mr. J. C. Kaine telling Mr. Sharetti a good story which the Hon. Mr. Devlin also appreciates. Mr. Kaine is on the left, Mr. Devlin in the centre and Mr. Sharetti on the right. The picture was taken at Gross Isle, on Sunday.