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THE FUTILITY OF THE ZEPPELIN IS DESCRIBED

Murder of Babies and Civilians the only Damage Caused by the Recent Raids on London.

London, Sept. 22.—An official description of some of the effects of the latest Zeppelin raid upon our district, written by an impartial observer at the request of the home secretary, Sir John Simon, issued to-night for publication, follows:

"While it is absolutely necessary in the interest of public safety to maintain the rule that no unauthorized account shall appear the real character of the outrages will be better understood from a collection of incidents, each verified on the spot, and vouched for by the authorities as accurate. The home secretary takes this opportunity of stating explicitly that the total casualties resulting from these air raids have been correctly stated in all cases. The information is based upon an exhaustive inquiry by the police.

Reasons Of Secrecy.
"In a letter some months ago First Lord of the Admiralty Balfour set forth the reasons which prevented the government from disclosing the exact localities in which damage has been done in the various Zeppelin raids. These reasons remain valid and there is no intention of departing from the rule adopted to prevent information becoming available for the enemy, either in regard to the routes taken or the places and buildings on which bombs were dropped. The experience in the raids last week combined with German official reports demonstrated that commanders of German aircraft often are grossly in error as to their movements and they have no means of estimating the effect of their promiscuous bombardments materially or morally.

Only To Private Property.
"In every case where damage has been caused it was private property which suffered and in most cases this has been of the small residential kind. Almost all the unfortunate people who have been killed not only were non-combatants but non-combatants of a class who hitherto, in the honorable practise of civilized warfare, have been exempt from attack—women, children, small shopkeepers, working men—the sacrifice of whose lives serves no military purpose either morally or materially. "The folly and futility of the raids last week may well be imagined when it is remembered that the London district, taken for convenience as the area administered by the metropolitan police, is just short of 700 square miles in area. It was by hastily dropping at random in the dark explosive and incendiary materials somewhere on this enormous surface that the enemy professed to have accomplished an important military purpose.

No Military Damage.
"The fact is that no public institutions of any kind was hit, nor was any power station or arsenal. No damage was done affecting the use of any building connected directly or indirectly with the conduct of the war. It is true that two hospitals narrowly escaped damage, but it is only fair to say in behalf of the officers of an army which has done its best to destroy the cathedrals of Belgium and France, that up to the present they have succeeded in hitting only one church.

"So far as the moral effect of the raid is concerned, it is feared that from the standpoint of Berlin it was a complete failure. If Count Zeppelin himself accompanied the raiding aircraft, as has been reported from Holland, he will be disappointed to learn that only a minority of the vast population of London was aware of the presence of his airships; that among those who heard the gunfire and saw the Zeppelin the feeling everywhere aroused were interest and curiosity rather than fear. That London and its suburbs as a community faced calmly the murderous efforts of these raiders is in no way a mitigation of the callous and purposeless brutality of their actions or the tragedies which have followed.

Is This Scene War?
"Here are a few pictures of the effects accomplished by the officers and crew of the last airship which visited the London district. Somewhere in London there is a little street with a public house at the corner. Outside it Wednesday evening, after the place was closed, a man and woman stood talking. While the woman went away to buy supper the man waited for her and there fell at his feet the first explosive bomb. They killed the man outright and blew pieces of the paving stone on to surrounding roofs. They blew in the front of the public house, reducing the stock to a mass of

broken glass over which still floats the indefinable odor of assorted forms of alcohol. They took off the top of a grand piano on the floor above, twisted an iron bedstead, in-farings, a policeman who was sleeping there and reduced what had been the carefully kept living rooms of a small family to a mass of soot, dust, plaster and broken glass. In what conceivable respect did this contribute to the progress of the war?

Slaughter Of Innocents.
"In another part of the area over which the airship passed there is a big block of workmen's dwellings which are crowded day and night with children. A bomb dropped on the roof. Directly under the roof was a little flat in which four children were asleep. After being put to bed two of them got up secretly to make tea in an adjoining room. The bed they left is now a mass of charred and blackened sheets, with the mattress torn to pieces. They escaped by a miracle, but in a small bedroom next door they other two children were killed instantly.

"These buildings are strong and the bomb did not penetrate far. You hardly can notice the damage to the roof if you pass in the street. That was all that was happening when the captain of the German aircraft professed to think he was visiting docks and vitally damaging the port of London.

Assault On Bird Cage.
"At another place an incendiary bomb dropped through the roof of a stable and fired a motor car into which it fell. The stable man and his wife, in spite of the fire which immediately became serious, set out to rescue eleven horses which were in the stable. They were carefully taken out and turned loose on the street. A dog which kept guard over the premises also was rescued as was a caged bird kept on the first floor above the fire, although while bringing it down stairs the stableman's wife was blown off her feet by the explosion of a bomb which fell in a neighboring courtyard. The only casualty in this case was a bantam rooster. In such a case as the last the futility of the enemy's attack was merely ridiculous; in other cases it was tragic.

Murder of Babies.
"Somewhere in London's suburbs there is a little block of houses almost by itself divided into small flats. On the ground floor there were sleeping a widow, her eighteen-year-old daughter and a young man lodger. On the first floor there was a family of three children, two of them girls, and on the second floor a working man his wife, four girls and one boy. A bomb dropped squarely on the roof. As the laborer and his wife who were on the second floor, described it, the whole partition wall beside their bed gave way and disappeared. The man shoved his wife into the centre of the room and went to find the children. Two of them who slept in a room under the spot where the bomb fell vanished with the room and everything in it. Their bodies were found two days later under the debris. Of the others, a boy of eight ran for safety to a staircase which had been blown away and in the dark fell into the hole where his sisters' bodies were buried in the ruins.

"The bodies of two of the occupants of the first floor subsequently were recovered but the worst effects of the bomb were felt on the ground floor. Part of the body of the man who occupied it was found 150 yards away.

Motor Bus Fatalities.
"A bomb which dropped in a street blew in the front of a shop but spent its main force on a passing motor bus on which twenty persons were riding, including the driver and conductor. Nine of them were killed and 11 injured. The driver had both legs blown off and died in a hospital.

"These incidents alone, which account for nearly half the deaths, will suffice to show what was the nature of success attending the attack upon London. The net results of the week's raids upon the London district were thirty-eight killed or died of wounds, and one hundred and twenty-four injured. Two policemen and one army service corps man were among the victims, but no other person in uniform was killed or injured."

In Russia there are enough people to populate Great Britain, Germany and France, with a considerable number left over.

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