

STORY OF ZEEBRUGGE RAID TOLD BY CAPTAIN CARPENTER

How a British Ship Attempted and Did the Impossible—Captain Death Faced Men Who Took Part—Address at Canadian Club.

Toronto, Jan. 23.—When the story of the Zeebrugge raid first became known it was regarded as one of the greatest feats of naval warfare, but the story of the exploit, as told by Captain Carpenter, the heroic commander of the *Vindictive*, to the Canadian Club recently, revealed such tales of heroism in the face of such tremendous odds, that the feat appears more incredible than ever. His story revealed the inexhaustible number of apparently impossible obstacles which he had to contend with, and it was admitted that every man had regarded the venture as one of certain death.

There was the navigating of the mine fields the facing of the shore batteries, the scaling of the Mole, swept by every type of gun, large and small, the cutting of nets, the dodging of searchlights, all added to make the raid seemingly hopeless. The tale was told without glamour. In plain matter-of-fact tones, Capt. Carpenter told of the exploit, with never a trace of enthusiasm or emotion in his tones, except when he alluded to his men. "They were perfectly wonderful," he repeated again and again, as though at a loss to describe their heroism. He has a fund of dry humor, which provoked roars of laughter, and a subtle irony when he alluded to the German fleet.

Received With Cheers.

His appearance was greeted with repeated cheers, from over six hundred members. His address was illustrated by lantern slides. The Belgian coast, he explained, was devoid of natural harbors, and the artificial harbors were handicapped on account of continually drifting sand. The real harbor for the submarines was at Bruges, which was connected with Zeebrugge and Ostend by means of two canals. The one to Zeebrugge was the most important, but it was decided to block both. The entrance to Zeebrugge harbor, protected by two piers, and the whole flanked by the now famous mole. Owing to the sand the real channel was extremely narrow.

The Mole was photographed by the R.A.F. every few hours. The inner side of the Mole was only nine feet above the water and was built for the receiving of ships. The outside was protected by a high sea wall twenty-nine feet above the sea level, inside of which was a parapet four feet below the top, which in turn was sixteen feet above the level of the main portion of the Mole. "The proper side to go was on the inside," explained the speaker, "so we went on the outside." On the extension of the Mole running out in the light of the sea were seven guns. On the broad portion of the Mole were three heavy guns, "three guns that really mattered."

Point Blank Range.

"It is impossible for any ship to pass a heavy gun at point blank range, and it was for that reason that the *Vindictive*, *Iris* and *Daffodil* attacked the Mole to take those guns before the block ships arrived. Some people had the idea that there was something spectacular about that attack which was put on to uphold the traditions of the navy," added the captain, who corrected this impression.

The open water between the Mole and the harbor was protected on one side by a chain of armed barges and on the other by nets, leaving an opening of only three hundred yards, which was covered by the fire of the heavy guns.

Added to this, the Germans had mounted 225 guns for coast defense, of which 136 were over six inch. He incidentally added that the last bombardment of the coast was carried out at a range of 48,000 yards. These guns made it impossible to approach in daylight, and the searchlights and star shells made it equally impossible to approach at night.

"The Germans had at these waters mined, and a lot of people imagined we knew the channels. This was ridiculous. Even if we did, the Germans only needed half an hour's notice to mine the channels. There were two things we could do. Either we could sweep the mines—a slow job, and they could see you do it—or else chance it. We chanced it."

Added to this Zeebrugge was the biggest seaplane base the Germans had in Flanders, and Imperial planes were to play an important part in the attack.

"I think you will agree we had enough to contend with. There was no saving clause—the use of smoke. This had been developed during the war, and we decided that with favorable conditions we could use smoke to protect us from the searchlights."

156 Ships Engaged.

Some people think we had only a few ships in this because only half a dozen names were mentioned. In reality there were 156. In addition we had a great many others involved.

There was just a possibility that the Germans might have a rush of brains to the head, and they might, concluding that there were only a new light craft hanging around their harbor, send out their whole fleet to stop them up. In case of this the Grand Fleet put to sea to cut them off.

The Men.

"One has talked a lot about the ships and the guns, but after all it depended upon the men," he said, and explained the difficulties contended with in reducing the volunteers to 1,600 men. "The men were told only they had something hazardous. They were trained in night fighting, and then when everything was in readiness they put to sea and were not allowed to hold communication with the shore. The plan was then explained to them. I thought it best to give them a chance to withdraw if they wanted. They only had to hand their name in, and they would not be asked why they wanted to go nor would they be allowed to state why they wanted

to go. The number that went was 1,600. He spoke of the flame throwers, but the Germans flared flame-throwers, because they invented them. They had them to throw forty yards, so we had ours to throw eighty."

The Difficulties.

Captain Carpenter explained that among the difficulties they had to contend with was the need of a suitable night, a high tide, a right wind, no rain, because of the air craft, and no heavy sea, because of the small craft. "One might have waited 50 years," he added, as he told of the first two attempts on which they had to turn back.

The third attempt came off, but we had a certain amount of trouble. Rain prevented the air craft coming out. It was hard luck on them, for they worked awfully hard."

The bombardment by the heavy ships was twenty minutes late, and the hawser by which the *Vindictive* was being towed the *Iris* and *Daffodil* had parted. Then the wind changed and blew south.

"The one thing we decided was absolutely necessary to enable us to carry out an impossible project had failed, so we carried out the impossible project." Suddenly the fog lifted, and three hundred yards ahead was the seven gun battery. We put on full steam and went down for the Mole. They started firing and hit us very hard and very often. I think they must have been excited, for they only hit our upper works. Thus the material damage done was very small, but the loss in personnel was great.

We came charging down on the Mole within fifty feet of the gun and died up, and the *Daffodil* came in as arranged and pushed us in. The *Iris* went ahead, but couldn't secure to the Mole on account of the heavy sea. The *Daffodil* round, and came back to land her men over the *Vindictive*.

He paid a tribute to the heroic captain of the *Iris*, who lost both his legs and died. "He only lived for one thing, and that was to put his ship alongside."

A German destroyer was on the other side of the Mole, lying in a favorite position. They opened fire and sank it. Of the eighteen gangways they had prepared to assist the boarders, fourteen had been shot away and two rendered useless. Over the remaining two the men stormed.

The noise at the time was absolutely internal. We were being hit every second. The seamen led the storming party. Powder drums were thrown down the 16 feet on to the Mole, got through the barbed wire and machine gun fire, and got at the guns at the end of the mole.

"We got to the Mole at a minute past twelve, midnight. We were one minute late. We were supposed to knock out the guns at 12:20. At a quarter past twelve we had the guns knocked out."

The captain told incident after incident where whole groups of men were annihilated and guns knocked out. One officer had been shot through both legs, but continued to steer the ship for four hours.

In the platform where Capt. Carpenter had erected at the end of the bridge, there were two hundred holes, "it was a very good place," he explained.

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plained casually, "awfully convenient. I think the holes must have come after I left, for they only hit my clothes." The Submarine.

He told of the old submarine, with its crew of six, blowing up the *Vindictive*. If we on the *Vindictive* considered we had a sporting chance they were considered to be going to certain death. Yet, strange to say, the whole six escaped.

Deut. Sandford, who was awarded the V. C. for his work, died a few days ago from typhoid.

"The damage done was so extensive that when the Germans vacated the place they considered it unnecessary to do any more."

The time at the mole was one hour and ten minutes. The *Vindictive* had fouled the nets in attempting to enter the harbor, but she had struggled on in spite of the damage until, riddled with shot and on fire, she was sunk at the entrance to the harbor.

The *Vindictive* ran right up the channel, and ramming the sand with their bows, had swung round until their sterns were also aground, and had then blown off their bottoms with mines. The crews, 81 in number, had been rescued in motor launches. No one had expected to get anyone back off the block ships.

Capt. Carpenter stated that the average age of the men who took part in this exploit was 22.

MONCTON

Moncton, Jan. 24.—Miss Margaret Coccurene, who has been spending the past week in this city, returned to St. John on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Hibbert Binney, returned on Wednesday from their wedding trip to New York, and other American cities.

A number of friends of Mr. Roy Capson, tendered him a farewell banquet at the Paris Cafe. Mr. Capson leaves on Saturday for Toronto, where he has been transferred.

Mr. B. C. Gesner left this week on a business trip to Montreal. Misses Margaret and Dorothy Gregg, who have been visiting relatives in this city, returned to their home in New Glasgow.

Dr. Landry has returned from Fredericton, where he attended the funeral of the late Mr. H. J. McGrath.

Mrs. Bernard J. McKenzie and daughter, arrived in the city from St. John, having arrived there from England.

Misses Winnifred and Gladys Morton, left on Thursday for Norton, to visit relatives.

Miss Alice P. Ashe, who has been visiting in this city, left this week for her home in Attleboro, Mass.

Mrs. W. B. Dickson and Miss Francis Dickson of this city are guests of Mrs. Herbert Bayne, in Stellarton, N. S.

Misses Kathleen and Christine O'Leary of Richibouctou, are guests at the American Hotel.

Mr. J. L. McDonald, manager of the Atlantic U. O. Co., left this week on a business trip to New York.

Mrs. E. F. Hoar, left this week to visit friends in Montreal. She will also visit relatives in New Hampshire.

Miss Marguerite Cann of North Sydney, is spending a few weeks in the city, the guest of friends.

Miss Francis Colpitts and Miss Doris Randall, left on Wednesday for Wolfville, N. S., to resume their studies.

Mr. and Mrs. E. P. Hoar, announce the engagement of their second daughter, Hazel Kathleen Colpitts to Mr. Albert Charles McKay, son of the late D. E. McKay and Mrs. McKay of Winnipeg.

Miss Eva LeBlanc of this city, is in St. John to join her parents, Mr. and Mrs. P. A. LeBlanc, who have been visiting in the city.

The young ladies and gentlemen of grade eleven of the Aberdeen High School, enjoyed a delightful supper to Salisbury on Thursday evening. A very enjoyable time was spent by all. Misses E. Murphy and H. Crocker chaperoned the party.

ALBERT

Albert, N. B., Jan. 24.—Large tracts of timber lands are being purchased by substantial lumbering operators in different sections of Albert County. In addition to the large area at Albert Mines, upon which they have been operating for the past two years, Messrs. John Drandall, and Brunswick

Steeves of Moncton, have acquired the large tract of very valuable old growth standing timber known as the James A. Steeves' timber property at Shubenubee, in the Parish of Hillsborough, and Messrs. Holmes Steeves and sons, who have had one of their large rotary mills at work for over a year on the Mines Property, have now placed a second rotary mill on the Steeves' lot, and are saving some very fine lumber, many of the eleven inch deals are twenty feet long. Mr. John W. Steeves is logging the new lot. Archibald Lutes being the lumberman on the Mines lot.

Mr. R. C. Peck of Albert, and Mr. E. E. Peck of Riverside, made a business trip to Salem on Thursday last. Messrs. Steeves and Grandall of Moncton, have purchased the growing timber on the lands of the Henry A. Stiles' estate. At Beaverbrook, in the Parish of Harvey, and Mr. Martin Druden has the contract for cutting the logs, and has just commenced operations.

A son came to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Chapman on the 22nd instant. Mr. Chapman, who is the popular manager of the Albert branch of the Eastern Hay and Food Company, is wearing a broad smile as the hearty congratulations of his many friends are showered upon him.

The public schools at Albert are again in regular session. This influenza seems to have run its course to a finish.

NEWCASTLE

Newcastle, Jan. 24.—In the County Council last evening, Coun. A. A. C. Council of Halifax, seconded the Coun. E. Meserian of Blissett, moved the following:

1.—That the Provincial Government be requested to introduce, and the members of the Legislature from this county be requested to support, at the next session of the Legislature:

(a) Such amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act as will provide that all who work in the lumber wood cutting, hauling or driving logs or otherwise in the lumber industry, and all other classes of useful labor now excluded from the benefits thereof, shall be as fully protected against loss as are those of the industries now included in said Act.

(b) Legislation to fulfil without further delay their pre-election pledge to divide the province (with the exception of cities too large for one member) into single-member constituencies as nearly as possible of equal population.

2.—That the Provincial Government be requested to at once rescind all regulations and orders-in-council that in any way contravene the Act to facilitate settlement upon the Crown Lands of the province, and the local members to use all their influence to have this done.

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THIRD PRIZE \$80.00 SEWING MACHINE 	Fourth Prize \$102.50 Purchasing check good on any new Piano. This check is not negotiable, cannot be sold or exchanged without our consent, and is not redeemable in cash. FIFTH PRIZE Valuable Piano Discount SIXTH PRIZE Sewing Machine Discount worth \$25.00 Phonograph, large or small, not negotiable, not redeemable in cash.

Can You Solve the Lucky Horse Shoe Puzzle?

IT CAN BE DONE
Try your luck with the Lucky Horse Shoe Puzzle. This contest is open to families who do not own pianos, talking machines and sewing machines; only one solution accepted from any individual or family.

DIRECTIONS
Use any number from one to twelve, inclusive. Place a number in each horseshoe, in such a manner that when added in any direction the total will be 34. Use no number more than once. It can be done using nine numbers, without using any number twice. Answers can be worked out on this or a separate sheet of paper, or on any other desired material. Mail or bring answers. Be sure solutions bear the proper amount of postage.

INSTRUCTIONS
The First, Second and Third Prizes will be awarded to the nearest correct solutions. Neatness, originality of layout, as well as workmanship will be deciding factors in deciding the final winners. Bear in mind: There is no prize for a correct solution. All answers are final. Each contestant agrees that the answer submitted becomes the property of the Amherst Pianos, Ltd. No one can withdraw or substitute an answer. Employees of this store, and music stores in general, are debarred from participation in this contest. The decision of our judges shall be final.

AWARDS
The First Prize is a Brand New Piano. The Second Prize is a Brand New \$110 Phonograph. The Third Prize is a Brand New \$80 Sewing Machine. The Fourth Prize is a valuable purchasing voucher on a Piano. The Fifth Prize is a valuable Phonograph Discount. The Sixth Prize is a Sewing Machine Discount. Take your time in making out the solution to this Puzzle. Gather the whole family round, let them all have a try, let them all have an equal interest in the Piano, Talking Machine or Sewing Machine, should you win one of them. Some one will win a Piano, some one will win a Talking Machine, some one will win a Sewing Machine. It should be you. Try hard. There is luck in the Lucky Horse Shoe Puzzle for some one.

WHY WE DO THIS
The scarcity of Piano salesmen and the enormous salaries demanded by those obtainable, have compelled us to find another method of marketing our Pianos, Player Pianos, Talking Machines and Sewing Machines. This is purely and simply an advertising proposition. Our object is to get in touch with families who do not own Pianos, Talking Machines and Sewing Machines. We want the names of every family in the Maritime Provinces who may be in the market now or in the future for Pianos, Player Pianos, Sewing Machines, and Phonographs. We intend to send every person who enters this contest advertising matter and illustrations of the goods offered for sale.

IT PAYS TO PAY CASH FOR PIANOS, TALKING MACHINES, AND SEWING MACHINES
The one surest, safest and most economical way to buy a Piano is to pay the spot cash at the time of the purchase. If you intend to own a Piano at any future time try your luck at this puzzle. Use your head and take your time. It makes no difference to us who wins this Piano. One man's answer is as welcome and as apt to win as the next. But whether you win or not—remember—the best way to buy anything is to lay down the cash. When you buy from us you buy direct from the factories; no middle man, no agents—from the factory to consumer direct—with additional discounts for all cash.

EMPLOYEES OF THIS STORE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO GIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS CONTEST
Please do not ask our salespeople for information. Do not call on the phone and inquire about the contest. We have instructed our employees not to answer questions of any character regarding this contest. The directions are plain. Use your own judgment and may the best man win.

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