

lights the greater the safety. That would be a sure preventive against the dropping of bombs.

Mr. HAZEN: Did the hon. gentleman suppose that the bombs would be dropped from Zeppelins?

Mr. PUGSLEY: How would they be dropped?

Mr. HAZEN: They would be dropped by persons who were there, like the German who went down to the bridge at Vanceboro the other day for the purpose of wrecking it.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I would think that a very imaginary fear. This is what I want my hon. friend to find out if he will, and he ought to have some report on the subject. My information is that one of these submarines was for a considerable time in dry dock. I do not say she is now. I have no doubt that my hon. friend's statement as to a telegram received yesterday is absolutely correct. But this boat was put in dry dock, not because she struck the bottom, but to make some change in the machinery; and the whole of one side of the ship was stripped for that purpose. That is the information I have, whether it be true or not.

Just a word as to my right hon. friend's regret that I should have brought this matter up. I must take the responsibility for that as a member of this House. If my hon. friend has made it clear to the people of this country that the purchase of these submarines was absolutely above suspicion, that they were first-class submarines, that only a reasonable and fair price was paid for them, that everybody concerned acted honestly, that there were no commissions,—all the better for my hon. friend, all the better for the Government, all the better for the people of this country. But I submit with every confidence, that a strong prima facie case has been made out.

Let me repeat very briefly the salient facts of the case. They are, first, that these vessels were built for the Chilian government under a contract price which I am informed, and which as a member of this House I state that I have from reliable authority, was originally \$375,000 each; that Captain Plaza, the Chairman of the Naval Commission appointed by the Chilian government, was watching these vessels from day to day and from week to week; that when they were completed a test was made, as it was proper that it should be made; that he found they were not up to specifications and rejected

them, and so reported to his Government; that then the Electric Boat Company of New Jersey had the boats on their hands and no customer for them; that the day after this test was made, the 27th of July, Mr. Patterson started for Victoria, thinking he would have a customer in Sir Richard McBride. He sees Sir Richard McBride, and on the 3rd day of August, the hon. member for Victoria (Mr. Barnard) is present with the Minister of Agriculture, and this expert, Captain Logan, is called in. He states that in his judgment the price will be about \$375,000 each.

Mr. BARNARD: I have already told the hon. gentleman that he is in error when he describes Captain Logan as an expert.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Well, then, Captain Logan was called in. Why was he called in if he could not add to the knowledge—

Mr. BARNARD: He was not called in. It was his initiative, the whole thing.

Mr. PUGSLEY: Well, then, Captain Logan was there. He is one of the agents, possibly one of the middlemen who were arranging for the sale of these boats. He goes to the house of my hon. friend the member for Victoria—

Mr. BARNARD: The hon. gentleman should confine himself to the facts. Captain Logan has never been in my house.

Mr. PUGSLEY—Captain Logan goes to the office of my hon. friend.

Mr. BARNARD: I can appreciate the desire of my hon. friend to make a good case in his summing up, but he should confine himself to the facts.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I recognize that it is a matter of vital importance, whether it was at the office or the home of my hon. friend that Captain Logan appeared. Well, then, Captain Logan goes to the office of my hon. friend.

10 p.m. Mr. BARNARD: Wrong again; it was at the Department of Labour.

Mr. PUGSLEY: I cheerfully accept correction. At all events these are the facts. On the 3rd of August Patterson, after having seen Sir Richard McBride, goes back to Seattle and these gentlemen meet together. The gentlemen whom my hon. friend names are included among them. Captain Logan is asked his opinion of the price.