

NC-4 PLANE REACHES AZORES; ONE LOST

NC-1, Alights in Sea Near Port, But Is Towed In.

AUSTRALIAN STARTS

Most Perilous Airplane Flight in History Undertaken By Hawker—To Beat Americans Aim.

St. Johns, N. F., May 18.—Harry G. Hawker, Australian aviator, and his navigator, Commander MacKenzie Grieve, tonight are winging their way across the Atlantic on the most perilous airplane flight in history, in an eleventh-hour effort to wrest from American navy pilots the honor of being the first to complete a trans-oceanic flight.

The Australian late today decided not to delay longer and started for the Irish coast, despite weather conditions, characterized as "not favorable, but possible."

When Hawker's Sopwith plane disappeared from view it left behind the shattered hopes of his English rival, Frederick P. Raynham, who in attempting to follow the Australian with his Martinsyde plane, broke a rear axle on his machine. He and his navigator, Charles W. F. Morgan, were not injured, but the plane was wrecked.

Both Hawker and Raynham have been here for weeks awaiting favorable weather to start their flight for the \$50,000 London Daily Mail prize, but day after day the start was postponed because of unfavorable conditions. Today, however, with the news that the NC-4, the American navy seaplane, had reached the Azores on the first leg of its trans-Atlantic attempt, Hawker decided to wait no longer and quietly slipped away.

Washington, D. C., May 17.—One of the three American naval seaplanes which set out last evening from Newfoundland in the first attempt at a flight across the Atlantic ocean still was missing late tonight; another was being towed to an Azores port by destroyers after her crew had been put aboard the steamer Iona, and the third was safe at Horta, Fayal, after establishing a record flight for heavier-than-air machines.

The missing plane is the NC-3, flagship of Commander John Henry Towers, commander of the squadron, but the fact that the last report came from her at 5:15 o'clock this morning, Washington time, did not cause naval officials to entertain any apprehension for the safety of Commander Towers and his crew of four.

The last message from this ship showed her off her course in a fog some 250 miles from Fayal, and naval officials believe that it was only the mist bank which enveloped the sea around the Azores throughout the day that prevented all three of the planes from reaching port on or ahead of schedule time.

Washington, D. C., May 18.—Apprehension as to the safety of Commander John H. Towers and his crew of four men, who in the seaplane NC-3 have been lost at sea for more than 40 hours, had begun tonight to displace the feeling of confidence among naval officials that the trans-Atlantic fliers soon would be found by searching vessels.

No word had been received from the NC-3 since 5:15 o'clock yesterday morning, when Commander Towers reported that his plane, the flagship of the squadron, was off her course some 300 miles off the island of Fayal, Azores. Dispatches from Rear Admiral Jackson, aboard the U. S. S. Melville at Ponta del Gada, Azores, tonight said a gale was sweeping the seas northwest of the Azores and that high waves were running.

Reds Forced to Retire.
London.—A report on military operations sent out by wireless from Moscow by the bolshevik government says: "Along the gulf of Finland the enemy made a descent, under cover of warships in the region of Kasplovo, 75 miles southwest of Petrograd. The villages of Ropsha and Kusemkin were bombed by enemy ships. Odoff, on Lake Peipus, was abandoned by Red troops."

U. S. War Expenses Huge.
Washington, D. C.—Total expenses of the United States government during the war period, General March announced, were approximately \$23,363,000,000.

LAWMAKERS TAKE UP DUTIES

Special Session of "Reconstruction" Congress Has Much to Do.

Washington, D. C.—The 66th, or "reconstruction" congress, called into extraordinary session by President Wilson from Paris, convened at noon Monday and republican majorities in senate and house organized both bodies.

Representative Gillett of Massachusetts was elected speaker of the house over Representative Champ Clark of Missouri, democratic candidate, and former speaker, by a vote of 227 to 172.

Senator Cummins of Iowa, the republican candidate, was chosen president pro tempore of the senate over Senator Pittman of Nevada, democrat, 47 to 42. Several democrats were absent but all republicans were in their seats, two withholding their votes.

The republicans of both sides also elected full slates of other officers and thus, for the first time since 1911, returned to control of the American national legislature.

Routine affairs of organization comprised the opening day's proceedings, both bodies adjourning until noon Tuesday, when President Wilson's cabled message was read separately in the senate and house. The senate concluded its session in 50 minutes and the house in two hours and 20 minutes.

There was no outward evidence in the initial proceedings of the enormous amount of work ahead. The peace treaty with Germany, including the league of nations covenant, the Austrian treaty and the proposed convention for protection of France, are not expected before next month. All hold promise of dramatic debate.

Appropriation bills which failed in the filibuster last March will be rushed immediately in the house.

Legislation dealing with railroads, telegraphs and telephones, woman suffrage, prohibition, repeal of the luxury taxes and other pressing subjects are promised in the van of important economic and reconstruction questions. This legislation is expected by leaders to hold congress in session almost continuously until the presidential conventions of 1920. Investigations planned by the republicans of numerous administration acts also are expected to begin in the near future.

The flood of bills which is expected to make the new congress momentous began in the house. House resolution No. 1 was the woman suffrage constitutional amendment measure, introduced by former Republican Leader Mann of Illinois.

Despite the formality of Monday's proceedings and the absence of the president—the first time congress has opened with a president on foreign soil—overflow crowds in both senate and house galleries witnessed the birth of the new congress. Many cabinet officers and other high officials were spectators in the house, where cheering and speechmaking lent an informal tone of popular interest.

When house members were sworn in, Representative Victor Berger of Wisconsin, the lone socialist member, who was convicted of violating the espionage law, was prevented from taking the oath upon objection of Representative Dallinger of Massachusetts, chairman of the elections committee. He was ordered by Speaker Gillett to stand aside and was not allowed to address the house, which adopted unanimously a resolution for a committee to investigate his right to membership.

No objection was raised from the senate floor to the seating of Senator Truman H. Newberry of Michigan, republican, whose election is being contested by Henry Ford, democrat. Formal notice of renewal of the Ford contest, with a request for a committee investigation, was filed.

In addition to electing officers, the senate adopted the usual resolutions of procedure, with a departure in that for notifying the president, because of his absence in Paris, of the convening. The senate committee of notification sent a cable merely advising the president of the senate's formal action, while the house committee sent a letter of notification to the white house.

Huns Mourn 5 Years Late.

Paris.—The week of mourning in Germany decreed because of the terms of the peace treaty appears to have met with little success. Reports say nearly all music halls remained open and that in some places the people danced all night. One bit of pungent comment comes from the Volksblatt of Halle, which says: "It is not now but on August 1, 1914, that general mourning should have been ordered in Germany."

Berlin.—The declaration by Chancellor Scheidemann in the national assembly Tuesday that the peace terms were unacceptable brought the members of the assembly, the spectators and those in the press gallery to their feet in a hurricane of cheers and applause.

STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Lane county will compete for the prize offered by the Portland Rose Festival management for the best automobile float showing what the county did to win the war.

Fully 15,000 pounds of mohair was disposed of to seven buyers at Eddyville, Friday in the annual Eddyville mohair pool, which sold at 62 1/4 cents, the highest price paid so far this year.

The Eugene citizens who put up the money for the erection of the barracks occupied by the reserve officers' training corps at the University of Oregon have all received their money back plus 8 per cent interest.

The Port of Astoria commission has authorized the state highway engineer to proceed with the plans for the new state bridge across Young's bay, as proposed by the commission.

April fire losses, exclusive of Portland, amounted to \$126,750, according to the monthly report of State Fire Marshal Wells. The report shows that at least two of the 32 were of incendiary origin. One-half, or 16, of the total number of fires were in dwelling houses.

Tuber moth, greatly dreaded by potato growers of the Willamette valley, was found in a shipment of potatoes that arrived at Eugene recently from California for a local commission firm, and the potatoes were immediately ordered destroyed by C. E. Stewart, county fruit inspector.

Eugene people are to vote June 3 upon a plan to appropriate from the funds of the city \$5000 to go into the fund for the woman's building at the University of Oregon. A charter amendment, authorizing the city to issue a warrant payable in 1920 to the university board of regents, will be prepared.

Erroneous reports have been published that the Three Rivers road from Willamina to Tillamook was closed to travel. No part of this road has been closed at any time. Machines have been going and coming over this road for the last three weeks almost daily. Travel will not be stopped at any time on account of road work.

Beginning Tuesday, a tour of Douglas county will be undertaken by leading spirits in the recently organized prune growers' association, with a view to securing co-operation of all the prune growers in the county in the enterprise. Articles of incorporation have been forwarded to Salem and the association is preparing to handle the crop.

Native oysters of Yaquina bay, usually sold as Olympia oysters elsewhere; have increased greatly in the past two years, according to George Lewis, leader of the Newport oystermen. Mr. Lewis said that when work was scarce for several years many persons gathered oysters to eat and sell, but ceased gathering them when work became plentiful.

A survey of the hilly sections on both sides of the Willamette valley, beginning at Eugene and extending north, will be made this summer by D. W. Smith, head of the department of geology at the University of Oregon, to investigate a possible supply of gas for the valley. This survey will be made under the direction of the state bureau of mines.

Lieutenant B. B. Ostlund of Marshfield announces the construction of a veneer plant on Coos bay that will employ 25 men. The site for the industry is being negotiated and the machinery is expected to be operating before the year is ended. Machinery has been ordered for the plant, according to Mr. Ostlund. The floor area of the buildings will be 60x200 feet.

Acting on information furnished by Portland police detectives, State Treasurer Hoff has removed all currency and negotiable securities from the vaults of the state treasury department, and has placed them in a secret hiding place somewhere in Salem. This hiding place is known only to Joseph G. Richardson, chief deputy, who personally supervised the transfer of the money and bonds from the capitol safe and vaults.

The first alfalfa crops will soon be ready to cut at Umatilla and the yield will be above the average. "Some of the land requires little or no irrigation," says Mr. Dobler, one of the farmers on the project. Altogether there are 5274 acres of alfalfa on the Umatilla project, which yielded 19,063 tons last year, or an average of 3.6 to the acre. During the past year, however, many sage brush hillsides have been cleared and placed in cultivation. It is reported that water for irrigation purposes will be plentiful this season. Practically little or no alfalfa was left over this season and farmers are not anticipating low prices for the season.



THERE ENTERS THE STORY A PRETTY LITTLE ARABIAN GIRL NAMED MERIEM, AND SOME VERY WICKED MEN

Synopsis.—A scientific expedition off the African coast rescues a human derelict, Alexis Paulvitch. He brings aboard an ape, intelligent and friendly, and reaches London. Jack, son of Lord Greystoke, the original Tarzan, has inherited a love of wild life and steals from home to see the ape, now a drawing card in a music hall. The ape makes friends with him. The ape refuses to leave Jack despite his trainer. Tarzan appears and is joyfully recognized by the ape, for Tarzan had been king of his tribe. Tarzan agrees to buy Akut, the ape, and send him back to Africa. Jack and Akut become great friends. Paulvitch is killed when he attempts murder. A thief tries to kill Jack, but is killed by Akut.

CHAPTER IV.—Continued.

Leaping to his feet, he hurled his shoulder against the door. Herr Skopf was a heavy man. The frail door collapsed beneath his weight, and Herr Skopf stumbled precipitately into the room.

Before him lay the greatest mystery of his life. Upon the floor at his feet was the dead body of a strange man. The neck was broken and the jugular severed as by the fangs of a wild beast. The old lady and her grandson were gone. The window was open. They must have disappeared through the window, for the door had been locked from the inside.

But how could the boy have carried his invalid grandmother from a second story window to the ground? It was preposterous. Again Herr Skopf searched the small room. He noticed that the bed was pulled well away from the wall. Why? He looked beneath it again for the third or fourth time. The two were gone, and yet his judgment told him that the old lady could not have gone without porters to carry her down as they had carried her up the previous day.

Further search but deepened the mystery. All the clothing of the two was still in the room. If they had gone they must have gone naked or in their night clothes.

No boat had left the harbor in the meantime. There was not a railroad within hundreds of miles. There was no other white settlement that the two could reach under several days of arduous marching, accompanied by a well equipped safari. They had simply vanished into thin air, for the native he had sent to inspect the ground beneath the open window had just returned to report that there was no sign of a footprint there, and what sort of creatures were they who could have dropped that distance to the soft turf without leaving spoor?

Herr Skopf shuddered. Yes, it was a great mystery. There was something uncanny about the whole thing. He hated to think about it, and he dreaded the coming of night.

It was a great mystery to Herr Skopf and doubtless still is.

CHAPTER V.—The Sheikh's Daughter.

Two Swedes, Carl Jensen and Sven Malbina, after conducting several mysterious expeditions far to the south of the Sahara, turned their attention to



Before Him Lay the Greatest Mystery of His Life.

the more profitable business of ivory poaching.

In a great district they were already known for their relentless cruelty and their greed for ivory. The natives feared and hated them. The European governments in whose possessions they worked had long sought them; but,

working their way slowly out of the north, they had learned many things in the no man's land south of the Sahara, which gave them immunity from capture through easy avenues of escape that were unknown to those who pursued them.

Their raids were sudden and swift. They seized ivory and retreated into the trackless wastes of the north before the guardians of the territory they raped could be made aware of their presence. Relentlessly they slaughtered elephants themselves as well as stealing ivory from the natives. Their following consisted of a hundred renegade Arabs and negro slaves, a fierce band of cutthroats.

Remember them, Carl Jensen and Sven Malbina, yellow bearded Swedish giants, for you shall meet them later.

In the heart of the jungle, hidden away upon the banks of a small unexplored tributary of a large river that empties into the Atlantic not so far from the equator, lay a small heavily palisaded village. Twenty palm thatched, beehive huts sheltered its black population, while half a dozen goatskin tents in the center of the clearing housed the score of Arabs who found shelter here, while by trading and raiding they collected the cargoes which their ships of the desert bore northward twice each year to the market at Timbuktu.

Playing before one of the Arab tents was a little girl of ten, a black haired, black eyed little girl, who with her nut brown skin and graceful carriage looked every inch a daughter of the desert. Her little fingers were busily engaged in fashioning a skirt of grasses for a much disheveled doll which a kindly disposed slave had made for her a year or two before.

The head of the doll was rudely chipped from ivory, while the body was a rat skin stuffed with grass. The arms and legs were bits of wood, perforated at one end and sewn to the rat skin torso.

The doll was quite hideous and altogether disreputable and soiled, but Meriem thought it the most beautiful and adorable thing in the whole world, which is not so strange in view of the fact that it was the only object within that world upon which she could bestow her confidences and her love.

Every one else with whom Meriem came in contact was, almost without exception, either indifferent to her or cruel. There was the old black hag who looked after her, for example, Mabuna, toothless, filthy and ill tempered.

She lost no opportunity to cuff the little girl or even inflict minor tortures upon her. And there was the sheik, her father. She feared him more than she did Mabuna. He often scolded her for nothing, quite habitually terminating his tirades by cruelly beating her until her little body was black and blue.

Little Meriem could scarce recall any other existence than that of the stern cruelty of the sheik and Mabuna. Dimly in the back of her childish memory there lurked a blurred recollection of a gentle mother. But Meriem was not sure but that even this was a dream picture induced by her own desire for the caresses she never received.

Suddenly there arose sounds of altercation beyond the village gates. Meriem listened. With the curiosity of childhood she would have liked to run down there and learn what it was that caused the men to talk so loudly. Others of the villagers were already trooping in the direction of the noise.

But Meriem did not dare. The sheik would be there, doubtless, and if he saw her it would be but another opportunity to abuse her, so Meriem lay still and listened.

Presently she heard the crowd moving up the street toward the sheik's tent. Cautiously she stuck her head around the edge of the tent. She could not resist the temptation, for the sameness of the village life was monotonous and she craved diversion.

What she saw was two strangers—white men. They were alone, but as they approached she learned from the talk of the natives that surrounded them that they possessed a consider-

able following that was camped outside the village.

They were coming to palaver with the sheik.

The old Arab met them at the entrance to his tent. His eyes narrowed wickedly when they had appraised the newcomers. They stopped before him, exchanging greetings. They had come to trade for ivory, they said.

The sheik grunted. He had no ivory. Meriem gasped. She knew that in a nearby hut the great tusks were piled almost to the roof. She poked her head farther forward to get a better view of the strangers. How white their skins! How yellow their great beards!

Suddenly one of them turned his eyes in her direction. She tried to dodge back out of sight, for she feared all men, but he saw her. Meriem saw the look of almost shocked surprise that crossed his face. The sheik saw it too and guessed the cause of it. "I have no ivory," he repeated. "I do not wish to trade. Go away. Go now!"

He stepped from his tent and almost pushed the strangers about in the direction of the gates. They demurred, and then the sheik threatened. It would have been suicide to have disobeyed, so the two men turned and left the village, making their way immediately to their own camp.

The sheik returned to his tent, but he did not enter it. Instead he walked to the side where little Meriem lay



"It Will Not Harm to Try the Power of Gold," Replied Jensen.

close to the goatskin wall, very frightened. The sheik stooped and clutched her by the arm. Violently he jerked her to her feet, dragged her to the entrance of the tent and shoved her within. Following her, he seized her again, beating her ruthlessly.

"Stay within!" he growled. "Never let the strangers see your face. Next time you show yourself to strangers I shall kill you!"

In the camp of the strangers one was speaking rapidly to the other.

"There is no doubt of it, Malbina," he was saying, "not the slightest, but why the old scoundrel hasn't claimed the reward long since is what puzzles me."

"There are some things dearer to an Arab, Jensen, than money," returned the first speaker. "Revenge is one of them."

"Anyhow, it will not harm to try the power of gold," replied Jensen.

Malbina shrugged.

"Not on the sheik," he said. "We might try it on one of his people, but the sheik will not part with his revenge for gold. To offer it to him would only confirm his suspicions that we must have awakened when we were talking to him before his tent. If we got away with our lives then we should be fortunate."

CHAPTER VI.—In the Jungle.

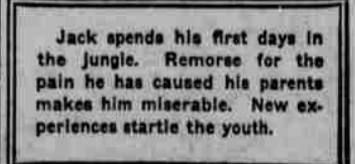
His first night in the jungle was one which the son of Tarzan held longest in his memory. No savage carnivora menaced him. There was never a sign of hideous barbarian, or if there were the boy's troubled mind took no cognizance of them.

His conscience was harassed by the thought of his mother's suffering. Self blame plunged him into the depths of misery.

The killing of the American caused him little or no remorse. The fellow had earned his fate. Jack's regret on this score was due mainly to the effect which the death of Conlon had had upon his own plans.

Now he could not return directly to his parents, as he had planned. Fear of the primitive borderland law, of which he had read highly colored, imaginary tales, had thrust him into the jungle—a fugitive. He dared not return to the coast at this point, not that he was so greatly influenced through personal fear as from a desire to shield his father and mother from further sorrow and from the shame of having their honored name dragged through the sordid degradation of a murder trial.

With returning day the boy's spirits rose. With the rising sun came new hope within his breast. He would return to civilization by another way. None would guess that he had been connected with the killing of the stranger in the little out of the way trading post upon a remote shore.



Jack spends his first days in the jungle. Remorse for the pain he has caused his parents makes him miserable. New experiences startle the youth.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

Tigers Abound in India.

Tigers abound in India to this day. In some parts of that land the natives, especially the Hindus, regard the tiger with such superstitious awe that they will not kill one. Some think it is haunted by a spirit which makes it immortal.