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Special Cable Despatch to The Sun from the London Times.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—A special despatch to the Times from Pernambuco gives the following story of the sinking of the British steamship Dramatist, another victim of the German sea raider.

"On December 18 the Dramatist sighted a vessel on her beam and going the same way, which closed in upon her. When seven miles off the vessel altered her course and came up alongside. She then broke out the German naval ensign and signalled the Dramatist to stop immediately.

"The side of the German vessel under the foremast was dropped, revealing two guns of about 2 1/2 inch calibre, trained dead on the Dramatist. The Dramatist surrendered, and armed boats were lowered her. The Dramatist's officers and crew were conveyed to the raider.

"At 7 o'clock the steamer was sunk by a shell. A little after 8 the crew of the Dramatist, except for 27 Indian firemen, whom the raider decided to add to her crew, were transferred to the Japanese steamship Hudson Maru, which was running at high speed. As Ceara is the Brazilian State bordering Rio Grande do Norte on the north, it is thought these sailors saw the same ship the next day.

"The Hudson Maru followed the raider until 4 p. m. on January 12, when she proceeded to Pernambuco. In the interval when any vessel was sighted all on deck were driven below and watertight covers were locked after them. The heat was stifling, but an armed guard was stationed outside. Some of the men heard from one of the raider's crew that a British cruiser being met they would have allowed no chance to save themselves.

"The raider, the crew said, left Kiel with a deckload of hay, disguised as a Scandinavian ship. She went ashore in the daytime and at full speed at night. The St. Theodore had thirteen neutrals left aboard on December 13. Two and a half inch guns were seen on the poop of the raider, but no one was allowed to approach the canvas screen or the wireless installation.

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TREACHERY IS LAID TO BRITISH SAILORS

U-Boat Commander Tells of Attack Under Cover of Danish Flag.

BARCELON, by wireless, Jan. 20.—A German submarine sighted a steamer in the Channel on January 12 and signalled her to stop and send a boat. According to the Overseas News Agency the steamer carried the Danish flag and the name "Karl, Danmarz" was recognized clearly. After a time a boat was observed at the steamer's bow. The submarine commander, considering the harmless Danish ship, approached her.

Suddenly the steamer fell a section of a cabin aft and a gun of from 10 to 15 centimetres (4 to 6 inches) became visible. The Danish flag continued flying, and at the same time the concealed guns began firing.

The submarine succeeded in submerging the vessel. In the meantime, according to the news agency, it has been ascertained that the Danish steamer Karl was at anchor in the British harbor of Sunderland until January 13.

MOEWE SAILOR ON GERMAN RAIDER

Continued from First Page.

raider, off the coast of Rio Grande do Norte on Thursday. The stranger was travelling north at a speed estimated at about twenty knots. No consort was sighted.

The central point of the volcano-like upheaval was in the heart of the working district of a suburban town. At 6:45 P. M. a series of explosions suddenly transformed the works into a fiery furnace and great masses of burning liquid and timber and red hot iron were hurled high in the air.

Mixed with the deafening crash of beams and girders were cries from the working people. An adjoining flour mill in which many women and girls were employed was engulfed.

The explosions were only the centre of a succession of a widespread series of fires, as the masses of frebrands from the affected quarter settled. Added to the terror of the upheaval was a lurid darkness in which the entire quarter was enveloped.

Crowds of relatives and friends gathered in the East End district seeking word of those within the stricken section. At midnight, while the work of rescue was still in progress, the area continued burning, reflecting a lurid glare over all London. All available ambulances were requisitioned, even the London police ambulances being sent to the distant scene. School houses and police stations were used as temporary hospitals.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—All communication with other districts was cut off for a time by the explosion, and the metropolitan fire brigade could not give aid immediately, the fire not being in the London fire brigade area.

The damage extended to distant points, and to sections where plate glass fronts were reduced to masses of debris, while the extent and seriousness of the destruction increased in the working quarters nearer the explosion centre. Two distinct working districts adjacent to the main explosion suffered heavily in levelled houses. The firemen directed their chief efforts to restricting the area of destruction and preventing the fire spreading to other nearby warehouses and factories. This was largely successful, and comparatively little damage was done to the warehouses.

There was no loss of American life or property as a result of the explosion last night, so far as has been ascertained this evening.

The general character of the explosion, as it was experienced in the centre of London, was a roar of short duration, as though a vast reservoir of gas had been ignited and consumed in one burst of flame. A tremendous puff of fire flashed high in the air and then quickly subsided. Eyewitnesses in suburban towns said the flame had disappeared a full minute before they heard the roar which accompanied it.

Fire had broken out more than a quarter of an hour before the explosion and firemen were on the spot fighting it. The day shift of workers in the neighborhood were with their families at their evening meal. As swiftly as a battleship is wrecked by a magazine explosion, the chemical works were virtually wiped off their foundations and with them the four mills adjoining and blocks of workmen's dwellings.

The following official announcement in regard to the explosion was given out here to-day:

At about 7 o'clock last night fire started at a factory in the east of London, near the river, which was emitting a terrific explosion. Fortunately a few minutes elapsed after the commencement of the fire before the explosion occurred, during which several firemen were able to escape from the factory.

Three Rows of Houses Go.

The explosion appears to have involved practically all the explosives in the factory, which was itself completely destroyed. Fires were caused in neighboring warehouses and factories, one of the largest of which was an important flour mill. The effects of the explosion were felt for a great distance, and in the neighborhood were practically demolished and considerable damage was occasioned to other property.

An engine from the local fire station had reached the spot and was playing on the fire when the explosion occurred. The engine itself was destroyed, but fortunately only two firemen appear to have lost their lives.

The chief engineer of the factory and a number of other work people were killed by the explosion or burned in the neighborhood. The chief chemist, Dr. A. S. Well, himself went to the fire and attempted to combat it.

The number of persons killed either in the factory or in the neighboring houses has not yet been ascertained. The casualties, however, owing to the warning which the people had by the outbreak of the fire, are not nearly so heavy as at first anticipated. Up to the present between thirty and forty bodies have been recovered and about 100 persons are reported to have been seriously injured.

Ample assistance was forthcoming from the London Fire Brigade and a number of ambulances. The police and municipal authorities found temporary accommodation for those whose homes had been damaged.

Relief Fund Raised.

Certain firms generously sent large contributions to the Ministry of Munitions with a view to their being used for the benefit of the sufferers, and the Local Government Board has undertaken in conjunction with the local authorities to see to the application of any funds raised in this way. In the meantime the Minister has requested the borough authorities to arrange for the provision of immediate relief for those requiring it.

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We are further informed by the Ministry of Munitions that the accident will make no practical difference in the output of munitions. The Minister, with the chief officers of the Explosives Supply Department, visited the scene this morning, and every possible effort is being made to deal promptly with the unfortunate effects of the explosion.

Both last night and this morning the King made inquiries as to the extent of the damage and loss of life, and has expressed his sympathy for the victims and their families. The Minister of Munitions, on behalf of the Government, has requested the local authorities by a letter of instruction to relief operations to convey his deep sympathy with all those affected.

American Tells of Disaster.

An American business man who was a witness of the disaster said: "I had been on a business visit to the chemical works and was leaving in the direction of the suburban station late in the afternoon, when a policeman on duty outside the gate called my attention to a small fire that had just started inside the huge enclosure, which embraces numerous buildings, huts and tanks. Desires of seeing how the dynamite department would cope with a blaze in an evidently difficult location, I decided to wait a few minutes.

"I had waited nearly half an hour, interestingly watching the gradually increasing activity of the fire fighters, when the explosion came, followed immediately by a flare of fire which was an explosion seemed to come from everywhere around. The sound is impossible to describe. I could only recall like a flash an incident of many years ago when I was in Johannesburg at the beginning of the Boer war and heard the explosion of 400 tons of dynamite, the largest amount ever exploded at one time, when a trainload of the explosive went up in one crash.

"The air full of debris almost instantly and the crash of falling timbers, collapsing buildings and breaking glass continued like an echo of the first crash for at least seven or eight minutes. The great flash of flame had its result, too, in sparks which filled the sky for many minutes as far as the eye could reach.

"The atmosphere immediately became heavy with the smell of gas, and the faces of people in the buildings turned a dull, sticky yellow. The air, too, was yellow, not the grey yellow of a London fog, but a peculiar, deathlike yellow-sombre, lustreless, heavy, which even and nostrils alike refused to breathe.

"I brushed the sparks off my clothes and felt of myself to find out whether I was injured. People whom I discerned here and there through the haze were all, as far as I half guessed.

"I was impressed into a volunteer ambulance corps and we were rushed off into the heart of the district where the explosion had done its worst damage. Fire brigades kept arriving in a seemingly unending procession from different parts of London, and from these we obtained a few necessaries to assist in our rescue work. This was carried out in houses and cottages on the fringe of the wrecked area. Fragments of factory machinery weighing tons were found half a mile, a mile and even a mile and a quarter from the factory. Three houses were flattened into a mass of kindling wood and here we took up our headquarters.

"There were wounded who had been dug out from the debris, while others were found seriously injured lying uncovered and helpless in streets, gardens and open places. The surprising thing was the large number of persons whose injuries at first appeared to be serious, owing to the fact that they were dazed and suffering from a species of shell shock, but who later responded to our first aid attempts and walked off fairly sound, with bandaged arm or head, to assist in the relief work.

Dutch Steamer Released.

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60 DEAD, 375 HURT IN BRITISH BLAST

Munitions Plant Near London Blows Up After Fire Starts Near By.

MANY WORKERS ESCAPE

Dinner Hour and Quick Alarm Combine to Save Lives of Residents.

LONDON, Jan. 20.—Part of London was shaken severely last night when a chemical plant to the east of the metropolitan district, in which munitions were manufactured, was the centre of a series of explosions, scattering destruction over a large portion of the district in which the works were located. There is no evidence that the explosion was other than the result of a fire, such as that to which any factory is subject.

Between thirty and forty bodies have been recovered thus far.

The death roll of the explosion is now estimated as between fifty and sixty. In ten hospitals on Saturday twenty-one persons died and there were 112 patients receiving treatment. In addition 266 persons suffering from lighter injuries were treated.

The central point of the volcano-like upheaval was in the heart of the working district of a suburban town. At 6:45 P. M. a series of explosions suddenly transformed the works into a fiery furnace and great masses of burning liquid and timber and red hot iron were hurled high in the air.

Mixed with the deafening crash of beams and girders were cries from the working people. An adjoining flour mill in which many women and girls were employed was engulfed.

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