

THREE MUSKETEERS FACING DEATH IN THE GREAT LONELY SPACES

The English Lad Who Was
Left Alone to Die

NO MURMUR, NO COMPLAINT

Not since the march to triumph and death of Captain Scott and his companions have the hearts of men been so stirred by disaster to a few as by the story of the long agony and slow passing of three gallant Englishmen, starved to death while on an exploring expedition in the Far North-West of Canada.

We gave the story of the discovery of the bodies a few months since; now the diary of the boy member of the party has reached home, and extracts have been published by the Daily Mail.

What Hornby Desired to Do

The three men were John Hornby, son of A. N. Hornby (the famous old Lancashire and England cricketer), a man of wealth who gave his life to exploration and discovery; Harold Challoner Evan Adlard, aged 28, son of the managing director of a well-known firm of London printers; and Edgar Vernon Christian, aged 19, son of Lieutenant-Colonel W. F. Christian, of Carnarvon and Hong Kong. It fell to the boy to survive his two companions and to leave beside his own body a record of the expedition which will always have a place in Arctic story.

Hornby desired to round off his career as a traveller by crossing the Barren Lands to find a route from Great Slave Lake through the Thelon game sanctuary to Chesterfield Inlet and Hudson Bay. The three adventurers reached the sanctuary late in the summer of 1926, were dogged by bad luck in their attempts to secure food, and slowly starved to death, their bodies being found in July, 1928. Only now have their documents reached home.

Through Frost and Snow

Their hopes of shooting a sufficient store of caribou to keep them in health and comfort during the long winter were disappointed. Again and again they made long exhausting journeys through fierce frost and deep snow in quest of game, but returned, as a rule, empty-handed, and had to bore through the ice of a river to catch a few fish. Flour, oat-cake, and sugar did not fail, but the task of cutting wood for fires was an agony to the weakened men; and flesh food was reduced to a diminishing supply of old bones broken up for stew, decayed flesh discarded the previous summer, and the skin of the animals which had yielded the bones.

Hornby, whom Christian seems almost to have worshipped, was a great hero, and when things were almost at their worst he would turn up his diaries of previous perils to pretend how slight by comparison were their present hardships.

A Manly Story

Giving up part of his rations in order to sustain his comrades, he suffered from a grievous injury to his legs and from internal disease brought on by poisonous and indigestible food. He slowly sank to death, nursed to the last by the others. The valiant Adlard was a sovereign stay to Christian during the 16 days he survived Hornby.

By May 4, 1927, Christian was left dying of starvation and disease, with two dead men beside him, with the sun and warmth returning, with game streaming back from the South, and himself too weak and ill to go out and renew his impoverished larder.

Day by day, with failing faculties, he kept up his diary, a plain, manly story, without a word of complaint or lamentation. He could only crawl, "thin as a rake" and with his joints clicking and jerking as he moved. He knew that he

BRUSSELS SPENDS A QUIET EVENING

ONE Friday evening, as 1929 drew to its close, English visitors to Brussels began to ask themselves if they were mad. Was it really Friday in Brussels?

Shops were shut. Cafés and restaurants were darkened. Theatres and music-halls were silent. All the bustle and gaiety of the city had gone. At 6 o'clock a ghostly curfew seemed to have rung and quenched all jollity.

It was like a day of national mourning or a general strike; but it was really a protest against a set of regulations which may be compared with England's famous Defence of the Realm Act.

Under D.O.R.A. it is illegal to sell chocolates in a theatre after 9 p.m. Most parts of the Act are excellent, but most people forget them when they are

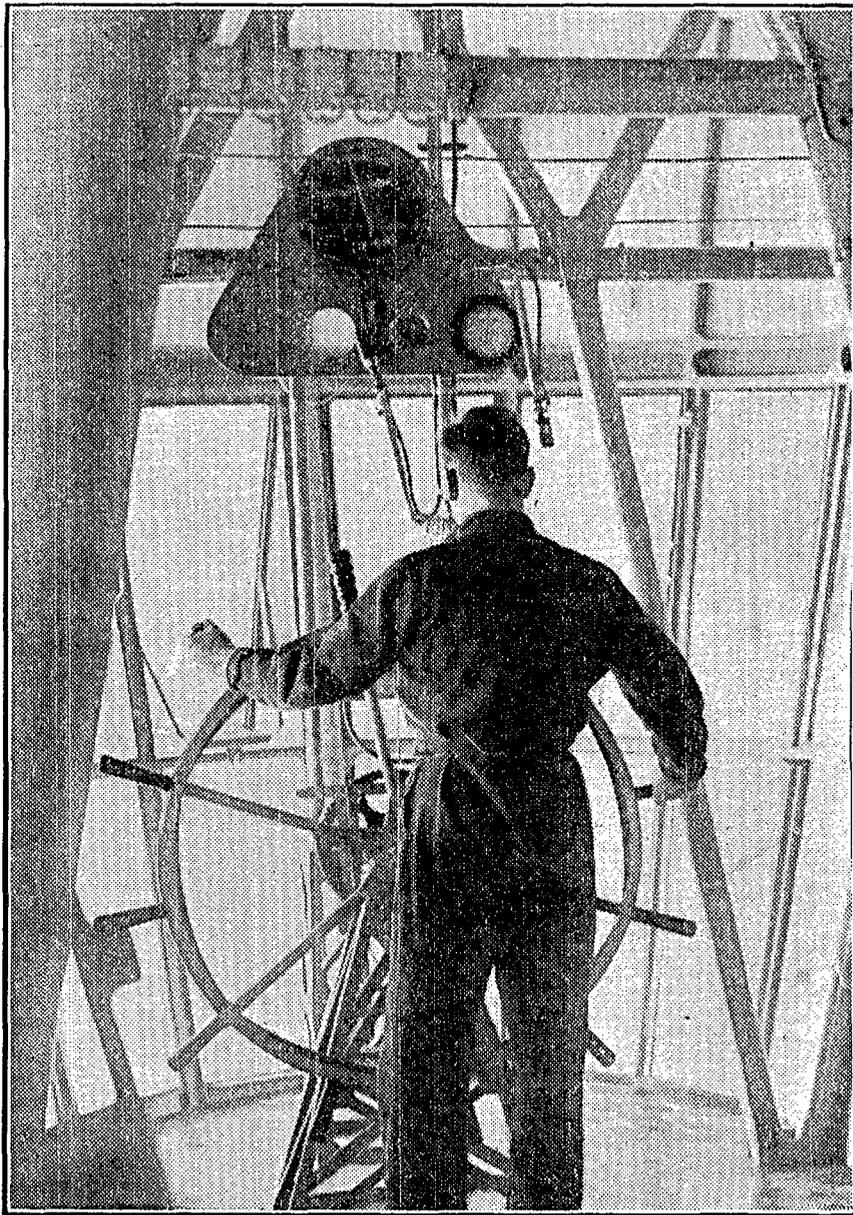
harassed by petty restrictions like the chocolate rule. "We are trying to earn a honest living," they cry, "and the Government does nothing but persecute and tax us."

So Brussels determined to stage a protest. For one night, at any rate, its traders would not pay one penny of entertainment tax. Nobody could dance, dine, or applaud in any place of amusement.

"You see what will happen," said Brussels to its Government, "if you kill the goose that lays the golden eggs!"

We do not know whether the Government shook in its shoes or only replied: "You are cutting off your nose to spite your face!" But Brussels, which has often had a night out, has now had a night in.

THE MAN AT THE WHEEL



Here we see the helmsman on board R 100, Britain's new giant airship, which has recently made her first trial flights. As the picture shows, he has an unobstructed view of the country which lies ahead.

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must stick to his guns, and "seeing how quickly Jack and Harold went," he realised that it was of importance that he should "write all this down."

His last entries in this diary show that it was too late to hope, and that he was doomed; but still there is no whimper, no lamentation. A lovely letter to his mother and a manly farewell to his father—and then the end. That must have come on June 1, 1927, or later, nearly two months after the passing of his hero Hornby.

It is a heart-searching story, but one to fire the spirit and imagination, to remind us that brave and uncomplaining gallantry did not pass with Scott in the Antarctic, nor on the hundred battlefields of the Great War. Peace has still her invincible heroes, and of their company are these Gallant Three.

HAZEL WINTER'S GREAT ACHIEVEMENT

The C.N. rejoices, and all England should rejoice, because Hazel Winter has won an open scholarship for history at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford.

She was born blind, is only 17, and has been shown no favour. She owes her victory to three things: her own intelligence, the work of the volunteers who copied text books into Braille for her, and the education she received at Chorley Wood.

Eight years ago Chorley Wood College was opened as a public school for blind girls, and Hazel Winter has spent five years there. Chorley Wood must be nearly as proud of her great victory as her father Colonel C. B. Winter.

May much good fortune attend this brave and clever undergraduate!

LET US WORK WITH ONE ANOTHER

MAKING THE WORLD
EASIER FOR ALL OF US

High Example the Telephone
People Have Set the Nations

SIMPLE COMMON SENSE

The growth of cooperation between nations since the League came into being is the most hopeful feature of the life of the world today.

It has been one of the strangest failures in the practical affairs of modern nations that they have not been able to link up internationally some of their most essential services. For example, in many lands there has not been any comprehensive scheme for enabling trains to run through from land to land. No general arrangement respecting gauges exists, though, of course, there are some through Continental routes across the chief countries. Another instance is the failure of electric companies to agree upon standard voltages.

Wonderful Progress

In contrast with such instances it is pleasing to note the advance toward common sense made in the international telephone system.

Seven years ago the president of the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Mr. Frank Gill, pointed out the need for cooperation. At that time it was not possible for a British telephone subscriber to speak directly to any foreign cities except Brussels and Paris.

This year the president of the Institution, Colonel Sir Thomas Purves, chief engineer of the Post Office, in his presidential address, drew attention to the remarkable way in which the authorities of various countries have succeeded in sinking their differences and reaching agreement on the many difficult details which must be settled if the telephone systems of all countries are to fit in with one another. Today, he pointed out, it is possible for a subscriber to be connected directly with 90 per cent of the telephone subscribers of the world!

Long-Distance Problems

This has come about by the constant application of common sense. After preliminary meetings, an Advisory Committee on International Telephony was formed in 1924. Largely as a result of the existence of this committee it has been arranged that full advantage should be taken of the technical advances in long-distance telephony.

As the distances have increased the problems have multiplied. It was found that the electrical vibrations tended to change their form as they travelled over the wires, and to overcome this coils of wire called loaded coils, wound on cores of compressed powdered iron, are inserted in the coils at intervals.

Cross-Talk and Echoes

To prevent the signals becoming too weak, amplifiers with valves similar to those used in radio sets are required every hundred miles or so. Elaborate precautions must be taken in the construction of apparatus if cross-talk between one circuit and another is to be avoided. The frequent interference of "echoes" threatened to limit the length of telephone circuits to a thousand miles until special means of suppressing them were evolved.

At the present time conversations have been successfully held over a telephone circuit 14,000 miles long. This result has only been made possible by the general agreement in matters of principle and detail between telephone administrations. In short, International Telephony has shown the world one of the most encouraging signs of the possibility of cooperation between nations; and has set all countries a high example.