

LAUNCH OF H.M.S. NAIAD (Etc.) . (2)

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She carries a cargo of cyanide --- if the flames reach that cargo the air will be filled with poison gas. One breath, taken deep into the lungs, would kill a man. ~~Cyanide~~ --- ~~the flames reached their~~

Our story of the sea nears its close --- with the story of the modern ship --- the flying boat Cavalier ~~was~~ took off here from Port Washington, on the last fatal run to Bermuda. Ice again --- her engines were failing through ice --- so ran the radio message received by Pan-American. Coastguards and other vessels nearby, raced to help the stricken British Flying Boat --- she was settling deeper ^{as the day wore on} ~~taxi~~ --- thirteen souls on board, 300 miles from land. For ten hours, ten survivors clung to the Cavalier --- three dropped off, and were drowned.

Rescued by the oil-tanker Baytown, they came back to New York-- great crowds had gathered on the quay to watch them come ashore-- men and women who had clung to a sinking shell in the darkness, wondering if help would come too late. Ten survivors --- two wives who had seen their husbands drown. But they pay brave tribute to the men who rescued them. And the rescuers hand back that tribute of courage.

So ends a tragedy of flight --- and a heroic record of endurance.