

# Macon Glides Over City,<sup>BUGF 11</sup> Visits Lake Shore Cities<sup>M</sup>

The dirigible Macon, which passed over Milwaukee early Tuesday morning, went up the Lake Michigan shore to the northern peninsula and then returned, sailing over Milwaukee on the return trip at 5 p. m., heading for Chicago.

The Illinois naval reserve radio station at Chicago established radio communication with the dirigible and it was reported that the big ship is not in trouble. An earlier report from Frankfort, Mich., while the ship is over the lake, said that it was in difficulty with a disabled rudder.

Poised with her nose pointed into the northwest wind and her motors idling, the Macon hung in the morning sky over Milwaukee Tuesday.

From the ground no one would guess that 90 persons were aboard the very airship, some sleeping, some breakfasting. The ship, in charge of Capt. Commander Alger H. Dresel, left its hangar at Akron, Ohio, Monday night, and cruised up to Detroit. Then it sailed through the night to Chicago. From there the Macon fol-

lowed the shore line of Lake Michigan northward to Milwaukee.

After floating over the city for some time, the big ship speeded up its many motors and cruised northward. A radio message from Sheboygan to the ship informed the commander that the state G. A. R. convention was being held there. The Macon then flew up to Sheboygan, cut over to Oshkosh and Fond du Lac and then northward. After lowering over Frankfort, Mich., it started its return trip.

The visit of the Macon to Milwaukee was unscheduled and came as a surprise to the thousands of curious folk suddenly given a look at the world's largest airship—the successor to the Akron which was destroyed recently in a storm off the New Jersey coast. The ships were built on virtually the same plans. The ship is 785 feet long and has a maximum diameter of 132.9 feet and contains 6,500,000 cubic feet of helium.

In its tanks 124,000 pounds of fuel can be carried and it can travel 10,000 miles from its base without a ground stop. Eighty miles an hour is the maximum speed but winds can either cut this down or step it up.

*Sailed past here June 13, 1933  
Washington Island*