

Document: HO 45/10700/236973

Article from the 'Morning Post', 8th May 1913

BOMB AT ST. PAUL'S.

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO WRECK CHANCEL.

SUPPOSED SUFFRAGIST OUTRAGE.

An explosive machine was found near the Bishop's Throne in the chancel of St. Paul's Cathedral yesterday morning a few minutes prior to the celebration of early Communion, and there is no doubt in the minds of the authorities that the contrivance was designed and placed there by someone associated with the militant Suffragist movement. The "bomb," as it is described by the police, was carefully wrapped in brown paper and in part of a recent issue of the militant newspaper *The Suffragette*.

An expert stated that while such a bomb as that found at St. Paul's would have done relatively little damage to that building because of the great air spaces which exist within it, a similar machine in Westminster Abbey, owing to the crowded condition there, due to the many memorials and the form of the interior, might result in irreparable injury to an historic structure.

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SUPPOSED SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGE

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[Extra explanations are in square brackets]

BOMB AT ST.PAUL'S

UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPT TO WRECK CHANCEL

SUPPOSED SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGE

A bomb was found near the Bishop's Throne in the chancel [part of the church containing the altar] of St. Paul's cathedral yesterday morning, just before early Communion. The authorities have no doubt that the bomb was designed and placed in the cathedral by someone associated with the militant Suffragists. The bomb was wrapped in brown paper and in part of a recent issue of The Suffragette newspaper.

An expert said that the bomb would have done little damage to St. Paul's because of the height of the space. However, if the bomb had been placed in Westminster Abbey, it would have caused great damage to the building, due to the number of memorials [stone objects built to honour a person or an event].