

LUSITANIA SUNK

BIG LINER IS TORPEDOED OFF IRELAND

New York and London Get Confirmation of Disaster.

Catastrophe Follows Quickly on Heels of Warning.

PASSENGERS' FATE IN DOUBT.

Calls Sent Out for Help and Aid Is Rushed.

Many Distinguished Persons in Long List on Board.

New York, May 7.—The Cunard liner Lusitania, one of the fastest ships afloat, was torpedoed and sunk this afternoon off the coast of Ireland, ten miles south of Kinsale.

She had aboard 1,253 passengers. The liner sailed from New York Saturday, May 1, and carried in addition to her own large passenger list, 163 passengers transferred from the Anchor line Cameronia.

The news of her sinking was announced by the local office of the Cunard line and was based on cable advices received from the home office of the company in Liverpool. Three dispatches, received in the order named, were made public by the line, and read as follows:

"We received from the Lands End wireless station news of repeated distress calls made by the Lusitania, asking for assistance at once. Big list. Position ten miles south of Kinsale. Subsequently received telegram from Queenstown that all available craft in the harbor had been dispatched to assist."

Thirty-Five Boats to Rescue. The second message to the local office read: "Queenstown, 4:59 p. m.—Wire says about 20 boats of all sorts belonging to our line are in vicinity where Lusitania sank. About fifteen other boats are making for spot to render assistance."

The third cablegram was dated Liverpool and read: "Following received by admiralty: Galley Head, 4:25 p. m.—Several boats, apparently survivors, southeast nine miles. Greek steamer proceeding to assistance. Dispatches received here from London, Liverpool and Queenstown confirmed the news. One of the messages said it was believed that all the big liner's passengers had been saved. No definite news as to the fate of the passengers had been received by the Cunard line here early this afternoon.

Large Steamer Stands By. Late today, Cunard line officials received a dispatch from Queenstown stating that a large number of small vessels and boats were in the vicinity rendering assistance. The dispatch follows: "Large steamer just arrived in vicinity. Apparently rendering assistance. Tugs, patrols, etc., now on the spot taking boats in tow. Motor fishing boats with two Lusitania boats bearing probably for Kinsale. This information came from Old Head, via Queenstown, and the Cunard line announced it would make public, as official, as all dispatches on the Lusitania, including those relating to the fate of passengers. The stock market was stunned by the news. A torrent of selling orders poured in from every section of the country. A period of intense excitement followed.

Prices in war specialties broke 15 to 20 points within an hour. Stable issues dropped five to ten points. Passenger List. New York, May 7.—The following is an incomplete list of the first cabin passengers aboard the Lusitania: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adams, Boston, Mass.; A. H. Adams, New York; W. McAdams, New York; Lady Allen and maid, Montreal; Miss Anna Allan, Montreal; Miss Gwen Allen and maid, Montreal; M. N. Allen, New York; Julien De Ayala, Cuban consul general at Liverpool; James Baker, England; Mrs. M. A. Baker, New York; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. B. Bartlett, London; J. J. Battersby, Stockport, England; Albert C. Bilcke and wife, Los Angeles; Leonidas Bistio, Atlanta.

Ships Rush to Rescue. Queenstown, May 7.—Immediately after the news of the torpedoing of the Lusitania was received here the station dispatched to the scene all assistance available. The tugs Warrior, Stormcock and Julia, together with five trawlers on the local life boat in tow of a tug were hurried to sea.

May Be Salvaged. Late this afternoon reports reached here that the Lusitania either was beached or sunk in water so shallow that she can be salvaged. This is considered likely, as all liners have meted the run through St. George channel with all of their watertight compartments closed.

The reports received here are fragmentary, but all agree that the big liner began calling for help by her wireless at 2:33. The first to pick her up was the wireless Head.

WASHINGTON IS STUNNED BY DISASTER

News of Torpedoing of Lusitania Strikes Like Bomb.

Officials Face Most Serious Incident of War.

PRES. WILSON SAYS NOTHING.

German Submarines Known to Be Near Kinsale.

Scene of Sinking Marked by Other Attacks.

Washington, May 7.—News of the torpedoing of the Lusitania struck official Washington like a bomb. While disposed to await full details before expressing opinions, all administration officials realized that the incident was probably the most serious Washington has faced since the beginning of the war.

Wilson Says Nothing. Washington, May 7.—President Wilson was informed of the sinking of the Lusitania, and White House officials showed keen anxiety to learn whether any American lives were lost. No comment was made.

Germans in Picked Zone. The presence of German submarines off the southern coast of Ireland and along the line of travel the Lusitania would follow in going to Liverpool, was made known in a dispatch from Glasgow last night which recited that the British steamer Cherbury had been torpedoed in the Atlantic ocean off the Irish coast. This was on April 23.

Two other vessels were sent to the bottom more recently—the Centurion and the Candidate. Just where these ships were attacked has not been made known, but their destinations led to the belief that one or more German submarines have been operating in the lines of transatlantic travel. It may be that they were waiting for the Lusitania, and in the meanwhile attacked such other vessels as came within their range.

The Lusitania was a product of the race for speed, which was carried on for years among transatlantic steamship companies, particularly of England and Germany. When the Lusitania was launched she was the wonder of the maritime world. Her master of the sea from the standpoint of speed was undisputed.

Heard It Privately. Washington, May 7.—Officials did not believe there would be complications, however, unless American lives were lost. A few days ago, American officials heard privately that Germany intended to destroy the Lusitania at the first opportunity to terrorize British shipping and restrict ocean commerce with the allies.

It was taken for granted by officials here that if there existed a plan in the German admiralty to torpedo the Lusitania, every precaution had been suggested to the submarine commander to insure the safety of passengers. The embassy here from time to time has declared that the purpose of the German submarine campaign was not to cause loss of life, but to inflict a blow on British shipping and commerce. Should any Americans lose their lives the case would be covered, officials thought, by the warning to Germany that she would be held in that event "to a strict accountability."

Horror Quickly Made Public. The first word reaching London of the plight of the Lusitania was an unconfirmed rumor received at the general offices of the Cunard line. It stated the big steamer was in trouble. The line officials made it public and promised to keep the public informed of everything that happens.

There was much excitement. "There had been some doubt that the Germans were in earnest when they threatened to attack the passenger-carrying liner. The sinking of the Falaba had been considered the greatest violation of this kind, but when it was recognized that the biggest passenger liner in commission had fallen victim to the war, London was aghast.

St. Joe Man Aboard. St. Joseph, Mo., May 7.—William Mitchell, a St. Joseph seed merchant, who is a subject of King George, was a passenger on the Lusitania. No word has been received concerning his fate.

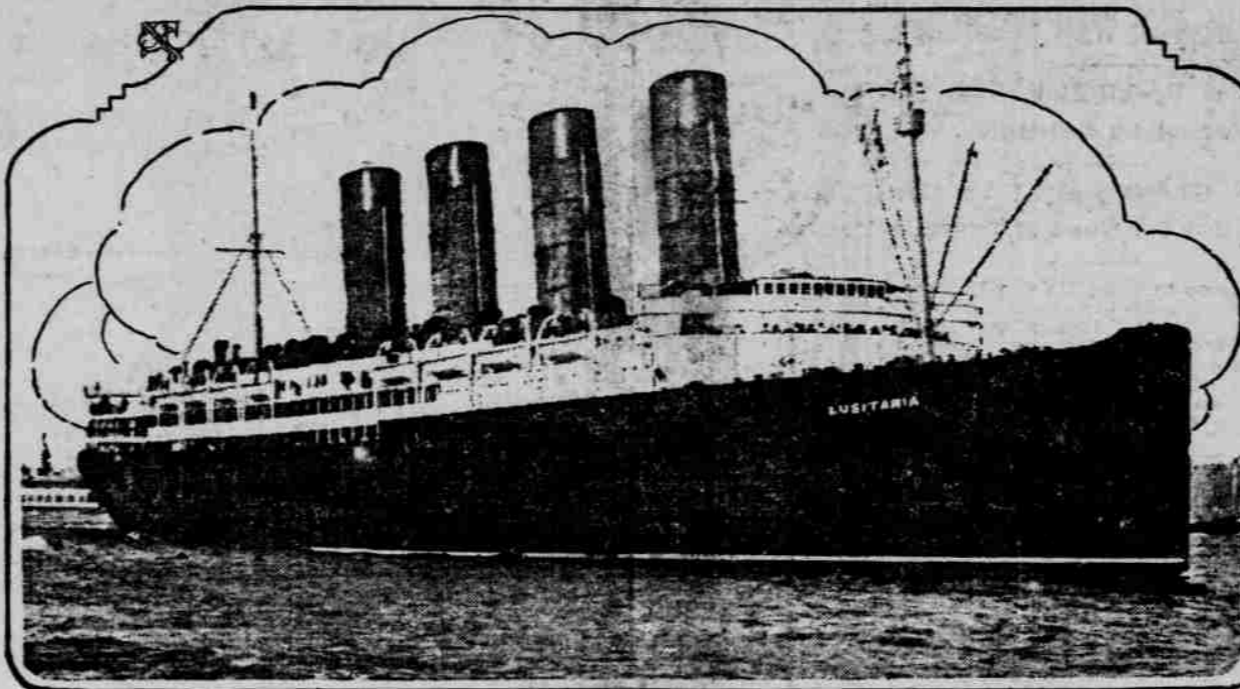
London, May 7.—A dispatch from Liverpool to the Exchange Telegraph says it is not known how many of the Lusitania's passengers were saved.

Queenstown, May 7.—(7 p. m.)—The admiralty officers here have news concerning the safety of the passengers and the crew of the Lusitania.

London Aghast. London, May 7.—The sinking of the Lusitania was the hardest blow of the war to date so far as neutral commerce was concerned.

FLOATS FOR TWO HOURS. Vessel May Have Not Gone Down at Once.

LUSITANIA VICTIM OF GERMAN SUBMARINE



MAKING WAR "FRIGHTFUL"

understood the Lusitania's own boats were used to care for her passengers. On all of her recent trips these boats have been hung from her sides and ready for any emergency and it is possible that this precaution may have proved the salvation of the passengers.

DOWN IN 20 MINUTES. Twenty Boats on Spot at Time of Torpedoing.

London, May 7. (6:52 p. m.)—Official announcement was made this evening that the Lusitania had remained afloat at least twenty minutes after being torpedoed and that "twenty boats were on the spot at the time."

Weather Favorable to Work of Saving Lusitania's Passengers.

New York, May 7.—The weather is favorable to the work of rescuing the Lusitania's passengers, according to a cablegram received by the Cunard line from Queenstown. The message said:

Weather here beautifully fine. Wind southeast; light. Of the 1,253 passengers aboard, 290 were in the first cabin.

Saving Passengers. New York, May 7.—The Cunard line made public this afternoon the following cablegram received from Liverpool transmitting a dispatch from Old Head:

Motor fishing boats towing two boats; probably number of passengers fifty. Tug Stormcock making Kinsale. Some passengers aboard. Many vessels are now apparently making Queenstown.

from the signal station at Kinsale to be in difficulties at noon. She had completely sunk at 2:33 p. m.

This would indicate that the liner floated for two hours and a half after what evidently was the beginning of her trouble.

Light to heavy frosts and freezing temperatures generally prevailed early this morning in western and north-central Kansas. The eastern and south-central sections of the state escaped frost. There are few spots in the state that escaped rain which was heaviest in the southern portion.

Between noon Thursday and 7 o'clock this morning at Topeka, the temperature was not higher than 44 degrees or lower than 43. The latter temperature is 9 degrees below the normal minimum temperature for this date. The rainfall late Thursday was .03 of an inch. An additional .1 of an inch fell Thursday night. The sky cleared early this morning.

The forecast indicates the probability of fair weather tonight and Saturday with a possibility of frost tonight.

Wichita, Kan., May 7.—An inch of rain fell over central and southern Kansas Thursday evening. Reports indicate that the fall was general over most of Oklahoma. Trains are running behind their schedule over the entire southwest, stated railway officials.

The mercury rose rapidly today. The thermometer reading at 2 o'clock was 65 degrees, making the temperature for the entire day three degrees above normal. The wind was blowing 20 miles an hour from the west this afternoon.

Hourly readings:
7 o'clock 44 11 o'clock 61
8 o'clock 47 12 o'clock 63
9 o'clock 53 1 o'clock 64
10 o'clock 58 2 o'clock 65

FROST IN KANSAS

Freezing Temperatures in Western and North Central Parts.

Few Spots in the State Escaped the Rain.

Steamer Is Torpedoed. British Ship Candidate Lost, But Crew Is Saved.

London, May 7.—The British steamer Candidate has been torpedoed by a German submarine off Waterford, Ireland. The members of her crew were saved.

San Francisco, May 7.—Track teams from all the leading Pacific coast colleges hold their track and field meet for the championship at the fair grounds here today.

NO WORSE THAN TOPEKA, HE SAYS

Representative Holbrook Plays Capital City Elections.

"Conditions Here Overshadow Situation in Kansas City."

HE TELLS OF A HOUSE MEETING.

Cites Instance as Example of Wyandotte Practices.

Everyone Anxious to Investigate Capper Charges.

"Election conditions in Kansas City, Kan., are no worse than in North Topeka or any other town with a congested voting population," declared Charles Holbrook, Republican representative from Wyandotte county. "I don't defend the election activities in Wyandotte county in every instance, but if there has been anything corrupt in the practice, I have never heard of it."

That was the expression today of Charles S. Holbrook, a Republican and member of the state legislature during the 1913-15 sessions. Holbrook represents the now famous First and Second wards of Kansas City, where Governor Capper declares election practices have been in operation which "would make Terra Haute look like a Sunday school town."

Holbrook was in conference today with Governor Capper. He declared: [Continued on Page Four.]

ITALY WARNED BY THE KAISER

Wilhelm Says to War on Austria Is to Strike Him.

Declares Great German Army Would Face King's Troops.

NATIONS RUSH WAR PLANS.

Premier and Von Buelow in Constant Conference.

All German Institutions Now Closed to Public.

(By Alice Rohe.) Rome, May 7.—Italy has been warned of the consequences of entering the war on the side of the allies. Telegraphing from Berlin, to which he had returned after an inspection of both battle fronts, the Kaiser declared Prince von Buelow that the English troops in the west are useless and within a fortnight the Russians will be driven out of Galicia.

The Italian government continues its war preparations. The army is concentrated at strategic points. The fleet is ready for action and the first steps toward the mobilization of the air will be the gazing of the Duke of Abruzzi as commander in chief of the royal fleet. The government has issued orders to the effect that the suspension of telegraph and telephone service without notice.

Premier Salandra and Prince von Buelow were in almost constant conference yesterday. The German ambassador is trying to persuade Italy to remain neutral, but it is admitted he considers the attempt a very serious one. The cabinet met today. It was announced that the question under consideration was the parliamentary program, but this statement was not taken seriously.

By order of the German embassy, the principal German schools, the German library and other German institutions heretofore opened to the public have been closed.

The government has sent a sharp note to Turkey questioning the truth of the report that Turkish officers now command the rebels in Tripoli.

Austria Seizes Railroads. Austria is continuing all her war preparations at top speed. All passenger service was held up last night owing to the taking over of the frontier railway lines for the transfer of her munitions. Enormous guns of the latest Austrian type have been mounted at the various points where the Italian invasion is possible and the troops now on the border are declared to be first line Hungarian soldiers and first line Germans.

All of the correspondents of the Austrian and German newspapers have sent their families home. It is said the reason the Austro-German members of religious orders and ecclesiastical students departed Wednesday night was because of a suggestion from the Vatican. It was held that their presence in Rome at this time would be a real menace.

BASEBALL TODAY. AMERICAN LEAGUE. Cleveland at Chicago—game postponed, wet grounds. FEDERAL LEAGUE. St. Louis at Buffalo—game postponed, wet grounds.

PEACE BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA

Most Obnoxious Demands Are Withdrawn Officially.

Cessation of Jap Warlike Preparation Seems Certain.

WARSHIPS READY TO STRIKE.

Great Fleet of Japan to Enforce Her Demands.

Second Squadron Is Preparing for Demonstration.

Tokio, May 7.—Peace between Japan and China was assured today when article 5 of the Japanese demands, most obnoxious to China and other powers, was officially withdrawn.

Group 5 of the Japanese demands, according to the text handed the Chinese government in February, contained seven articles providing for Japanese power in China's political, financial and military affairs and other concessions.

Washington, May 7.—The United States within the last 24 hours, through its ambassador abroad, has consulted Great Britain, France and Russia, as the allies of Japan, to learn their attitude toward the present status of the Japanese-Chinese negotiations.

Tokio, May 7.—More than 40 warships, including the battleship Hizen and the battle cruiser Kongo, are preparing at Sasebo for possible operations against China. A second squadron under Admiral Nawa has arrived and is hastily embarking supplies. Rear Admiral Kamimura's fleet, including the battleships Sagami and Suwo, has been ordered to the gulf of Pechili to be in readiness to take aboard Minister Hioki in case of necessity.

The police are protecting Professor Ariga, Japanese ambassador to President Yuan Shi Kai, whom speakers have denounced as a Chinese.

Peking, May 7.—There is good reason to believe China is preparing to concede everything demanded by Japan, realizing that the situation is hopeless. This possible outcome to the present talks is not generally comprehended in Peking; consequently a number of foreign residents as well as Chinese themselves are today packing their belongings and otherwise preparing for eventualities.

VAST WHEAT CROP

Agricultural Department Forecasts 693,000,000 Bushels.

More Than 40,000 Acres and Condition Is 92.9.

Washington, May 7.—The department of agriculture's May grain report today announced that the winter wheat area to be harvested, 40,189,000 acres; condition 92.9 per cent; indicated acre yield, 17.2 bushels; indicated production 693,000,000 bushels.

Rye condition, 89.8 per cent; meadow lands condition 89.8 per cent; Hay stocks on farms 8,485,000 tons or 12.1 per cent of last year's crop. Pasture condition 87.2 per cent. Spring plowing was 78.3 per cent completed May 1.

NEW TRIAL DENIED

Mayor Van Sickle Is Sentenced to the Penitentiary.

For a Term of From Five to 21 Years.

A motion for a new trial, made by attorneys of W. H. Van Sickle, mayor of Olpe, convicted on a white slave charge, was overruled today in the first division of the Shawnee county district court today, and Van Sickle was sentenced to serve an indeterminate sentence of from five to twenty-one years at hard labor in Lansing penitentiary. Van Sickle's attorneys served notice of an appeal to the supreme court. They will have thirty days in which to file an appeal bond.

Van Sickle sought a new trial on the ground that the court had erred in permitting the introduction of the family Bible of the Stephenson family to prove the age of Alma Stephenson, 17-year-old girl in the case, and also contended that improper instructions had been given the jury. The judge overruled both objections.

Slag Charges Investigated by I. C. C. Washington, D. C., May 7.—The interstate commerce commission, at its hearing today, is considering the announced plan of the railroads to make charges for the hauling of slag from furnaces in eastern Ohio, western Pennsylvania and West Virginia.