Big Liner Ripped Open, Sinks Like Lead

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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER
Fair

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BIG OCEAN LINER IS CUT WIDE OPEN BY COAL CARRIER

Canadian Paciic Steamer Empress of India is Run Down on St. Lawrence River Above Quebec.

PROBABLY THOUSAND ARE DEAD

Lowest Estimate Places Number at Six Hundred Seventy-Eight.

SURVIVORS IN NIGHT CLOTHES

Crew Able to Launch Only Few of Ship's Lifeboats.

SMALL STEAMERS TO RESCUE

Pilot Boat and Mail Tender Pick Up 399 Persons.

MANY ARE BADLY INJURED

Survivors Suffer Terrible Hurts and Several Die Before Boats Reach Dock—Practically All First-Class Passengers Lost.

RIMOUSKI, May 29.—Probably more than a thousand lives and surely not less than 700, were lost when the great Canadian Pacific line, Empress of Ireland, sank before dawn today in the St. Lawrence river, ripped open from amidships to stern by the Danish collier Storstad.

This was the estimate made here this afternoon where the hysterical survivors, many of them pitably maimed and almost naked, were being brought. It was based on the fact that the Empress carried 1,437 persons all told, of whom 399 were rescued and landed here by the ships Eureka and Lady Evelyn. The Storstad at first reported to have more than 300 survivors on board, has sailed for Quebec after landing only a handful of rescued and a number of dead.

Sank in Few Minutes.

The vessel, which was bound from Quebec for Liverpool, with 77 first, 206 second and 504 third-class passengers, was cut wide open by the collier Storstad, and sank within twenty minutes in nineteen fathoms of water. Of those saved, the majority appeared to be members of the crew or from the sterage. Many were badly injured and twenty-two died after being picked up.

The crash occurred about 2 o'clock this morning off Father Point, Que, a village brought into prominence when Dr. Crippen, the London murderer, was caught. The collier, bound for Quebec, struck the Empress of Ireland on the port side about the middle of the ship. It literally tore its way back almost to the liner's screws, leaving a rent through which the water poured in such a deluge that it sank before any of the passengers were aware of what had happened.

Small Steamers to Rescue.

Brief wireless calls for help, sent out by the Marconi operator, were heard by the pilot boat Eureka here, ten miles from the scene, and the Eureka, followed by the Lady Evelyn, a mail tender, put on forced steam and made all speed for the spot. It was these two boats that found afloat the few lifeboats that were launched from the stricken ship and picked up the survivors they contained. Three hundred and thirty-nine were saved by the Lady Evelyn and sixty by the Eureka. Among those saved was Captain H. G. Kendall of the Empress.

Of those saved crew members and third-class passengers predominated. From partial lists available at 2 o'clock it was evident that but a mere sprinkling of the first cabin passengers were saved. Only three names of those in the cabins appeared in the preliminary lists of rescued. They were G. W. G. Henderson and C. R. Bert, address unstated, and Walter Fenton of Manchester, England.

Explosion Hastens End.

The stricken vessel sank as if it was lead. An explosion, apparently originating in its engine room, hastened its end and those persons who were able to make their way from their cabins found themselves on a perilous slanting deck. Many leaped and were drowned. Others were fortunate enough to grasp driftwood or were picked up by lifeboats. It is apparent that the great hole torn in the ship's side admitted such a deluge of water that many must have been overcome in their beds.

The rescued, fighting their way to the lifeboats from the careening deck, clinging desperately to the rails or leaping blindly overboard, broke their arms or legs or otherwise injuring themselves so badly that twenty-two died after being picked up. Groaning, and in some cases practically insensible, others were landed here, while the populace of the village gathered with medicines and stimulants to relieve their suffering. A special train was made up this afternoon, on which many were taken to Quebec and Montreal.

No Time to Dress.

The president of the Canadian Pacific railway issued a statement this afternoon that the Empress had sunk within fourteen minutes. No one aboard had time to seize his belongings, much less to dress. Those found in the lifeboats were in their nightclothes. The women suffered most. Only a few were saved, according to the early lists, and indications are that they lacked the strength to combat conditions which confronted them. There was not, as was the case on the Titanic, time for calm deliberation and rigid observance of the unwritten law of "women first."

A party of Salvation Army members, en route to London, was almost wiped out; Laurence Irving, son of the late Sir Henry Irving, is among the missing, and other prominent persons in the first cabin were unaccounted for late this afternoon. When the rescue ships Eureka and Lady Evelyn reached the scene shortly before daybreak they found nine lifeboats from the Empress, all jammed full and many of the occupants wounded. It was still dark. Wreckage covered the river everywhere. The Storstad, its bow badly crumpled, was still on the scene, picking up the living wherever it could. In one of the lifeboats crouched Captain Kendall, commander of the Empress, dazed and greatly shaken. He had leaped from the deck and had been picked up by members of his crew.

Seven Cabin Passengers.

Those in the first and second cabins known to have been saved up to 5 o'clock this afternoon are:

G. W. S. HENDERSON.
WALTER FENTON.
C. R. BURT.
MISS ALICE LEE, Nashua, Bahama.
MISS E. COURT, Liverpool, Eng.
WALTER ERGINGER (this may be J. Erzinger of Winnipeg).
B. WEINRUCH, Montreal.

When the train came from the wharf bearing survivors it was a pitiful sight to see them alight. Most of them wore very little clothing. Many had to be carried bodily. A woman had a broken leg and shoulder and a man had two legs broken. They were carried to the hotel opposite the station.

H. R. O'Hara and his little girl, Helen.

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Bulletins from Great Disaster

QUEBEC, May 29.—The special Canadian Pacific relief train carrying survivors from the steamship Empress of Ireland, was derailed shortly after leaving Rimouski. So far as known no one was injured. Another train was immediately made up.

MONTREAL, May 29.—G. W. S. Henderson of Montreal, who is among the Empress of Ireland survivors, telegraphed his firm this afternoon, giving the number of dead at 1,000.

RIMOUSKI, May 29.—The Lady Evelyn, which returned to the scene of the disaster, reported by wireless that it had picked up seventeen bodies at 2 o'clock.

QUEBEC, May 29.—A train with 396 survivors from the sunken steamer Empress of Ireland reached here at 8 o'clock tonight. The rescued on board numbered twenty-nine first class, twenty-nine second class and 101 third class passengers and thirty-seven of the crew. Thirty-seven survivors were left at Rimouski, which would make a total of 433 saved. As revised figures show 1,367 persons to have been on the steamer, this makes the probable number of lost 934.

A corrected list of passengers and crew on the Empress of Ireland, issued officially by the Canadian Pacific railroad, gives the total numbef aboard as 1,367, divided as follows:

First cabin passengers	87
Second cabin passengers	153
Third class passengers	714
Officers and crew	413

Age and Youth - - Both for Their Country

Drawn for the Bee by Hal Coffman.

So those on Fame's eternal scroll
Are dead, but cannot die;
Their spirit stirs within the soul
And living hearts beat high.

And while our younger patriots spring
To emulate the brave,
O Death (we cry) where is thy sting?—
Thy victory, O Grave?

In memory of the patriot dead
Today we deck their graves,
While like a blessing overhead,
The flag they honored waves.

The burning sun shall parch indeed
The flowers we here have strown,
But, ere they wither, from their seed
New blossoms shall have blown.

SHIP SETTLES TO BOTTOM OF RIVER IN FEW MINUTES

President of Canadian Pacific Calls Disaster Greatest in History of St. Lawrence Route.

EMPRESS STOPS IN A FOG

Collier Hits It in Port Side and Rips It to Stern.

RENDERS BULKHEADS USELESS

Crew Does Not Have Time to Rouse Sleeping Passengers.

CARRIES PLENTY OF BOATS

Vessel Was Equipped with All the Latest Safety Appliances.

STORSTAD ON WAY TO QUEBEC

Collier is Badly Damaged, but Bulkheads Keep it Afloat—Message Makes No Mention of Any Survivors on Collier.

MONTREAL, May 29. — Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, president of the Canadian Pacific railway, issued the following statement:

"The catastrophe, because of the great loss of life, is the most serious in the history of the St. Lawrence route.

"Owing to the distance of nearest telegraph or telephone stations from the scene of the wreck, there is an unavoidable delay in securing official details, but we expec a report from Captain Kendall in the course of the afternoon.

"From the facts as we have them, it is apparent that about 2 o'clock this morning, the Empress of Ireland, when stopped in a dense fog, was rammed on the port side by the Norwegian collier Storstad in such a manner as to tear the ship from the middle to the screw, thus making the watertight bulkheads with which it was provided, useless.

Passengers All in Bed.

"The vessel settled down in fourteen minutes. The accident occurred at a time when the passengers were in bed, and the interval before the steamship went down was not sufficient to enable the officers to arouse the passengers and get them into the boats, of which there was sufficient to accommodate a very much larger number of people than those

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Cheers Ring Through Court Room as Elam Acquittal Vote Read

KANSAS CITY, Mo., May 29.—"Not guilty" was the verdict of a jury returned today in the case of Dr. W. T. Elam, a prominent physician of St. Joseph, charged with the murder of W. Putnam Cramer, a Chicago magazine solicitor, in a hotel here November 12, last.

The verdict was returned just two hours and thirty-two minutes after deliberations began. As the words "not guilty" were pronounced there was wild cheering in the court room, which was filled with Dr. Elam's friends.

Dr. Elam did not seem to display much interest in the proceedings and he took the verdict apparently without surprise. Mrs. Cramer, widow of the slain man, was not in court. She had collapsed earlier in the day while the arguments were in progress.

The Weather

Forecast till 7 p. m. Saturday:
For Omaha, Council Bluffs and Vicinity
Fair; somewhat warmer.

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour.	Deg.
5 a. m.	57
6 a. m.	56
7 a. m.	55
8 a. m.	56
9 a. m.	57
10 a. m.	60
11 a. m.	62
12 m.	65
1 p. m.	67
2 p. m.	69
3 p. m.	70
4 p. m.	71
5 p. m.	72
6 p. m.	71
7 p. m.	70
8 p. m.	69

Comparative Local Record.

	1914.	1913.	1912.	1911.
Highest yesterday	72	99	70	74
Lowest yesterday	55	70	57	56
Mean temperature	64	84	64	65
Precipitation	.35	.00	.00	.00

Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal:

Normal temperature	67
Deficiency for the day	3
Total excess since March 1	130
Normal precipitation	.18 inch
Excess for the day	.17 inch
Total rainfall since March 1	6.81 inches
Deficiency since March 1	1.73 inches
Excess for cor. period, 1913	2.76 inches
Deficiency for cor. period, 1912	3.43 inches

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M.

Station and State of Weather.	Temp. 7 p. m.	High-est.	Rain-fall.
Cheyenne, clear	56	58	.00
Davenport, clear	70	78	.00
Denver, clear	64	66	.01
Des Moines, clear	72	72	.06
Lander, clear	74	76	.00
North Platte, clear	70	72	.00
Omaha, clear	70	75	.35
Pueblo, clear	66	66	.00
Rapid City, clear	74	74	.00
Salt Lake City, clear	76	76	.00
Santa Fe, pt. cloudy	66	72	.00
Sheridan, clear	72	74	.00
Sioux City, clear	72	74	.00
Valentine, clear	72	72	.00

L. A. WELSH, Local Forecaster.

PICKARD LANDED IN JAIL

Detective Charged with Bribery is Represented by News' Lawyer.

BOND SIX THOUSAND DOLLARS

Justice Britt Holds Man Charged with Offering Bribe to County Commissioner for Hearing Tuesday Morning.

F. M. Pickard, Burns detective, charged with bribery, was released from custody yesterday on a $6,000 bond signed by W. H. Bucholz, vice president of the Omaha National bank. Justice Britt refused to accept a surety bond offered by Attorney Woodrough, who represented Pickard.

Frank M. Pickard, Burns detective, charged with offering a bribe to County Commissioner John C. Lynch while in the employ of the Daily News, was brought to Omaha yesterday by Detective Murphy; was met by Attorney Woodrough, representative of the News; pleaded not guilty before Justice Britt, and was taken back to jail pending decision whether a surety bond of $6,000 would be accepted in his behalf. His preliminary hearing was set for next Tuesday morning.

Justice Britt announced that he would decide at 2 o'clock whether a surety bond

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Mediators Will Not Receive Note from General Carranza

NIAGARA FALLS, Ont., May 29.—The mediators have practically decided not to receive the communication from General Carranza, brought here today by Juan Urquidi, the constitutionalist agent. Ambassador Da Gama called on the American delegates to inform them of the decision and word was also communicated to the Huerta delegates.

FORMER LAND COMMISSIONER FOLLMER DIES OF PNEUMONIA

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, Neb., May 29.—(Special Telegram.)—George D. Follmer, formerly state land commissioner, died this morning at his home at Oak. Burial will be Monday at Nelson. Mr. Follmer was well known in Omaha and was prominent in republican politics throughout the state.

He was taken ill with pneumonia and died two hours later. He leaves a widow, three daughters and four sons. He was about 75 years old.

Mr. Follmer was state land commissioner for two terms, and after retiring, devoted his time to farming and the real estate business.

OMAHA TO HONOR FIGHTERS

Citizens Will Pay Respects to Those Who Upheld Country's Honor.

MANY PROGRAMS FOR THE DAY

Various Organizations in the City Will Hold Services at Different Places This Morning and and Afternoon.

TODAY'S PROGRAM.

8 a. m. Requiem high masses at Catholic churches for soldier dead.
10 a. m. Memorial services and decoration of graves at the cemeteries by Women's Relief corps.
10 a. m. Memorial exercises by parochial school children at Auditorium, under auspices of Knights of Columbus.
2:30 p. m. popular band concert by Fourth infantry band, Hanscom park.
3 p. m. Parade of Grand Army and Spanish War Veterans from Sixteenth and Capitol avenue to Auditorium.
3:30 p. m. Union memorial services at Auditorium by Grand Army and Spanish War Veterans.
5 p. m. Launching of flower laden memorial ship on Miller park lake by naval veterans.
Afternoon and evening: Five and drum corps in 500 Block, South Sixteenth.
Banks, public offices, library and freight depots closed all day.

All Omaha will join in honoring the soldier dead with Memorial day exercises today. Banks and public offices will be closed all day and the principal downtown stores will close during the morning

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Becker Sentenced to Die During Week Beginning July 6

NEW YORK, May 29.—Charles Becker was today sentenced to die in the electric chair at Sing Sing prison during the week beginning July 6, for the murder of Herman Rosenthal.

When he received the sentence Becker appeared calm. He even turned to friends in the court room and smiled.

The prisoner was taken to the sheriff's office and allowed five minutes with his wife. Martin P. Manton, Becker's lawyer, said an appeal would be filed next Monday. This will act as a stay of execution and a year may elapse before the court of appeals hands down its decision.

'Frisco Traction Directors Ordered to Put It Back

SAN FRANCISCO, May 29.—The California Railroad commission issued an order today that the directors of the United Railroads of San Francisco restore to the company's funds $1,096,000 which the commission charges Patrick Calhoun, former president of the United Railways diverted to his personal use.

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If any manufacturer who is interested in newspaper advertising will address the Bureau of Advertising, American Newspaper Publishers Association, World Building, New York, it will be glad to answer questions.

Booklet on request.

Back Tomorrow! The Katzenjammer Kids