

Cloudy and somewhat colder Wednesday, probably followed by snow or rain. Thursday cloudy, probably snow.

3 Americans In 13 Killed On Laconia

Hoys Buried at Sea—Son Calls on Wilson to Avenge Them

Ten U. S. Citizens May Be Among Dead

U-Boat Captain Scoffed at Victims' Peril; Said "Patrol Will Pick Them Up"

London, Feb. 27.—At least three, and possibly ten, Americans lost their lives in the sinking of the Cunard Line steamship Laconia, without warning, off the Irish coast at 10:30 Sunday night. Thirteen lives are known to have been lost.

The Americans lost, according to Consul Wesley Frost, at Queensdown, were Mrs. Mary E. Hoy and her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Hoy, of Chicago, who died from exposure in the ship's boats and were buried at sea, and Thomas Cassey, a negro member of the crew.

Report Eight Seamen Dead

According to the Central News, eight American negroes, members of the Laconia's crew, died of exposure. Consul Frost telegraphed the embassy here to-night that 281 survivors had been landed at Queensdown. Of the thirteen persons lost five were drowned and eight died from exposure, and were buried at sea, the consul's report said.

The Cunard company gave out tonight the following list of passengers missing and supposed to have been lost:

Mrs. Mary E. Hoy. Miss Elizabeth Hoy. Cedric P. Ivat. William L. Robinson. Dr. Fortunat Zynedel. William Eva.

Of these, only the Hoys were Americans. The company also stated that four members of the crew were missing. Most of the deaths resulted from the swamping of one of the lifeboats.

No Warning, Says Consul

Consul Frost's message to the American Embassy said: "The Laconia was torpedoed without warning at 10:30 p. m. in a heavy sea, while the ship was making seventeen knots. The first torpedo struck on the starboard side of the engine room. The engines stopped and the ship turned, listing to starboard. Most of the boats were launched from the starboard side.

"Twenty minutes later, after most of the boats were clear, a second torpedo was fired, striking the engines on the port side. The ship sank forty-five minutes after the firing of the first torpedo.

"The ship was armed with two 4.7-inch guns. The ship's wireless was kept in continual action until the last minute. Six rockets also were sent up, and the lifeboats were equipped with an ample supply of flares. The cargo consisted of cotton and foodstuffs.

Submarine Appears

"The submarine was not seen from the Laconia, but after the second torpedo had been fired and the boats launched a submarine appeared on the surface, came alongside the boat containing the second officer and asked for the captain.

"The submarine commander told the people in the second officer's boat that a British Admiral's patrol had caught the Laconia's wireless and was coming to the scene. The submarine made no offer of aid and submerged immediately after.

"Thirteen boats were launched from the Laconia. The Hoys were in No. 8, which was swamped. Its lifebeated passengers were picked up by other boats, but they suffered severely as the result of exposure in the cold water.

"The boats after leaving the Laconia had to scatter rather widely in order to avoid the danger of collision in the 12-foot swells which were running. The Hoys were kept afloat by most of the boats during the hours of anxious waiting for the patrol to arrive. The patrol began picking up the boats at 4 o'clock in the morning, but had not finished until after daybreak."

Hoys Buried at Sea

Later the consul telegraphed: "Mrs. Mary Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy, passengers on the Laconia, died from exposure. Their bodies were buried at sea."

"The embassy's list of American passenger survivors is as follows: F. P. Gibbons, 'Chicago Tribune'; Mrs. F. E. Harris, wife of Colonel Harris, U. S. A.; A. T. Kirby, New York, and the Rev. Joseph Waring, Baltimore.

Asst. U. S. Cons. of Mrs. Hoy, is representative of the London branch of an American firm, the other members of the family residing with him.

Mrs. and Miss Hoy went home to the United States some time ago to settle some family business affairs, and Assistant U. S. Consul Kirby, who was in London at the time, was asked to return until the present crisis was over, but they evidently decided to risk the trip.

Dr. Albert H. Hoy, the father, an eighty-four-year-old veteran of the Civil War, is prostrated with grief. The son was loath to believe the news that his mother and sister had been lost until he received the confirmatory telegram from Consul Frost.

Calls for Vengeance

The first news of the tragedy reached Mr. Hoy when he opened his newspaper at the breakfast table. "I had been looking for news of the Laconia for the last day or two, with some trepidation," he said, "and was astounded to learn of the torpedoing. I was shocked to see that my mother and sister were almost the only survivors."

LOOKS AS IF SOMEBODY MIGHT HAVE TO BACK UP



I was the first one through the doors when they were opened and got all details available there. Then I went to the American Embassy, where I had a conversation with Ambassador Page, to whom I expressed my feelings in the strongest possible manner. I then called President Wilson and demanded that the death of his mother and sister be avenged, and requests the privilege of being the first volunteer if a citizen army was raised in America. Otherwise, he declares, he would enlist in the British army.

American Woman Honored As Heroine of Laconia

Queensdown, Feb. 27.—There was an unusual scene on the docks when the Laconia survivors landed at 11 o'clock in the evening. As the ship was made fast a huge crowd of civilians, soldiers, sailors and nurses began cheering and singing under the leadership of a shrill-voiced feminine cheer leader in the uniform of the Women's National Service organization.

The first passenger to land was an American woman, Mrs. F. E. Harris, who was accorded this honor by the captain's order because of her heroism in supervising the departure of the women and children from the sinking ship.

She was the last passenger to leave the Laconia, standing by the side of the captain and going the rounds with him, carefully checking off the women and children passengers to see that they were all in their places and provided with clothing, blankets and tarpaulins.

Cling to Lifebelts

After Mrs. Harris on the landing stage came other women and children from the Laconia, all clinging still to their lifebelts, and then the men passengers, some with lifebelts and some wearing lifesaving waistcoats.

A string of automobiles was waiting for the party, and the men were conveyed swiftly to the Queen's Hotel, where military nurses provided dry clothing and warm baths. In a half hour the men, women and children had come off the rescue sloop in a really sumptuous meal of broth, salmon, turkey and champagne which had been prepared for them during the evening.

Although the passengers showed the effects of the ordeal, they put a merry face on the misfortune for the most part. The nurses insisted on the survivors retiring, wrapped up in warm blankets and with hot water bottles, for the men passengers.

Most of the passengers expect to reach London on Wednesday morning.

Talked with U-Boat Captain

"When the submarine came to the surface," said Mrs. Willis, a passenger, "after having fully made sure of the Laconia's destruction, one gentleman in a boat said to the submarine commander: 'Don't you know you are torpedoing a ship containing women and children?' To this the commander of the submarine replied: 'Oh, they are all right for a few hours, and a patrol boat will take them all up.'"

Cedric P. Ivat, a theatrical manager, who was a passenger on the Laconia, died of exposure. Mr. Ivat was a resident of London.

When the Laconia entered the danger zone her lifeboats were swung out ready for immediate use. When the passengers had provided themselves with life belts they went to the boats assigned to them. There was little confusion.

The captain, chief engineer, purser and wireless operator were the last to leave the ship. They jumped from the deck to a lifeboat, but missed it and fell into the sea. They were picked up when the second torpedo was fired.

Torpedo Endangered Boats

Four passengers are among those sent to the hospital here. Their injuries are slight. Among the four is Dr. Hawke, a resident of San Francisco, who said he was playing a game of bridge in the ship's surgeon's room when he heard the crash.

"The second torpedo, mind you, was fired although the lifeboats were close to the vessel and the crew of the submarine could not have failed to see us, as it was so near," said Dr. Hawke.

Father Warring and Mr. Gibbons said the Laconia sank in about twelve minutes.

Gerard Anxious To Leave Spain And See Wilson

Now at Corunna Waiting for Santa Isabel to Sail for U. S.

By CARL W. ACKERMAN (From a Staff Correspondent of The Tribune.) (Copyright, 1917, by The Tribune Association.)

Corunna, Spain, Feb. 27.—Before leaving Madrid Mr. Gerard cabled to the State Department asking for a special train from Key West to Washington. He is anxious to confer with the President at the earliest possible moment not only about Germany, but also about Spain's reasons for not joining with the United States in breaking off diplomatic relations with Germany.

Although Mr. Gerard's stay in Madrid was short, he met a great many of the most influential people and had an excellent opportunity to learn at first hand the Spanish government's attitude. Naturally, he cannot discuss these matters for publication.

Nevertheless, something may be disclosed. The fact is emphasized by Spaniards themselves that when Mr. Gerard was in Madrid he was struck by the Spanish press controlled by German capital immediately brought up old Spanish-American war issues, and succeeded to some extent in turning popular opinion against the United States.

It is evident that since the United States has severed diplomatic relations with Germany the idea that Spain will act as the peace mediator has been growing. It is known, also, that she is very anxious to obtain American capital for the development of her resources.

At dinner on Sunday night the duke dined with Mr. Gerard and sat beside the ambassador's wife, who was dressed in black silk velvet. As the duke wore a gray sweater, blue overalls and heavy shoes, the contrast was striking. The other guests were Lithgow Osborne, Hermann Oelrichs and Christian Herter, in thanking the duke Mr. Gerard said his touch on the violin was as fine as that of a violinist.

At Corunna the Gerard party was met by Spanish officials and a large police escort. Mr. Gerard will go aboard the Infanta Isabel on Tuesday afternoon. During the voyage he will consider various offers which have been received from publishers who want him to write a book about Germany. He would probably like to write, but for the present his position is such as to make it impossible.

Bernstorff Leaves Halifax as Patrols Guide Frederik VIII

Halifax, N. S., Feb. 27.—The steamer Frederik VIII, with Count von Bernstorff, former Ambassador to the United States, and his party on board, sailed at 7:30 o'clock to-night for Copenhagen.

The same precautions which marked the arrival of the liner here February 16 attended her departure. She was not moved from her dock, where for the last few days she has been taking on coal and supplies, until after nightfall. As she steamed slowly down the harbor she was conveyed by a swarm of patrol boats, with orders to keep all other craft at a distance, in conformity with the assurances of safe conduct made by Great Britain to the United States.

Bryan Will Go To Washington To Block Wilson

Telegraphs Congressmen Not to 'Surrender' Power Asked by President

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 27.—W. J. Bryan, in a statement issued here today, announced that he was opposed to granting the President such powers as Mr. Wilson requested of Congress yesterday. He said that he would go immediately to Washington and use his influence to have the request declined.

After reading the President's address Mr. Bryan cancelled five speaking engagements in Florida, and since has been in communication by telegraph with friends in Congress.

"Whatever power is conferred upon the President should, I think," said Mr. Bryan, "be so limited as not to constitute a surrender of the power of Congress."

Mr. Bryan said he had the greatest faith in the President's high purpose, but that it would be unwise to delegate to the President the authority asked for. "The duke's language here is growing. It is known, also, that she is very anxious to obtain American capital for the development of her resources."

2,000 U. S. Tractors Will Plough at Night To Help Feed Britain

Taxi Chauffeurs in Civilian Army to Pilot Machines with Headlights

London, Feb. 27.—"We want 2,000 American tractor ploughs for the use of a civilian army of night ploughers which we are about to enlist throughout the British Isles," said Sir Arthur Lee, Director General of Food Production, to-day.

"We hope to make the tractor ploughs fill the gaps caused by the shortage of the steamer Yarrowdale, although ordered some time ago, says the Overseas News Agency, cannot be carried out for the moment, as an infectious disease has been discovered at the place of their residence.

As the outbreak of the malady necessitates a quarantine measure affecting the number of persons about to leave Germany, the Overseas Agency states that the delay in the departure of the Americans is in the interests of neutral countries. The hope is expressed that the quarantine will be of short duration.

The American citizens, it is announced, are safe and well.

Another Yarrowdale Inquiry Sent to Berlin

Washington, Feb. 27.—Germany's procrastination in complying with repeated American demands for release of the Yarrowdale prisoners is bringing the controversy to a stage of extreme gravity.

Accounted for the first perhaps the most serious difficulty between the two countries, aside from the submarine issue itself, the Yarrowdale case has been a source of growing concern and indignation among officials, some of whom now are convinced that Germany's intention is nothing more or less than to hold the American seamen as hostages pending a decision as to direct the campaign which he had planned against Chihuahua City and Juarez, according to Americans who arrived here late to-day from Madera and Pearson, Chihuahua. They say Villa's old wound, which was received at Guerrero, Chihuahua, during his pursuit by General Pershing, had reopened and was causing him intense suffering.

The Villa hands have been wandering from place to place, looting, robbing and destroying foreign property.

Injury Inflicted by Pershing's Men Keeps Bandit Inactive

El Paso, Tex., Feb. 27.—Francisco Villa is ill in a mountain cabin near San Andres, Chihuahua, and unable to direct the campaign which he had planned against Chihuahua City and Juarez, according to Americans who arrived here late to-day from Madera and Pearson, Chihuahua. They say Villa's old wound, which was received at Guerrero, Chihuahua, during his pursuit by General Pershing, had reopened and was causing him intense suffering.

U. S. S. Des Moines Will Go to Turkey, Defying U-Boats

Germany Refuses Safe Conduct for Warships Ordered to Rescue Americans

(From The Tribune Bureau.)

Washington, Feb. 27.—Germany has declined to guarantee the safe passage of the American naval vessels Des Moines and Caesar through the Mediterranean war zone to Syria, to carry supplies to the destitute Syrians and Armenians at Jaffa and to rescue a thousand Americans stranded at Beirut. The German refusal was made known to diplomats here to-day.

The German answer, according to officials, means that the vessels will proceed without Germany's assurances, unless war breaks out before they start, in which case the situation of the Americans at Beirut will be precarious, as the Turkish government, even if not formally at war with the United States, doubtless would prevent movements of American warships in Turkish waters.

It is declared that Germany will state in her formal reply, to be transmitted through the Turkish government, that her submarines have been instructed to use every precaution to avoid attacking the Des Moines and the Caesar, but that no guarantee can be given that they will not strike a German mine or be torpedoed inadvertently. An attack on these vessels, it is declared, could only be interpreted by the United States as an act of war.

It was stated also that Turkey would not promise to furnish pilots for the American naval vessels if they entered Turkish waters, but would deal with the situation as it exists after its waters have been entered. Individuals in high command in Syria would not hesitate to cause embarrassments if the opportunity offered, it is feared.

Penfield Makes Full Plans for Austrian Break

Washington Holds That Rupture Is Inevitable—Spain Will Handle U. S. Interests

Washington, Feb. 27.—Complete arrangements for the withdrawal of American diplomatic and consular officers from Austria-Hungary have been made by Ambassador Penfield on instructions from the State Department. It was learned to-day that the ambassador had been directed to take this step, the belief being that a break is inevitable. The Spanish government has been asked to take over American interests, and plans have been made to expedite the withdrawal of all Americans.

The last report from Ambassador Penfield suggested a slight possibility that Austria's reply to this government's aide memoire might be favorable. However, no real hope was raised here.

The feeling prevails here that while both this country and Austria are seeking to avoid a break, Germany is determined that her ally shall support the submarine campaign to the greatest possible degree.

The withdrawal of the American diplomatic and consular corps from Austria is not present as difficult a problem as in the case of Germany.

News Agency Says Infectious Disease Has Appeared in Place of Detention

Berlin, Feb. 26 (by wireless to Sayville).—The release of the American prisoners brought to Germany on the steamer Yarrowdale, although ordered some time ago, says the Overseas News Agency, cannot be carried out for the moment, as an infectious disease has been discovered at the place of their residence.

As the outbreak of the malady necessitates a quarantine measure affecting the number of persons about to leave Germany, the Overseas Agency states that the delay in the departure of the Americans is in the interests of neutral countries. The hope is expressed that the quarantine will be of short duration.

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Senate Now Proposes to Give Merchantmen Guns; Wilson Weighs Overt Act; Hollweg Denounces U. S.

Armed Neutrality Limit of Wilson's Defensive Plans

Congress and Cabinet Members Wrathful Over Inactivity—No Laconia Action Indicated

By STEVENSON H. EVANS

Washington, Feb. 27.—President Wilson would not have asked Congress for more than he did ask yesterday, even if he had then known the full details of the destruction of American lives on the passenger liner Laconia, which was torpedoed by a German submarine without warning on Sunday night.

Although there is no doubt that the President regards the sinking of the Laconia as the overt act which he has been hoping the German commanders would avoid—a clear cut and ruthless violation of American lives and rights is the authoritative characterization of the act—still it is believed to be his intention to take for the present no step beyond "armed neutrality."

The bolder spirits in Congress, without regard to party, are seething with wrathful indignation. They are beginning to say openly that the President is playing a dangerous game against time, that nothing short of invasion of the country and seizure of the capital would mean war in his eyes.

Public Opinion Only Hope

The only force that will possibly stir the Administration to action further than at present appears to be contemplated, is the force of public opinion, and the aggressive members of the Senate and the House see no present means for making that force manifest.

The developments of the day in the State Department and the White House, aside from the conferences which the President had with Congress leaders in regard to the armed ship legislation, were not of a nature to make probable any further requests by the President to Congress.

Mr. Wilson discussed the case of the Laconia with the Secretary of State at noon. During the afternoon, when he met the members of the Cabinet, the Laconia case was hardly mentioned. The Cabinet spent all its time discussing the armed neutrality bill now pending in Congress and in hearing reports from the War and Navy department chiefs as to the degree of preparedness going forward.

It is believed also that the President will devote his self at that time chiefly to the foreign relations of the United States. It is said also that the public may expect an announcement of the programme of the next four years, expressed, of course, in very general terms.

Cabinet Meeting Placid

The Cabinet meeting of to-day seemed to be regarded as of even less importance than usual, which is saying much. The pacifists of the Cabinet appeared to be satisfied with themselves and the situation. That small group which is sometimes outspoken for American rights seemed in a somewhat inebriated temper.

There are men even in the Cabinet, there are scores and scores in Congress, there are thousands throughout the country (as is evident by letters received here) who look with dismay and consternation upon the process now going on.

Every day of delay now, every sign of the desire to avoid or evade the issue encourages organized pacifism and the noise of the pro-Germans. Time is working against the President. He is helping to his own hands as far as his leadership in Congress is concerned. Time works but to increase his difficulties.

"U. S. Rights Violated," Official View in Capital

(By The Associated Press.)

Washington, Feb. 27.—The sinking of the Cunard Laconia by a German submarine was stated officially to-day to constitute a clear-cut violation of American rights.

Conclusive official information at the State Department shows that two American women lost their lives, that if four other Americans among the passengers and the fourteen among the crew were saved, it was only by good fortune and that the vessel was sunk without warning, in direct defiance of all the principles for which the United States has stood.

No further facts are needed by this government, it was stated officially, and no inquiry of any sort is necessary to establish the facts of the case.

Insane Soldiers Die in Wreck

London, Feb. 27.—A train carrying 228 insane Russian soldiers on their way home from Germany through Sweden went off the track late last night between Gefle and Soderhamn, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Stockholm. The first car, carrying twenty-three insane Russian soldiers, was demolished and all its passengers were killed. About twenty-five persons in other cars were killed.

Should the steps taken by the government of the United States not attain the object it desires, namely, to have the laws of humanity followed by all the belligerent nations, the German government would not be facing a new situation, in which it must reserve to itself complete liberty of decision."

The Chancellor then continued: "As to the American answer given to the German note, it was so absolutely contrary to what we in our note had said clearly and without any possibility of misunderstanding that a reply on our part would have changed nothing as to the standpoints maintained by both sides. But nobody, even in America, could doubt that already long ago the conditions were fulfilled upon which, according to our declaration, we

German Chancellor Declares America Must Suffer on Sea for Arming Allies

Says War Is Kept Up by "One-Sided" Neutrality

Blames This Country for British Blockade—Admits Withdrawing Pledges

Berlin, Feb. 27 (by wireless to Sayville).—Inconsistency, lack of neutrality, unfairness and an actual prolongation of the war were charged against President Wilson by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Reichstag, when he made his long deferred speech to that body to-day.