



HUNDREDS PERISH WHEN LAKE STEAMER LOADED WITH EXCURSIONISTS PREPARED FOR DAY'S OUTING CAPSIZES AT CHICAGO

2,500 PERSONS FALL IN RIVER AS VESSEL LISTS

Scenes Which Surpassed Those of the Iroquois Theater Fire Witnessed After Disaster; Thrilling Stories of Rescue Told by Survivors; Families Prepared For Few Hours' of Pleasure Separated by Death; Investigation Started Immediately and Indications Are That Grand Jury Will Consider Case; Steamer Eastland Was Among Fastest Vessels on Lake

Chicago, July 24.—Hundreds of persons were drowned to-day when the steamer Eastland, crowded with 2500 employes of the Western Electric Company, capsized in the Chicago river. Four hours after the accident rescuers were still taking bodies from the boat through holes chopped in its hull and estimates of the death list ran from 1200 to 1500. At 11 o'clock nearly 500 dead had been found.

Deputy Coroner David Jones and Sheriff John E. Traeger, of Cook county, who are directing the work of removing bodies from the hull of the Eastland, stated that from reports of the bodies still within the hull they feared the list of dead would reach 1200 and might reach 1500.

The crowding of passengers to one side of the boat is supposed to have caused the tragedy but authorities, not satisfied with this explanation, ordered the arrest of officers of the boat and Captain Harry Penderesen and Dell Fisher, first mate, were taken to police headquarters. Panic struck the passengers when the boat began to turn over. Best accounts of the witnesses said the steamer rolled slightly twice, then turned further and that hundreds of screaming, struggling men, women and children slid across the sloping decks, fought for room and clutched at companions, deck chairs, or any other object that came to hand.

CAUGHT BELOW DECKS Women and children by the hundreds were caught below decks and the scrawled faces, torn clothing and bruised bodies of the dead bore mute evidence of the desperation with which they had fought for life. The steamer turned over in less than five minutes. Members of the crew shouted warnings as the steamer first tilted and endeavored to drive the passengers to the upper side of the deck but the incline was already too steep.

Some 7,000 tickets had been distributed for the excursion and five steamers chartered by the company. The Eastland was first to receive its quota, and when its chartered capacity was reached federal inspectors ordered that no more be taken aboard. The boat was docked on the south side of the river and when the hundreds hurrying to the boat were turned back from it they streamed across the Clark street bridge to the steamer Theodore Roosevelt, which was to take the second load.

SCREAMS HALT RUSH Screams of the Eastland victims halted this rush and the bridge was jammed with people until police, fearful that the structure would collapse, ordered it cleared.

Mercantile concerns hurried motor trucks to the scene laden with blankets to warm the living or cover the dead. Palm-toters by the scores were sent to the docks. Physicians, police, firemen, government life savers and nurses were summoned.

The steamer, when relieved of its passengers, floated on its side into midstream and tugs, motorboats and other river craft swarmed about it. Firemen climbed on the hull, forced openings in the steel hull and through these searched the cabins for possible victims.

Robert H. McCreary, chief of the Marine Bureau of the Customs Office in the Federal building, was present at the dock from 6:45 o'clock this morning with two of his steamboat inspectors. He declared that the exact number of persons on the boat was 2,500; that the boat was not overloaded; and that "the passengers could not have been more accurately counted if they had known there would be an accident."

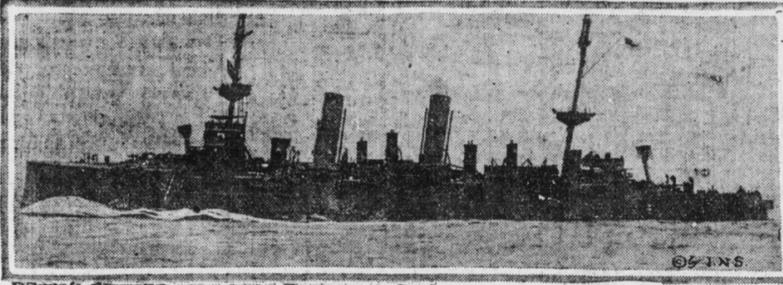
When the boat started to tip the officers shouted warnings, but it was continued to roll until the hawsers which held it to the dock snapped. A moment later, amid the screams of passengers, the steamer turned over on its side and hoisted out into the middle of the river. Apparently scores of women and children in the cabin were drowned without being given a chance to escape. Hundreds of other passengers were able to climb on the side of the boat which was above water and were later taken off by rescuers.

Life preservers were cast into the river from the steamer Theodore Roosevelt, which was docked across the river, and scores of the Eastland's passengers clung to them until picked up by boats.

City fire boats, police launches and life boats from nearby steamers in the river rushed to the rescue. A hole was cut through the side of the lower deck by life savers and the bodies of six victims, five of whom were women, were soon taken out.

Eye-Witness Tells Story L. D. Gadory, employed on the steamer, was the first eye-witness to tell a detailed story of the accident: "It was about 7:40 o'clock this morning and the boat was lying at the dock."

FOOLING THE ENEMY. BRITONS PAINT WAVES ON SHIP



BRITISH CRUISER WITH WAVE PAINTED ON BOW This photograph of a British cruiser was taken 72 miles off the Sandy Hook light-ship, New York, and shows the latest "war wrinkle" adopted by the British mariners. "Waves, nice splashy waves of green and white are painted on the bow of the ship, and from a distance of several miles the ship looks as if she were ploughing swiftly through the ocean, when as a matter of fact, she may be standing still. A hostile cruiser, sighting her and thinking her under full speed, would naturally make allowances for her speed in pointing a gun at her and overshoot the mark.

SAYS STATE GUARD IS MARKING TIME

Inspector General Complains of Irregular Attendance of the Men

NO IMPROVEMENT SHOWN

New Checking System Which Conceals Relative Standing Declared Unsatisfactory

When the National Guard was inspected last Spring the marking was done on a new system, and as a result it is impossible to determine from the reports of the inspecting officers the relative grading of the various companies. All companies that reached the passing mark of 75 were simply credited with having passed. However, where the units made an especially good showing the word "plus" was added. Both Harrisburg companies made that kind of an impression on the inspectors. The new system does not find favor in the eyes of Colonel Frank G. Sweeney, inspector general, whose report was issued this morning from the office of Adjutant General Stewart. Upon this point Colonel Sweeney says: "While the method of numerical rating may not be perfect, it is the best."

OPEN BIDS FOR NEW CITY PARK DRIVEWAY

Central Construction and Supply Co. Low Bidder at \$12,560 For Pleasure Highway

Bids for the construction of the proposed park driveway that will encircle the city from the present terminus of the Cameron parkway to the entrance of Reservoir Park were opened at noon to-day by City Commissioner M. Harvey Taylor, superintendent of parks and public property. The improvement is one of the most important features of the city's park development.

Following were the bids: Central Construction and Supply Company, \$12,560. Stuckey Brothers Construction Company (two bids), \$15,810 and \$17,810. D. Ott & Son (southern section, Cameron's to Philadelphia and Reading road), \$5,450. W. H. Murphy & Son, northern section, Philadelphia and Reading.

State Must Prove Why Becker Should Not Be Granted Another Trial

New York, July 24.—Charles Becker's hope of escaping execution for the murder of Herman Rosenthal has based to-day upon his application for a new trial. Supreme Court Justice Philbin had granted an order requiring the State to show why the appeal should not be granted. The order is returnable before Justice Ford on Monday when argument will be heard and witnesses may testify.

MINING ENGINEERS ACT

New York, July 24.—The American Institute of Mining Engineers has been the first of eight engineering societies to act upon the invitation of Secretary Daniels to select two members of the new naval advisory committee on invention of which T. A. Edison is chairman.

FREEDOM OF SEAS DEMANDED BY U. S.

New Note Declares Americans Are Not Willing to Compromise on Rights

BERLIN'S ATTITUDE AWAITED

Repetition of Acts in Contravention of Rights of U. S. Citizens Will Be Considered Unfriendly

Washington, July 24.—If Germany is determined to force war with the United States, continued invasion of the rights of American citizens upon the high seas will inevitably bring that result. This is the real meaning of the President's note to Germany, made public in Washington, after it had been delivered to the German government in Berlin, by Ambassador Gerard. The German government has now been informed that a repetition of acts in contravention of the rights of American citizens "by commanders of German naval vessels will be regarded by the government of the United States as deliberately unfriendly."

CAVALRYMEN PREPARE FOR WAR PRACTICE

Governor's Troop Leaves For Mt. Gretna; 1,500 Men and Horses Are Gathering

Mounted on some of the best horses in the city, the Governor's Troop under command of Captain George C. Jack clattered over downtown streets early this morning on its way to Mt. Gretna where the annual encampment will be held. The camp opens at 2 o'clock this afternoon and the local troop was among the first to be there.

PURSE SNATCHER GETS THREE CENTS FROM WOMAN

A colored man snatched a hand satchel from Mrs. Sarah Moffitt, 1114 Green street, this morning. All the fellow got for his trouble was 3 cents and two door keys.

NOTE NOT PUBLISHED TO-DAY

Berlin, via London, July 24, 10:50 a. m.—The American note was not published in this morning's Berlin papers, but probably will appear in the afternoon editions. Count Ernest Von Reventlow in an article in the Tages Zeitung headed "Ungrounded Anxiety" declares that no matter what the note contains the submarine campaign will not be restricted.

POLICE RECOVER 50 RIFLES AND BAYONETS

Further Trouble at Standard Oil Plant in Bayonne Expected by Authorities

MEDIATORS' EFFORTS FAIL

Governor Fielder Still Hesitates to Call Out Troops Despite Appeals of Sheriff

New York, July 24.—The discovery and seizure by the police of fifty rifles and bayonets stored in a hall used by the strikers of the Standard Oil plant in Bayonne, N. J., caused fears to-day that the men were planning further serious disorders. Reports were circulated that the strikers had collected a fund of several hundred dollars with which to purchase ammunition. As a result of rumors that the men were arming themselves, the Bayonne police made a sudden raid upon the hall early to-day and despite the presence of a large number of strikers in front of the building carried the weapons off to police headquarters. So unexpected was the move that the strikers made no attempt to prevent it. Soon afterward two men were arrested.

PRESIDENT WILSON WANTS REPORT ON NATION'S DEFENSE

Asks Heads of War and Navy Departments to Confer With Him on Subject

EVERY PHASE CONSIDERED

Delivery of Emphatic Note to Germany Believed to Have Caused Action

Washington, D. C., July 24.—An announcement was made at the White House to-day that President Wilson on his return to Washington will confer with Secretaries Garrison and Daniels on a program for national defense. The President has written to the heads of the War and Navy Departments for reports on the subject, pointing out the necessity for working out plans for increasing the efficiency of the military and naval forces.

BIG BARN DESTROYED

Special to The Telegraph Highmount, Pa., July 24.—Fire last night destroyed the large bank barn of William M. Fearthree, near here, entailing a heavy loss.

FINAL WORD OF U. S. EXPRESSED IN NEW MESSAGE TO BERLIN

Government Awaits Future Developments, Although Reply Is Not Necessary

OPPOSED TO COMPROMISE

Note Invites Practical Co-operation of Germans in Effort to Gain Freedom of Seas

Washington, D. C., July 24.—With the publication to-day of the note warning Germany that any repetition of acts by her submarine commanders in violation of American rights would be regarded as "deliberately unfriendly," the United States Government [Continued on Page 9.]

RELATIONS DISCUSSED

Rome, via Paris, July 24, 12:50 a. m.—The cabinet meeting yesterday was devoted to a discussion of the relations between Italy and Turkey, according to the Giornale D'Italia, the Ministers will hold other sessions this morning and this evening.

TWO VESSELS TORPEDOED

London, July 24, 3:40 P. M.—The Russian ship Rubonia has been torpedoed and sunk by a submarine. Her crew of thirty was landed on the Orkney Islands. The trawler Star of Peace also was torpedoed and sunk off the Orkneys. The crew was landed at Stromness.

ITALIANS TAKE GORIZIA

Geneva, July 24, via Paris, 2 P. M.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Milan says: "Many persons arriving at Milan state that after severe fighting the Italian troops have taken Gorizia."

COURT ORDERS INVESTIGATION

Chicago, July 24.—Federal Judge K. M. Land ordered a special grand jury empanelled to make an investigation of the Eastland disaster. The jury will meet next Thursday. Steamboat Inspector William Nicholas is investigating a report that water ballast was pumped from the hold of the Eastland as the passengers went aboard, that the boat would rise and that more passengers might be carried.

FIRE ON BRIDGE

Harrisburg.—A slight fire believed to have started from a cigaret was extinguished by the Washington Hose No. 4 on the Walnut Street Bridge between the city and Island Park this afternoon.

STRUCK BY MOTORCYCLE

Donald Heagy, 1737 Market street, employed by the United Ice and Coal Company, was struck at Nineteenth and State streets about noon by a motorcycle just as he stepped from an ice wagon. He received a fracture of the left leg, which was treated at the Harrisburg Hospital.

London, July 24, 5:04 p. m.—Official announcement was made here to-day that the Turkish forces at the Dardanelles have made a new attack on the allies and have been repulsed.

Albany, N. Y., July 24.—After a conference with Convict Joseph Murphy, of Sing Sing, Governor Whitman announced to-day that the story Murphy told of overhearing Rose, Webber and Vallon plotting to "frame up" Charles Becker, was to his mind untrue.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Albert W. Marks and Anna K. Stoner, city. Christian Drumm and Lulu Tomoy, Steelton. Stef Ismei and Ernesta Yull, Steelton. Clarence M. Richter and Mabel A. Haverstick, city. Elmer E. Wickline and Stella May Miller, city.

THE GAME TO-DAY AT ISLAND PARK

Table with columns for Providence and Harrisburg, and rows for 1-10 RHE. Providence scores: 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 0, 4. Harrisburg scores: 0, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0, 5.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Fair to-night; Sunday increasing cloudiness; not much change in temperature. For Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair to-night, followed by increasing cloudiness; Sunday moderate temperature; fresh northwest winds. River The Susquehanna river and its tributaries will continue to fall slowly. A stage of about 3.0 feet is indicated for Harrisburg, Sunday morning. General Conditions Pressure is low over the Lower Missouri Valley and the Northwest. There is a disturbance apparently of moderate strength off the South Atlantic coast, which has caused showers over the Florida peninsula and as far north as the North Carolina coast in the last twenty-four hours. Temperature: 8 a. m., 66; 2 p. m., 79. Sun: Rises, 4:50 a. m.; sets, 7:26 p. m. Full moon, July 26, 7:11 a. m. River Stage: 4.1 feet above low-water mark. Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 77. Lowest temperature, 61. Mean temperature, 68. Normal temperature, 75.