

# CONGRESS RELUCTANT TO CONFER POWER

## Two American Women Killed by German Submarine Act

### TWIN BROTHER SENATE BILL 77 BEFORE SENATE

Through an Unconscious Error House Bill No. 298 Was Laid on Table

SENATORS AGREE TO ITS RECONSIDERATION

Distance Tariff Law Will Be Referred by Cities and Industries Discriminated Against

After the minority on house bill 298, establishing new class and commodity rates, had been adopted 27 to 20 in the senate this afternoon, Senator Levang, who voted with the majority for the adoption of the report that the bill do pass, moved that the vote by which the report was adopted be reconsidered and that the motion to reconsider be laid on the table. Levang's motion carried unanimously and it was fully 15 minutes before the majority in favor of the passage of the bill discovered that they had a joke on themselves and by the adoption of Levang's motion had tabled the bill and prevented further action on the same except that two-thirds of the senate agree to a reconsideration.

Senator Welford called attention to the unconscious error of his colleague Levang and prayed the courtesy of the senate in reconsidering the motion by which the bill was tabled. After Jacobson had advised the majority that they were entitled in this matter to the same considerations which they had shown the minority with regard to lignite coal rates, the motion to reconsider Levang's motion, to reconsider carried without any opposition.

Twin Brother of 77.  
House bill 298 is a twin brother of senate bill 77 which was signed by the governor this morning. It overthrows or permits the railway commission to overthrow every established class and commodity rate in the state. Those voting for the bill were Benson, Cahill, Carey, Drown, Ellingson, Ettestad, Grönvold, Hämerley, Hemmingsen, Hunt, King, Lindstrom, Levang, Parkins, Morkrid, Mortenson, Mostad, McCarty, Nelson of Richland, Penderay, Sandstrom, Sikes, Thorsen, Welford, Weststrom, Zie-man. Against the bill were Allen, Deck, Englund, Haggart, Heckle, Hyland, Jacobson, Kirkeide, Murphy, McBride, McGary, McLean, Nelson of Grand Forks, Paulson, Ployhar, Porter, Putnam, Rowe, Stenmo and Young. Kretschmar and Gibbens

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### SUNDAY BALL MADE REGULAR "PINK" AFFAIR

Senate bill 167, known as the Sunday baseball measure, was passed by the committee of the whole in the house this afternoon after it had been amended to read that no charge shall be made and that no game be played within 500 yards of any church edifice. The majority by which the measure carried in the committee assures its passage when it comes up for final reading.

Early this afternoon the committee of the whole of the house voted down senate bill 141, legalizing hunting on Sunday.

### 228 WOUNDED SOLDIERS CAUGHT IN RAIL WRECK

(Associated Press.)  
London, Feb. 27.—A train carrying 228 invaded Russian soldiers who were on the way home from Germany through Sweden, went off the track late last night between Jelfe and Soderhamn, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Stockholm. The first car, carrying 23 insane Russian soldiers, was demolished, and all its passengers were killed. About 25 persons in other cars were killed.

The work of rescue was made difficult by the conditions of the passengers, most of whom were blind, had lost arms or legs, or were otherwise denuded incapable of helping themselves. Their hardships were increased by the fact that the wreck occurred in darkness at a distance from any important town.

### LACONIA TORPEDOED TWICE WITHOUT WARNING; TWELVE DIE FROM EXPOSURE IN OPEN SEA

#### SUBMARINE FIRES SECOND TORPEDO AS LIFE BOATS LOWER

Dr. Hawks of San Francisco Playing Bridge with Ship Surgeon When Crash Comes

#### SEVERAL IN OPEN SEA WHEN SECOND SHOT CAME

Passengers Had Been Well Drilled and No Panic Follows

#### Submersible Attack

(Associated Press.)

Queenstown, Feb. 27.—Correct returns on those missing from the sunken Cunard liner Laconia are not yet obtainable, although the Cunard staff is working on the list of crew and passengers. Four passengers are among those sent to hospitals. Their injuries are slight. Among the four is Dr. Hawks, a resident of San Francisco, who said he was playing a game of bridge in the ship's surgeon room, when he heard a crash, and guessed that the ship had been attacked by a submarine. He said that the first torpedo struck the Laconia on the starboard side, and everyone made for the life preservers. The passengers previously had been instructed in both drills and got into the boats without panic.

Fire Second Time.  
"The submarine returned, after we had been in the boats, and fired another torpedo which put out the lights and followed by a terrific explosion," Dr. Hawks said. "The ship must have been sunk soon after. 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 moonlight. It was about 9:30 p. m. on Sunday, when we took to the boats, and about 3 o'clock on the following morning when we were picked up."

Buried at Sea.  
Dr. Hawks gave the highest praise to the behavior of the women and the children, and said that the captain and crew were marvelous.

It appears that two boats reached Bantry with 22 people, eight of the occupants having died from the exposure. Among those saved was the singer, Miss Mitsie Siklosi, of Paris.

The bodies of the eight persons who died were confined to the deep. Among the Laconia's crew were sixteen American negroes.

### TWO MORE SPECIAL FOOD TRAINS RUSHED TO EASTERN POINTS

Minneapolis, Feb. 27.—Two more special trains of flour and one of feed for livestock were rushed through to the east today. All of the shipments are consigned to New England points. A call issued here for livestock feed indicated that stock in the east is threatened with starvation as well as humans.

### MINNESOTA HOUSE APPROPRIATES HALF MILLION FOR GUARD

(Associated Press.)  
St. Paul, Feb. 27.—With the eyes of the nation turned toward Washington for the next step in the international situation, the Minnesota house of representatives fired by patriotism, today passed the Steen-Moeller bill, appropriating \$500,000 for relief of national guardsmen returned from the Mexican border.

There were but eight dissenting votes.

Under the terms of the bill, Minnesota guardsmen would receive fifty cents a day from the state for each day they spent in the federal service. This sum, proponents of the bill declared, would permit the men to live properly until they had obtained new positions.

It was predicted that the measure would pass the senate.

### OPEN BATTLE MAY OCCUR ON WEST FRONT

#### OPERATORS HEROES Hold Posts Sending S. O. S. Calls Until Ship Starts Its Final Plunge

VESSEL ATTACKED 7 P. M.  
SUNDAY ON CALM OCEAN

Big Cunarder Lists Rapidly as First Shot Takes Vital Effect—Crew Very Efficient

(United Press.)

London, Feb. 27.—Two American women were among the 12 killed on the sunken Cunard liner, Laconia. They were, Mrs. Mary Hoy and her daughter, Elizabeth Hoy. They perished in an open lifeboat, death being due to exposure. Both were buried in the open sea. Consul Frost at Queenstown made this report to the American embassy here, adding that there were four other Americans aboard. They were: F. L. Gibbons, Mrs. F. E. Harris, Arthur T. Kirby and Rev. Father Waering.

Official figures of the Laconia disaster show:  
Total number of passengers and crew, 293.  
Survivors landed at Queenstown, 267.  
Survivors landed at Bantry, 14.  
Drowned, 5.  
Died of exposure and buried at sea, 8.  
In hospitals, 6.

These figures were furnished by the American consul at Queenstown and sent to American Ambassador Page here today.

Six of the 20 Americans in the crew of the Laconia lost their lives, according to the best figures available today. The Cunard liner left the names of 20 American seamen, which were signed when the ship left port, and the company said one or two others may have signed. American Consul Frost at Queenstown listed 15 Americans of the crew saved. His list calls for 14 of those in the Cunard list.

Offer No Resistance.  
After the Laconia had been submerged and the survivors had taken to lifeboats, the submarine which sunk the vessel approached one of the lifeboats and inquired of the captain, and asked for the nature of the cargo. He received answers from the second officer and the German officer said a British admiralty boat would reach the survivors shortly and then departed without offering any assistance.

American Consul Frost at Queenstown reported to the American embassy today that the Laconia was sunk without warning and by explosions of two torpedoes. The second torpedo was fired 20 minutes after the first had struck. In this interval of 20 minutes, the first of 15 boats were launched from the Laconia. The weather was cloudy and there was a heavy swell on the ocean.

To Avenge Death.  
Austin Hoy, left motherless by the death of Mrs. Mary Hoy and Elizabeth Hoy in the Laconia tragedy, today cabled his employers at the Sullivan Machinery company of Chicago, that he has taken an indefinite leave of absence. It is said the leave was taken in order to carry out plans to help avenge the death of his mother and sister.

The Cunard company this afternoon issued the following bulletin:  
"Laconia passengers dead, 5; missing, 3; crew missing, 6; crew in hospitals, 6."

To Avenge Death.  
A quiet-voiced, determined-mannered, successful American business man, Austin Hoy, 36, today urged his rights upon President Wilson to avenge the killing of his mother and sister. There was no suggestion of mock heroics in his manner. He was deadly calm in dealing against those he charged with their death. He asked the president that the deaths of Mrs. Mary Hoy and Miss Elizabeth Hoy be avenged and requested the privilege of being the first volunteer if a citizen's army is raised in America. Otherwise, he said he would enlist in the British army. His message to the president followed a consultation with American Ambassador Walter Hines Page and Consul-General Skinner today, following which he said he thought he had a right to act.

"I am an American business man," he explained. "I have been in London in business four years, representing the Sullivan Machinery Co. of Chicago. Father is too old and it is the duty for me as the active member of

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### WAR OF MOTION TO END PRES- ENT STRUGGLE

#### TRENCH ABANDONMENT MAY FORECAST STEP

Germans Evidently Preparing for a Supreme Strategic Engagement on West Front

(Associated Press.)

Geneva, Feb. 27.—Although the withdrawal of German forces in the Aene region may signify merely the abandonment of a tactically unfavorable projection of the line at this point, another explanation is suggested by Americans who have come to Switzerland recently, after long stays in Berlin. It is that the German retirement may perhaps be the beginning of a regrouping of the Teutonic forces on the west, with the intention of bringing on a decisive open field engagement, to settle the fate of the war.

Warfare of Motion.  
At the time of Field Marshal von Hindenburg's appointment to chief command last year, when the correspondent was in Berlin, there was much discussion of a question, the answer to which may be given by the developments of the next few days. This question concerns the field marshal's plans for concluding the war, and particularly the possibility of some daring strategy to bring the opposing armies out of the trenches and substitute for trench warfare the "warfare of motion" which Von Hindenburg favors.

Called Overt.  
That the overt act, which the president said "I will recognize and so will the country recognize when it comes," has occurred, is the opinion expressed in many quarters here today. That will not call for a declaration of war, it is believed. The president wants only money and explicit authority to protect American lives on the high seas. Some call the sinking of the Laconia more ruthless and lawless than the sinking of the Lusitania, after which Germany promised not to sink an unarmed vessel with American passengers aboard.

The sinking of the Laconia, according to several of the highest officials in officialdom, is a clear cut case. No investigation is necessary. This became known following a conference between President Wilson and Secretary Lansing today.

Members Balk.  
Minority members of the house foreign affairs committee balked today in two points on the question of granting the president the authority he asked for yesterday. First, on the matter of arming munition ships, and second, on authorizing him to use instrumentalities other than guns, gunners, and money. Food ships, they say, could be armed. Some members objected that America's stand against the German submarine campaign is bound to react in the future and will render useless a valuable weapon for the United States some time.

Closing Days.  
As congress met today for what is expected to be one of the most historical closing sessions in its history, it was believed certain that the legislative branch would ultimately uphold President Wilson's hand in a modified form. There are only five more days remaining for the present congress to act, and the president's powers are expected to be strengthened by the passage of yesterday. Many legislative heads, including those who do not agree altogether in his course, pointed to the fact that he has had opposition before and always got what he wanted. This plainly shows that congress does not like President Wilson's request for other "instrumentalities" other than American guns, gunners, and money for insurance.

### 20 KILLED WHEN FREIGHT TRAIN HITS PASSENGER

Plows Through Three Sleeping Cars, Causing Them to Telescope Each Other

#### CHESTER MINDS AND FAMILY AMONG DEAD

(Associated Press.)  
Altoona, Pa., Feb. 27.—At least 20 persons were killed and several others were injured in the collision of a fast freight train and the Mercantile Express on the Pennsylvania railroad at Mt. Union, 43 miles east of Altoona, early today. The seriously hurt were taken to Huntingdon.

The express train had stopped and its air brakes were being tested, when in the midst of a dense fog, the heavy freight train struck.

Three Sleeping Cars.  
There were three sleeping cars attached to the express, all of steel construction. The freight engine plowed into the passenger train, causing the rear coach to be split astunder. It was slow work reaching the dead and injured, because the three sleeping cars were almost inextricably massed together. The rear car split apart, and the car ahead was forced clear through it, while the third car from the rear had plowed into the second car.

Entire Family Killed.  
The dead included:  
Chester A. Minds, the former University of Pennsylvania football star; his wife, their two-weeks-old son; Miss Maud Minds, sister of Mrs. Minds; M. A. Casilch, Conifer, New York; his brother-in-law, Mrs. A. Segur Delling, sister of Mrs. Minds; a nephew and two nieces of Mr. Minds.

### EXPLOSION KILLS 200 IN FRENCH POWDER PLANT

(Associated Press.)  
Berlin, Feb. 27.—On February 3, a terrible explosion took place in the large munitions depot at Paris, which ruined more than 30,000 tons of ammunition and killed 200 persons, declared an official press bureau quoting a Frankfurter Zeitung report, via Switzerland, from private sources in Paris. Seven hundred were wounded, it is said.

### PRESIDENT WILSON NOT TO TAKE ACTION UNTIL CONGRESS ACTS UPON HIS MESSAGE; FILLIBUSTER MAY FORCE EXTRA SESSION

#### CLEAR CUT CASE Feeling That It Is Act Which President Wilson Said Nation Would Recognize as Overt

NO DECLARATION OF  
WAR IS NECESSARY

Administration Only Desires Money and Authority to Protect American Lives

(United Press.)

Washington, Feb. 27.—The house foreign affairs committee late tonight plans to report out Flood resolutions, eliminating "other instrumentalities," aside from guns, men and money, with which Wilson seeks to handle the international situation.

The administration's great \$500,000,000 naval bill, the largest single national defense measure ever framed, was threatened with delay and possible defeat, through Senator LaFollette's filibuster.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Many officials here believe that Germany has committed the overt act against the United States. With the receipt of confirmation of the sinking of the Cunard liner Laconia by a German submarine without warning, and that two American women lost their lives, President Wilson is brought face to face with the most critical situation since the sinking of the Lusitania, is the belief.

That the overt act, which the president said "I will recognize and so will the country recognize when it comes," has occurred, is the opinion expressed in many quarters here today. That will not call for a declaration of war, it is believed. The president wants only money and explicit authority to protect American lives on the high seas. Some call the sinking of the Laconia more ruthless and lawless than the sinking of the Lusitania, after which Germany promised not to sink an unarmed vessel with American passengers aboard.

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### Crossing of Missouri Dangerous; River Rises Two Feet in 48 Hours

Warnings were issued by the weather bureau yesterday to taxi drivers and others that the crossing of the Missouri river over the ice was dangerous.

When the river closed last fall the stage of water was very low, being from one to two feet deep over the sandbars. When the ice became 34 inches thick the ice over the sandbars froze to the sandbars. Chinook winds in the upper Missouri river valley are melting the snows in the region and as a result the river has

#### KAISER ALWAYS HAS HIS CIGARET



Pictures of Kaiser Wilhelm arriving in this country show he continually smokes cigarettes. On horseback or on foot, on the battlefield or at home, he may be seen smoking his cigaret.

### Miner Killed in Premature Blast in Mine

(Special to The Tribune.)  
Medora, N. D., Feb. 27.—A miner whose name cannot be learned was killed early today by a premature explosion at the Brody mine at Little Missouri.

#### TRADING STAMP BILL

House Bill 427, Representative Cole's measure prohibiting the use of trading stamps, premiums and similar schemes in merchandising, was jerked from the senate calendar yesterday afternoon and referred to the committee on judiciary.

### MAY HASTEN ACTION

First Step Will Be to Equip Merchantmen With Defensive Armament

INCIDENT SAME IN KIND AS LUSITANIA AFFAIR

President Hopeful That Extraordinary Meeting of Congress Will Be Unnecessary

BRYAN OPOSED.

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

(Associated Press.)  
Washington, Feb. 27.—Official dispatches today confirming reports of the death of Americans on the Laconia, torpedoed without warning, established the case as the "overt" act.

While details of the deaths of ten Americans in the unwarmed destruction of the Laconia began coming in today, the opposition in congress to giving President Wilson the broad authority to deal with the submarine menace began taking definite form and showed considerable strength.

Congress Aroused.  
At the White House it was made known authoritatively that the destruction of the Laconia was a clear cut and ruthless violation of American rights and life, a demonstration of what might be expected in the future, of sufficient force to hurry congress into clothing the president with full authority to meet the peril.

Nevertheless, the house foreign affairs committee, after debating the Flood bill which has the backing of the president, decided that the broad powers to be conferred by the use of the phrase, "other instrumentalities," should be modified and that the president should be limited to using the "naval forces of the United States, including the naval militia."

No Blanket Authority.  
In the senate foreign relations committee Republicans voted solidly against giving the president blanket authority and it was reported they drew support from the Democrats, Senators Stone, Hitchcock and O'Gorman. The senate committee decided to redraft the whole bill to make it more explicit.

The rights to arm ships, it was said, would take the form of authorizing owners of all American ships to arm and defend them and authorizing the government to supply guns and gunners for this purpose.

Chairman Flood took to the White House, proposed amendments including one to prohibit arming of ships carrying munitions or contraband, and one to limit the president's authority.

Administration officials considered the attitude of congress in the face of the Laconia case of sufficient importance to discuss sending an official report on the killing of the Americans to congress.

The situation, however, was unchanged from where the president left it yesterday, when he asked congress for authority to deal with the submarine peril.

President Wilson and state department officials took the position that no further step would be taken until congress had had an opportunity to act on the president's request.

The view prevailed that the sinking of the Laconia should hasten action by congress.

Furnish Guns.  
The first step of the government, it was indicated, will be to furnish American ships with guns and gunners for defensive purposes, and insure them in the government war risk bureau.

On the basis of the official report, the sinking of the Laconia is regarded as another Lusitania case in principle, even though fewer lives were lost.

President Wilson, it was said today, is opposed to calling an extra session of congress, unless it is absolutely necessary. Word has been conveyed to him that the Republicans may filibuster in an effort to force an extra session, but he is hopeful that this intention will not be carried out.

Clear Cut Violation.  
The sinking of the Laconia, with the loss of American lives, is looked upon by the American government as a clear cut violation of American rights, according to an authoritative expression of opinion obtained after a conference between President Wil-

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