

The Laurens Advertiser.

VOLUME XXXI.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1915.

NUMBER 47

DAY OF REJOICING TURNED TO MOURNING

Big Passenger Ship Sinks Drowning Picnickers

CHICAGO DOCKS SCENE OF TRAGEDY

Steamer Eastland Sinks in Chicago River With Its Deck Crowded With Workmen Going on Holiday Excursion. Cause of Sinking Undetermined.

Chicago, July 24.—Approximately 1,000 persons lost their lives in the Chicago River today by the capsizing of the excursion steamer Eastland, while warping from its wharf with more than 2,400 employees of the Western Electric Company and their relatives and friends on board, bound for a pleasure trip across Lake Michigan.

After working ceaselessly all day and far into the night the bodies of 842 victims of the catastrophe, most of them women and children, were collected in temporary morgues and taken to the 2d regiment armory. When these bodies had been tagged Coroner Hoffman, taking into consideration estimates of bodies thought to be in the hold of the steamer, lying on its side in the river, and in the stream itself, said he believed the total dead would not exceed 1,000.

Steamer Declared Topheavy.

The Eastland said by marine architects to have been top-heavy and ballasted in an uncertain manner, turned over inside of five minutes after it began to list, pouring its passengers into the river or imprisoning them in its submerged hull.

Every effort was made by thousands of persons on the river wharf to rescue the drowning men, women and children, but many went down almost within grasp of the river bank. Mothers went to death, while their children were snatched to safety. Other children died in the arms of their parents, who finally were saved. Hundreds of girls, freed for a day from their tasks of making telephones and other electrical apparatuses in the factory of the Western Electric Company, dressed in their smartest white frocks, drowned.

Every Home in Mourning.

Koln avenue, a small street near the factory of the Western Electric Company, was in universal mourning. Every house lost from one to all its occupants in the disaster, and many of the residents of this street tonight lay in the morgue or beneath the steel hull of the Eastland, over which searchlights shot their blinding glare, while hundreds of men searched for more bodies.

Efforts to discover the cause of the accident were begun long before the work of rescue was over. Federal and county grand juries were ordered, a coroner's jury was impaneled and all of the officers and crew of the Eastland were arrested.

W. C. Steele, secretary and treasurer of the St. Joseph-Chicago Steamship Company, who owned the Eastland, built on Lake Erie in 1903, and remodelled later because top-heavy, it is said, was arrested tonight and locked up at a police station. The steamer was leased by the Indiana Transportation Company, whose officers said they were not responsible for the licensing of the ship and did not control the crew.

Under misty skies 7,000 men, women and children went to the Clark street dock early today to fill five large lake steamers with holiday mirth in a trip to Michigan City. The steamer Eastland was the first to be loaded.

Rain began to fall as the wharf superintendent lifted the gangplanks from the Eastland, declaring that the Government limit of 2,500 passengers had been reached.

Eastland Falls to Move.

The passengers swarmed to the left side of the ship as the other steamers drew up the river towards the wharf. A tug was hitched to the Eastland, ropes were ordered cast off and the steamer's engines began to hum. The Eastland had not budged, however.

Instead the heavily laden ship wavered sidewise, leaning first towards the river bank. The lurch was so

MRS. J. M. WATSON DEAD.

Sister of the Messrs. Hayes, of This City, Died in Greer.

Mrs. Elizabeth Hayes Watson, aged 22 years, died at her home in Greer Thursday night. She was the sister of Messrs. M. L. and C. H. Hayes, of this city and they attended the funeral services. She had been ill several weeks of typhoid fever. The body was interred at Mountain View cemetery Saturday, Rev. N. J. Holmes, conducting the services. Mrs. Watson was a member of the Methodist church and was a consecrated, Christian young woman.

She is survived by her husband, J. M. Watson, two small children, her parents and the following brothers and sisters: Mrs. Isom Blake, of Toccoa, Ga.; Miss Clara Hayes, of Greer; Messrs. M. L. and C. H. Hayes, of this city; W. M., C. A. and John Hayes, of Greer.

The Messrs. Hayes have the sympathy of their friends here in their great bereavement.

Entertainment at Gray Court-Owings.

A musical recital, with reading, will be given at the Gray Court-Owings school building Friday evening, July 30th, at 8:30 o'clock. One of the most attractive features of the program will be the violin selection by Master William Thomas Truesdale, of Sumter, who is but eleven years of age. Everybody is invited to attend. The admission will be 10 cents.

Starting that many passengers joined the large concourse already on the river side of docks.

The ship never heeled back; it tugged slowly, but steadily, toward its side. Children clutched the skirts of mothers and sisters to keep from falling. Water began to enter lower port holes and the hawsers tore out the spokes to which the vessel was tied.

Screams from passengers attracted the attention of fellow excursionists on the dock awaiting the next steamer. Wharfmen and picnickers soon lined the edge of the embankment, reaching out helplessly towards the wavering steamer.

For nearly five minutes the ship turned before it finally dived under the swift current of the river. During the listing of the vessel life boats, chairs and other loose appurtenances on the decks slipped down the sloping floors, crushing the passengers towards the rising waters.

Then there was a plunge, with a sigh of air escaping from the hold mingled with crying of children and shrieks of women, and the ship was on the bottom of the river, casting hundreds of living creatures to the water.

Grab Anything in Reach.

Many sank, entangled with clothing and bundles, and did not rise, but hundreds came to the surface, seized floating chairs and other objects. Persons on shore threw out ropes and dragged in those who could hold these life lines. Employees of commission firms along the river threw crates, chicken coops and other floatable objects into the water, but most of these were swept away by the current.

Boats put out, tugs rushed to the scene with shrieking whistles and many men jumped into the river to aid the drowning. With thousands of spectators ready to aid and the wharf within grasp, hundreds went to death despite every effort at rescue.

One mother grasped her two children in her arms as she slipped from the steamer into the water. One child was torn from her, but she and the other were saved. Fathers were drowned after aiding their wives and children to safety.

One man was seen to cling to a spike in the side of the wharf, while two women and three children stepped upon his body to safety. He fell exhausted into the river as the last one of the five reached the pier.

Instances of heroism were almost as numerous as the number of persons on the scene. Boats as soon as full took rescued passengers to the wharf or to the steamer Theodore Roosevelt, which was tied up opposite the Eastland.

Bodies Floating Down River.

In an hour the water was cleared of excursionists. Those who had not been taken to land had sunk or were swirling down the river towards the drainage canal locks at Lockport, Illinois, many miles away. The locks were raised to stop the current and arrangements were made to take bodies from the river along its course through the southwest part of Chicago.

ARE YOU GOING TO VOTE?

September the 14th is election day. On that day the qualified voters of South Carolina will have an opportunity to cast their ballots for State-wide prohibition. The Central Prohibition Committee of Laurens County desires to call attention to the fact, that if you have not registered YOU MUST do so Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of NEXT WEEK. The books will be open at the Court House those days only.

COUNTY CORRESPONDENCE

Interesting Letters Received from Correspondents in Communities of Laurens County, Telling of Important Happenings in Different Neighborhoods.

CENTER POINT NEWS.

Mrs. Nannie Tharpe of Savannah, Ga., is visiting her sister, Mrs. M. L. C. Moore.

Miss Rosalee Godfrey and brother, Gary, visited in the home of Mr. J. L. Stribling, Sunday.

Miss Mayme Miller has returned home after a pleasant visit to Laurens and other places.

Messrs. James McPherson, Oscar Stribling, visited in the Mt. Pleasant section, Sunday.

Little Misses Mildred, Anice and Wilmar McPherson and brother, Irvin, visited their aunt, Mrs. W. I. Miller one day last week.

Among those visiting at Mr. M. L. C. Moore's Sunday were: Mr. E. E. Moore from Laurens, Mr. Frank Williams from Ware Shoals and Mr. G. W. Moore and family.

Mr. Sam Richey of Ware Shoals, visited in the home of Mr. E. M. Elmore's Sunday.

Mr. Jim Miller attended Children's Day at Andrews Chapel in Greenwood county, Saturday, and reports a fine time.

POPLAR SPRING NEWS.

Poplar Spring, July 26.—We are needing rain very badly, having had none to amount to anything since the 10th inst. Everything is needing rain, but especially old corn and gardens.

The members of Poplar Spring church are making some much needed repairs on the church building, having recovered it some time ago, built a recess for the pulpit, swung the roof and removed the posts from the aisles, put in some more windows, widened the front doors with concrete steps at each door, and are now having the interior painted. We think a good church building, and a nice school house in a community is an indication of the progressiveness of its inhabitants.

Mr. Jas. W. Simpson is making improvements on his dwelling, having it recovered and building an addition 14 by 28 feet.

Thursday next is set as the day to clean off the cemetery at Poplar Spring. All interested are asked to come and assist.

Mr. Paul Washington and his sister, Miss Nannie, of the Mt. Olive section, were the guests of Miss Katie G. Pitts yesterday.

Mrs. Lou Jones of near Greenwood, Mrs. Sallie Simmons of Dials, Mrs. Jessie Lipford from near Donalds, Mrs. Dr. J. L. Donnan and daughters, Misses Beatrice and Ethel, and Mr. J. A. Simmons and wife, were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Simmons last Saturday.

Miss Agnes Simpson, who has been visiting at Greenville, Tigersville and Inman, returned home last Friday and reported a fine time.

Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Walker are spending a week with Mrs. Walker's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Norman and other relatives at and near Greenwood.

Mr. W. D. S. was telling of the Bumble Bee cotton in last week's Advertiser. Your correspondent in going from home to Mr. J. C. Martin's last Saturday saw what must have been the Bumble Bee variety of corn, some of the tassels being not over two feet from the ground.

Mr. and Mrs. S. E. Cooper were the guests of Mrs. Cooper's mother, Mrs. Josephine South, yesterday.

The Hickory Tavern base ball team came over and crossed bats with the

CROSS HILL NEWS.

Cross Hill, July 26.—The revival meeting which began here at the Baptist church on the third Sunday, closed this, Monday, morning. Rev. Louis J. Bristow of Abbeville did the preaching. Mr. Bristow is a quiet but most earnest and clear speaker and presents the gospel truth with much interest and force. Every one enjoyed the preaching service. There were several conversions and additions to the church and the membership were strengthened and encouraged for better service.

The next social event for Cross Hill will be the McGowan family reunion next Tuesday, Aug 3rd, to which every next Tuesday. The meeting will be held at Liberty Springs Presbyterian church, and a picnic dinner will be served. All are expected to bring baskets of good eatables. The local committee have arranged the following program:

Welcome address, Dr. John H. Miller.

The McGowan Family in Peace and War, Admiral Samuel McGowan.

William McGowan, by F. P. McGowan.

Gen. Sam McGowan, by W. C. McGowan.

Anecdotes of Gen. Sam McGowan, by Hon. T. P. Cothran.

Homer L. McGowan, by Pat. H. McGowan.

John J. McGowan, by John J. McGowan.

Alexander McGowan, by W. B. McGowan.

Wm. C. McGowan, by Christie Bennett.

J. C. McGowan, by W. A. McSwain.

The McGowan Women, by Mary Nance Daniel.

Liberty Springs Church, by Mrs. W. T. Austin.

Before the program is finally completed it is probable that there will be sketches of other members of the family and their connections. A good day is anticipated and the reunion is expected to be well attended.

Rev. and Mrs. Jas. E. Bradley of Monticello, Ga., are visiting their mother, Mrs. Boyce and other relatives.

Mrs. Lettie Walker has recovered from her recent sickness and is now spending some time with her sister, Mrs. Virginia Nelson, of Abbeville.

Miss May Arnold of Greenville, is visiting the Misses Bryson and other friends here.

Messrs. J. H. Rasor and R. A. Boyce spent last week among the invigorating mountains of North Carolina.

Mrs. Joe A. Guthrie and son, James, have gone to Lynchburg, Va., to visit relatives and to enjoy the wholesome

(Continued on Page 4.)

LYON EJECTED FROM TAX HEARING

Assistant Attorney General Dominick Objected to his Appearance Without Previous Consultation.

The injunction proceedings in the cases of the Peoples bank of Greenville, the National Loan & Exchange bank of Greenwood, and W. T. Bailey, of Greenwood, against the state tax commission, held here Thursday afternoon before Associate Justice R. C. Watts, took a rather sensational turn when Assistant Attorney General Dominick objected to the association in the case of J. Fraser Lyon, employed by the governor and the chairman of the tax commission without consulting the attorney general's office.

The court sustained the position of the attorney general and Mr. Lyon took no further part in the proceedings. The attorneys for the complainants and the assistant attorney general presented voluminous arguments for and against the issuance of the injunction.

Judge Watts took the matter under advisement and stated that he would hand down his order as soon as practicable, intimating that it would be done within a few days.

The complainants were represented by F. B. Grier, of Greenwood, and T. P. Cothran, of Greenville. Mr. Dominick appeared alone for the state.

The incident of Mr. Lyon's elimination from the case at this time was the more dramatic because of its suddenness. Mr. Lyon had apprised the court of his commission in a few words, when the assistant attorney general abruptly arose and made objection to the appearance of the special attorney in the case on the ground of lack of legal authority and the embarrassment it might cause the state's interests. Mr. Dominick made the point that it was the prerogative of the attorney general's office to conduct the case and that outside legal services could be procured only upon the consent of that department. Mr. Dominick stated that the department had been employed in a study of the case and it was fully prepared to make the answer. Furthermore, he said, the attorney general's office was the special attorney might raise and that, without this knowledge, he would not be willing to risk the state's interest.

In making his ruling on the case Justice Watts cited the law that the attorney general's office was empowered to employ an assistant whenever the occasion warranted and that, without specific authority elsewhere, it was the sole prerogative of the attorney general to employ help. Mr. Lyon thereupon raised the point of the special appropriation of \$2,000 appropriated by the last general assembly for legal services to be expended by the governor, but Justice Watts was not impressed by this contention. Mr. Lyon made request of the presiding judge that in writing the order in the case that mention be made that he had appeared there as the representative of the tax commission and the governor.

Mr. Dominick as quickly requested that it also be included in the order that the attorney general's office had not been consulted about the matter. Mr. Lyon arose and stated that, in justice to himself, he wished to have it included that Mr. Jones, the tax commission chairman, in empowering him had informed him that the attorney general's office had been consulted. Mr. Dominick replied pointedly that Mr. Jones had not so requested that Mr. Lyon be employed. There was a dramatic silence, followed shortly afterwards by a further statement from Mr. Dominick that both the governor and the chairman of the tax commission had been in his office and asked his opinion as to the outcome of the case, but had not made any request for assistance. Mr. Lyon's name had been mentioned, he said, as having been consulted about the merits of the case, but he unequivocally declared that no request had been made of the attorney general's office to engage Mr. Lyon in the case.

Repeated references were made in the tilt about factional and political differences. Mr. Lyon stated that he was acting only in a legal capacity and was appearing upon what he considered proper legal authority, and that his appearance in the case was not prompted by any personal or political considerations.

FREEDOM OF SEA MUST BE PRESERVED

American Note Leaves No Ground for Argument

NEUTRAL RIGHTS WILL BE PROTECTED

President Wilson Sends Last Note to Germany on Submarine Warfare, in Which Warning is Given That American Rights Will be Protected at Any Cost.

Washington, July 23.—The text of the American note on submarine warfare, presented at Berlin today by Ambassador Gerard, was made public here tonight. It reveals that the Imperial Government had been informed it is the intention of the United States to regard as "deliberately unfriendly" any repetition by the commanders of German naval vessels of acts in contravention of American rights.

The United States announces that it will continue to contend for the freedom of the seas "from whatever quarter violated without compromise and at any cost."

In official and diplomatic quarters the communication was viewed as the strongest and most emphatic pronouncement that has come from the Washington government since the beginning of its correspondence with the belligerents of Europe. President Wilson returned to Cornish, N. H., tonight to await developments.

Full Text of Note.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.
Washington, July 21, 1915.

You are instructed to deliver textually, the following note to the minister for foreign affairs:

The note of the Imperial German government dated the eighth of July, 1915, has received the careful consideration of the government of the United States and it regrets to be obliged to say that it has found it very unsatisfactory, because it fails to meet the real differences between the two governments and indicates no way in which the accepted principles of law and humanity may be applied in the grave matter in controversy, but proposes, on the contrary, arrangements for a partial suspension of those principles which virtually set them aside.

The government of the United States notes with satisfaction that the Imperial German government recognizes without reservation the validity of the principles insisted on in the several communications which this government has addressed to the Imperial German government with regard to its announcement of a war zone and the use of submarines against merchantmen on the high seas—the principle that the high seas are free, that the character and cargo of a merchantman must first be ascertained before she can lawfully be seized or destroyed, and that the lives of non-combatants may in no case be put in jeopardy unless the vessel resists or seeks to escape after being summoned to submit to examination; for a belligerent act of retaliation is per se an act beyond the law, and the defense of an act as retaliatory is an admission that it is illegal.

The government of the result is, however, keenly and justly auditor find that the Imperial Government regards itself as exempt from the obligation, these principles, and that its vessels are concerned. The policy of the government of Great Britain, in regard to neutral trade except government itself, and that it regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the Imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders, illegal and inhuman acts. However justifiable they may be thought to be against an enemy who is believed to have acted in contravention of law and humanity, are manifestly inadmissible when they deprive neutrals of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, July 21, 1915.

You are instructed to deliver textually, the following note to the minister for foreign affairs:

The note of the Imperial German government dated the eighth of July, 1915, has received the careful consideration of the government of the United States and it regrets to be obliged to say that it has found it very unsatisfactory, because it fails to meet the real differences between the two governments and indicates no way in which the accepted principles of law and humanity may be applied in the grave matter in controversy, but proposes, on the contrary, arrangements for a partial suspension of those principles which virtually set them aside.

The government of the United States notes with satisfaction that the Imperial German government recognizes without reservation the validity of the principles insisted on in the several communications which this government has addressed to the Imperial German government with regard to its announcement of a war zone and the use of submarines against merchantmen on the high seas—the principle that the high seas are free, that the character and cargo of a merchantman must first be ascertained before she can lawfully be seized or destroyed, and that the lives of non-combatants may in no case be put in jeopardy unless the vessel resists or seeks to escape after being summoned to submit to examination; for a belligerent act of retaliation is per se an act beyond the law, and the defense of an act as retaliatory is an admission that it is illegal.

The government of the result is, however, keenly and justly auditor find that the Imperial Government regards itself as exempt from the obligation, these principles, and that its vessels are concerned. The policy of the government of Great Britain, in regard to neutral trade except government itself, and that it regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the Imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders, illegal and inhuman acts. However justifiable they may be thought to be against an enemy who is believed to have acted in contravention of law and humanity, are manifestly inadmissible when they deprive neutrals of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, July 21, 1915.

You are instructed to deliver textually, the following note to the minister for foreign affairs:

The note of the Imperial German government dated the eighth of July, 1915, has received the careful consideration of the government of the United States and it regrets to be obliged to say that it has found it very unsatisfactory, because it fails to meet the real differences between the two governments and indicates no way in which the accepted principles of law and humanity may be applied in the grave matter in controversy, but proposes, on the contrary, arrangements for a partial suspension of those principles which virtually set them aside.

The government of the United States notes with satisfaction that the Imperial German government recognizes without reservation the validity of the principles insisted on in the several communications which this government has addressed to the Imperial German government with regard to its announcement of a war zone and the use of submarines against merchantmen on the high seas—the principle that the high seas are free, that the character and cargo of a merchantman must first be ascertained before she can lawfully be seized or destroyed, and that the lives of non-combatants may in no case be put in jeopardy unless the vessel resists or seeks to escape after being summoned to submit to examination; for a belligerent act of retaliation is per se an act beyond the law, and the defense of an act as retaliatory is an admission that it is illegal.

The government of the result is, however, keenly and justly auditor find that the Imperial Government regards itself as exempt from the obligation, these principles, and that its vessels are concerned. The policy of the government of Great Britain, in regard to neutral trade except government itself, and that it regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the Imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders, illegal and inhuman acts. However justifiable they may be thought to be against an enemy who is believed to have acted in contravention of law and humanity, are manifestly inadmissible when they deprive neutrals of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE.

Washington, July 21, 1915.

You are instructed to deliver textually, the following note to the minister for foreign affairs:

The note of the Imperial German government dated the eighth of July, 1915, has received the careful consideration of the government of the United States and it regrets to be obliged to say that it has found it very unsatisfactory, because it fails to meet the real differences between the two governments and indicates no way in which the accepted principles of law and humanity may be applied in the grave matter in controversy, but proposes, on the contrary, arrangements for a partial suspension of those principles which virtually set them aside.

The government of the United States notes with satisfaction that the Imperial German government recognizes without reservation the validity of the principles insisted on in the several communications which this government has addressed to the Imperial German government with regard to its announcement of a war zone and the use of submarines against merchantmen on the high seas—the principle that the high seas are free, that the character and cargo of a merchantman must first be ascertained before she can lawfully be seized or destroyed, and that the lives of non-combatants may in no case be put in jeopardy unless the vessel resists or seeks to escape after being summoned to submit to examination; for a belligerent act of retaliation is per se an act beyond the law, and the defense of an act as retaliatory is an admission that it is illegal.

The government of the result is, however, keenly and justly auditor find that the Imperial Government regards itself as exempt from the obligation, these principles, and that its vessels are concerned. The policy of the government of Great Britain, in regard to neutral trade except government itself, and that it regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the Imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders, illegal and inhuman acts. However justifiable they may be thought to be against an enemy who is believed to have acted in contravention of law and humanity, are manifestly inadmissible when they deprive neutrals of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)



PILLS
BAND...
The government of the result is, however, keenly and justly auditor find that the Imperial Government regards itself as exempt from the obligation, these principles, and that its vessels are concerned. The policy of the government of Great Britain, in regard to neutral trade except government itself, and that it regard the conduct of other belligerent governments as irrelevant to any discussion with the Imperial German government of what this government regards as grave and unjustifiable violations of the rights of American citizens by German naval commanders, illegal and inhuman acts. However justifiable they may be thought to be against an enemy who is believed to have acted in contravention of law and humanity, are manifestly inadmissible when they deprive neutrals of

(Continued on Page 2, Column 4.)