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CUNARD LUSITANIA SUNK BY TORPEDO OFF COAST OF IRELAND; PASSENGERS SAFE

London, May 7.—The Cunard liner Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk today off Old Head, Kinsale, Ireland. Early reports, yet unconfirmed, are that the 1,253 passengers aboard are safe. Assistance has been sent.

The liner was struck early this morning, and remained afloat until 2 o'clock this afternoon, it is unofficially reported. Confirmation was received here in a despatch from Kinsale which said that 20 boats from the Lusitania, all jammed with passengers, are in the vicinity where the liner sank. Rescue ships are making for them.

CRISIS AT HAND AS JAPAN URGES CHINA DEMANDS

Japanese Minister Presents Formal Ultimatum to Government At Peking—China Hopes to Avoid Open Rupture—United States Consults Foreign Powers on Situation.

Peking, May 7.—Eli Hioki, the Japanese minister to China, went to the Chinese foreign office between 3 and 4 o'clock this afternoon and presented the Japanese ultimatum which insists that China accede to the demands presented by the Tokio government.

Previous to this action on the part of the minister the secretary of the legation visited the foreign office and informed Vice-President Tao Yubin that the ultimatum of the Japanese government contained certain modifications of the 45 demands presented by Tokio.

Tokio, May 7.—A despatch to the Nichi Nichi from its Peking correspondent says China last night informed Japanese Minister Hioki that it desired to arrange a settlement of the demands in such a way as to avoid a rupture.

Japan's program, in case China declines to accede to its demands, already has been arranged, the statement says. In substance, the communication declares:

"Whatever action Japan is forced to take she feels the possible rupture creates a new situation. She desires scrupulously to adhere to the provisions of treaties with friendly powers regarding the integrity of China, but when the national dignity and conscience are involved she must

follow the path the situation justifies."

PRESIDENT AND BRYAN CONFER ON SITUATION.

Washington, May 7.—After a conference with President Wilson early today, Secretary Bryan said the President had received word that the ultimatum from Japan to China was "under discussion" but "that no notice had been received that the ultimatum had actually been received in Peking."

Mr. Bryan refused to say whether the news had come from Tokio or from Peking.

After Secretary Bryan had been to the White House, Ambassador Chin-dal called at the state department and the two men had another conference. At its close the ambassador reiterated that he could not discuss the subject but added that a "full statement" would be made at the embassy soon. He could not say whether it would be issued today or whether it would be a statement by the minister or by the Japanese government. Further than that he declined to talk.

Reports that Japan had altered some of the articles in group 5 of the so-called general set of demands relating to China, as a whole.

POLICE BELIEVE PETRINO GIRL IS IN HIDING HERE

Parents Repudiate Farewell Letter Purporting To Be Hers As Forgery.

MAN HELD IN \$500 BAIL FOR HEARING

Protests He Knows Nothing of Her Disappearance—Police Doubt Him.

With detectives scouring this city and sections of New York in an effort to locate 14-year-old Marie Petrino, daughter of Pasquale Petrino, a prominent grocery dealer of 242 Lexington avenue, the police authorities differ in their opinion as to her whereabouts. Some believe that she is still in this city, others that she is voluntarily remaining hidden in New York.

A letter received late last night, purporting to have been written by Marie, but denied by the father as her handwriting, is now in the hands of the police and may lead to clues of her hiding place. The fact that it is not only contradictory in its terms, but while bearing the tenor of having been written in New York, was mailed in Bridgeport, is further confusing the parents of the girl and those detailed to work on the case.

Denying any complicity in the abduction of the girl, Louis Teracino, who described himself as a laborer and gave his address as 216 East street New York, demanded immediate release from custody through his attorney, Andrew W. Gardella, in the city court, this morning. He was held under section 1310 of the statutes, relating to taking away a minor.

(Continued on Page 8.)

TWO COURTS ELIMINATED FOR NEW ONE

(Special to the Farmer.)

Hartford, May 7.—The judiciary committee reported a bill making important changes in the judicial arrangements of the state. The bill provides that the judges of the courts of appeals and the district court of Waterbury shall go on circuit, and that these courts shall be abolished on July 1.

LUSITANIA ONE OF SPEEDIEST AFLOAT

New York, May 7.—The Lusitania was one of the largest of trans-Atlantic liners as well as one of the speediest. She was built in Glasgow in 1906. She was 785 feet long, 88 feet beam and 60 feet deep. Her gross tonnage was 32,500 and her net tonnage 9,145. She was owned by the Cunard Steamship Co. Limited, of Liverpool. Her captain was W. T. Turner.

Her fastest trip, made on the western voyage, was four days, 11 hours, 42 minutes. This record, however, was wrested from her subsequently by the Mauretania, her sister ship, built a few months later, which has been in service for the British navy during the war. The Lusitania had accommodations for 550 first class cabin passengers.

NEW YORK GETS CONFIRMATION OF LOSS OF LUSITANIA; PASSENGER LIST IS BIG, INCLUDING NOTABLE AMERICANS.

New York, May 7.—The New York office of the Cunard line this afternoon announced that the Lusitania has been sunk off the Irish coast.

Reports here are that the passengers, numbering 1,310, are safe. The list includes prominent Americans.

Confirmation of the loss of the big liner came in a despatch dated Queenstown, 4:59. The despatch said that the passengers are believed to be safe and that every available ship is being sent to the rescue of the small boats.

If the reports are true that the Lusitania was torpedoed at 2 o'clock this morning and that she did not go down until half past two this afternoon, she was afloat for more than 12 hours, a period of time which undoubtedly gave opportunity for efforts at the removal of passengers.

It is not known just how far from shore the Lusitania was when she was struck. A despatch from London set forth that assistance was sent to her.

PASSENGERS REPORTED TO BE SAFE

London, May 7.—A despatch to the Cunard office here reports that all of the passengers of the Lusitania have been saved. This is unconfirmed as yet.

WIRELESS USED TO CALL AID

Liverpool, May 7.—The Lands End wireless reports distress signals made by Lusitania as follows: "Come at once. Big List. Position ten miles west Kinsale."

BOATS RUSHING TO THE RESCUE

London, May 7.—Confirmation of the sinking of the Lusitania was received in a despatch dated Queenstown 4:59 P. M., today and reading as follows:

"Old Head, Kinsale, about 20 boats, all sorts, belonging to Lusitania, are in vicinity where sunk. About 15 boats are making for the spot to rescue."

"NO WORD ABOUT PASSENGERS"

Liverpool, May 7.—The Echo has been informed that a message to the Cunard Line reads as follows: "The Lusitania was torpedoed and sunk at 2:33 this afternoon off Kinsale. There is no word of her passengers or crew who numbered over 1,900."

REPORTED SUNK IN DAYLIGHT

London, May 7.—The manager of the Cunard Company has informed the Liverpool Evening Press that he received this afternoon the following message from the wireless station at Old Head, off Kinsale:

"The Lusitania was sunk by a submarine at 2:33 this afternoon, eight miles south by west (off this point)."

WASHINGTON SEES PROBLEM AHEAD

Washington, May 7.—News of the torpedoing of the Lusitania struck official Washington like a bomb. While disposed to await full details before expressing opinions, all administra-

FIVE BRIDGEPORTERS ON TORPEDOED STEAMSHIP

Five Bridgeporters are known to have been on the Lusitania. They all booked passage about two weeks ago at the S. Loewith & Co., steamship office in this city. They are:

Isaac B. Trumbull, secretary and treasurer of the American Cyclecar Co.
James H. Brooks, salesman, Weed Chain & Tire Grip Co.
Mrs. Roland Anderson, 124 Wheeler Avenue.
Barbara Anderson, aged two years, 124 Wheeler Avenue.
John Thurston, farmer.

Mr. Trumbull was on his way to England to conduct some business for his firm in the sale of Trumbull cars. Mr. Brooks was also on the way to England, to do business for his firm. Thurston, whose address is not known, was in a hospital here several weeks and has just been released before the Lusitania sailed. He booked passage immediately. No other Bridgeporters are known to have been on the ship, although some may have bought their tickets in New York and failed to be recorded here.

tion officials realized that the incident was probably the most serious Washington has faced since the beginning of the war.

REPORT LUSITANIA WAS BEACHED

New York, May 7.—The Dow & Jones Company ticker service in a report from London declares the Lusitania was beached and passengers and crew, according to Lloyds, were saved.

PRESIDENT TOLD OF DISASTER

Washington, May 7.—President Wilson was informed of the sinking of the Lusitania and White House officials showed keen anxiety to learn whether any American lives were lost. No comment was made.

IN DOUBT ABOUT PASSENGERS

London, May 7.—A despatch from Liverpool to the Exchange Telegraph Company says, "it is not known how many of the Lusitania's passengers were saved."

CONFIRMATION BY NEW YORK OFFICE

New York, May 7.—The news of her sinking was announced by the local office of the Cunard line and was based on cabled advices received from the home office of the company in Liverpool. Three despatches received in the order named were made public by the line as follows:

"We received from the Lands End wireless station news of repeated distress calls made by the Lusitania asking for assistance at once. Big list. Position 40 miles south Kinsale. Subsequently received telegram from Queenstown that all available craft in the harbor had been dispatched to assist."

The second message to the local office read: "Queenstown, 4:59 P. M.—Wire begins about 20 boats of all sorts belonging to our line are in vicinity where Lusitania sunk. About 15 other boats are making for spot to render assistance."

FIRST CABIN PASSENGER LIST SHOWS NAMES OF NOTABLE MEN

New York, May 7.—The list of first cabin passengers on board follows: Mr. and Mrs. Henry Adams, Boston; A. H. Adams, New York; W. McM. Adams, New York; Lady Allen and maid, Montreal; Miss Anna Ailes, New York; Julian DeArata, Cuban consul general at Liverpool; Thos. Bioginford, New York; James Bohon, Toronto, Can.; B. B. Bowen, Boston; Mr. Boulton, Jr., Chicago; Miss Heathwaite, Morristown, N. J.; Miss Josephine Brandell, New York; Allan Bredge and wife, New York; C. T. Broderick, Boston.

W. Broderick-Cloete, San Antonio, Tex.; J. H. Brooks, New York; Mrs. F. C. Brown, New York; William H. Brown, Buffalo, N. Y.; Mrs. Burnside, and maid, New York; Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Bruno, Montclair, N. J.; A. J. Bryington, London; Michael G. Byrne, New York; D. L. Chabot, London; Mrs. W. Chapman, Toronto; J. H. Charles, Toronto; Miss Doris Charles, Toronto; the Rev. Cowley Clark, London; E. Clark, Toronto; M. Cohen, New York; H. G. Colebrook, Toronto; Miss Dorothy Conner, New York; Mr. and Mrs. George R. Copping, Toronto; James Baker, England; Miss M. A. Baker, New York; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. B. Bartlett, London; J. J. Battersby, Stockport, Eng.; Albert C. Billicks and his wife, Los Angeles, Cal.; Leonidas Blatto, Atlanta; J. T. Black, New York.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul Crompton; Stephen, John and Alberta Crompton and infant and nurse, all of Philadelphia; Robert W. Crooks, Toronto; A. E. Cross, New York; H. E. Dearbergh, New York; Mrs. A. De Pargo, New York; C. A. Dingwall, Chicago; Miss C. Dougal, Quebec; Mr. Audley Drake, Detroit; James Dunsinuir, Toronto; W. A. Emond, Quebec; John Fenwick, Switzerland; Dr. Howard Fisher, New York; Justin M. Forman, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Fowler, New York; J. Friedenstein, London; Edwin W. Frieden, Farmington, Conn.

Charles Frohman and valet, New York; Fred J. Gauntlett, New York; Edward Goren, New York; Mr. and Mrs. Montague T. Grant, Chica-

(Continued on Page 11.)

MAJORITY REPORT 'DRY' AMENDMENT

Hartford, May 7.—The amendment for a constitutional provision to prevent the manufacture and sale of alcoholic drinks was reported to the house today, on a majority report, five to four. An adverse majority report was signed by Representatives Williams, Handel, Talmadge and Duteau.

HOSTILE AEROS DROP BOMBS ON CONSTANTINOPLE

Park, May 7.—The first attack of the war on Constantinople is reported in an unofficial despatch from Athens. It is said three Russian aviators flew over the city, dropping several bombs which are believed to have caused extensive damage. The message says also that the Russian Black Sea fleet bombarded the Turkish forts on the bank of the Bosphorus on Wednesday. Several Russian shells fell within about 10 miles of Constantinople.

DENIES MOTION TO SET ASIDE VERDICT IN SHOTGUN FATALITY

Judge Williams in the Superior court this afternoon denied a motion to set aside the jury's verdict in the suit of John E. Wood, administrator, against James H. O'Neil and others of Norwalk. He also denied the motion to set aside the judgment of non-suit.

Wood brought the action as administrator for his 16 year old daughter Marjorie who was killed when a shotgun carried by 16 year old Timothy O'Neil was accidentally discharged. The jury found in favor of Timothy O'Neil and the court granted a non-suit motion in the case against James H. O'Neil.

JUDGE CAREY TO SPEAK

Judge Carey of New Jersey will speak this evening at the auditorium of South church on "Commission Government." City officials will be present.

Local rains tonight, Saturday rain. Fresh southwest winds.

WEATHER FORECAST