

TRANSPORT TUSCANIA CARRIED 2,179 AMERICAN SOLDIERS TORPEDOED OFF IRISH COAST WITH LOSS OF 267 LIVES

Troops on Ship Were Small Detachments from Almost Every Section of Country, Including Guardsmen from Michigan and Wisconsin—The Tuscania, Built in 1914, Was a Former Cunard Liner—Had Registry of 14,238 Tons—She Has Been Object of Torpedo Attack Several Times, But Has Managed to Escape Through Speed and Use of Defense Guns—Is First Transport to Be Torpedoed on the Voyage to France and Fifth Cunarder Sunk Since the War Began.

Washington, February 6.—The British steamship Tuscania with 2,179 United States soldiers on board, has been torpedoed and sunk in the war zone. No estimate of the loss of life is available, but 1912 survivors have been landed at Buncrana and Larne, Ireland.

The disaster was officially announced by the war department which had received only meagre advices, without names of survivors or victims.

The department issued this statement: "The war department has been officially advised that the steamship Tuscania was torpedoed and sunk and that survivors numbering 1912 as far as could be ascertained, were landed at Buncrana and Larne in Ireland. There was a total of 2,179 United States troops on this vessel. No name of persons lost has been reported to the war department and no name of survivors was reported. Additional particulars are promised as soon as received."

The soldiers on board the Tuscania were small detachments from almost every section of the country. There was no distinctive military unit from any State, and for this reason war department officials announced that it would be impossible to announce a list of those on board until complete reports had been received.

A veranda cafe and gymnasium, smoking rooms, dining saloons and a novel system of heating and ventilation were features of the new liner. The first and second class state rooms were situated on the bridge deck and shelter deck amidships and were large in size and well furnished.

It is probable, however, in view of the exigencies of the situation that the steamer had been stripped of most of her luxurious fittings in order to take as great a load of troops as possible.

UNITED STATES BOARD THE TUSCANIA. The war department announced that its records showed the following were on board the Tuscania: Headquarters detachment and companies D, E, and F of the 29th Engineers, 10th Engineer train, 10th Military police, 10th supply train, No. 10th aer squadron, 21st aer squadron, Replacement detachments numbers 1 and 2 of the 124 division.

The 37th Engineers was composed of the first battalion of Michigan engineers; the 10th Military Police was made up from the 4th and 6th Wisconsin Infantry and the 10th supply train from the fourth, fifth and sixth Wisconsin Infantry.

The thirty-second division is composed of national guard troops from Michigan and Wisconsin. The division trained at Camp MacArthur, Texas.

TUSCANIA A BIG SHIP. The Tuscania was a British passenger and freight steamship of 14,238 tons gross register. She was built at Glasgow in 1914 and was owned by the Anchor Line.

The last report of the Tuscania was her arrival at an Atlantic port January 17 last.

The Tuscania during her days as a passenger liner was one of the best equipped vessels in the trans-Atlantic service. She made her maiden voyage in February, 1914, and for some time was in the service of the British admiralty, but later was restored to her owners for regular service.

19 ENTENTE SHIPS SUNK DURING WEEK

Great Britain Loses Fifteen Vessels, France Three and Italy One.

London, Feb. 6.—The admiralty reports fifteen British merchantmen sunk by mine or submarine in the past week. Of these ten were 1,600 tons or over and five were under 1,600 tons. Four fishing vessels also were sunk. Three French ships and one Italian ship were also sunk during the week.

The British losses are approximately the same as the previous week, when nine British merchantmen of more than 1,600 tons and six of lesser tonnage were destroyed.

New York, Feb. 6.—As an offset to the friendly congratulations to the Kaiser from Mexico, a neutral government toward the enemy of the entente allies, King George V, in his speech proroguing Parliament Wednesday reiterated the determination of the democracies of the world to continue warfare against the quadruple alliance until a just and enduring peace could be obtained.

The Germans on the western front are not yet numerically equal to the French and British forces opposing them, according to Major-General Frederick B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the British war office.

Artillery activity continues on the British, French, Italian and American fronts, but aside from this the operations have been confined to patrol and aerial attacks. The French war office announced the destruction of 14 enemy airplanes during February 3 and 4 and three February 5, and Italian hands destroyed five hostile machines.

U. S. WOMEN WANT GEN. MARCH NEW CHIEF OF STAFF

Washington, Feb. 6.—President Wilson's wife and Dr. Anna Howard Shaw, chairman of the women's committee of the Council of National Defense, have joined in an open letter to the women of the allied countries, which will be distributed through American diplomats in those countries.

"Out of the mutual agony and love of mothers of America this message is sent to our allied sisters in Europe, faithfully pledging our interests and cooperation in the protection of our sons and daughters at this time of unequalled temptation and danger."

"In all our countries, mothers are writing service, with the glamour of war and emotional phases of society which war tends to foster and which lead to the breaking down of restraints that have hitherto been their safeguards."

"The same is true of their daughters who are thrust out of the home into writing service, with the glamour of war and emotional phases of society which war tends to foster and which lead to the breaking down of restraints that have hitherto been their safeguards."

"These abnormal conditions place upon all women tremendous responsibilities and urge the closest union in an effort to conserve the moral forces of society, to protect our young men and women that they may be kept pure and chivalrous, so that after the conflict is ended we may look with hope to the future home life of our peoples, for that health of body and mind, that purity and nobility of individual character and that righteousness in government which alone can insure permanent peace and prosperity to any nation."

"If we fall in this, then have our struggles and sacrifices been in vain and future generations will rightly charge the women of our time with failure to meet the great responsibility which must always rest with the mothers of the race."

WHY WE RETAIN HEATLESS MONDAYS

Their Abandonment Would Have Caused Widespread Suffering, Says Garfield.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Fuel Administrator Garfield explained in announcement today that the decision of the fuel and railroad administrations to continue the Monday closing program was prompted by the fear of widespread human suffering due to the coal shortage.

Dr. Garfield said State fuel administrators reported to him a substantial saving of coal Mondays. Public utilities concerns in 29 cities, he said, saved 25 per cent. of fuel. The heatless Mondays will be continued, he added, until the railroads are able to move coal.

Washington, Feb. 6.—As an offset to the friendly congratulations to the Kaiser from Mexico, a neutral government toward the enemy of the entente allies, King George V, in his speech proroguing Parliament Wednesday reiterated the determination of the democracies of the world to continue warfare against the quadruple alliance until a just and enduring peace could be obtained.

State fuel administrators have reported that thousands of homes in New York and other cities of the East and Middle West have no coal, and cannot get it in sufficient quantities to make living conditions bearable.

This situation coupled with to-day's railroad administration reports that freight and coal movement was almost at a standstill both in the East and the West, prompted Fuel Administrator Garfield to announce that "the possibility of human suffering is too imminent to permit any relaxation in the present efforts to conserve and increase the existing supply of coal."

Dr. Garfield expressed the hope, however, that after next week railroad freight embargoes and preferential coal delivery orders may be used as substitutes for heatless Mondays to effect coal savings.

"It is hoped," he said, "that with the shut-down on Monday, February 11, and the closing in many States on the day after tomorrow, it will be possible henceforth to rely upon embargoes and the preference in movement of food and fuel ordered by the director-general of railroads."

The fuel administration is considering issuing a request that all industries and business houses suspend operations next Tuesday, Lincoln's birthday.

Officials are now convinced that the industrial suspension has been efficacious in actually saving fuel in quantities and that the consumption at other times has not been increased by the temporary shut-down.

State and local fuel administrators reported today that hundreds of manufacturing plants are using their last day's emergency supply of coal without immediate prospect of obtaining more.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

HAPPENINGS IN VT.: NEWS BY COUNTIES

ADDISON COUNTY

MIDDLEBURY. A pretty military wedding occurred at the home of Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Gage on South street Saturday evening at 6:30 o'clock when their oldest daughter, Olive C. Gage, was united in marriage to Harry G. Baldwin, a United States soldier, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Zenas E. Baldwin of Shoreham. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Roy E. Whittemore.

The funeral of Archie Herman Austin was held in the Congregational Church at Shoreham Tuesday afternoon at 2 o'clock and there was an unusually large attendance, with a profusion of flowers. The Rev. Barclay Simons officiated. Burial was in the Lake View cemetery. Mr. Austin left Middlebury October 9 with the second squad of the Addison county contingent, by the train to Syracuse, and later ordered to Charlotte. He was 21 years of age and is survived by his father and three sisters, Mrs. Rollin Manley of Middlebury, Mrs. Leon Slatyer of Salisbury and Mrs. Frank Penning of Rutland. Mr. Austin was born in Shoreham September 15, 1896, the son of Henry and Rosa (Donah) Austin. His body arrived here last Monday evening and was taken to the undertaking parlors of A. J. Blackmer and later to Shoreham.

Prof. E. A. Collins has returned from Boston, where he has been attending the 24th annual meeting of the Vermont State Teachers' association in New City for a few days. Mrs. Joseph Carroll and daughter have gone to Springfield, Mass., for a few days. Miss Fuller, county demonstrator, will address the educational department of the Women's club Friday afternoon at 8 o'clock in the city. The subject of town meetings will be studied. Robert Calhoun has gone to Newark, N. J., for a few days' visit to his mother. There will be a meeting of William P. Russell Circle, No. 5, Ladies of the Grand Lodge, at 8 o'clock in the city. The program will be prepared for the observance of Washington's birthday. Charles Shacklett, awarded the contract for the repairing of the schoolhouses in Addison county, in Cornwall, which was badly damaged by fire a few weeks ago, has completed his contract. At a meeting of the volunteers of 88th Home company held Tuesday evening at the library, the following officers were elected: Foreman, Mark Turner; secretary, E. J. Perkins.

A team of horses belonging to Mr. Cook which became frightened at a passing train at the freight station started on a wild run toward the village and when in front of the T. Ellis store a horse ran into a pole and was killed. The electric light pole was snapped off, dropping the wires to the street. The team and sleds were uninjured and also the driver, who clung to the reins.

The January just passed was, according to all records, and also to the best recollections of the oldest inhabitants, the coldest January in this part of Vermont. The mercury stood at 38 degrees below zero, but there was also a stretch of eight days when the mercury fell and went from 15 to 23 degrees below. On one day of the eight days the highest mark shown by the mercury was 13 degrees below zero. Early in the winter, there had been only a small amount of snow but still enough to make a little poor sleighing until December 16 when the snow fell and the sleighing was pretty good thereafter until January 15, when about two feet more fell and since then the country towns have been overwhelmed. On many days it has been hard work to get through to Middlebury and the country people have been disappointed in many respects, especially those having large flocks of cattle and sheep which have had to be driven many miles to water.

During the month, many cellars have been frozen up and thousands of dollars' worth of good produce rendered useless. The fire department reported today that hundreds of manufacturing plants are using their last day's emergency supply of coal without immediate prospect of obtaining more.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

Secretary Baker reiterated that the return of General March to head the staff had been under consideration for some time. Only the question of whether he could be well spared from the expeditionary forces has delayed official announcement of his appointment.

WILSON ASKS DICTATORSHIP

President Answers Congressional Agitation for War Cabinet by Transmitting to Senate Bill Giving Him Blanket Authority to Make Over Executive Branch of the Government for Period of War, to Re-Arrange Existing Agencies and Their Functions and to Establish New Ones as He Sees Fit—Senators Cross-Examine Baker.

Washington, Feb. 6.—Almost coincident with Secretary Baker's re-appearance before the Senate military committee today for cross-examination upon his recent statement of what America is doing in the war, the administration's answer to congressional agitation for a war cabinet and munitions director was given by introduction in the Senate of a bill transmitted by President Wilson which would give the President blanket authority to re-organize and co-ordinate all federal departments, bureaus, agencies, officials and personnel.

The new measure was taken to the Capitol by a personal representative of the President and introduced by Senator Overman, democrat, soon after Mr. Baker had suggested to the military committee that such legislation was necessary. It would empower the President to completely make over the executive branch of the government for the period of the war. After much discussion, the committee agreed that such legislation was necessary. It would empower the President to completely make over the executive branch of the government for the period of the war.

There has been no intimation so far of any specific action under the bill. The President has in mind, nor of how quickly the measure is to be passed, but it was referred to the judiciary committee, of which Senator Overman is ranking democratic member. One move which some officials say is contemplated is the appointment of a chairman of the war industries board—a post now vacant—and the investment of the office with powers similar to those proposed for the directors of munitions.

BAKER CROSS-EXAMINED. The military committee did not get far with its examination of Mr. Baker, although it was questioned during the hours, because he demurred at telling in open session the basis for his assertion that the prospects were not unpromising for enough ships to put a million and a half American soldiers in France this year. After much discussion and Mr. Baker's statement "wildly exaggerated and preposterous," insisted upon an answer to his questions, the committee agreed that the information should be given in secret session and Mr. Baker promised to prepare a statement for the purpose.

The examination then turned to other subjects. When the war secretary left the stand it was with the understanding that he would have experts at the department prepare detailed information which he was unable to give concerning various phases of his general statement. After this has been done he may be recalled for further questioning.

In the meantime the committee will proceed with its general war inquiry, examining (Continued on page two.)

ing to-morrow Major-General Wheeler, acting chief of staff, regarding production of chlorine, powder and other explosives.

AHEAD OF SCHEDULE, HE SAYS. Secretary Baker told the committee that more American troops had been gotten to France on January 11 than called for by the schedule. He explained that in his opinion it was not likely that he would not get entirely on schedule, but would go no further at the public hearing.

In explaining functions of the re-organized war department bureaus the secretary said that while Edward R. Stettin, the new surveyor general of supplies, lacks technical legal authority, he had broad powers, in securing production, with larger duties than England's munitions director.

Legislation is unnecessary to secure government co-ordination, he contended, other than that he suggested and which is proposed in the Overman bill.

OVERMAN BILL A SURPRISE. Introduction of the Overman bill came as a surprise and promises to change entirely the character of the controversy over war machinery reorganization. Administration spokesmen who, in view of the President's statement last week that he desired agitation over the military committee's bill to cease were prepared to check discussion as far as possible, now will join in reorganization debates as champions of the new measure, which will be vigorously fought by members who oppose granting the President further powers.

Sessions of the Senate and House to-day passed without revival of the controversy, but to-morrow addresses in both bodies are scheduled.

TEXT OF OVERMAN BILL. The text of the Overman bill follows: "A bill authorizing the President to co-ordinate and consolidate the executive bureaus, agencies, officers and for other purposes in the interest of economy and the more effective administration of the government. Section one: That for the national security and defense for the successful prosecution of the war for the sup-