

SINKING OF LACONIA MAY MEAN DECLARATION OF WAR BY U. S. ON GERMANY

Washington, Feb. 27.—The sinking of the Cunard liner Laconia by a German submarine was stated officially today to constitute a clear violation of American rights.

Conclusive official information at the state department shows that two American women lost their lives, that if four other Americans among the passengers and the fourteen among the crew were saved, that the vessel was sunk without warning in direct defiance of all the principles for which the United States has stood.

Consul Frost's Report.

Consul Frost's reports from the survivors landed at Queens town and Bantary show that the vessel was struck by a first torpedo without warning at 10.30 Sunday night fifteen miles from Fastnet, when the steamer was travelling at seventeen to eighteen knots on her voyage from New York to Liverpool. The engine was stopped, as the ship listed to starboard, wireless calls were flashed broadcast, and six large rockets were sent up. Thirteen boats with passengers and crew got away and scattered over two or three miles to prevent collisions in a high sea, rolling in twelve-foot swells.

Finally Rescue Came.

About twenty minutes after the first torpedo, the reports add, and while some of the boats were still nearby, a second torpedo was driven into the vessel, which sank three-quarters of an hour after the original attack. The small boats, with survivors pitched about during the long hours of the night until rescue came up. During this time the two American women, Mrs. Mary E. Wilson, Miss Elizabeth Hoy of Chicago, died of exposure, and were buried at sea. There were several other deaths, not of Americans.

No further facts are needed by this government, it was stated officially, and no inquiry of any sort is needed to establish the facts of the case. Officials are entirely clear in their belief that Germany has committed the act which President Wilson has said it was impossible for him to believe she would commit.

Canadian Woman.

Queens town, Feb. 27.—Mrs. A. W. Willis, a Canadian woman, in talking

today with the representative of the Associated Press concerning the disaster, said:

"The women on board behaved well. They were in the drawing room at the time of the explosion and immediately knew what had happened. They had had several boat drills, and were able to use their knowledge in that respect in entering the boats."

Even in the senate the administration spokesmen profess full confidence that a measure satisfactory to the president will be passed later in the week. Although most of the Republicans favor stronger action than has been proposed, it is believed they will vote for the committee bill when the roll call comes.

Some senators believe that the only source of doubt lies in the attitude of Senator La Follette, whose course they suggested the possibility of a filibuster. With adjournment only a few days off, the senator might easily talk the bill to death and force an extra session. The Wisconsin senator has not committed himself further than to say he did not think any action should be taken until the country was given a chance to see the proposed legislation.

After the cabinet meeting it was stated that the president had no present intention of addressing congress again; that he felt that the situation rested with congress. It is rather generally believed, however, that if delay continues until adjournment is at hand he will make a further move.

Fight in House.

The fight in the house committee centered upon the objection of some members to conferring broad authority upon the president and upon the efforts of others to have it stipulated that ships carrying munitions or contraband should not be furnished arms. After the first meeting Chairman Flood conferred with Postmaster General Burleson and learned that the president would object to any material change in the bill as presented. The state department also let it be known that an amendment exempting vessels carrying contraband would be very objectionable, both because it would be unwarrantable discrimination, and because it would open the way for endless controversies over what was contraband.

NEW IMPORTANT POST IN THE MEDICAL CORP

Special to The Standard.

Ottawa, Feb. 27.—"It is intended to create a new office in connection with the C.A.M.C., to be known as the director of medical services invalids," said Sir Edward Kemp tonight. "The officer who will be selected to fill this responsible post will have full responsibility in dealing with and administering the medical and surgical work in connection with returned soldiers, and his activities will be directed from Ottawa. It will be his duty to strengthen the personnel of the Canadian Army Medical Corps sufficiently to meet all the necessities of the case, by enlisting those experienced doctors who are willing to volunteer for this service."

"In the meantime, and until arrangements are completed, the work is being carried on by the Military Hospitals Commission, in conjunction with and under the advice of the medical officers of the C.A.M.C. Department of Militia and Defence.

"Upon the question should the Canadian Army Medical Corps take full charge of the medical work of the Military Hospitals Commission there has been more or less discussion. After giving the matter careful consideration for some time past, the department and the commission have thought it desirable, in order to better cope with the rapidly increasing requirements, that for several reasons the Department of Militia and Defence should assume full responsibility for the medical branch of the work, through the Canadian Army Medical Corps and adequate plans to this end are being worked out. The officers of the Canadian Army Medical Corps number approximately 1,800, of which about 300 are in Canada, and the balance are serving overseas. A large proportion of those in Canada are existing in carrying on the work of the Military Hospitals Commission.

"In addition to these, there are 400 civilian medical practitioners partially employed in military work in Canada, and over 400 Canadian doctors have proceeded overseas to join the Royal Army Medical Corps of the British army.

"One of the great accomplishments of the war which we as Canadians will always have reason to feel proud of, is the splendid part which has been played by Canadian doctors; not only because of the personal sacrifices which they have made in abandoning lucrative practices in Canada, but because of deeds of heroism, together with valuable services rendered generally in hospitals overseas, to our own soldiers as well as those of Britain and her allies, which services have been generously recognized by those benefited and the Canadian people."

TO RELIEVE CATARRHAL DEAFNESS AND HEAD NOISES

If you have Catarrhal Deafness or head noises go to your drugist and get 1 ounce of Parmit (double strength), and add to it 1-4 pint of hot water and 4 ounces of granulated sugar. Take 1 tablespoonful four times a day.

This will often bring quick relief from the distressing head noises. Clogged Eustachian tubes, open, breathing become easy and the mucus stop dropping into the throat. It is easy to prepare, costs little and is pleasant to take. Any one who has Catarrhal Deafness or head noises should give this prescription a trial.

Any drugist can supply you, or a bottle will be sent on receipt of 75c. postal note or money order. Address: International Laboratories, 74 St. Antoine St., Montreal, Canada.

EXPLAINING FREAKS OF THE COMPASS

Why Needle Doesn't Point True North, and How to Find which Way it Does Point.

Not infrequently it becomes necessary in the woods to know the directions of the compass with a considerable accuracy. One may have a distant camp from a lone hilltop or be striving to arrive at some other relatively small mark from a considerable distance; even a little lake is not so large a target to strike at a distance of several miles through dense woods.

In cases like these the little watch-fob compass that serves only to keep one from taking north for south will hardly do. One needs an instrument with a dial at least two inches in diameter, graduated to degrees of arc, and, next in importance, one must know how to use a compass.

This is a very simple matter, yet it is one about which mistakes are sometimes made that are as disastrous as they are unnecessary, simply because people will not take the trouble to understand the fundamentals of magnetism in general and of terrestrial magnetism in particular.

Most of us know that with the exception of a few places on the earth's surface the compass needle does not point to the true geographical north, but that our knowledge ends there. The writer conducted an illuminating little experiment not long ago. He asked three intelligent men, who are also keen sportsmen and accustomed to being off in the wilds, what was the magnetic variation of the compass needle (i.e., the number of degrees by which its north diverged from the true north meridian) near Eastport, Me., New York city, Cleveland, O., and Winnipeg.

Each of the three knew within a few degrees the correct variation for the region, but not one of the three could tell even the approximate variation for any of the other places or how to learn it without actually going there, and two of them did not know even that there was such a thing as easterly variation but supposed that the magnetic needle everywhere inclined to a greater or less number of degrees to the westward of the true north.

In such a case the thing to do is to get down to fundamentals. The easiest way to gain a clear conception of the action of a compass is to commence by thinking of the earth as being pierced by an immense straight bar magnet, one end of which is hidden a number of miles under the earth's surface in the region of Bothia Felix Land north of the west shore of Hudson Bay, the other located in old earth's innards somewhere beneath the Antarctic Continent.

Between these two magnetic poles there extend what the physicist terms "lines of force." These lines sweep out in immense curves that swing back around toward the lines springing from the other end of the terrestrial magnet. This phenomenon may be demonstrated by laying a sheet of stiff paper on top of a common bar magnet and sprinkling iron filings over it. The filings will immediately arrange themselves in just such lines.

Now each one of these minute filings has become temporarily polarized and is doing exactly what a compass needle seeks to do with relation to the great magnet of the earth, viz., to assume a direction parallel to the "line of force" passing through it.

It would be a simple matter from the data at our disposal to draw a map of any continent and plot upon it the direction of the "lines of force" of the earth.

As a matter of fact, however, we do not have such a map, and the Magnetic Survey has done even better. It has prepared a map upon which are plotted lines of equal variation, in the same manner as lines of equal rainfall are plotted upon maps put out by the Weather Bureau.

As a result of the work, these lines of equal variation show that the change in variation over the North American continent follows a regular sequence. At the eastern end of Nova Scotia the variation is some 20 degrees westerly. By the time one has travelled west New York it is reduced to 12 degrees.

A TRAINED FORCE OF 4,000,000 IS PLANNED

War Department Makes Public the Universal Service Proposal of Army General Staff.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The War Department made public today a synopsis of the Army General Staff universal service and training plan, which was also sent to Congress with estimates of cost and a detailed outline for a bill to carry it into effect. The essentials of the plan are:

One year of military training for all boys in their 19th year, except those exempted for specified reasons.

Exemption to be extended to those physically or mentally unfit and those who are the sole support of otherwise destitute dependents.

In round numbers the staff plan would supply a trained force of 4,000,000 men with one year of intensive military instruction. It is estimated by the War College that approximately 500,000 boys in their 19th year would be available for training annually. They would, under the plan, be liable to call to the colors until 30 years of age, passing after the first 11 months of their training, to the First Reserve for the next four years and one month, then into the Second Reserve and finally into the unorganized reserve until they reached the age of 45.

First Reserve of 1,500,000

The purpose of the bill is to constitute the First Reserve as a fully organized and equipped fighting force with a strength of 1,500,000, ready to respond instantly to a call to arms. The Second Reserve of equal size, but only partially equipped, would require some time to take the field. Eventually there would be 1,000,000 additional men in training ready to fill in gaps at the front.

In addition to these forces there would be a regular Army, composed of 24,000 officers and 285,888 enlisted men. Of these 97,000 would form the overseas forces and 29,000 the frontier forces, the remainder composing the permanent training personnel which could take care of the instruction of from 492,386 to 654,292 reserve recruits annually. If the proportion of available men for training was greater than the figure given, the number of recruits would have to be proportionately increased.

In case of war the reserves would be called out in their order, but further exemptions of a temporary character would be granted to those who had been placed by an immense straight bar magnet, one end of which is hidden a number of miles under the earth's surface in the region of Bothia Felix Land north of the west shore of Hudson Bay, the other located in old earth's innards somewhere beneath the Antarctic Continent.

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The line of no variation (where the needle points true north), passes through the middle Western States and on the Pacific coast we have arrived again at a variation of between 20 and 30 degrees—but this time easterly. There are, however, "freak" lines and "ships and logs that no one could ever have predicted or learned without actual experiment."

Except upon an extended expedition one is not likely, or course, to travel far enough to alter his variation very materially. For the average sportsman to carry a map such as the one just described would be almost as though a man contemplating a cruise on the coast of Maine were to purchase a sheet chart of the North Atlantic Ocean, but the point which we wish to make is that the variation of the compass needle does alter through some 50 degrees of arc, between the two shores of the continent and the sportsman going into what to him is new territory distant from his former hunting grounds will do well to know no time to assist him by inquiry or otherwise what the approximate variation for the new region is before ever he starts off into the bush.

Once one knows that the needle points a certain number of degrees to the east or west of north it is, of course, a very simple matter to apply the correction all the way round the entire 360 degrees of the compass.

with a machine engine has recovered. Botsford Black of Trout Brook was in the village recently.

Ernest Hetherington spent Sunday at his home here.

Mrs. Smith has been quite ill for some days. She is one of Harcourt's oldest residents.

Mrs. G. P. Ward visited Moncton on Monday.

Mrs. G. F. Ward was hostess at a very pleasant affair on Feb. 26th.

Mr. and Mrs. Lennox P. MacMichael will leave for their home in Field, N. B., by Ocean Limited on February 24th.

John Beattie spent the week-end at his home here.

George and Lee Carter were in the village recently.

Wellesley Beck spent Sunday at his home here.

Edward Call was in Harcourt one day this week.

Charles Agnew has returned from Salmon River.

Charles Bowser spent the week-end at his home here.

Miss Merin has been the guest of Mrs. J. N. Wathen at Richibucto this week, upon receiving the sad intelligence of the death of his brother, Mosley of that place.

Mrs. J. F. R. MacMichael and Master Frank of Newcastle, spent Thursday in Harcourt.

A number of the members of the Wallace Tennis Club met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. P. MacMichael on Thursday evening, Feb. 22nd, when Miss Minnie A. Buckley and Mrs. G. F. Ward presented an address and a handsome travelling bag. The evening was spent very pleasantly.

Miss Wilson is the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Omer C. Lutes.

Miss Stebbings was called to her home by the illness of her father.

To Entertain at Parks Home.

The members of the West Side Soldiers' Comfort Association met in the Carleton curling rink last night to discuss plans for a social evening to be held in the Parks Convalescent Home on Thursday evening.

The plans mapped out will include a presentation to the soldiers of cigarettes and socks. A fine programme of music will also be given, and refreshments served.

The plan stipulated that on its inception, volunteers would be accepted into the reserve although past the age specified for the universal training system. Those qualified would be appointed officers and noncommissioned officers of the First and Second Reserves, although eventually they would be compared with the men who had received their full year of training.

As to the future of existing State forces the department's synopsis says: "The plan contemplates a strictly Federal Army for National defense, but some provision must be made for the States until they have organized forces of their own."

Other powers to prevent domestic disorders. For this reason it is proposed to continue to the States for a period of five years the financial support provided by the so-called Dick bill as amended prior to the passage of the National Defense act.

The object of this suggestion would be to withdraw from the National Guard the Federal pay provision of the Defense act and restore the organization its old status for five years, at the expiration of which time each State would maintain such organization as it saw fit without aid from the Federal Government.

"As yet, I am not prepared," Sec. Baker wrote, "to say officially for the War Department that the need of the country can reasonably be said to be so great as an establishment; nor can we yet without further study and deliberation be confident that the means suggested are the most appropriate to the needs which it shall be determined wise to foresee."

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New Raincoats

Some people get along without Raincoats.

Some people never provide for the storms of life.

Here are good, fashionable, durable Raincoats at \$7.50, \$9, \$10, \$11.25, \$13.25, that will appeal to the intelligent man who believes in preparedness.

Gilmour's, 68 King St.

GERARD WARNED.

Corruta, Spain, Feb. 27, via Paris.—It became known today that on the day he left Berlin ex-Ambassador Gerard was warned personally by a German friend in high official position against sailing from Spain for the United States. The fact that the warning was given has not yet become known, except to those who are in Mr. Gerard's confidence, but among them there is a feeling of anxiety in regard to the American's sailing today on the Infanta Isabel. It is known that Mr. Gerard regards the warning as having been given in all seriousness.

Big Contract

What is said to be the biggest annual contract for programme service ever entered into in the city of Chicago has just been signed between Ascher Brothers, owners of the largest set chain of motion picture theatres in that city, and Vitaphone-V.L.S.E. distributors of Vitaphone productions. The contract calls for the complete Vitaphone service, including special features, Blue Ribbon programme features, comedies, etc.

HEAD STUFFED FROM CATARRH OR A GOLD

Eyes Cream Applied in Nostrils Opens Air Passages Right Up.

Instant relief—no waiting. Your clogged nostrils open right up; the air passages of your head clear and you can breathe freely. No more hacking, snuffling, blowing, headache, dryness. No struggling for breath at night; your cold or catarrh disappears. Get a small bottle of Ely's Cream Balm from your druggist now. Apply a little of this fragrant, antiseptic, healing cream in your nostrils. It penetrates through every air passage of the head, soothes the inflamed, swollen mucous membrane and relieves congestion instantly. It's just fine. Don't stay stuffed up with a cold or nasty catarrh.

ABSOLUTELY FIREPROOF. HOTEL CHELSEA.

West Twenty-third St. at 7th Ave. NEW YORK CITY. EUROPEAN PLAN. 500 ROOMS. 400 BATHS. Room, with adjoining bath, \$1.00 and \$1.50. Suites, parlor, bedroom and bath, \$3.00 and upward. Club Breakfast, 25c. up. Special Luncheon, 60c. up. Table d'Hôte Dinner, 75c. up. Cafe attached. To Reach Hotel Chelsea, From Pennsylvania Station, 7th Avenue car south to 23d Street; Grand Central, 4th Avenue car south to 23d Street; Lackawanna, Erie, Reading, Baltimore & Ohio, Jersey Central and Lehigh Valley R. R. Stations, take 23d Street cross town car east to Hotel Chelsea. Principal Steamship Piers, Foot West 23d Street, take 23d Street cross town car.

TUBES FOR STEAM BOILERS

Makers are without stocks and those in dealers hands are very few, but we are still able to fill orders quickly from our stocks in New Glasgow. It is more satisfactory to submit your exact specifications of requirements and have us quote.

I. MATHESON & CO. Ltd., Boiler Makers, New Glasgow, Nova Scotia.

REPORT V. SUGGESTION YEAR

N. B. Tourist Activities Bo Financial Sta couraging.

The annual meeting of the Tourist Association was held yesterday but of avoidable absence of cers was postponed to The report shows been accomplished the encouraging the comi this part of the count mer saw the largest any one year. They recommend a hotel and river stea tion in order that n tracted this way. The treasurer's sta year is as follows:

Advertisements and Provincial governm City grant,

Balance from 1915

Expenses

Printing booklets,

Advertising,

Secretarial work,

Carpenter work on

Office rent to May 1,

A. K. Munde's servi

Customs duty,

Sundry expenses,

Postage,

Balance on hand 191

PUT STOMACH FINE

Says Indigestion an Excess of H Acid

Undigested food stomach decays, or the same as food left says a noted authori that indigestion is pers-acidity, moulage, cess of hydro-chloric stomach which previ gestion and starts fo Thus everything eat stomach much like a can, forming acids which induce the fo balloon. Then we ch p misery in the ch gas, we eructate so heartburn, flatulenc nausea.

He tells us to lay a side and instead ge macy four ounces o take a tablespoonf water before brea while it is effecte more to continu While relief flows is important to nea remove the gas-ma the liver, stimulates thus promote a free gustive juices.

Jad Salts is in made from the ac mon base, combin sodium phosphate, salts is used by th for stomach trouble salts.

Bringi

DOCTOR HEARIN BAD- THE