

Is the Spark of Manhood Still Alive in the American Nation?
--CLEVELAND NEWS

If Submarines Sink Our Ships, Let Our Ships Sink Submarines
--BRIDGEPORT TELEGRAM

To Have Dallied Any Further Would Have Meant Cowardice
--LOUISVILLE HERALD

Destruction of Cunard Liner Laconia May Plunge United States Into War

Congress in Light of Sinking of Cunard Liner Laconia Consider's Wilson's Demand For Protection of American Vessels

By Courier Leased Wire.
Washington, Feb. 27.—Consideration of President Wilson's request for authority to protect American shipping on the high seas from German submarines began in Congress today with administration leaders handicapped by the activities of a small group of pacifists in their own ranks and more by the opposition of Republicans to giving the executive blanket powers on the eve of adjournment.

Meetings of the committees of foreign affairs had been called early in the day to discuss drafts of a bill which would do just what the President asked in his address yesterday—empower him to furnish guns and gunners to American ships and to employ such "other instrumentalities" as he may think necessary, and provide for a bond issue of \$100,000,000 to meet the expense. Every effort will be made by the Democratic leaders to reach an agreement with the Republicans on a measure to be brought into both houses, although such comments as have been heard from members of the minority, indicate that this will be a difficult task.

The fight will probably begin in the House where the bill presented last night by Chairman Flood of the foreign affairs committee is expected to be taken up late today or tomorrow under a special rule giving it right of way over other legislation and limiting debate. Chief objection of the Republicans is the phrase "other instrumentalities." Several of the leaders express willingness to vote for any specific authority sought by the President, but say they do not want to sign a "blank check."

Another filibuster in the Senate is threatened, and the Democrats fear it, although the president is represented as fully confident that the authority will be granted and that there will be no extra session.

Laconia Case
Official details of the sinking of the big Cunard liner, Laconia, in which there were twenty-seven Americans, are awaited here with grave interest. The news of the disaster reached Washington yesterday just as the President reached the capitol to deliver his address and some were inclined to think that this might prove to be the overt act to drive the United States to war. No official information had been received to confirm press despatches reporting that two American women among the Laconia's passengers lost their lives.

War Insurance
In addition to empowering the president to arm merchant ships and to employ "other instrumentalities" and providing \$100,000,000 by a bond issue, the bill would permit the president to transfer any part of that sum to the federal bureau of war risks insurance to be used in paying losses of American ships above \$5,000,000. Total payments are limited to that amount now by the size of the entire fund. The proposed increase would be a precaution against the possibility that if a number of ships carrying federal insurance were sunk in the war zone, the government might not be able to redeem their loss.

Weather Bulletin
Toronto, Feb. 27.
The disturbance which was over the Great Lakes yesterday is now moving across the Maritime provinces with diminishing intensity. Snow or rain has occurred in nearly all localities from Ontario eastward. The temperature has risen a little in the western provinces.

Forecast
Fine today. Wednesday—Fair, and moderately cold.

OVERT ACT IS CONSTITUTED BY THE SINKING OF THE LACONIA

Death of Americans of Board Liner Torpedoed Without Warning is a Parallel in Principle to the Case of the Lusitania—Should Hasten Action by Congress to Comply With Wilson's Demands

By Courier Leased Wire
Washington, Feb. 27.—Official despatches confirming reports of the death of Americans on the Laconia, torpedoed without warning, establish the case as "the overt act."
The situation, however, was unchanged from where the President left it yesterday when he asked Congress for authority to deal with the submarine peril.

Should Hasten Action
President Wilson and State department officials took the position that no further step would be taken until Congress has had an opportunity to act on the President's request.
The view prevailed that the sinking of the Laconia should hasten action by Congress. The first step of the government, it is indicated, will be to furnish American ships with guns and gunners for defensive purposes and insure them in the government war risk bureau.

Another Lusitania
On the basis of the official reports the sinking of the Laconia is regarded as another Lusitania case in principle, even though fewer lives were lost.
President Wilson, it was said to-day, 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.

STARS AND STRIPES NOT TO BE BLUFFED OFF HIGH SEAS BY HUNS

American Press is Practically Unanimous That Arming of U. S. Ships is Necessary to the Protection of the Nation's Honor; One Step Nearer War, Says Baltimore Sun

By Courier Leased Wire.
New York, Feb. 27.—Striking comments from editorials in newspapers in all parts of the country on President Wilson's address follow:
Sentimental Middle
New York Sun: The mystical address delivered to the Sixty-fourth Congress yesterday throws no light on the President's plans for the protection of American commerce or for the preservation of the nation's honor, now attacked, insulted and outraged by Germany's acts on the high seas. It's the President's address muddle of post-pone-ments and sentimentalities merely affords additional reason why at this time no extraordinary powers should be transferred in blank.

Too Mild
The New York Herald: There was nothing dramatic, nothing in the nature of an effort to build up a case, nothing of an appeal to passion, neither bombast nor exaggeration in the president's presentation of the facts which make it imperative that the nation's policy henceforth must be one of armed neutrality. If it fell short in any respect, it was in being too mild a picture of menace clearly contained in the Prussian frightfulness with its total disregard of neutral and American rights.

Wants More Said
Buffalo Express: We wish the President had come out stronger on the question of arms and had said less about neutrality and keeping out of the war.
Necessity Rules
Chicago Herald: The President does not now want war, Congress does not want war; the nation does not want war. But in the life of every people there comes moments when the desire for peace must be subordinated to pitiless necessity.
Asks Authority
Boston Post: The President is wise in asking for authorization to take steps which he may deem necessary, even if he has no intent to put them into immediate effect. The responsibility is more than a one man affair, when he has the present constitutional right to take it or not.
No Policy
Boston Advertiser: Mr. Wilson at his worst. He has no policy.
No Delar
Philadelphia Inquirer: No one will quarrel with the President over his peace attitude. He does not contemplate war, and no right thinking person does. But arming American ships for defensive purposes and conveying those ships through the danger zone is no act of war. It is our law-given right and in failing to do so we abandon our rights. Every hour of delay is an hour lost to independence and liberty.
Must Defend Rights
It is impossible to believe that partisanship can go so far as to oppose or deny this request. The President makes it plain that he is trying to avoid war. When American ships, protected by the American Government go out upon seas, the decision as to war or peace will rest with Germany. The United States cannot fail to defend and maintain its rights.
Step Nearer War
Baltimore Sun: Breaking off relations with Germany brought us one step nearer to war. "Armed neutrality" will doubtless bring us one more step nearer.
Louisville Herald: To have dallied further would have been cowardice.
Pittsburgh Gazette-Times: Adequate preparation at the present time must include the presence of Congress in Washington.
Bridgeport, Conn., Telegram: If our ships are to be sunk by submarines on sight, let them sink submarines on sight.
Cleveland News: Continued on page four

Ten American Lives Lost on Torpedoed Cunard Liner Laconia—Two Women—Will U. S. Hesitate in Face of This Affront?

By Courier Leased Wire.
London, Feb. 27.—United States Consul Frost, at Queenstown, has telegraphed the American embassy here that Mrs. Hoy and her daughter died of exposure, and that their bodies were buried at sea.
Eight American negroes, members of the crew of the Laconia, die of exposure, according to a Central News despatch from Queenstown.
Cedric P. Ivat, a theatrical manager, who was a passenger on the Laconia, died of exposure. Mr. Ivat was a resident of London.
THIRTEEN LOST
London, Feb. 27.—A later telegram from Consul Frost gave the total number of persons landed from the Laconia as 281, out of 294 on board. Of the 13 lost, five were drowned and eight died from exposure and were buried at sea. Six persons are in hospitals at Queenstown, the telegram said. Their condition is not serious.

Women Lost Lives
New York, Feb. 27.—Two American women, Mrs. Marie Hoy and her daughter, Miss Elizabeth Hoy, both of Chicago, lost their lives, according to press despatches from Queenstown, when the Cunard liner Laconia was sunk on Sunday night by a German submarine. In confirmation from the Liverpool office received here yesterday reported one casualty as yet unidentified. The American consul at Queenstown cabled to the state department at Washington that one person aboard the Laconia was known to be dead, and that some were missing. The press despatch said that Miss and Mrs. Hoy were drowned by the swamping of a boat.
News that survivors had been landed at Queenstown and Bantry led officials of the line here to expect that details would come during the day.
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Cedric is Safe
By Courier Leased Wire.
New York, Feb. 27.—The White Star liner Cedric, which left New York on Feb. 12, arrived safely at Liverpool last Thursday, according to announcement by the agents here. The Cedric had over 6,000 bags of mail originally intended for the St. Louis whose sailing was postponed indefinitely. There were no passengers aboard.

Struck Twice
London, Feb. 27.—A Queenstown despatch to The Chronicle says that the Laconia was torpedoed in comparatively calm weather. The first torpedo struck near the stern, and when the vessel was struck a second time, she listed quickly to starboard. The boats got away with considerable difficulty, but there was no panic among the passengers or crew. The smallness of the loss of life was due to the excellent discipline of the passengers.
A steamer brought 267 survivors to Queenstown early on Tuesday who were rescued from eight boats. The passengers' version of the number lost differ. Some say 25 were drowned, and others not more than 10. Among those known to be lost are Mrs. and Miss Hoy, Americans.

In a Rear End Collision on Pennsylvania Road
By Courier Leased wire.
Altoona, Pa., Feb. 27.—Eighteen persons, seventeen passengers and a negro porter, were killed in a rear end collision between an express train and a freight on the Pennsylvania railroad at Mount Union station, 43 miles east of this city, early today. The accident occurred shortly after midnight and the bodies were so badly mangled that six hours later only nine had been identified.
Later
At noon to-day Pennsylvania railroad officials said the list of killed stood at twenty, of whom 17 have been identified. The bodies of a man and two women have not been identified.
Following is a list of the identified dead:
Chester A. Minds, 25 years, Ramey, Pa.
Mrs. Doris Miles, 28 years, his wife.
Chester A. Minds, Jr., their infant son, two weeks old.
Miss Maud Minds, 28, Conifer, N. Y., sister of Mr. Minds.
Mr. A. Caslich, Conifer, N. Y., a brother-in-law of Mrs. Minds.
Mrs. A. F. Delling, Cleveland, Ohio, sister of Mrs. Minds.
Richard Owen, 7.
Dorothy Owen, 6.
Jean Owen, 4, nephew and niece of Mr. Minds.
Charles Levine, New York.
P. B. Pollard, New York.
Milton Hynes, New York.
J. S. Kelly, Brooklyn, Wis.
H. A. Roofler, Prattville, Wis.
L. W. Montgomery, salesman, Bloomington, Ills.

Boats Fired On
"The submarine returned after we had been in the boats and fired another torpedo, which put out the lights and was followed by a terrific explosion, and the ship must have 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 the following morning when we were picked up."
Discipline Good
Dr. Hawke gave the highest praise to the behaviour of the women and children, and said that the captain and crew were marvellous. It appears that two boats reached Bantry with 22 people, eight of the occupants having died from exposure. The bodies of the eight persons who died were consigned to the deep.

LONGBOAT IN LIMELIGHT
By Courier Leased Wire.
Toronto, Feb. 28.—According to advices received here today, Tom Longboat ran third to Jamieson, of Hamilton and Keeper of Winnipeg, in a five mile race in England. Joe Atwood of Hamilton, was a winner over several old country soldiers in a boxing tourney.
FIRST REHEARSAL
Don't forget the first rehearsal of the Brantford Choral Society, on Thursday, in Willard Hall.

Twelve Missing
By Courier Leased Wire.
The number of dead or missing was given by the Cunard Company this afternoon as twelve, made up as follows:
Passengers—Three dead, three missing.
Crew—six missing.
Six others are in hospitals.

CANADIANS ON LACONIA
Six Passengers From Western Part of Dominion Are Registered
By Courier Leased Wire.
Winnipeg, Feb. 27.—Six Western Canadian passengers were aboard the Cunard liner Laconia, according to the records at the Winnipeg office of the Cunard line. They are:
Frank Eveson, Winnipeg; Mrs. Gore-Langton and Mrs. J. Max Reid, of Victoria, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Alban Wright and their one-year-old son of Vancouver; Mrs. Robert Cowie and her three young children, of East Kildonan, Man., were also passengers on the Laconia having transferred to that vessel from the Dutch liner Ryndam. Mrs. Cowie's husband, Rev. Robert Cowie, left Winnipeg some time ago as captain to one of the overseas battalions.

FINLAND HAS ARRIVED SAFE
American Passenger Vessel Reaches New York Thru Danger Zone
By Courier Leased Wire.
New York, Feb. 27.—The steamship Finland of the American line, which sailed from Liverpool on February 19, with 166 passengers, reported by wireless to her owners here to-day that she would reach the Ambrose channel lighthouse a few hours after midnight to-night, and would dock about 8 a.m. to-morrow.
The Finland was the third American line passenger vessel to leave England after Germany's proclamation of unrestricted submarine warfare. The others were the New York, and the Philadelphia. With the arrival of the Finland, this line's entire fleet will be tied in New York for the first time since the Spanish-American war.

Weather Bulletin
Toronto, Feb. 27.
The disturbance which was over the Great Lakes yesterday is now moving across the Maritime provinces with diminishing intensity. Snow or rain has occurred in nearly all localities from Ontario eastward. The temperature has risen a little in the western provinces.

BRANTFORD CHORAL SOCIETY.
Join the Brantford Choral Society now. Judas Maccabaeus first work. Willard Hall, Thursday evening.



Lloyd George in three characteristic poses as he delivered his analysis of the war in the British House of Commons.

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