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TWELVE PAGES—ONE CENT

Hundred or More Drowned Or Trampled To Death In Excursion Disaster

Steamer Hits Obstruction in Illinois River and Sinks  
PANIC AMONG 200 DANGERS  
Vessel Backs Away After Blow and Then Sinks With Hurricane Deck Remaining Above Water—Twenty Bodies Recovered When Task Given Up Till Daylight



THE DELAYED TRAVELER  
Frau Germania:—'Yet another delay! Are we never going to get there?'

Peoria, Ill., July 6.—Approximately 150 people were drowned or trampled to death last midnight when the excursion steamer Columbia, carrying more than 600 people, struck an obstruction in the Illinois River and sank.

The excursion party started from Peoria, fifteen miles distant from river, early in the evening, spent several hours at an amusement park near this city and when the return trip to Peoria was about half completed, the steamer ran into the obstruction on the Peoria shore in the fog, smashing a big hole in her bow. The pilot signalled full speed astern. As soon as the vessel pulled clear of the log or rock, she began to settle and within a few minutes sank, carrying many persons down.

Soon after the steamer struck, a panic occurred among the passengers, and many men, women and children jumped into the water without securing life preservers. Those who could swim reached shore, which was only a few feet away. The second deck of the boat, where the dance hall is located, was crowded when the crash came, and it was here that many were crushed to death in the panic.

Big signs, firming up the steamer, estimated that between 150 and 200 persons were on the dance floor when the boat struck, and he believed many of those perished. When the boat settled on the bottom, the water reached the staterooms immediately below the pilot house on the listed side. The pilot, when he found his boat was sinking, sent distress signals, and within a short time boats from various directions came to the rescue and began to pick up those struggling in the water, but on account of the darkness their efforts were badly hampered.

The police of Peoria early today estimated the number of dead at 150, but Captain H. F. Mehl of the steamer said he believed the number of dead was not more than 100.

Search for the bodies was abandoned at 4 o'clock this morning until daylight came. Approximately twenty bodies had been recovered.

Hospital Ship Deliberately Sunk On Orders From Berlin

London, July 6.—(Reuter's Ottawa Agency)—Reuter's Limited is authoritatively informed that the outrage on the hospital ship Lindover Castle, which is the fourth hospital ship torpedoed this year, was deliberate and premeditated, following upon orders given by the submarine commander by the superior German authorities, which alleged the presence of eight flying officers. The allegation is foundationless and could easily have been tested by the right of man authorities, which alleged the presence of eight flying officers. The allegation is foundationless and could easily have been tested by the right of man authorities, which alleged the presence of eight flying officers.

GROH LEADS

Replaces Merkle as First Place Bateman  
Daubert Tie For Second Place in National League—Ty Cobb Sets a Swift Pace and is Now Second Among Americans

Chicago, July 6.—Heinie Groh of Cincinnati is the new batting leader of the National League, depositing Fred Merkle of Chicago. Averages released today give Groh a mark of .850, with Merkle trailing a point behind. Jake Daubert, Brooklyn veteran, also is batting .840.

Max Carry, of Pittsburgh, who is leading the base stealers, brought his total up to thirty-four. Howah of Cincinnati, and O'Mera, of Brooklyn, are on even terms for honors in sacrifice hitting, with sixteen each. Wickland, of Boston, and Cruise of St. Louis are tied in home run hitting with five. Chicago leads the clubs in batting with an average of .373, while the New York Giants, their closest rivals, are on top in fielding with .971.

TODAY'S NEWS FROM THE WEST FRONT

London, July 6.—The German artillery was active last night in the region between Villers-Bretonneux and the Ancre, northeast of Amiens, where the Australians have captured valuable ground.

Father and Son Who Are Soldier Pals

Sergt. Major William Kirkpatrick and Corp. Wallace

Rothsay Veteran's Three Day Hunt on Horseback for His Boy "Over There," Then a Jaunt to "Blighy"

Herewith is printed a picture of father and son who are fighting shoulder to shoulder for the Union Jack in France. They have been over there two and three years respectively and write home most cheerfully of their soldier work and the day when the Huns receive their inevitable quietus.

NO INCREASE IN WHEAT PRICE CONTEMPLATED

Winnipeg, July 5.—A statement which was published yesterday, credited to A. B. Phipps, of the Western Canada Food Board, to the effect that the price of Canadian wheat was to be raised to 22 1/2 in conjunction with the new price set in the United States was absolutely denied by Mr. Magill, chairman of the Board of Grain Supervisors this afternoon.

HE SAVED FOUR, LOST OWN LIFE

W. A. James, Y. M. C. A. Secretary, and Three Other Drowned Near Ignace

ARE IN FAVOR OF THE TUNNEL

Strong Support for Connecting Link Between England and France

DECIDED INCREASE IN INLAND REVENUE

Nearly 50 Per Cent Greater in June Than Year Ago—War Tax Helps Much

WEATHER ADDS TO DISTRESS OF AUSTRIANS

Zurich, July 6.—Vienna newspapers of Wednesday report violent rains and abnormally low temperatures in every part of Austria-Hungary. There also were severe snow storms and frost in Bosnia, Herzegovina and Dalmatia. The snowfall continued for nine hours and greatly damaged the crops.

Fateful Hour of War Near

Bonar Law Sees Much In Next Three Months

GERMANY CAN HAVE PEACE AT ONCE BUT ON THE WILSON TERMS

Lloyd George Reviews American Army in France—Says Kaiser Realizes Now That Defeat is Sure

London, July 6.—The coming German blow will not be less dangerous because of the time employed in preparation for it, but it is comforting to know that the men responsible for the command of the allied armies are confident of the result, said A. Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, last night at a dinner to the delegates of the parliamentary commercial conference.

NO TRAINS FOR SUMMER PICNICS

Sunday Schools Will Have to Make Special Plans if Transported by Rail—Auto and Basing Outings

By order of the Railway Commission and through a general understanding between various roads operating out of St. John, and in fact nearly all over Canada, it is assumed, Sunday school picnics by train routes are taboo this year.

PTE. HICKMAN, WHO WAS ON HOSPITAL SHIP, WAS SAVED

Private George R. Hickman of this city, who was on the hospital ship, the Lindover Castle, is among the survivors. Official advice has been received from Ottawa by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Hickman of 2 River street, that he has been landed safely in England.

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