

## MARINE DISASTER COSTS 300 LIVES

### Italian Emigrant Ship Strikes a Reef.

### SINKS OFF SPANISH COAST

### Men With Knives Fight for the Possession of Boats.

### BRUTE STRENGTH RULES

### Officers Powerless to Save Women and Children—Fishing Vessels

### Rescue Hundreds—Captain Kills Himself.

### CARTAGENA, Spain, Aug. 5.—A terrible marine disaster occurred last evening off Cape Palos. The Italian steamship *Sirio*, from Genoa for Barcelona, Cadix, Montevideo and Buenos Ayres with about 800 persons on board, was wrecked off Hormigas Island. Three hundred immigrants, most of them Italians and Spaniards, were drowned. The captain of the steamer committed suicide.

### The bishop of Sao Pedro, Brazil, also was lost, and another bishop was for a time among the missing. The remainder of the passengers and the officers and crew not saved in the ship's boats or rescued by means of boats sent to them from the shore. A number of fishermen who made attempts at rescue were drowned.

### Those rescued from the vessel are now at Cape Palos, in a pitiable condition, being without food or clothing.

### Vessel Sinks Stern First.

### The *Sirio* struck a reef of rocks known as Bajos Hormigas, and sank soon afterwards, stern first. Hormigas Island lies about two and a half miles to the eastward of Cape Palos.

### Before he committed suicide, the captain declared the steamer had 645 passengers on board and that her crew numbered 127 men. The *Sirio* had 570 passengers when leaving Genoa, but additional Spanish passengers were taken on board at Barcelona, where the vessel touched a few hours before the disaster.

### The disaster occurred at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The steamer was threading a difficult passage through the Hormigas group, where the Bajos Hormigas Reef is a continual menace to navigation. The vessel began to settle rapidly, immediately after she had struck, and a terrible scene of confusion and panic ensued on the vessel.

### Most of Officers Saved.

### The fishermen along the coast sought to render every assistance, and sent out boats which brought many of the survivors ashore. Most of the officers and crew of the *Sirio* are among the saved.

### The survivors have gone into camp on the main square of the town at Palos. Harrowing scenes are enacted as the stricken families anxiously seek beloved members among the rescued. A mother who lost her three children went insane. The doctor of the *Sirio* gave up his wife and child as lost, but they were finally brought in by one of the rescuing boats, and the scene as this family was reunited was most affecting. One of the boats sent out by the fishermen brought in 24 passengers.

### Deplorable Plight of Survivors.

### The condition of the survivors is most deplorable. They have lost everything and are without money, food or clothing. The maritime authorities of Cartagena have dispatched a tug to the scene carrying relief supplies. The buildings of a circus and a porthouse are being used as temporary quarters for the survivors.

### The latest reports from the cape say that three boats have just brought in a number of rescued.

### An additional sadness is lent to the catastrophe by the fact that a number of fishermen who were conducting rescue operations were drowned in consequence of the overturning of a boat. The captain of the *Sirio*, just before he committed suicide, attributed the wreck to his own imprudence.

### Full Extent Unknown.

### The *Sirio*, owned by the Navigazione Italiana, left Genoa August 2. All the ship's books were lost. It is impossible at present to ascertain the full extent of the disaster. Nine-tenths of the passengers were Italians, and the remainder Spaniards. All the survivors have been landed at Cape Palos. The inhabitants provided them with clothing and nourishment. Thirty were landed at Hormigas Island, about one mile from the tragedy. Fishermen brought in the first news of the foundering of the *Sirio*, and it created consternation here. Boatloads of cast shipwrecked passengers and crew began reaching shore shortly after the news became known.

### Fearful Nature of Calamity.

### Passengers confirm the fearful nature of the calamity. From the broken narratives of the terror-stricken survivors it would appear that it was the intention of the captain, after leaving Barcelona, to call at Cadix before proceeding to Brazil. The captain, in order to shorten the route and gain time, proposed to pass as close as possible to the dangerous rocky ledges surrounding the Hormigas Islands. Without any warning and while running at full speed, the *Sirio* crashed upon the rocks with terrific force.

### A few minutes after the vessel sank beneath the waves. The passengers were in a state of horror and panic. Crowds rushed forward, pushing each other and fighting for places in the bow of the boat. Many fell and were trampled to death. Dozens of men and women threw themselves into the sea.

### A young mother who was carrying her baby was advised to abandon her child and try to save herself alone. This she refused to do, declaring that she preferred that they die together. Both eventually were picked up alive from the water.

### In the midst of this panic the captain and officers of the boat endeavored to restrain the people and restore a semblance of order and organize a system of life-saving. This was not accomplished, for the vessel suddenly either broke in half or glided off the rocks and foundered in deep water. The captain purposely sank with his ship.

### Dies Blessing Passengers.

### The archbishop of Sao Pedro went down with the vessel while blessing the drowning passengers. The other bishop, who was at first supposed to have been drowned, has since been reported safe. A steamer engaged in rescue work has reached port. She has on board the bodies of several infants.

### The Austrian Consul at Rio de Janeiro was saved, but lost a large amount of money when the vessel went down. The government has issued instructions that every possible measure for the relief of the stricken people shall be taken.

### A fleet of trawlers providentially happened to be only about 100 yards away when the *Sirio* struck. Notwithstanding the great danger, the skippers of these boats came at once to the rescue. The survivors of the *Sirio* praise the conduct of the captains of the trawlers Joven Miguel and Vicenta Lilecano. The former steamed close to the side of the sinking ship and took off 300 passengers.

### The crew of this trawler endeavored to shear off, fearing that their boat would be sunk, whereupon the captain drew his revolver, leveled it at his men and shouted: "As long as it is possible to take off another passenger you will not move."

### The deck of the Joven Miguel became so crowded with the terror-stricken survivors that the captain ordered the vessel to be towed away from the wreck. The captain of the Joven Miguel saved 200 persons, and an old fisherman, sailing a dinghy, saved 12. A roll-call taken on shore shows that 330 persons from the *Sirio* are missing, but it is believed that a few more are still on board French and German steamers which continued their voyage after the *Sirio* sank.

### Cabin Passengers Perish.

### It is said a large number of the first and second-cabin passengers were drowned, their cabins being the first to go under water.

### Many heartrending incidents are related. Six children clambered into the shrouds of the *Sirio* while their mothers were taken off by one of the trawlers. The mother and child were rescued, but the child was unable to swim and was rescued by a fisherman.

### The mothers, frantic with despair, watched their children as they were engulfed. The children uttered piercing shrieks as they were drawn under the waves. It was with difficulty that the women were restrained from jumping into the sea.

### Consul Shows Heroism.

### A monk among the passengers was drowned while kneeling on deck. The Austrian Consul at Rio de Janeiro jumped into the sea wearing a lifebelt. He then noticed a woman and child near him on the point of going down. He gave up his belt to them and tried to swim ashore. He was almost exhausted when rescued by a fishing vessel.

### The body of a child brought ashore had around its neck a picture of the Madonna, and a young Italian who was drowned had clasped his arms around his fiancée. Among the drowned is the prior of the Benedictine order, with headquarters in London.

### Stokers Are All Lost.

### All the stokers went down with the ship. They were unable to reach the deck in time to save themselves. Among the survivors at Cape Palos are many mothers who weep and wring their hands for lost children, while there are also a number of children who are unable to find their parents. Those have been admitted to the city foundling asylum.

### A large number of the surviving immigrants declare they will go no further. They desire to return home and insist on traveling by land.

### FIGHT WAY WITH KNIVES

### Italian Emigrants Display Unspeaking Brutality in Hour of Peril.

### LONDON, Aug. 5.—The Madrid correspondent of the Daily Telegraph describes the *Sirio* disaster as one of the worst on record. The Italian emigrants, with knives in their hands, and without regard for women or children, fought with the greatest brutality for the possession of lifebuoys and boats. Many were killed or wounded including several members of the crew who were attacked by the emigrants.

### When the captain saw the vessel was lost and that the emigrants had captured the boat he committed suicide by shooting with a revolver. The other officers then lost their heads and there was no body to direct the work of rescue.

### Eye witnesses describe the awful brutality on board. For half an hour the emigrants were masters of the situation. They completely overcame the crew by sheer force of numbers and in the spite of the officers who tried to save the women and children first.

### One report states even, the correspondent continues, that a group of emigrants approached one of the ship's boats which already was full and which was about to be launched, and dislodged the people, killing several with their knives. Just as they were about to occupy the boat themselves another body of armed emigrants came up and a fierce fight for the possession of the boat ensued. Many of the survivors brought ashore were seriously wounded, and a number sustained fractured limbs. Some of the injured subsequently died.

### It is reported that the celebrated Spaniard, who was on board, was killed.

## WILD RIDE OF A GIRL AERONAUT

### Swept Through Tops of Tall Pines by Unmanageable Balloon.

### LIFE SAVED BY MIRACLE

### Miss Laura Van Valkenburgh, Amateur Balloonist, Has Thrilling Experience at Spokane—Big Crowd Watches Flight.

### SPOKANE, Wash., Aug. 5.—(Special.)—Whisked at terrific speed through the tops of the tall trees in Natarium Park, Laura Van Valkenburgh, of Hilliard, Wash., assistant to Professor William J. Goda, a local aeronaut, narrowly escaped death in attempting a balloon ascension this afternoon.

### The ropes holding the airship captive broke the young woman was hurled headlong into the branches of the trees, where she saved her life by clutching the limbs. The daring young amateur aeronaut is believed to have sustained serious if not fatal internal injuries.

### The fact that Miss Van Valkenburgh was not literally torn limb from limb in her flight through the pine forest was the most remarkable feature of her unsuccessful ascent, which was witnessed by more than 10,000 persons.

### A strong wind was blowing from the northeast and the big gas-inflated bag, 75 feet from the mouth of which Miss Van Valkenburgh swung like a trapeze, rose majestically until the tops of the trees were reached. Then, caught by an air current, the bag dipped, plunging the girl into the tree tops.

### Balloon Lodges in Trees.

### Here the balloon found a momentary anchorage until it was caught in an upper strata of the atmosphere and swept off toward the southwest like a monster hawk. The woman on the trapeze did not seem to lose her nerve for an instant, but it seemed certain to the thousands below that she would be dashed to pieces.

### Again the balloon rose and dipped. Miss Van Valkenburgh made an attempt to cut the rope so she could escape by making a parachute jump but the gas bag and the trapeze were so hopelessly entangled that she was unable to do so. Again the inflated bag started skyward and then with a veering wind it started due south and tore along at high speed.

### After covering about a quarter of a mile the trapeze ropes parted and the girl on the trapeze was plunged into the trees. The crowd saw her fall and rushed to the scene, but Miss Van Valkenburgh did not strike ground. Instead she hung suspended from a limb 75 feet from the earth, from which position she was rescued by Professor Goda and a dozen volunteers. Goda clambered up the tree like a squirrel or held the woman until H. Kanson and J. H. Monroe brought a rope with which she was lowered to the ground.

### Crowd Cheers Heroine.

### When the ground was reached cheer after cheer went up for the plucky young woman and her rescuers and she was carried on the shoulders of half a dozen men to her dressing tent. When last seen the balloon was headed for the city, but up to 10 o'clock tonight it had not been captured.

### HUNGER PROMPTS CRIME

### HALF-FAMISHED YOUTH STABS NEW YORK SALESMAN.

### Plunges Knife Into Stranger's Back and Attempts to Rob Him. Tells Pathetic Story.

### NEW YORK, Aug. 5.—Apparently crazed from hunger, John Carle, a homeless youth, crept up behind William C. Pearson, a traveling salesman, who was walking through West Twenty-third street today, and plunged a long knife into his back. As Pearson fell Carle sprang upon him and began rifling his pockets, but fled when a dozen passersby rushed at him. He was captured by a policeman, to whom he surrendered the knife, saying:

### "Here's what's left of it."

### The blade was broken in half, three inches having been left in Pearson's back. Pearson was probably mortally wounded.

### When taken to court Carle, much emaciated and so weak that he was hardly able to stand, said that he had made up his mind to kill someone and rob him. I was hungry. I had eaten nothing since Friday night. Yesterday I stole a fruitcake from a pushcart in Park Row and a few minutes before this man came along I made up my mind to kill the first man who passed. This man was the first I went for."

### Carle was committed to Bellevue Hospital for mental examination.

### TO DUPLEX ALASKA CABLE

### Experiments Toward Doubling Capacity of Wire Complete Success.

### WASHINGTON, Aug. 5.—The Signal Corps headquarters in this city has been advised that the cable duplexing apparatus sent to Seattle for use on the Alaskan cable has been a complete success. As soon as the cable-ship *Burnside* completes its work of laying cables between the forts defending the entrance to Puget

## EVENTS OF COMING WEEK

### Yacht Races at Cowes.

### One of the main events of the sporting world in the coming week will be the Cowes regatta, which opens at Cowes, England, on Tuesday under the auspices of the British Royal Yacht Squadron. Yachts belonging to the squadron will compete in a handicap over the Queen's course for King Edward's cup. King Alfonso and Queen Victoria of Spain, who arrived at Cowes August 1 on the Spanish royal yacht *Alfonso*, escorted by the armored cruiser *Princesa de Asturias*, will witness the contests during the week.

### Racing for Emperor William's cup for yachts of 40 tons or over and for the challenge cup offered by the Countess of Dudley for 32-linear racing class are the principal events on Wednesday.

### Thursday will witness the contest for town prizes for yachts of 100 tons and over for the cup presented by Lady Brassey.

### In addition to a race for Mrs. Almerich Paget's cup on Friday, the last day of the regatta, an event has been provided for schooner racing of 10 tons or over, for prizes offered by the squadron.

### Aquatic Sports in America.

### On this side of the water, too, aquatic sports will have a large space in the events of the week. On Wednesday the largest and finest yachts of the big fleet of pleasure and racing craft from Glen Cove to Newport, R. I., will race over the King's cup over a course off Newport. This race is open only to sloops of less than 50 feet in length and schooners not less than 40 feet in length.

### At Worcester on Friday and Saturday the oarsmen of the N. A. A. O. will compete in the annual regatta of that organization.

### Harness Races at Buffalo.

### The grand circuit light harness meet will begin at Buffalo on Monday and the runners who have been at the big tracks around New York since early spring will start the racing season at Saratoga the same day.

### The golfing event of the week will be the Metropolitan Golf Association open championship in New York on Friday.

### Big Conventions to Be Held.

### An unusually large number of National and international conventions will be held in various sections of the country, among them the International Brotherhood of Teamsters at Chicago, the National United States Statesmen's War Veterans at Albany, the National Association of Master Street Workers at Indianapolis and the Young People's Society of the United Presbyterian Church at Winona Lake.

### Sound, which probably will be in about a week, it will go to Alaska and install duplexing equipment at the Alaskan end, and the Alaskan end, which is now overtaxed, twice the capacity it has at present.

### Americans Fill London Pulpits.

### LONDON, Aug. 5.—A large number of the leading pulpits of London were occupied today by prominent American preachers, who are here for the holiday season.

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## CABINET OFFICERS TAKE STUMP

### Taft, Shaw, Bonaparte and Wilson to Help Out the Party Next Fall.

### JEROME FOR GOVERNOR

### Admirers of New York Reformer Urge Nomination by Democrats.

### Would Force Hearst to Run Independent.

### OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Aug. 5.—Four cabinet officers—Secretaries Taft, Shaw, Bonaparte and Wilson—are expected to take an active part in the Fall campaign. Secretary Root may also take the stump to make a few speeches. Shaw is an old campaigner, and is entirely at home on the stump. Secretary Taft's recent speech in North Carolina has stamped him as a piece of political heavy artillery, and it is understood he will speak in a number of close states in the campaign. Secretary Bonaparte has shown himself to be a forceful campaigner in his own state, Maryland, and it is the present plan to have him go into other states after making a series of speeches at home.

### Secretary Wilson will follow his usual custom and mingle among the voters of Iowa this Fall. There is need of good campaigners in that state because of the attitude of the two opposing Republican factions. Both Shaw and Wilson are arrayed with the anti-Cummins crowd.

### Cortelyou National Campaigner.

### Postmaster-General Cortelyou, though chairman of the Republican National Committee, is not a campaigner. He did not go on the stump two years ago, while managing Roosevelt's campaign, and will not do so this year.

### Secretary Hitchcock is another cabinet officer who is not an active campaigner. When occasion demands, Attorney-General Moody can make a good political speech, and he may be heard this Fall in Massachusetts, though he is not slated to make a tour. The Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Mr. McElwain, is like Moody; he can make a speech, but it is not believed he will take any part in the Congressional fight, either in his own or other states.

### Triangular Fight in New York.

### Admirers of William Travers Jerome, the New York reformer, are talking of running him for Governor this year on the regular Democratic ticket. If this should be done, there would be a three-cornered fight in the Empire State, for the Democratic party is not slated to make a tour. The Secretary of Commerce and Labor, Mr. McElwain, is like Moody; he can make a speech, but it is not believed he will take any part in the Congressional fight, either in his own or other states.

### Republicans Want Strong Man.

### It is no sure thing that Governor Higgins will be reelected by the Republicans, but there is a large element in the Democratic party that regards him as a man who makes lavish promises but who fails to make good.

### Jerome would labor under a heavy handicap in that the world and the American would oppose him. The American is for Hearst; the world does not love or admire the Jew. Jerome has expressed the belief that no Democratic Governor can be elected in New York this Fall.

### If Jerome should be nominated, Hearst would lose many votes that would otherwise come to his support. With Hearst and Jerome both in the running, each would have the support of a large element, and would so divide the Democrats that a normal Republican vote would be ample to elect a Republican Governor.

### Both are said to be stronger men than Higgins, and both are in a position to figure in the state convention.

### Way President Roosevelt is taking no part in New York's factional row—the Republican row—he is known to particularly desire the election of a Republican Governor, and it is not improbable that he may later give some