



CONSUL LISTED IN LINER'S DEAD

American Official Among Those Lost on Persia.

SURVIVORS LAND IN EGYPT

Those Rescued Said to Include 59 Passengers and 94 Members of Crew.

VESSEL'S CAPTAIN DROWNS

Cairo Dispatches Say Warning Was Not Given, but No Panic Followed.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—Unofficial dispatches from Cairo say that the British steamship Persia, sunk in the Mediterranean on Thursday, was torpedoed without warning and sank in five minutes.

Between 150 and 160 survivors have been landed at Alexandria, Egypt. Robert N. McNeely, American Consul at Aden, Arabia, is believed to have been drowned.

Consul's Death Reported.

Reuter's Cairo correspondent makes the unreserved statement that Mr. McNeely lost his life. Charles H. Grant, of Boston, was saved.

Details of the sinking of the Persia came in slowly today, but such information as was received made it appear that the number of persons who escaped in the four boats which were put off was larger than was hoped when the first news was received yesterday. The Peninsular & Oriental Company, which owned the Persia, announced today that 158 survivors had arrived at Alexandria.

The survivors comprise the chief officer, second officer, seven engineers, 27 seamen, 63 lascars and 59 passengers.

Lloyds Says 153 Were Saved.

A Lloyds dispatch gives the number as 153, made up of 59 passengers, of whom 17 are women, and 94 members of the crew, including 59 lascars. The survivors include military officers and eight persons who are not British subjects.

"The ship was struck amidships on the port side at 1:10 P. M., says Reuter's correspondent at Cairo. "She had disappeared completely at 1:15.

"Survivors say it was little short of a miracle that anyone was saved. There was no panic. Four boats were launched with the utmost promptitude.

Captain of Liner Drowned.

"The captain was drowned. When last seen he was swimming after the liner had plunged beneath the surface."

Both the Peninsular & Oriental Company and Reuter's Cairo correspondent say that Mr. Grant has been landed at Alexandria. The steamship company had no news of Mr. McNeely's fate.

Edward Ross, of Denver, left the Persia at Gibraltar, as was reported yesterday.

No Assistance Offered.

The Peninsular & Oriental Steamship Company tonight received the following telegram from Colonel C. C. Bigham, who was among the survivors of the disaster:

"A torpedo struck the ship on the port bow at 1:05 o'clock in the afternoon when about 40 miles south of the east end of the Island of Crete. No warning was given, nor any attempt made to assist. Within five minutes the ship had sunk. It was impossible to lower the starboard boats, owing to the heavy list. Five or six boats were lowered on the port side. I did not see this myself, as I was washed overboard when the boat capsized.

"The conduct of the passengers and crew was splendid; there was no struggling and no panic. Four boats after 30 hours at sea were picked up by a warship."

AUSTRIAN GIVES ASSURANCE

Baron Zweidnek Asks That Judgment Be Suspended for Present.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Anxiety over the sinking of the British steamship Persia increased in official circles here today when a consular dispatch brought information that the ship had been torpedoed without warning, and that at

LUMBER PRICES ADVANCE TODAY

MILLS LONG CLOSED WILL OPEN AT GRAYS HARBOR.

Two Logging Camps Start With 140 Men and Others Promised by February 1.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—With better prices prevailing and with the demand much braker than it has been at any time since the war the outlook for the lumber business on Grays Harbor for 1916 is bright. Retail prices on rough lumber will advance from \$10 to \$11 per 1000 here tomorrow, while finished products went up \$3 per 1000. Better prices also are prevailing in the East and Midwest, according to local lumber agency advice.

Millmen expect the lumber situation to become about normal here by February 1. Announcement was made this week that the Downing shingle mill and camp at Markham, employing 75 men, would open February 1. Today two camps of the Grays Harbor Logging Company opened with 140 men as crews. The Anderson-Middleton camp at Oakville, with 160 men, will open on February 1, after two years' idleness.

PASSENGERS GO TO CHURCH

Portland Traveling Man Leads 50 Delayed Companions to Services.

OAKLAND, Or., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Fifty passengers on the combined Shasta Limited-Exposition Special train, bound from Portland to San Francisco, began the first Sunday of the New Year by attending church here today.

Church bells chimed as passengers fumed after a 14-hour delay, with other waiting of hours the only prospect, as the result of a wreck south. "Say, I'm off to church; who's coming along?" called Peter Morris, a Portland traveling man, and some 30-odd travelers forgot their woes, trudged through the snow and listened to an Oakland pastor.

KING'S WOUND NOT HEALED

Berlin and Vienna Physicians Return to Treat Greek Ruler.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A Reuter dispatch from Athens, filed Friday, says Professor Friederich Kraus, of Berlin, and Professor Eisloberg, of Vienna, who attended King Constantine during his illness last Spring, have returned to Athens to examine the wound left by the operation performed in June, which has not healed. The wound is giving the King some trouble, although his general condition is good.

Professor Eisloberg performed the operation, which consisted of removal of part of the tenth rib. The king was suffering from pleurisy.

SPRING OPENS ON MARS

Astronomers Make Important Observations Concerning Canals.

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., Jan. 2.—Observations of Mars for the present opposition are now in full progress at the Lowell observatory. Results of signal importance have already been brought out in that the observed canal development is strikingly corroborative of the theory of seasonal dependence upon the melting of the polar cap.

The northern canals are now extremely dark, indicating increased activity with advancing spring, while the southern canals are faint in their autumnal decline.

HUERTA'S ILLNESS SERIOUS

Operation Discloses Complications That Arouse Grave Fears.

EL PASO, Tex., Jan. 2.—General Victoriano Huerta, ex-Provisional President of Mexico, who underwent an operation here yesterday, was pronounced in a serious condition tonight by his physician, Dr. M. P. Schuster. General Huerta, who had been ill for some time with what the physicians described as pneumonia, was operated on for gallstones. It was announced after the operation that the physicians found symptoms of a more complicated disease than formerly diagnosed, and today expressed fear for his recovery.

THRONE OCCUPIED BY YUAN

New Year's Announcement of "His Imperial Majesty" Is Made.

PEKIN, Jan. 2.—Yuan Shi Kai, President of China, who has accepted the proffer of an Emperor's crown on "request" of various elements in the nation, entered the palace in the Imperial Yellow Chair, sat on the throne and was announced as "his imperial majesty" at the New Year's day reception given for Chinese officials.

"GUYED" MAN QUITS FORCE

Aberdeen Policeman Hires of Jokes About His Helmet.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—Because he could not stand the "guying" of his friend who told him that he looked handsome in a policeman's helmet, Edward Smith resigned from the Aberdeen force New Year's eve, after one month of service. Smith formerly was "speed gop."

ONE KILLED IN SAN FRANCISCO STORM

Many Are Injured and Property Damaged.

WIND BREAKS 27-YEAR RECORD

Plate Glass Windows Shatter and Signs Blow Away.

APARTMENT HOUSE FALLS

Ferry Passengers Become Seaside and Others Fray; Coasting Vessels Put Back to Harbor; Barometer Is Falling.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 2.—Life, limb and property paid tribute here tonight to a storm said by the Weather Bureau officials to be the severest that has visited San Francisco for 27 years. Seventy-five miles an hour was the velocity of the wind at 5 o'clock off Point Reyes, and 30 miles an hour off Point Lobos, one of the portals of the Golden Gate. The wind was still rising tonight and the barometer falling.

Man Killed by Falling Sign.

Henry Chilson, of Los Angeles, was killed here by the storm. Chilson and his wife came here to visit the Panama-Pacific Exposition and were to have returned to Los Angeles tonight. He was knocked down by a falling advertising sign, suffered a broken spine and fractured skull and died half an hour later.

Numerous injuries were reported from flying signs and other debris blown loose by the howling southerly gale.

Plate-Glass Windows Suffer.

The wind was especially severe on plate-glass windows, more than 100 of which were reported as having been blown in. One window, on the 17th story of an office building, was blown from its frame and stuck like a jack-knife in a door at the opposite side of the room.

The storm "sticked up a heavy sea" on San Francisco Bay and ferry traffic was maintained with difficulty. In several cases whole seas swept the lower decks of the ferryboats, and many of the passengers became seasick and others engaged themselves in prayer.

Coasting Vessels Turn Back.

Several coasters that tried to put to sea turned back after getting a taste of the wind's velocity outside the heads. The property lost caused by the storm included the destruction of an untenanted two-story frame apartment-house, which collapsed under the pressure of the wind. There were no casualties.

Pensions Granted Oregon Women.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 2.—Pensions of \$12 a month have been granted to Mrs. Mary R. Hornaday, of Portland, and to Mrs. Emma M. Wood, of Dufur.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 51 degrees; minimum, 28 degrees. TODAY'S—Occasional snow; gentle to moderate southerly wind.

War. American Consul lost on liner Persia. Page 1. Serbian soldiers assailed by terrible hardships. Page 4. Russian nerves shattered by life in trenches. Page 2.

National. Congress facing serious international problems. Page 2. Secretary Houston warns farmers that refiners will be scarce. Page 2. Army staff wants censorship in event of war. Page 2. Railway reduces price to settlers on reclamation project on condition of outfitting. Page 2. Associate Justice Lamar dies. Page 2. evils of Democratic laws effect by trade attributed to war. Page 2.

Domestic. Wheat long held for German account said in Chicago and quickly absorbed by market. Page 2. Mr. Ford some with changed views as to issues of war. Page 4. One killed, many injured and property damaged in San Francisco storm. Page 1. United States Chamber of Commerce predicts great prosperity for 1916. Page 2.

Sport. Outlook for polo on Pacific Coast for 1916 is good. Page 10. Uncle Sam to play two games away from home this week. Page 10. Present week in Coast League promises to be momentous. Page 10. Johnny Powers said to have serious designs on 1916 pennant. Page 10.

Pacific Northwest. Lumber prices advance and logging camps start. Page 1. These of train crew blamed for Roseburg wreck. Page 1.

Financial and Marine. Bankers declare money for all legitimate needs is available. Page 11. Pierce announce sale with grain cargo. Page 11.

Portland and Vicinity. Prohibition brings dancing to hotel grills. Page 8. Evelyn Nesbit's dance is thrilling. Page 11. Dollars carpet Centenary Church pulpit. Page 7. Public asked to feed birds while snow covers ground. Page 9. Contest for model letters ends today. Page 11. Wonderful career of long career of crime. Page 1. Portland Sahara without skis for first Sunday in years. Page 1. Youngsters and parents skate. Page 14. Jitney police begin patrol and find Winter automobiles. Page 14. Dr. Hinson urges family worship. Page 9. Fair set welcome leap year and bachelors are resigned to fate. Page 9.

PORTLAND SALES IS WIFE COURT OASIS

Not a Club Is Left to Offer Solace.

SOFT DRINKS ARE SPURNED

Erickson's Place Well Filled But Bar Patrons Few.

AIR OF PROPRIETY REIGNS

Car Conductor Apologizes for Ringing Gong in Front of Church and "Cop" Courtous When Requesting Hobo to Move On.

Little old Portland on its first prohibition Sunday was a model of decorum. Of course, there have been previous dry Sundays. Ever since John Manning as District Attorney back in 1907 pained the boys by invoking the Sunday closing law on saloons the town has been outwardly dry on the Sabbath.

At the same time, there never has been a Sunday in that period when a man couldn't go up to his club and warm himself with a drop or so to stave off a threatened attack of pneumonia the Winter after next.

City Vegetable Sahara. Could that be done yesterday? It could not. Dry, drier, drought! The day of Sahara was come.

Only a few of the saloons, proprietors of which had announced the intention of continuing at the old stands with soft drinks in place of hard liquors, so much as took the trouble to unlock their doors.

Even the prospect of Sunday opening for the first time in nine long years did not seem to appeal. In those places that were open, just a ghostly remainder of the old jolly throng was there.

Warning Given Against Excess.

They talked in subdued tones, and cautioned each other gingerly about drinking too much of "that stuff," and of the evil effects thereof.

Soda water was the strongest drink on tap, and ginger ale the most devilish in sound. Even near-beer was not to be had.

"Gimme a near-beer with a glass of saphra for a chaser. Tis a white ribbon around it," ordered a facetious logger at Erickson's big saloon and concert hall, Burnside and Second streets. "No near-beer today," said the bartender. "You can have soda pop, sarsaparilla, grape juice or loganberry fizz. But no near-beer. We don't carry it on Sunday."

Caution Is Exercised.

A bystander curiously inquired the reason why. "Well," said the bartender, "we just aren't doing it. We are going as carefully as we possibly can. Some people might not understand it and would think something was wrong if near-beer was sold on Sunday, and we don't want to get in bad with the public."

"Come to think of it, though, this beer was sold on Sunday, and we don't want to get in bad with the public."

"Come to think of it, though, this beer was sold on Sunday, and we don't want to get in bad with the public."

CHICAGO THIEVES BUSIER

Total of \$1,500,000 Stolen in Year. \$300,000 Above Preceding Year.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—One million, five hundred thousand dollars was stolen in Chicago during 1915, according to figures compiled from police records. This was \$300,000 more than the tribute levied by thieves on Chicago's public during the year preceding.

Chief of Police Healey has asked the Council for 1000 additional patrolmen, and he is confident there will be a considerable decrease in crime if his request is granted.

DIETZ SEEKS MOVIE JOB

Victorious Coach Fascinated by Film Game and Would Be Star.

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The Washington State College football team left for home tonight, after spending the day at San Diego. "All are in good shape."

Coach Dietz alone remains here, and he says he will start out tomorrow to find a job with some moving picture outfit. Dietz is fascinated with the movie game. If successful, he expects to stay until next year's season begins.

NOT ENOUGH ENGINE POWER, AS USUAL.



SCORE INJURED IN APARTMENT FIRE

WOMAN AND TWO CHILDREN BELIEVED TO BE DEAD.

Huband and Wife so Badly Burned They Probably Will Die—Blame Placed on Lighted Cigarette.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 2.—Twenty persons were injured, six seriously, two of whom will die, in a fire that destroyed the Bellevue apartments here early tonight. Mrs. Elizabeth Ostrom and two children of Mrs. Nellie Buchard are missing and are believed to have been burned to death. Some of the victims were hurt in heroic attempts to save others, while many leaped from windows in the upper stories of the building and were more or less seriously injured.

Wilson Gray and his wife, each 30 years old, were caught in their apartments on the fourth floor and were so badly burned that physicians held out slight hope for their recovery. The five-story brick building contained 25 apartments and at the time of the fire about 200 persons were in the structure.

It is believed to have been caused by a lighted cigarette, thrown into a wastepaper bin in the basement. The financial loss was estimated at about \$100,000.

SEATTLE COASTER KILLED

Sled and Auto Collide; Several in Other Accidents Injured.

SEATTLE, Jan. 2.—One boy was killed and several others were injured today as the result of coasting accidents on Seattle's steep snow-covered hills. Russell Marvin, 11, was killed when his sled ran into an automobile at West Barrett street and Grand boulevard.

Sidney Greenburg, 11, suffered a broken leg as the result of a collision between two sleds on Washington street, between Twenty-seventh and Twenty-eighth avenues.

A bobled carrying five boys and girls hit a telephone pole at East Fourth street and Brooklyn avenue. None was hurt.

FLEEING LAUNCH CAPTURED

Calypso in Custody of American Cruiser at La Paz.

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Jan. 2.—The launch Calypso, which sailed from San Pedro December 27, the crew of which is sought by the Deputy United States Marshal at Los Angeles, is in the custody of the cruiser New Orleans at La Paz, Lower California, according to a radiogram received here today from Admiral Winslow.

The Calypso was held at San Pedro under an admiralty libel instituted by the Standard Oil Company and the San Pedro Iron Works, when, it is alleged, the crew forcibly took possession from the Deputy United States Marshal and put to sea.

FIRST LIQUOR RAID MADE

Beer, Wine, Whisky and Gin Seized at Negro Club, With 30 Present.

The first raid in Portland under the new prohibition law was made last night on the Union Club, colored, at 91 North Park street, when, it is alleged, Harms and Patrolmen Powell and Martin. The raid resulted in the arrest of one man and the seizure of 25 pints of beer and a quantity of wine, whisky and gin.

The policemen visited the club when about 20 colored men and women were present. J. H. Reed, president of the club, told the police that there was no liquor in the house.

TOWN IN VIRGINIA BURNING

Business Section of Gordonsville Appears to Be Doomed.

ALEXANDRIA, Va., Jan. 2.—Dispatches received here early today over railroad wires from Gordonsville, Va., said that a fire which started on the main street there a block from the Chesapeake & Ohio station, shortly after midnight, was burning fiercely and that the business section appeared to be doomed.

Local firemen were unable to cope with the blaze and a fire company from Charlottesville was being rushed to the town on a special train.

STATE WORTH \$16,600,000

Washington Has \$3,600,000 Cash and \$13,000,000 Bonds.

OLYMPIA, Wash., Jan. 2.—(Special.)—The State of Washington starts the year 1916 with total cash balances of \$3,603,622.83 in its various funds and bond holdings in excess of \$13,000,000. The state general fund has a cash balance of \$1,294,872.26.

The bond statement shows bonds valued at \$11,764,951.59 in the permanent educational funds, with \$500,000 in cash awaiting investment, while \$1,335,996 of the accident fund also is invested in bonds.

JEWES ORDERED TO LEAVE?

Stockholm Report Says Expulsion From Petrograd Is Decreed.

BERLIN, Jan. 2.—(By wireless to Sayville, N. Y.)—It is reported from Stockholm that orders have been given to all Jewish refugees at Petrograd to depart immediately, says the Overseas News Agency.

This order involves the cancellation of all concessions to the Jews made by Prince Chernoff, former Minister of the Interior.

YOUTHFUL FORGER BRAGS OF FRAUDS

G. L. Thorne Uncovers Long Crime Career.

PLAN FOR BIG COUP SPOILED

Prisoner Blames Self for Suicide of James De Ford.

BLIND PIG PLAN FAILS

Suspicious of Woman Stop Project for Liquor Sales—Man Who Lived by Wits Tells of Getting More Than \$25,000 by Fraud.

By his own confession yesterday George Lee Thorne, alias Dr. Russell Elliott and many other names, held in the city jail for alleged bad check and other fraudulent operations, is a rival in fact of the imaginary Rufus Wallingford, and if his own statements are to be credited, the suicide of James De Ford, president of the Bandolett Oil & Gas Company, of Neodaha, Kan., Saturday morning, at 284 Eleventh street, Portland, may, in part or in whole, be laid at the door of Thorne himself.

Thorne said yesterday, in a statement which he backed up by an array of facts, that he had engaged DeFord's attention in an oil-promoting scheme; that he induced DeFord to invest by fraudulent sale of stock and then to disappear, taking all the blame. With Mr. DeFord he said he had formed the Finley Orday Company. Mrs. DeFord, daughter-in-law of the dead man, admitted yesterday that she had a vague recollection of having heard the elder Mr. DeFord speak of such a company. Thorne said the company was actually planned. Mr. DeFord's suicide was attributed to an unhealed in his financial operations at the opening of the war.

Thorne to Take All Blame.

Thorne said yesterday he had used DeFord as a tool for the alleged fraudulent sale of stocks and bonds. Thorne admitted he was to fix things so that he could profit by Mr. DeFord's knowledge of oil stocks and at the jail produced, while others looked on, what he said was a copy of a letter of nature. If trouble came, Thorne said, he would have taken all the blame. Thorne had planned to "vanish," before the evidence of fraud was discovered. His arrest interrupted his plans, and, according to Thorne, probably added to the worries of Mr. DeFord, who feared being implicated in other affairs of Thorne's, of which he knew nothing.

Mr. DeFord took carbolic acid Saturday morning, quietly saying to his son, "I'm going."

Forger Reproduces Signature.

Charles De Ford and Eugene De Ford, sons of the deceased, were taken last night to visit Thorne in his cell. They sought to disprove their father's connection with Thorne's company. When the forger wrote for them a copy of their father's signature, as he remembered it, they used to comment upon its reproduction.

Thorne told them that their father had gone into the plan with honest intentions, but that three or four days thereafter, when he suspected something wrong, he protested. Thorne said De Ford's real signature, signed to some business papers, should show up at one of the Portland banks in a day or so.

Pride Taken in Frauds.

His alleged connection with De Ford, however, was but one of the many amazing revelations in a dazzling career of living on his wits. He is but 21 years old, but he is a graduate of the College of Physicians and Surgeons in Chicago; an ex-sergeant in the United States Army formerly stationed at Walla Walla, Wash., and as an importer and fraudulent check operator, by his own admissions, it is doubtful if he has an equal in his part of the world. All day yesterday, while he was telling his story, telegrams from various parts of the country came pouring in to the local detectives, in a measure backing up the admissions which he made with considerable pride.

A plan to establish a fashionable and elaborate "blind pig" in Portland was frustrated only by suspicion of the woman he had seduced. It is his partner, and by his untimely arrest.

Wits Used for Living.

Thorne, realizing himself caught and undoubtedly due for a jail sentence, admitted the operation of some 59 frauds and check operations, the aggregate amount of which is over \$25,000. The exact amount is unknown to himself, other than that he has lived high, and brags that he has lived on his wits entirely since 1906, and that he has partaken freely in the high life of hotels, cabaret and high society. The only actual labor done in the past 10 years, he says, was two days' work building headquarters while an officer in Villa's army in Mexico. He believes his criminal career is past, for he believes that three years in jail will kill him, his health requiring the open air.

His Only Hope Lies in His Trial by the Government on the Charge of Using the Mails to Defraud, in Connection with his obtaining \$516 each from money from Baker City bank, and that sentence of less than three years will be given him, if he had refrained from talking until yesterday in hopes of buying leniency with confessions of his past crimes.

District Attorney Evans yesterday (Continued on Page 14, Column 1.)