

P. & O. LINER PERSIA IS SUNK IN MEDITERRANEAN; NEARLY ALL ON BOARD DIE

Only Four Boats Were Launched From Big Passenger Steamer, According to London Reports; Survivors Estimate Between 400 and 500 Persons Lost With Torpedoed Ship.

AMERICAN CONSUL McNEELY OF
ADEN IS AMONG THE PASSENGERS

Persia Believed to Have Carried at Least 300
Passengers, Including 90 Women, 31 Chil-
dren and Number of Small Babies.

London, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Four lifeboats, filled to their capacity of 60 each, cleared the torpedoed liner Persia, leaving the balance of the 200 passengers and 200 to 300 crew either aboard or in the sea.

There were 90 women and 31 children aboard. The Persia carried much eastern mail, but no troops.

London, Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—The steamship Persia of the Peninsula and Oriental line was sunk, presumably by a German submarine, at 1 o'clock Thursday afternoon. Only four boats were launched. A majority of the passengers, as well as members of the crew, perished. A statement issued today by an official of the steamship company follows:

"The last heard of the Persia was on Tuesday. She carried a large number of passengers."

The Persia sailed from London for Bombay December 18. She was built in 1900 and registered 794 tons. It is believed the Persia carried at least 300 passengers.

The nationality of the submarine responsible for the Persia's destruction is not known. Details were meager. Robert M. McNeely, American consul at Aden, was a passenger. McNeely is from Monroe, N. C., and was appointed consul October 15.

A later statement given out by the steamship company said:

"The Persia carried a small cargo. She carried 150 saloon passengers."

Baron John Walter Edward Douglas Montague de Beulle was a passenger. Ninety women, 31 children and a number of babies also were among the passengers.

The Persia sank so rapidly that only four boats were launched. It was one of the finest boats engaged in the Indian service.

The Persia carried no war material, according to a statement issued by the steamship company.

Official of the line stated that the vessel carried no munitions of war. They estimated that there were 231 passengers, including 90 women and 31 children. The Persia left London December 18, and touching at Marseilles left there December 26.

In addition to American Consul McNeely, Charles Grant and Edward Neely, Americans, were passengers. It is believed that Rose, a Denver man, left the ship at Gibraltar, however.

Advices received here said that the Persia was sunk southeast of Crete. First reports left doubt as to whether the ship was given warning, or whether she attempted to escape.

Abelia Is Torpedoed.
London, Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—The British steamship Abelia, registered in Germany, has been torpedoed by a German submarine, according to an official announcement here today.

Peace Party Placed Under Police Guard
Copenhagen Authorities Feared Attacks on Delegates by New Year's Revelers; Pilgrims Carried Luggage.

Copenhagen, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—The Ford peace pilgrims were virtually prisoners for several hours last night, guarded by police to prevent New Year's eve merry-makers from attacking them. The party was "incensed" for following their attendance at a banquet at the Royal Shooting club, after which they were escorted to their hotels.

A German submarine, according to an official announcement here today, is in improved condition, though still ill.

Rev. Dr. Charles F. Aked, of San Francisco, went on the list of sufferers today, for he is on the verge of a nervous collapse. Moreover, many of the delegates are suffering from colds.

Twenty-three persons greeted the delegates upon their arrival here yesterday, but there was no formal reception. The police have prohibited the party from holding public meetings.

Business Manager Plaintiff Threw a new bomb of despair into the expedition when he ordered the delegates to carry their own baggage. At Christmas and Stockholm it was carried at Ford's expense.

Detroit to Honor Ford.
Detroit, Mich., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Detroit will honor Henry Ford with a public open welcome next week. A public reception for the founder of the peace ship plan will be given unless he is too ill. Ford's wife and son went to New York last night to greet him.

Ford Expected Tomorrow.
New York, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Henry Ford is not expected in port until tomorrow. He reaches quarantine tonight.

Picks Up Thessaloniki.
Newport, R. I., Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—The disabled steamer Thessaloniki, according to a wireless received here today, has been picked up by an unnamed vessel and is under tow bound for New York. Bad weather conditions made it impossible to read the name of the rescuing vessel and the position of the two steamers could not be made out.

Severely Quakes Recorded.
Washington, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—A series of exceptionally severe earth shocks were recorded today on the seismograph at Georgetown university. They lasted two hours, finishing at noon, but the distance could not be estimated.

Shevlin Funeral Held.
Minneapolis, Minn., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Thomas I. Shevlin, former Yale football star, who died Wednesday, was buried here yesterday.

Shells Fired at Sea.
London, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—A series of shells were fired at sea today, according to a report from the Admiralty.

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Ho! The Fun the Kiddies Are Having



'IMPOTENT MADNESS' OF ALLIES MENTIONED IN KAISER'S ADDRESS

New Year's Message to Soldiers of German Army Predicts Success in 1916.

Germany Doubles Territory.
Berlin, by Wireless to Say-
ville, N. Y., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—The Kaiser's address today estimated that the central powers have conquered territory almost as big as Germany.

London, Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—Kaiser Wilhelm today caused the following new year address to be circulated in all the German armies, according to dispatches from Berlin to London through Amsterdam:

"Comrades, another year of severe fighting has elapsed. Wherever a superior number of enemies have stormed our lines they have failed before your loyalty and bravery. Wherever I have sent you into battle you have gained a glorious victory. Thankfully we remember today, above all, our brethren, who joyfully gave their blood in order to gain security for our beloved home and imperishable glory for the Fatherland. What they have begun we shall accomplish with God's gracious help."

"In impotent madness enemies from the west and east, from the north and south, still seek to deprive us of all that makes life worth living."

"They long ago buried the hope to conquer us in honest fighting. On the weight of their masses, on the starvation of our entire people, on the influence of their campaign of calumny, which is as malicious as it is malicious, they believe they can still reckon. Their plans will not succeed. Before the spirit of determination and determination of our victory, we enter the new year with God for the protection of the Fatherland and for Germany's greatness."

Poincare Predicts Victory.
Paris, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Victory for France in 1916 is the burden of a message from President Poincare which today was distributed along the front lines, wherever French troops are in action. President Poincare's address to the soldiers lauds the troops highly, declares the nation has unlimited confidence in their valor and declares that the downfall of the central empire is sure.

Bishop of London's Message.
London, Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—The bishop of London in his New Year diocesan letter says in part:

"We believe there is a real struggle going on between light and darkness, between Christianity and paganism; between civility and brutality. Then so long as we refuse to identify the darkness, paganism and brutality with all the individuals among our foes and acknowledge the courage and steadfastness with which they fight for a bad cause, we get a real light to start for the new year."

"Anything in such a war is better than a premature peace—leaving it all to be done over again by our children."

"God himself through the war is speaking to the whole world. We believe fully that we are instruments in the hands of God, who wills through us and our allies, to have the freedom of the world. But are we worthy instruments?"

"We are looking for something beyond the consolidation and safety of the British empire; we are looking for the consolidation and final triumph of the kingdom of God."

The New Year entertained Portland in robes of white. Snow began falling about dark yesterday, and continued several hours. Then the temperature lowered, keeping most of the fall unmelted today. Early this morning children began to appear with sleds, and soon the streets were lively with snowball skirmishes.

DEVELOPMENT LEAGUE PASSES; STATEWIDE CHAMBER IS ON WAY

Committee of Nine Named to Perfect Plan to Federate Oregon Interests.

The old Oregon Development league passed out with the last day of the old year, 1915. Definite decision to organize an Oregon Chamber of Commerce was reached in the concluding session yesterday afternoon of commercial club representatives from various parts of the state.

A committee of nine members was appointed to perfect a plan of organization. This committee consists of C. C. Chapman, Portland, chairman of the Oregon Development bureau of the Chamber of Commerce; A. L. Mills, Portland, president of the First National bank; A. W. Trow, Ontario; J. T. Hinkle, Hermiston; C. S. Hudson, Bend; Captain J. W. Siemens, Klamath Falls; W. M. Hamilton, president Salem Commercial club; L. J. Simpson, North Bend; Porter J. Neff, Medford.

It was suggested that the new organization will aid in putting on the "ball" and securing the passage of a state constitutional amendment providing state guarantee of principal and interest of irrigation and drainage bonds and a state rural credits system. Such an amendment was proposed in resolutions adopted by the Oregon Irrigation congress, which closed its annual convention in Portland Thursday, and a state-wide conference, approaching in personnel, character and importance the dignity of a constitutional convention, was called to draft this amendment and also the necessary initiative measure. The conference will also consider an alternative amendment which provides for the issuance of state bonds for irrigation, drainage and rural credits under the Bancroft bonding act for paving of city streets.

Severe Quakes Recorded.
Washington, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—A series of exceptionally severe earth shocks were recorded today on the seismograph at Georgetown university. They lasted two hours, finishing at noon, but the distance could not be estimated.

ASSAILANT OF BRIDE COMMITTS SUICIDE; BODY IS DISCOVERED

Evan B. Kemp Leaves Two Notes, One to Mother and One to People of Portland.

"My Poor Boy," Says Mother.
"I hope the Lord will forgive my poor boy," said Mrs. Hannah Kemp, mother of Evan Kemp, when she was notified of his suicide by Deputy Sheriff Ward last night.

"He is better off dead. The poor lad has always been in the way—he has always been getting into trouble, and has often wished himself finally out of the road."

She will take up with Sheriff Hurburt this morning the disposal of her son's body, which is now at the morgue.

On a slab at the Multnomah morgue lies the body of Evan B. Kemp, suicide.

On a cot at the Good Samaritan hospital lies Mrs. Mabel Myers, Kemp's victim, slowly recovering from a bullet wound in her breast, and from shock and her terrible experience of last Wednesday night.

It was reported at Good Samaritan hospital at noon today that Mrs. Myers had spent a restful night and appeared to be much better during the morning. No unfavorable symptoms had developed.

In her little home at 788 Harold avenue is another victim of Kemp, a widowed mother, Mrs. Hannah Pauline Kemp, who, in the excitement attending the search for the assailant of Mrs. Myers, has been almost forgotten.

Mrs. Kemp grieves little over the death of a son, whom even the mother regarded as mentally deficient. Her grief is for her son's victim, and over the odium of the crime.

Kemp Finds Body.
The body of Kemp was found yesterday afternoon by Garfield Hayes, of 525 Churchill street, who was hunting in the vicinity of Stanton street.

(Continued on Page Seven, Column Two)

PROSPECTS FAR BRIGHTER NOW THAN YEAR AGO

Mc 1 Significant Indication
That 1916 Will Be Prosperous Is Marked Improvement in Lumber Trade.

BUSINESS IS HEAVIER;
VALUES ARE HIGHER

Resumption of Activity Will
Mean Employment of
Thousands of Men.

What will the year 1916 bring to Portland in the way of business prosperity? The consensus of opinion is that prospects are much brighter than when 1915 came in, in spite of the fact that the boys across the sea are still in the trenches.

A very important feature in connection with a survey of the prospects for the year is a material improvement noted in the lumber business.

The lumber industry is acknowledged as heart and arteries of Portland's and to a great extent Oregon's industrial life and when it flourishes other lines readily reflect the beneficial effects.

For nearly three years the lumber business has been dull and unprofitable, but the tide has now turned and conditions today are said by those actively engaged in the industry to be very much improved. The volume of business is heavier and values are higher.

Resumption of activity will mean the employment of thousands of men at fair wages, revival of trade in communities establishing on the strength of surrounding logging and lumbering, and new business for the jobbers and supply houses in Portland.

"He is better off dead. The poor lad has always been in the way—he has always been getting into trouble, and has often wished himself finally out of the road."

Local operators today are more optimistic than they were at any time in the past year. More deals are under discussion than at any one time in the past year. There is more interest in property and in building.

Building in Portland last year was light as compared with the past four or five years, but contractors and architects look for improvement in 1916.

Investors in timber lands have been holding back due to the condition of the lumber market and the European war, but a number of big deals are projected and interest is again manifested in timber investments.

Increased bank clearings mean greater circulation of money and greater confidence in the public mind.

Confidence begets expenditure and investment. The exchange of money and sales would seem to indicate that real estate, as in past years, is to be again a popular form of investment.

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Two Portland Women Saved From Flames

The Mrs. Walker and Philip Kamm and Their Parents Are Rescued From Home in California.

San Bernardino, Cal., Jan. 1.—(P. N. S.)—Damage of at least \$10,000 was done to the home of former State Treasurer E. D. Roberts early today, when a blaze in the roof threatened to destroy completely the 12,000 mansion. Mr. and Mrs. Roberts and their two daughters, Mrs. Philip Schuyler Kamm and Mrs. Walker Kamm, both of Portland, were saved by a policeman who broke in the front door and told them that not all the excitement outside was in celebration of the New Year.

Redding Has Fourteen Inches.
Redding, Cal., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Redding today lies under fourteen inches of snow, following the worst snowstorm experienced in 15 years. The storm suddenly halted this morning and the new year was inaugurated with sleighing parties. Despite the heavy mantle of snow, no trouble with the power lines or railroads was reported.

Orange Trees Coated.
Sacramento, Cal., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Snow ushered in the year 1916 in Sacramento and the Capital city had a "white" New Year's day.

Three hours after the stroke of 12 o'clock snow began falling. It came down in big flakes and by 6 o'clock morning morning measured three inches of orange and palm trees being coated in white.

Stockton Has Heavy Fall.
Stockton, Cal., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Stockton is mantled with snow to a depth of between three and four inches today. The heaviest snowstorm in the history of the city started at 2:30 a. m. At daylight the air was filled with flying flakes. The storm ceased at 10 o'clock and the snow lay on the ground, and a passing laundry wagon was requisitioned to pull the car out of the way and prevent blocking the service.

Old Church Bell
On Taylor Street
Welcomes 1916

The bell of Taylor Street church was rung last night to welcome the New Year.

The manner of the bell's ringing is a mystery, but the little group of members of the old congregation who gathered outside the padlocked doors of the church knew that the bell would ring.

The church property is in dispute, and the case is now before the state supreme court.

Inflicted Bayonet Wounds in Hope-
well Riots; Poisoning Also Sus-
pected.

Hopewell, Va., Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Bayonet wounds received Monday from Militiaman J. D. Blue caused the death today of L. Schake, a Russian. His stomach was sent to the state chemist for examination, as his friends suspected poisoning inasmuch as he had apparently recovered from the wounds. A report was made to the state department through the Russian ambassador because of the militiaman's action.

Russian Offensive
Less, Says Vienna

Vienna, Jan. 1.—(L. N. S.)—Today's official bulletin from the Russian general staff stated that the Russians had abandoned, temporarily at least, their efforts to break down the Austrian defenses in the Bukovina district and sweep into Hungary.

Hard fighting still was in progress along the Strypa river front.

Roumania Concentrating.
Rome, Jan. 1.—(U. P.)—Unconfirmed reports today said that Roumania has concentrated three army corps on the Bulgarian frontier.

OREGON TURNS OVER NEW LEAF, NO LIQUOR SOLD

"Dry" Lid Is Clamped Down at Midnight With Practically No Unsold Stimulants in Hands of Dealers.

NEW YEAR'S EVE NOT
AS LIVELY AS IN PAST

Those Who Feared Prevalence of Rowdiness Are Pleasantly Surprised.

Oregon turned over a new leaf last night. Across the top is written "Prohibition—1916."

The New Year and the water wagon arrived together and on time, and the people of the state were ready for them.

Today it is unlawful for any person in the state to sell so much as one drink of intoxicating liquor.

It is permissible for a person or family to have shipped to him or them from outside the state not to exceed two quarts of spirituous liquor or 24 quarts of malt liquor in a period of four weeks. But it is unlawful for any person to solicit sales of liquor or to display advertisements of it or to price lists to persons in the state.

Persons having liquor shipped into the state must personally call at the office of the common carrier and sign for it and make affidavit they are not violating the law.

Penalties Are Severe.
The general penalty for the first offense under the law is a fine of not more than \$500 or imprisonment not to exceed six months, or both. For the second offense the general penalty is a fine of not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 and imprisonment for 30 days to one year. For the third offense the penalty is imprisonment for two years or hard labor.

Special penalties are provided in a number of instances, such as the making of a false affidavit to the purveyor of a common carrier for the purpose of securing liquor. The law provides such an offense shall be a felony and punishable by imprisonment from two to five years in the penitentiary.

Such, very briefly, is the law which was ushered in with the new year last night. Thousands of citizens were down town to witness the transition. Yet the crowds were not as great nor as boisterous as they have been on many former New Year celebrations.

Early in the night the throngs became dense on Washington, Morrison

(Continued on Page Seven, Column Four)

DEPTH OF WATER IN
CHANNEL TO SEA IS
GREATEST IN HISTORY

Survey of U. S. Engineers Shows 35 Feet in Spite of Heavy Storms.

Resentment has been aroused both in Portland and Astoria because of a headline in section two of the Oregonian, New Year's issue, reading: "Depth of Channel at the Mouth of Columbia River Now Nearly 31 Feet."

Recent surveys by the United States government engineers show a depth of 35 feet in the line of the cut, this depth in spite of the recent storms.

That the morning paper should prepare for wide distribution so inaccurate an assertion when official sources of information were readily available and when the attitude of ship operators is so materially affected by depths on the bar, is cause of the resentment expressed this morning.

The combined influence of dredging and jetty action at the mouth of the Columbia river has created the best channel in the history of the harbor, and the prospects are good for a 40 foot channel as a result of the work of next season or two, especially if a greater dredge is put to work on the bar.

"Not only have we a good sized channel of 35 feet across the bar, but the prospects for a deeper channel next year are most excellent," said Major Henry C. Jewett, of the United States engineers, this morning.

Money Is Lost—
Auto Is Wanted

There's a market for almost anything under the sun and Journal Want Ads find the market in its circulation.

Lost and Found—
A small purse and \$15 by working girl. Reward.

Automobiles Wanted—
WANT a Ford delivery or passenger car.

Apartment—
SPLendid front apartment and single room, \$2.50 and \$4.00, take by month.

German took a deer in trade and in turn wrapped it for a check pressing machine and an electric clock. Journal Want Ad made the trade.

OREGON'S DRY LAW

The text of the Oregon state-wide prohibition law will be published in The Sunday Journal tomorrow in order that all readers may familiarize themselves with the provisions of the act.

TOMORROW