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STEAMER GOES DOWN IN RIVER 50 DROWNED

EXCURSION BOAT OVERTURNS IN ILLINOIS RIVER WITH 300 ON BOARD

WILD PANIC FOLLOWS ACCIDENT

Survivors Claim Ship Ran on Sand Bar Then Was Backed Into Deep Water

Peoria, July 6.—Fifty-six bodies have been recovered from the Columbia up to noon today. It is estimated that there are 100 more in the wreck.

Peoria, Ill., July 6.—One hundred and fifty are estimated dead as a result of the sinking of the excursion steamer Columbia, in the Illinois river about midnight last night.

The steamer was carrying over 300 persons when it struck an obstruction, presumably a submerged log. The party was from Pekin, where they had been to a dancing and amusement park. A panic followed the accident.

Fifty-one bodies, including many women and young girls were removed from the main deck and dance floor by volunteer divers. Many have not been identified.

Miss Pauline Bineuel of Pekin, who was on board the boat, told the following story of the disaster:

"The steamer had three decks. I was on the upper deck. On that level dancing was going on. The bottom deck was occupied principally by men, who were smoking and talking.

"I do not believe many of the persons on the first two decks who constituted by far the larger portion of the crowd could have escaped.

"I was chatting with friends. We felt the boat rise out of the river. It was clouded with fog. There was a crash. For a moment no one moved and then almost everybody rushed to one side of the boat. The crew and the officers, as soon as they realized what was happening, tried for the passengers to even the load, but it was too late. The Columbia tilted and then suddenly overturned. I was thrown into the water."

The government will investigate the sinking. The survivors claim that the steamer ran on a sand bar in a dense fog and although within 10 feet of shore, was backed into deep water.

11 ENEMY AIRPLANES DESTROYED BY BRITISH

London, July 6.—British aerial forces cooperated with the land forces in yesterday's attack against the Germans south of the Somme, according to an official statement on aviation operations issued tonight. Eleven enemy airplanes were destroyed and ten driven down out of control as a result of combats. Four British machines are missing.

DRAFTED MEN LEAVE FOR FORT M'DOWELL

Fourteen men of the last draft left Saturday by special train for Ft. McDowell, Cal. They were given a good send-off at the depot by their friends. On Friday night the drafted men were entertained at the Joy theatre by Miss Wolke, manager.

Five other men of the draft were trained at different points.

U. S. TRANSPORT SUNK BY U-BOAT

American Steamer Homeward Bound Torpedoed—Six of Crew Missing—No Soldiers On Board

Washington, July 5.—The American transport Covington, homeward bound, after landing several thousand soldiers in France, was torpedoed and sunk in the war zone last Monday night. Six members of the crew are missing, but all the other men, with the ship's officers, have been landed at a French port. No army personnel or passengers were aboard.

The Covington was struck at 9:17 o'clock Monday night, while proceeding with a fleet of other transports, convoyed by destroyers. The submarine was not sighted. The transport remained afloat until Tuesday, when efforts were made by another vessel and two tugs to tow her to port, but she was too badly damaged to keep afloat.

AMERICANS VICTORS IN 20 MINUTE AIR BATTLE

With the American Army in France, July 6.—Four American aviators, Lieutenants Carlisle Rhodes of Terre Haute, Ind., S. P. Thompson, Honesty Falls, N. Y., Waldo N. Heinrich of Granville, O., and John Mitchell, Manchester, Mass., engaged in a thrilling air battle northwest of Chateau Thierry this morning. One German machine was shot down during the combat and it is believed that Heinrich was the American who sent the enemy airplane to earth.

The four aviators were patrolling the lines five kilometers inside the German front, when they encountered six enemy machines. The battle began at an altitude of 4,200 kilometers and continued until the machines had dropped down to 3,200 meters from the earth. The combat lasted for 20 minutes.

STAR SHORTSTOP RECEIVES ORDERS

Fort Worthy, July 6.—Roger Hornsby, the star shortstop of St. Louis was ordered by the local draft board to engage in an essential occupation or be placed in class 1. His home is here and is the first major leaguer affected by the new law.

FROM LONDON TO PEKING BY RAIL IS POSSIBILITY

Amsterdam, July 6.—The plan to connect Europe with Asia by bridging the Bosphorus has now assumed a more tangible shape, according to the Osmatische Lloyd. The bridge will have separate tracks for a railway, a tram line, and for vehicular and pedestrian traffic. Its total length will be 2,200 yards and its elevation 149 feet above sea level, so as to allow for the passage of the largest vessels.

CONGRESS WANTS \$2.40 AS PRICE OF WHEAT

Washington, July 6.—Congress approved today the price of \$2.40 for wheat as a substitute for \$2.50, contended for by the senate. It was sent to the president.

Washington, July 6.—The president will veto the agriculture appropriation bill because congress fixed the wheat price at \$2.40.

The Hague, July 6.—Seven Dutch steamers, under an armed convoy and accompanied by a collier, sailed today for the Dutch East Indies.

ENEMY ASSAULTS ARE REPULSED BY ITALIANS

400 Prisoners Taken From Germans—General Pershing's Men Hold Upper Hand in Fight in Chateau Thierry Region—Raids in American Sector Failure

Vienna, July 6.—The battle at the mouth of the Piave continued yesterday. The Austrian advance divisions were pressed back to their main forces, the Austrian official statement declares.

Paris, July 6.—The Germans attempted a raid on the American sector in Lorraine last night, at Xivray but were completely repulsed.

Rome, July 6.—The Italians after desperate fighting today repulsed violent assaults at Porto-di-Salton. The Italians took 400 prisoners.

Washington, July 6.—General Pershing reported today on American patrol activity in the Chateau Thierry region yesterday, and announced that American troops were engaged with their Fourth of July offensive which resulted in the capture of Hamel. The communique follows:

"Section A—In the course of our successful patrolling operations in Picardy and in the Chateau Thierry

KAISER BELIEVED TO REALIZE HIS DEFEAT

With the American Army in France, July 6.—Premier Lloyd George, after reviewing a section of American troops yesterday, declared: "Germany can have peace tomorrow with the United States, France and Great Britain if she will accept the conditions voiced by President Wilson July 4."

The prime minister paid high tribute to the Americans who fought at Chateau Thierry, saying they had shown the Kaiser that he had made another mistake in believing the new American troops were not capable of meeting the trained Germans. He then sketched the illusions of the German ruler regarding the United States getting into the war, adding:

"Now that 1,000,000 Americans have arrived, the Kaiser is beginning to realize that defeat, certain and inevitable is staring him in the face."

HANDFUL OF GERMANS CAPTURE ODESSA WITHOUT FIRING A SHOT

Vologda, Russia, April 24.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press)—How comedy has been interwoven with tragedy in the story of the German sweep over Southern Russia since the signing of the peace treaty at Brest-Litovsk has been told in reports of the "capture" of Odessa which have been brought to the American embassy here.

A French officer, who flew by airplane from Jassy, Rumania, to Odessa, arriving there on the day the Germans entered, and who escaped by boat, told the story to an American official who had left Odessa two days before, and, who since, after a journey full of perils and difficulties, has just reached Vologda.

Although there was a Russian fleet in the harbor, with big guns enough to wreck the city, and the Russian garrison was strong, the "capture" of Odessa was made by a mere handful of Germans.

On the morning of March 12, when the city was in fear and trembling, not so much at the approach of the

region, we captured prisoners. Hostile planes which approached our lines near Vaux and in the Vosges were driven back by our fire.

"Our troops cooperated with the British in their attack made today.

"Section B—Near Cantigny one of our raiding parties this morning encountered an enemy raiding party of 70 ready to start out. Twenty-five of our men penetrated the enemy's wire, killing at least 20 Germans, wounding others and capturing three with machine guns.

"Further details are available concerning the German counter-attacks in the vicinity of Bois de la Roche the morning of July 2. The attack broke down under our fire.

"Besides inflicting heavy losses our troops took 140 prisoners. These were included in the total of 500 previously reported. For some time after the counter-attack the enemy kept up a continuous harassing fire on our front lines and during the day of July 2 intermittent fire on our front lines and on points in our rear areas.

TUNNEL MAY BE BUILT UNDER ENG. CHANNEL

London, July 6.—Strong support for the English channel tunnel scheme from the French and Italian delegates was voiced yesterday at the international parliamentary conference here. A resolution in favor of constructing the tunnel was carried unanimously.

The tunnel, which would be completed within five years of its commencement, would be worked, ventilated and pumped by electricity supplied from a power station in Kent. Against the danger from enemy submarines, depth bombs or mines, the tunnel would be protected by a covering of the chalk bed of a minimum thickness of 100 feet.

U. S. TRANSPORT SHIP WAS AFIRE AT SEA

Washington, July 6.—The United States army transport Henderson has been afire at sea, but has made an Atlantic port in safety. There was no loss of life.

OREGON AGAIN HAS FIRST PLACE

Believed That Beaver State Is First Over the Top in Recent War Savings Stamp Campaign

Portland, July 6.—Oregon "first over the top" in the war savings stamp pledge campaign became more of a certainty yesterday when H. D. Marshall, federal director, passed through Portland on his return to Washington, D. C.

"Oregon is the first state in the Union, as far as my telegraphic communications give light, to report the completion of its quota in the campaign just past," said Mr. Marshall. "Several other states are now well over their marks, but I believe that your state was the first to report to national headquarters in the drive for \$2,000,000,000 in pledges."

RESOLUTION IS PASSED BY GREAT MAJORITY

Washington, July 6.—The joint resolution authorizing the president to take over and operate until the end of the war all telegraph, telephone cable and radio systems in the United States, was passed last night by the house of representatives. It now goes to the senate, but indications were that action on it there would be deferred until after the mid-summer recess, planned to begin the end of this week.

The vote was 231 to 4. Those voting against the resolution were Forney and McLaughlin, Michigan; Sterling, Illinois, and Woods of Iowa, all republicans.

Washington July 6.—President Wilson in letters today said that it was critically important for congress to authorize him to take over the telegraph and telephone systems before the recess—planned for tonight. Democratic leaders have asked him not to hold congress for this.

NEW REGISTRANTS TO BE EXAMINED

Washington, July 6.—Adjutant General Crowder directed the state draft executives today to call up immediately for physical examination all new registrants placed in Class 1, so that the men will be available for call next August.

SENATE PASSES RESOLUTION FOR NOON PRAYER IN U. S.

Washington, July 6.—The senate today passed a resolution requesting the president to issue a proclamation calling on the American people to observe noon prayer during the war. It now goes to the house.

Senator Phelan, of California, read a letter from Secretary Tumulty, which said the president regarded the noon prayer as "a beautiful thought."

251,000 AMERICANS ON FIGHTING LINE JULY 1

Washington, July 6.—General March said that the Americans actually on the fighting lines about July 1, numbered 251,000. He stated that the allies were preparing to meet another heavy German assault.

OFFICERS FROM TRAINING CAMP LEAVE FOR FARMS

Chicago, July 6.—Fifty members of the reserve officers' training camp at Fort Sheridan left for Hixon, S. D., today for farm work. They will receive \$30 a month, with room, board and laundry.

HEAVY DRIVE FROM ALLIES IS EXPECTED

GENERAL FOCH NO LONGER FEELS NECESSITY OF KEEP-ON THE DEFENSIVE

U.S. AID EFFECTS GREAT CHANGE

Efficiency of Allied Airmen Take Germans by Surprise—Enemy's Plans Are Upset

Washington, July 6.—Increasing manpower and rapidly extending control of the air have permitted the adoption of a new policy by General Foch, in the opinion of observers here.

They believe the sequence of hard local blows struck recently by allied troops shows a new phase is developing which might expand into a major operation.

Reports of the recent successful strokes are taken to indicate that General Foch no longer feels the necessity of keeping on the defensive to conserve his forces.

The fact that the Germans have been completely surprised is believed to be due to the work of the airmen. American aid has served to change the tide of the fighting.

The American attacks around Chateau Thierry, the French operations at Soissons and the British operations on the Somme and in Flanders were probably prompted by the weakness of the enemy at those points.

It is assumed that General Foch plans to give the enemy no rest. Points of vantage held by him, which would be valued as the starting place for a new major thrust, are being recaptured all along the line.

The effect is to embarrass German preparations, and officers believe the fact that any of these local operations may suddenly develop tends to keep German reserves scattered.

The activity of the allied forces puts a wholly new aspect on meeting the forthcoming German effort.

The possibilities of feints at remote parts of the line to cover the development of the real attack until it is well under way are believed to be less promising, as it is the allies who are now creating diversions.

MAJ. MITCHELL KILLED AT AVIATION FIELD

Lake Charles, La., July 6.—Major John Purroy Mitchell, former mayor of New York, and an officer in the army aviation service, was instantly killed here today while flying a scout machine at the Gerstner aviation field.

DUBLIN POLICE RAID NETS MANY GUNS

London, July 6.—A press dispatch from Dublin says the police of Ballinasloe, county Galway, have raided farm houses, seizing hundreds of guns and arms. The raids extended into the adjoining counties of Poscommon and Kings. There was no resistance, except in a few instances, where the presence of arms was denied, but the weapons were surrendered.

MUCH FOODSTUFFS DESTROYED BY FIRE

Portland, July 6.—A fire of unknown origin early today destroyed quantities of beans and rice in the warehouse of the Ariss, Campbell & Gault company. There was also furniture stored there. The total loss is estimated at \$25,000.