

AMERICANS TORPEDOED ON SUSSEX

Twenty-five Americans on Channel Steamer When It Was Struck by Torpedo—Vessel Blown in Two—Seventy-five of Passengers and Crew Missing—Two Americans Are Seriously Injured—Whether Any Were Killed Is Not Known—Survivors Landed.

LONDON, March 25.—The number of lives lost on the Sussex is given as fifty in an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Dover. It said many were drowned by the capsizing of an overcrowded lifeboat.

DOVER, March 25.—Charles Crocker of San Francisco, an American, who was on the Sussex, said today that Miss Elizabeth Baldwin, an American resident of Paris, was killed by the explosion which partly wrecked the steamship.

PARIS, March 25.—Reports of the damaging of the Sussex obtained here today state that she was torpedoed. The Sussex has arrived at Boulogne.

LONDON, March 25.—Information obtained from passengers on the channel steamer Sussex, damaged by an explosion yesterday afternoon on the way from Folkestone to Dieppe, indicates there may have been a considerable loss of life. One American is missing and is supposed to be lost. Another was injured seriously. Several Americans were rescued.

The explosion was terrific. It occurred just ahead of the captain's bridge and tore the front part of the steamer to pieces, killing or injuring a number of persons. Many were wounded severely by flying splinters.

Vessel Blown in Two. The admiralty states that 250 survivors have been landed in France and between 90 and 100 at Dover. As there were 386 passengers and about 50 men in the crew, 75 or more persons are still missing.

The chief engineer of the Sussex was killed by the explosion and the purser was wounded seriously. An American whose name is not known to survivors who have reached London, was talking with the Baldwin family, close to the Captain's bridge, when the explosion occurred. He has not been seen since that time and is supposed to have been lost.

The explosion occurred at about 11 p. m., when the Sussex was an hour and a half out of Folkestone. The wireless apparatus was destroyed and no help arrived until nearly midnight. Had it not been for the water-tight compartments the Sussex would have sunk and the loss of life would have been heavier.

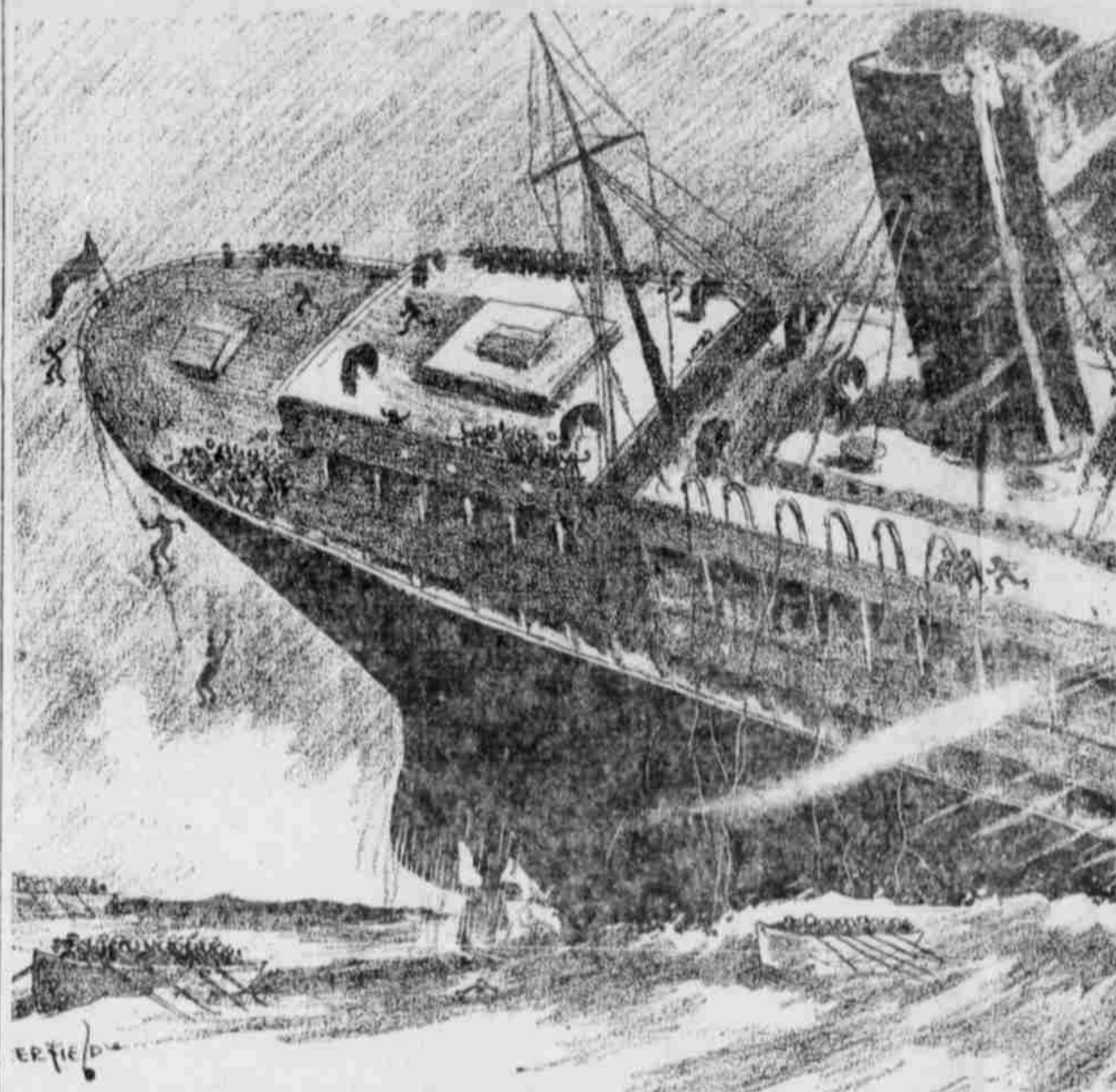
Americans Aboard. Twenty-five Americans were on board the cross-channel steamer Sussex, which met with disaster from a mine or submarine yesterday afternoon. Two Americans are known to have been injured seriously by the explosion. They are: Miss Elizabeth

STEAMER SALYBIA SUNK, CREW SAVED

LONDON, March 25.—Lloyds says the British steamship Salybia has been sunk and the passengers and crew were saved.

The Salybia, of 3552 gross tons, 242 feet long and 46 feet beam, was built in 1904 at South Shields and was owned by Scrutton & Sons of London. In the last available shipping records the vessel is reported as having left Barbados on March 3 for London.

TWO STEAMERS WITH AMERICANS ABOARD TORPEDOED WITHOUT WARNING BY SUBMARINES



Torpedoing of steamer Sussex, drawn from telegraphic description. The entire forward part of the vessel was torn away by the explosion.

BANDIT VILLA ELUDES PURSUIT

Fugitive Reported to Have Escaped Encircling Ring of Pursuers and to Be Fleeing Westward—Report Not Yet Confirmed.

EL PASO, Texas, March 25.—Pancho Villa was reported to be fleeing west in the San Miguel country, having successfully eluded the encircling ring that was being drawn around him by American and Carranza troops. News of the outlaw's retreat westward was brought here from El Valle, but could not be confirmed at Fort Bliss or in Mexican official circles.

Several thousand American soldiers are known to be ranging the country south of Casas Grandes in every direction trying to locate the bandit, but have not come into contact with him.

Villistas Cut Wires. Wire communication out of El Paso into Mexico is still interrupted and it is said roving bands of Villistas are responsible for the wire cutting, having been detached from the main Villa band for this purpose. Mexican Consul Garcia was still without further word of the reported fight that the Carranza soldiers had with Villa at El Oso, south of Naniquipa.

Dispatches received at Mexico City and Douglas, Ariz., apparently confirm the reports to El Paso from General Bertani in the field that the troops of the de facto government had come into contact with Villa in the Santa Clara canyon. General Pershing has made no mention of this battle and army officers here incline to the belief that it was probably little more than an outpost engagement.

Border Is Quiet. Juarez was quiet today and there were no surface indications that any trouble was impending. United States troops constantly guarded the international bridges, powerhouses at El Paso and railroad tunnels while General Bell has a reserve in readiness to quell any uprising in Mexican quarters.

JAPAN REPRESENTED AT ALLIES' WAR CONFERENCE

TOKYO, March 25.—Baron Yoshitiro Sakatani, former minister of finance, has been designated to represent Japan at the forthcoming economic conference of the entente allies at Paris.

WILSON CENSURES THOSE SENDING OUT FALSE REPORTS

WASHINGTON, March 25.—President Wilson today prepared a statement denouncing those responsible for alarmist reports about the Mexican situation and declaring efforts were being made to bring about intervention in Mexico by the United States. It will be made public later. The president's statement is intended to inform the public that interested persons are circulating false information with the object of bringing about armed intervention, which the administration opposes.

Word has been sent to American consular officers in Mexico to disseminate as far as possible information showing that the object of the American troops in crossing the border was merely to catch Villa and his bandits. The statement is directed principally against published alarmist reports and may refer to discussions of the Mexican situation in congress.

EIGHT KILLED IN OKLAHOMA CYCLONE

OKLAHOMA CITY, Okla., March 25.—Eight persons were killed in a farmhouse two miles east of Davis, Okla., by a tornado which struck that section last night. The path of the tornado was eight miles long.

Those killed all were members of the family of Alexander Edgemoor, a farmer. The storm demolished the house just as the family prepared to take flight to a storm cave. Edgemoor himself, who was some distance from the house, saved his life by crawling under a barn.

The town of Davis was not struck, but many farm houses in the vicinity were blown down.

Mrs. Waite Accepts Guilt of Husband GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 25.—Mrs. Arthur W. Waite, wife of the New York dentist, who has been held in connection with the death of her father, banned a formal statement today saying that as evidence against her husband "increased from day to day," she was compelled to accept it as true and would let the law take its course.

VERDUN ABLAZE; CZAR REPULSED

German Report Claims Besieged City Is in Flames From Big Shells—Russians Declared to Be Attacking in Vain on Eastern Front.

BERLIN, March 25, via London.—Verdun is in flames, according to today's official statement by the German army headquarters. The text of the official statement says:

"Western theater: There have been no actual changes in the situation since yesterday. In the Meuse district artillery duels were especially lively and in the course of these engagements Verdun was set on fire.

"Eastern theater: West of Jacobstadt the Russians again opened an attack after having brought forward fresh Siberian troops and after strong artillery preparations had been made. The attack broke down with heavy losses to the Russians."

"Minor enemy advances southwest of Jacobstadt and southwest of Dvinsk were easily repulsed. All the enemy's efforts, even those repeated during the night against our front north of Vidzy, were completely unavailing.

"Further to the south, in the region of the Narocz lakes, the enemy yesterday limited his activity to artillery bombardments.

"Balkan theater: During a renewed aeroplane attack one enemy machine was brought down, after an aerial battle between the enemy lines and our positions. It was there destroyed by artillery."

FRENCH AT SALONIKA ACTIVE ON FRONTIER

BERLIN, March 25.—The Berliner Tageblatt's Macedonian correspondent says that French forces from the entrenched camp at Salonika have been showing activity in the neighborhood of Gietzeli, on the Serbian-Greek frontier, where they fired ten shots from heavy guns against German-Serbian pioneers who were repairing bridges. The shots did no damage. The French also carried out a bombardment in the vicinity of Dolrab. A number of small skirmishes between patrols have taken place, the correspondent adds.

KAISER'S RAIDER GREIF SUNK IN BATTLE AT SEA

British Armed Merchantman Alcantara Sinks Sea Rover and Its Heralds Torpedoed—Five German Officers, 115 Men Taken Prisoners, 69 British Perish With Vessel.

LONDON, March 25.—A German raider has been sunk in the North sea. Five German officers and 115 men out of a total of 300 were captured. The British lost 74 men.

The British armed merchantman Alcantara, which sunk the German raider, the Greif, was herself sunk. Both Ships Sunk.

The fight occurred in the North sea on February 29. The Greif was sunk by gunfire and the Alcantara by a torpedo. The British losses were made up of five officers and 69 men.

The Alcantara was a large liner belonging to the Royal Mail Steam Packet company of Belfast. She had been in the service of the British government for some time. Her gross tonnage was 15,300. She was 570 feet long and was built in Glasgow in 1915.

The following statement was issued:

"An engagement occurred February 29 in the North sea between the German armed raider Greif, disguised as a Norwegian merchant vessel, and the British armed merchant cruiser Alcantara, Captain T. E. Wardle. It resulted in the loss of both vessels, the German raider being sunk by gunfire and the Alcantara apparently by a torpedo.

Few Norwegian Flag.

"Five German officers and 115 men were picked up and taken prisoners. The full complement was believed to be over 300. The British losses were five officers and 69 men.

"It should be noted that during the whole engagement the enemy fired over the Norwegian colors painted on the side of the ship.

"This news is now published as it is made clear by the receipt of a German wireless message that the enemy has learned that the Greif, a similar ship to the Moeve, had been destroyed before she succeeded in passing one line of patrol."

GENEVA, Switzerland, March 25, via Paris.—Information received here today from German sources indicates that the Greif was blown up by her commander.

Tried to Run Blockade.

LONDON, March 25.—The Greif attempted to run the British blockade today the German raider Moeve (Continued on page six)

CARRANZA AGREES TO LATEST NOTE

QUERETARO, Mexico, March 24, via Mexico City, March 25.—General Carranza's reply to the latest note of the Washington government was handed today to James L. Rodgers, the American special representative here, for transmission to Washington. The reply agrees in the main to the American proposals, but a few unimportant changes are suggested.

DOMINION LINER TORPEDOED WITH FOUR AMERICANS

Steamer Englishman Sunk Near British Isles—Was Horse Ship—Thirty-three Survivors, Americans on Board Not Among Them—Sixty More Believed Saved.

WASHINGTON, March 25.—Consular reports to the state department today say the Dominion line steamer Englishman, sunk near the British Isles, was torpedoed and that four Americans are missing. The Englishman was a horse ship.

The missing Americans are Peter McDonald, a horse foreman of Boston; George McDonald, a trimmer of Lawrence, Mass.; P. Buckley and M. A. Burke, addresses unknown.

Reported by Consul.

The dispatches to the state department were from American Consul Armstrong at Bristol and said the Englishman was torpedoed at an unknown place and time and that thirty-three survivors had been brought into an unnamed British port.

The American citizens known to be aboard the ship were not among the survivors.

The consul also reported that sixty more persons who were aboard the ship were believed by the British authorities to have been saved, although no definite information at that point was available. If sixty more persons were saved, eighteen persons remain unaccounted for, according to the dispatch.

The text of the dispatch, dated today, to the state department, was as follows:

Four Americans Lost.

"Dominion line steamer Englishman torpedoed, time and place unknown here. Survivors brought into northern British ports. Thirty-three so far believed saved, sixty more reported, and possibly rescued; leaving shortage of ten. Following Americans were on board:

"Peter McDonald, horse foreman, Boston; P. Buckley, M. A. Burke, horsemen, addresses unknown here; George McDonald, trimmer, Lawrence, Mass. Their names are not included in lists of thirty-three so far rescued.

"Englishman was bound for Portland, Me. Left Avonmouth 21st instant. Transported horses to St. Nazaire, France, for Northwestern Trading company, New York. Was not on government business. No further particulars at present available in Bristol."

RAINS PREDICTED FOR COMING WEEK

WASHINGTON, March 25.—The weather bureau's forecast for the week beginning Sunday says: "A storm will advance inland from the Pacific Monday or Tuesday, pass eastward to the middle plains states and the upper Mississippi valley the middle of the week. This disturbance will be attended by general rains in the north Pacific states. It will be followed by cooler weather over the northern half of that country."

NEW PLAN SUGGESTED BY BULLIS

Mass Meeting Called for Monday Evening to Discuss Proposed Scheme of Co-operation by City in Construction of Railroad to Blue Ledge Mine—City to Bond and Build, Bullis Agreeing to Lease, Operate and Purchase—Mine Owner Agrees to Operate.

New York, March 22, 1916. P. W. Carnahan, Manager Blue Ledge Mine, Medford. Parties pushing railroad project can rest assured that barring some unforeseen accident or positive change in conditions Blue Ledge mine will be operated on full scale upon completion of road to Joe Har or point available for us. (Signed) R. S. TOWNE.

A mass meeting has been called for Monday evening at 7:30 o'clock at the Seventh company armory hall to discuss the report of the Blue Ledge railroad committee appointed at the mass meeting held Monday.

The committee has reached a tentative agreement with S. S. Bullis, of the Southern Oregon Traction company, which proposes that the city issue \$250,000 bonds, and through a railroad commission, build and own 15 miles of railroad, from the present terminal of the Oregon Traction lines, toward the Blue Ledge mine, the traction company, agreeing to construct the railroad from the end of the city's road to the Blue Ledge district. The Southern Oregon Traction company will contract to build the city's railroad, lease and operate it, with option of purchase, and buy it outright at the expiration of five years.

The Bullis proposal is as follows: To the Commercial club of the city of Medford, Oregon:

Gentlemen—Withdrawing my proposition of March 2, 1916, for the extension of the railway of the Southern Oregon Traction company to the California state line, I beg to submit in behalf of the Southern Oregon Traction company the following:

1.—The city of Medford to select a committee of not more than five, but preferably three, to serve as a city railroad commission and represent said city in the aforesaid matter.

2.—The Southern Oregon Traction company will enter into a contract with the city of Medford, Oregon, through such authorized committee, to build fifteen miles of railroad for said city, commencing at the terminal or end of the rails of the present track of the Southern Oregon Traction company about one and one-half miles southwest of Jacksonville, Oregon, in a southwesterly direction to a point in the Applegate valley.

To Extend Railroad.

The Southern Oregon Traction company agrees to build a similar railroad connecting therewith, along the Applegate valley to the California state line. Both units of said railroad to be similar in all respects to the Medford-Jacksonville line, except as to electrification.

A. The construction of the latter road is to be commenced immediately after the completion of the fifteen-

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REPUBLICANS WORRY OVER BORDER SITUATION

WASHINGTON, Mar. 25.—Uneasy over the situation on the Mexican border, senate republicans today held a conference with a view to determining upon a plan to ask for more troops to protect the border. The conference adjourned until Monday without action when some definite step will be taken.