

SAFEGUARD TO TRAVEL

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION TO FOLLOW INVESTIGATION OF SURVIVORS OF THE OCEAN LINER TITANIC.

Officers of White Star Line of Steamships to Appear Before Committees of House and Senate and Explain Absence of Lifeboats and Other Appliances for Saving Passengers—Drastic Action.

Washington, D. C., April 17.—As a complement to the congressional investigation, the scope of which has not yet been fully determined, Secretary Nagel of the Department of Commerce and Labor will take up at once with President Taft the entire subject of safeguarding ocean travel by more stringent American shipping regulations.

The disaster has aroused Congress, President Taft and the cabinet to the urgent need for immediate measures of safety for oceanic travel. It is believed that laws will be prepared at once in Congress, based on the advice of officials of the Department of Commerce and Labor and American shipping experts, which will insure safety of passengers and crew in cases like the present, where ample time existed for their removal in lifeboats.

Will Summon Officials. No concrete program of action has yet been outlined. The congressional investigations announced by Chairman Alexander and Nelson of the House and Senate committees will probably result in the summoning also of officials of the White Star line to state what precautions for safety are taken on the White Star liners.

Government officials charged with the enforcement of the shipping laws and regulations were engrossed today with the subject of safety and protection for trans-Atlantic travel.

Reforms Demanded. It is expected that immediate reforms will be demanded officially by the government, and will be enforced through new laws requiring all vessels entering American ports to carry sufficient emergency apparatus to remove all passengers and crews in time of emergency.

President Taft is taking a keen personal interest in all features of the proposed regulations of passenger vessels, and he will probably send recommendations to Congress containing the suggestions of executive departments for new legislation.

Revenue cutters' officials in Washington believe the disaster will result in insurance companies insisting on steamships taking a more southerly course across the ocean.

Control of Wireless. Prompt action is to be taken by Congress to report a bill providing a strict control of wireless, a subject which was under consideration at a conference yesterday between President Taft and members of the cabinet. Measures have been pending for some time in the House committee on merchant marine. Interference of amateurs and irresponsible operators with the anxiously-awaited messages from the Carpathia and other ships will result in an attempt to secure immediate legislation regulating wireless operation.

The Senate resolution, introduced today, calling for a comprehensive investigation of the Titanic disaster, was ordered favorably reported by the Senate Committee on Commerce this afternoon and immediately brought up in the Senate. The resolution was adopted without discussion.

Question of Law.

Secretary Nagel today discussed the ocean steamship situation with Assistant Secretary Cable and George Upler, supervising inspector general of steamboats. They took the position that the problem is wholly within the province of Congress and they welcome action from that quarter. The question whether the legislation applying to American navigation can be extended to foreign vessels touching the shores of the United States was considered.

Must Have Wireless. By a recent act of Congress, for-

sign as well as American vessels are compelled to have wireless equipment as a safeguard to navigation, and Secretary Nagel believes that the extension of the lifeboat requirements can be made in the same manner.

The practical effect of the American law, it was said, was to provide lifeboat space for practically every person aboard a ship.

MEETING TO FORM REPUBLICAN CLUB.

The republicans of the county will meet at the Odd Fellows' hall, on Third street, at 7:30 this evening, for the purpose of completing the organization of the republican club of the county and the election of officers. It is designed to embrace every republican, man or woman, in the county, in a compact, solid organization. Judge Brown is expected to call the meeting to order.

BANK MEN IN PRISON

OFFICIALS OF TEUTONIA BANK AND TRUST COMPANY OF NEW ORLEANS ARRESTED FOR LOOTING BANK.

Vice President and Former Cashier Arrested Today, Director and Chairman of Finance Committee Deciding Not to Try to Give Large Bail Demanded—President Arrested Twice in One Day.

New Orleans, La., April 17.—Further investigation into the affairs of the suspended Teutonia Bank and Trust company resulted in the arrest today of A. Wagatha, vice president and former cashier, on the charge of receiving deposits while knowing the bank was insolvent. He furnished \$10,000 bail.

Eugene F. Bushler, president, was arrested twice yesterday, four times in all. He is out under \$5,000 bail to answer charges of embezzling \$6,500, making false statements, concealing the condition of the bank and receiving deposits, knowing of its insolvency.

Joseph H. Gomila, director and chairman of the finance committee, made another trip to the jail today and decided to stay rather than furnish \$55,000 bail. He is held on six charges, two for embezzlement, making false statements and concealing conditions, and three for forgeries of approximately \$14,500.

Frank J. Braud, former cashier, charged with embezzling \$60,000, is in jail in default of \$20,000 bail. Emil C. Roehl, W. S. Rogers and P. E. Brue are held as material witnesses.

WRECK BURNED BY OIL LAMPS

SPREADING RAILS ON MEXICAN NORTHWESTERN CAUSES ACCIDENT BUT PASSENGERS ALL GET AWAY.

Coaches Were Overturned and Timbers Caught Fire, Giving Road Some Trouble for Time—Mexican Central Tied Up Between Chihuahua and Juarez and No Trains Arriving From That Section.

El Paso, Texas, April 17.—The Mexican Northwestern passenger train, bound from El Paso to Chihuahua, was wrecked and burned ten miles south of Juarez last night, but all of the forty-seven passengers escaped with slight injuries. The Mexican mail clerk is missing.

The accident was due to spreading rails. The coaches all overturned. The wreck caught fire from the oil lamps, but not until the passengers had escaped.

The Mexican Central train, due last night from Chihuahua, did not arrive, and in consequence there was no train for the south over this line.

CARPATHIA NEARING PORT OF NEW YORK

HAS ON BOARD EIGHT HUNDRED AND SIXTY-EIGHT SURVIVORS OF THE SINKING OF THE TITANIC.

Wireless Messages Bring Word That Vessel Was Within Six Hundred Miles of Entrance to Harbor and Should Reach That City Tomorrow Night—All Women Saved and Prominent Men Missing.

New York, April 17.—The Cunarder Carpathia, bearing the 868 survivors of the sunken White Star liner Titanic, was less than 600 miles from New York at noon today and word was eagerly awaited that would shed light on the catastrophe of Sunday night, which cost 1,312 lives. Sable Island was in brief communication with the rescue ship for a time this morning, but no additional names of survivors were obtained.

Striving for Communication. Wireless stations along the New England coast were straining to get in communication with the vessel this afternoon, and the scout cruiser Salem was somewhere off Nantucket for the purpose of relaying ashore, through her sister cruiser, the Chester, some connected account of the disaster. In New York the White Star line offices received a brief wireless dispatch saying that the Carpathia was 596 miles from the harbor entrance. This should bring her into port either late Thursday night or early Friday morning. At Halifax the cable ship Mackay-Bennett has been fitted out to go to the scene of the disaster. Coffins, ice and embalming materials were loaded aboard in the hope that many bodies may be picked up near the scene of the wreck.

NUMBER OF SURVIVORS.

Unofficial Statement from Carpathia Gives List at Seven Hundred.

New York, April 17.—The Camperdown wireless station at Halifax today sent the Associated Press the following dispatch. "We are now in communication with Carpathia and in position to announce unofficially that the Titanic struck an enormous berg and sunk. Over two thousand lost; 700 survivors, mostly women, on Carpathia."

Discrepancy Explained.

The attention of the Camperdown station was at once called to the obvious error in figures, which would give the total of lost and survived at 2,700, whereas the total number of passengers and crew is about 2,200. In reply to this inquiry, the following further explanation was received from Halifax:

"The Marconi station reports that nothing authentic regarding the lost is known on board the Carpathia, but the steamer Franconi, in relaying the messages from the Carpathia, says that the total number of saved is only 710. There is no list of missing on the Cunarder and only a rough estimate of her total passenger list. There probably will be more than 2,200 on ship, as quite a number boarded her at Cherbourg."

The estimates of 2,200 on board the Titanic have embraced the sailings from all ports, including Cherbourg, as far as the company's officials have been able to learn.

COMING DOWN COAST.

Faint Touch With Sable Island Wireless Station by Carpathia.

New York, April 17.—In faintest touch with the wireless station at Sable Island, the Cunarder liner Carpathia, with 868 survivors of the sunken Titanic on board, was creeping down the coast early this morning, making the best time for this port that foggy conditions would permit.

Speeding up the coast toward the rescue ship, and hoping to get within wireless speaking distance of her before very many hours, were the scout cruisers Salem and Chester, ordered by the government at Washington to make all haste possible toward breaking the silence which so far has kept the survivors on the Carpathia from

making known to the outside world the thrilling story of the Titanic's last hours after and the moment spanning after she had taken her two-mile plunge to the bottom off the grand banks of New Foundland early Monday morning.

From the Chester, at an early hour, this message came: "Expect to be up with Carpathia within three or four hours."

May Open Communication.

The injection of the scout cruisers into the situation, indeed, seemed to afford the only hope of opening up communication with the Carpathia until she reached the wireless zone of Nantucket, as she was apparently too far off-shore, and her wireless apparatus too weak, to reach the Sable Island station in a way to admit of the ready transmission of messages.

That more than 1,300 persons, passengers and crew, had gone down with the giant liner was the belief that grew into almost a positive conviction as hour after hour passed. It is estimated that approximately 140 members of the crew were saved, their presence to man the lifeboats being required to insure the safety of the passengers. An estimate of 400 steerage passengers saved completes the total of 868, which the Carpathia has made known she has on board.

Many Women Saved.

As the lists indicate, the great majority of these are women. The names of only 79 men rescued have been given in the lists telegraphed from the Carpathia, whereas the names of 249 women appear in the tabulation. Of the 400 steerage passengers, thought to be saved, it is believed that nearly all were women. The men among the passengers seemed largely to have remained to die that the women and children might be saved. Little hope was entertained that the fishing schooner Dorothy Baird, which was passed in the vicinity of the Titanic disaster by the freighter Etonian of the Phoenix line, had rescued any of the liner's passengers. Officers of the Etonian thought it probable that the schooner had returned to St. Johns without knowledge of the disaster.

Prominent Names Missing.

The names of John Jacob Astor, Isador Straus, the millionaire merchant, George B. Widener of Philadelphia, Major Archibald Butt, aide to President Taft; Francis D. Millet, the American artist; William T. Snead, the London journalist; Benjamin Guggenheim and Colonel and Mrs. Washington Roebling are among the more prominent names missing from the list of the saved.

HUNTING BODIES.

Cable Ship Fitting Out for Trip to Scene of the Titanic Tragedy.

Halifax, April 17.—The cable ship Mackay-Bennett, which has been chartered by the White Star line to go to the scene of the Titanic disaster, was being loaded today preparatory to departure, in the hope that some bodies may be picked up. Coffins are being included in the cargo and several undertakers and embalmers will go along.

The cable ship Minia, which was near the disaster, has arrived here with no survivors. It had been hoped she might have picked up a few stragglers floating on rafts or among the wreckage.

is Taking Ice.

In addition to 100 coffins, the Mackay-Bennett is taking 100 tons of ice. The mission of this ship recalls the disaster to the steamer La Bourgoyne, when a similar vessel was fitted out to search the sea for dead. At that time more than thirty bodies were found floating near the scene of the disaster, although the vessel did not sail from Halifax until a week after the tragedy.

WILL HEAR PASSENGERS.

Survivors to Be Asked to Testify Before House Committee.

Washington, D. C., April 17.—Survivors of the Titanic disaster will be summoned to Washington to tell committees of Congress the facts concerning the inability of the steamship officials to save the lives of all the pas-

sengers on the liner. Representative Alexander of Missouri, chairman of the House committee on merchant marine and fisheries, announced today an investigation in which the passengers will give chief testimony.

Investigation in Senate.

A resolution will be offered in the Senate, probably today, to direct the commerce committee or a sub-committee to make a thorough probe of the Titanic tragedy and to empower the committee to summon witnesses and take any necessary steps.

COMING THURSDAY.

Carpathia Expected to Reach New York at Nine Thursday Night.

New York, April 17.—The White Star line made public this morning the following unsigned message from the steamship Carpathia, probably relayed to New York: "Carpathia east of (Continued on Page Five.)"

MANY KILLED IN BIG STORM

ELECTRICITY, WIND AND RAIN COMBINE TO RENDER HOUSELESS AND LIFELESS SOME RESIDENTS.

Towns North or West of New Orleans Visited By Storms and Three Are Struck By Lightning and Killed—Hail Stones Break Window Glass and Church, Public Hall, Mill and Residences Destroyed in Places.

New Orleans, La., April 17.—Several persons were killed and a large amount of property was damaged in several south Louisiana towns during the night by electric, rain and wind storms. In the early crop district, north of New Orleans, the damage will be the heaviest. Most of the damage was confined to towns just north or west of New Orleans. The dead:

JOHN WILLIAMS, Plaquemine; struck by lightning.

FRANK MONTLEONE, Natalbany; caught in collapse of house.

JOHN HAMILTON, negro, Manchase; struck by lightning.

Ponchatoula Damaged. A wind storm of tornado intensity swept through the town of Ponchatoula, north of New Orleans. A church, a public hall, a mill and several residences were wrecked.

Hail stones that accompanied the wind pelted out nearly every pane of window-glass in the town. Trees were prostrated. As they fell, several persons were hurt.

The strawberry crop is said to have suffered.

Killed in Own House.

When the wind passed over the town of Goodbee several houses were blown down. Charles Giles was killed when the ruins of his home tumbled about him.

In the country about Plaquemine, west of New Orleans, the wind was accompanied by a cloudburst. There was much damage.

APPEAL FOR AID.

President Taft Would Raise Funds for Flood Sufferers.

Washington, April 17.—An appeal on behalf of the Red Cross for funds to aid the flood sufferers in the Mississippi valley was made to the public today by President Taft, who is president of the society. The president says that conditions are so acute as to require immediately resources far in excess of those now at command.

WATER RISING.

Inhabitants of Tallulah in Danger from the Floods.

New Orleans, La., April 17.—A telegram received here today by Mayor Behrman from John M. Parker, at Vicksburg, telling of the desperate conditions of the flood sufferers in and near Tallulah, La., says:

"Am informed water rising so fast that Tallulah is in peril, inhabitants have been moved to higher ground. Have chartered every available staff and launch."

GRANTS DECREE OF DIVORCE TO FIREMAN'S WIFE.

Judge Carpenter today granted a decree of divorce to Mrs. Arthur C. Jones from her husband, the locomotive fireman.

TRAINMEN QUIT JOBS

FROM EIGHT HUNDRED TO ONE THOUSAND AMERICAN CONDUCTORS AND ENGINEERS OBEY ORDERS.

Reports Revealed by Representatives of Order of Railway conductors and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers Say Members are Being Discriminated Against By Men They Taught Among Mexicans.

El Paso, April 17.—At 5 o'clock this afternoon every American conductor and engineer on the Mexican National lines will quit work. The order for the walkout was issued a week ago and reports received here by representatives of the Order of Railroad Conductors and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers show that from 800 to 1,000 men are ready to obey the order. The Americans claim that they have been discriminated against in favor of Mexicans, to whom they have taught the business.

WALKOUT COMPLETE.

Americans Without Exception Reported to Have Quit Mexican National. Laredo, Texas, April 17.—The walkout of American engineers and conductors was complete today on the entire Northern and Gulf divisions of the Mexican National railways. No serious disorders were reported. Without exception the Americans are reported to have joined the strike.

INCREASED ARMY.

Republic of Mexico to Issue Bonds for Additional Soldiers.

Laredo, Texas, April 17.—Mexico's army is to be increased to 60,000 and maintained through a bond issue of 20,000,000 pesos (\$10,000,000), according to a statement of a cousin of President Madero who was here today. The bond issue is to be taken up by Mexican capitalists. The issue is to be financed through an additional tax of 20 per cent on spirituous liquors and other luxuries. The bonds will be payable sixty days after date of issue. Senators have been called to Mexico City to confirm this bond issue, which is expected to augment the Mexican revenues greatly through the contemplated tax.

READY TO AID.

New Mexico to Expend Ten Thousand Dollars to Protect the Border.

Santa Fe, April 17.—"Resolved, That it is the sense of this conference that a law be enacted to appropriate ten thousand dollars to be placed at the disposition of Governor McDonald to expend, as he deems necessary, in case of intervention by the United States in Mexico, to protect the New Mexico border."

This resolution was adopted this noon at a conference of Governor McDonald, Adjutant General Bookes, the Ways and Means committee of the House and the Senate Finance committee on the unsatisfactory condition along the border.

IN REBEL HANDS.

Bavispe Said to Have Been Captured by Troops from Juarez.

El Paso, April 17.—Bavispe, Sonora, has fallen into the hands of a band of rebels sent out from Juarez, according to telegraphic advices received in Juarez today. Eleven federal defenders of the town were killed and four of the rebels. Two rebel captains were among the wounded.

HOME FROM TRIP TO WESTERN WYOMING.

D. O. Herrick, traveling in the interest of the Overland Cereals company, returned last night from a business trip to the western part of the state, as far as Evanston. He reports a very satisfactory condition of affairs in that part of the state.

Some snow this afternoon.