

Carthia Refuses to Give Out Any Word of Closing Hours of the Liner Titanic

All Requests for Details of Collision and Sinking of Ship Are Ignored

CENSORSHIP APPEARS TO BE COMPLETE

No Response Is Given to Inquiries As to What Had Taken Place After the Great Steamer Hit the Iceberg

REFUSES TO O. K. MESSAGE.

NEW YORK, April 18.—A wireless message picked up at 2:35 o'clock this morning by the Brooklyn navy yard, sent by the scout cruiser Salem to Siasconsett, said:

"I can read the Carpathia, but he won't take any business from me." The Brooklyn operator said he also heard the Salem tell Siasconsett that he had sent President Taft's message concerning Major Archibald Butt to the Carpathia, but that the wireless operator on the Cunarder would not give him an O. K. for it.

Beyond even the mystery of how the Titanic met her fate, another mystery evolved by the events of the last three days forced itself to the front last night.

Although the rescue ship Carpathia was within the zone of wireless communication for hours in the night and both shore stations and relaying ships were able to obtain from her long lists of survivors among the steerage passengers and to send and receive numerous short messages from and to private individuals, not a word of matter descriptive of the manner in which the Titanic received her death blow or how those on board the doomed liner conducted themselves in the face of impending death reached the shore.

Given the names of the first and second cabin passengers and the assurance, which the Carpathia furnished that she had no more of these to offer, the word of world-wide interest demanded of the Cunarder was that which would reveal what took place on the Titanic's decks when it became known that the fate of the liner was sealed.

But that word was not spoken. Neither was there any explanation forthcoming from the surviving officers of the Titanic as to how their ship came to strike the obstacle in the ocean.

Requests for News Ignored.

From the Marconi offices word came that repeatedly when the wireless working conditions practically were perfect the Carpathia was asked to convey to the waiting world some idea of the momentous happenings on the Titanic's terrible three hours and 55 minutes between the time she struck the iceberg off the banks and that of her final plunge to the bottom.

One explanation advanced was that the wireless operator of the Carpathia was exhausted as a result of his three days' work at the key. But among the list of rescued on board the Carpathia is second wireless operator of the Titanic, who might have been counted to relieve the tired sender.

A censorship appeared to exist on the Carpathia, which prevented any response to inquiries of what had taken place after the Titanic struck the iceberg.

The wireless operator on the Carpathia is an officer of the Cunard line and therefore subject to the ship's commander.

Hope Turned to Despair.

Thousands of hopeful hearts were turned to despair when the United States scout cruiser Chester sent a wireless dispatch late today that she had been in communication with the Carpathia and had asked repeatedly for the full list of the first and second cabin survivors and that the rescue ship reported that all the names already had been sent ashore.

The other 540 persons saved were passengers in the steerage or members of the crew.

After the strain of three days' waiting, without news of their missing ones, there were few of the hopeful that still held out tonight against the seemingly final word as to the fate of friends and relatives.

The small remaining hope of those who persistently refused to believe the worst, rested tonight on the faint possibility that the list of survivors sent by wireless from the Carpathia might not be quite complete. The fact that one new name came through late today in a private message from the Carpathia, was the basis of what was a desire more than a hope that there were slips enough in her wireless list to account for a few of those unaccounted for. At the best, however, it appeared that it could be only an occasional one whose safety had not been reported.

To Reach Harbor Tonight.

From the Carpathia, which was approximately 600 miles from New York this morning, and which is expected, if she keeps up her rate of progress of 13 knots an hour, to reach the entrance of the harbor about 8 o'clock tomorrow night, came a report in the day as to the number of survivors on board.

Through the Cunarder Franconia, which established wireless communication with the rescue ship, came a message which included this statement:

"She has a total of 705 survivors aboard."

The previous statement from the Carpathia had been that she carried 868 survivors. It may be that the report received through the Franconia included a count of rescued passengers

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only, disregarding the 100 or more members of the crew who must have been in the boats which the Carpathia picked up.

Communicating With Carpathia.

Communication was being had with the Carpathia tonight through both the scout cruisers and the shore wireless station at Siasconsett. Through the Chester there has been coming slowly the names of saved passengers from the third cabin of the Titanic.

The very sending of these could but help confirm the belief that there were no more names of first and second cabin passengers to send. And thus there was left hardly a possibility that the names of well known men such as John Jacob Astor, William T. Stead, Isadore Strauss and other notables could have been omitted in the transmission of names.

That these men had gone down with the ship there remained hardly a doubt. Authorities on conditions off the banks agreed that rescues of passengers not taken from the liner by the boats would have to be made speedily as exposure and exhaustion would sap quickly the life of human beings forced to resort to any other means than boats of keeping afloat.

During the early night the wireless communication of the Carpathia with Siasconsett was for the most part devoted to sending of private messages of reassurance from passengers to friends on shore and to transmission of anxious inquiries from land to the vessel. Momentarily the chance was awaited for communication of greater moment to the world at large, the opportunity to draw from the rescue ship the secret of the Titanic's last hours afloat.

Suspend Wireless Business.

That every chance might be afforded to open up freely communication with the slowly approaching liner, practically all other wireless business along the coast tonight was suspended. The Marconi company early tonight announced that it had notified its stations at South Welfleet, Siasconsett, Sagaponack and Sea Gate to handle messages to and from the Carpathia exclusively.

"All other commercial and government stations," the message reads, "will cease transmitting while the Carpathia's business is being exchanged with the above stations. No other work than the Carpathia's and business from the government ships going to meet the Carpathia will be permitted."

These instructions it was stated, were sent out in conformity with the by the Marconi company and which was agreed to.

While preparations were being made here to receive and safeguard the living on their arrival here, word came that a cable steamer had set out for the scene of the disaster from Halifax to seek the dead.