AS THE TITANIC WENT TO IT'S GRAVE

Graphic Description Given By a Reporter.

1.726 Lives Lost in This Most Appalling of All Sea Tragedies -Boat Strikes Berg and Then Böllers Explode—Brave Men and Women Meet Death With Undaunted Courage.

BY CARTER P. HURD. Staff Reporter, N. Y. World, who ar-

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New York, April 19.—Seventeen hundred lives—the figures will hardly wary in either direction by more than a few dozen-were lost in the sinking of the Titanic which struck an iceberg at 11:45 p. m. Sunday and was at the ocean's bottom 2 hours and 35 minutes after.

The printed rolls of first and second cabins, compared with the list of the survivors on the Carpathia, show that of 341 first-cabin passengers, 212 were saved, 154 of them women and children; and that of 262 secondcabin passengers, 115 were saved, 102 of them women and children. of the third-class passengers, 800 in number, 136 survive, of whom 83 are women and children.

Of 985 officers and crew, 199, including 22 women, reached the Carpathia. A few in each class doubtless escaped enumeration on the Carpa-

1,688 Are Unaccounted For. Accepting the estimate of the Carbathia's officers that 700 survivors reached the ship, comparison with the total, 2,388, shows that 1,688 are unaccounted for.

There is but the faintest hope that any of these reached any other ship. Reports that the California, a cattle ship, may have rescued a few persons, have given merciful respite from utter despair to some of the women.

Cause, responsibility and similar questions regarding the stupendous disaster will be taken up in time by the British marine authorities. No disposition has been shown by any survivor to question the courage of the crew, hundreds of whom saved others and gave their own lives with a heroism which equaled, but could not exceed that of John Jacob Astor, Henry B. Harris, Jacques Futrelle and cabin missing.

Officers Knew Icebergs Were Near. Facts which I have established by Inquiries on the Carpathia, as posi-Rively as they could be established in view of the silence of the few surviving officers, are:

That the Titanic's officers knew several hours before the crash, of the possible nearness of icebergs.

That the Titanic's speed, nearly 23 knots an hour, was not slackened.

That the number of lifeboats on the Titanic was insufficient to accommodate much more than one-third of the passengers, to say nothing of the crew. Most members of the crew may there were 16 lifeboats and two collapsibles; none say there were more than 20 boats in all. The 700 who escaped filled most of the 16 lifeboats and the one collapsible which got away to the limit of their capac-

"Women First" Rule Enforced. That the "women first" rule, in some cases, was applied to the extent of turning back men who were with their families, even though not enough women to fill the boats were at hand on that particular part of the deck. Some few boats were thus lowered without being completely filled, but most of these were soon filled with sailors and stewards, picked up out

of the water, who helped man them. That the bulkhead system, though probably working in the manner intended, availed only to delay the ship's sinking, the position and length of the ship's wound (on the starboard quarter) admitted tcy water which caused the boilers to explode, and these explosions practically broke the ship in two.

Bulkheads Rendered Ineffective. Had the ship struck the iceberg bead-on, at whatever speed, and with whatever resultant shock, the bulkhead system of water-tight compartments would probably have saved the vessel. As one man expressed it, it was the "impossible" that happened when, with a shock unbelievably mild. the ship's side was torn for a length. which made the bulkhead system in effective.

The Titanic was 1.799 miles from Queenstown and 1,191 miles from New York, speeding for a maiden voyage record. The night was starlight. the sea glassy. Lights were out in most of the staterooms, and only two or three congenial groups remained in the public rooms.

in the crow's nest, or lookout, and on the bridge, officers and members of the crew were at their places. awaiting relief at midnight from their two hours' watch.

Danger Warning Sounded. At 11:45 came the sudden sound of

two gongs, a warning of immediate

danger. had been sighted at only a quarter of a mile, came almost simultaneously with the click of the levers operated by those on the bridge, which stopped the engines and closed the watertight doors.

Captain Smith was on the bridge a moment later giving orders for the summoning of all on board, and for the putting on of life-preservers and the lowering of lifeboats.

Many Men in First Boats. The first boats lowered contained

more men than the latter ones, as the men were on deck first and not enough women to fill them.

When, a moment later, the rush of frightened women and crying children to the deck began, enforcement of the "women first" rule became rigid. Officers loading some of the boats drew revolvers, but in most cases the men, both passengers and crew, behaved in a way that called for no such restraint.

Report Captain Shot Self.

Revolver shots, heard by many persons shortly before the end of the Titanic, caused many rumors. One was that Captain Smith shot himself, another was that First Officer Murdock ended his life. Smith, Murdock and Sixth Officer Moody are known to have been lost. The surviving of ficers, Lightoller, Pitman, Bothall and Lowe have made no statement.

Members of the crew discredit all reports of suicide, and say Captain Smith remained on the bridge until just before the ship sank, leaping only after those on the decks had been washed away. It is also related that, when a cook later sought to pull him aboard a lifeboat he exclaimed: "Let me go!" and, jerking away, went

Life-Preservers Effective.

What became of the men with lifepreservers is a question asked since the disaster by many persons. The

The crash against the iceberg which Remarkable Heroism Displayed by All.

Enforcement of the Rule "Women First" Sunders Family Ties Forever-Famous Americans Show Elements of Strong Manhood—Passengers in Lifeboats Watch Great Steamer Sink.

boats would have a chilly half hour below, and might later be laughed at. It was such a feeling as this, from all accounts, which caused John Jacob Astor and his wife to refuse the places offered them in the first boat and to retire to the gymnasium. In the same way H. J. Allison, Montreal banker, laughed at the warning, and his wife, reassured by him, took her time about dressing. They and their daughter did not reach the Carpathia. Their son, less than two years old, was carried into a lifeboat by his nurse and was taken in charge by, Maj. Arthur Peuchen.

The admiration felt by passengers and crew for the matchlessly appointed vessel was translated, in those first few moments, into a confidence which, for some, proved deadly.

Lifeboats Are Lacking. In the loading of the first boat, restrictions of sex were not made, and it seemed to the men who piled in beside the women that there would be boats enough for all. But the ship's officers knew better than this, and as the spreading fear caused an earnest advance toward the suspended craft the order, "Women first!" was heard, and the men were pushed aside.

To the scenes of the next two hours



MOST DREADED PART OF ATLANTIC OCEAN.

preservers did their work of supporting their wearers in the water until the ship went down. Many of those drawn into the vortex, despite the preservers, did not come up again. Dead bodies floafed on the surface as the last boats moved away.

Band Plays as Ship Sinks.

To relate that the ship's string band gathered in the saloon, near the end, and played "Nearer, My God, to Thee," sounds like an attempt to give an added solemn color to a scene which was in itself the climax of solemnity. But various passengers and survivors of the crew agree in the declaration that they heard the music. To some of the hearers, with husbands among the dying men in the water and at the ship's rail, the strain brought in thought the words:

"So, by my woes I'll be Nearer, my God, to thee,

Nearer to thee. "Women and children first," was the order in the filling of the Titanic's lifeboats. How well that order was fulfilled the list of missing first and second cabin passengers bears eloquent witness. "Mr." is before almost every name.

Chose Death With Husbands. Mrs. Isidor Straus, who chose death rather than to leave her husband's ide; Mrs. Allison, who remained below with her husband and daughter, and others who, in various ways were

kept from entering the line of those to be saved, are striking examples of those who faced the disaster calmiy. To most of the passengers the midnight crash did not seem of terrific force Bridge players in the smoking

room kept on with their game. nee or deek or to besitated to enter the cwinging it cleats. The ly, the abglassy sea, the st rusence, in the first for terse excitement, g the teeling that there was a e slight

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on those decks and in the waters below, such adjectives as "dramatic" and "tragic" do but poor justice. With the knowledge of deadly peril gaining greater power each moment over those men and women, the nobility of the greater part, both among cabin passengers, officers, crew and steerage, asserted itself.

Straus Held Back by Guard. Isidor Straus, supporting his wife on her way to a lifeboat, was held back by an inexorable guard. Another officer strove to help her to a seat of safety, but she brushed away his arm and clung to her husband, crying, "I will not go without you."

Another woman took her place, and her form, clinging to her husband's became part of a picture now drawn indelibly in many minds. Neither wife nor husband, so far as anyone knows, reached a place of safety.

Astor and Wife Part.

Colonel Astor, holding his wife's arm, stood decorously aside as the officers spoke to him, and Mrs. Astor and her maid were ushered to seats. Mrs. Henry B. Harris parted in like manner from her husband, saw him last at the rail, beside Colonel Astor. Walter M. Clark of Los Angeles, nephew of the Montana senator, joined the line of men as his young wife, sobbing, was placed in one of the craft.

"Let him come! There is room!" cried Mrs. Emil Taussig as the men of the White Star line motioned to her husband to leave her. It was with difficulty that he released her hold to permit her to be led to her place.

George D. Widener, who had been in Captain Smith's company a few moments after the crash, was another whose wife was parted from im and lowered, a moment later, to the surface of the calm sea.

Putt. Hays and Stead Lost. Of Major Archie Butt, a favorite with his fellow tourists; of Charles M.

Hays, president of the Grand Trunk; of Benjamin Guggenheim, and of William T. Stead, no one seems to know whether they tarried too long in their staterooms or whether they forebore to approach the fast filling boats None of them was in the throng which, weary hours afterward, reached

the Carpathia.

Pietole Check Steerage Men. Simultaneously on the upper decks of the ship the ropes creaked with the lowering of boats, and as they reached the water those in the boats saw what those on the decks could not see—that the Titanic was listing rapidly to starboard, and that her stern was rising at a portentious angle. A rush of steerage men toward the boats was checked by officers with revolvers in hand.

Some of the boats, crowded too full to give rowers a chance, drifted for a time. None had provisions or water, there was a lack of covering from the icy air, and the only lights were the still undimmed arcs and incandescents of the settling ship, save for one of the first boats. There a steward, who explained to the passengers that he had been shipwrecked twice before, appeared carrying three oranges and a green light.

Green Lantern as Savior.

That green light, many of the survivors say, was to the shipwrecked hundreds as the pillar of fire by night. Long after the ship had disappeared, and while confusing false lights danced about the boats, the green lantern kept them together on the course which led them to the Carpathia.

As the end of the Titanic became manifestly but a matter of moments, the oarsmen pulled their boats away, and the chilling waters began to echo splash after splash as passengers and sailors in life preservers leaped over and started swimming away to escape the expected suction.

loy Water Brings Death.
Only the hardiest of constitutions could endure for more than a few moments such a numbing bath. The first vigorous strokes gave way to heartbreaking cries of "Help! Help!" and stiffened forms were seen, the

faces relaxed in death. Revolver shots were heard in the ship's last moments. The first report spread among the boats was that Captain Smith had ended his life with a bullet. Then it was said that a mate had shot a steward who tried to push his way upon a boat against orders. None of these tales have been verifled, and many of the crew say the captain, without a preserver, leaped in at the last and went down, refusing

a cook's offered aid. Last Lifeboat is Capsized.

The last of the boats, a collapsible. was launched too late to get away, and was overturned by the ship's sinking. Some of those in it-all, say some witnesses-found safety on a raft, or were picked up by lifeboats.

In the Marconi tower, almost to the last, the loud click of the sending instrument was heard over the waters. Who was receiving the message, those in the boats did not know, and they would least of all have supposed that a Mediterranean ship in the distant South Atlantic track would be their rescuer.

Music Was a Sacrament,

As the screams in the water multiplied another sound was heard, strong at first, then fainter in the distance It was the melody of the hymn, "Nearer, My God, to Thee," played by the string orchestra in the dining saloon. Some of those on the water started to sing the words, but grew silent as they realized that for the men who played, the music was a sacrament soon to be consummated by death. The serene strains of the hymn and the frantic cries of the dying blended in a symphony of sorrow

Titanic Goes to Bottom. Led by the green light, under the light of the stars, the boats drew away, and the bow, then the quarter, then the stacks, and at last the stern of the marvel-ship of a few days before passed beneath the waters. The great force of the ship's sinking was unaided by any violence of the elements, and the suction, not so great as had been feared, rocked but mildly the group of boats now a quarter of a mile distant from it.

Sixteen boats were in the forlorn procession which entered on the terrible hours of rowing, drifting and suspense. Women wept for lost husbands and sons. Sailors sobbed for the ship which had been their pride. Men choked back tears and sought to comfort the widowed. Perhaps, they said, other boats might have put off in another direction toward the last. They strove, though none too sure themselves, to convince the women of the certainty that a rescue ship would appear.

Carpathia Brings Joy. Early dawn brought no ship, but not long after 5 a. m. the Carpathia, far out of her path and making 18 knots an hour instead of her wonted 15, showed her single red and black smokestack upon the horizon. In the joy of that moment, the heaviest griefs were forgotten.

Soon afterward, Captain Rostron and Chief Steward Hughes were welcoming the chilled and bedraggled arrivals over the Carpathia's side.

The list of survivors given out after the Carpathia reached port did not contain the name of Arthur Ryerson, formerly of Chicago, although the other members of his family were saved. Miss Elizabeth Isham of Chicago is not in the list of rescued. E. G. Lewy, Chicago jeweler, was not on the Carpathia.

A survivor says the crew acted with great courage-but not with more heroism than was shown by John Jacob Astor, Jacques Futrelle and others of the noted passengers who per-

PECULIAR DEATH

GEORGE BEESON PULLS THUMB OUT BY THE ROOTS.

NEWS FROM OVER THE STATE

What is Going on Here and There That is of Interest to the Readers Throughout Nebrasks and Vicinity.

Grand Island .- Carl Bock, a young man employed in the filtering tank works of the Union Pacific shops here, strangled to death in a peculiar manner. His coat sleeve became caught in the machinery and his clothes were wound about his neck in such a manner as to bring death at | son, most instantaneously. The clothing stopped the machinery, and fellow workmen discovered Bock's body.

Echo of Blunt Tragedy.

Papillion.—Sheriff Hyers of Lancas ter county, Chief of Police Briggs and John C. Trouton of South Omaha were arraigned in the Sarpy county court at Papillion, charged with man-slaughter as the result of the killing of Roy Blunt last month. All pleaded not guilty and were held in \$2,500 bond for preliminary.

Loses Thumb In Disc Machine.

Geneva.-George Beeson, a blacksmith living here, got the thumb of his right hand caught in a disc machine at which he was working and had it pulled off, the tendons being torn asunder, some close to the thumb and others well up in the arm.

Open New Auditorium,

West Point.-The formal opening of he new auditorium at West Point took place Thursday evening in the presence of the largest crowd ever assembled at one place in the history of

Norfolk .- A tornado at O'Neil, Neb., lifted his ten-year-old daughter from the arms of L. B. Carey, while he was rushing to a storm cellar and carried

her ten miles. She landed in a grove practically unharmed. She was not found until morning and had suffered from the cold. Her clothing was torn by the trees into which the tornado had dropped her.

NEWS FROM THE STATE HOUSE

State Treasurer George collected \$532,000 in cash during the first three months of this year, and collected \$457,000 the first three months of last

Governor Aldrich as head of the Nebraska branch of the American Red Cross society has sent out an appeal for aid for the sufferers living in the lower Mississippi valley.

Chief Deputy Oil Inspector William Husenetter was at his office Thursday for the first time in ten days, he having been spending all of that time in a local hospital. Muscular Rheumatism contracted while fighting the recent high water in the valleys of Butler county was the reason for the state official's detention at the hos-

State Engineer Price is not so sure that the owners of irrigated lands in the western part of the state are going to receive as much benefit from government water as at first appeared. Secretary Fisher appeared eminently fair in his discussion of the matter with Governor Aldrich and Mr. Price, but put nothing in writing which would outline definitely his position.

An appropriation of \$600,000 is to be asked of the legislature next winter for the completion of the State Historical society's building, of which the basement and foundation of the south wing was constructed two years ago on the site at Sixteenth and H streets. When done the building will occupy the entire block across from the capitol extending from H to J streets and will extend half along the block to the

A number of commencement addresses and for Memorial day have already been scheduled for Governor Aldrich. He will speak on Memorial day, May 30, at Talmage. His commencement talks are to be at the following places: Shubert, May 15; Dunbar, May 16; Table Rock, May 17; St. Paul, May 21; Ansley, May 22; Alliance, May 23; Grafton, May 24; Wayne normal, May 28.

Owing to the recent fire in the university museum, the state geological survey will not be as comprehensive this summer and the party which usually leaves the fore part of June will probably not begin work until some time in July. An enormous amount of work remains to be done in the museum as a result of the fire and all of the first month of vacation will probably be spent by Curator Barbour and his assistants in replacing the exhibits lost in the flames.

A new American flag has been reseived at the office of the superintendent of grounds and buildings at the state university, and it is now adorning the new flag pole on top of University hall. The ensign will be in evidence hereafter on every day in which school is in session.

Capt. Halsey E. Yates, Seventeenth United States infantry, who has been commandant of the state university cadets for the last three years, has received orders assigning him to duty with the Thirtieth infantry, now staBRIEF NEWS OF NEBRASKA

Scottsbluff has organized a golf and country club.

Mr. and Mrs. Claus Eggers of Yutan celebrated their golden wed-

ding Sunday. A building boom has started at Shubert. At least six houses will be

erected this spring. John Kavanicka had his left leg broken and was badly bruised in

runaway at David City. A fire did considerable damage in the feed yards belonging to John N.

Heldt at Yutan, Saturday. Smallpox has broken out at Howe but a prompt quarantine confines the disease to one or two families. Miss Emma Morton, sister of the

late J. Sterling Morton, died at her home in Nebraska City, Saturday. A preliminary organization of boy scouts has been formed in Beatrice, in charge of Scoutmaster V. R. John-

The Elmwood Commercial club will co-operate with the farmers in maintaining good roads leading to that

Martin Scheckler, one of the pioneers of Nebraska City, died at his home Tuesday morning after a brief

Rasmus Larsen, aged sixty-two, was instantly killed by being run over by a Burlington switch engine at Grand

Christ Bonness, a ranchman near Alliance, was caught in the severe storm Saturday and died from ex-

Miss Anna East, a Fremont girl, will go to the Philippine islands to teach economics at the government

State bank deposits in Nebraska on March 16 aggregated over \$80,000,000, which is the highest figure ever

The stakes were driven at Syracuse Tuesday afternoon for the Eagles' home, that will cost between \$8,000

and \$10.00. John Braddock was shot by a companion while out hunting near Humboldt, the injury resulting in complete paralysis.

Rev. E. R. Anderson, pastor of the Danish Lutheran Evangelical church at Fremont, has accepted a call to Kenmore, N. D., and will leave in

The Lincoln German day committee has decided to celebrate two days this fall, October 8 and 9, the last day being devoted to a legendary-historic

W. Q. Dickinson of Seward has offered a choice building location to the city, provided the new Carnegle library and the Y. M. C. A. building will both be located thereon.

The highest price paid for wheat on the floor of the Omaha grain exchange this year was recorded Thursday morning, when a car of No. 3 mixed wheat was sold at \$1.081/4 a bushel.

The farmers in the vicinity of Howe are very busy getting the ground in has been done. Wheat is badly killed and many fields will have to be plant-

ed to corn. In attempting to cross the railroad track at North Platte during a high wind storm, Eli Harris was run down by a Union Pacific switch engine and so badly mangled that he died within a few hours.

In the Methodist campaign for \$400,000 increase for the endowment of Nebraska Wesleyan university Chester has reported the largest single subscription of any place up to the present time.

Harrison Merrill, an aged man liv ing near Ansley, came near losing his life when he was caught in a quicksand while fishing. He struggled in the treacherous mire for four hours before he was rescued.

Charles Strader of Lincoln, chairman of the Wesleyan endowment fund campaign, has received word from Rev. John Yates, a pastor at Chester. that Mrs. Martin Dewey of that place had tendered a \$10,000 subscription to the fund. The Missouri river swallowed up

fifty-nine acres of fine farm land owned by Mr. Hunter, who lives just across the river from Plattsmouth. This is the finest land in that vicinity and has been farmed with great profit heretofore. At a recent meeting of the Minis-

terial association of Lincoln it was unanimously voted to form two baseball teams which will meet in mortal combat at the next meeting, June 3. The Rev. F. S. Stein was appointed manager of the affair.

The endowment fund for the Nebraska Wesleyan university was put before the Methodists of Clay Center, Thursday evening, by Dr. L. R. De Wolf of Fairmont, L. O. Jones of Lincoln and Bishop John L. Neulsen

The annual meeting of the Nebraska County Judges' association at Grand Island elected Judge Campbell of Polk county as president and Judge Kelso of Franklin county as secretary. treasurer. The attendance was disappointing, only about twenty-five of the

county judges of the state attending. A Mrs. Roy, near Humboldt, was badly poisoned by eating a salad of which English walnuts were part of

the ingredients. A meeting in the interest of the Wesleyan endowment was held at Tecumseh, Sunday. L. O. Jones of Lin-

coln was the speaker. Ground has been broken for the new \$20,000 Central Christian church of Kearney. The church will be

erected in the heart of the city. While attempting to play with a litter of pupples, Carl Scott of Lincoin, five years of age, was severely tioned at the Presidio, San Francisco, bitten in the face by the mother dog.