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PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, MAY 10, 1915.

Retribution does not march behind a brass band.

Let Not Moral Indignation Becloud the Issue in International Law

AS GREAT a tragedy as the loss of the Lusitania, with its horrible toll of human life, would be any drastic action by this nation not based on a judicial consideration of the incident as it affects the United States. Many public men have already lost their heads and are calling madly for reprisals. The President is not likely to be swept into an insupportable policy, but it is important that in whatever course he decides upon he should have back of him an intelligent public opinion, based on a clear conception of the principles at issue. There will be many to clamor madly without knowing what they are clamoring about. There always are. It is the part of patriotism to chill the mob spirit at this time, recall men to their senses, and compel a deliberate consideration of the issues involved.

The German Point of View

THERE are two aspects to the situation, the one legal and technical and the other moral.

The Lusitania was a British merchantman, a ship of the naval reserve and subject to the orders of the Admiralty as such. It repeatedly carried contraband of war. It took to England, voyage after voyage, munitions of war. It profited from the existence of war, its chief competitors being held in port owing to the danger of destruction on the high seas. The German Government had notified all nations that her submarines, a new terror in naval warfare, would be used to destroy England's commerce, to prevent her from obtaining munitions of war from the United States, that they would not hesitate to torpedo merchantmen, even carrying passengers, with or without warning, as the exigencies of each particular case required, that all and particularly belligerent vessels were in danger within the designated war zone; and she amplified this warning, so far as the United States was concerned, by reiterating it in public advertisements. Manifestly, if the carrying of neutral passengers would protect British merchantmen, also transporting cargo, from destruction, Germany could in no way make effective her marine warfare, which, it is apparent, is vital to her existence. That is the German argument, and technically there is some merit in it.

England's Responsibility

ENGLAND, on the other hand, kept the Lusitania at work because she supposedly commanded the seas. She boasted that the ship could not be caught. She gave the warrant of her protection to every passenger. She guaranteed safe passage. She did not assume that the submarines would not try to get the Lusitania, but, on the contrary, ways and means for preventing their attacks had been discussed. She, having driven German tonnage off the seas, could not expect to continue her own commerce if it were within the might of Germany to prevent it. Germany had the power, in the form of submarines, a type of fighting craft invented subsequent to the formulation of international law, the legality of which, however, was recognized by all nations, for all nations have incorporated this form of ship in their navies. As to whether it is proper to use them as commerce destroyers, the question is a new one, but Germany's answer to it is and was well known.

British Vessels Not Protected by U. S.

THE destruction of a British ship by Germany does not concern the United States. Our interest lies solely in the fact that Americans were aboard and were killed. The only complaint, therefore, that we technically have a right to make is that it was the duty of the Germans to save American passengers before destroying the ship. Yet to establish that point we must fall back on international law as it existed previous to the use of submarines as commerce destroyers, and our case is weakened by the fact that the use of belligerent ships by neutral passengers is recognized as a hazardous thing, subjecting such passengers to unusual peril.

Guilford Case the Stronger

THROUGH the viewpoint of international law, we have a weaker case, a far weaker case, than that arising from the torpedoing of the Lusitania. In the one case we were an innocent sufferer in what Germany considered to be an act of war; in the other we

were the party directly attacked, and, unless apology is rendered, it was an act of war.

Moral Aspect

THAT, in brief, is the international aspect of the catastrophe, its technical phase and legal meaning. The moral aspect is entirely different, and shows the German Government without a leg to stand on, barren of humanity, a monster of monsters, immoral and unmoral, barbarous and savage, a war-machine without soul, daring everything and stopping at nothing, imperiling at once the civilization and the progress of the world, a pariah among nations, a comite criminal, too powerful for immediate chastisement, but certain sooner or later to languish in the hell of payment and go down into utter ruin. But the whole German nation cannot be indicted. It is the dynasty at its head which has preached the doctrine of force and won for a great people the animosity of almost all Christendom.

Yet it is not our function to direct the morals of other nations. We are neither international judge nor jury. We enter the situation only if our rights are trampled on and our sovereignty assailed. We stand appalled by the inhumanity of the deed, stunned by its awfulness, as we would have been had not an American been aboard the ship. Yet the offender may be within the letter of an interpretation of that indefinite thing which we know as international law.

Our Demands

WE CANNOT demand that German submarines shall stop sinking British ships; that is, unless we wish to become the vindicator of international law as it formerly existed and are ready to fight for our interpretation of it. We can demand, and we do expect, from Berlin an expression of regret that Americans were needlessly done to death, with such reparation as seems proper. We can demand that American ships be not molested on the high seas. We can and must give Berlin to understand that we are in no mood for trifling. Because we are patient we are not mollicoddies. We have it in our power when we will to strike the Hohenzollerns a deadly blow, even without risk to ourselves, for within our ports we hold the cream of her merchant fleets, subject, one and all of them, to immediate seizure.

Protection of American Ships

AMERICANS must use their own ships. There is no safety for them save under their own flag. Their right to protection then must be energetically asserted, no matter at what cost. We have fought before, and we are ready, if we must, to fight again. We are for peace because we are a sensible people; we are for war when it cannot sensibly be avoided. We can leave it to England to protect her own commerce. That is not our business. Nor need our citizens, who insist on running into danger, expect Washington to go to extremes on their behalf. The Government's duty to its nationals ends when they recklessly expose themselves.

No Casus Belli Now

THERE is not now a casus belli. There is no situation now that diplomacy cannot settle. The Government will not make demands on Germany that are not warranted by international law. It will, however, make plain its indignation, and it will show Berlin clearly enough the danger of murdering American citizens.

Civilization the Issue

IT is civilization even more than our own rights which is calling to us. The danger of war lies in the fact that a few more outrages may convince the United States that she must draw the sword in defence of human rights, as she has done before, that civilization itself may not be destroyed by the juggernaut which the Hohenzollerns have created.

Free Movies for Every Child

ALL those whose school days are over must be regretting that the moving-picture apparatus was not invented in their time. No other human device can so successfully change education from a dead and inert thing into a vital joy as the introduction of the "movies" into the common school courses in geography and zoology and other subjects.

Arrangements are already making for showing moving picture reels in all the Philadelphia schools. In geography, for example, as Doctor Raub explains, the children will see the people of other lands going about their daily work instead of reading about them in textbooks. Fifteen minutes, or even five minutes, spent in looking at a reel of Chinese life will give the average boy a better idea of China and its people than he would get from committing to memory all on the subject that his textbook contains. Reels illustrating the fishing industry, the collection and manufacture of rubber, the life history of the mosquito, the relation of sanitation to public health and the like, which have been exhibited in the moving-picture houses to interested adult audiences, can well be used in the schoolroom.

No one need complain that this innovation will make education easy. If it makes it interesting it will serve its purpose, and the more interesting it is the greater benefit it will confer on the pupils.

The Neglected Fathers

IT WAS Francis Wilson who, years ago, when speaking to some women on the importance of celebrating Mothers' Day, urged that a day be set apart also for the fathers. And why not? There is no more neglected class of citizens in the world than the fathers. The poets have not written sonnets to their eyebrows, nor have they sung of their self-sacrificing devotion to their families. The father is as necessary as the mother. He wears old clothes while his children get graduating gowns for the June exercises in the schools and colleges. He pays \$1.50 for a straw hat, and his daughters pay \$14.50 for a hat made of a bit of wire, some stiffening and a big gob of ribbon. He really deserves a day set apart for his glorification at least once a year. It might not be easy to induce him to consent to be set up on a pedestal to be

admired, for he is almost as modest as the mother; but if he were approached diplomatically he might consent to stand on the edge of the crowd and listen to the fine things said about some other father.

A Message for All Citizens

TODAY the President comes to Philadelphia to address hundreds of citizens who are about to become American citizens. They are from the gun-torn soil of Europe, most of them, voluntarily denouncing their natal allegiances and casting their lot with this nation, of which they will become part and parcel. They can do no wiser thing than keep green the memory of former days, but never so as to diminish their devotion to this Government. A citizen cannot be half an American and half something else. He must be all American or nothing. This is a refuge for the oppressed of all nations, but those who find sanctuary here and elect to become part of us must be for us and with us first, last and all the time.

The nation in this time of crisis, sorrow and anguish, when the maelstrom of war rages with stronger power to suck us in, will hang on the President's words. The opportunity dovetails into the country's mood. His message is to be not to the new citizens only, but to all citizens. Men are sobered now by the tragedies that accumulate with the hours. There is no partisanship, but a magnificent unity of support for the man whose task it is to guide the nation through this troublous period. Every American should hear or read what the President has to say today.

Dipped in the Immortality of Martyrdom

THE wife of the physician to the King of Belgium, who has been in this country raising funds for the relief of her stricken countrymen, went down with the Lusitania. It is the irony of fate that the force which drove her people into exile and sanctified by oppression a whole nation should have struck, too, this noble woman, a messenger of mercy, and dipped her into the immortality of martyrdom.

Delay Will Not Convert the Radicals

REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM F. VARE'S arguments in favor of holding a Constitutional Convention are unanswerable. The present Constitution is antiquated and cumbersome. It has not been revised since 1873, and when it was rewritten then it was loaded down with a multitude of provisions that ought to have been left out. It is there to be free and flexible government in this Commonwealth a greater degree of discretion must be allowed both to the General Assembly and to the cities and counties. But the present document is so full of petty restrictions that Philadelphia, for instance, has to seek amendment to the fundamental law if it wishes to raise money for rapid transit or for port development. The organization of its petty courts is prescribed, and there are innumerable other instances of restriction on local freedom.

If the Constitution is to be revised at all the work should be done directly by a Constitutional Convention. There is no demand, either in the public mind or in the necessities of the case, for the appointment of a commission to discover whether revision is necessary and to gather documents and to make recommendations. The only purpose such a commission can serve is to provide congenial jobs for organization workers. Let no one suppose that by delaying a convention the demand for radical changes can be evaded, for, whether it be radical or conservative, the people will have what they want. There is just as much political sanity here this year as there will be in two years or five years. And there are representative citizens able this winter to draft a Constitution fitted to the needs of the Commonwealth.

Johnson is Liked by His Friends

HARRIS WEINSTOCK, of the Industrial Relations Commission, thinks that Governor Johnson, of California, would get the entire Progressive vote and most of the independent vote of the West if he were nominated for the Presidency. Mr. Weinstock must be aware that the entire Progressive vote of the whole country is not big enough to elect any man to the Presidency and that nothing can be accomplished by a Progressive candidate except a division of the Republican vote.

If the friends of Governor Johnson, however, can get any enjoyment out of booming him for the Presidency this summer, no one should deny them that joy. There is time enough before the assembling of the Republican National Convention in Philadelphia next year for them to decide that their protest of 1912 accomplished its purpose and to conclude to work with their old friends for Republican success.

Climate and the Color Line

MRS. CARMAN, the wife of a Freeport (N. Y.) doctor, has been acquitted of the charge of murdering a woman patient in her husband's office, because the jurors did not believe the testimony of a colored servant girl. The girl had told two conflicting stories. Leo Frank, accused of killing a girl employe in his factory in Atlanta, Ga., was found guilty on the testimony of a colored man who was himself suspected of the crime. The Northern jury disbelieved the black woman and the Southern jury believed the black man when he was testifying against a white man.

Whoever can explain this curious reversion of what has commonly been supposed to be the relation between the color line and climate may throw some light on the processes of justice also.

The "pop" concerts are really popular. Yuan Shi-kai is acting as if the Chinese have a proverb about discretion being the better part of valor.

The ocean is no respecter of millionaires. It swallowed up a Vanderbilt as remorselessly as an Astor.

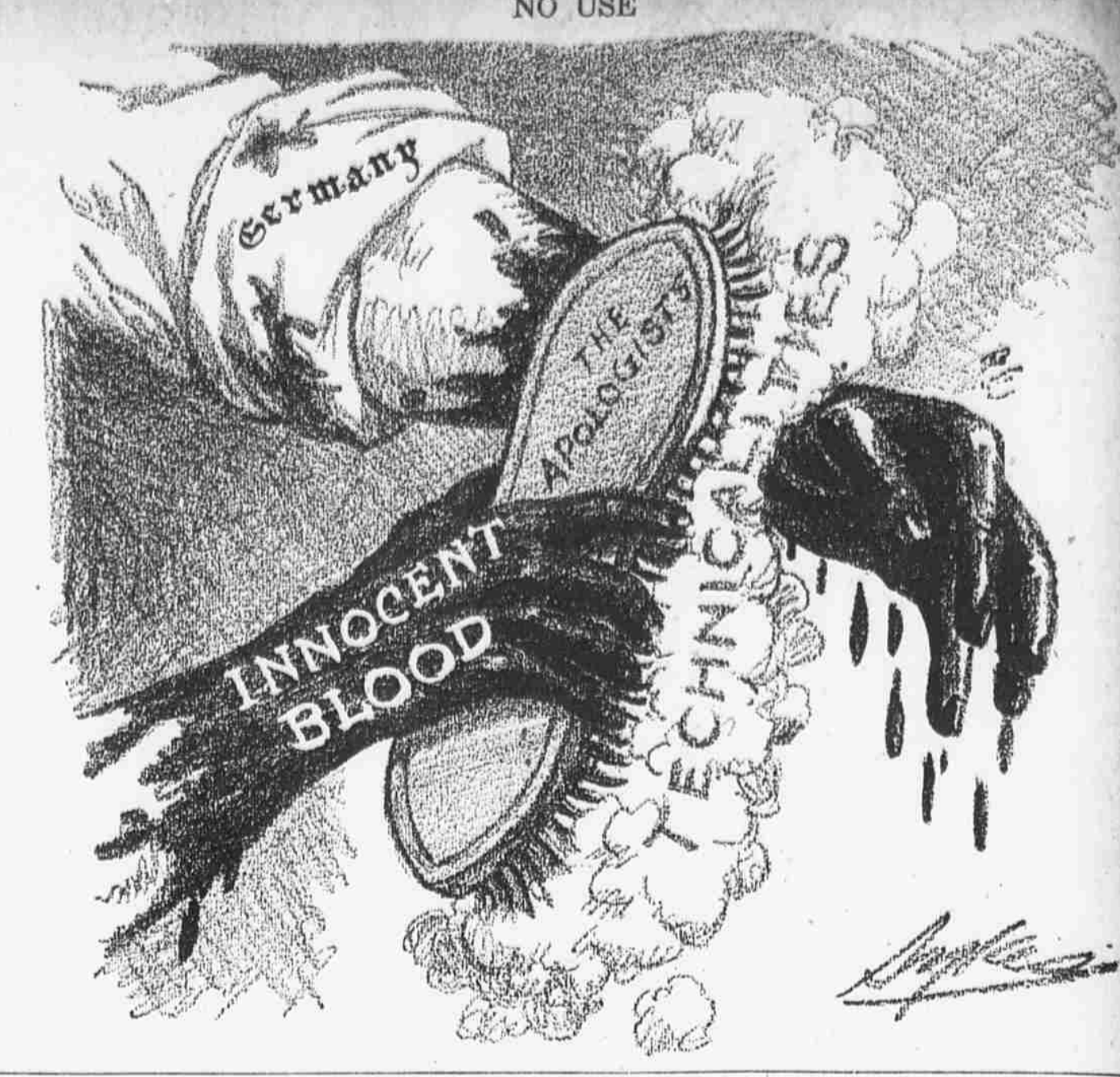
American clergymen agree that the exercise of morning hate for the British, now customary in Prussian homes, is unchristian.

While Philadelphia is trying to decide where to build a convention hall, Atlantic City is enlarging her hall to accommodate a big convention in June.

The lawyers for the plaintiff in Syracuse apparently think that the issue before the jury is whether the Colonel also is a corrupt boss.

And now the summer resorts are preparing to accommodate those who have decided that a trip to Europe has no charms for them.

Dernberg says that passengers were a shield for a war cargo; but the world will never admit that a war cargo can be used as an excuse for killing the innocent passengers.



PRESENTIMENTS OF GOOD AND EVIL

Marine Disasters Foreseen by Passengers—General Wolfe's Premonition Before the Battle of Quebec—Grant's Foresight. The Morning of Christ's Nativity.

By ROBERT HILDRETH

TRAGIC events like the destruction of the Lusitania or the sinking of the Titanic bring to public attention instances of that strange and unbidden power—or, rather, experience—of the human mind which we call premonition. One of the passengers lost in the Titanic disaster was a woman who had left her home in Wisconsin to visit relatives in Norway, and had kissed her husband and children goodby with the declaration that she would never see them again. One or two persons were reported to have canceled their bookings at the last moment because of an unaccountable feeling that the maiden voyage of the mighty liner would prove ill-fated.

Though we may not know much about premonitions and presentiments themselves, we recognize the words when we hear or see them, and that is evidence that they do mean something. The subject is interesting, and suggests prognosticators like Mme. Thebes, of Paris, and mediums like Mrs. Piper and Paladino, even recalling the Roman auguries and the Delphic oracles. Premonitions, however, seem to come also to ordinary mortals. Anyway, we know them well enough to separate them from superstitions like those which see coming events in the breaking of a mirror or the dropping of a dishcloth and from such weather forecasts as may be found in the unusual migrations or odd behavior of birds and animals.

Before the Battle

The premonitions of which we oftenest hear are premonitions of death. The fearless Wolfe, who wrested Quebec from Montcalm on the Plains of Abraham, is said to have had a presentiment that he would meet his death in the morrow's battle. Everything was in readiness for the attack the night before. The faint assault had completely fooled the French. General Wolfe was the only man among the English who was not in high spirits. He had fought on many fields, but this night he sent for Commander John Jarvis, a boyhood friend, who was a naval officer with the expedition, and gave him a picture of his sweetheart to return in case Wolfe was killed. He made his will and wrote a long letter to his mother. We are told that in the early morning, as the English forces began their attacking movement, Wolfe recited to some of his officers a stanza of "Gray's Elegy":

The boast of heraldry, the pomp of power, And all that beauty, all that wealth e'er gave, Awake alike to th' inevitable hour, The paths of glory lead but to the grave. Three times he was wounded as the conflict raged, but he died with the knowledge that Quebec had been won. Wolfe's fondness for the "Elegy" may have been due to a fatalistic turn of mind, which would not, however, explain his premonition of death; and fear certainly bore no part.

Not all premonitions are of harm or evil. Some of them are of places yet to be visited. The following story has been told: "I was staying with a friend, a clergyman, in South Carnarvonshire in March, 1887, I think, and dreamt that I was one of a shooting party. One of the party shot a woodcock." After telling how he and the clergyman, returning from a long walk, fell in with a gamekeeper and started into some woods which he had never seen before, the narrator continues, "I had a strange feeling of expectation; the identity of the scene became every moment clearer and clearer; my eyes fell upon the exact spot where the woodcock of my dream had risen; I was certain that the event of my dream would be re-enacted. I felt I must speak, and there was not a moment to lose. I shouted to my friend: "Look out, I dreamed I shot a woodcock here last night." "My friend turned and replied: "Did you?" "The words were hardly out of my mouth, and the gun off the keeper's shoulder (I was still intently gazing at the very foot of ground), when up gets a woodcock—the woodcock of my dream—and falls to the keeper's gun—a capital snap shot. We were not a little astonished, the keeper, moreover, remarking that he thought all the woodcocks had left the country some weeks before."

The story is of very dubious value as scientific evidence, but it is not unlike a great number which also spring from actual experience. They may be referred to hallucinations of memory and what not? but certainly they are not lies.

Grant's Presentiment

An interesting mention of a presentiment is contained in the "Personal Memoirs" of Ulysses S. Grant, where he is writing of the time when he was a cadet at West Point. He says: "During my first year's encampment, General Scott visited West Point and reviewed the cadets. With his commanding figure, his quite colossal size and showy uniform, I thought him the finest specimen of manhood my eyes had ever beheld and the most to be envied. I could never resemble him in appearance, but I believe I did have a presentiment for a moment that some day I should occupy his place on review—although I had no intention then of remaining in the army." General Grant speaks of the presentiment in another place and treats it with considerable respect.

Premonitory dreams are to be reckoned among presentiments. Joseph, we read in the Gospel of Matthew, was warned in a dream "to take the young child and his mother and flee into Egypt," and then, when Herod had died, he received the dream command, "Arise, and take the young child and his mother and go into the land of Israel." Premonitory dreams of such import as these come, of course, to few people.

"Sometimes all nature seems to have a premonition. In the play of 'Macbeth' the deep damnation of Duncan's taking off made the night unruly. "Some say, the earth Was feverish and did shade."

It was a wondrous hush that fell upon the world with the advent of the Christ Child. Milton sings the uncomprehending awe of nature and of men:

No war, or battle's sound Was heard the world around; The idle spear and shield were high uphung; The hooked chariot stood Unstain'd with hostile blood; The trumpet spake not to the armed throng; And kings sat still with awful eye, As if they surely knew their sovran Lord was by.

But peaceful was the night Wherein the Prince of Light His reign of Peace upon the earth began; The winds, with wonder whist, Smoothly the waters kist, Whispering new joys to the mild ocean— Who now have quite forgot to rage— While birds of calm sit brooding on the charmed wave.

OUR TREATY WITH GERMANY

From the Springfield Republican. In the treaty of 1858 Germany has something very convenient in settling those accounts with the United States that may arise out of conditions in her submarine warfare.

AMUSEMENTS

ARCADIA
DUSTIN FARNUM
CAPT. COURTESY
WEBER & FIELDS
TWO OF THE FINEST
Stanley ALL THIS WEEK
MARY PICKFORD AS 'FANCHON'
GLOBE
EDMUND BREESE
SHOOTING OF DAN McGREW
GRAND
NEW WOODSIDE PARK THEATRE
CASINO

DESERVING ANYWAY

From the Pittsburgh Gazette-Times. Secretary Bryan's son-in-law has been appointed to a \$1500 position by the Comptroller of the Currency. Whether as a deserving Democrat or merely a deserving son-in-law is not stated in the official bulletin.

FIFTH WARD RESULTS

From the Editor of the Evening Ledger: Sir—Shortly after the meeting of the 5th Ward members of the Committee of One Thousand, who had charge of bringing out the vote as to the issuance of bonds for subway—the writer was compelled to leave the city. I regret my absence prevented calling any further meetings before the election. I, however, arranged with my clerk to send out postal cards to about half the voters (70% of the ward. The "returns" were most satisfactory. The vote being practically 3:3 in favor and 1 against. In actual figures: 113 for; 3 against. Let us congratulate ourselves upon the results that the 5th Ward Committee secured. Philadelphia, May 6. WALTER WOOD.

TO A CHINESE AIR

The days are few for me, The craft is long To learn; incessantly I tune my song. Life is so short, you see, And pain so long. What should become of me Were I not strong? Great deeds are briefly told, Their virtues long, And with the men of old I, too, belong. —Georgiana Goddard King, in the Forum.

AMUSEMENTS

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE
Bill of International Stars!
GRACE LA RUE
WILLIAMS
SPECIAL
MOVING PICTURE OF LUSITANIA
LEAVING NEW YORK ON Her Fatal Voyage, Showing Many Notable Passengers Who Lost Lives in Disaster.

TONIGHT AT 8:15

7th "POP" CONCERT BY THE Philadelphia Orchestra

KITTY MacKAY

"The Love Story With a Laugh in Every Line"

GARRICK 10c, 15c, 25c

THE WILLIAMSON EXPEDITION

SUBMARINE

Only Films of Kind Ever Taken

CROSS KEYS THEATRE

FORREST Last 6 Evgs. Wed & Sat

THE LADY IN RED

DUMONT'S

MATINEES TODAY, 10 & 2

Trocadero