

Note. The two days on land came as a great rest, especially as it gave us relief from the poor food served on the "City of Bewares" as Heller called our boat.

There was one American oil steamer in port and our ship was coaled here by one of the most primitive methods. Everything on shipboard was dusted over with coal ashes and the whole ship had to be thoroughly scrubbed. Stowell, Horne, and Scott were busy taking moving pictures, while Armstrong took on board coffee, eggs, corned beef, and sardines to relieve us from the almost impossible fare of the ship.

Mondello is a city of beggars and apparently no honest men in it. Money of all kinds passes in the market but never at normal value. Even the post office and bank authorities do not hesitate to short-change whenever possible. The natives are a cross between African and Portuguese stock.

The Cape Verde Islands lie about 300 miles off the coast of Africa and form a crescent, of which St. Vincent is next to Santo Antao, the most northwestern of the group. The north side of Santo Antao is verdant, but the south side and practically the whole of St. Vincent is barren. When discovered in 1456, all of these islands were uninhabited. They lie at about a depth of 2,000 fathoms and are entirely marine. The vegetation seems to be similar to that of the African continent but probably much of it is introduced. The mountains of Santo Antao reach an altitude of 8200 feet, and St. Vincent is also very mountainous. It is said that clouds of dust, the harmattan, occur, and that droughts of a year's length or more occur. It is doubtful if there can be found any where in the United States an area that is as extremely desert as this.



The soil seems fertile and the desert condition is due entirely to no rainfall. I was unable, because of the short time we spent in the islands, to visit any portion where agriculture is generally practiced. One of the most interesting observations is the apparent drought resistance of *Thespesia*, and it is surprising that this tree and *Tamarindus* are not more generally grown in our southwest.

9. A small plant with a habit somewhat like a prostrate *Suaeda*. It occurs on the dunes and also on the barren land wherever protected.

Sailed from St. Vincent at 4:30 p. m., and passed around the west side of the island and turned southeast. Early the next morning we saw other islands, but for the remainder of the trip we saw no land and but one steamer.

Although we expected rather warm weather while crossing the equator, this was not the case and the highest temperature on August 4 was 76. The usual celebration was instituted, and all those who had not previously crossed the equator were duly initiated by Father Neptune and his daughter. The initiation consisted of being required to drink a wine glass full of sea water, being properly decorated and shaved, the shaving soap consisting of a mixture of warm tallow and cinders, then being thrown backwards into a large tank of sea water and properly ducked by a couple husky seamen.

b 9 - 12. are photographs taken at this time and show the temporary tank established on shipboard.



6-9-1917



b 9.

6-10-1917

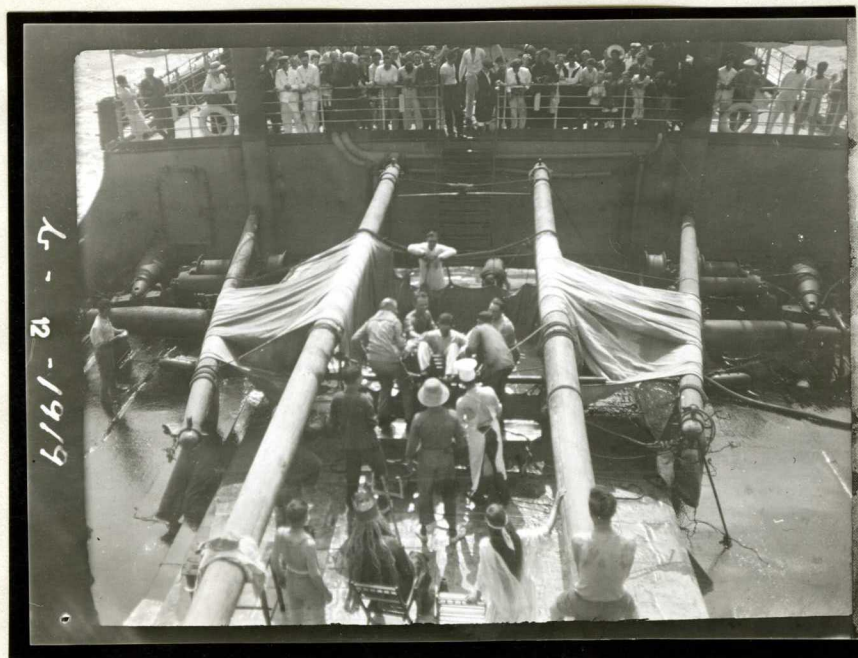


b 10.





b 11.



b 12.



During much of the remainder of the trip the ocean was rough, and the following photographs c 1 and 2 give some idea of the rough sea.

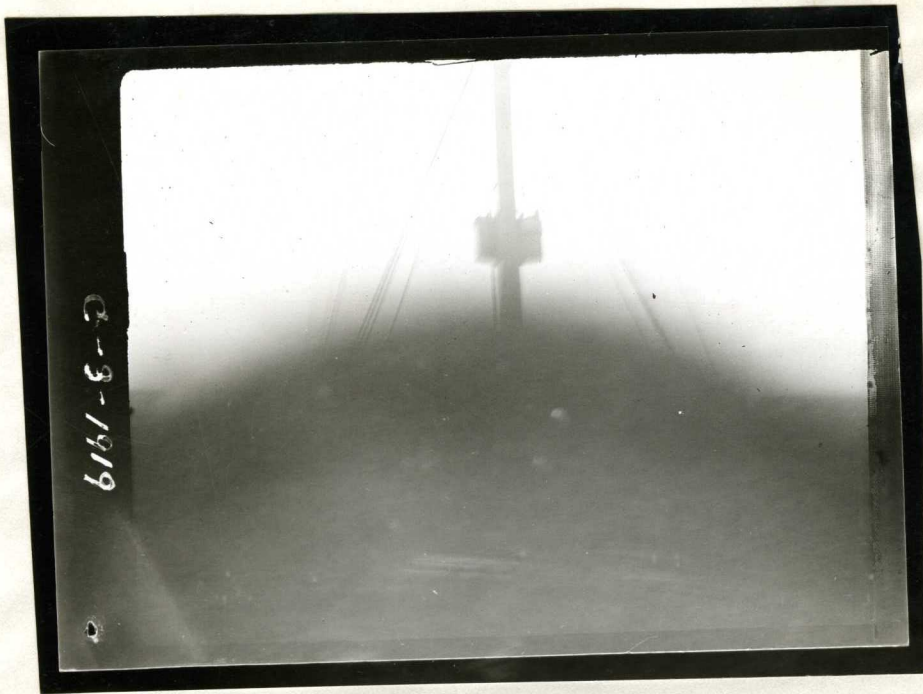


c 1.



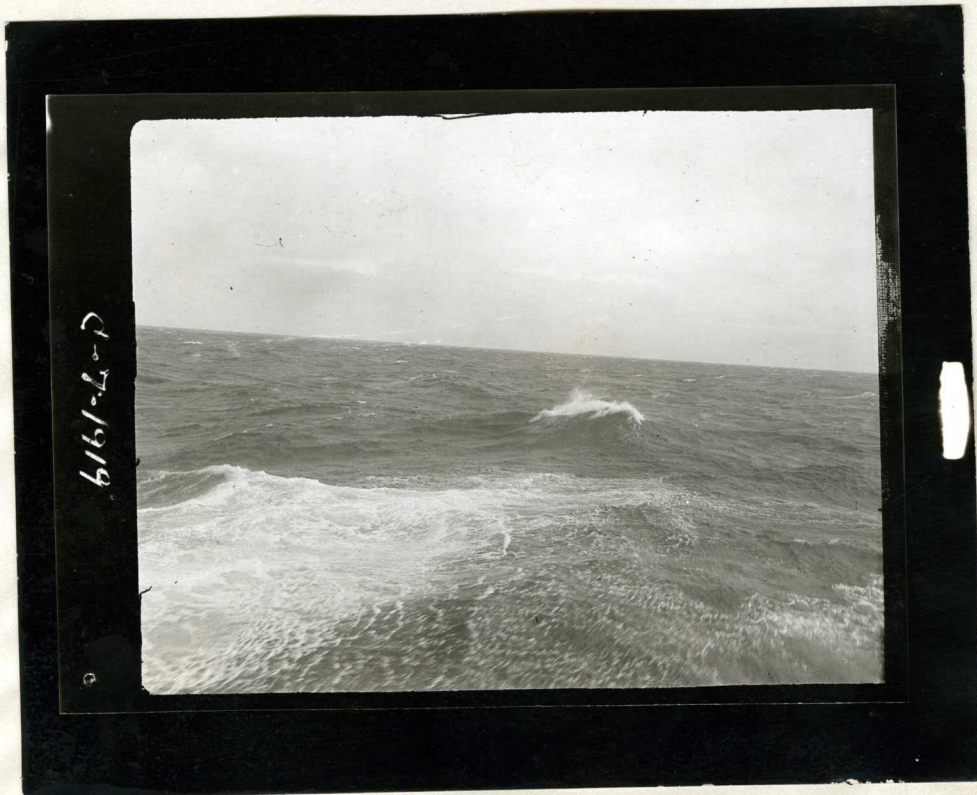
c 2.





c 3. Taken from the forward deck looking straight ahead, just as a big wave came over the ship.

c 4 - 7 show rough weather between the equator and Cape Town.







c 5.







c 8. Shows Table Mountain from the ocean; also Signal Hill and  
Lion's Head.



c 10. Just around the point. Shows Sea Point and Green Point,  
suburbs



c 11. Shows a pier dock, with the city of Cape Town in the back-  
ground.

The following is a copy of the ship's record:



COPY OF SHIP'S RECORD.

[illegible]