

# JOSEPH PULITZER ACCUSED BY UNCLE SAM



**T**HE United States versus the Press Publishing company is a case that is puzzling the public. It is before two federal grand juries; it has reached the United States senate; it is being discussed by the newspapers. The president of the United States started it. After Senator Rayner of Maryland, a lawyer of conceded ability, talked about the case on the floor of the senate and intimated that it was a good deal of a mystery to him the question was referred to the judiciary committee.

Mr. Pulitzer's lawyers have asked the attorneys for the government to tell them who are in the case, what it is about and what the government's law for the proceedings is. The lawyers for the government have not seen fit to enlighten the lawyers of Mr. Pulitzer.

The Press Publishing company is the company under which the New York World is published and disseminated. Joseph Pulitzer is the editor of the World, its owner and publisher. Employees of the World are subpoenaed in John Doe fashion and appear before the federal grand jury for the District of Columbia and before the federal grand jury of the United States district court in New York. The president of the United States, who instituted the suit, said when he did so:

"The real offender is Joseph Pulitzer, editor and proprietor of the World. While the criminal offense of which Mr. Pulitzer has been guilty is in form a libel upon individuals, the great injury done is in blackening the good name of the American people. He should be prosecuted for libel by the government authorities."

In a letter to William Dudley Foulke, written in the early part of December, the president severely criticized Joseph Smith, editor of the Indianapolis News, and William M. Laffan, editor of the New York Sun, for their connection with the matter in publishing the World's articles. This letter brought out comment from the press of the country, but the attack against whom the prosecution by the government is being made is Mr. Pulitzer.

The offending articles concerned an alleged syndicate of fifteen Americans, including Douglas Robinson, the president's brother-in-law, Charles P. Taff and William Nelson Cromwell. It was alleged that this syndicate purchased for \$3,000,000 all the stocks, bonds and rights of the old French Panama Canal company and then used its influence to have the United States government take over the canal rights at a price of \$40,000,000, making a profit of \$37,000,000 for the syndicate.

Whatever may be the outcome of the litigation, Mr. Pulitzer is before the country with the unique distinction of being the one individual against whom the legal machinery of the government has been put in action. Mr. Pulitzer's life has been exposed with incidents decidedly out of the ordinary. He is a giant in his profession. Wherever he goes in the old world, he is greeted by reporters, writers, and the leading writers of the day.

Mr. Pulitzer's Forefight.

If Mr. Pulitzer were in possession of all his faculties he would not be quite so distinctive, although his executive genius, his attitude in grasping the questions of the hour and his universal knowledge of men and affairs would mark him as one far beyond the limitations of the average man of intelligence.

Forethought and determination were the chief characteristics in this man's composite nature. A personal recollection will be pardoned. In 1872 I was sent to St. Louis by Mr. Storey, editor of the Chicago Times, on a mission which took me to the office of Mr. William Hutchinson, then one of the three big editors of St. Louis. Hutchinson was a human dynamo. Between "editing" visiting his business office and running upstairs to the composing room he found time to give me some information. A young man came in to whom I was introduced. His name was Pulitzer. The name at that time had a limited circulation. Mr. Hutchinson in his hurried and jerky



JOSEPH PULITZER

RALPH PULITZER

MRS. JOSEPH PULITZER

DELANVAN SMITH

manner said: "Pulitzer, this young man has come down here for the Chicago Times. You talk to him and tell him what he wants to know while I am downstairs."

Mr. Hutchinson was away nearly an hour. In that time I had obtained no information from young Pulitzer. But he had found out, as far as my knowledge extended and as far as my relations with the Chicago Times would permit me to tell, all about the way in which Mr. Storey conducted his great newspaper, for it was a great journal at that time. He hurried questions at me until I grew dizzy. He inquired minutely about every department of the Times. He even asked how the papers were supplied to the newsboys. Not one of his questions was prompted by mere curiosity. He wanted to know for a purpose. The purpose was not known to his informant. But young Pulitzer knew. He was forecasting. Some years later I had an idea as to the meaning of the rapid fire questions which had been asked. Mr. Hutchinson asked me after young Pulitzer had gone if Pulitzer had told me anything. I replied that he had not, but that he had found out everything I knew about the Chicago Times. Mr. Hutchinson laughed. "Of course," he replied. "That's Pulitzer's

game—to tell nothing, but to find out all the other fellow knows."

**His First Step in Politics.**

About the time of this incident or soon after Mr. Pulitzer was a reporter on the Westliche Post, an influential German daily newspaper. A little later there was a political meeting in the rotunda of the old courthouse of St. Louis. One of the spellbinders was Joseph Pulitzer. After that he was in demand. He was at that time part owner and managing editor of the German newspaper on which he had been a reporter. There were two afternoon English newspapers in the city that had small circulations and less influence. Mr. Pulitzer bought them. The Post-Dispatch was the result. The constitution of Missouri is a part of the work of Mr. Pulitzer. He was a member of the body that made it. He was associated with Carl Schurz in the Liberal Republican movement which subsequently resulted in the nomination of Horace Greeley for president. Mr. Pulitzer was a delegate to the convention that nominated Greeley and Brown. He has been an independent Democrat ever since. The party men of that

faith will understand what "independent" signifies to Mr. Pulitzer.

Mr. Pulitzer was born in Budapest, Hungary, in 1847. He was seventeen years old when he came to this country. His father was a man of some means and gave his son the benefit of a private tutor. Owing to the financial failure of his father young Pulitzer was dependent on his own exertions for success. He never waited for opportunity to knock at his door. He found opportunities.

He married in St. Louis. His wife, who came from a noted Kentucky family, was one of the beauties of the aristocratic old city. She is interested in many charities and before her husband's affliction she was much more prominent in society than she has since been. She often accompanies him in his travels. She is devoted to him and to his interests. There are six children in the Pulitzer household. Before his marriage Mr. Pulitzer enlisted in the army for the defense of the Union and stayed until the conflict was over.

**His Arrival in New York.**

There are stories and stories about Mr. Pulitzer's coming to New York. One is that he was penniless. Another is that he slept in the parks. Some of these stories may have more color than foundation. It is a fact, however, that he was remote from affluence. His chief capital consisted of his foresight and determination. He foresaw, for example, the possibilities in the New York World. Nobody else had seen them. He determined to buy it. He carried out this determination. A second rate hotel building stood on the site of the present World building.

Mr. Pulitzer foresaw that the site commanded two cities. He bought it. All "seeing New York" cars pass it. The story of the newspaper which is issued from the structure under the great bronze dome is known all round the globe.

In 1885 Mr. Pulitzer was elected to the lower house of congress from one of the districts of New York, but the field was too limited. He resigned after a few months to give his attention to the work for which he was born.

When his great affliction—he is practically blind—came upon him it seemed to quicken all his energies. He applied himself to his work with greater assiduity than ever and is even now quite active. No matter where he may be, he is editing the World. He has a summer home at Bar Harbor. He has a mansion in the fashionable section of New York. This mansion is a palace in its equipment. It is the home of a student, a maker of events, a musician, an artist—in all that is necessary to beauty and elegance. He has a place in the pines of New Jersey where he goes at certain seasons. He has a yacht that was constructed after his own designs. He knows Europe and its public men as well as he knows his adopted country and its public men. But wherever he may be, wherever he may go, he keeps his fingers on the World. In his incessant thirst for all that is transpiring he wears out secretaries and is still fresh in his work when others have given up from exhaustion. How a Blind Man "Sees."

One day at Bar Harbor he had told his secretary to read to him the headlines of his afternoon paper. Away down in one corner was an item of a poor woman who had been run down by a car. The item had come in late, and it had to be minimized. The secretary had skipped the item. The blind man's intuition told him that all of the paper had not been read. He directed the weary secretary to go over the paper again. This time the secretary read the overlooked item. The great editor said to him: "You didn't read that before." Then he added: "That is the big item in the news. Telegraph the editor to raise a fund for that poor woman. Let the Evening World head the subscription."

And so it goes, day after day, wherever he may be. He knows before he goes to sleep, here or in the remotest parts of the world, wherever the telegraph can furnish him the information, exactly how many lines of advertising the next issue of his paper will contain.

A few years ago, soon after his son Ralph married Miss Webb, daughter of W. Seward Webb, millionaire of New York, Joseph Pulitzer announced that he would retire from the active management of his two newspapers in New York. Nobody in the World offices disputed this announcement. But there were many incredulous smiles. Mr. Ralph Pulitzer is a well trained newspaper man and has frequently astonished the older heads with his suggestions. He began, like his father, at the lowest rung of the ladder, but he knows who is in the school teaches the child. It is with a warrant the founder of the new school of journalism thus proposes to perpetuate what he has created.

FRANK H. BROOKS.

## Bells That Ring Alarms Under the Sea; Signals an Aid to Wireless Telegraph

**W**IRELESS telegraphy and the submarine signal were potent factors in the rescue of human life from the White Star steamship Republic, that went down in forty fathoms of sea off Martha Vineyard Sunday, Jan. 24, after she had been gashed on the port side by the Italian liner Florida in the early hours of the preceding day.

Although the submarine signal apparatus antedates wireless telegraphy, less is known, except by navigators, of the former than the latter.

The submarine system consists of two parts—one, sound signaling under water for coast protection; two, receiving apparatus for vessels. With the latter apparatus any ship approaching a lightship, bell buoy or electric shore station equipped with a submarine bell will receive a warning that will give it ample time to avoid danger or direct its course to a harbor of safety.

While the part played by wireless telegraphy in connection with the Republic's disaster has been told, as it deserved to be, the details of the work by the submarine system have not been fully explained.

The captain and navigators of the Republic, sister ship of the ill-fated Republic, report that the Republic was using her submarine apparatus at the time of the collision, and she continued to use it until she was found by the Republic. By the use of the submarine the Republic was enabled to obtain her exact position from Nantucket light vessel. Having obtained her bearings, she sent information of her condition broadcast by wireless, and in this way the Republic learned the location of the Republic. The second officer of the Republic made this clear in his statement: "We picked up the Republic," he said, "on Nantucket lightship and kept it all the time until we found the Republic. At all times we could tell the direction of the lightship accurately."

After the rescue and while the Republic was still blanketed with a dense fog the Republic found her way to the Fire Island lightship and the Ambrose channel lightship by means of the submarine apparatus instead of waiting outside until the fog lifted. After the American liner, the New York, had received news by wireless of the Republic's disaster she made her way to

Nantucket light vessel by means of the submarine apparatus, and in this way the New York located the Republic and the Republic. The message by wireless received by the New York was: "We are south-southwest of Nantucket light vessel ten or fifteen miles and can hear by submarine bell. Republic's position two miles south of Republic." The New York was on her way to the Nantucket light vessel when this message was received.

The Republic received the same wireless message. She located Nantucket light vessel ten miles distant, reached the lightship and then cruised about until the Republic and the Republic were reached. The Republic kept her relative position all the time by means of the submarine signal apparatus. This New York, Republic and the Republic came through the fog into New York harbor, being guided by the submarine bell on Fire Island and the bell on Ambrose channel lightship.

**Mechanism of the Device.**

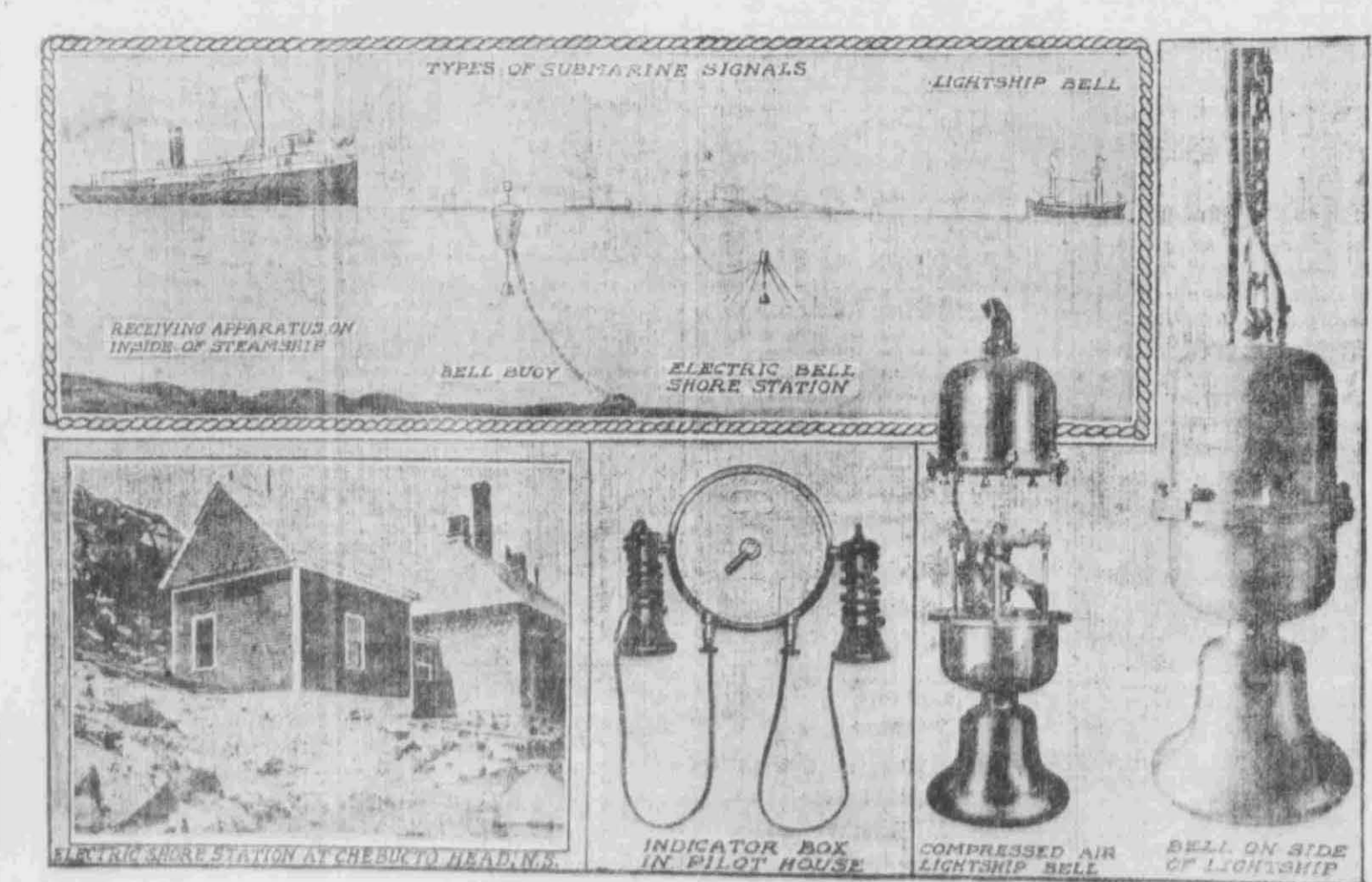
The principle of the submarine signaling device is based on the fact, well known, that sound signals are transmitted under water with absolute accuracy, while in air the sounds are distorted by banks of fog or cloud or by wind and the varying densities of the atmosphere.

The apparatus has two modest parts. The "speaking" apparatus consists of a submerged bell of a design adapted to provide sounds in the water and the receiving paraphernalia on a vessel. The latter picks up the sounds of the bell and enables the pilot not only to determine its direction, but also the distance away of the ship, reef or light vessel to which the bell is attached.

In order to send forth signals from a vessel in motion the bell or gong is located inside the hull of the ship far forward and snugly to the outer skin of the fabric. It can be rung by an automatic device or by hand. When fired to a lightship the bell is suspended to a depth of about twenty-five feet, where it is tolled at regular intervals by steam or by electric mechanism.

On a ship that carries this apparatus there are always two transmitters, one installed on the starboard and the other on the port side. This arrangement is important, as all navigators will readily understand.

When the bell sending out its pulses



there is an ether side of the receiving vessel. About the beam the gong on side, starboard or port, will be the only one to respond to the vibrations of the water medium, but should the ship shift her position so as to bring the distant bell beam on or lose on, or partially so, both starboard and port gongs will repeat the faraway sounds. If the loss is only partially, putting toward the distant bell it is the varying degree of distinctness of the installed gong that decides the direction of the signal. The captain

of a ship does not have to go into the hold to listen to his monitors. Both transmitters are connected by wire to a single telephone receiver box in the pilot house. A tiny switch enables the pilot to listen to the sound as received either starboard or port. By means of a simple manipulation the bearings of the signal bell can be accurately located.

**Contemplated Improvements.**

While the mechanism of the submarine signal is not complicated, it has been tested before a committee of the French marine department with satisfactory results. A United States navalist says that perhaps the largest assistance might be made by trials in their experiments is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bering sea and spend the

winter at Hawaii and Fanning island, 2,200 miles away. As some of the birds live entirely on the shore and are probably unable to rest on the surface of water, they must accompany the whole distance in a single flight.

Shrinkage of wood from loss of moisture has been found by the United States forest service to range from 1 to 24 per cent of the dry volume in different species.

There is one message of warning to every sixty-six inhabitants of Great Britain.

Begin is a liquid fuel which is much applied in Germany. It is obtained from tar by a secret process and is

and having a high musical note is best adapted for the transmission of sound through water. Bells can be distinguished at five miles, and in some cases at a greater distance, even by a child. The volume of the tone is used to gauge distance. It is not denied that vessels hear these bells at a distance far beyond the range of aerial fog signals and that navigators get direction accurately. Reports received from the lakes show that the sounds of the submarine bells are heard at a distance of seven, ten and twelve miles.

Practically all ocean going passenger steamships plying the Atlantic are now equipped with the receiving apparatus for submarine signals, and bells are regularly rung below the surface of the water at ninety-eight stations already established in this and foreign countries and at the expense of the respective governments.

Canada was the first country to adopt submarine signaling. The four lightships in the St. Lawrence river and the one off Yarmouth are equipped with submarine bells. Steamers entering the English channel get the bells on the tender at Chatham and Boulogne. During the summer of 1907 submarine bells were installed on all the lightships on the Pacific coast and in the Gulf of Mexico.

The apparatus is as applicable to warships as to merchant marine ships, and a special submarine signal apparatus has also been successfully tested by the fishermen of the Gloucester fleet.

After tests had been made by captains of several English ships, all of whom reported favorably, the London Shipping Gazette said: "The reports now in hand show the absolute necessity of the submarine signaling system."

It is rather singular that there are no reliable data from which the name of the inventor of this system is obtainable. Like the birthplace of Homer, the name is still in doubt. Since his discovery is still in doubt, it is not surprising that the name is still in doubt. It contains enough glory for all.

Julius Verne, in his "Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea" made Captain Nemo of Nautilus dwell upon the superiority of submarine transmission. The system has been worked out successfully and put into practical form. PERRY WILLIAM

### ODDS AND ENDS OF INTEREST.

In making the best Portland tar, a weaver spends about twenty-three days over each square foot of surface. Asbestos has been discovered in the Pilbara district of Western Australia. It is said to be a depth of 200 feet in the sea it will not rise again to the

surface owing to the great pressure of the water. A German scientist has been investigating the obscure subject of the number of facets in the eyes of insects. He has examined the eyes of 150 species of beetles and finds the

number is more numerous in large specimens, but that there is usually little difference in the number in some cases. However, the number is more than the female. Apparatus weighing only six and a half pounds which registers oral communication possible between a diver under water and some one at the sur-

face has been tested before a committee of the French marine department with satisfactory results. A United States navalist says that perhaps the largest assistance might be made by trials in their experiments is accomplished by some of the shore and water birds that nest in the islands of Bering sea and spend the

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