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Archives Center - NMAH

Leo Baekeland Diary Volume 17, 1915

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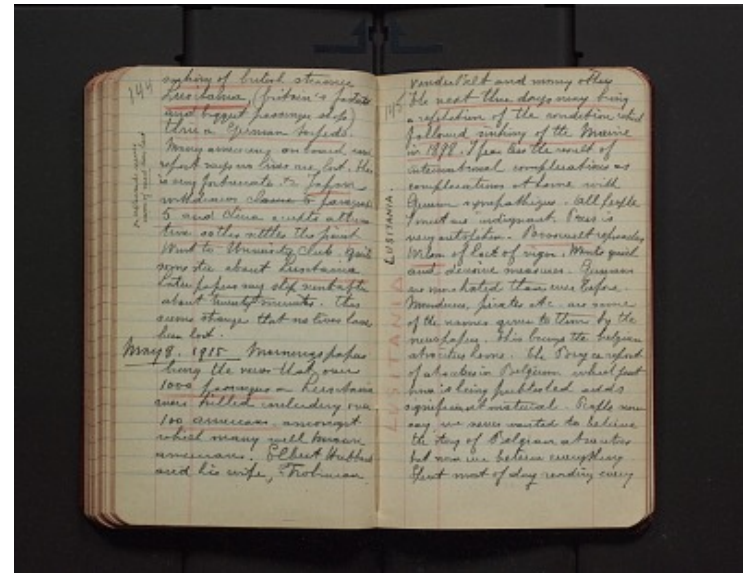
sinking of British steamer Lusitania, Britain's fastest and biggest passenger ship thru a German torpedo. Many Americans on board and report says no lives are lost. This is very fortunate. [[an "X" refers to a vertical annotation in left margin]] X Afterwards news came of most lives lost - Japan withdrawn clause 5 paragraph 5 and China accepts alternative so this settles this point. Went to University Club. Quite some stu about Lusitania. Later papers say ship sunk after about twenty minutes. this seems strange that no lives have been lost.

May 8. 1915 Mornings papers bring the news that over 1000 passengers on Lusitania were killed including over 100 Americans, amongst which many well known Americans. Elbert Hubbard and his wife, Frohman, end page

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LUSITANIA. LUSITANIA Vanderbilt and many others The next three days may bring a repetition of the condition which followed sinking of the Maine in 1898. I fear less the result of international complications as complications at home with German sympathizers. All people I meet are indignant. Press is very outspoken. Roosevelt reproaches Wilson of lack of vigor. Wants quick and decisive measures. Germans are more hated than ever before. Murderers, pirates etc. are some of the names given to them by the newspapers. This brings the Belgian atrocities home. the Bryce report of atrocities in Belgium which just now is being published adds significant material. People now say we never wanted to believe the story of Belgian atrocities but now we believe everything Spent most of day reading every



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