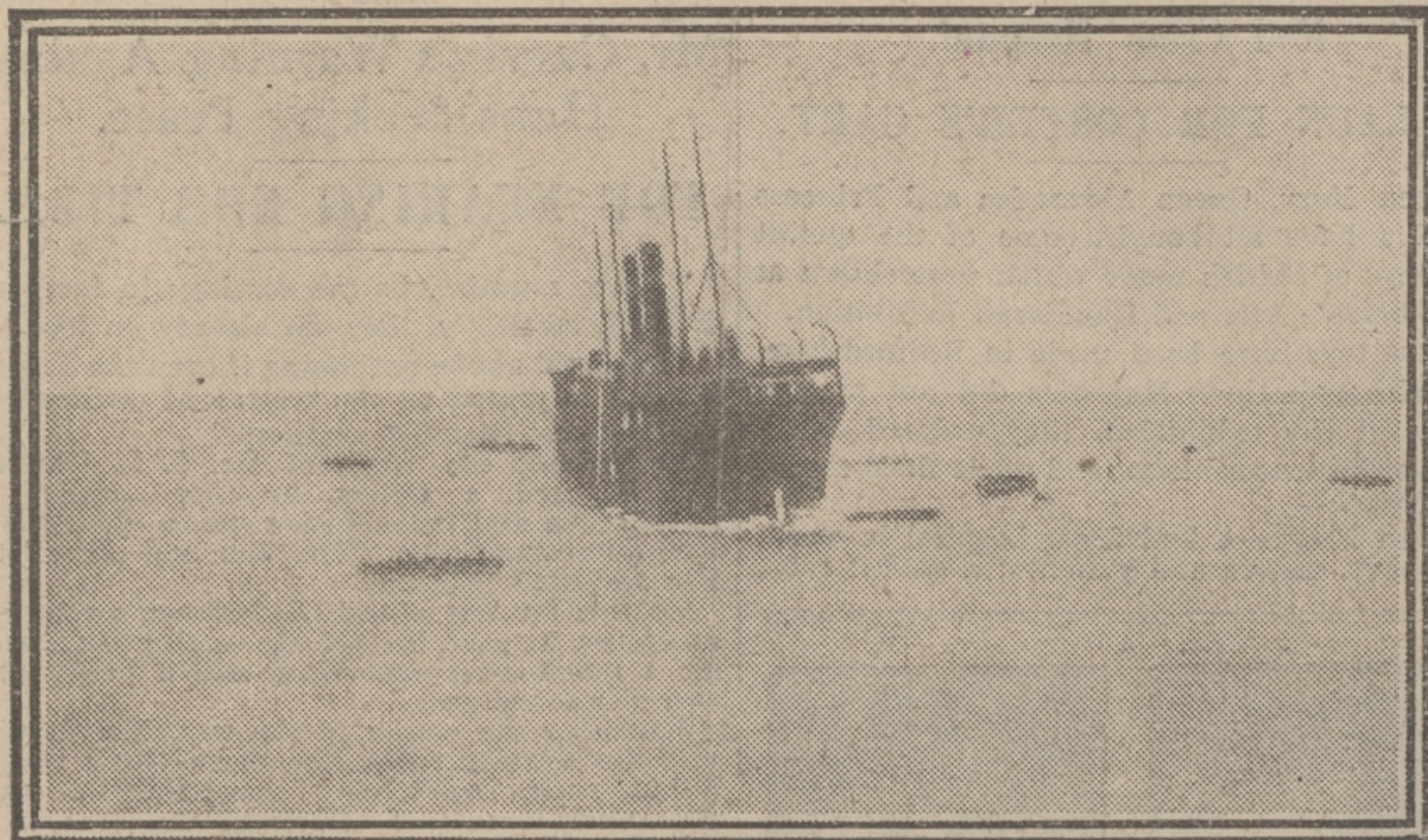


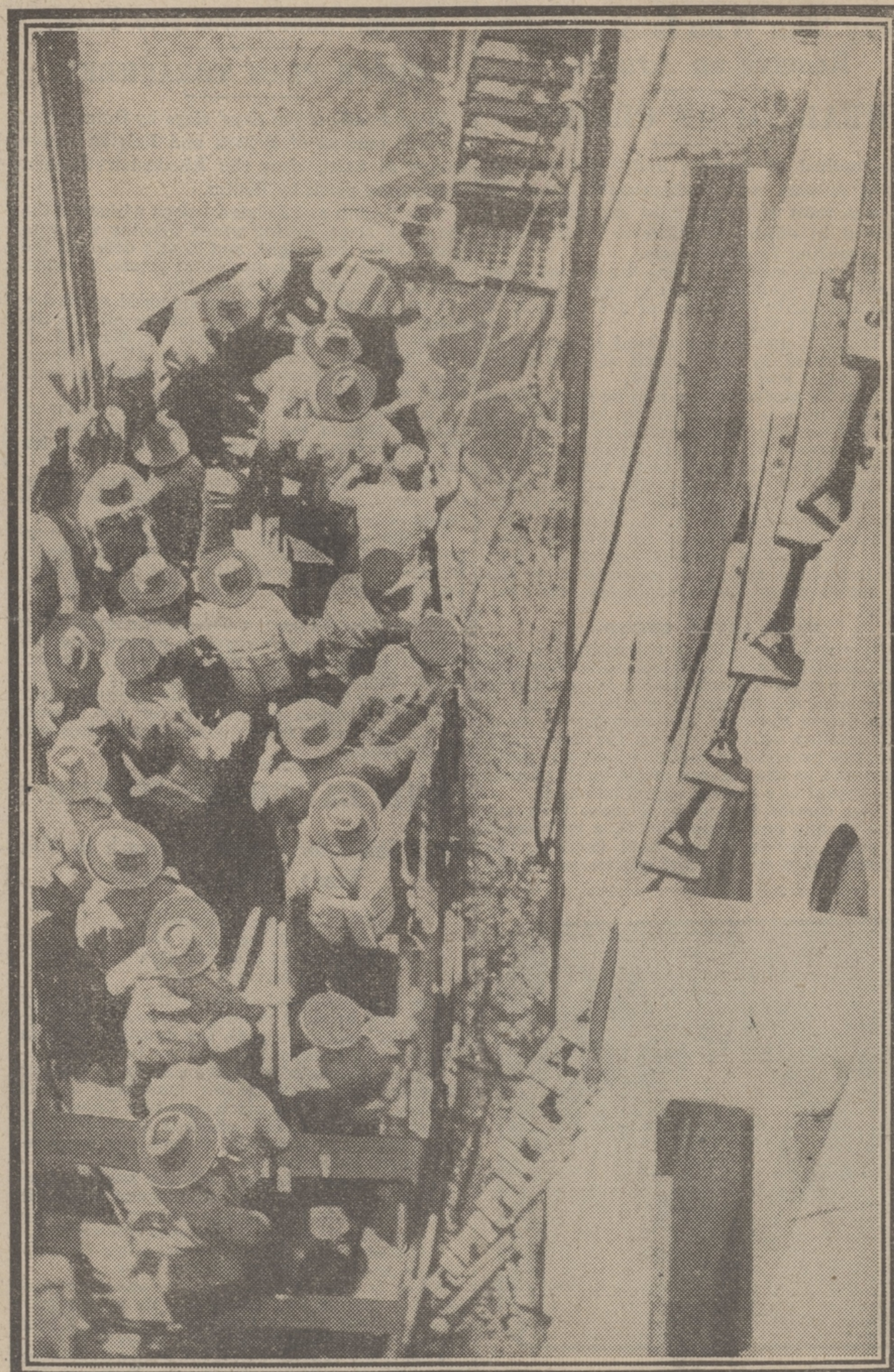
THE TRANSPORT SOUTHLANDS IS TORPEDOED BUT REACHES PORT IN SAFETY.



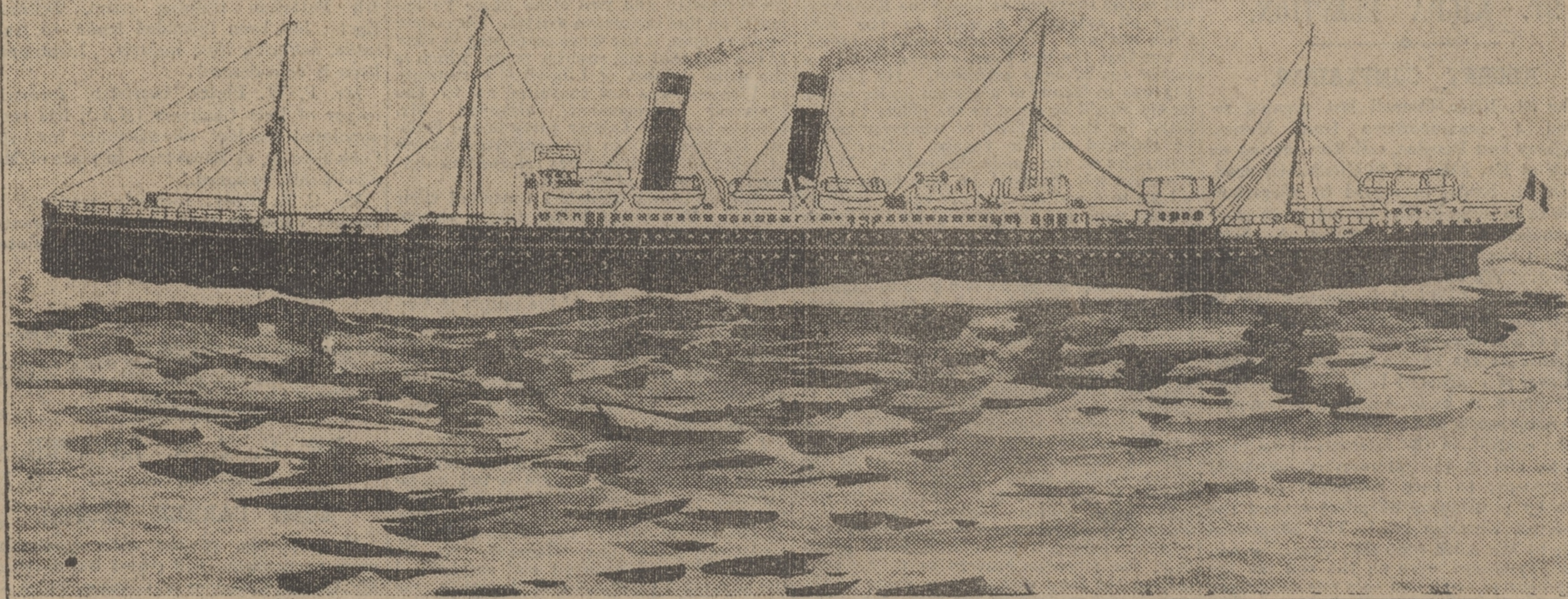
The torpedoed transport and lifeboats full of survivors leaving. The vessel is listing, but, nevertheless, reached port under her own steam.



Some of the survivors photographed on the deck of the hospital ship which rescued them.



Lifeboats full of survivors coming alongside the hospital ship. The casualties were, fortunately, very small.



THE TRANSPORT SOUTHLAND, FORMERLY THE WELL-KNOWN ANTWERP LINER VATERLAND, WHICH WAS TORPEDOED WHILE CONVEYING AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND TROOPS TO GALLIPOLI.

ATURDAY EVENING

YOUNGEST SOLDIER DIES



PRIVATE MARTIN

It is believed that Private James Martin, who died of enteric while on active service, was the youngest soldier in the Australian forces.

Though the regulation provides that the minimum age shall be 18, Private Martin is said to have been only 14 years of age when he enlisted. He was the only son of Mr and Mrs C. Martin, of "Forres," Mary street, Hawthorn, and was on board the transport Southland when that vessel was torpedoed. He was rescued after having been in a ship's boat for several hours.



transmission by post
in Post Office Act.

MELBOURNE, TUESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 12, 1916.

(12 PAGES)

PRICE ONE PENNY

"A Grand Sight! I Never Felt Prouder of the Boys!"



ANZACS PARADE CALMLY ON TORPEDOED TRANSPORT

In the picture given above is shown the calm bearing of Australian troops in the face of deadly peril. The illustration is a reproduction of a photograph taken by one of the men on H.M.S. transport Southland four minutes after the explosion of the torpedo which disabled the steamer. When the snapshot was taken the transport was believed to be sinking.

The photograph has been lent by Lieutenant-Colonel J. F. Hutch-

inson, who was with one of the battalions on board. There were 1342 soldiers on the ship, which was struck at 10 minutes to 10 o'clock in the morning when 24 miles south of Lemnos. Lieutenant-Colonel Hutchinson went along the starboard side supervising the lowering of the boats and the falling in of the men.

"It was a remarkable sight to see the steadiness of the men," he said when speaking of his experiences. "It was a grand sight, and I never felt prouder of the boys."

HOW TO GET MEN

RETURNED OFFICER'S VIEWS

SLIGHT PHYSICAL DEFECTS

NO BAR TO USEFUL SERVICE

Suggestions for increasing the strength of the Australian Imperial Force are given in the following article by an officer recently returned from the front. He urges that many of the men deemed medically unfit for active service could usefully be recruited, and points out that in Great Britain standards have been lowered. He again raises the question, "Has the medical examination of recruits in Australia been too severe?" and supplies an answer which some readers may find convincing. He writes:—

"Now that the question of utilising the man power of the nation has become such a burning issue in the Imperial Parliament, we should see that the best use is made of the services of each man in Australia who has volunteered for service abroad. In Victoria alone we have 35,000 men who have volunteered, but who, for various reasons, have been classed as medically unfit. Many of the causes of their medical unfitness are very minor, but because a man is not fit to take his place in the first line of trenches, his services have not been availed of. Little or no attempt has been made to grade the applicants according to the work which has to be performed at the front.

FIT MEN CAN BE RELEASED

"There are thousands of our men employed at present in positions on lines of communication, in hospitals, offices, base records, pay offices and training camps who are constitutionally quite fit to take their places in the trenches, and yet men with slight physical defects who could replace these non-combatants are being rejected altogether. The man with varicose veins would be at little disadvantage in driving an Army Service waggon; the man with slight hernia would be equally valuable in an office or doing the work of an orderly in a Base Hospital. There is not the slightest doubt that 10,000 men could be recruited in Victoria alone to fill these positions.

Of course, it is doubtful whether this number of men could be utilised for these duties, but there is another question which presents itself for consideration. Has the medical examination of recruits in Australia been too severe, and in view of the necessity for keeping up our reinforcements, would it not be advisable to lower the standards?