



Mr Adolphe Saalfeld

Mr Adolphe Saalfeld was born in Germany in 1865.

A self-made businessman, he was chairman of the chemists and distillers Sparks, White, and Co. Ltd. In 1912 he was married to Gertrude and living in Manchester, they were and would remain childless.

Saalfeld boarded the *Titanic* at Southampton as a first class passenger (ticket no.19988, £30 10) and occupied cabin C-106.



(Courtesy of Günter Bäßler)

He wrote to his wife from the *Titanic*:

I just had an hour's roaming about on this wonderful boat. I like my cabin very much ? it's like a bed-sitting room and rather large. They are still busy to finish the last things on board.

According to a later statement Saalfeld claimed that he had been in the smoking room at the time of the collision, he saw the iceberg and after the collision went down to his cabin. Among the items Saalfeld left behind were a collection of concentrated perfume oils which he hoped to market in America. In a recent dive to the wrecksite the oils were recovered intact, there are plans to recreate the fragrances

I saw a few men and women go into a boat and I followed and when lowered, pushed off and rowed some distance, fearing...Titanic sinking...As we drifted away gradually, saw Titanic sink lower and lower and finally her lights went out, and others in my boat said they saw her disappear. Our boat was nearly two miles away but pitiful cries could be plainly heard. No one in our boat knew how many lifeboats were on Titanic but...there was ample time for saving every soul on board had there been sufficient boats.

Mr Saalfeld was rescued in lifeboat 3.

The Captain and Officers of the Carpathia did all that was possible to make us comfortable and to those that were sick or injured, they gave their tenderest care. The icebergs were huge and the weather extremely rough on the voyage to New York.

Adolphe Saalfeld passed away at Kew Gardens in Surrey on 5 June 1926. He was still chairman of his firm which would continue in business until 1954. When his estate was settled on 16 July 1926 his assets were reportedly worth £46,902.

References

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Acknowledgements

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Titanic Passenger Summary

Name: Mr Adolphe Saalfeld

Titanic Survivor

Born: 1865

Age: 47 years (Male)

Last Residence: in Manchester England

Occupation: Businessman

1st Class Passengers

First Embarked: Southampton on Wednesday 10th April 1912

Ticket No. 19988, £30 10s

Cabin No.: C106

Rescued (boat 3)

Disembarked Carpathia: New York City on Thursday 18th April 1912

Died: Saturday 5th June 1926 aged 61 years

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