

United States Senate Inquiry

Day 9

Testimony of Arthur J. Bright

Source : <http://www.titanicinquiry.org/USInq/AmInq01Indxa.php>

(The witness was sworn by the chairman.)

Senator SMITH.
Give your full name and address.

Mr. BRIGHT.
Arthur John Bright, 105 Fir Grove Road; Southampton.

Senator SMITH.
How old are you?

Mr. BRIGHT.
Forty-one, sir.

Senator SMITH.
What is your business?

Mr. BRIGHT.
Quartermaster.

Senator SMITH.
Were you quartermaster on the steamship [*Titanic*](#) on the voyage from Southampton to the place of the accident?

Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.

Senator SMITH.
Were you on duty when the accident occurred?

Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

Senator SMITH.
Were you on duty Sunday?

Mr. BRIGHT.
From 6 to 8 in the evening.

Senator SMITH.
Then you were relieved?

Mr. BRIGHT.
At 8 o'clock.

Senator SMITH.
What did you do after you were relieved?

Mr. BRIGHT.
I turned in.

Senator SMITH.
When did your next watch occur?

Mr. BRIGHT.
Twelve o'clock.

Senator SMITH.
Where were you when the collision occurred?

Mr. BRIGHT.

..Arrives before 0:40

- In the [bunk](#), asleep.
- 26 Senator SMITH.
How were you awakened?
- 27 Mr. BRIGHT.
One of the watch on deck came and called me and told me that the ship had collided.
- 28 Senator SMITH.
Do you remember who did that?
- 29 Mr. BRIGHT.
The man has gone to England. [Wynn](#), his name was. No; it was one of my own watch.
- 30 Senator SMITH.
What did he say to you?
- 31 Mr. BRIGHT.
He says, "The ship is going down by the head."
- 32 Senator SMITH.
Was that immediately after the impact?
- 33 Mr. BRIGHT.
I do not know. I did not feel the impact at all. It did not wake me up.
- 34 Senator SMITH.
What did you do? Did you rise?
- 35 Mr. BRIGHT.
I got up and dressed myself then.
- 36 Senator SMITH.
And what did you do after that? I want you to tell, in your own way, just what you did after you dressed yourself.
- 37 Mr. BRIGHT.
I went out to the [after-end](#) of the ship to relieve the man I should have relieved at 12 o'clock, a man by the name of [Rowe](#). We stood there for some moments and did not know exactly what to do, and rang the telephone up to the [bridge](#) and asked them what we should do. They told us to bring a box of detonators for them - signals. Each of us took a box to the bridge. When we got up there we were told to fire them - distress signals.
- 38 Senator SMITH.
Who fired them?
- 39 Mr. BRIGHT.
Rowe and I, and [Mr. Boxhall](#), the fourth officer.
- 40 Senator SMITH.
How long did you continue firing the rockets?
- 41 Mr. BRIGHT.
Six were fired in all, I think.
- 42 Senator SMITH.
One at a time.
- 43 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; at intervals.
- 44 Senator SMITH.
At intervals of how long?
- 45 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say. After we would fire one we would go and help clear the boats away, and then we would come back again.

46 Senator SMITH.
This firing of rockets continued for some time, did it?

47 Mr. BRIGHT.
I should say probably half an hour.

48 Senator SMITH.
In the meantime were the Morse signals given?

49 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say.

50 Senator SMITH.
You could not see them?

51 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

52 Senator SMITH.
What color did these rockets that were fired show?

53 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not notice the color; but they burst after they got up in the air.

54 Senator SMITH.
And then what colors were displayed?

55 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not look to see.

56 Senator SMITH.
You say you went to the boats after that, or from time to time while this firing was going on. Did you assist in loading the boats?

57 Mr. BRIGHT.
After we had finished firing the distress signals there were two boats left. I went and assisted to get out the starboard one; that is, the starboard [collapsible boat](#). Rowe went away to help to get the other one out, and I went away myself.

58 Senator SMITH.
Was the starboard collapsible boat forward?

59 Mr. BRIGHT.
Close to the bridge, on the [boat deck](#).

60 Senator SMITH.
And on the starboard side?

61 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.

62 Senator SMITH.
Did you assist in loading that boat?

63 Mr. BRIGHT.
I assisted to get it up.

64 Senator SMITH.
You assisted to get it up in position?

65 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.

66 Senator SMITH.
Do you know the number of that boat?

67 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say. As soon as the boat was up in place I was sent away to clear another one in place.

68 Senator SMITH.
And you do not know who got into the boats - what members of the crew or passengers?

69 Mr. BRIGHT.
I have only learned since, that Rowe, the man that was working with me, got into that boat. He was in charge of the boat, Rowe was. I was in charge of the other one.

70 Senator SMITH.
You do not know how many people he had in it?

71 Mr. BRIGHT.
Not in his boat; only my own.

72 Senator SMITH.
And you do not know what proportions there were of men and women?

73 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say, sir.

74 Senator SMITH.
In this collapsible?

75 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; that one. My own boat I know about.

76 Senator SMITH.
Do you know whether [Mr. Ismay](#) was in Mr. Rowe's boat?

77 Mr. BRIGHT.
I have learned so since; I could not say then.

78 Senator SMITH.
That was a collapsible lifeboat forward?

79 Mr. BRIGHT.
There were four collapsibles. That was one of them.

80 Senator SMITH.
I understand. That was a collapsible lifeboat forward, on the starboard side?

81 Mr. BRIGHT.
Close to the bridge; yes.

82 Senator SMITH.
Where did you go after that? You went to this other boat; but where was it?

83 Mr. BRIGHT.
I was on the opposite of the deck to what that was.

84 Senator SMITH.
On the port side?

85 Mr. BRIGHT.
On the port side, right forward, close to the bridge.

86 Senator SMITH.
And what was that, a [collapsible](#)?

87 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; identically the same as the other one.

88 Senator SMITH.
What did you do there?

89 Mr. BRIGHT.
We got that one out and filled it up with passengers.

90 Senator SMITH.
How many passengers; how many people?

91 Mr. BRIGHT.
When the boat left the ship there were 25; all it would hold.

92 Senator SMITH.
Did you count them?

93 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not count them then; but after we got away there was [Mr. Lowe](#), the fourth [fifth] officer, came alongside of us in another boat, and told us stick together, and then he asked the number in the boat, and there was a steward by the name of [Hardy](#) counted them and told him, and then they put ten or a dozen men into our boat because it was not filled up.

94 Senator SMITH.
Ten or a dozen into your boat from where?

95 Mr. BRIGHT.
From some other boat. It was dark, and I could not tell which one it was.

96 Senator SMITH.
Was it from a swamped boat?

97 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; from a boat that was overloaded.

98 Senator SMITH.
You do not remember the number of it?

99 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; it was dark and I could not see.

100 Senator SMITH.
You do not remember what officer was in charge of it, if any?

101 Mr. BRIGHT.
Mr. Lowe, the fifth officer.

102 Senator SMITH.
You took these passengers from Mr. Lowe's boat into yours?

103 Mr. BRIGHT.
There were five boats, all close up together; and where boats were overloaded he was taking the people out and putting them into the boats that had room to carry them.

104 Senator SMITH.
Did he take any people out of your boat and put them into his?

105 Mr. BRIGHT.
One seaman out of my boat.

106 Senator SMITH.
When you got part of Mr. Lowe's passengers into your collapsible, how many did you have altogether in it?

107 Mr. BRIGHT.
If we took a dozen it would be 37. I did not count them afterwards. There were 25 before.

108 Senator BRIGHT.
How did it happen that you did not load this lifeboat to its capacity before it left the boat deck?

109 Mr. BRIGHT.
I had nothing to do with the loading of it. The officer was in charge of that.

110 Senator SMITH.
What officer was superintending the filling of this boat?

111 Mr. BRIGHT.

The last officer I saw there was [Mr. Lightoller](#).

112 Senator SMITH.
Did it accommodate comfortably these passengers that you took from officer Lowe's boat?

113 Mr. BRIGHT.
Oh; there was room for more.

114 Senator SMITH.
Did you get any more?

115 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; not until some time afterwards. Just at daylight we got some more.

116 Senator SMITH.
Where did you get them?

117 Mr. BRIGHT.
We saw a boat, one of the collapsible boats, that was awash, just flush with the water.

118 Senator SMITH.
You mean being swamped?

119 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; and the same officer, Mr. Lowe, came back and took my boat in tow, because we had very few men to pull, and towed us down to this one that was just awash, and took 13 men and 1 woman off that.

120 Senator SMITH.
Did you leave anybody in it?

121 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; except those two dead bodies. There were two dead bodies.

122 Senator SMITH.
They were standing in water when you came up to them?

123 Mr. BRIGHT.
About half way - just about the ankles.

124 Senator SMITH.
Were they making signs to you?

125 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir. They had been singing out in the dark. As soon as it got daylight we could see them.

126 Senator SMITH.
When it got daylight you went to them?

127 Mr. BRIGHT.
We rescued them then.

128 Senator SMITH.
And you turned the swamped boat adrift?

129 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; there was no way to do anything with it. We left it there.

130 Senator SMITH.
With the two bodies?

131 Mr. BRIGHT.
With two dead bodies. They were covered up with a lifebelt over their faces.

132 Senator SMITH.
You left them?

133 Mr. BRIGHT.

Yes, sir.

134 Senator SMITH.
Did you take up any more people after you left this swamped boat?

135 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; we did not pick up anybody.

136 Senator SMITH.
Before you reached the *Carpathia*?

137 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; we were taken in tow and towed back under sail to the *Carpathia*.

138 Senator SMITH.
You were taken in tow by Mr. Lowe's boat?

139 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.

140 Senator SMITH.
Under sail?

141 Mr. BRIGHT.
He was under sail.

142 Senator SMITH.
And you were towed?

143 Mr. BRIGHT.
To the *Carpathia*.

144 Senator SMITH.
I will show you that little picture (*handing photograph to witness*). Do you see anything about that that looks like your boat?

145 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

146 Senator SMITH.
This boat that is ahead there is not under sail?

147 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; that is a collapsible boat behind, but we were in tow. That boat, if it had been behind, would have been under sail. That is a collapsible boat behind, but it is not the boat I was in.

148 Senator SMITH.
Mr. Lowe's boat had a sail?

149 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; it had a sail.

150 Senator SMITH.
Do you know the names of any of the passengers or members of the crew that were in the lifeboat in which you reached the *Carpathia*?

151 Mr. BRIGHT.
The only one I know of is Steward Hardy. He is up here now.

152 Senator SMITH.
What is his name?

153 Mr. BRIGHT.
Hardy. I knew several third class passengers by sight but not by name. One man was in, but has gone to Albion. He was a passenger to Albion.

154 Senator SMITH.
Mr. Ismay was not in your boat, was he?

155 Mr. BRIGHT.

- No, sir; he was in the starboard collapsible boat.
- 156 Senator SMITH.
Were there any other lifeboats on the boat when you took to the lifeboat yourself?
- 157 Mr. BRIGHT.
All the lifeboats were away before the collapsible boats were got off.
- 158 Senator SMITH.
All were away before the collapsible boats were lowered?
- 159 Mr. BRIGHT.
They had to be, because the collapsibles were on the deck and the other boats had be lowered before they could be used.
- 160 Senator SMITH.
In other words, the same tackle -
- 161 Mr. BRIGHT. (*interrupting*)
The same tackle that took the other ones took the collapsibles.
- 162 Senator SMITH.
The same tackle and gear with which the lifeboats were lowered and the emergency boats?
- 163 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.
- 164 Senator SMITH.
The same tackle with which the lifeboats and emergency boats were lowered was employed, after they had gone, in lowering the collapsible boats?
- 165 Mr. BRIGHT.
That is right, sir.
- 166 Senator SMITH.
How do you know Mr. Ismay was in the collapsible that was on the other side, on the starboard side?
- 167 Mr. BRIGHT.
I saw him standing there, and that was the only two boats left.
- 168 Senator SMITH.
He was not in your boat?
- 169 Mr. BRIGHT.
No.
- 170 Senator SMITH.
Therefore he must have gone in the other?
- 171 Mr. BRIGHT.
I find out he was saved, so he must have gone in that one.
- 172 Senator SMITH.
Did he make any attempt to get in yours?
- 173 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; he did not make an attempt to get in any boat.
- 174 Senator SMITH.
I do not think I have asked you how many of the 55 in your lifeboat were members of the crew?
- 175 Mr. BRIGHT.
There was just a steward and one fireman.
- 176 Senator SMITH.
And all the others were women?

177 Mr. BRIGHT.
There were two men passengers there. The remainder were women and children.

178 Senator SMITH.
Five men and 20 women and children?

179 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; at first; then there were 10 or a dozen more, afterwards.

180 Senator SMITH.
Tell us exactly. I recall just what you said about taking the others.

181 Mr. BRIGHT.
When we left there were 20 of them.

182 Senator SMITH.
Did you see these lights on the horizon that night?

183 Mr. BRIGHT.
You mean after the ship went down?

184 Senator SMITH.
No.

185 Mr. BRIGHT.
Before?

186 Senator SMITH.
Yes; in any direction. I do not mean in the direction of the *Titanic*; I mean away from the *Titanic*.

187 Mr. BRIGHT.
As soon as we got away from the ship, we were told to keep together, if possible, to keep as close to each other in the boats as possible. There was a light sighted away, I should say, possibly 4 or 5 miles away, off the port bow of the ship. It looked to me like a sailing ship - like a fishing boat. There were no lights to be seen about the hull of the ship, if it was a ship. We pulled toward that for a time.

188 Senator BOURNE.
What was the color of the light that you thought you saw?

189 Mr. BRIGHT.
It was a white light, like the steaming light of a ship would be.

190 Senator FLETCHER.
I am not clear about a statement I understood you to make, that Lowe went away in the starboard collapsible boat?

191 Mr. BRIGHT.
Rowe, one of the quartermasters.

192 Senator FLETCHER.
Another quartermaster?

193 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; Mr. Lowe is fifth officer, and Rowe was quartermaster.

194 Senator SMITH.
Lowe was in one of the lifeboats?

195 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; he was in one that had a sail on it; yes, sir.

196 Senator FLETCHER.
The collapsible boat on the port side was the last boat to leave the ship?

197 Mr. BRIGHT.

Yes, sir; I was in it myself.

198 Senator FLETCHER.
You know it was the last boat to leave the ship?

199 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.

200 Senator FLETCHER.
How long after she left was it before the ship went down?

201 Mr. BRIGHT.
It could not have been long. We were told to pull clear and get out of the suction; and I suppose we got out about 100 yards, or maybe a little more, away from the ship.

202 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you lie on your oars then and wait?

203 Mr. BRIGHT.
We were told to keep together, if possible; in the boats.

204 Senator FLETCHER.
Was it 25 or 30 minutes or an hour?

205 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; I should say it was as near half an hour as possible. When I left, the forecastle was going under water.

206 Senator FLETCHER.
Then the collapsible boat on the starboard side was next to the last boat to leave the ship?

207 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; I did not see that lowered. I saw them getting ready to lower it and I went to the other side to get the other one up.

208 Senator FLETCHER.
You know that was the only one left on the ship?

209 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; all the lifeboats went down before that.

210 Senator FLETCHER.
The collapsible boat on the port side was lowered after the one on the starboard side?

211 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; the starboard one went down before the other one.

212 Senator FLETCHER.
And it went down immediately before the one on the port side?

213 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say how long. I suppose it was 20 minutes or more. It was getting ready before I went down.

214 Senator FLETCHER.
Do you think that collapsible boat on the starboard side was next to the last boat to leave the ship?

215 Mr. BRIGHT.
I do think so; yes, sir.

216 Senator FLETCHER.
That was the one that was nearly foundered afterwards?

217 Mr. BRIGHT.
I can not answer that.

218 Senator FLETCHER.

There was no other? There were only two collapsible boats, were there not?

219 Mr. BRIGHT.
Two.

220 Senator FLETCHER.
Then you do not know whether the one on the starboard side was the one that got in trouble afterwards and the other boat foundered?

221 Mr. BRIGHT.
I can only answer for two. The other two I do not know anything about. I know we picked some off of one that was swamped. Which one it was of the four, I do not know.

222 Senator FLETCHER.
Was Mr. Ismay on that one?

223 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir. They were mostly - I think there were several firemen and stewards - I would not be certain - and there were a few third class passengers and one woman.

224 Senator FLETCHER.
What became of the passengers that were taken off of that foundered collapsible boat?

225 Mr. BRIGHT.
Mr. Lowe took them into his boat. It was only manned by a crew.

226 Senator FLETCHER.
He took them into his boat?

227 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.

228 Senator FLETCHER.
And none into your boat?

229 Mr. BRIGHT.
No. He went around to all the boats and put as many in the other boats as he could, so as to have a clear boat to put in anyone he could find.

230 Senator FLETCHER.
He had already put 10 or 12 into your boat?

231 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; previous to that.

232 Senator FLETCHER.
Nothing happened to your boat?

233 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

234 Senator FLETCHER.
You did not see any ship or vessel of any sort next morning, in the direction of the light that you had seen during the night?

235 Mr. BRIGHT.
No. That seemed to disappear all at once. The next we saw was the [Carpathia](#), just before daylight.

236 Senator FLETCHER.
How far were you from her when you first saw her?

237 Mr. BRIGHT.

The Carpathia?
238 Senator FLETCHER.
Yes.
239 Mr. BRIGHT.
About 4 miles.
240 Senator FLETCHER.
You say that was before daylight?
241 Mr. BRIGHT.
Just before daylight she came in sight.
242 Senator FLETCHER.
You saw her lights?
243 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; we could see her lights.
244 Senator SMITH.
I want to ask if you picked up Second Officer Lightoller from the
water?
245 Mr. BRIGHT.
No sir; I did not.
246 Senator SMITH.
There were two collapsible boats forward near the bridge, one on
each side?
247 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; and one on each side of the wheelhouse?
248 Senator SMITH.
Then there was a collapsible boat on the officers quarters?
249 Mr. BRIGHT.
That is what I call the wheelhouse. There was one up on each
side of that.
250 Senator SMITH.
Which one was the first to go to the water, the collapsible boat
that you were in or the collapsible boat that Mr. Ismay was in?
251 Mr. BRIGHT.
Mr. Ismay's.
252 Senator SMITH.
Then you followed?
253 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
254 Senator FLETCHER.
And in his boat, how many people were there?
255 Mr. BRIGHT.
I have no idea. I was not there to see them.
256 Senator SMITH.
And in your boat you had about how many?
257 Mr. BRIGHT.
Twenty-five.
258 Senator SMITH.
As you have stated, there were 20 women and 5 men?
259 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; women and children.
260 Senator SMITH.

And how high was the water on the deck when your boat was lowered?

261 Mr. BRIGHT.
Do you know the forecastle of the ship?

262 Senator SMITH.
Yes.

263 Mr. BRIGHT.
What we call the forecastle head was just going under water. That would be about 20 feet lower than the bridge, I should say.

264 Senator SMITH.
In other words, the boat had sunk about 50 feet into the water?

265 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; all of that, because when the boat was lowered the foremost fall was lowered down and the other one seemed to hang and I called out to hang on to the foremost fall and to see what was the matter and let go the after one.

266 Senator SMITH.
Was there any suction about the [Titanic](#) when your boat was lowered into the water?

267 Mr. BRIGHT.
No. There would not be any suction until she was under.

268 Senator SMITH.
I understand that, but I want to know whether there was any apparent suction there?

269 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not have any difficulty in getting away.

270 Senator SMITH.
No difficulty at all?

271 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

272 Senator SMITH.
I have asked all of the others who were close about when the ship went down the same question and I have had the same reply.

273 Mr. BRIGHT.
I was 50 to 100 yards away, I would say, when she went down. I could not be exact, but about that.

274 Senator FLETCHER.
Did she break in two?

275 Mr. BRIGHT.
She broke in two. All at once she seemed to go up on end, you know, and come down about half way, and then the afterpart righted, itself again and the forepart had disappeared. A few seconds the after part did the same thing and went down. I could distinctly see the propellers - everything - out of the water.

276 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there any women and children on deck when you left?

277 Mr. BRIGHT.
There must have been crowds aboard.

278 Senator FLETCHER.
Where you were?

..Women hesitate/refuse

279 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.

280 Senator FLETCHER.
None in hearing distance of you?

281 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not see them.

282 Senator FLETCHER.
You can not say positively that there were none there?

283 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir; because the lights had gone out in the forepart of the ship
then. The lights went out after we got away. The lights were
burning in the afterpart of the ship.

284 Senator FLETCHER.
Could you hear any?

285 Mr. BRIGHT.
Oh, you could hear some.

286 Senator FLETCHER.
Wanting to get on the boat?

287 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say as to that. There were lots that were asked to get
into the boat and they said they would rather stay on board the
ship; lots of women said that.

288 Senator SMITH.
Did they say that to you?

289 Mr. BRIGHT.
Not to me; but I was assisting in getting the boats ready.

290 Senator FLETCHER.
But did any ladies refuse to get in that boat - that last boat - any
who were asked to get in?

291 Mr. BRIGHT.
Not to my knowledge.

292 Senator FLETCHER.
Were there some there?

293 Mr. BRIGHT.
I did not see any when that boat went out.

294 Senator FLETCHER.
It was dark?

295 Mr. BRIGHT.
My attention was elsewhere. I as looking after the boat getting
clear. You see they got the boat clear of the ship and then the
people were put in afterwards.

296 Senator FLETCHER.
And you were on board the boat?

297 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes; keeping her in an upright position to save the people from
falling into the water.

298 Senator FLETCHER.
And Mr. Lightoller and several others were helping the
passengers in, you have said. Did they call out for anybody to
come there?

..Women hesitate/refuse

299 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; I could not hear.
300 Senator FLETCHER.
If there were people there you had room for 10 or 12 more
anyhow in that boat, and why did you not put them in?
301 Mr. BRIGHT.
I had nothing to do with putting them in.
302 Senator FLETCHER.
Why did he not put them in?
303 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say that..
304 Senator FLETCHER.
And Mr. Lightoller was left on board; you left him on board the
boat?
305 Mr. BRIGHT.
We left him on board the ship.
306 Senator FLETCHER.
Did you have a light in your boat?
307 Mr. BRIGHT.
There was a lantern passed into the boat, but I could not light it. I
tried to light it.
308 Senator FLETCHER.
All the lights on the ship were not out then?
309 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; it was only the after section, though, that was burning: The
after part of the boat had her lights burning.
310 Senator BOURNE.
After she broke in two?
311 Mr. BRIGHT.
Until she went under water; yes, sir.
312 Senator BOURNE.
Were you the last boat to leave the ship?
313 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
314 Senator BOURNE.
And you were from 50 to 100 yards from the ship when she
sank?
315 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
316 Senator BOURNE.
And you rowed from the ship without cessation?
317 Mr. BRIGHT.
Without what?
318 Senator BOURNE.
Without stopping.
319 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes.
320 Senator BOURNE.
Until she sank. How long a period was it from the time you left
the ship until she sank?

321 Mr. BRIGHT.
I only had two oars pulling, you know.

322 Senator BOURNE.
How long a time do you think it was - how many minutes?

323 Mr. BRIGHT.
I should say it was nearly a half an hour. We were not pulling in a straight direction.

324 Senator BOURNE.
You were circling around?

325 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; trying to find the other boats.

326 Senator BOURNE.
Oh, you were not trying to get away from the ship.

327 Mr. BRIGHT.
We were told to get together if we could do so, and keep together, and as soon as I located a boat I would pull for that.

328 Senator BOURNE.
But at no time were you more than 100 yards from the ship from the time you left it?

329 Mr. BRIGHT.
Not when she went down.

330 Senator BOURNE.
Did you hear any explosion after you left the ship?

331 Mr. BRIGHT.
I heard something, but I would not call it an explosion. It was like a rattling of chain, more than an anything else.

332 Senator BOURNE.
You did not hear any explosion? You do not think the boilers blew up?

333 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; it was not like that; it was not such a sound as we would hear if the boilers exploded. It was like a rattling of chains.

334 Senator BOURNE.
The ship went down by her bow first and you could see the stern, and see the keel on the stern, could you?

335 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir. Then that righted itself again, got on an even keel again after that.

336 Senator BOURNE.
That is, the stern?

337 Mr. BRIGHT.
It settled down in the water on an even keel

338 Senator BOURNE.
But the bow had disappeared?

339 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.

340 Senator BOURNE.
Hence, you assumed that she broke in two. The bow lights were extinguished, were they?

341 Mr. BRIGHT.

You could not see anything of them after that.
342 Senator BOURNE.
Did you see any lights on the stern after she settled?
343 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir; until she finally disappeared underneath the water.
344 Senator BOURNE.
Until the stern disappeared, after the break?
345 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
346 Senator FLETCHER.
Where did she break? Tell us about where she broke in two.
347 Mr. BRIGHT.
Well, it was as near the middle as anything, I should say; but it
was dark.
348 Senator SMITH.
Who handed you the lamp; was it the lamp trimmer, Hemming?
349 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say who it was. The lamp trimmer was assisting to get
that boat out with me. I could not say who it was.
350 Senator SMITH.
He did not hand you the lamp?
351 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say. The boat was over the side then.
352 Senator SMITH.
Did you see the lamp trimmer?
353 Mr. BRIGHT.
I saw him.
354 Senator SMITH.
Did you see him with lamps in his arms going around giving
them out to the boats?
355 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; the last time I saw him he was assisting to get that boat out.
356 Senator SMITH.
After you left the Titanic in this collapsible boat, did anyone try
to board at from the water?
357 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.
358 Senator SMITH.
Or did anyone try to get out of it?
359 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir.
360 Senator SMITH.
You did not go back to the scene of this disaster after you pulled
out into the sea, away from the Titanic?
361 Mr. BRIGHT.
No; by the time we got clear we did not have time to go back. We
were told to keep together, you see -
362 Senator SMITH.
You kept together and did not return again to the scene of the
disaster?

363 Mr. BRIGHT.
No, sir. Mr. Lowe, who gave us the order to stay together, went
back.
364 Senator SMITH.
In No. 14?
365 Mr. BRIGHT.
I could not say.
366 Senator SMITH.
He went back in the sailboat?
367 Mr. BRIGHT.
He did not have any sail up then.
368 Senator SMITH.
Well, he had sail up when you next saw him?
369 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
370 Senator SMITH.
And he took your boat in tow?
371 Mr. BRIGHT.
Yes, sir.
372 Senator SMITH.
I think that is all.
373 (Witness Excused.)