

\$6,500,000 ASKED TO IMPROVE FLEET

Modernization of Battleships to Be Undertaken.

NEW DEVICES WANTED

Protection Against Air Bombs and High-Angle Fire as Well as Torpedoes Is Proposed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—In order to keep the first line of the American navy on par with the sea forces of the other great powers, President Harding asked congress today for a special appropriation of \$6,500,000 as a beginning on a battleship modernization programme.

The plan behind the request marks a change of policy resulting directly from the Washington arms conference and was described by Secretary Denby in a letter accompanying the president's recommendation as of "major and vital importance" in naval defense.

13 Vessels Are Affected.

Secretary Denby reported that a detailed study of the problem has been made by naval officers and that the \$6,500,000 asked for would make it possible to begin work on 13 vessels. Ultimately, he estimates, the programme would cost a total of \$35,000,000.

No detailed information as to what ships will be affected by the first appropriation or what work will be done on them was given to congress by Mr. Denby or made available at the navy department. It is known, however, that in general the tentative plans call for equipment of all of the 14-inch gun ships of the fleet with deck protection against aircraft bombs and high angle fire, "blister" protection against torpedo attack, and modernization of the main batteries to give them a range now usable with aircraft spotting.

Smaller Ones Not Included.

Ships which the United States was building and had agreed to scrap under the treaty were equipped with all of the devices which it now becomes necessary to add to the older craft. The new ships will have had main batteries with a range of 24,000 yards and the interior construction of the hulls was calculated to minimize the damage from torpedo attack.

The 16-inch guns which are to be retained under the treaty were designed and built before aircraft spotting made possible effective gunfire beyond the limit of vision from the ship. They were also built before the great war proved the effectiveness of submarine attack with torpedoes.

It is doubtful if the modernization plan will include any of the 12-inch gun ships of the American navy, which, because of their lighter guns and lighter side armor, are not regarded by naval experts as ships of the first line of battle. There are six such ships now in the active fleet, and two of them, the North Dakota and Delaware, will be scrapped when the new 16-inch gun ships West Virginia and Colorado are commissioned. The British have disposed already of virtually all of their 12-inch gun battery craft.

\$325,000,000 GIVEN NAVY

Appropriation Bill Is Passed by Senate With Little Change.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—After the calming of the senate's three-day storm through withdrawal by Senator Borah of his amendment proposing a world's economic conference, the senate today passed the \$325,000,000 naval appropriation bill and adjourned over New Year's day.

Debate on the Borah amendment was not resumed and the bill also was passed without mention of the house provision requesting the president to negotiate with the principal naval powers for further armament limitation. This provision, which is in the bill will go to the president and will not come before the senate and house conferees. It requests the president to negotiate with Great Britain, Japan, France and Italy with a view to agreement limiting vessels under 10,000 tons and aircraft not covered by the arms conference treaties.

Senator King, democrat, Utah, did not offer his amendment proposing a land and sea armament limitation conference. After passage of the naval bill, the administration shipping bill, which has been laid aside temporarily, was placed in position for resumption of debate when the senate meets again next Wednesday. Protracted speeches resulted in a charge by Senator Smoot, republican, Utah, that filibustering was in progress. The speech-making stopped soon after Senator Smoot's statement, all senators uniting in expediting passage of the naval bill.

Senator Jones, republican, Washington, in charge of the shipping bill, gave notice, however, that next Wednesday he would call up his resolution to create a special committee to revise the senate rules with a view to checking future filibusters.

No important changes in the naval bill were made by the senate except the addition of \$1,000,000 for naval reserve training purposes and \$550,000 additional for torpedo construction, the latter designed to maintain the Newport, R. I., and other stations.

The senate rejected an amendment by Senator McKellar, democrat, Tennessee, to cut the navy's enlisted personnel of 36,000 men authorized by the house to 67,000 men. The present strength is 85,000 men.

Other amendments reported, included proposals by Senator King to reduce the marine corps and also to prohibit use of marines in Haiti and the Dominican republic after June 30 next. Senator King was assured by republican leaders that withdrawal of marines from the two island republics at the earliest opportunity was the administration's policy.

Church Will Be Dedicated.

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 30.—

(Special).—The Missionary Alliance church at Third and M streets will be dedicated tomorrow morning. Rev. W. W. Newberry, dean of the Simpson Bible school, Seattle, will deliver the dedicatory address. Rev. J. C. Baker, who organized the church here and who was its pastor for several years, will be one of the speakers. The church will be dedicated free from debt.

LIQUOR GUILT ADMITTED

Eugene Man Fined \$500 and Sentenced to Six Months.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 30.—(Special).—Jack Fulton, local cigar dealer and ex-matchmaker for the Eugene boxing commission, today pleaded guilty in the Eugene justice court to the charge of unlawful possession of liquor and was fined the maximum of \$500 and sentenced to six months in the county jail.

WHAT CONGRESS DID AS ITS DAY'S WORK.

Senate.

Passed naval appropriation bill carrying \$325,000,000. American aid in the economic rehabilitation of Europe was officially approved by senators.

Resolution offered by Norris, republican, Nebraska, directing the federal trade commission to investigate the formation in Delaware of a concern with \$100,000,000 capital to merge the Armours and Morris Packing company. Holiday adjournment taken until soon Wednesday.

House.

Completed the postoffice appropriation bill. More than \$42,000,000 for tax refund recommended by appropriations committee in second deficiency bill. Secretary Denby requested \$5,500,000 for modernization of battleships.

Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, declared that no Texas members in congress are in the Ku Klux Klan. Representative Hill, republican, Maryland, said there were precedents for punishing members who made unsupported charges against their colleagues, and said he would demand that Representative Uphaw, democrat, Georgia, submit his proof or take the consequences.

quor and was fined the maximum of \$500 and sentenced to six months in the county jail. Fulton paid the fine and began to serve his sentence, but he made a plea to be allowed liberty, promising that he would sell his business here and leave the city immediately.

Fulton stopped payment on the \$500 check he gave to Portland wholesale bootleggers a few days ago for the ten gallons of moonshine that were found in his room when the sheriff's force made the raid Friday. The check had been cashed in Portland today and sent back to the Eugene bank upon which it was drawn. It is held up and either the Portland bank or the Portland bootleggers will lose the \$500.

New Sawmill to Start Work.

EUGENE, Or., Dec. 30.—(Special).—The new sawmill of the Shannon & Lyons Lumber company, on the Globe siding of the Coos bay branch of the Southern Pacific west of Eugene, will start operations January 15, according to announcement today by H. P. Shannon, one of the owners. The daily capacity will be 50,000 feet.

Alleged Slayer Denies Guilt.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) IOWA CITY, Ia., Dec. 30.—Robert Leeper, under arrest for the murder of Roy C. Wertz here last Wednesday morning, was brought into court this afternoon for arraignment. He entered a plea of not guilty and demanded a hearing, which was set for next Thursday afternoon.

Peacock Rock Springs coal. Diamond Coal Co. Bdry 2027.—Adv.

ARRESTS DELAYED IN MER ROUGE CASE

U. S. Agents Extend Investigation of Murders.

KLANSMEN ALSO BUSY

Invisible Empire to Revoke Charter if Whole Organization Is Found Guilty.

BASTROP, La., Dec. 30.—(By the Associated Press).—Morehouse settled down tonight to await the coming of Friday, when the state would lay its cards on the table in the Morehouse kidnaping and murder cases.

The failure of the state to set in motion its dragnet during the past week, has given the impression that additional arrests will not be made before the day of the open hearing. In the meantime investigations are being extended. There were reports that department of justice agents will delve into the activities of unidentified secret organizations which have conducted raids against the lawless along the Louisiana-Arkansas border.

The Ku Klux Klan of the realm of Louisiana also had agents in the field, it was reported, gathering data in connection with the outrage on the Bastrop-Mer Rouge highway on the night of August 24, when five members of old Morehouse families were kidnaped, flogged and two murdered by hooded men.

Klan Regalia Worn.

Because of the reports made by the scores of persons who were returning from the Bastrop celebration and witnessed the highway episode, that the mob was robed and masked—regalia similar to that worn by the Ku Klux Klan—the state klansmen are sending investigators into Morehouse to report on the affair.

If the Klan as a whole is guilty, its charter will be revoked, if individual members were implicated they will be left by their fellow klansmen to the fate they deserve, according to the edict of chiefs who met in New Orleans yesterday.

Meanwhile reports are in circulation that the membership of the Morehouse Klan is dwindling through resignations of those, it is said, who do not want the notoriety that might follow revelations at the open hearing. Many are expected to be influenced by their families, who fear that the innocent as well as the guilty may be made to suffer.

Defense Fund Sought.

Some friends of Dr. B. M. McKoin, formerly mayor of Mer Rouge, who is under murder charges at Baltimore, have advised him not to fight extradition but to return to Louisiana, as they are certain he will be vindicated. In the meantime they are proceeding with the accumulation of the fund to pay for his defense.

Ex-Judge W. C. Barnett of Shreveport, La., announced today he has been retained as counsel for T. J. Burnett, formerly a deputy sheriff, also under arrest on a murder charge in connection with the case. He said in the event McKoin was extradited, he would represent him also.

McKoin to Allege AIBH.

"I regard the case in no other light than any other murder case," the judge commented. "In the last analysis this case will have to be disposed of by due process of law in the criminal courts."

Witnesses to prove that Dr. McKoin was in Monroe at the time the kidnapings occurred have been produced, and a positive alibi can be established, it was announced today by his friends.

Dr. McKoin, who has been charged by Governor Parker as being a klansman, denied his affiliation with the organization, but announced today that he was not only a member but an organizer of the Louisiana-Arkansas Law and Order league, an organization which during the summer of this year was said to have absorbed a number of independent law enforcement societies.

The league was reported as having ceased to function and it is the general opinion has dissolved. Federal and Klan investigators were reported as eager to go thoroughly into the activities of this organization.

Entire Family Asphyxiated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A family of four—Frank Carozza, his wife and two children—were found dead from gas in their Brooklyn home tonight.

WOMAN TRIES SUICIDE

WIFE SWALLOWS POISON ON THEATER STAGE.

Mrs. Frank Hayward of Portland Expected to Recover in Vancouver Hospital.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Dec. 30.—(Special).—Because she said her husband was paying attention to other women, Mrs. Frank Hayward attempted suicide by swallowing poison last night behind the stage at the U. S. A. theater here. Hayward had charge of a troupe of vaudeville actors and took one of the girls to a local studio to have her picture taken. Mrs. Hayward accused the woman of being too familiar with her husband and at-

lacked her when she returned. After a short struggle, Mrs. Hayward went to a separate room and was found shortly after lying on the floor.

She was taken to the St. Joseph hospital here where it is said her condition is not serious. The Hayward's home is in Portland. The attempted suicide was not reported to the local authorities. The theater in which it occurred is owned by Mayor Higgins.

Olcott Dpe Home Tonight.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 30.—(Special).—Roy Ritter, acting governor, who has been occupying the executive chair here for the last three weeks, departed tonight for Pendleton. Governor Ben W. Olcott has telegraphed that he will return to Salem tomorrow night. Governor Olcott has spent the last three weeks in the east attending the governors' conference and other meetings. He spent Christmas with his parents at Long Beach, Cal., and was a visitor in San Francisco yesterday.

EX-WIFE KISSES NO. 2

WOMAN TO LIVE WITH EX-SPOUSE AND SUCCESSOR.

Butte Doctor Divorces Mate With Whom He Has Lived for 33 Years and Weds Nurse.

(By Chicago Tribune Leased Wire.) BUTTE, Mont., Dec. 30.—After 33 years of married life, the union being blessed by a son and daughter, Dr. T. C. Witherspoon, one of the most prominent surgeons in the northwest, and his wife were divorced. A few days later Mrs. Robert Connochie, nurse in the hospital where Dr. Witherspoon is chief surgeon, divorced her husband and resumed her maiden name, Rita de Courtney. That afternoon

Regular Meeting Postponed.

The regular meeting of the women's auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians has been postponed from the scheduled date of January 1 to January 15. The fact that tomorrow is New Year's day and a holiday prompted the change in meeting nights.

Where Are Your Valuable Papers Stored?

THE Astoria fire has again proven that the only place of absolute safety for valuables is the modern safe deposit vault.

Scores of Astoria business men had made heavy investments in so-called protection against fire. During the hours of the conflagration they were consoled by the thought that at least their records, their cash, and their securities were safe, but when the wreckage was cleared away many of them found that everything was gone—the disaster was irretrievable.

The one absolute protection against conflagration, earthquake, storm, flood, burglary, or any other menace is the modern safe deposit vault.

It costs very little to safeguard your valuables in this way. Portland safe deposit companies charge as little as four dollars a year for safe deposit vault protection.

Absolute secrecy and privacy are assured. You are the only person who has access to your box in the safe deposit vault. You are the only one who sees or handles your property there. Even the attendants cannot open your box unless you and your key are present and then they do not see or handle the contents.

You can dismiss all thoughts of loss from your mind when you patronize a safe deposit vault. You know that even though the building which houses it is burned to ashes, the massive, scientific construction of the modern safe deposit vault will withstand any heat that can under any circumstances be applied to it. No burglar has ever opened a modern safe deposit vault. It is proof against any



There Is No Substitute for Safety

human power or any disaster which humanity has ever experienced.

There is a box in the safe deposit vault which suits your needs, whether they are the needs of an individual or of a large business concern; whether you wish to store the family silver, your personal jewelry, a few securities, or millions.

You are invited to call and inspect the safe deposit facilities of the following concerns and to make inquiries there regarding the accommodations they can offer you:

Portland Trust Company of Oregon

Sixth and Morrison Streets

The United States National Bank

Sixth and Stark Streets

Security Safe Deposit Company

First National Bank Building

Ladd & Tilton Bank

Washington and Third Streets

There Is No Substitute for Safety

Wishing One and All A Happy, Prosperous New Year

The whole-hearted interest our employes take in their daily tasks floods the store with light and color and encourages us—The Climbers—to strive up and up. It foreshadows the way to a realization of purposes and ideals—suggests more practical ways and means of attainment and makes our business life wider and more enthusiastically interesting. It stimulates ambition and urges us to greater and more earnest effort to please.

For 1923—The New Year

We face our task in good heart and courage, believing that the reward of a thing well done is to have done it; knowing that if we work to fulfill our obligations thoroughly we shall reap as we sow; trusting that every move we make will contribute something to the customers' wider satisfaction.



CAUTION

Wrappers of the New Year's Edition of The Morning Oregonian issued MONDAY, JAN. 1, will bear this label:

NEW YEAR'S EDITION



Prices will be 5 cents a copy; postage, 4 cents in the United States and 10 cents elsewhere. All other foreign postage will be 12 cents.