

FLEET IS INFERIOR TO BRITAIN'S

Admiral Fletcher Says Americans Have No Other Power to Fear on Sea.

BATTLESHIP IS DEFENDED

Submarines Regarded as Not Affecting Vital Principles of Naval Warfare—Control Against England Not Advised.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The ability of the American Navy to successfully meet the war fleets of any nation in the world except Great Britain was asserted today by Rear-Admiral Fletcher, commander-in-chief of the Atlantic fleet, before the House naval affairs committee.

Frankly admitting the overwhelming superiority of Britain's sea force, the admiral said it is possible of conflict between the United States and Great Britain was so remote that he did not believe in a naval policy for this country designed to control the ocean as against England.

German Superiority in Sight.
Admiral Fletcher was under examination all day by possibility of conflict between the United States and Great Britain was so remote that he did not believe in a naval policy for this country designed to control the ocean as against England.

Japan Not Feared on Sea.
Asked specifically about the Philippines, the admiral would not say that the American fleet alone could successfully defend Hawaii and the Philippines in a conflict with Japan, though there was no doubt in his mind of the ability of this nation to control the Pacific in a war with that country.

Ultimate Naval Success. Admiral Fletcher contended, still rested with dreadnoughts, that the United States would not seriously affect the "vital principles" of naval warfare. He admitted, however, that from a former naval standpoint it was possible to send submarines across the Atlantic to attack warships on the American coast.

Submarines Will Be Equipped. Admiral Fletcher said the latest American submarines were not equipped with the most modern torpedoes, but they would be in a few years, he said.

England Can Easily Control. "I should say that England has a navy so much more powerful than any nation that she could easily keep control of the seas."

Protect Your Interests. "To protect your interests, and particularly your commerce, it is necessary to have a fleet," he said.

Not One on Earth, is there? "Not one on earth, is there?" Admiral Fletcher.

When one? "When one?" demanded Witherpoon.

Well, I think there are any other nations that we could not successfully resist?

"I do not think that we need fear any other nation."

Assuming. Representative Witherpoon continued after a series of questions tending to show that the five great warships of the United States were larger than England's latest five ships.

That England should send against us more ships than we have; assuming that the ships were superior, that the marksmanship of our men was superior, would your assumption that England could whip us then be true?

"Well," Admiral Fletcher replied, "considering all the circumstances and conditions of the two fleets, their relative strength and the number of ships brought against us, I do not think it would be a fair conclusion."

Everything to be considered. "In my answer concerning the comparative power of the navies," Admiral Fletcher resumed, "I consider all those things which you have considered, the number of ships, the number of guns, armor, marksmanship and everything practical to consider."

Then I understand your statement, "that you want us to understand that England is the only nation on earth that has a navy that we could not successfully resist?"

"I think that is a fair conclusion."

Representative Williams, of Illinois, asked the admiral if he thought the fleet had to defend Hawaii and the Philippines in their waters.

"That is a question, of course, that is exceedingly difficult to answer," replied the admiral. "I think that our more powerful fleet could keep control of the seas as against Japan. But as to the ability of the fleet alone to defend the Philippines would depend a great deal on conditions. I wouldn't say that the fleet alone could do it."

Philippine Issue Avoided. "Well, if our 40 battleships cannot defend the Philippines," Representative Witherpoon interrupted, "don't you think it would be a good thing for us to get rid of the Philippines?"

"That is a question of policy which I cannot answer," replied the admiral smilingly.

"Suppose we are called upon to defend the Monroe Doctrine," suggested Chairman Padgett, "the conditions would be different than in defending our own shores, would they not?"

"Yes, we would be operating entirely under different conditions," replied the admiral. "Conditions would be more difficult because of conditions far distant in the seas."

"Do you believe," asked Representative Gray, "that we at the present time should increase our navy so that we should control the seas?"

"I see no necessity for adopting that policy at the present time," replied the admiral.

COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF ATLANTIC FLEET, WHO SAYS WE ARE EQUAL TO ANY NATION ON SEA EXCEPT GREAT BRITAIN.



REAR-ADMIRAL FRANK F. FLETCHER.

only solution is that we must make a Navy to whip the world. Provision for defense must be tempered with some policy of judgment. I do not think that anybody ever considers the conflicting interests between England and the United States have been at all serious, or that there is any probability that they will. Our interests are too much in common."

"What nations then do you think we do have to build against and —?"

"The question was unfinished. Chairman Padgett and several other members objected. The chairman said he thought the question improper."

Germany Would Soon Lead. Answering further questions, Admiral Fletcher said that the German regular building programme were carried out and the United States continued to build only two battleships a year.

England, in your opinion?" suggested Mr. Gray.

"That is right," was the admiral's answer. "What nations then do you think we do have to build against and —?"

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GARRISON ARMS

Reserve for Both Regular Army and Militia Are Favored in Report.

ARTILLERY IS INSUFFICIENT

Belgium Only Has Smaller Army Than United States; Mobile Figure at Home Is 30,000.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—That the United States Army be immediately recruited to its full war strength, which would mean the addition of 25,000 men and 1000 officers, is urged by Secretary Garrison, of the War Department, in his annual report presented today to President Wilson.

Such an increase would give the regular Army a total of 120,000 men, of whom 50,000 would be available as a mobile fighting force in the Continental United States. The present mobilized strength of 90,000, the Secretary points out, soon will be cut in half by additions to the garrisons in the canal zone, Hawaii and the Philippines.

In addition to strengthening the regular establishment, the Secretary urges that steps be taken at once to create a militia reserve army. He dismisses as impracticable talk of immediate disarmament and as groundless fears of military anarchy in America.

Total Force Is 148,000. The present full war strength of the United States is summarized by the report as follows:

Original militia of the various states totals 323 officers and 119,987 men. If all of the National Guard could be summoned in the event of a crisis, the total available force would be 148,000.

Artillery Insufficient. The report also points out that the artillery establishment in the world, were it not for a desire to avoid invidious comparisons, should be such that man for man it should be equal to the best existing military establishment in the world.

Mobile Strength to Decrease. After enumerating the vast areas of continental United States and those of our other territorial responsibilities which must be considered, the report says that the number of troops available for service in the Philippines, Hawaii or the Canal Zone or comprising hospital, quartermasters, or other military establishments in the territory, is 24,800 men. Even with the increased force there, Secretary Garrison says, the number of troops available for service in the territory is inadequate in his opinion.

Table of the 13 Leading Countries. A table of the 13 leading countries in the world, showing the number of troops available for service in the territory, is included in the report. It discloses that with the exception of the United States, Great Britain and her colonies and by Russia, the United States stands tenth in the world in the number of troops available for service in the territory.

Belgium Only Is Lower. Against Russia's 4,500,000 trained men, the United States has 226,000, including the Philippine garrisons, and Belgium, with only 1,000,000, is the only country below that figure. Switzerland, next above, has 275,000; Japan, 1,300,000; and France, 4,000,000.

Financial Statement. The financial statement submitted by Frank Meredith, secretary, showed a net balance to the credit of the fund of \$429,446 in December, 1913. That is but a slight loss, which is considered insignificant considering the weather conditions during fair week and the financial depression.

Receipts from all sources were \$4,118,077 and expenditures \$3,422,338, leaving on December 31, 1914, a balance of \$595,739 in the hands of the State Treasurer. There is a total indebtedness of \$286,668 against the new pavilion, due contractors for heating, plumbing and lighting. This leaves a net balance of \$309,071, which to commence the fiscal year's work, will only a few small bills unpaid.

Of the financial condition of the fair Mr. Meredith said: "The state fair did not succeed as well financially in 1914 as in the preceding year, owing both to the financial depression and the rainy weather. However, the result should be a source of gratification, when taken into consideration the fact that nearly every one of the North Pacific fairs sustained severe losses."

The new pavilion is shown to have cost \$286,668. The Legislature appropriated \$60,000 for its erection. The amount over the appropriation had to be covered from the general fund of the fair.

In addition to the standing appropriation of \$15,000 for premiums the board decided to ask the Legislature for the following appropriations: For the erection of a livestock coliseum, \$125,000; for construction of permanent roadway to fairgrounds, \$375,000; for equipping water system, \$695,000; for fencing, painting and repairing buildings, \$450,000; to reimburse state fair fund for expenditures on new buildings, \$300,257; to reimburse state fair fund for expense of drilling well, \$674.

Members of the board present were: J. H. Booth, president, Roseburg; Al Jones, Joseph; N. C. Maris, Portland; H. W. Hatch, Salem; N. K. West, Union; Frank Meredith, secretary, Salem.

PEACE RESTS WITH STATES
(Continued From First Page.)

of our Navy, with torpedo-boats and submarines to resist it, would be insuperable.

Some officers should be trained, he said, and suggested this might be accomplished by providing another West Point, giving free education to all who agreed to serve three years with colors. The National Guard, he said, should be improved and reasonable appropriations would bring good results.

The American people, he said, would not endure conscription in times of peace, and this method of increasing the Army could not be resorted to.

Zapattistas to Attend Convention. Dispatches telling of conditions in Mexico were summarized by the State Department tonight as follows:

A dispatch from Mexico City confirms the report that the permanent commission met on December 5 and decided to call a full meeting of the convention for January 1. At that meeting, it is said, 20 accredited Zapata delegates will attend and participate in the proceedings.

The impression in Mexico City seems to be that the provisional president is endeavoring, in the matter of his appointments, to give all elements common consideration. Dominguez Valdes Lano, on December 5, appointed controller of the treasury, with Colonel Alberto Fuentes as assistant.

The Department is advised that on December 7 a train burned at Cordoba, destroying 20 tons of cartridges. It is said that all outbound passengers from Vera Cruz, whether they depart by land or sea, are required to procure a passport from the military commander. General Carranza has issued a decree taking over all telegraphic, telephonic and railroad communication in territory under Constitutional control.

Geography Tests Adults
How Many Can Answer Following 30 Questions Offhand?

Springfield Republican.

Seven Springfield men who regard themselves as educated recently drew up the following examination in geography, each selecting five questions which he thought an educated and well-informed person should be able to answer. Allowing two points for a perfect answer to each question, or 40 for a perfect paper, it would found that the average for the seven papers was the surprisingly low figure of 23.57. The best individual showing was 42.22, and the poorest 15. Geography was interpreted in its broadest sense, and purely local questions were asked, as well as those which concerned the world at large. In order that the following list may be given a more general application the local questions and others to bring the number down to 30 have been omitted, making the list a fair test for every supposedly well-informed American citizen. The aim is to answer the questions practically offhand without consulting atlas, gazetteer or other work of reference.

1. Name the great lakes in order of their area.
2. In what state is Bloomington (the largest)? Tucson. Pine Bluff, Trinidad, Cumberland?
3. Name the 19 largest cities in the world in order.
4. What straits separate Jutland from the mainland of Europe?

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Name the three largest cities in Minnesota. Where is the Torres Strait? 7. Where are the Faroe Islands and to what country do they belong? 8. Name the four largest rivers in Africa. 9. Name six of the eight largest cities in Massachusetts. 10. Name the two largest cities in the Southern Hemisphere. 11. Name eight tribes of Indians in Western United States, excluding the southwestern tribes and the Sioux, who are a family of tribes rather than a tribe. 12. Name the divisions of Northern Africa which once comprised the North African caliphate of the Turkish Empire; to whom do each belong, and state whether as protectorates or suzerainty. 13. Where are these islands or groups of islands and to whom do they belong? Falkland, Fernando Po, St. Kitts, Thomas, Trinidad, Galapagos? 14. Locate with considerable definiteness the following rivers: Ganges, Platte, McKenzie, St. Mary's, La Plata, Bramaputra. 15. What is the chief farm product of the United States and how is it disposed of? 16. Opposite what part of the United States is Bermuda and how far from the Coast? 17. Bound Central Park, New York. 18. Where and what is Bessarabia? Name its chief city. 20. Arrange these English cities in order of population: Leeds, Sheffield, York, Bradford, Liverpool, Manchester. 21. Bound Oklahoma. 22. Name the four provinces of Ireland. 23. Where are Pilsen and Budweis? What are they noted for. 24. Name the states bordering on the Great Lakes. 25. What is the largest city in China? 26. Where is Dalmatia? 27. In what general direction does the Panama Canal run? 28. What is the capital of Saskatchewan? 29. What two of the United States are rectangular? 30. What is the capital of Canada and on what river is it situated.

labeled, J. M. Spancake was arrested here yesterday. Spancake's arrest occurred as he was unloading two barrels of bottled beer and several flasks of whisky from his wagon in the city limits. Attorney Harman has announced that he would attack the constitutionality of the ordinance at the time of the trial.

Judge Hamilton has set the trials of C. L. Pearson, charged with the illicit sale of liquor; Frank Langenberg, accused of giving liquor to minors, and Clifford Howard, charged with assault with a dangerous weapon, for December 15.

During this season of court District Attorney Brown, recently elected Attorney-General of Oregon, will dispose of all his cases.

Colombo business men are making sugar from the palm-ya palm.

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