



## AMERICAN NAVY IS PUT THIRD ON LIST

### Admiral Says France Is Close Fourth.

## BOARD FAVORS QUICK WORK

### Navy Equal to Any by 1925 Is Present Policy.

## ARMOR SUPPLY LIMITED

### Maximum Output Said to Be Sufficient for Only Eight or Nine Big Ships a Year—Present Fleet Is Not Criticized.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—The object of the building policy formulated in 1913 by the Navy General Board, it was disclosed today before the House naval committee, was to keep the United States ahead of Germany in the race for naval supremacy. The statement was made by Rear-Admiral Charles J. Badger, a member of the general board, who explained that the policy had contemplated a fleet of 48 first-line battleships by 1919 to accomplish its purpose.

The statement did not go into the record of the hearing and Admiral Badger did not amplify it to show why the board had thought such a course necessary.

**Former Policy Abandoned.**

The Admiral was replying to a suggestion that the object of the old policy, abandoned this year by the board for the first time, was to keep the American Navy in second place. While that was the effect it had, he said, the real object was to keep ahead of Germany.

This year the board fixed as its policy the creation by 1925 of a fleet equal to the most powerful afloat at that time, he said. The committee did not go into the board's reasons for changing its ideas beyond drawing out the explanation that the board believed a fleet 10 per cent superior to any fighting force that might be brought against it would be necessary to insure against the invasion of American soil by an enemy.

## Germany's Strength Estimated.

Under questioning by Representative Kelley, Admiral Badger said the production of the additional dreadnoughts, and eight battle cruisers would place the Navy on a par with the capital ships of the German fleet today. Germany now has 22 dreadnoughts and eight battle cruisers, he said, according to the best available information, while the United States has all told 19 ships of the dreadnought class, built or building.

To equal Great Britain's fleet within two years, Admiral Badger said, the United States would be obliged to have a total force of 40 dreadnoughts, 15 battle cruisers, 55 swift scouting craft, 200 submarines and 250 destroyers. He was not favoring such a programme, but merely answering questions by Representative Butler. Such a fleet could not be built in two years, he added, though it might be constructed in four.

## Output of Armor Limited.

Representative Butler said construction experts of the Navy had told the committee that the maximum number of capital ships that could be laid down at one time in the United States was 22, and that they could be completed in two years if the skilled labor could be found. Admiral Badger thought the armor output would not permit such rapid construction, and Representative Butler agreed, saying he had been told "by the man who sells armor to the Government" that the maximum possible output was 61,000 tons a year, or enough to equip eight or nine heavy ships.

Chairman Frazier remarked that the armor manufacturers had told the investigating commission last year that they could produce only 25,000 tons annually.

In urging a great increase in the fleet Admiral Badger said he did not wish to be understood as saying the present force was not a thoroughly efficient one.

## Fleet Good, as Far as It Goes.

"I did not want to give the impression," he said, "that our fleet is no good. The only trouble with it is that it is not big enough for possibilities. It is a good fleet, well drilled, well equipped and well organized. We are now prepared just as far as our power will permit us to be. More power means more ships."

Regarding the present place of the United States fleet among the navies of the world, Admiral Badger said, he classified it as third in fighting power, with France a close fourth.

"I think we are number three," he said. "Japan is coming along, but has a good deal to do to equal our fleet. In military power—a fighting efficiency—I think we are a pretty good third, with France not far behind."

## Representative Kelley Questioned Admiral Badger as to the Result of the Five-Year Building Programme Advocated by President Wilson.

He asked if it actually meant any increase whatever over the old Congressional policy of two capital ships a year.

**Five-Year Plan Defended.**

The Admiral was inclined to think not, but later agreed with a statement of Representative Callaway that, under the old two-ships-a-year programme, (Concluded on Page 2, Column 1.)

## JAPANESE FLEET IS IN MEDITERRANEAN

### WARSHIPS BRING GREAT NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT.

### Vessels Presumably Sent to Protect Shipping Under Flag of Tokio Government.

COPENHAGEN, via London, Feb. 22.—German newspapers print dispatches from Italy saying that a Japanese fleet has arrived safely in the Mediterranean Sea, together with a great number of air craft.

## Two Japanese Steamers Have Been Torpedoed and Sunk in the Mediterranean, the liner Yasuka Maru and the freighter Konkoku Maru.

On January 31 announcement was made at Tokio by the Jiji Shimpo that a squadron of Japanese warships was to be dispatched to the Suez Canal, presumably for the purpose of protecting Japanese shipping. The armored cruisers Kasuga, Tokiwa and Chitose were mentioned as having been assigned to this service.

## ROSLYN HAS \$100,000 FIRE

### Department Store of Northwestern Improvement Company Damaged.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 22.—Approximately \$100,000 loss was caused by a fire starting in some refuse swept in front of the sub-pas of a boiler in the big department store of the Northwestern Improvement Company at Roslyn, a coal mining town, according to advices received here. It was necessary to blow in the side of the building with dynamite to get at the blaze. Help was called from Cle Elum, C. W. Swain, manager of the store, was overcome by smoke.

In the building were the real and personal tax rolls of Kittitas County. These records and those of the company were rescued. Many fuse caps and much oil was stored in the building, but an explosion was averted.

## POLICE BALL IS SUCCESS

### Nearly 1000 Tickets Sold for Benefit of Disabled Officers.

With a large crowd in attendance, the ball given in Cotton Hall last night under the auspices of the Police Beneficiary Association proved an unqualified success. The profits of the affair will be devoted to the relief of officers injured in the performance of their duty or disqualified for work by sickness. Nearly 1000 tickets were sold. The police orchestra of 14 pieces gave a concert between 7:30 and 8:30 o'clock. The whole police band was deemed too large for playing in the hall. All the arrangements were in charge of a committee of 48 patrolmen, headed by Captain Circle and six sergeants.

## STARVING COYOTES GO WILD

### Animals Invade Yards and Give Fight in Baker District.

BAKER, Or., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Coyotes, unable to obtain food in the open, are invading towns and ranches, causing great fear among ranchers. One coyote invaded the yard of Frank Pearce at Pleasant Valley and fought the dogs. Mrs. Pearce ran to separate them and the coyote chased her into the house. She slammed the door shut just before he reached it. Another coyote entered the barnyard where Sam Risor, living near Pleasant Valley, was feeding cattle, and attacked his dogs. Risor and the dogs drove the animal away after a fight.

## FEED SCARCE; CATTLE DIE

### Losses in Baker District Are Laid to Soaring Prices.

BAKER, Or., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Because of the scarcity of feed in Grant County, oats have gone to \$2.25 a 190 pounds and threaten to go still higher. Since the heavy storm, sheepmen have been in a dilemma regarding the care of the flocks.

The rise started when Newton Shank bought 5000 pounds at 2 cents and Mr. Wheatstone bought 2700 pounds at a slightly higher price. Many sheepmen have been compelled to move their animals nearly across the county and many have lost large numbers because of the inability to obtain food.

## SOUP KILLS OFF RABBITS

### E. F. Averill, However, Finds Coyotes Suffer Little From Campaign.

PENDLETON, Or., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Thousands of rabbits are dead on the flats between Hermiston and Heppner, according to E. F. Averill, of the United States Biological Survey, on his return from that section.

Their death was due partly to the storm and partly to the poison campaign waged by the farmers. Chopped alfalfa, poisoned and made into a soup, was put out for the animals.

Coyotes, however, seem to have suffered little, and a campaign will be waged for their extermination.

## AMBASSADOR GERARD HURT

### Collarbone Broken While Skating in Germany.

BERLIN, Feb. 22.—(By wireless to Saville, N. Y.)—James W. Gerard, the American Ambassador, fell yesterday while skating at Partenkirchen, Bavaria, and broke his left collar bone. He returned to Berlin today in care of the naval attaché of the Embassy and Surgeon Carl Ohnesford.

Ambassador Gerard went to Partenkirchen on Friday for a brief outing while the winter sports were in progress.

## CHAMBERLAIN LAND BILL IS IN FAVOR

### Views of Administration Made Clear.

## OTHER MEASURES REJECTED

### Department of Justice to Offer Amendments.

## TAXES REGARDED AS LIEN

### Provision That Would Have Confirmed Uncompleted Sales to C. A. Smith May Be Eliminated in Final Draft.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 22.—The Administration favors the passage of the Chamberlain land grant bill, amended to meet the views of the Attorney-General.

It is opposed to every other pending land grant bill. This was developed at today's hearing before the House public lands committee, when C. J. Smyth, Government counsel in the land grant case, explained the stand of the Attorney-General, and Chairman Ferris volunteered the statement that Secretary Lane favored the Chamberlain plan and was in accord with the Attorney-General.

It also developed at today's hearing that there is a joker in one of the new provisions recommended by the Attorney-General and the smiles that were evident on the faces of committee members when Representative Sinnott made this known indicated that this provision may have to be eliminated.

**C. A. Smith Also Benefited.**

Mr. Smyth was emphasizing the justice of the amendment recommended by the Attorney-General permitting those who had contracted to buy lands from the railroad company, but who have not yet made payment in full and have not secured title, to get title in the same manner as provided in the innocent purchaser's act. He said some \$9,000 acres were tied up in executory contracts, Mr. Sinnott asked who would benefit by this provision.

"A number of poor people," replied Mr. Smyth.

"Is Mr. C. A. Smith one of the 'poor people' who would benefit under this amendment?" asked Mr. Sinnott.

Mr. Smyth was evidently flustered, but admitted that C. A. Smith was one of the beneficiaries.

"How extensive are Mr. Smith's contracts?" asked Mr. Sinnott.

"I do not know," answered Mr. Smyth, "but they are very large."

This disclosure that the Attorney-General's amendment will operate to confirm uncompleted sales to C. A. Smith opened the eyes of the committee.

**Settlers' Rights in Issue.**

"But," persisted Mr. Sinnott, "you are insisting that settlers who have been living on this land, some of them for years and maintaining homes and (Concluded on Page 2, Column 2.)

## BRITISH BLOCKADE MINISTER CREATED

### CABINET OFFICIAL TO HAVE FULL CHARGE OF QUESTION.

### Responsibility for General Trade Policy to Be Placed on Shoulders of One Man.

LONDON, Feb. 22.—The government, through the Marquis of Lansdowne, announced in the House of Lords tonight that it had decided to turn over all matters connected with the blockade of Germany to one man who would rank as a full-fledged Cabinet Minister.

It is understood that the new post will go to Lord Robert Cecil, who, since the formation of the coalition government, has been Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs. He will retain this post, joining the Cabinet as Blockade Minister.

The new Minister will be charged with the administration of the order in council regulating the blockade, as well as responsibility for the general policy and practice of the government with respect to trade passing to or from neutral countries.

Lord Robert Cecil is a lawyer of wide experience and a young man, as members of the British Cabinet go. In the Foreign Office he has been intimately concerned with blockade operations, particularly in their relation to the complicated matters touching belligerent and neutral rights. His elevation to the cabinet will give the Unionists another representative in the coalition councils.

## ONLY 5 CO-EDS ARE DRONES

### Of 50 Failures at Agricultural College 45 Are Men.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Women students at the Oregon Agricultural College are superior to the men in scholastic attainment. Fifty students failed in the past semester's work. Of these only five were women.

All who failed were dropped from the college rolls. Of these 28 being first offenders were reinstated on strict probation, 15 were denied reinstatement for at least one semester and seven voluntarily withdrew from college.

## WOMAN SUFFRAGE GAINS

### Maryland Senate Passes Bill for Constitutional Amendment.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Feb. 22.—Woman suffrage won a victory in the Senate by a vote of 17 to 10. The measure is pending in the House and is a special order for consideration tomorrow.

If passed by the House and approved by the Governor the question will be submitted to the voters of Maryland in the form of a constitutional amendment.

**Most of Money Kept in Bank.**

Most of his funds, however, are known to be on deposit in a local bank. Although Faut generally kept a few dollars on his person not a cent could be located by the officers today. A bill purse which he carried is also said to be missing.

Prior to coming to Roseburg three years ago, Lee Faut lived at Grants Pass, where he conducted a laundry. Prior to that time, he resided in Portland for many years.

A coroner's jury was selected this (Concluded on Page 4, Column 3.)

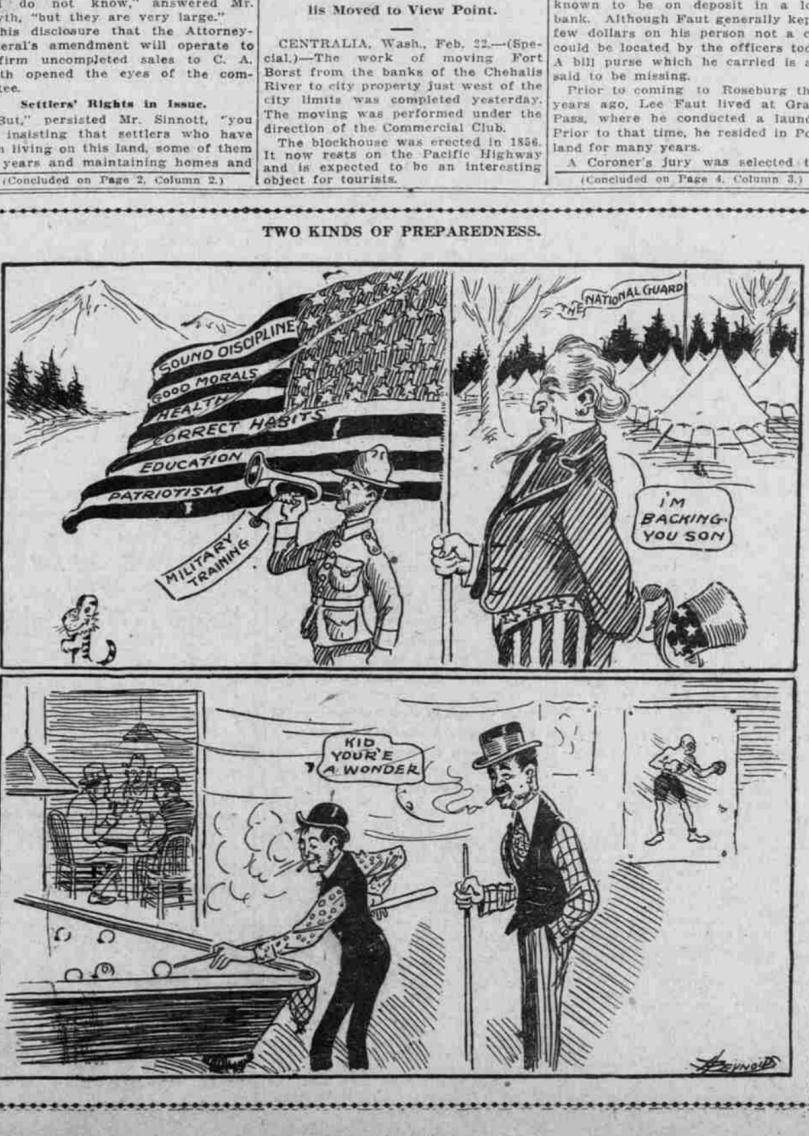
## OLD FORT PUT ON HIGHWAY

### Blockhouse Built in 1856 at Chehalis Moved to View Point.

CENTRALIA, Wash., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—The work of moving Fort Borst from the banks of the Chehalis River to city property just west of the city limits was completed yesterday. The moving was performed under the direction of the Commercial Club.

The blockhouse was erected in 1856. It now rests on the Pacific Highway and is expected to be an interesting object for tourists.

## TWO KINDS OF PREPAREDNESS.



## ROSEBURG CHINESE HACKED TO DEATH

### Two Mysterious Night Visitors Sought.

### FRIENDS OF O' LIBRARY 27 Nov 16

ROSEBURG, Or., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—With his head horribly cut and battered and his throat severed from ear to ear, the body of Lee Faut, an aged Chinese laundry worker of this city, was found late today in his humble quarters almost in the heart of the business district. A friend who discovered the body notified the officers.

Following a brief investigation, Sheriff Quine declared that he believed Lee was attacked soon after he retired for the night. A blood-bespattered hatchet, found near the body, indicated that it was with this weapon that the assailants struck their victim several blows on the head.

A keen kick, with a blade about eight inches in length, was found penetrating a ghastly wound at the base of the abdomen.

**Strangers' Visit Recounted.**

Ling Toy, a Roseburg Chinese, informed the officers that he visited Lee's dwelling last night and found two strange Celestials there. One of these men, he said, he thought he had met previously.

Ling Toy said that when he left for his home after 10 o'clock the strangers were still chatting with Lee Faut. At a late hour tonight, the men mentioned by Ling had not been located, and it is believed they have left town. Ling said he believed the men lived either in Portland or Eugene.

While the officers are working on the theory that Lee Faut was murdered for his money they are not overlooking the fact that a tong war is raging on the Pacific Coast. Roseburg Chinamen deny that Lee Faut belonged to either tong. Lee Faut lived alone in his cabin and is said to have accumulated considerable money.

## PURSE AND MONEY MISSING

### Movements of Strange Celestials Are Traced—Victim Declared Not Connected With Either of Warring Factions.

Several years ago he was hit on the jaw similarly and rendered unconscious.

**FORFEITURE BILL OFFERED**

Return of Unused Railway Rights of Way Is Favored.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 22.—Representative Ferris, of Oklahoma, chairman of the public lands committee, at the request of the Interior Department, has introduced a bill for the forfeiture to the United States of lands granted to railroads for right of way purposes, where the railroad has not been constructed within five years following the date of its location. The bill reconveys to the United States full title to such lands, and provides that, to any such tract of right of way, without need of further assurance or conveyance, inure to the benefit of any owner or owners of land heretofore conveyed by the United States subject to any such grant of right of way.

There will be no forfeiture, however, where railroad construction is progressing in good faith at the time of the passage of the bill.

## ASTORIA GAY FOR DUAL CELEBRATION

### Patriotism to City and Country Stirs Throng.

ASTORIA, Or., Feb. 22.—(Special.)—Astoria held a double celebration today—in commemoration of the Nation's first President and in honor of what was more fresh in the minds of everyone, the granting of parity rates to the Lower Columbia River district.

It was a day of jollifications and congratulations. The weather was ideal. Flags were floating from almost every housetop and crowds of enthusiastic citizens, lined the gaily decorated streets, listening to the music and oratory and complimenting their neighbors that the Columbia has at last come into its own.

**Open-Air Meeting Held.**

The celebration proper commenced at 3 o'clock with an open-air meeting that was attended by thousands of persons.

Several speakers addressed the assembly and, while each spoke of the victory gained, the majority laid stress on the fact that the battle is but half won—that what is most needed is unity of action in procuring the business, which the port is now prepared to handle.

A victory, not for Astoria, but for the whole of Oregon and the Columbia Basin. That was the underlying sentiment of practically every address made at tonight's banquet.

**Unity of Purpose Urged.**

That sentiment, with the admonition that Oregon must unite and work as a solid commonwealth for the benefit of all sections if she wishes to thrive commercially, was the burden of every speech, and it was a line of thought that aroused the enthusiasm of everyone present.

Dr. Alfred Kinney, chairman of the committee, opened the afternoon programme by recalling the work of the committee of 21 organized 21 years ago to obtain three things for Astoria: First, equitable rates to and from all points reached by rail; second, immediate dredging of the entrance to the Columbia River to gain a 10-foot channel; and third, suitable port and docks capable of accommodating the largest ships sailing the seas.

**Further Progress Predicted.**

The people today have realized these conditions, he said, and are on the road to even greater prosperity.

Mayor Fred J. Johnson explained how grateful the people should be over the victory just won and what the future held in store for them. He admonished his hearers to stand together, to be careful of their criticism of others, and above all to be truthful to themselves.

Wallace R. Struble spoke upon the effect of the rate decision upon the Columbia River basin. He said this was a great achievement, but that even greater things were in store for the city, and he hoped to see the day when the Lower Columbia River harbor would be filled with commerce from all parts of the world. He urged the people to support the naval base committee, assuring them that no stone would be left unturned until this valuable acquisition was procured.

**Dual Purpose Pointed Out.**

Rev. W. S. Gilbert called attention to the dual celebration, the people were holding, that of commemorating the name and fame of George Washington and rejoicing over the victory that would increase the commerce of the district.

J. M. Anderson spoke briefly on the advantages gained by being placed on a parity with Puget Sound and other points. He told the people that even though the future held in store for them, that the fight must be continued to hold and utilize the commercial advantages before them.

Ex-Senator Charles W. Fulton said that while he lived in Portland his heart was in Astoria. He was more than gratified over the success of his home city in gaining the rate recognition and believed that it meant more to the people of the Lower Columbia River district than they themselves realized.

**Shipping Organization Urged.**

J. E. Grutke, of the Astoria Budget, spoke briefly on the opportunities before the people since the rate suit had been decided in Astoria's favor. He called attention to the importance of extending the influence of the community by organizing for the export trade. There are opportunities, he declared, that could be developed to bring grain to Astoria now if the people grasped them.

Steamship lines, he asserted, stand ready to co-operate with Astoria if its business men show a disposition to meet them halfway and Astoria had (Concluded on Page 3, Column 1.)

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## GENERAL GLOOM BURIED

### Symbol of Pessimism Dropped in Pacific Amid Merry Mourners.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 22.—"General Gloom," a symbol of pessimism in the form of a gigantic hammer which has been buried at several points since it was started West by the Rotary Club, of Syracuse, N. Y., was today consigned to its final resting place on the bottom of the Pacific Ocean by an optimistic party of mourners from the steamer Bear.

The cheerful cortege was organized by the San Francisco Rotarians.

## GILL LEAD NEARLY 2 TO 1

### Mayor Gets 30,845 of 58,411 Cast, While Opponent Has 15,932.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 22.—Hiram C. Gill, Mayor, seeking re-nomination in yesterday's primary election, received 30,845 of the 58,411 votes cast, his nearest competitor, who will be Mr. Gill's opponent in the election of March 7, being Austin E. Griffith, with 15,932.

Councilman Oliver T. Erickson got 8724 votes. Charles D. Raymer, Socialist candidate for Mayor, received 1510 votes.

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