

NAVY DEPARTMENT WANTS MORE SHIPS

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13—(AP)—On the heels of President Coolidge's declaration that this country needs additional cruisers, the navy today made public a re-statement of its policy to maintain a United States naval fleet second to none in the world.

The policy has been revised in many details for the first time since the Washington Arms Conference in 1923. Secretary Willbur asserted that the revision was only with respect to the elimination of obsolete projects and the expansion of the aviation branch of the service.

"The fundamental naval policy of the United States," the general board of the navy states in making public the policy, "is that its navy should be maintained in sufficient strength to support United States policies and commerce, and to guard its continental and overseas possessions."

It was pointed out that the naval policy necessarily must conform with treaties limiting naval armament. The board, however, said the building and maintenance policy is "to build and maintain an efficient, well balanced fleet in all classes of fighting ships in accordance with the capital ship ratios; and to preserve these ratios by building replacement ships and by disposing of old ships in accordance with continuing program; to make superiority of armament in their class and end in view of the designs of all fighting ships, and to provide for great radius of action in all classes of fighting ships."

QUIETUS PUT UPON WHOLE FRENCH CITY

ORADOUR - SUR - VAYRES, France, Nov. 13.—(AP)—This little "city of Silen" is finding its voice and nearly every one of its 478 inhabitants is likely to appear in court in a gigantic law suit. Falsified tongues are wagging again, voting indignation at the strange poison epidemics that once was feared would still the the populace however.

The epidemic first made its appearance in August, when a malady which could not be diagnosed affected tongues, first a few, then of many, until a deathly hush settled on the town. Doctors from nearby Limoges had patients in nearly every house and in some of the streets.

Scientific investigators with test tubes and retorts solved part of the mystery when they made an analysis of the bread, water and wine. They found that it contained arsenic. It had been purchased from a merchant in the town, and the poison had paralyzed the tongues of the villagers and caused severe fevers, which the doctors had not been able to abate.

How the drug got in the wine barrels is still unrevealed, although an examining magistrate traced the supply to one wholesaler and to four vineyards where the wine had been made. The wine merchant in Oradour appears to have been exonerated, but suits against the responsible person are being prepared on the assumption that sooner or later the authorities, who are starting the investigation all over again, will solve the mystery of how it happened.

PORTO RICAN VOTE LANDS IN COURTS

SAN JUAN, P. R., Nov. 13.—(AP)—The courts probably will be called on to determine which of the two political parties in Porto Rico won control of the voting. Both the Alianza which has had its legislature in last Tuesday's caucus and socialists, claim the victorious party four years ago and the coalition of "pure republicans" and socialists, claim the victory.

The supervisor of elections today declined to bring the official tabulation of returns from 1,440 precincts until Attorney-General Early gives an opinion regarding the marking on hundreds of protested ballots. Most of these disputed votes were marked by coalitionists, there being two emblems at the top of that party's ballot. Many of the voters placed a cross under each emblem. Alianza party claims that these ballots are void because of the double markings. Should they finally be admitted to the official tabulation, it is probable the coalitionists would control both houses of the legislature.

Some well known student of the human mind has remarked that excessive tidiness is a form of insanity. In that case most people around a newspaper office are insane.—Tillamook Headlight.

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