

CONSTRUCTION OF SHIPS HALTS

President Hoover Suspends Work on Three Newest U. S. Cruisers

WASHINGTON, July 25.—(AP)—Responding immediately to Premier MacDonald's announcement of curtailments and suspensions in the British naval building program, President Hoover today declared construction of three American cruisers, otherwise to have been begun in the fall, would be postponed until there is an opportunity for consideration of their effect upon an expected agreement on British-American naval parity.

A few hours after proclaiming the Kellogg treaty for renunciation of war, the chief executive issued a formal statement which included this announcement and asserted in addition that a new era of good will in approaching the problem of naval disarmament was at hand.

Friendly Attitude Expressed By Hoover

Referring to MacDonald's address in the house of commons today, Mr. Hoover said the British premier had introduced the principle of parity which America has now adopted and that "its consummation means that Great Britain and the United States henceforth are not to compete in armaments as potential opponents but to cooperate as friends" in obtaining a reduction of sea forces.

"The prime minister has stated clearly and unmistakably the lines on which he is acting," Mr. Hoover continued. "I cannot but be responsive to the generous terms in which he has spoken of the attitude and purpose of the United States. We join in his efforts in the same spirit."

Cordial Welcome

The president also extended a cordial welcome to Premier MacDonald in reply to his announced intention of visiting America in the fall. The American people are greatly complimented by the proposed visit, Mr. Hoover said, and the British premier will find a universal welcome.

The chief executive said that while Great Britain's cruiser strength is considerably in excess of that of America and that probably no inequality would result from carrying out this year's building program in full, decision to suspend construction had been reached in order that there shall be no misunderstanding of the American attitude as compared with that expressed by MacDonald.

Building Ships Would Not Defeat Parity

We have three cruisers in this year's construction program which have been undertaken in the government navy yards, the detailed drawings for which are now in course of preparation," Mr. Hoover said. "The actual keels would, in the ordinary course of events, be laid down sometime this fall. Generally speaking, the British cruiser strength considerably exceeds American strength at the present time and the actual construction of these three cruisers would not be likely in themselves to produce inequality in the final result.

"We do not wish, however, to have any misunderstanding of our actions and therefore we shall not lay these keels until there has been an opportunity for full consideration of their effect upon the final agreement for parity which we expect to reach, although our hopes of relief from construction lie more largely in the matter of years of the program under the law of 1922."

Agreement Needed To Cause Abandonment

Although the president did not

specify, naval officials were of the opinion that the three vessels referred to were those authorized by the fifteen-cruiser law passed by congress last winter. Under the terms of this measure, construction could not be abandoned except in the event of an international agreement for reduction of naval armaments, the law provided that five of these cruisers should be contracted for in each of the fiscal years of 1929, 1930 and 1931 and their construction begun by the close of the respectively following fiscal years.

Postponement Said Within Authority

It was pointed out, however, that Mr. Hoover could postpone their construction until the close of these fiscal years and that thus the three mentioned by the president need not be begun for nearly 11 months. Within this time, the president is hopeful that an agreement with Great Britain on parity can be effected.

At the navy department, it was said that these three vessels had been assigned for construction to the navy yards at New York, Philadelphia and Bremerton, Washington. The two others of the first five ships under the fifteen-cruiser law, have been contracted for with private builders.

NEW YORK, July 25.—(AP)—

Commenting on President Hoover's announcement that construction of three naval cruisers would be postponed, Representative Fred A. Britten of Illinois, chairman of the house naval affairs committee tonight suggested that the United States should go on building cruisers and that Great Britain should stop until the two nations reach parity.

"If President Hoover is taken literally," Mr. Britten said, "it will mean stoppage of cruisers in 1929, to the disadvantage of the United States to the same degree that the United States suffered in 1922, when we scrapped several hundred million dollars worth of warships and made Britain's pre-eminence of the seas secure.

"The United States in the past three years has made several attempts to gain cruiser parity with Great Britain, but in each instance failed because the United States representatives refused to agree to build for our country the type of cruiser best adapted to British needs."

CHICAGO LOOP HIT BY TERRIFIC BLAST

CHICAGO, July 25.—(AP)—The south end of the loop was rocked by explosion of a bomb late tonight. Windows of the Davis company department store, and in the Lytton, Steger and Kimball buildings were shattered, and hundreds of persons were thrown into a state of fright and excitement.

The bomb had been placed in the alley entrance to the Davis company store, just south of Jackson boulevard. A garbage collector had discovered the bomb, which was wrapped in a small package, and tossed it into his wagon. The explosion followed.

Almost at the same time a bomb exploded in an alleyway between Michigan boulevard and Wabash avenue, on 22nd street. Dozens of windows in the Equitable Trust company building on Michigan avenue were broken.

Claims totaling \$1149.45 have been paid to Statesman readers by the North American Accident Insurance Co. in less than one year. These claims were paid on the \$1.00 policy issued to Statesman readers.

BUILDING ACTIVITY TAKES BOOST HERE

Building permit activity picked up briskly Wednesday when D. A. Larmer obtained authorization for the construction of a concrete garage building, estimated to cost \$5000, at 889 North Liberty street. It will be 60 by 200 feet in dimensions, and will house the trucks of the Larmer Transfer business.

Permits for two dwellings were issued Tuesday; one to J. E. Harrison for a house costing \$2400 at 345 Falk street, the other to E. B. Grabenhorst for a \$2300 residence at 335 Falk street. H. C. Hummel has the contract for the latter job.

Other permits issued in the last two days include: L. T. Larsen, repair of dwelling at 542 North Liberty, \$150. Breyman estate, repair of brick building at 318 Court street, \$350, Ed Wood, contractor.

State Savings and Loan company, garage at 2225 Chemeketa, \$115; J. A. Morley, contractor. Herald Burk, repair of dwelling at 1690 North Fifth street, \$800; S. McFadden, contractor. Mabel Cook, repair of dwelling at 1440 North Church street.

EASTERNER PICKED TO HEAD EDITORS

CHEYENNE, Wyo., July 25.—(AP)—Lemuel C. Hall of Wareham, Mass., was elected president of the National Editorial association at the closing session of the organization's forty-fourth annual convention here today.

Selection of the 1930 convention city was left to the board of directors. Eighteen cities presented invitations at today's meeting. The selection probably will not be made until early fall, when the board meets.

George Dolliver of Battle Creek, Mich., was elected vice president, and as a result of this honor, next year will succeed to the presidency.

Directors elected today included J. P. Craemer, Orange, Cal. Three year term: J. F. Bidde.

Asylum Inmate Kills Self on Cement Floor

Mrs. Mary Jane Clinton, 61, of Coquille, committed suicide here Tuesday by jumping over a stair rail on the second floor of the Oregon state hospital. She fell to the cement floor in the basement.

Shooting Takes Place at Seattle

SEATTLE, July 25.—(AP)—O. A. Oakes was probably fatally wounded and Miss Charlotte Reed, his companion, shot twice in the arm here tonight by Cameron McIntosh, a man said by police to be a visitor from Vancouver, B. C.

COAST GUARD SHIP RACING TO RESCUE

SEATTLE, July 25.—(AP)—The United States coast guard cutter Haida was expected to reach the Oceanic and Oriental steamship Golden Forest late today driven ashore on Avatanak Island among the rocky Aleutian islands, radio messages received here said.

The American Hawaiian Steamship company operators of the service were advised by radio that the ship went ashore in a westerly wind while on her way to meet the Haida to obtain medical aid for her second officer, who was taken ill with blood poisoning.

The vessel had radioed the Haida at Dutch Harbor but was wrecked before meeting the ship.

The reports said no fear was felt for the safety of the crew of 35 men signed on at San Francisco.

SEVERE DROUGHT GRIPS ALL BRITAIN

LONDON, July 25.—(AP)—The great drought in England continued today without a break in sight. Water supplies of many towns was strictly rationed.

Guiseley, Yorkshire, had only water to last seven days. Halifax, Yorkshire, had a 43-day supply left. In Halifax all supplies have been stopped from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m., saving a million gallons a day.

Light rainfall has done little to relieve the situation in Manchester, which has just 26 days' supply in reserve.

By appeal for economy in water usage and various devices ten million gallons a day are being saved. Lincolnshire's wells and streams are drying up and water is being taken by cart to outlying homesteads.

HORSE RACE ROW IS REPORTED IN STATE

PORTLAND, Ore., July 25.—(AP)—An Oregon echo to the clash that has attended similar differences of opinion on the "contribution" system at horse races in other states was seen tonight in the statement of District Attorney Meyers who said gambling would not be tolerated at American Legion races next Wednesday.

While Oregon has no law directly prohibiting betting on the outcome of horse races, the district attorney cited an Oregon case in which the state supreme court held that pools on horses "openly outrage common decency and grossly disturb the peace."

American Legion officials said tonight they would seek an injunction if state or city authorities attempted to halt the "contribution" system, of the "Legion purse fund."

There were 30,990,504 telephones in use in the world January 1, 1928, according to statisticians, and 18,522,767, or 60 per cent, were in the United States.

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