

Union Labor Paper
American Policy
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... trees like those in Califor-
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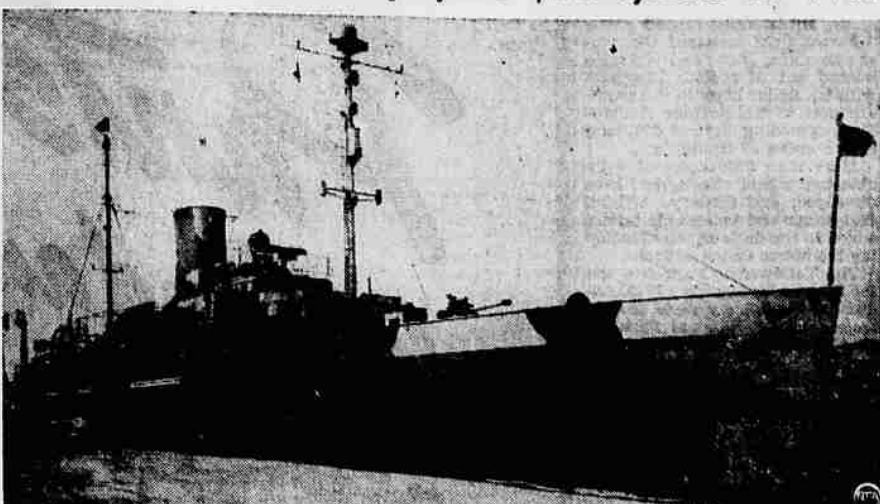
Many Wear
FALSE TEETH

With More Comfort
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Luxury, King Size: 'Cominch' Living Quarters On Yacht Cost Taxpayers \$134,365 in War



A GUNBOAT WITH AN organ left, the Navy called this the USS Dauntless when they put it in war paint and made it "home" for Admiral King. Before Mrs. Anna Dodge Dillman sold it to the government (price: \$154,365, and she got it back for \$20,000), she called it the "Delphine."

By DOUGLAS LARSEN
NEA Staff Correspondent
WASHINGTON — (NEA) — It cost U.S. taxpayers \$134,365 to provide luxurious living quarters for Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King when he was Commander-in-Chief of the U. S. Fleet during the war. It also cost the services of 100 men and eight officers for the Admiral, who was also Chief of

Naval Operations.
And if the Government had heeded the urgings of Senator H. Vandenberg from Michigan, made in behalf of his friend, Mrs. Anna Dodge Dillman, wealthy Detroit socialite, King's quarters would have cost much more.

This is revealed in the recent completion of a yacht deal between Mrs. Dillman and the

Government. She bought back her yacht, the Delphine, for \$20,000 after selling it to the Maritime Commission at the start of the war for \$154,365.

The ship was commissioned the USS Dauntless for the war and was used to sail up and down the Potomac with King aboard. This enabled him to draw seapay—\$800 a year extra. He lived on the ship and commuted to the Navy Department.

At the start of the war the Navy asked the Maritime Commission to buy Mrs. Dillman's 257-foot luxury yacht for use as a gunboat. This was the procedure prescribed by law. According to the Maritime Commission records, Mrs. Dillman first asked \$1,000,000 for it. She said it cost \$2,000,000 new in 1921. The Navy's estimate of the value of the boat was \$650,000.

Maritime experts looked it over carefully and said it was worth only \$154,365 to the Government, based on prices they were paying for other private craft for the emergency. Mrs. Dillman apparently considered this far too little.

The next step in the transaction is revealed in the Maritime Commission files. It is a letter from Senator Vandenberg to Vice Admiral Emory S. Land, then Maritime Commissioner.

Vandenberg sent along with the letter what he called an independent estimate of Mrs. Dillman's yacht, made by Smith Brothers, Inc., a firm of marine architects and appraisers in Cleveland, Ohio. The Smith Brothers' appraisal valued the boat at \$850,000.

The letter urged Land to reconsider the price the Commission first set on the boat. The letter concluded with:

"I would appreciate it if you would advise me whether the evidence warrants changing the price."

Land wrote a brief not back to Vandenberg saying the \$850,000 figure was "quite out of line." He said he couldn't change the price.

When the Navy took it over for King, elaborate radar equipment was installed. This was presumably to warn of approaching craft on the Potomac. Guns and emergency life rafts were added. The Navy says there were other "minor conversions."

The Dauntless was manned by a crew of 100 men and eight officers.

After Admiral King was retired, the Navy declared the Dauntless surplus and turned it back to the Maritime Commission for disposal. According to the law, the original owners of these boats have first chance to buy them back. The price is negotiated subject to the approval of the Maritime Commissioner. It was estimated it would take \$360,000 to get the yacht back into the same shape it was in when the Government took it over. Rather than do anything with it, then, the Commission agreed to sell it back to Mrs. Dillman for \$20,000.

Commission officials report however, that Mrs. Dillman is still not satisfied with the deal and plans to sue for more money.

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League Leaders Win In WIL Action

(Associated Press)
A five-run ninth inning out-
burst brought Spokane an 11-10
victory over Bremerton in the
Western International League

race last night. The loss dropped
the Navy Yard nine three full
games behind leading Wenatchee
which took advantage of five Ta-
coma errors to paste the Tigers
8-2.
Third place Salem got back into
winning ways with a 9-5 triumph

Eugene Register-Guard, Eugene, Ore., Thurs., Aug. 8, 1946, Page 7
over Vancouver while Yakima
scored a double victory over Vie-
toria 6-5 and 13-8.
Novelist Taylor Caldwell's real
name is Janet Taylor Caldwell.

Snowflakes are made of frozen
water vapor, rather than frozen
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shell before hatching, will be
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