

# CAN CUT NAVY IN HALF, SAYS SIMS

## SIMS FAVORS ARMAMENT REDUCTION

Rear Admiral Declares With Germany Crushed All Nations Can Reduce Naval Strength by Half—On Defense U. S. A. Could Maintain Navy Half Size.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—An international conference to discuss disarmament will be called by the United States, Chairman Butler of the house naval committee said today, when the committee met to hear the views of prominent naval officers on the subject.

Chairman Butler did not say when the call would be issued, but from his line of questioning, it was assumed he thought the call would be issued soon after the inauguration of President-elect Harding, with whom he recently conferred at Marion, Ohio.

Rear Admiral William S. Sims, war time commander of America's overseas naval forces, testified that with Germany's power crushed, all nations could reduce their armaments by half with safety.

He added that he believed the nations would welcome a call for a disarmament conference.

Congress must determine national policies before naval officers can formulate plans, he said.

If the navy were maintained purely for defensive purposes, Admiral Sims said, the United States would be safe with a navy half as large as that of any possible enemy thousands of miles away. If, however, the United States intended to rely on its navy for carrying out broad international policies, he said, its sea power should be equal to that of any other nation.

English War Impossible.

Admiral Sims said he agreed with General Pershing that war with Great Britain was "inconceivable," but added that he would not abandon the navy entirely under any conditions, even if there were no enemy in sight.

"You can never tell what may come out of Europe," he said. "Nobody is going to take his hand off his gun."

Admiral Sims advised the committee not to stop work on the 1916 building program, particularly the battle cruisers. He added that American submarines were inferior to foreign built craft and that America was "extraordinarily" behind in aviation development. The officer suggested that two of the scout cruisers under construction be altered as airplane carriers.

Admiral Sims said he did not know whether aircraft had displaced battleships as aircraft advocates have held, because he was not sure that the airplane could do what was claimed for it.

"If they proved as powerful as I believe, they will," he added, urging development of the air service. "I would willingly abandon major ships."

## SQUIER REAPPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—President Wilson sent to the senate today the nomination of Melvin H. Coulston of New York to be commissioner of patents. Coulston is now first assistant commissioner of patents.

Reappointment of Major General George O. Squier to be chief signal officer and John L. Chamberlain to be inspector general for another four years also were transmitted.

## HOG ISLAND WITH WAR VALUE OF \$140,000,000 TURNED OVER TO SHIPPING B'D FOR \$66,000,000

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 4.—Hog Island today ceased its shipbuilding activities, so far as the present management is concerned and the key to the vast yard was formally turned over to the United States shipping board.

The ceremony was simple and brief. M. C. Brush, president of the American International Shipbuilding corporation which operated the plant as the agent of the shipping board, handed to Frederick Morris, representative of the board, a key symbolizing the turning over of the yard. The key was four feet long.

## Deliberations Ky. Jury Enlivened by Bowie Knife Fracas

HARLAN, Ky., Feb. 4.—More than 89 hours after they began to deliberate, the jury trying Dr. H. C. Winnes for the murder of Miss Laura Parsons, school teacher, was dismissed today. The jury stood eleven for acquittal to one against.

HARLAN, Ky., Feb. 4.—Jury men trying Dr. H. C. Winnes for murder of Laura Parsons, Pine Mountain school teacher, fought today in the jury room where they have been deliberating the case since Monday night, and three of them were brandishing knives when a deputy sheriff burst into the room and disarmed them.

The court had just finished cautioning them against allowing personal feeling to enter into their deliberations. In view of ill-feeling it was believed that the jury would be discharged if no verdict was reached immediately after noon.

## \$250,000,000 FOR AID SERVICE MEN SENATE ESTIMATE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Carrying \$410,921,000, an increase of \$28,437,000 over the house total, the annual sundry civil bill was reported today to the senate. Chairman Warren of the senate committee announced that he would call it up tomorrow. About \$250,000,000 of the bill's total is for the benefit of former service men, including war risk, rehabilitation and hospital provisions.

The principal increases are \$19,000,000 for the Muscle Shoals, Ala., power project, and \$17,500,000 for increased hospital facilities for war veterans, including \$12,000,000 for five new buildings, exact locations to be decided by a commission. Expenditure of \$600,000 to take over Forts MacKenzie, Wyoming and Wadsworth, Washington, also is proposed.

Other additions voted by the senate committee included \$750,000 for increased pay of the coast guard, and \$200,000 for the national advisory committee of aeronautics.

Appropriations to the council of national defense, which the house struck out, were added to the bill.

The senate added an amendment for \$150,000 to continue improvement of the Willapa river, Washington.

An amendment would permit publication of government periodicals until June 30, 1922, but not afterwards without specific authority from congress.

## 3 TEETH EXTRACTED FROM PLAYER'S HEAD

MINNEAPOLIS, Feb. 4.—Three teeth, a quarter of an inch long were found in the head of George Evans, agricultural school basketball player here last night after he collided with Ralph Smith, Minneapolis V. M. C. A. player. Smith's three front teeth were missing.

Physicians extracted the teeth from Evans' head. Both men finished the game with Smith's team winning 25 to 21.

## Crude Oil Drops.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 4.—Further reductions in the price of crude oil were announced here today by the principal purchasing agencies. The reductions range from 25 cents to 75 cents a barrel.

Some of them were withdrawn from service after ocean traffic began to fall off.

The yard itself, with its many warehouses, workshops and other buildings, cost \$60,000,000 and it represented today a property value at war prices, estimated at \$140,000,000.

## REAPPORTION BILL POINTS AGREED UPON

General Plan of State Representation Agreed Upon in House—Highway Bills Introduced—Women's Jury Plan Defeated.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—Reapportionment plans in the legislature were launched last night.

A meeting of the joint reapportionment committee was announced late yesterday afternoon but several members were not present. The only action taken at the committee meeting was the appointment by Representative Burdick of a sub-committee to draft the proposed committee bill on reapportionment, consisting of Representative Gallagher of Malheur, chairman; Senator Staples of Multnomah and Representative Hurd of Clatsop.

It is understood that a general plan of reapportionment has been agreed upon.

The reapportionment reported under consideration provides a joint senator from Clackamas and Marion, while Multnomah would be given one more senator. It is also proposed to take one representative from Washington, Marion, Linn and Jackson counties and distribute them in eastern Oregon.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—Eleven bills were introduced in the senate today embodying legislation requested by the state highway commission.

One provides protection to the contractors on state highway construction without the necessity of purchasing surety bonds.

The commission is given authority to pave streets that are part of a state highway through towns of less than 2,500 people under the provisions of another bill. The right to sell bonds at par is given the commission in another bill while another proposes to make the commission the final arbiter in the selection of a state road.

Another bill gives the commission power to compel a county to pave and grade a certain road selected by the commission.

A move to exempt highway contractors from the restrictions of the eight hour day law is proposed in one bill.

A fifty-fifty maintenance agreement between the counties and the state is provided for in one of the bills, while others require permission of the commission to relocate a highway for public utility service or cut trees along a highway.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—Because of the many bills to be considered during the closing two weeks of the legislative session, a resolution has been prepared providing that no senator shall be allowed to talk more than five minutes on any one measure.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—Out of courtesy to Senator Hall, who has been called to his home at Marshfield by the illness of a child, the senate today deferred until Monday action to recall from the house the bill to release a bond issue of \$2,500,000 to begin construction of the Roosevelt military highway. Senator Vinton today moved to recall the bill from the house and the motion was seconded. House agreed to have the motion tabled until Senator Hall should return.

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—The house yesterday afternoon defeated a bill introduced by Mrs. Kinney of Clatsop county providing extension of jury service to women. The vote was 34 to 23.

## Liberty Bonds.

NW YORK, Feb. 4.—Liberty bonds closed: 3 1/2's \$91.90; first 4's \$86.00 bid; second 4's \$85.96; first 4 1/2's \$87.20; second 4 1/2's \$86.50; third 4 1/2's \$87.90; fourth 4 1/2's \$86.90; Victory 3 1/2's \$97.14; Victory 4 1/2's \$97.14.

OGDEN, Utah, Feb. 4.—Passengers on Union Pacific train No. 19 took turns at shovels today when the train was blocked for nearly two hours by a snowslide at Devil's Gate in Weber canyon.

## Local Nurse Finds Rich Gold Pocket in Claw of a Chicken

While preparing a chicken for cooking Thursday, Miss Grace Orde, a nurse living in the Hol-land apartments found a rich gold pocket in the chicken's claw. Orde extracted five nuggets about the size of small peas, of an estimated value of five dollars. Before its demise, the chicken lived in the Jacksonville district. It is not unusual to find one nugget in the claw of a fowl, but five is a record for this section.

## U. S. NAVY BOARD IS OPPOSED TO ALL REDUCTIONS

WASHINGTON, Feb. 3.—The major ship remains the basis of sea power and those who argue that the airplane and the submarine have supplanted it are asking the country to "accept hopes for accomplishments," the navy general board says in a report to Secretary Daniels made public today.

"The general board, having kept in touch with naval progress along all lines," says the report, "reiterates its belief in the battleships as forming the principal units of the fleet. Without them the United States cannot hope to cope with existing navies."

Urging that "equality in power be the continuing naval policy of the United States," the board says there is "no thought of instituting international competitive building," and that "no other nation can in reason take exception to such a position."

"It cannot justly be construed as a challenge," the report continues. "A policy of equal or substantially equal armaments may well tend to diminish their growth and to lessen the danger of sudden war."

The report, signed by Rear Admiral Charles J. Badger, president, was approved by Secretary Daniels and was transmitted by him to the senate naval committee for its information in considering pending disarmament and "naval holiday" resolutions.

Asserting that the guiding policy that had shaped the general board's construction recommendations since 1903 was that of eventually creating a navy equal to the strongest in the world, the report urges "no rest period or limitation of armaments," he agreed to by the United States that would modify the great naval building program of 1916, now under construction, in "numbers, general types or dates of completion."

"In the future, as at all times previous to the world war, we shall in all probability have to rely solely upon our own state of preparedness," was a note of warning the document sounded.

Cessation of naval building by Great Britain is attributed by the general board to the great preponderance in her navy of all types of ships and to the present economic situation in that empire.

The ships authorized in the 1916 program are thoroughly modern, the report says, adding that there is no reason to believe that developments in submarine or aerial warfare will seriously detract from their value for many years to come. Completing the program, the report continued, should not, however, deter the navy from developing to the utmost now or partially developed weapons such as submarines, aircraft carriers.

A suspension of work on the naval building program for six months to allow experts to determine, in the light of the lessons of the world war, what types of ships are most useful, as provided in the pending Borah resolution "is neither necessary nor advisable," the board asserts.

Every new weapon of offense that has threatened the supremacy of the capital ship, has been met by a successful mode of defense, the report declares.

"It would be the height of unwisdom for any nation possessing sea power to pin its faith and change its practice upon mere theories as to the future developments of new and untried weapons," the report says.

"It is easy to lay a bomb on the deck of a ship, explode it from a safe place and then exclaim over the damage it has wrought," the report continues, "but it is a very different matter to place that same bomb from the air when under gunfire and attack by enemy planes."

Pointing to the great growth of the

## ENGLAND TAKES HAND IN NEW BALKAN TANGLE

Rumania Advised by British Government to Enter Peace Negotiations With Bolsheviks—Meanwhile France Negotiates Pole Alliance.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—Rumania has been advised by the British government to enter peace negotiations with soviet Russia, says a dispatch from Moscow today. Great Britain, the dispatch adds has offered its services as mediator.

It is asserted Rumania requested the soviet government to send delegates to Riga to draw up a peace program.

PARIS, Feb. 4.—Poland and Rumania are negotiating a defensive alliance which will include not only military affairs, but will contain economic and commercial features, Prince Sapieha, Polish foreign minister, told the Associated Press today.

"It will be based not only on the bolshevik danger to both countries, but on their general common interests," he said.

Conclusion of a Franco-Polish commercial accord is one of the principal objects for the visit of Polish leaders, he said.

When the question of a Franco-Polish entente was first considered and President Pilsudski planned his trip to Paris, says the Intransigent, Japan informed the French government it would be glad to take part in conversations having for their object the negotiation of a convention that the Poles might be called upon to sign with France. Japan is declared to have expressed the belief that a lasting peace with the bolsheviks was impossible and that an understanding with France would be the only method by which Poland might maintain her role as a buffer state.

## FLAMES DESTROY AUGUSTA HOTEL

AUGUSTA, Ga., Feb. 4.—The Bon Air, Augusta's largest tourist hotel, was destroyed by fire early today. The loss is estimated at \$1,000,000.

The loss, including personal belongings of guests, is unofficially placed at \$1,000,000. None of the 260 guests was injured. Many were carried to safety by the firemen.

In recent years the hotel had been the winter home of former President William H. Taft, John D. Rockefeller, Nathan Strauss and other notables.

## SPARKS FROM TODAY'S WIRE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—Senator Robinson's bill to liberalize the law designed to stimulate mining of tungsten, chrome and other minerals during the war was reported unanimously today by the senate mines committee. The measure would permit many miners to participate in the distribution of a fund of between \$5,000,000 and \$6,000,000.

PARIS, Feb. 4.—Lieutenant Nungesser, the famous French aviator who during the war won the cross of the legion of honor by bringing down forty four German planes, sailed from Havre for America today. He will visit the United States under the auspices of the Aero club of America and will be accompanied by Marquis de Charette.

MADISON, Wis., Feb. 4.—The bears that ate up the sheep of Private Homer P. Herbert of Chippewa Falls while the soldier was in France in September 1918, received the attention of a legislative committee today. His bill for \$800 for the loss of 32 sheep was approved. Two years ago the bill died on the floor.

American merchant marine the report in conclusion emphasizes that no nation had ever been able to establish and maintain a large merchant fleet without developing a navy to assist and protect it.

## Leaves Amount of Wine for Sick to Doctor's Judgment

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—The amount of hard liquor a sick man may acquire legally is definitely fixed by statute, but the only limit to the amount of wine he may obtain is the "sound and honest" judgment of his physician and, perhaps, the depth of his purse.

Prohibition Commissioner Kramer today said there seemed to be some confusion as to the quantity of wine that a physician may prescribe. To clear up all doubts he lays down this rule:

"Until further orders, physicians may prescribe in their practice such quantities of wine as they, in the exercise of their sound and honest judgment deem necessary in the particular case if they in good faith believe that the use of wine as a medicine by the person for whom it is prescribed is necessary and will afford relief to him from ailment."

## DISARMAMENT THREATENS SPLIT JAPANESE PARTY

TOKIO, Feb. 4.—(By Associated Press.) Proposals that Japan agree with other world powers to restrict armaments, which were recently submitted to the Kenseikai or opposition party, by Yukio Ozaki, a prominent member of the organization, have been referred to a special committee of eleven members of the party. It is declared by newspapers here that the proposals threaten to split the Kenseikai party as many members agree with M. Ozaki's theory, but assert it is impracticable for Japan to curtail her military and naval programs.

It is pointed out by the Kokumin (Nation) that Japan's financial position will not permit her successfully to compete with the United States and England. The pending budget set aside 32 per cent of its total amount to naval expenditures while 18 per cent would be appropriated to the army, the newspaper declares.

"To devote fifty per cent of the nation's total expenditures to the army and navy," the newspaper says, "is a record breaking example in world history."

M. Ozaki asserts the total armament expense of Japan will eventually reach 75 per cent of her total expenditures, and he urges that more money be given to education, declaring that even by adopting the "double shift" system the schools of the country cannot accommodate the children seeking admittance. He has contended that Japanese naval expansion, in spite of denials, has had America and Great Britain as its objective and he has asserted it will ruin the country eventually.

Gratification is expressed by the Nishi Nichi that a man of M. Ozaki's fame should favor restriction of armaments. The Journal, however, deems the completion of the present Japanese naval program imperative.

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 4.—The heaviest sentence passed upon a woman in Utah having liquor in her possession was meted out to Mrs. C. R. Jones, proprietor of a rooming house today when she was sentenced to six months' imprisonment without the option of a fine.

## Booth Fights T. R. Highway

SALEM, Ore., Feb. 4.—R. A. Booth, chairman of the state highway commission, protested against passage of the bill authorizing expenditure of \$2,500,000 on the Roosevelt coast highway when summoned before the house committee on roads and highways last night.

"Either leave the money for state roads in the hands of the highway commission to be expended as that body sees fit or do away with the commission and have the legislature assume all the authority for the work," he said.

Chairman Booth said the Roosevelt highway was originally proposed as a military measure and that if it was necessary to protect the nation the federal government should build it. He said the coast counties had derived benefits from \$10,000,000 expenditure out of about \$25,000,000 spent for roads in the last three years. This included about \$3,000,000 for the lower Columbia river highway.

Sensor Hall of Coos and Curry counties and Norblad of Astoria, spoke

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## LORD DUNSANY PLEADS GUILTY TO COURT MARTIAL CHARGE AND IS FINED 25 POUNDS STERLING

DUBLIN, Feb. 4.—Lord Dunsany, poet and playwright, pleaded guilty today when brought to trial by court martial on the charge of possessing arms and ammunition. He was fined 25 pounds sterling with the alternative of spending three months in prison. He paid the fine.

Lord Dunsany was arrested recently after a search of Dunsany castle, in county Meath, had disclosed several shotguns and other sporting arms. It had been found that game was being shot on the Dunsany estate and the military raided his castle and found the sporting weapons.

DUBLIN, Feb. 4.—The third trial arising out of the assassination of court martial officers last November, was postponed to an unannounced date. It was stated that the postponement was in consequence of an attempt to assassinate an important government witness who was wounded.

DUBLIN, Feb. 4.—In an official reprisal yesterday the postoffice and a business house at Williamstown were burned. An ambush occurred there January 28 in which Divisional Commissioner Holmes of the Royal Irish constabulary was wounded, dying the next day. Five constables also were wounded in this attack.