

# FRANCE PLEA FOR BIG NAVY ALARMS

## 5-5-3 PLAN IMPERILED BY STAND

### British Spokesman Informs Arms Conference—Italy to Follow Suit for Rule of the Mediterranean—Speech By Briand Gives Assurance.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—Announcement by British spokesmen that France has asked before the naval subcommittee of fifteen for authority in agreement with the other four naval powers to build ten 35,000-ton capital ships struck arms conference circles today with stunning force.

The proposal was so wholly out of accord with theories on what the naval conferences have proceeded up to this time that there was a strong inclination in British and American circles not to take it seriously. The feeling was said to rest in part on what Premier Briand said at the second plenary session in regard to the American proposals for naval limitation.

Referring to Secretary Hughes' bold stroke for an agreement for naval reductions, M. Briand said: "You have shown us the way; you have shown us that it is no longer a question of groping for a way out of the difficulty, you have struck out boldly the opportunity for us by getting the example. I may say Mr. Secretary, that we are back of you."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—The French delegation has presented a proposal for so great an increase in the strength of the French navy that the British declare such a program, if carried out, would upset the whole plan of a 5-5-3 naval reduction.

Although not yet entirely revealed, the British understand that the French plan provides for the construction of ten 35,000-ton super-dreadnaughts in the ten years subsequent to 1925. These vessels, of a type similar to the American battleship Maryland, would give France a capital ship tonnage of 350,000, as against 215,000 for Japan and a preponderance of new "post-Jutland" type craft over all nations.

The British spokesman said today that the French proposals, if accepted, would "throw out the whole naval program." He declared it had met with distinct disapproval from the British delegation.

The British spokesman further declared that Italy did not approve of the French proposition for if it was carried out Italy would be obliged to build the same amount. This meant, he said, an addition of 700,000 tons to the European war fleets and both France and Italy would spend 100,000,000 pounds sterling, or half a billion dollars in the ten-year period beginning in 1925.

The American delegates, the British spokesman said, also had taken a strong ground against the French proposition, first objecting for economic reasons.

Italy, although indicating disapproval of such a building program, is said to have told the arms conference that if France constructs ten such ships, Italy must carry out a similar building program.

The question of French and Italian naval ratios as compared with the United States, Great Britain and Japan under yesterday's agreement, was taken up by the sub-committee of fifteen today.

## TEXAS DEMOCRAT PRAISES HARDING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Former representative Shelden, democrat of Texas, called today to congratulate President Harding on the "wonderful success" of the Washington conference "as viewed by the people of the south."

## Reed Yells Pacific Treaty Is "Death Warrant of China"

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Declaring the four power Pacific treaty to be "the death warrant of China," Senator Reed, democrat, Missouri, speaking in the senate today, expressed the belief that "it was brought here by Japan and England and practically agreed to in advance." Adherence to the treaty, he said, "made the United States a party to the rape of Shantung."

## CONGRESSMAN ENDS LIFE IN POTOMAC RIVER

### Rep. Elston Worried Over Alameda Naval Base—Note Left Not Correctly Deciphered—House Adjourns in Respect.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The house adjourned today until tomorrow out of respect for Representative John A. Elston, congressman, whose body was found last night in the Potomac river. Immediately after convening the house adopted resolutions of regret and authorized selection of a committee of eighteen members to accompany the body to California in case burial is made there.

His colleagues and friends, dumbfounded at his death, were unable to describe any motive for Mr. Elston's act, except that he had become depressed over the refusal of congress to authorize construction of a naval base at Alameda, located in his district.

Close friends of Mr. Elston today declared the note he left had not been correctly deciphered. As given out last night the note declared that Mr. Elston was "in a chain of circumstances that spell ruin although my offense was innocently made in the beginning." The words deciphered as "offense" and "innocently" his associates declared were really "offer" and "unconditionally" making the phrase read "although my offer was unconditionally made in the beginning."

Another error was made, it was declared today, in reading "people" for "project" in the sentence: "My staying means embarrassment to my district and to a worthy project, clean and generous."

The correct interpretation, Mr. Elston's friends asserted gave weight to the belief that the Alameda project was uppermost in his mind.

BERKELEY, Cal., Dec. 16.—Congressman J. A. Elston of Berkeley, whose body was found yesterday at Washington, D. C., floating in the Potomac river, suffered from the mental strain of overwork, friends here said today. It had been his very great ambition to secure for his district governmental acceptance of the Alameda naval base project and delays in the program had been to him a great source of worry. He had planned to retire from congress when the project was accepted, it had been announced.

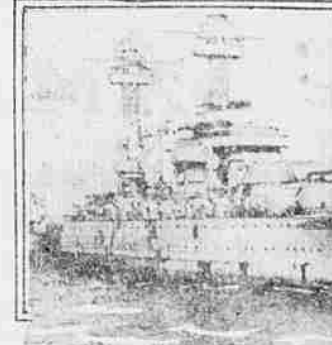
Mr. Elston was very comfortably situated financially, according to Elmer Nichols, his law partner and oldest friend and was happy in his domestic relations.

Mrs. Elston, who has been ill in a Berkeley hospital, was not informed until this morning of her husband's death.

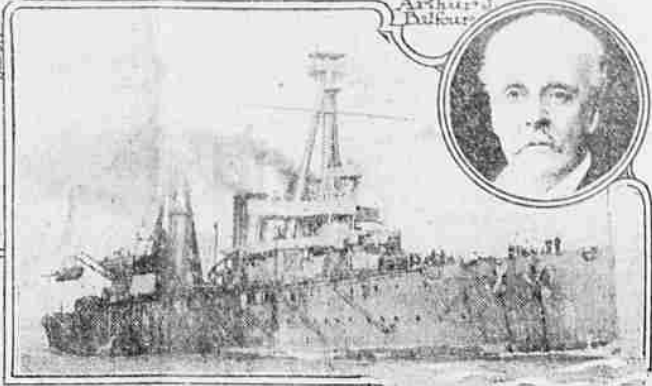
An escort of congressmen will accompany the body to Berkeley, a message from Washington said.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 16.—Receipts at the Johnny Buff-Pal Moore fight here last night fell somewhat short of expectations when tallied today, the epic amounting to \$14,200. Buff drew \$3,000 as his end and Moore about \$2,500.

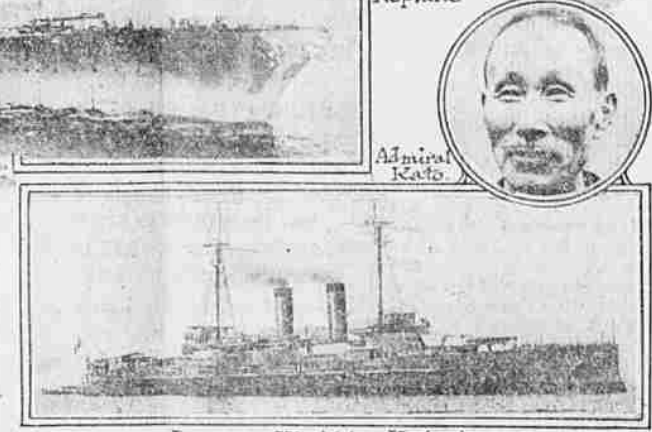
## Men and Ships in Limelight by French Blow Naval Holiday



U.S.S. Washington.



H.M.S. Neptune.



Japanese Warship Katori.

## WALL ST. BOMB SUSPECT NABBED BY POLISH POLICE

WARSAW, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—A man by the name of Wolfe Lindenfeld, alias William Linde, has been arrested by the Polish police here as a suspect in connection with the Wall street explosion in New York September 16, 1920. The Warsaw police said they made the arrest at the request of the American department of justice. They claimed to have in their possession the man's full confession of being connected with the disaster.

## ZERO WEATHER IN MOUNTAIN STATES

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 16.—The northern Rocky Mountain region was in the grip of a cold wave that sent temperatures down to two degrees above zero at several points, while a general heavy snowfall was reported by the district weather bureau in northern Wyoming and Montana. The snow reached a depth of from 8 to 10 inches at Miles City, Mont.

## ALLIED NOTE SENT TO BERLIN HEADS

PARIS, Dec. 16.—(By Associated Press.) The reply of the allied reparations commission to the note of the German government announcing its inability to pay the next two reparations installments, will be forwarded to Berlin tonight by special courier. No announcement was forthcoming here this afternoon as to whether the reply contained acceptance or rejection of Germany's proposal.

## BROTHER SLAYER IS ACQUITTED

COLFAX, Wash., Dec. 16.—Albert Moore, charged with first degree murder in connection with the slaying of his brother-in-law, Clarence Gray, last October 13, was acquitted by a jury in superior court here today. Moore, who shot Gray after, it was declared, the latter had interceded in domestic difficulties of the Moore's, interposed a plea of self-defense, declaring he had believed Gray was armed.

## FRISCO HOTEL THUGS CAUGHT BY CLERK

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 16.—Two alleged bandits who attempted to hold up the office of the Continental Hotel in the heart of the downtown business section, early today were captured by Harry Byrne, night manager, and Al Kohn, night porter of the hotel after they had attempted to flee with a check protector as their sole loot. The men gave the names of Andrew Daly and Bernard Ritchie. They were handed over to the police.

## Chicago "U" Faculty Man Quits After Man Is Nabbed

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—The resignation of an unnamed member of the faculty of the University of Chicago was announced today by President Harry Pratt Judson as the result of charges of misconduct. Meanwhile police are investigating reports of activities of a man caught last night while peering into the window of a women's dormitory.

## PACIFIC COAST TRADE BENEFITS BY 4 PLY PACT

### Ports Should Forget Blind Selfishness and Work for General Good—Robert Dollar Says War Loomed Before Arms Conference.

TACOMA, Dec. 16.—The Washington conference, by settling disputes between the United States and Japan and by banishing international intrigue has opened up new possibilities for trade in the Pacific ocean, Robert Dollar, San Francisco man, said here today. Mr. Dollar is here to attend the Northwest foreign trade conference and he will be the guest of honor at a banquet of the conference tonight.

"There is no doubt in my mind but that war was looming in the Pacific," he said, "but now we can go ahead with the development of our foreign commerce without the fear of an early war hanging over us. A nation contemplating war or in fear of it can't tend to its business."

Mr. Dollar predicted the Pacific coast would become the center of the world's trade within the next decade. "We have only begun to develop our trade foundation," he said. "For years there were only four seaports plying between the west coast and the Orient. With the further opening up and development of the Far East the Pacific will rapidly outstrip the Atlantic in volume of trade."

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—In the first official American interpretation to be given the new four-power Pacific treaty since its signature, high administration officials said today that the treaty was not to be regarded as obligating any nation to take up arms as a result of questions falling within the scope of the agreement.

## WILLAMETTE VALLEY NIPPED BY FROST

SALEM, Ore., Dec. 16.—Fruit and berry growers of the central Willamette valley are inspecting their trees and vines closely this morning to ascertain the extent of the frost damage of last night's cold snap. The mercury registered a new low mark for the winter during the night when it dropped to 27 degrees above zero.

No extensive damage has yet been reported, but growers fear for the less hardy plants because the warm weather of the past ten days has brought the sap up into the trees and vines in many sections.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 16.—Mike O'Dowd, former middleweight champion, and Mike Gibbons will settle their pugilistic differences tonight.

## IRISH PEACE IS RATIFIED PARLIAMENT

### Overwhelming Majority Both Houses for Irish Free State—Unionist Plea Denied—Final Action Held Up By Dail—DeValera Still Opposes.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—Both houses of the British parliament ratified the treaty creating the Irish free state, by overwhelming majorities this afternoon.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—The house of commons today adopted the reply to the speech from the throne on the Anglo-Irish treaty, rejected the unionist amendment to the address by a vote of 491 to 55.

The adoption of the address means the acceptance of the treaty by the house of commons.

The house of lords took similar action only a few minutes later. The lords rejected the unionist amendment by a vote of 166 to 47.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—At the resumption of debate on the treaty with Ireland in the house of commons this afternoon Arthur Henderson, labor leader, stated that the labor party welcomed the treaty and hoped it would be ratified.

A vote of ratification was expected today in both houses of the imperial parliament but that body, the government had announced, would not be prorogued until the Dail's decision was received.

## UPHOLD REDUCTION ON GRAIN RATES

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Reduced rates on grain, grain products and hay in trans-Mississippi territory which the carriers recently sought to have suspended for six months were sustained by the inter-state commerce commission today and will go into effect December 27.

The reductions average about 1 1/2 per cent of the 1920 grain rates and are further decreased by the commission's order today, which requires that corn and other coarse grains be carried for ten per cent less than wheat and other breadstuff grains.

## BERGER TRIES TO GET DEBS PARDON

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Victor Berger, Wisconsin socialist who was twice refused a seat in the house, called at the White House today and it was understood appealed to the chief executive in behalf of Eugene V. Debs, imprisoned socialist leader. Mr. Berger said he found that President Harding had "a big heart." He declined to comment further upon his call.

OFFER RAIL GOLD BONDS. WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—The Southern railroad asked the interstate commerce commission today for permission to issue and sell \$30,000,000 in gold bonds to bear interest at 4 1/2 per cent and to mature April, 1926.

## Foch's Letter to Medford Translated, Given to Legion

The following letter written in French by General Ferdinand Foch, marshal of France, and mailed at the union station in Baltimore, Md., has been received by Mayor C. E. Gates of Medford:

December 7, 1921.  
Honorable Mr. Mayor,  
The enthusiasm of the people of Medford in coming to greet me when my train passed through your city on December 2 has touched me deeply.

I want to express to you my heartfelt thanks for it and at the same time to ask you to inform the generous people of your city of my profound gratitude.

Be so kind, Mr. Mayor, as to accept the assurance of my very best wishes.  
F. FOCH.  
The above translation was made by Professor Strook of the high school faculty. Mayor Gates plans to turn the letter over to the local American Legion post, the members of which will have it framed and treasure it because of the famous soldier's signature.

## SCRAP U-BOATS, PLAN OFFERED BY BRITISH LEADER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—(By the Associated Press.)—Arthur J. Balfour, head of the British delegation, gave notice today that Great Britain would propose to the arms conference the total abolition of submarines.

The announcement also said Mr. Balfour would take the submarine question before an open session of the conference.

British spokesmen have said, however, that British acceptance of the 5-5-3 ratio plan was in no way contingent upon favorable action by the conference on Great Britain's proposal that submarines be abolished as lawful weapons.

The British contented that the question of the use of all submarines involves world policy.

Naval opinion in American, Japanese, French and presumably Italian groups is understood to be in opposition to the British contention that submarines are of necessity "weapons of assassination."

## PAPERS ASKED TO BEAT H. B. 6508

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 16.—Thomas R. Williams, president of the American Newspaper Publishers association today called upon all members of the organization as well as publishers generally, to use their efforts to defeat house bill No. 6508, of the grounds that "no such mischievous interference with press freedom has ever before been seriously proposed in this country."

"The bill," said Mr. Williams, in a statement, "prohibits publication in newspapers of any news likely to lead to gambling. Ostensibly aimed at racing news, it would be equally applicable to a large quantity or variety of financial and other news, such as reports of bank clearings, which have been gambled on in many cities. The unprecedented censorship involved by the bill itself is more than sufficient warrant for its defeat."

## L. OF N. SECRETARIAT GETS A REPORT

GENEVA, Dec. 16.—Japan has sent to the secretariat of the League of Nations its first report on the administration of the former German colonies situated in the North Pacific north of the equator. The report, which is intended for the permanent commission on mandates, is the first report of this kind to be received.