

IMPORTANT DECISIONS ON LIMITATION NAVIES TO FOLLOW DANIELS' VISIT

Officials at Washington Say Subject Will Be Taken Up By Peace Conference

WOULD DEFER JUDGMENT ON THE COMPOSITE SHIP

Building of Gigantic Battle Cruisers by U. S. Has Been Watched By British "Since It Appeared Likely They Would Necessitate Additions To British Naval Budget," It Is Stated; Value of Types of Fighting Ships of Today Compared

Washington, March 15.—Important conclusions which probably will be reflected later at Paris in discussion of limitation of naval armament were expected here to grow out of the forthcoming conference between Secretary Daniels and his aides and European admiralty officials. The Secretary sailed today accompanied by his three chief technical advisers.

While the main object of the trip of the American officials is to gather information upon which the Navy Department can base a report to Congress relative to the proposal to substitute composite ships for present day capital vessels, the fact that a program would render all existing fleets obsolete and that its cost would be enormous, in the view of many officials here, that the project will be taken up at the peace conference.

Defer Judgment.
Pending the return of the secretary and more complete intra-service discussion, naval officials generally are inclined to defer judgment as to the advisability of adopting the composite ship program.

In the view here even the American 36-knot cruiser project, now held up to await a decision on the greater question of composite ships, has in its elements that make it more than a purely national matter under present consideration. Officers say if competitive naval building is to continue, other powers must provide similar ships as not even Great Britain has built or is building craft of equal efficiency in their own peculiar sphere.

British Interests and Why.
It is understood progress toward the construction of the gigantic battle cruisers, six of which already have been authorized, has been watched with some concern by British naval authorities since it has appeared likely they would necessitate additions to the British naval budget. There is little doubt among officials here the British would welcome an international understanding at Paris which would eliminate that source of expenditure.

The standard fighting ship of today is the super-dreadnaught, in the American and British navies, a vessel with a speed of approximately 23 knots, an armor belt varying from 12 to 14 inches in thickness and a displacement of about 35,000 tons. Such a ship costs about \$29,000,000. The United States has ten of them under construction or authorized and the naval appropriation bill which failed in the final hours of the last Congress, authorized ten more for the next three years.

Proposed Ship Now Urged by Some.
The proposed ship now urged by some American officers would have a speed of 29 knots, carry twelve 16-inch guns, an armor belt of from 12 to 14 inches, displace about 55,000 tons and cost \$40,000,000. It would carry the same offensive and defensive power as the super-dreadnaughts and would make six knots an hour greater speed. The price of this increased speed officers declare, would be a doubled cost of construction and almost double size, the latter carrying with it far-reaching engineering changes in harbors, navy yards and dry docks to accommodate such monster craft. No such vessels have been built or projected by any other power so far as is known.

This "composite" battleship, for which Admiral Mayo, commander in chief of the Atlantic fleet, Vice Admiral Sims, commanding abroad, and many other high officers who have served overseas, have contended, is supposed to represent the maximum attainable in speed without the sacrifice of gun power or armor.

TRANSFER OF HUN SHIPS UNDER WAY

Will Carry Allied Troops Home and Bring Back Food For Germans

MUCH FOOD AVAILABLE FOR QUICK MOVEMENT
Iron-Clad Conditions To Compel Good Faith in Carrying Out The Agreement

Paris, March 15.—Under the agreement which the Germans made at Brussels, the United States will receive eight German ships which will be ready to go to sea within four days. The vessels are the Zeppelin, of 15,200 tons, the Prinz Friedrich Wilhelm of 17,900 tons, the Graf Waldersee of 13,000 tons, the Patricia of 14,466 tons, the Cap Finisterre of 14,500 tons, the Pretoria of 13,200 tons, the Cleveland of 16,900 tons and the U-25, of 25,000 tons.

The vessels going to the United States are passenger ships on account of the American desire to use them for the transportation of troops. Those going to France and England immediately are cargo vessels in neutral ports in South and Central America and the Dutch East Indies. They will be permitted to leave with cargoes for Germany with German crews but under allied flags. When ships put out from German ports to be handed over they will be manned by Germans but on arrival in allied ports the crews will be replaced by allied crews and the Germans returned.

U. S. Seamen Used.
New York, March 15.—Several hundred American officers and seamen attached to the cruiser and transport forces already have been sent to French ports to take over the German ships as they are delivered, it was learned here today. They are to be supplemented with men from naval forces stationed abroad. The first of the German ships is expected to arrive here shortly after April 1.

OPPOSE CLARK AS LEADER OF HOUSE

Through Mays He Is Asked To Define His Position On The League

EX-SPEAKER DECLINES TO WORRY OVER IT NOW

Washington, March 15.—Champ Clark was asked to declare his position on the league of nations, in a telegram sent to him at New Orleans by Representative Mays, of Utah, who repeated his assertion that the former speaker had said in his presence the league constitution "has as much chance of being ratified as you have of being pope of Rome."

Under Which Flag?
"Do you now propose to act in harmony with the majority view or to compel the majority to act in accordance with your views? Are you with Lodge, Penrose, Borah and Reed, or are you with the President and for the league of nations?"

GREENVILLE MILL ELECTS OFFICERS
Greenville, March 15.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Greenville Cotton Mills, Inc., was held Friday at the offices of the company. A dividend of 10 per cent was declared, and an additional sum was credited to the surplus account. The following officers were elected: President, J. G. Mays; vice president, R. R. Cotton; superintendent, W. H. Norris.

HE TOOK A BAND ALONG IN CASE HE SHOULD VISIT BERLIN

Association Formed Opposed To National Prohibition; Its Purpose

New York, March 15.—Organization of the association opposed to national prohibition was announced here tonight with the avowed "prime purpose" of making the eighteenth amendment to the constitution "forever inoperative."

MAKING 18TH AMENDMENT "FOREVER INOPERATIVE"
Some Men With Financial Cognomenes Are Among Those Named As Incorporators

The organization, it was declared, stands on the principle of "personal rights and liberties," and is opposed to introduction of any bills in Congress or in the various State legislatures differentiating between light wines and beer and whiskey.

SHAM BATTLES IN THE AIR COMING
Demonstrations Under Management Victory Loan Campaign

Washington, March 15.—Three flying circuses of American, French and British aviators in American and captured German Fokker planes will tour the United States in connection with the Victory Liberty Loan campaign, giving aerial sham battles and aerobatics over 50 leading American cities.

GERMAN U-BOAT 48 SUNK BY DESTROYER

Attempted To Escape From Spanish Port Where It Took Refuge

Paris, March 15.—The German submarine U-48, while attempting to escape from Ferrol, Spain, last night, was chased by a destroyer and sunk, according to a Havas despatch from Madrid.

SLEEPING SICKNESS SEQUEL OF INFLUENZA
Health Commissioner of New York City Makes Statement On Subject

New York, March 15.—Belief that at least half of New York's forty cases of "sleeping sickness" are sequels of Spanish influenza were expressed tonight by Dr. Royal S. Copeland, city health commissioner.

WHOLE TOWN DESTROYED BY CYCLONE; DEATH IN THE WIND
Muskegon, Mar. 15.—At least one man was killed and several seriously injured when the town of Porter, about 12 miles northwest of this city, was practically destroyed by a cyclone this afternoon.

Situation in Korea.
Honolulu, T. H., Mar. 15.—The Korean activity in behalf of the independence of that country was incited by Christians, according to a Tokyo cablegram to the Nippon Jiji, a Japanese daily newspaper here. The cablegram adds that the situation in Korea gradually is subsiding and that Japanese leaders in the recent uprising there have been arrested by the Japanese.

Views of Neutral Countries.
Paris, Friday, March 15.—The invitation sent by the peace-conference to neutral states to participate in a discussion of the league of nations has brought responses from Switzerland, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden. These countries have forwarded statements on their views to the secretary of the conference.

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SECRETARY NAVY SAILS FOR EUROPE

Last Thing He Did Was To Give Member of Crew A Chance To Become Officer

JACKIE SWINGS ASHORE WHILE SHIP LEAVE PIER

Distinguished Party of Naval Experts in Party; 19 Guns As Vessel Moves Out

New York, March 15.—Secretary Daniels and a party of naval experts, sailed for France today on the transport Leviathan to study naval and aviation problems. They will visit Great Britain and Italy and also will be absent until about May 12. Secretary Daniels was accompanied by Mrs. Daniels.

A Proud Boy's Leap.
As the transport was being warped away from the pier a sailor appeared at an open port and, grasping a dock rope, swung himself ashore, while his comrades called good byes. It developed the youth, a member of the crew whose assignment to an officer's training school had been discontinued by the bureau of navigation, had taken his case personally before Secretary Daniels aboard the liner. The secretary had approved the transfer, the sailor said, and, having no mind for another passage on the Leviathan he made his dash for shore. He proudly exhibited the document, signed by the secretary.

45TH RENEWAL OF KENTUCKY DERBY
Bigger Than Ever (As Barnum Would Say) Big Racing Event Set For May 10

Louisville, Ky., March 15.—Seventy-five nominations, five more than in 1918, have been made for the forty-fifth renewal of the historic Kentucky derby, worth to the winner about \$25,000 as against a maximum of approximately \$16,000, the greatest amount in any previous year. The list made public tonight by the Kentucky Jockey Club, indicated the speediest of racing horse flesh on the American continent will vie with the best racing blood from abroad.

NEGRO PRISONER WAS EXPERT JAIL BREAKER
Criminal Repeats Escapes By Locking Up Jailer of Pender County

Wilmington, March 15.—Motion Hayes, a negro held in Pender county jail at Burgaw, charged with killing two negroes and setting fire to the house in which they lived, early this morning escaped from a cell into the corridor of the jail and when Jailer E. R. Maulpass entered the corridor, the prisoner slipped out from behind him, locked the door, took the key and disappeared. A carpenter was called to release the jailer by sawing out the lock of a heavy outer door. Immediate search was begun for Hayes but late reports today say he has not been caught.

Play at Enterprise School.
Special \$250 Purse Flat Race. Big running race of the season. Pinehurst, Wednesday.—(adv.)

WETS ORGANIZE IN CITY OF NEW YORK

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A FINAL ARMISTICE MAY NOT NEED RATIFICATION AT HANDS OF THE SENATE

Preliminary Treaty May Be Characterized As Such Between The Big Powers and Germany

PLENARY COUNCIL WILL INCORPORATE LEAGUE OF NATIONS IN TREATY

President Answers Explicitly To This Effect An Inquiry Cabled By His Secretary at White House; Another Statement Says League May Be Incorporated in Final Treaty and Possibly Not in The Preliminary Treaty

Paris, March 15.—The peace delegates are considering bridging over the period between the signature of the peace treaty and the ratification of the treaty by the United States by a "modus vivendi" declaring hostilities ended as of date of the signature, so as not to delay the termination of certain war legislation and enable the rush of normal trade while affording the Senate the necessary time for consideration.

The question of calling a special session of the Senate immediately after the signing of the treaty, which may be within ten days, has also been under consideration.

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Explanation By Officials.
Washington, March 15.—Although it will be included in the final treaty of peace, the league of nations may not be in the preliminary treaty, it was said today in official circles here, after Secretary Tumulty had announced in New York he had been informed by President Wilson by cable the plenary council at Paris had decided the league plan was to be a part of the treaty.