

GARDNERSAYSNAVY IS SHORT OF MEN

Congressman Declares that the Navy is Building Warships for Cold Storage.

NO CREWS ARE AVAILABLE

Eighty Fighting Vessels Could Not Be Placed in Commission Should Emergency Arise Until Men Are Enlisted.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Representative Gardner was the principal witness today before the house naval committee. He read a long statement in support of his proposal for investigation of the national defenses by a special commission.

Eight Vessels Without Crews. "If we had gone to war with the rest of the first-class powers early in August, do you realize that no less than nine of our battleships would not have been ready to fight?"

Far Below Board's Estimate. "The general board, which has actually made our war plans, estimates the enlisted force of the navy as between 30,000 and 50,000 men short for war. If any attention had been paid to the general board's emphatic appeals for our national safety, instead of only twenty-seven battleships built and building and authorized, we should now have forty-seven battleships built, building and authorized."

Too Few New Planes. "We have just a dozen aeroplanes in the navy. Last year the aeroplane board recommended an appropriation of \$1,300,000. Instead of that sum, according to Captain Bristol, we let the aviation service spend only \$250,000 or \$400,000."

Some persons have quoted Rear Admiral Fletcher as saying that the American navy ranks ahead of that of Germany. I have searched the admiral's evidence and find that he said nothing of the sort. I don't believe that any well informed man believes our fleet to be superior to that of Germany.

Kaiser to Return to Front This Week. AMSTERDAM, Dec. 18.—(Via London.)—According to the Telegraph, Emperor William, who has been detained in Berlin for some time because of illness, will return to the front this week.

INSANITY TO BE DEFENSE ON DOUBLE MURDER CHARGE

SHERIDAN, Wyo., Dec. 18.—(Special.)—William Flanders of Crook county is on trial in district court, charged with murder in the first degree. The case was brought from Crook to Sheridan county on the grounds of prejudice at home.

OMAHA NEAL DRUG Treatment

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S. A. Meacham

For eight years with the Columbia Fire Underwriters of Omaha, will open a general insurance agency at 411 Bee Building, Jan. 1st, 1915.

HYMENEAL DON'T MISS BORSHEIM'S GREAT HOLIDAY JEWELRY SALE

506 S. 16th Street

House Cuts Off 20 Cents Mileage Item

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill was passed by the house today, after appropriation of \$2,380,000 for an agricultural census were stricken out, bringing its total down to about \$36,000,000.

NAVY YEARS BEHIND BEST EFFICIENCY

Would Take U. S. Half Decade to Make Fleet in Shape to Meet Foreign Ships.

REAR ADMIRAL FISKE TALKS

Deficient in Aircraft, Mines, Scout Cruisers, Torpedo Boat Destroyers, Submarines, Sweeper, Training.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Five years would be required to put the United States navy in the highest state of efficiency to meet a hostile foreign fleet, according to a statement today by Rear Admiral Fiske before the house naval committee.

One Navy More Efficient. One foreign navy, which was not named, the admiral said, was more efficient than the American fleet in gunnery. This, he declared, however, was not only because the American marksmen had not been given opportunity for adequate practice. In speaking "for the highest state of efficiency," the officer explained that he had in mind the state of a certain unnamed power whose officers and men have inhaled the spirit of a military nation.

The German raid yesterday on the British coast was referred to several times and the admiral suggested that if the British had five or six fast submarines in the vicinity of the attacks, the possibility of the bombardment would have been reduced. He said that if the German cruisers passed through English mines the explanation might be "that by the wonderful system of spies Germany had it may have been found out just where these mines were located."

Asked about the Panama canal, the officer said no enemy could attack it so long as the American navy controlled the sea. With the fleet defeated, however, he thought there would be no security for this, "the most valuable part of our possessions."

HUGH MURPHY RECOVERING IN SOUTH AFTER OPERATION

HOT SPRINGS, Ark., Dec. 18.—(Special Telegram.)—Hugh Murphy of Omaha reached the Arkansas Hot Springs today from Baltimore and plans making an extended stay at the Arlington hotel. He is getting over his recent illness and though confined to an invalid chair is able to spend most of the day time in the hotel rotunda.

LAKE WATERS ARE POLLUTED

Are Becoming a Serious Menace to the Public Health.

GOVERNMENT IS INVESTIGATING

Recommended that Waters Used on Boats Be Purified Before Used for Drinking Purposes to Stop Disease.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Pollution of the great lakes and tributary rivers is becoming a serious menace to health, according to the annual report today of Surgeon General Rupert Blue of the public health service. He points out that 15,000,000 passengers are carried each year over the great lakes and that more than 1,000 vessels use these waters.

Leading Styles in Men's Hats. John B. Stetson Soft and Stiff Hats—\$3.50. "Brandeis Special" Soft and Stiff Hats—\$2.00. "The Sterling" Soft Hats—\$3.00.



Fur Caps--Just What You Want Now

We have large stocks of fine fur caps. Any man will appreciate a gift of this sort. Whether you buy for yourself or to give at Christmas, these values will interest you.

What Will You Give the Boy?

This Is the Boys' Store of Omaha. Come to our Second Floor—Old Building—let us show you how simple it is to select boys' gifts from our large stocks.

Boys' Balmacaan Overcoats, \$4.75 to \$7.50

Boys' and Girls' Indian and Cowboy Suits—\$1.00 to \$3.98. Boys' Bath Robes—\$1.98 \$3.98. Boys' Pajamas—\$1.00 to \$1.50.

Boys' Norfolk Suits

Blue Serges, Tweeds, Homespuns and Castles. Tartan shades. Actually worth \$6.50 to \$8.50. Special, at \$4.75.

all of these vessels get the water used aboard for all purposes by pumping from the lake. It is recommended that water so taken be purified before used for drinking purposes.

Investigation Not Complete. Dr. Blue details the work of the medical officers under him for the year in eradicating plague, investigating tuberculosis in making special inquiries into epidemics of typhoid fever and other diseases.

Public health officers who examined conditions relative to the effect on persons who come into contact with migratory consumptives, found little reason to believe that such contact has proved injurious. He points out again that investigation by American officials does not bear out the claims made by Dr. P. F. Friedmann for a specific for tuberculosis.

Study of the use of drugs in this country, where anti-narcotic legislation has made statistics available. Dr. Blue says, leads to the belief that the estimate of drug users has been high and that the

Lumber Associations to All Join Together

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Organization of all lumber associations in the country into a national body will be effected at a conference to be held here on February 21 and 22, it was announced today.

This movement was decided upon yesterday at a conference attended by approximately 100 lumber men representing various associations in the lumber industry. The meeting was held under the auspices of the National Lumber Manufacturers' association.

Department Orders. WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—(Special Telegram.)—Nebraska pensions granted: Mary A. Kline, Nora, 112; Armenia C. Starr, Hastings, 112.

CARRANZISTAS WIN A BATTLE

Gutierrez Orders All Generals to Be Represented at Convention of Chiefs to Choose President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—George C. Carothers, special agent of the State Department to General Villa, has been sent to Naco to join his efforts with those of Brigadier General Scott, who arrives there tomorrow, to stop firing from the contending Mexican factions into American territory.

A dispatch to the Carranza agency here reports the defeat of the Villa forces south of Tampico. Consular Agent Canova at Mexico City reports the departure of 15,000 Gutierrez troops for the west coast and the occupation of Puebla by Zapata troops.

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represented at the forthcoming convention of chiefs which is to select a president. More Bullets Fired Across Border. NACO, Ariz., Dec. 18.—Stray bullets from the Mexican side crossed the American line during the usual bombardment of the Mayorena trenches by the Carranza garrison of Naco, Sonora.

Thirty-seven spent bullets were gathered by two officers last night just east of the American town. Four bullets struck houses and stores here. One entered the United States immigration offices and two struck a store.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 17.—(Via El Paso, Dec. 18.)—Details of the fall of the city of Puebla were received here today. It was said that after evacuating the place the Carranza forces made a stand to the north, where they were defeated, losing many men.

The Carranza troops retreated in disorder towards the interoceanic railroad, with the evident intention of making their way toward Vera Cruz. The retreating forces burned freight and passenger trains. The oil tanks in the vicinity were emptied and set on fire.

The Stores for Men and Boys

Brandeis Stores

Here is News That Will Travel Fast

300 Men's Overcoats

That Were Made to Sell Up to \$37.50. Bought from Hirsch-Wickwire & Co., and Rosenweid & Weil, Chicago—at enough price concession to allow us to offer you choice Saturday at \$19.50.

Another Big Special Saturday All-Wool Chinchilla O'coats For Men and Young Men. They are single and double-breasted, shawl and convertible collars. Short and long models. Also Balmacaans. Grays, browns, blues, dark greens. Plain blacks, dark. Actually \$16.50 \$25 values, offered Saturday.

O'coats in Fancy Mixtures. With shawl and convertible collars. About 200 in the lot. Fine blue chinchillas. These are offered at a saving of \$3.50 to \$7.50. They go in two lots Saturday at— \$10.00 and \$12.50.

Men's and Young Men's Suits. In an assortment so big that we guarantee to suit every man as to his individual taste and we guarantee also to fit every man whether he be of regular build—extra tall, stout, slim or stubby. Comparison will also show you that there is quite a difference in your favor when you buy here. \$10, \$12.50, \$16.50.

What Shall You Give Him This Christmas?

Select HIS gifts from our immense stocks and you'll be more than certain of pleasing him. We show complete assortments and a more diversified variety than you'll find anywhere else in Omaha.

Beautiful All-Silk Four-in-Hand Ties—Made up in the large \$1.00 shapes. Special, Saturday, at 59c. Fine Silk Four-in-Hand Ties—Large open ends. All the very latest patterns. Special, Saturday, each 50c.

Christmas Combinations. All-Leather Belts, Bill Book and Watch Fob, with Cigar Cutter. Special values, at \$1.25. Christmas Suspenders and Garter Sets—Special at \$1. 75c and 50c.

Christmas Sets of Ties, Hose, Handkerchiefs; also Dress Tie, Muffler and Chain—Special, at \$1.00 to \$5.00.

Men's Sample Union Suits—1 large bargain square for Saturday's sale. Winter weight and worth to \$3.35 suit. Special, suit, \$1.79, \$1.39 and 89c.

Men's Pajamas—Made of fine quality Soletette and outing flannel. Special, \$2.00, \$1.50 and \$1.00.

All Silk Pajamas—In blue, white and pink. Worth to \$5.50. Special, suit, \$6.50.

Men's Gloves—One big special lot. Lined and unlined. Worth to \$2 a pair. Special, at \$1.39 and 98c.

Ferrin's, Fowne's and D. & P. Gloves for Men—We are showing all the new shades of leathers, at pair, \$1.50 to \$3.00.

You Will Need a BAG or SUIT CASE. If You Are Going Away Over the Holidays. Here's an Opportunity. Don't Forget That Bags and Suit Cases Make Very Acceptable Christmas Gifts.

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