

The CHIEF

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E. H. NEWHOUSE - - Manager

BIG NAVY IS NEEDED

PRESIDENT URGES BUILDING OF FOUR MORE BATTLESHIPS.

Says Nation's Rank Among Powers Depends Upon Excellence of Warships Since Hope of General Arbitration Has Disappeared.

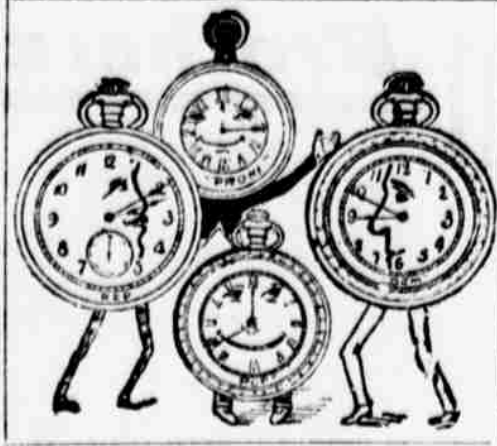
Washington, April 15.—The president transmitted to congress a special message advocating the retention in the naval appropriation bill of the provision for four new battleships. He says:

"Let me again urge upon congress the need of providing for four battleships of the best and most advanced type at this session. Prior to the recent Hague conference it had been my hope that an agreement could be reached between the different nations to limit the increase of naval armaments, and especially to limit the size of warships. Under these circumstances I felt that the construction of one battleship a year would keep our navy up to its then positive and relative strength. But actual experience showed not merely that it was impossible to obtain such an agreement for the limitation of armaments among the various leading powers, but that there was no likelihood whatever of obtaining it in the future within any reasonable time.

Coincidentally with this discovery occurred a radical change in the building of battleships among the great military nations—a change in which it was apparent modern battleships have been, or are being constructed, of a size and armament which doubles, or more probably triples, their effectiveness. Every other great nation has, or is building, a number of ships of this kind; we have provided for but two, and therefore the balance of power is now inclining against us. Under these conditions, to provide for but one or two battleships a year is to provide that this nation, instead of advancing, shall go backward in naval rank and relative power among the great nations. Such a course would be unwise for us if we fronted merely on one ocean, and it is doubly unwise for us if we front on two oceans.

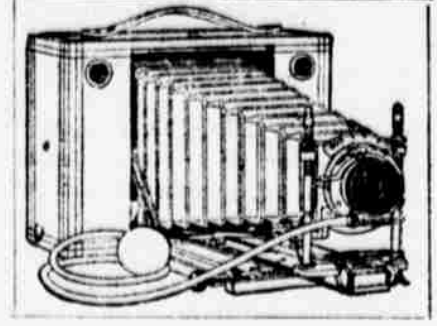
As chief executive of the nation, and as commander-in-chief of the navy, is imposed upon me the solemn responsibility of advising the congress of the measures vitally necessary to secure the peace and welfare of the republic in the event of international complications which are even remotely possible. Having in view this solemn responsibility, I earnestly advise that the congress now provide four battleships of the most advanced type. I cannot too emphatically say that this is a measure of peace and not war. I can conceive of no circumstances under which this republic would enter into an aggressive warfare; most certainly, under no circumstances would it enter into an aggressive war to extend its territory or in any other manner seek material aggrandizement. I advocate that the United States build a navy commensurate with its powers and its needs, because I feel that such a navy will be the surest guaranty and safeguard of peace."

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Ohio Senator Makes Speech on the Brownsville Affair.

Washington, April 15.—Applause that smothered the pounding of the vice president's gavel attested the warmth of the reception given by the crowded galleries of the senate to the speech of Senator Foraker in defense of the colored soldiers discharged without honor by the president because of their supposed connection with the Brownsville affair. The day was made notable in the annals of senatorial oratory. Never in the history of the senate have the galleries been so fully represented by members of the negro race. They came early and secured the points of vantage in all the galleries except that reserved for members of the families of senators. The only seats unoccupied were in the section used for the president.

The senator began by saying there evidently was a misapprehension concerning his speech and he read from a newspaper clipping to the effect that he was to deliver a three days' speech in denunciation of the president and the secretary of war. He, laughingly, disavowed his intention to do either of the things charged against him. He proceeded to read his address. The utmost silence prevailed during nearly three hours. Then his references to the part the colored race had taken in the military service of the country called forth smothered applause and when he finished there was resounding hand-clapping, which defied the gavel of the vice president, and continued for several minutes. Colleagues of the Ohio senator crowded around him, Senator Warner, whose bill for the re-enlistment of the negro soldiers he had antagonized, being the first to grasp his hand. One after another senators from both sides of the chamber congratulated him upon his presentation of the subject.

GRAY DOES NOT WANT HONOR

Delaware Judge Writes Letter, but Convention Instructs for Him.

Dover, Del., April 15.—Despite the written declaration of Judge George Gray that he could not under any circumstances consent to have the delegates instructed for him, the Delaware state convention officially placed his name before the Democracy of the country for that party's nominee for president of the United States. Judge



JUDGE GEORGE GRAY.

Gray's declaration, contained in a letter to Thomas F. Bayard, chairman of the state central committee, which was read to the convention, came as a surprise to the delegates, but they did not hesitate an instant to place him in the field.

The platform adopted declares for unflinching devotion to state rights, criticises the national administration and declares for a revision of the tariff.

In moving the adoption of the platform, Mr. Handy said that Judge Gray's letter emphasized the modesty of his character. "It proves, indeed," he said, "that we are not inspired by any ambition of his. His fellow citizens desire him to be president of the United States."

The motion to adopt the resolution was carried with a hurrah.

State Police Stoned by Street Car Strike Sympathizers.

Chester, Pa., April 14.—A strike of conductors, motormen and other employes of the Chester Traction company, followed by the importation of about 150 strike breakers and the summoning of a detachment of the state constabulary to assist the local police, precipitated a series of clashes between strike sympathizers and state police. The state police were stoned and mobbed and several officers and civilians were hurt, though none dangerously.

The events of the day have aroused the entire populace and the town is practically under martial law, with all the saloons closed and the street car barns and other property of the traction company under guard.

The trouble started when a mob prepared to stop the running of cars by strike breakers. The first car out of the barn was stoned and every window in it broken. This absolutely tied up every line of cars at Chester, including the southwestern trolley line to Philadelphia.

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wish to announce to the general public that they have bought and are now in possession of the James Peterson Hardware and Implement business. They ask a continuance of the patronage of all the old customers, and the purchasing public is cordially invited to call and get acquainted with the new firm and a share of its patronage is solicited. A few of our prices may be of interest to you.

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- Gang Plows, only..... 55.00
- Sulkey Plows, only..... 32.00



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WM. WOLFE, Secretary.

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