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Estimates for the coming fiscal year were included in the report. They are more than \$10,000,000 less than the total amount appropriated for the present fiscal year.

The secretary says that the senior officers of the navy are too old. He wants some new legislation on the subject. He says that he is preparing recommendations on the matter and will submit it to the president shortly.

Recommendations for the legal establishment of a naval reserve of officers and men will also be submitted to President Taft soon. Recommendations in regard to the development of a naval militia are also promised.

Secretary Meyer reviews and explains in detail his proposed plan for the reorganization of the Navy department and navy yards, and asks for such legislation as may be needed to carry it into effect.

Navy Yards in South.

Secretary Meyer says that he is not entirely convinced that the government can advantageously give up navy yard sites in which large expenditures have been made, until after the opening of the Panama canal, when it definitely can be demonstrated which are likely to be of the greatest value.

"It is not unknown in the history of the government," says the secretary, "that national reservations have been given up and later were bought back at increased cost." Again in discussing the same subject he says that the "completion of the Panama canal, the development of trade in the Gulf of Mexico and the whole Caribbean region, and the probable increase of the naval establishment to meet our national responsibilities in that area will probably call for supply stations, in part for the heavy fleet, but principally for the torpedo craft and submarines and the smaller vessels needed there."

Naval Station in Cuba.

He urges the "extreme desirability" of developing the naval station partly established at Guantanamo, Cuba. "With the opening of the Panama canal, the Caribbean sea will become the scene of the greatest commercial activity, and our responsibility as to the police and maintenance call for an adequate naval repair base in that locality."

The secretary reviews in detail his proposed plan for the reorganization of the navy, and in addition makes many recommendations for the conduct of affairs in his department.

Two more battleships of the all-big-gun type are recommended to be constructed, but on account of the desire to keep down the expenditures, he asks only for a repair ship in addition to these two proposed giants of the sea.

The completion of the big dry dock at the Brooklyn navy yard is urged, and furthermore the secretary says, "It is clear that one dock on the Atlantic coast, for docking our largest battleships, is not sufficient since that one might be injured." In this connection, he points out that provisions for docking of heavy vessels injured or damaged in action or stranding are almost entirely lacking, and that few navy yards exist on either coast which have sufficient water to dock an injured battleship drawing four or five feet more than its ordinary draft.

Ship construction at the navy yards of the United States is opposed as a pain by the secretary. Only occasionally, as a check in case of particular types, does he believe that the United States should build a ship. Shipbuilding concerns should be encouraged, in his opinion, so that the government can profit by their experience and resources, and also because ordinarily the work is done more economically by them than at navy yards.

Opposes Restrictions on Builders.

Furthermore, Secretary Meyer is opposed to congress restricting the construction by one shipbuilding company to one battleship, or to requiring one battleship to be constructed at a navy yard, or on one coast or the other.

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Court of Appeals Finds Western Men to Be Guilty

United States Court of Appeals at St. Paul Affirms Decision in Famous Spade Ranch Case.

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