

U. S. NAVY MUST CONTINUE TO GROW

Daniels Says Limitation of Armaments Only Alternative to Big Increase.

ASKS FORTY-TWO SHIPS

Washington, Dec. 9.—Until all nations agree to reduce their armament, the United States must continue to increase its naval power, Secretary Daniels declares in his annual report, made public tonight, and which urges that funds be appropriated at once to begin building forty-two additional ships.

Hopes for Limitation.

Secretary Daniels recalls that the 1917 appropriation bill carries provision for a possible limitation of armament agreement. "I earnestly hope the time is not far distant when this act of congress will result in such an agreement," he continues, "and that the nations of earth will have the statesmanship to devise effective means of preserving the world's peace without constantly building ever increasing dreadnaughts at ever increasing cost. Until that hour arrives the United States cannot safely adopt any policy other than that of continuing the policy of steadily increasing its naval strength."

Picturing the result of construction now contemplated, Secretary Daniels says the main fighting elements of the fleet, completed and in commission in 1921, will be twenty-seven dreadnaughts of the first line, supported by six battle cruisers, twenty-five second line battleships, thirteen scout cruisers, 108 destroyers, twelve fleet submarines and 130 coast defense submarines. While there is no possibility of predicting what rank among the naval powers the country will then take, he adds, the authorization of such a program has been accepted as assurance that the United States has definitely embarked on the policy of building an adequate navy.

Yards and Men Scarce.

The secretary devotes much attention to discussion of the problems encountered by the department in getting the new ships laid down. Building facilities and skilled labor are lacking, he says, and the program he has recommended for 1918, featured by the three battleships and one battle cruiser, will tax private and public plants to their utmost even with the increased building equipment authorized for navy yards. It was for that reason, the secretary adds, that he did not follow the general board's recommendation and urge that the four of the six remaining battleships of the three-year program and both of the battle cruisers be laid down at once.

Asks More Auxiliaries.

The board states in its report accompanying that of the secretary, that its information as to building facilities indicate the 1918 program outlined could be built. It also recommends the addition of twelve mine sweepers, one supply ship and two seagoing tugs to the total of the 136-ship three-year program. Secretary Daniels indicates clearly the difficulties faced by the department, however, in the following language: "The last naval bill does not give to the department any additional or extraordinary powers in connection with placing the contracts for these vessels or in obtaining materials for their construction. It is hoped that the necessity will not arise of having to ask for such powers, as a number of ship builders and manufacturers have shown an attitude of willingness to assist the department in meeting the unusual situation created by the desire of the country to commence and to expedite an entirely unprecedented naval program at a time when the industrial resources of the country are already taxed to their utmost capacity in meeting the demands of tremendous trade activity, both domestic and foreign, in every branch of business. It may be necessary, however, for congress to enact legislation of this character to insure the early completion of the program of construction."

JAPAN SEEKS JAVA AND SUMATRA ALSO

Insolent Demand Made On Holland by Japanese Publicist Fans Dutch Suspicion.

SAYS AMERICA SATISFIED

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) The Hague, Netherlands, Nov. 19.—"If Japan gets Java and Sumatra from Holland as a present, the 100,000 emigrants in the United States can be recalled, so that America will also then be satisfied," declares the Japanese ex-minister and publicist, Yusaburo Takekoshi, in his latest contribution to a well-known Japanese review that has served once again to fan Dutch suspicions regarding the land of the rising sun. "I therefore think that country is in entire agreement with our policy," he adds.

Battleship Still Backbone.

In its brief review of the European war, the general board finds nothing to warrant modification of its previous belief that the battleship is "the backbone of the sea power of a nation." For this reason, the report adds, the board has determined that the number, power and size of the guns to be placed aboard new battleships should be increased without sacrificing armor, speed or cruising radius. Larger ships must be built to contain all these characteristics, the report continues, and for the 1918 ships the board has recommended "the most powerful battery which it believes can be constructed having due regard to the present state of the art of building heavy ordnance in this country."

Discusses Enlistments in the Navy.

Secretary Daniels shows that congress has authorized an immediate increase of 26,000 men, only 2,324 of whom have been obtained. "Here again lie new and serious problems," he says, "more than ordinary methods must be used to persuade young men to decline countless opportunities opening before them in commercial life in favor of service with the government. "Were it not for the gratifying results in enlistments already shown, as a result of the policy of the last few years of offering educational advantages, particularly along technical lines, to our recruits, I would feel indeed that the problem of securing the men authorized for our fleets was an almost hopeless one. As it is I feel sure it will be solved, but it is still a problem and what I desire in this report is to warn the public against considering that the mere passage of laws authorizing additional men is equivalent to having these men actually on board our ships."

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case the position of Java and Sumatra will be seriously threatened; while on the other hand, the allies win, Great Britain will turn egotist, and in that case again the fate of those islands will cause Japan much anxiety. "In view of these considerations," reasons Yusaburo Takekoshi, "it is better for Japan to demand Java and Sumatra from Holland now, for the powers at present leave to Japan a free hand to do nothing but nurse its friendship and good will." He further urges the necessity of Japan, as an industrial country, having more tropical territory whence in time of need it can get its raw materials, and on the other hand throws doubt on Hol-

land's record in the matter of preserving neutrality in its colony, and on its future ability in this respect, thus rendering the East Indies a potential handy basis for Japan's enemies. The Dutch press emphatically refutes all suggestions that the Netherlands has not strictly carried out the duties of neutrality in every instance, and while not inclined to exaggerate the importance of such solitary utterances as this foregoing, it considers it wise that the nation not let this campaign escape its attention, "waged as it is by a man of influence in Japan against the highest interests of our country."

Memorial Association Honors Indian Heroine

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.) Washington, Nov. 28.—Plans are being made by the Pocahontas Memorial association to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the death of Pocahontas, daughter of the Indian chief Powhatan who saved the Virginia colony from starvation and massacre and also is credited with having saved the life of Captain John Smith. A bronze statue of heroic size has been completed at a cost of \$10,000 to be unveiled on Jamestown Island, Va., in March next year, the 300th anniversary of Pocahontas' death at Gravesend, England. A site on the historic island has been dedicated by the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities and the pedestal has been erected. For ten years the Pocahontas Memorial association with headquarters in Washington has been working for a suitable memorial and now has paid all but \$1,700 on the bronze statue.

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