

### Daniels Opposed To Proposal for Naval Holiday

Secretary Says Alliance With Other Nations to Restrict Building Program Would Be Bad Blunder.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Rumored intentions of Great Britain and Japan to seek a tripartite agreement with the United States for limitation of warship building programs came up today in congress.

In the senate a resolution was offered by Senator Borah, republican, Idaho, requesting the president to seek an agreement with those powers for a five-year naval building truce with construction programs cut during that period.

Secretary Daniels presented his recommendations for naval construction with this comment:

"I profoundly believe that the United States cannot afford to take a five years naval holiday as it has been rumored England and Japan will suggest to this country.

It would be a blunder, almost a crime, for the United States to enter into an alliance with any two or three nations either to suspend or curtail naval building for any other purpose.

Senator Borah's resolution went to the foreign relations committee without debate. The Idaho senator said he would urge prompt action.

The house naval committee preferred to inquire into the relative strength of the navies of the three powers.

Secretary Daniels told the committee he agreed entirely with Senator Harding's recent statement at Norfolk, that the navy should be commensurate with the nation's interests, reiterating his opinion that it should be "equal to any in the world."

"I wish we could have a world agreement to settle disputes without recourse to arms," he added, "but until that time comes and comes surely, we ought to carry out our naval building program."

Hearing on Power Company Rates Opens

bert entered an objection. This will be discussed during subsequent sessions.

In a foreword, Mayor Smith, who presided, explained that the company applied for an increased schedule of rates last January and that some evidence was taken by the council at that time.

"We are prepared to show that our condition has grown steadily worse since last January," said Attorney Kennedy for the company.

"We are asking for a reasonable return on the value of the property. We will demonstrate that we were entitled to not only an increase last January, but that the necessity for an increase has been emphasized during the interim which has passed.

Our books are open to the members of the city council and to our consumers and we are ready to substantiate all of our statements. We are asking for a raise of rates on every class of our business, to all of the patrons we serve. We are amplifying our previous request for an increased schedule of rates."

Mayor Smith announced that he would be glad to have any consumers take part in the hearing and to cross-question the witnesses.

Mr. Kennedy announced that he will file with the city council today a schedule of the rates which the company wishes to establish in order that it may obtain a fair return on its investment.

The council ordered copies of the valuation report which was prepared by Mr. Bailey. Mr. Brogan suggested that the council should engage an expert in electric plants and rates to examine the witnesses intelligently.

"We will take plenty of time to have experts examine the showing made by the company," replied the mayor.

R. B. Howell suggested that the company should be asked to submit copies of its monthly reports to the Electric Bond and Shares company.

Item Explained. During the running analysis of the valuation report, Mr. Bailey explained that the item of \$966,280, allowed for cost of securing capital, represented what it would cost a utility company to secure funds to the extent obtained by the Nebraska Power Co. He explained how bond houses or trust companies make a business of handling securities for such companies.

The item of \$1,421,800, which he allowed in the valuation for the development of the business, is what is generally known as "going value," and is frequently a matter of dispute in rate-making bodies.

Mr. Bailey explained that this intangible value was based on the assumption that if this plant was ready to begin operations, and would start with approximately one-third of the business under contract, it would require three years to reach the present volume of business and in the meantime there would be expenses for carrying the plant to an earning basis.

Lighting Fixtures—Granden Electric Co., formerly Burgess-Granden Co.—Adv.

### Unique Styles at Art Show



This striking costume, known as the "Junju frock," and worn by Peggy Rice, was one of the unique styles displayed at the show of the Fashion Art league at the Congress hotel, Chicago, recently.

### Military Probe Of Cork Fires to Complete Work

London, Dec. 14.—Investigation by a military commission of the fires which swept the city of Cork on Saturday night and Sunday was expected to be completed there today.

Major General Strickland, commander of military forces in Ireland, is the head of the commission, and the taking of evidence began yesterday.

The mayor of Cork and two Sinn Fein members of the Parliament have been called to explain allegations they have made in a dispatch sent to various foreign ambassadors here relative to outrages which they declare to have been perpetrated in Cork during the last week.

Announcement of the commission's findings was awaited with keen interest, as the question of who was responsible for the fires in Cork has assumed great importance since the conflagration in the absence of clear evidence rival elements have been doing their utmost to fix the blame on the auxiliary police or the Irish extremists, respectively.

Sir Hamar Greenwood, chief secretary for Ireland, speaking in the House of Commons last night, asserted his belief that the auxiliary police did not start the fires, and pointed out they were not equipped with incendiary bombs, which news dispatches assert, were used to spread flames in Cork.

Prospects of a truce in Ireland appear to have been blasted by the most recent events in that island, declared Sir Hamar.

Telephone service between England and Dublin, which was interrupted last night, was resumed this morning. Dublin passed a quiet night, said a message to the Exchange Telegraph company today.

Decrease Shown in Value of Farm Crops

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—With nearly 200 fine rings and other articles of jewelry in their possession, Stephen and Wilber Boblet, brothers, were arrested here this afternoon following information that a jewelry store at Billings, Mont., had been robbed of \$8,000 worth of gems.

Black and Tans Attacked By Party of Armed Men

Dublin, Dec. 14.—A party of armed men attacked a military motor lorry carrying six black and tans at Ball's bridge, on the outskirts of this city, this morning. The black and tans were rushed up and relieved them.

Increases in most every crop were reported in the revised production figures, as compared with the preliminary estimates announced in November.

Corn, with a record crop, shows an increase of about 33,000,000 bushels, winter wheat an increase of almost 48,000,000 bushels; spring wheat a decrease of 9,000,000 bushels, oats an increase of almost 70,000,000 bushels, barley increased almost 11,000,000 bushels, potatoes increased 9,000,000 bushels and tobacco increased 32,000,000 pounds.

The yield of corn per acre set a record with an average production of 30.9 bushels. Only once before has the average yield per acre exceeded 30 bushels and that was in 1906 when 30.3 bushels was made.

While the corn crop is a record one, its value this year is \$1,662,000,000 less than last year's crop, which was smaller by 374,000,000 bushels. The price being paid to farmers for

To Cure a Cold in One Day Take Grog's LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE TABLETS. Beware of cheap imitations. Signature of E. W. Grog, M.D.

### Hay Rates From Idaho Lowered By 33 Per Cent

Union Pacific Officials Say Reduction Is to Induce Shipping of Alfalfa Now Held Up in the West.

Omaha commission men interested in the hay and alfalfa market received yesterday by the traffic department of the Union Pacific railroad a reduction on hay and alfalfa meal rates from Oregon Short Line points in Idaho. The reduction is 33.1-3 per cent of the present hay rates of \$15 a ton.

This change is planned to effect an important movement of hay and alfalfa from Idaho.

Millions of tons of the product have been held up by the farmers in that section of the country on account of prevailing financial conditions, the traffic bureau announced.

Reduction in freight rates on hay and alfalfa from other and nearer points to Omaha can not be justified, the bureau announced.

The new \$10 a ton emergency rate will be published as such shortly and will expire on April 30, 1921.

This decision on the part of the Union Pacific railroad has been made at the urgent requests of the governor of Idaho, commercial clubs and shippers in that section of the country.

Countless telegrams setting forth impossibilities of moving the hay and alfalfa at standing rates have been received by the railroad.

Hay Is Only Crop. Alfalfa hay is a staple crop and in most sections of inter-mountain country is the only farm product.

An enormous hay surplus has been cut and stacked in all irrigated sections of Idaho, conservatively estimated at more than 1,000,000 tons.

This amount is greatly in excess of home feeding demands, and is too far away to be sold on any eastern market and leave anything for the producer after baling, hauling and payment of present freight charges, the bureau's report states.

Conditions Exceptional. Hay and alfalfa conditions in Idaho are therefore different than in any other section of the west.

Hay commission men in Omaha have been working on this matter with railroad and state officials for sometime.

It was through the efforts of C. E. Childs, head of the traffic bureau of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce, and C. J. Lane, general freight agent of the Union Pacific railroad, that the reduction was effected.

Stock Food Agent Arrested. Norfolk, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Charles Carmel was arrested here by the Stanton county sheriff on a charge of selling stock food without a license.

Women are employed as drivers of both private and public-hire motor vehicles in England

### Letter of Dead Girl Introduced in Trial

(Continued From Page One.) a traveler's check for \$50, which was later found on Dr. Fields' person. He said that he wrote another letter later.

The answer to the letter from Ruth was then introduced. It is in part as follows:

"My Dearest Own Ruth—God bless you dear heart. You are the dearest, bravest girl that ever lived. God knows how I love you. I've missed you ever since you left. I'd give anything to be with you, but I'm going to help you all I can.

Prayed For Her. "Don't give up and come right straight here when it is all over so I can see you. Why, it's been a year already. I'll have to give up school this year. I am already \$300 in debt, but I'm going later and maybe then, you can help me.

"Yes, dear, I'll find you if it takes the rest of my life. Dearest you don't know how I long for you. I'll pray for you tonight dearest, and I know you'll come through alright. Ruth, it won't be very long. Yours forever, Watson."

This letter was addressed to the home of Mrs. Deyo, practical nurse, 2704 North Sixty-fourth street, when the illegal operation is said to have been performed.

Traveler's Check Identified. Enclosed in this letter was the traveler's check, which, when introduced as evidence, was admitted by Alexander as being the one he sent from Hayes Center in reply to Ruth's request for more money.

Alexander was still nervous from the questioning and events of the morning when he testified in a low tone. His answers came in a low tone. He was admonished several times by Judge Troup to speak louder.

Telegrams, which announced the death of Ruth, signed by Dr. Fields, and an answer sent by Alexander also were introduced.

Up until yesterday afternoon Dr. Fields wore an optimistic smile, but the admission of Ruth's last letter seemed to lower his spirits. His face turned ashen and he was visibly perturbed the remainder of the afternoon.

Displays Emotion. Young Alexander began his testimony yesterday morning. He was extremely nervous. His voice refused to come sometimes and often sank to a whisper. He moistened his lips, clasped and unclasped his hands.

He admitted the relations that existed between him and Ruth Ayer and that he was responsible for her condition. When shown the last letter she had written him, he gazed long at it and held it to his lips while the lawyers were arguing.

He declared he begged Miss Ayer repeatedly to marry him as a way out of their troubles, but that she refused.

Dr. W. R. Strickland testified that he administered the ether to Miss Ayer, both on Tuesday, August 3, and on Thursday, August 5, when, he said, Dr. Fields operated.

Dr. Fields approached him, after the death of the girl, and begged him to say nothing of the operation of Tuesday, he said. On the day of the inquest, he testified, Fields asked him to "forget the Tuesday operation."

Pennsylvania has more than 90,000 miles of highways.

### Woman to Face Trial on Charge Of Killing Man

Rooming House Proprietress Alleged to Have Murdered Barber, Following Series Of Quarrels.

Alliance, Neb., Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—Mrs. Evelyn Preiss McElhane, 25, will be placed on trial in district court here Wednesday on a charge of first degree murder in connection with the shooting of Earl B. Anderson, ex-soldier and local barber, here December 7.

This will be the first case in which a woman has been tried for first degree murder in western Nebraska.

Mrs. McElhane is alleged to have shot Anderson following a series of quarrels.

Mrs. McElhane was proprietress of the Wilson rooming house, which has been raided several times by officers. Anderson is said to have been drinking on the night of the shooting and to have been extremely jealous of the woman. Testimony was given at the preliminary trial tending to show that Anderson had threatened to kill Mrs. McElhane on a previous occasion.

He left the rooming house a few minutes before the shooting and Mrs. McElhane is alleged to have followed him into the alley and fired the fatal shot. There are reported to have been several eye witnesses to the shooting.

Cleanup Expected. Public sentiment is strongly against the woman, because of the alleged bad reputation of the room-

### Wage Reductions Announced In All Parts of Country

Employes of Massachusetts Shoe Factory Voluntarily Reduce Wages 10 Per Cent—Atlanta Laborers Cut.

Marlborough, Mass., Dec. 14.—A voluntary wage reduction of 10 per cent was voted today by employes of B. A. Corbin & Sons, shoe manufacturers. The action was taken, it was said, to insure the filling of the local factory of a government contract for army shoes which the employes feared would go to the company's plant in Webster, where a similar wage cut recently announced is in effect.

Atlanta, Dec. 14.—Wage reduction of from 16 to 20 per cent for common laborers, carpenters, painters, plasterers, bricklayers and cement finishers, effective January 1, were announced today by 32 contractors and builders, members of the master builders' association of Atlanta. Union leaders claimed that the employes effected were non-union workers.

Fresno, Cal., Dec. 14.—Reductions of wages for farm labor of from 25 to 50 cents a day were put into effect today by the Valley Fruit Growers' association, a large farmer organization.

Hydraulic brakes on both front and rear wheels are among the recent developments for motor vehicles.



The person who finds the Christmas season barren of all save dull obligation lacks not only the child's heart of simple wonder but also the wise man's heart of sympathy with all beautiful and lasting things.

Thompson Belden & Co.

In the Interest of Better Service

The Thompson-Belden store will not remain open evenings before Christmas.

We believe that this will result in more helpful and intelligent assistance on the part of those who serve you during the busy Holiday season.

Thompson-Belden & Co.

Haas Brothers

Second Floor Brown Block Sixteenth and Douglas Sts.

Coming Thursday: A Sale That Surpasses Anything Ever Attempted in Omaha

985 DRESSES

Secured in the Greatest Purchase Ever Consummated by Haas Brothers.

All to Be Offered at One Price \$10.00

See Our Windows. Plan Now to Attend. Watch Wednesday Evening Papers.

Haas Brothers are very exacting in every statement that appears in their advertising, and when we state that this is our greatest sale and will prove a bigger sensation than our wonderful \$10 sale of two weeks ago, you can rely on something most extraordinary.

Carpets at Bedrock Prices at Bowen's This Week

We are right now displaying a line of Carpets, second to none in the city, such as Wiltons, Velvets, Axminsters and Tapestry Brussels, and at prices which we believe to be considerable less than they will be in 1921.

If you anticipate the need of Carpets, you will save dollars by buying at Bowen's right now.

—Advertisement

a tough bird---

That's what a turkey is when you carve with a poor knife. We have

RUSSELL'S CARVERS

With Stag, Ivoride and Buffalo Horn Handles, which make a useful Gift Suggestion at attractive prices.

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