

778 SHIPS ARE BUILDING

Secretary Daniels Startles Senate Investigating Committee

BY GIVING FACTS AND FIGURES

Chasers Have Proved Valuable—Guns the Things Necessary

Washington, D. C., Dec. 20.—The navy has 428 capital and other classes of ships in the course of construction to-day. This total does not include the 350 submarine chasers, all of which will be completed by spring, or any other small craft. Of the 496 contracts for the expenditure of \$70,000,000 which have been made since war was declared, only 92 contracts for \$26,000,000 have been let on the cost plus basis, which is satisfactory only under existing conditions, necessitating the giving of financial assistance to builders if ships are to be constructed rapidly. The foregoing were the outstanding features of the statement made yesterday by Secretary Daniels before a sub-committee of the House committee on naval affairs, which began an investigation of all of the war activities of the navy department. The session yesterday morning made it evident that the investigation will be entirely friendly. Chairman Oliver of Alabama informed Mr. Daniels when he took the witness chair that the committee was not appointed because of complaints it had received, rather that the committee believes the navy has played its part well since the beginning of the war, and that if the investigation develops any shortcomings, the committee will try to make its criticism helpful.

Congressman Britton of Illinois was the only member of the committee who questioned the secretary closely. It was one of his questions, asked shortly after the hearing opened, which called forth the statement by Mr. Daniels in regard to the number of ships the navy is constructing. Several of the members were doubtful whether the press should publish the figures, but the secretary said there was absolutely no reason why the country should not be permitted to know what the navy is doing along this line. "Anyone could get these figures by studying reports for a short time," he said.

One of the great problems, he said, was to furnish gun crews to merchant ships. "We made these reserve ships," said Mr. Daniels, "a school for gunners and the efficiency with which these officers have taken hold of the young men and made the young men efficient is really one of the big things of the navy in this war."

"When you come to write the story of the war," said he, "one of the most thrilling chapters will be regarding these young men who went in the merchant ships and risked their lives. I refer to those who went on our own merchant ships, of course. We have put guns on every ship going into submarine war zones that requested it."

"We are rather proud," the secretary said, "of the way the navy has met the actual test of war. I am glad for Congress and the public to know somewhat of our activities. A talking stock, so to speak, cannot fail to bring ways for still further improvement and for still more efficient work in the future. We feel we have done well, but we still have problems, some of them very difficult, which we have been trying to solve in the best way possible in the very brief time allotted to solve them."

Representative Britton asked what complaints had been made to the navy department by Vice Admiral Sims.

"I think that is not a proper question to ask," said Secretary Daniels. "I will say, though, inasmuch as the question has been asked in open session, that Admiral Sims has been given everything that the navy has that it could give."

Secretary Daniels said he did not believe "mess gossip" should be "bandied about."

"If Admiral Sims," he added, "is not getting everything that is needed, it is a matter for operations to say whether he should have it. Operations has spent itself giving all that Admiral Sims needs that the department has. I think this is very petty and small business."

"I'm asking about facts," said Britton.

"If you have any facts give them," shot back the secretary.

Britton said he hoped it was not the desire of the committee merely to show the favorable condition of the navy.

"If a commanding officer here or abroad," said Britton, "complains that he is not getting what he wants it is proper to ask about it."

"As to whether every requirement of Admiral Sims on the European station has been complied with," repeated the secretary, "or whether every matter of strategy has been complied with, I would

THREE EFFICIENT MEDICINES

Hood's Sarsaparilla, superlative blood purifier and appetizer, originated in a Boston physician's successful prescription. Pepton, superlative iron tonic, for anemia, nervousness, made from iron, pepsin, nux, celery, etc. Hood's Pills, superlative family cathartic, for liver, constipation. The superlative combination that gives superlative health. Practically everybody needs at least one of these medicines. But, if your blood is scrofulous. If you are also anemic or nervous. If you are constipated besides—thousands have all these ailments. You need all three medicines. Ask your druggist for them to-day.—Adv.

say those ought not to be asked about. Admiral Sims has made no complaint. He asked for some particular man to go over there who could not be sent because of other duties. There is a perfect understanding between Admiral Sims and the department.

OLD-FASHIONED CHRISTMAS DINNER IS ENDORSED

Hoover Sanctions Goose, Turkey and Vegetables—Christmas a Meat-less Day.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The "old-fashioned" Christmas dinner is endorsed by the food administration. "Turkey, goose and vegetables, on which Americans dine at Christmas, according to ancient custom," said the statement, "are the very things the food administrator wants them to eat, as they conserve wheat, red meats, fats and other needed war foods. 'Fittingly enough, this Christmas falls on meatless Tuesday, the day on which no red meats are to be eaten. Serving the old-time Christmas dinner on that day could not be more appropriate. No red meat, of course, should be used in mince pies.'"

N. Y. LOSES HETTY GREEN TAX.

Surrogate Rules Against Comptroller a Second Time.

New York, Dec. 20.—A ruling by Surrogate Fowler Tuesday practically disposes of the possibility that New York state can collect an inheritance tax on the estate of Hetty Green, estimated as the largest ever held by a woman. Mrs. Green claimed legal residence in Vermont, but transacted much business in New York, where she also maintained her office and spent much of her time.

On a motion by the state comptroller to the surrogate's office this question of residence was investigated, and Surrogate Fowler decided that the decedent was actually a resident of Vermont. Since then the comptroller attempted to have the appraiser's statements reconsidered and a tax granted to the state on the ground that Mrs. Green was a non-resident doing business in this state. This was denied Tuesday.

PREPAREDNESS OF RED CROSS SURPRISES DR. CUSHING

Dr. Harvey Cushing of the Harvard medical school, now Major Cushing of the United States army, in a letter speaks as follows of Red Cross preparedness in France:

"I cannot tell you how cheered I was when I found how well organized the Red Cross was in Paris and what a great start you had made."

"When an American officer could actually walk into the warehouse you had taken over and find Squibb's and Mallinckrodt's ether, bath robes, adhesive plaster, aspirin, surgical instruments, kerosene lamps, canvas aprons, aspirating needles and many other things which our camps happen to need, I for the first time began to realize what the Red Cross might be able to do for waifs like ourselves over here."

"It all goes to show what an enormously important part the Red Cross will undoubtedly come to play as more people come over and our affairs overseas get more and more complicated."

"Unquestionably countless emergencies will arise and sudden calls such as ours will be made for old and divers things; and I hope that we may see huge storehouses established under your where those in need can get the supplies which are absolutely essential to the work—whether it be an automobile or a hypodermic needle."

"Certainly the people at home will subscribe with their accustomed liberality to an organization of this kind and you will do as much toward winning the war as the men who carry the rifles."

Colds Cause Headache and Grip. LAXATIVE BROMO QUININE removes the cause. There is only one "Bromo Quinine." E. W. GROVES' signature on box. 30c.—adv.

POPE OPPOSED TO SEPARATE PEACE

The Pontiff Believes It Will Lengthen War Instead of Shortening It

HE MAY MAKE A STATEMENT

German and Austrian Foreign Ministers Are to Meet Trotzky at Brest-Litovsk

Rome, Dec. 20.—A rumor that the pope is preparing another appeal for peace is denied at the Vatican, where it is admitted, however, that since the denials that the Holy See is implicated in any way in the Caillaux scandals are apparently insufficient a public statement or document may be decided upon before long explaining that the pope's peace efforts are not connected with the propaganda for a separate peace, which are not approved by the pontiff, since such a peace would prolong instead of shorten the war.

Evidence of the pope's disapproval is afforded by the failure of the Vatican to recognize the present Russian government.

Italian Ascends 23,048 Feet.

Rome, Dec. 20.—Lieut. Brachpapa of the Italian army and a pilot recently attained a height of 23,048 feet in an Italian airplane, mounting to this altitude in 45 minutes. This is said here to be a world's height record.

BABST BLAMES SHORTAGE OF SUGAR TO LACK OF CARS

Denies Fixing Price of Beet Sugar, But Admits Attending Conference on the Matter.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Car shortage and not attempts of refiners to manipulate supplies or prices were attributed as largely the cause of the sugar shortage by Earl D. Babst, president of the American Sugar Refining company, testifying yesterday before the Senate investigating committee. He refuted testimony of Claus A. Spreckels that George M. Rolph, general manager of the California-Hawaiian company and director of the sugar division of the food administration, declined to allow supplies to come east from his own refinery at a time Spreckels was threatened with being forced to close his plant, by saying that Rolph and another refiner offered to let Spreckels have 25,000 tons at the basic price set for Cuban sugar by the international committee.

Babst denied he had anything to do with fixing the price of beet sugars and that he had any connection with setting the price for Louisiana sugar. He admitted, as Spreckels charged, that he attended conferences with the Louisiana planters and members of the food administration in Washington, but said that when prices were discussed he withdrew from the conference.

TAKES ALL WOOD ALCOHOL.

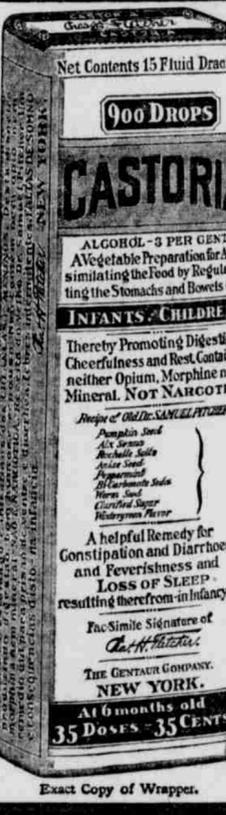
Government Arranges for Entire Output of the Country.

Washington, Dec. 20.—The country's entire output of wood alcohol will be taken over immediately by the government under an agreement with the distillers announced yesterday by the war industries board. Private consumers will be supplied on licenses issued by the priorities board.

TRAIN YOUR SYSTEM through the liver, to act naturally, at a fixed time every day. The best habit in the world is the habit of health. Take one pill regularly (more only if necessary) until you succeed. Then you can stop taking them without trouble or annoyance. This has been the good-health rule for fifty years. Usually Need Iron in the Blood. Try **CARTER'S IRON PILLS**



CASTORIA For Infants and Children. Mothers Know That Genuine Castoria Always Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* In Use For Over Thirty Years **CASTORIA**



Net Contents 15 Fluid Drachms
900 DROPS
ALCOHOL—3 PER CENT.
A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food by Regulating the Stomach and Bowels of INFANTS & CHILDREN
Thereby Promoting Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC.
Drops of Old Dr. SANUEL PUTZGER
Pumpkin Seed, Ayr Syrup, Anise Seed, Licorice Root, Sassafras Bark, Worm Seed, Castor Oil, Stearic Acid, Hydrocyanic Acid
A helpful Remedy for Constipation and Diarrhoea, and Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP resulting therefrom in Infancy.
Fac-Simile Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*
THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK.
At 6 months old 35 Doses—35 CENTS
Exact Copy of Wrapper.

Ford THE UNIVERSAL CAR

The Prices on Chassis, Touring Cars and Runabouts Have Not Advanced—But How Long Present Prices Will Continue We Cannot Say

Buy your car NOW—IMMEDIATELY—even if you do not intend to use the car until spring, and insure yourself against tedious and perhaps expensive waiting at a time when you will want the car and cannot get it. If you intend purchasing a FORD CAR within the next twelve months, place your order and take delivery as soon as possible—

"A Ford in Use Is Worth Two on Order"

Chassis	.....\$325	Coupelet	.....\$560
Runabout	.....345	Town Car	.....645
Touring Car	.....360	Sedan	.....695
One-Ton Worm Drive Truck Chassis	.....\$600		

These prices f. o. b. Detroit

Perry Automobile Co.

Do Your Late Christmas Shopping Here

Those remaining things on your list—how many of them are for men?

Men's gifts are usually the ones that come last because a lot of folks continue to think that a man is hard to choose for.

Perhaps you can find the answer in this short list—or the dozens of other appropriate things we have not the space to mention.

- Smoking Jackets \$5.00 to \$15.00
- Bath Robes \$4.50 to \$15.00
- Lounging Robes \$10.00 to \$13.50
- Traveling Bags \$5.00 to \$20.00
- Suit Cases \$1.25 up
- Auto Lunch Kits \$12.00 to \$15.00
- Shirts \$1.00 to \$3.00
- Silk Shirts \$5.00 to \$6.00
- Mackinaws at all prices
- Sweaters \$3.00 up
- Mufflers 50c to \$3.50
- Umbrellas at all prices
- Gloves \$2.00 to \$6.00
- Hats \$4.50 to \$6.00
- Fur Caps, Fur and Fur-Lined Coats
- Regal Shoes
- and hundreds of other useful things.

We are well prepared for the rush of late shoppers.

Moore & Owens

Barre's Leading Clothiers, Barre, Vermont

7-20-4

Factory output two hundred thousand daily. Largest selling brand of 10 Cigars in the world. Factory, Manchester, N. H.

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ROOM AND BATH FOR A DOLLAR AND A HALF
Hot and Cold Water, Long Distance Telephone in Every Room
Electricity from North and South Stations and every steamship wharf arrive at Bowdoin Station, our main entrance.

Give an every-day reminder of your thoughtfulness, an **Electric Vacuum Cleaner**

Consider not alone the gift, but its use, its service. Come in and see our line of Electrical Appliances.

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Santa Claus Headquarters

for Holiday Boxes and Christmas Candies

Buy from our store and you will please yourself and please us. Specialties in Candies strictly pure, as we give them our personal attention in the making.

Special Prices on Candies Until After Christmas

- SUPERIOR HOME-MADE CHRISTMAS CANDY, per lb. 20c
- AMERICAN MIXTURES, per lb. 23c, 2 lbs. 45c
- OUR OWN MIXTURE, per lb. 19c, 2 lbs. 35c
- DELICIOUS FRENCH CREAMS, per lb. 25c, 2 lbs. 45c
- RED STAR VANILLA CREAM CHOCOLATES, per lb. 25c, 2 lbs. 45c
- RED STAR ASSORTED CREAM CHOCOLATES, per lb. 25c, 2 lbs. 45c
- PEANUT BRITTLE, per lb. 19c, 2 lbs. 35c
- VANILLA AND MOLASSES TAFFY, lb. 19c, 2 lbs. 35c
- OLD-FASHIONED PEPPERMINTS, per lb. 19c, 2 lbs. 35c

—and many more which you will see in our window.

Agency for Apollo, Page & Shaw, and Dartmouth Chocolates, in holiday boxes and Christmas baskets, from \$1.00 up to \$15.00. Come in and let us show you.

Barre Candy Kitchen

Over the Top and Beyond!

Can You Say

I'VE JOINED THE

Red Cross

If you have not, it's not too late, but the closing day of the Christmas drive for memberships is drawing near. Your dollar and your good will are needed now.

DON'T WAIT ANOTHER DAY!

S. Hollister Jackson has charge of the campaign in Washington county. See him, any local solicitor, or send your membership to Red Cross Christmas Membership, Burlington, Vt.

CLASSES OF MEMBERSHIP	
Annual Member	1.00
Subscribing member	2.00
Contributing member	5.00
Sustaining member	10.00
Life Member	25.00 once
Patron Member	100.00 once

Monthly Magazine included in all except annual membership