

# NAVAL ACTION BY U.S.

**IS PLANNED IN LONDON**

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**Rear Admiral Sims Representing  
This Government at Entente  
Conferences.**

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Naval co-operation between the United States and the allies against Germany is being negotiated largely in London, it was learned today, instead of here.

Washington, as is the case with military and other subjects. Rear Admiral Sims, who was on his way to England when war was declared, and who has just attended the allied naval conference at Paris, is charged to speak for the American government on the major questions of policy.

Apart from the original announcement, the United States will patrol American waters and thus relieve the allied vessels on duty here for two and a half years, no statement of naval policy is expected.

**Advance Notice Unlikely.**

Whether American vessels will cross to the other side, and help in an

Admiral De Chair, head of the navy contingent with the British war mission here, spent most of today at the Navy Department, continuing conferences with the British and French naval attaches to discuss the submarine hunting and trapping them, and less so learned by the British in the past, to suppress the submarine menace. In a general way he is acting as an intermediary to the British admiralty and facilitating the

**Labor Leaders Confer.**

Yesterday afternoon Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, with the British labor leaders who have come to this country on his invitation, called on Mr. Balfour. It was stated that the discussion was purely informal and did not cover questions of policy.

The presence of the British labor leaders is gratifying to American officials who are anxious to learn how England solved labor problems both in relation to conscription and to freedom from strikes and other dis-

Secretary Wilson of the Department of Labor last night entertained the British labor leaders at dinner. The conferences to be held this week with American labor chiefs. The visitors are anxious to begin the conferences as soon as possible, but it is not without some difficulty that they arranged to leave England at this time. Labor spokesmen from other allied countries are expected in the near future.

**Belgian Loan Discussed.**

Mr. Ralfour held a long conference with the Belgian minister in the afternoon. It is understood they took up the question of a large American loan to relieve distress in Belgium and northern France.

Last evening Mr. Ralfour was entertained at dinner by Representative M. du McCormick, who had invited a number of members of Congress to meet the British statesmen.

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## NEGRO CONFESSES HE CUT OFF SCHOOLGIRL'S HEAD

**L. C. Persons Tells Sheriff He Decapitated 15-Year-Old Antoinette Rappal Near Memphis.**

MEMPHIS, Tenn., May 8.—L. C. Persons, negro, late last night confessed to killing Antoinette Rappal, a fifteen-year-old schoolgirl, and decapitating her body, near here, several days ago. It was said today that he was en route to the penitentiary at Nashville, where he will be held for safe keeping.

Persons, according to a statement by Sheriff Tate, confessed that he at

Heckle the girl whom she had hit with her bottle. The girl fell and her skull crushed in another blow. Then, the negro is quoted as saying to the sheriff as having said, he beat his victim, tossed the head into the underbrush, where it was found two days later.

Reynolds was arrested shortly after the girl's death. Reynolds was taken into custody until last Saturday, when he was released but was kept under surveillance until last Saturday, when he was taken into custody.

Reynolds was arrested by some persons who meet a violent death after Reynolds the last object viewed, officers said. The girl's body yesterday and

**Germans Fine Belgian Bank.**—**HAVRE, May 8.**—The Societe Generale, one of the largest Belgian banks, has been fined 250,000 marks by the German authorities. The fine was levied under the pretext that the bank was in correspondence with the Belgian government.

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