TERRORIST PLOT AGAINST ALLIES PROBED BY U.S.

Widespread Conspiracy Suspected by Secret Service Men, Who Investigate.

Alleged Attempt to Kill or Kidnap British Envoy Receives Close Attention - Guards Keep Alert Watch on Em-

WASHINGTON, July 13. Though it is true that the United States Penret Service suspects a widespread anti-Allies' terrorist plot in this country, it has not yet made sufficient progress with its investigation to have definite proof, it Its investigation to have definite proof, it was learned here on good authority today.

That this supposed conspiracy included an attempt to kill or kidnap British Ambassador Spring-Rice on his way by automobile from J. P. Morgan's to Williard Straight's residence on Long Island Monday night, July 5, could not be verified. The British Embassy denied absolutely that anything of the kind happened, and secret Service officials said nothing of the kind had been reported to them.

There was also a formal official denial that the Ambassador was being especially guarded. In fact, however, it was known

mat the Ambassador was being especially guarded. In fact, however, it was known that both the Secret Service and the Washington police were keeping a more than usually alert watch on the embassy, although it was being done as unostentationally as possible. Even persons in close touch with the police were not sure, however, that this was because of any actual attempt against the Ambassador. ctual attempt against the Ambassador, actual attempt against the Ambassador, saying that it might be simply a general precaution, accentuated because of the threat to kill him contained in the New Orleans "Pearce" letter.

Concerning the Secret Service's suspicion that an organized conspiracy exists to plant bombs on ships leaving American ports under the Allies' flags there was less mystery.

mystery. ore of these attempts-most of them

frustrated—were said to have occurred than has been made public. Officials were understood to hold the opinion that, while individual cranks might have been considered responsible if there had been only one or two such cases, there had been so many and of so nearly the same character as strongly to suggest a single master mind behind all of them. The theory that Frank Holt, J. P. Mor-Enn's assailant, was the tool of such

nspiracy, it was known, has at least en taken into consideration. een taken into consideration.

Reports that startling developments are imminent and important arrests were imminent could not be positively confirmed, but they were persistent and came from sources likely to be in possession of in-

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE ASKS FOR CONVENTION

Continued from Page One

was raised. He said that cities which are but one-fifteenth the population of Philadelphia had permanent stadiums and convention halls.

Statements by Charles D. Hilles, chair-man of the Republican National Committee, that he could "not be at all sure that the Republican National Convention could be got for Philadelphia" because Chicago was making such a strong bid for it, roused leaders in Philadelphia business branizations, headed by the Chamber of Commerce, to even stronger feeling for the necessity of making adequate repre-sentations to the Republican National Committee and being in the position to offer a great convention hall to house the gathering.

Mr. Hilles' statement of uncertainty about the claims of Philadelphia followed a conference with Senator Penrose, who has gone to New York to urge the ad-vantages of Philadelphia as a location for the 1916 convention. Senator Penrose announced before leaving for the conference that he was co-operating with the Chamber of Commerce and the other business and civic organisations which are leading the campaign to bring the 1816 convention to Philadelphia.

But after his meeting with Chairman Hilles, Senator Penrose would not predict the outcome of his efforts to wring a pledge from the Republican chairman. The Senator's attitude of uncertainty was regarded as further evidence of the need for remewd efforts on the part of the Chamber of Commerce and the organizations following it to force the issue successfully.

ceasfully.

The Chamber of Commerce meeting today is for the purpose of ratifying the
action of its officials in submitting a bid
for the convention for Philadelphia. As
soon as the formal stand is taken by
a majority of the members the invitation
will be forwarded to Chairman Hilles in
New York, and Philadelphia will be officially in the contest for the choice of the
collyantion city. CITIES IN SHARP COMPETITION.

Mr. Hilles was anything but sanguine the chance Philadelphia has for obtaining the convention. He favors, he said, a free discussion. He declined to pledge himself or any members of the amittee to acting in favor of Philadel-

ts not at all certain that Philadelwill get the convention," said Mr.
"There are several other cities are for it. There are St. Louis, Minstading for it. There are St. Louis, Min-mempolis and Chicago, to mention only three that believe they can take care of the convention. Chicago I would men-tice most prominently of the three be-sume the advocates from that city be-lieve they have a very strong case and they are not hesitating to state it. I want to be unpledged until the vote is taken.

Organization after organization is fall-in line with those already piedged of bound up in the convention project. and bound up in the convention project. The latest is the joint board of directors of the advisory board of the National Registry and Underwear Manufacturers'

To the joint meeting at the Manufac-turers' Club today the advisory board will take action on the resolution culting on the city government to provide a suit-able convention hall, located in a cantral ast of the city. The express purpose of the resolution is to provide for the convention of the Hosicry and Underwear familiar of the Hosicry and Underwear familiar will be held here next May. The

mich will be held here next May. The sembers backing the resolution assert hat a building three times the size of its First Hegiment Armory, at Broad and allowabill streets, will be needed to administable the convention. When the Executive Committee of the passive of Commerce meets today the sames will take up the discussion of a means to raise meany for the Rapubers National Convention, in addition to falling the formal invitation intended Chalvenan Hilles, of the Rapublican storage Committee.

man riffee, in his statement, men-mity three of the largest cities are using every influence in their to deprive Falladeights of the con-line of them, even the smaller have some Falladeights more than lier in the character of the induce-ation of the convention. The ratio fallace Convention is also a speaking time. Delian, Tex-

MEANING OF MOVES

IN TODAY'S WAR NEWS The gains made by the Germans in the fighting near Souchez, north of Arras, are to be considered as a serious setback for the French troops in their struggle to capture Souchez, a highly important link in the German defenses. In capturing the cemetery near Souchez and strengthening their position by further gains reported in today's dispatches, the Germans have made the task of the French a great deal harder. The Souchez fighting cunnot be considered as a German offensive. It is rather an offensive-defensive, designed to thwart the plans of the French to break through the German lines toward Lille and Lens, two im-portant railroad centres supplying

the German right. The strategic interest on the east front has been transferred from southern to northern Poland. is now evident that the Germans are preparing to direct a terrific drive on Warsaw from the north. The attacks on the fortress of Ossowietz by the forces of Field Marshal von Hindenburg indicate that the Germans are determined to pursue their assaults on the Vistula-Bobr front until they find weak place through which to split the Russian armies operating in the north in twain and launch a drive on the Polish capital. Such a move, from present indications, would be undertaken si-multaneously with another Geralong the Vistula-Bug line. This plan of the Austro-German campa'gn is discerned from the preparations now under way by both the Austro-Germans and the Russians. This sudden change in the plan of the Germanic campaign has brought the operations in south-east Galicia, where Von Linsingen has failed to dislodge the Russians, to a standstill.

coording to William F. McCombs, Demo cratic National chairman, has baited its hook with \$100,000 as a cash contribution to the Democratic committee funds if Mr. fcCombs can arrange to get the convention there.

Dallas, furthermore, pledges a coliseur big enough to hold 25,000 persons.

MIGHTY GROWTH IN CITY'S EXPORTS

abroad, a gain of \$2.572,000 over the last period preceding, when the exports when the exports period preceding, when the exports amounted to 4,558,223. Corn gained \$1,335,444. The value of the exportations during the 12 months was \$1,548,929, as compared with \$155,495 in 1913-1914. Included in these foodstuffs shigments are the Belgian relief supplies.

In the previous fiscal year only \$147,122 worth of automobiles was sent abroad from local wharves and docks. Demand for trucks for war purposes gave a bounding impetus to this business and the value of those sent out since the war totaled \$1,139,792, an increase of \$992,670.

Before the trenches on the battlefields of France and Belgium are miles and miles of barbed wire which was sent out of this port. It is estimated that if the wire was placed end to end it would stretch nearly one and a half times around the world. The enformous gains in this article are shown by the figures. Only \$15,436 worth was sent out in the fiscal year of 1913-15, while a 90 per cent, gain was shown in 1914-15, when \$146,578 worth was exported, the increase in value between \$100,000 and \$1

the increase in value being \$130,142.

Very little explosives or actual muni-tions of war have gone through here. The entire 13 months saw only a few cases of cartridges and small shells leave. Most of the munitions have been sent through New York and Canada. No horses mules have been exported from this port. With the strong demand for steamships at high charter rates in general trades, steamship companies found it inexpedient make alterations necessary to carry horses and mules

Reports that this country was sending millions of gallons of oil to Germany through Scandinavian ports are controverted by the decrease in the shipments of this product. In 1913-14 there was sent out illuminating oil valued \$12,989.027. In the last year it shrunk to only \$6,423,961. Naptha showed a gain of only \$457,595. Most of this was conof only \$457,585. Most of this was consigned to the Allies. The value of the total amount exported was \$3,234,519 against \$2,746,824 in the previous year. Lubricating oil lost. Its value in the closing fiscal year was \$4,256,290. In the

preceding fiscal year it was \$4,256,250. In the preceding fiscal year it was \$4,256,555. The shrinkage of import values from \$356,553,412, last year, to \$72,958,513, or a less of \$27,568,505, when subtracted from the value of the exports. Importations of nitrate of soda, for the manufacture of powder, amounted to \$2.412.731, against \$2.832.992. The figures here do not show the progress of the gain, as importations of the product had dwindled down to almost nothing prior to the outbreak of hostilities, and it required a long time to get vessels to bring the product in afterward. The gain was made in leaps in the last few months. Despite the new Harrison law, the im-

portations of optium showed an increase of \$100,000. All other products, including birlaps: goatskins, wool, sheepskins, bananas, iron ore, pig iron and licorice root showed declines. Sugar showed a gain of more than \$200,000. Not one month of the entire 12 showed

a gain in custom revenues The total amount of duties collected was \$12,068,890.42, as compared with \$18. was \$12.085.890.42, as compared with \$18.085.714.92 or a loss of \$8,014.834.80. While some of this decrease is due to the war, much of it would have been overcome had sugar and from ore, two of the largest imports through this port, paid the Payne-Aldrich duty.

It is balleved the active exportation of

It is believed the active exportation of guns, shells and other explosives is soon to take place on the beats of the Amerito take place on the boats of the American Line. At present the steamship Dominion, in the company's service between here and Liverpool, is being loaded behind closed gates at Pier 53 South Wharves, at the foot of Washington avenue. Fear of German sympathizers is one reason for the mystery surrounding the preparation of the steamship to leave.

No passengers will be on the vessel when she leaves on Thursday. This is said to be due to the fact that her holds will be jammed with explosives. Another rumor which is running rife is that the Dominion will place on board the four-inth guns which were taken from the Merion and stored at the Philadelphia Navy Yard shortly after the war began. While three boats were chartered today for carrying carross of for carrying cargoes of grain from this port. It is not expected that the great demand of the last few months will con-

finue. While it is said that England is awardwhile it is said that England is awarding contracts for construction of fast motorboots to cambat the submarine of the
esemy, local steamship offices declare
they have no inquiry for the exportation
of such craft. Tables showing the fluctuations of the custom agures for the year,
compared with the previous year, followCOMPARATIVE FOURES.

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NAVY YARD OFFICIALS HOLD CONFERENCE ON CITY'S "DOPE" DIVES

Captains and Other Authorities Meet to Obtain Information From Agents of Department of Internal Revenue.

Captains of the various war vessels at League Island, together with officials of the marine corps, attended a conference in the office of the commandant, Captain J. J. Knapp, today, for the purpose of earning from a deputy in the Federal Department of Internal Revenue the dan-cers to which seamen on leave are sub-lected in the drug peddling resorts of the

jected in the drug peddling resorts of the Tenderloin.

The conference, which was held this morning, is the outcome of a visit paid to the officials by the deputies of the Internal Revenue Department during an investigation made following the death of James A. Burns, seaman of the battleship Illinois, who succumbed Monday night to Illinois, who succumbed Monday night to the effects of drugs after diring in a ten-derioin restaurant known as the "Subma-rine." Evidence given at a hearing of a man and a woman accused of furnishing the sailor with heroin indicated that a drug was placed in the seaman's drink. The visit of a deputy, investigating the death for the Internal Revenue Department, disclosed to the commandant that there are a number of resorts in the Ten-derloin in which drugs are dispensed and that Tenderloin characters who may be found in these place are largely given to the practice of "sailor rolling," which is the Tenderioin expression for drugging and robbing. While the officials at the Navy Yard suspected the existence of these notorious resorts, they were not in a position to learn of their exact where-abouts and could not ware the men to

At the conference today the exact loca-tion of each of the places at which drugs are peddled and in which it is generally unsafe for a sailor with money to remain unsafe for a sailor with money to remain for any length of time was given to the navy officials by the Internal Revenue Department. The department is in possession of facts concerning the Tendericin and its dangerous resorts that are not known to others. Following the passage of the Harrison drug act, investigators from the department learned the whereabouts of every dive in which habit-form-ing drugs are offered for sale. This infor-mation was laid in great detail before the avy officials today

bouts and could not warn the men to

avoid them.

navy officials today.

The purpose of learning the location of drug selling dives is simply to put the navy yard officials in a position to warn the men of the United States service what locations to avoid. The wild rumor that a large number of sallors and marines were addicted to drugs has been set a rest by the commandant birmself.

rines were addicted to drugs has been set at rest by the commandant himself.

"The men of the service," he said, "are, at the worst, only as bad as the same number of men outside are bad. We are all human, and whether we serve the Government or serve only ourselves there are some of us who will go bad in spite of all that can be done to prevent it. On the whole I do not hellow the of all that can be done to prevent it. On the whole, I do not believe the men of the navy yard here are quite as wild as an equal number of men chosen at random throughout the city. The reason for this is that we are more strongly disciplined here than outside, and it is always possible to check an infraction before it reaches a serious stage.

The conference today does not indicate that we believe a large number of our men are drug users. Quite the contrary is the case. We want to be in a position the case. We want to be in a position of tell them when they are given leave ust where the danger lurks and assist where the danger lurks and assist where the danger lurks are it is possible, to avoid m, in so far as it is possible, to avoid That is all."

FLINT ACCUSES THAW OF TRYING HYPNOTISM

State's Chief Alienist Butt of Laughter When He Makes Burton, of Ohio. New Charge.

NEW YORK, July 13 .- Harry K. Than now is a hypnotist.

That is the latest contention of the State in its effort to combat Thaw's suit to prove his sanity in the Supreme Court and to have him returned to Matteawan.

"Thaw has tried to hynotize me time and again in this trial." Dr. Austin Flint, the State's chief alienist, said on the witness stand today. "He has stared at me 15 minutes at a stretch in an effort to hypnotize me."

There was a roar of laughter in the courtroom at this assertion, and Justice Hendrick threatened to clear the room.
"You do not seriously mean," said the Court. "to say that you believe Thaw tried to hypnotize you?" "I most certainly do," insisted the

The long and oftentimes conflicting testimony of Doctor Filmt today left the jurors sadly puzzled as to the value and efficiency of expert testimony. Flint's grilling was continued this afternoon.

"Thaw has shown no insanity of any form here in this court," he told John B. Stanchfield. Thaw is a hopelessly incurable paranolac," Flint told Deputy Attorney Gen-

The witness explained that while Thaw appeared sane in court and a layman could not detect his mania he, as an expert, knew Thaw to be a paranolac with constitutional inferiority. From Thaw's past performances and family history, he knew this, Flint said.

Filint's long examination lasted until luncheon recess. It was a grueling and merciless one. Thaw and his counsel believed that they had successfully broken down the alienist.

In his long technical explanation of why he considered Thaw a paranoise Fint proceeded to enumerate countless things that contributed to his belief. Thaw's sleeplessness in infancy, his sickly childhood, his St. Vitus dance, his fits of tamper and excitement, his belief that Flint, Jerome and others were in a conspiracy to keep him in Matterway with spiracy to keep him in Matteawan with-out a trial to shield the name of Stan-ford White, was evidence of paranols, he said. And the melodramatic murder on the crowded roof garden was

ford White, was evidence of paranola, he said. And the melodramatic murder on the crowded roof garden was a typical paranolac murder, Flint added. John B. Stanchfield's cross-examination of Doctor Flint resulted in confusing the State's allenist upon several points of testimony. Several times Flint swore he had never said things attributed to him by Stanchfield, only to be embarrassed when the Thaw lawyer read the Identical words from the record of Flint's testimony. Flint swore he had had no work but the

First swors he had had no work but the Thaw case for nine years. He admitted that he had consulted Deputy Attorney General Cook ever since May about the State's case against Thaw and that Cook and State's winesses had called frequently at his house.

"Then you have helped direct the State's case?" Stanchfield asked, and Flint said he had.

"If a lawyer spent months working up a case and then took the stand to testify, you would call him unethical, would you not" the Thaw lawyer demanded

Then do you think your conduct un-No. I am not a lawyer," said the allen-

\$42,250,000 DAILY COST OF WAR; 21,770,000 MEN ON FIGHTING LINES

Figures that show the stupendous scale on which the European war is waging have been compiled by William Michaelis, of Berlin, famous as a statistician. He estimates that there are 21,770,000 men and 2108 warships engaged, at a total daily cost of \$42,250,000, or \$15,420,000,000 Among the totals arrived at by Doctor Michaelis are these:

MEN ENGAGED .

........ 21,770,000 WARSHIPS ENGAGED For Germany et al.: Line ships, 56; cruisers, 73; torpedoboats, 358; submarines, 40; miscellaneous, 139. Total............... 666
For the Allies: Line ships, 113; cruisers, 215; torpedoboats. 704; submarines, 179; miscellaneous, 231. Total.............. 1442 THE DAILY COST \$8,250,000 8,250,000 8,500,000

SEVEN TURK ASSAULTS FLUNG BACK BY ALLIES IN GALLIPOLI BATTLE

Ottomans Lose 7000 Killed and 15,000 Wounded in Desperate Struggle for Positions Encircling Achi

LONDON, July 13. Fearful losses were suffered by the Turks in last week's battles on Gallipoli eninsula, a correspondent of the Daily Thronicle estimating the Ottoman casuales at 7000 killed and between 14,000 and 15,000 wounded. The correspondent de-clares that the Allies' victory marks a definite stage in the initial work of throwing forces around Achi Baba, which may now without exaggeration be described as one of the strongest fortresses in the world. The Allies had been resting in comparative tranquillity and the Turks, therefore, evidently were persuaded that they were experiencing a shortage of am-munition. This belief apparently con-vinced the Turks of the excellent opportunity to drive the invaders into the sea. They made seven separate assaults, but in each case were thrown back.

Dispatches received from Lemnos to day give further details of the battle. They state that the fury of the Turks' attacks did not diminish until they had been completely defeated.

The main attacks were upon French positions. British officers. watched the assaults, assert that greate bravery was never shown than that d played by the Ottoman troops. One c scribes the Turkish attacks as follows:

DISCUSS BRUMBAUGH FOR THE PRESIDENCY

Governor Figures Prominently in Conference of Republican Leaders in New York.

The name of Governor Brumbaugh is looming strongly today as a presidential possibility in the conferences of the big Republican leaders in New York, which

charles D. Hilles, chairman of the Republican National Committee; Senator Penrose, William Barnes, Jr., of New York; ex-Senator Crane, of Massachusetts, and others weighed the Governor's chances together with those of Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts, and Senator

There were two conferences today, one of the members of the National organization and the other composed of members Those of the latter organization sent out word that they favored a wide open fight instead of indorsing candidates.

Both committees together with the Na tional Republican Congressional Commit-tee have started a campaign of education in Republican principles

MAN JOKES ON 18TH DAY OF 40-DAY FAST

Jacob Pfeffer Abstains From Food to Cure Indigestion. Feels Fine.

Jacob Pfeffer, of 5326 Walnut street, who is an associate editor of the Jewish World, is fasting to sure indigestion. He world, is fasting to sure indigestion. He walked a mile today and then watched several guests eat a big country dinner without taking a bite himself. This is the 18th day of his fast, and despite the fact that he has been losing a pound and a quarter a day he says he feels all right. In order to carry his anti-food campaign to a successful cultivaries to provide the control of t paign to a successful culmination, Pfoffe started to prepare for his fast on May 15. At that time he weighed 175 pounds. He now weighs 125. He is so acc to foodless meals, therefore, that he sat and watched his friends eat at the Krekstein Farm, near Norristown, this afternoon, without the slightest yearning

It was on June 25 that he began the actual fast, and since then he has been taking only three or four glasses of water

Preffer's clothes and his collars, too, are naturally getting too big for him and his finger nails are beginning to turn blue.

his finger nails are beginning to turn blue. But he is not frightened, as he knew just what the symptome would be.

Pfeffer spends his time reading and keeping account of his progress in a diary. He has set no definite time to end his fast and said this afternoon "nature will give me the signal when it is time to eat. The body is overcrowded with particles and cannot get rid of its impurities, but fasting affords it this opportunity. The brain and nervecentres do not lose. They feed on the reserva fund of the body. When this is exhausted nature will give the signal."

Most men are grouchy when they have Most men are grouchy when they have sen without food, but not so with feffer. He is very cheerful and laughs and talks with his wife and three chil-dren. Pfeffer is 41 years old, and be-lieves that fasting will cure any func-

LEAPS TO DEATH FROM BOAT

Luzerne County Man Chatted With Friends Before Suicide.

Friends Before Suicide.

NORFOLK. Va., July 12.—Thomas James, is years old, of its Prospect street. Nanticoke, Luserne County. Pa., lumped overboard from the Old Bay Line steamship Florida and was drowned in the Paturent Hiver hast night.

The steamship was bound from Baltimore to Norfolk and the man had been chatting with acquaintances before he leaded. He appeared to be in good spirits and gave no intimation that he contemilated suicide. His body was not removered.

AUSTRIAN AVIATORS SHELL DOGES' PALACE IN RAID UPON VENICE

Bombs Dropped Near Historic Building in Fourth Attack on Italian City Since Beginning of the

MILAN, July 13. Austrian aviators dropped bombs near he famous Palace of the Doges, Sunday, n the fourth air raid on Venice since he beginning of the Austro-Italian war. Other missiles fell in the Grand Canal and near historic buildings. Three women and children were slightly injured when bombs wrecked two dwellings.

UDINE, Italy, July 18.
According to reports from the front,
the Austrians are making desperate efforts to penetrate Italy through the Carnic Alps. They are relying chiefly upon night attacks, which so far in-variably have failed. The Italians have reported by redoubling their efforts against all the forts protecting the Pusteria Valley along the River Drave, as with the occupation of Innischen or Toblach on that river and on the rail-way line, Trent could be resupplied only through Innebruck.

After having bombarded Platzwiefe and After having bombarded Platzwiere and the newly terraced Fort Landro, the most important of the system of fortifications closing the great Alemagna road, leading to Austria, the Italians are now giving their attention to the forts forming the flank protection of that highway. These are all armound and each is divided into are all armored, and each is divided into two sections, one provided with armored casemates for long-range cannon and the other with machine guns for near defense. All have steel curpoles defense. All have steel cupolas.
According to an Innsbruck dispatch the

Germans are concentrating a new army under command of General Lundendorf in the vicinity of Munich. Its destination is said to be Trent. The Russians are returning to Italy

about 6000 Italians who were held prisoners in Galicia by the Austrians. The men will be sent home by way of Rumania. As the Austrian aviators outnumber the Italian airmen France is sending some of her aviators to Italy.

MAY REVOLUTIONIZE THE AMERICAN NAVY

Centinued from Page One in their construction will come in for

particular attention. As often as the board comes to any definite conclusion Congress will be asked for appropriations necessary to meet the sug-gestion advanced. It was deemed likely that a big navy testing laboratory will be opened in Washington to carry on the

With Edison as the navy's expert on undersea craft and Wright as its author-ity on yessels of the air, it was agreed that the navy will have the greatest combination in the world. Concerning the remainder of the bureau's personnel it was said the Secretary would consult

ventive genius of Americans in and out of the military service to meet conditions of warfare shown in the conflict in Europe is outlined in a letter written last Wednesday, asking Mr. Edison whether, as a patriotic service to his country, he would undertake the task of advising the proposed bureau. He said in part:

"In addition to the Advisory Board of Engineers, I would also suggest a De-partment of Experimentation, where ideas might be tried out. The cost would be nominal. Only a few acres of land would be required, with proper buildings and a corps of efficient men calculated to carry out experiments under direction of those suggesting them after they have been approved." Secretary Daniels said in his letter to

"We are confronted with a new and terrible engine of warfare in the submarine, to consider only one of the big things which I have in mind, and I feel sure that, with the practical knowledge of the officers of the navy, with a department composed of the keenest and most inventive minds that we can gather together and that with your own wonthose threative minds that we can gather together and that with your own wonderful brain to aid us, the United States will be able, as in the past, to meet this new danger with new devices that will assure peace to our country by their effectiveness." NAVAL OFFICERS NOT INVENTORS.

Why Secretary Daniels did not con-sider naval officers themselves equal to meeting these problems he made clear in

meeting these problems he made clear in his letter to Mr. Edison.

"Our naval officers, particularly those at sea," he said, "are in a position to note where improvements are needed, and to devise ways in which these improvements can be made. They have, however, neither the time nor the special training, nor, in many cases, the natural inventive turn of mind needed to put these ideas into definite shape."

To a complaint common among inventors who offer their devices to the Government—official indifference to what are sometimes really great ideas—the Secretary pleaded guilty. "We receive many suggestions," he said, "but our only way of handling them is to leave them to various bureaus already overcrowded



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AND BRANCHES

with routine work, and it is not always possible to give the necessary attention to propositions that are not so definitely worked out as to make them immediately available for the service. Ideas which contain the germ of improvement cannot siwars be given the attention they deserve.

Mr. Wright, in announcing that he would be glad to join the board, said:
"I believe that an advisory commission would be of gret benefit if it were so constituted as to co-operate with and worked in harmony with the regular departments

in harmony with the regular departments of the army and navy.

"The lack of aeroplane equipment in the navy is not the fault of the navy itself, but is due to the lack of interest in Congress. In spite of the fact that there were no appropriations for the purpose the navy has succeeded in purchasing out of other funds a small equipment of aeroplanes, but, of course, this equipment is necessarily small and

DELAWARE RIVER WILL HAVE BIG PART IN "PREPAREDNESS"

Coincident with the announcement that Thomas A. Edison will offer the services of his inventive genius to the United States Navy, Philadelphians are interested in the part the Delaware River will play in the mighty step forward which "preparedness" took today.

League Island may be an important factor in the movement. Officials there are keenly interested in the announcement that Orville Wright, the aviator, has been scheduled among the members of the naval bureau of invention which Secretary Daniels is organizing. League Island, they feel, offers unusual facilities n the aviation field, and they realize that to aviation as well as to the submarine

The New York Shipbuilding Company of Camden, has advised Secretary Daniels that its plants are now equipped for the construction of submarines, and has asked the Secretary to hold up contracts for the 18 new submarines which were to be let next month, in order to give the company an opportunity to submit esti-mates. A similar request has been made by the Newport News Company. Plans for enlarging the plant of the

New York Shipbuilding Company in Cam den and equipping it so completely that it will be one of the greatest centres for building submarines in this country, have Daniels by Samuel M. Knox, president o

Naval circles were also stirred today by the announcement that Rear Admira Taylor, chief constructor of the navy, has perfected a net which will virtually Insure our dreadnoughts against attacks from submarines. These nets will be fixed to heavy booms, which will extend 15 or 20 feet from the sides of the ships. When the ships are not in danger the nets will be withdrawn. Another important announcement is

that of the perfection of the most modern disappearing gun which will make Amerin submarines among the most formidable affoat. The value of disappearing guns, it is said, has been clearly illustrated in the present war.

LOVER NOT IN SOCIETY: GIRL ENDS HER LIFE

Continued from Page One

was a copy of Hawthorne's "Twice Toll Tales," a book given her by her lover. Also lying open on the floor, not far from his body was Bacon's essay on "Love" and other books treating of matrimony and sentimental subjects. One of the letters said: Dearest Girl:

I am working day and night. Why? For your sake. You-you are the only one I love. Prove your love for me by not constantly worrying. In a letter, written by Miss Baker, she

"I want my gold fountain pen and be-longings given to my aunt, Mary Paul-

Mrs. Paullian, the aunt of the girl, is a resident of Blackwood, and now is spending the summer at Atlantic City. Mrs. Beckley immediately called in Doctor Cook, Coroner's physician, who said the girl had died instantly. This morning William Kraft, county prosecutor of Camden County, conducted an investigation, and it was then that the motive of the suicide became known. It was said by th Baker that her sweetheart, who is a medcal student, did not consider himself or the same social plane with her, and that his love for her was so great that he thought he would injure her position by marrying her. They appeared together at the last Assembly dances at Haddon-

ield, N. J. Miss Baker's mother died when she was a young girl and left her a large sum of money. She had been living with her grandmother for the past few years, because of Mrs. Beckley's ill health.

Another letter in the heap read in part as follows:

as follows: "My dearest and beloved one-It is a "My dearest and beloved one—It is a wonderful struggle that I am facing. I am doing my best to achieve success as well as fame, but the goal of success seems to be far, far away. I firmly believe that life still has a great deal in store for both of us and therefore I am struggling very hard." struggling very hard."

The name of the youn man to whom The name of the youn man to whom Miss Baker was engaged is known to the authorities of Camden County, but they have thus far refused to make it public. According to Prosecutor Kraft, the investigation already has been completed and satisfaction was expressed that there was no motive or cause other than the one given to account for Miss Baker's death.

AMERICAN BARK FORCED TO MASK RAIDER'S ATTACK

Submarine Hides Behind Ship Before Striking Blow at Russian Craft.

LIVERPOOL, July 12. That the American bark Normandy, which was yesterday reported to have been allowed to pass unscathed while a German submarine torpedoed and sangthe Russian steamship Leo, in reality was forced to act as a saield for the German raider preparing to attack the Russian ship was charged by the crew of the Nor-mandy when landed here.

The story is that the Normandy was stopped by a submarine 60 miles south, west of Tusker Rock, off the southern coast of Ireland, Friday night. The captain was called aboard the submaring. where his papers were demanded and found to show that the ship was char-tered by an American firm on January to The captain of the back the The captain of the bark, it was asserted, was allowed to return to the Normandy, but under the threat that his ship mandy, but under the threat that his sup-would be destroyed unless he stood by and obeyed orders. These orders, it was stated, were that he was to act as a stated, were that he was to act as a shield for the submarine, which lay around the side of the bark, hiding Itself

from an approaching vessel.

This vessel proved to be the Russian steamship Lee. Presently the submarine submerged and proceeded around the bow of the Normandy, so the story went, and 0 minutes later the crew of the Nor-nandy saw the Leo blown up. Twenty-five persons were on board, of

from an approaching vessel

Twenty-nve persons were on soard, of whom it were drowned, including three stewardenses. Those saved included the Americans, Walter Emery, of North Car-clina; Harry Clark, of Sierra, and Harry Whitney, of Camden, N. J.

All these three men when interviewed corroborated the above story. They declared that no opportunity was given those on board the Leo for saving life.

The Leo was bound from Philadelphia for Manchester with a general cargo. The captain of the Normandy told the survivors he would have liked to have signaled their danger to them, but that he dared not do so because his uninsured ship would then have been instantly

sunk. The steamer Leo lett Camden June 2 loaded with a general cargo under com-mand of Captain Jerstrom. She was a vessel of 2324 tons and belonged in Helsingfors. She was built in 1903.

The Normandy is a wooden bark of 1998 net tons. She was built by Cark & Curtis at Damariscotta, Me., in 1916. & Curtis at Damariscotta, Me., in 181, She is owned by F. V. L. Jones and har port of registry is Portland, Me. The name of Harry Whitney is not con-tained in the Philadelphia or Camden directories.

Woman Inhales Gas and Dies

Margaret Kustanedinick, 33 years old, committed suicide by turning on the gas in a room on the third floor of her home at 933 North 2d street today. She was removed by the police to the Roosevelt Hospital, where it was said the woman had been dead several hours.

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