

USE OF WARSHIPS AS LINERS PLANNED

Conversion of Scrapped Vessels Expected to Be Left to Naval Experts

THREE NOW BEING BUILT

By the Associated Press
Washington, Dec. 12.—While the forehanded acceptance by Japan of the "five-five-three" naval ratio, cornerstone of the American naval limitation plan, will leave much to be decided, it does not follow, in the opinion of American Conference officials, that the Conference itself will have to pass on all that must be done.

The remaining work on naval matters, it is said, naturally divides itself into two classes. They are decisions involving policy and those merely dealing with details under policies already approved.

The Conference must act on all policy questions. In that group lie the Franco-Italian naval ratio determination, the British desire to reduce the tonnage of each Power in submarines, and possibly to limit the size of future submarines, the suggested modification of the ten-year naval holiday plan to permit some building as necessary for protection of shipbuilding knowledge and skill, and final determination of fleet ratios in airplane carriers.

In the other group, it is expected, will be found such questions as agreements to the methods of scrapping ships slated for destruction, ways and means to control conversion of merchant craft into war vessels in wartime, rules of warfare as applying to new agencies such as submarines, aircraft and poison gas; specific agreement as to fleet ratios in other auxiliary ships beside submarines and airplane carriers.

It is held the Conference could well leave some of those points to expert discussion and final settlement through ordinary diplomatic channels.

A particular point in the latter class is the method to be followed in scrapping capital ships. That necessarily involves such disposition of the vessels as will make them impossible of ready reconversion into warcraft.

Already it has been suggested that three of the six American battle cruisers could be made over into safe, fast passenger liners, a type of merchant-

Educational Expert



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man lacking in the present American commercial fleet. The three ships under consideration have been completed up to the water-line. At that point, naval experts figure, it would be possible to continue construction so as to produce a purely passenger vessel instead of a potential cruiser. Changes would be necessary so that the vessel never could be restored to war purposes, except to the extent that any other commercial ship might be used as an auxiliary for war.

Outside of special hull construction to afford protection against submarines and mines, a warship hull is virtually the same as that of a liner up to the water line.

PUBLIC INDORSES JOINT ARMS CUT

Advisers Report U. S. Sentiment Backs Course Adopted by Conference

Washington, Dec. 12.—Out of the mass of petitions, memorials, resolutions and letters which have expressed the sentiments of more than 6,000,000 Americans to the Armament Conference, no protest has been made against cooperative limitation of armaments, and not a single voice has been raised which puts the interests of the United States ahead of the desire for fairness and consideration in dealing with other nations.

The unanimity with which the American public professes its belief in the limitation of armaments and the confidence of the Conference to effect a limitation is shown in a preliminary analysis of the public thought made by President Harding's Advisory Committee.

The analysis, made public yesterday, is based upon communications from churches, women's clubs, colleges, labor and commercial organizations, municipalities and individuals representing 6,525,140 persons.

The requests have been tabulated as follows:

- Advocates of complete disarmament, 1283
- Advocates of limitation of armament without cooperation of other Powers, 1411
- Advocates of cooperative limitation, guided by benevolence and liberality, 23,846
- Advocates of cooperative limitation with confidence in the judgment of the American delegation, 2,901,410
- Advocates of limitation with caution, 1001
- Against limitation, none

Those who ask divine guidance for the delegates in following a Christian policy, 5,051,620

Those who request that disarmament be made the principal issue, 409,620

Those who request open sessions, 20,645

Those who advocate an association of nations, 28,406

Gwan-to-Bed Stories

By J. P. MEVOY

The Animal Crackers Who Lived in the Soup

ONCE upon a time, dear children, a lot of little animal crackers lived in a bowl of soup. There were lions and tigers and elephants and zebras and bears and opossums and giraffes. (Johnny, get off the piano.) They lived their lives very much as you do. Of course, they thought it rather moist at first, but they got used to it and rather liked it for various reasons.

They were never hungry. Whenever they were hungry they ate soup. And nobody missed it because they would invite some more animals to come and live with them to fill up the space where the soup was. And they never got dry because they had plenty of soup to keep them wet, and they never got wet because they were wet. They were never crowded because all they had to do if there was too much soup was to drink it up, and if there wasn't enough there they could throw an animal or

two out of the bowl and make room. So they were very happy and very contented in their animal-crackerish way, until one day an oyster was dropped into the bowl. Immediately discord and dissension arose in their happy midst. (Dorothy, take the baby out of the oven; mother is trying to bake some biscuits.)

IF THE animal crackers were surprised, then Oliver Oyster, for that was his name, was simply flabbergasted. He had never seen an animal cracker gravo before.

"Gee, you look funny," he said. "Funny yourself," replied the giraffe in a high voice because of the length of its neck.

"If I had a neck like yours," said Oliver Oyster.

"If I didn't have one like you," replied the giraffe.

"Who is raising all the rumpus?" cried the elephant.

"It is this ally little Oliver Oyster," the animals replied.

"I certainly do," said the elephant. "and I am going to do it." With that he wrapped his animal trunk around Oliver Oyster and threw him clear out

of the soup, and to this very day in all the oyster soup you will ever get, as well as in all the other oyster soups you will never get, you will never find an oyster.

And that's the end of the story. Gwan to bed.

William Lee Cushing
Simsbury, Conn., Dec. 12.—William Lee Cushing, seventy-two years old, educator and founder of Westminister School, died at his home here last night.

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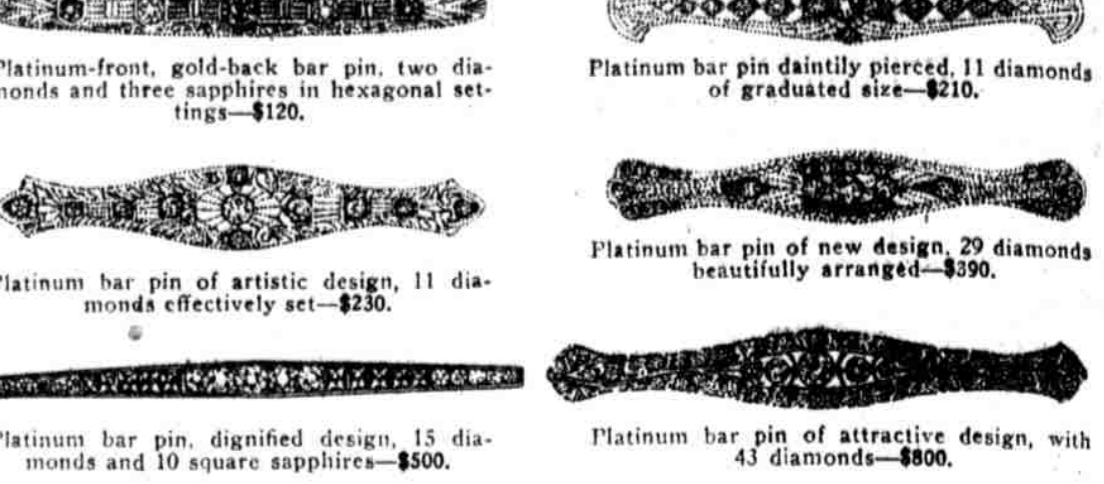
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