

# FRANCE TO DEFEND LARGE ARMY

## Great Britain Endorses U. S. Plan For Three Ships to Japan and Five Each to England and U. S.

### Climax In Armament Conference

By DAVID LAWRENCE  
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Washington, Nov. 20.—A climax has come rather unexpectedly in the armament conference. Japan has sought to gain the principles which she accepted at the London conference, but the Japanese have brought forward a proposal to increase the size of their navy beyond the point laid down in the Hughes program which the Japanese "accepted in principle" last Tuesday.

The matter of the American delegation to such tactics is the outstanding dramatic event of the conference. Secretary Hughes told President Harding and the entire cabinet the situation and was given full approval to go ahead with the plan he had in mind. It is that the American proposals must stand as they are with respect to battleships and battle cruisers and that only by the formula of limitation announced in the Hughes program can competition be stopped.

The American answer is made in firm and unmistakably emphatic terms. The United States delegation does not mean to be drawn into such a discussion of details as will endanger the main principles which have already been accepted by Great Britain and Japan.

**Doubt Dispelled**  
It was inevitable that a divergence of opinion would arise and that an effort should be made to see how strongly impressed the United States delegation was by the American program. The American delegation now has left no room for doubt. As one influential member of the American group expressed it, the competition in big battleships is over and is a thing of the past.

The American program is a very important point on which perhaps the Japanese misunderstanding of the American program is based. Baron Kato put forth the suggestion that Japan "needs" a six-inch gun navy. His point is that Japan's defensive requirements. That's where he made his mistake. The American delegates point out, for the naval program proposed by Mr. Hughes is by no means designed to "keep the peace" in the Pacific. It is designed to meet the real necessities of each nation and an agreement to stop the competition in building naval armaments is senseless.

What Hughes Means  
The American program is the result of the existing ratio of strength but does not add any more ships. An important element of the American program is the limitation on the number of ships. There will be no more than 18 battleships and 12 battle cruisers. The British accepted the American program last week and any deviation would be an unfortunate result.

Meeting a Stone Wall  
Seven days of jockeying in secret conference of the various powers. Some are trying as far as to shake American determination but thus far are meeting a stone wall. Having taken the initiative the American delegation declines to permit the momentum of the conference to be halted by the revision of fundamentals.

The American delegates have many strong arguments in the diplomatic battle. They have themselves offered to scrap any program which would give the Japanese and British an advantage. They are a forward program based upon existing ratios and they know there will be no naval buildup if the relative strength of the three big naval powers is altered.

Old World or New  
Thinking has been the most interesting thing in the clash between old world and new world procedure. The American government brought its program out in the open and compelled the Japanese and British to answer it. This was the American style of diplomacy and it carried with it the immediate production of success and enthusiastic comment from the press of practically the whole world. Next however came the committee meeting in which the Japanese and British made their proposals. The Japanese and British proposals were made in secret. No statements were made publicly through any official statements from the Japanese and British sources to which extent the naval experts of each country are mutually agreed upon. With the beginning of these secret committee sessions there has considerably deepened fears concerning an ultimate agreement. The whole atmosphere has been changed.

Washington, Nov. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) World attention will shift from naval to land armaments when Premier Briand of France speaks tomorrow before the arms conference. His address, provided for at the last plenary session of the conference, is expected to be a very frank statement of the reasons that impel France to maintain the largest army in the world.

The subject to be covered by the French premier's statement is probably the point of most immediate importance to France in the entire conference. In informed circles, it is expected the address will be a defense of French military policy, which the French military hopes will convince that country before the world from any suspicion of aggressive designs on the continent.

**France Desires Discussion.**  
In expressing general adherence of France to the American plan for naval reductions, Mr. Briand said to the conference: "When it comes to the question of land armaments, a question particularly delicate for France as you are all aware, we have no intention to eschew this question. We shall answer your appeal, fully conscious that this is a question of a grave and serious nature for us. The question will be raised—it has been raised and if there is a country that desires that demands that the question of land armaments should be raised, it is France."

It is hoped that I shall be able to state publicly what the position of France is, so that the United States and the world may fully know. And when I have tried to prove this, when you have listened to this demonstration, I am quite sure that you will be convinced that France, after the necessities of safety and life have been adequately secured, harbors no thought whatever of disturbing the peace of the world."

Beyond this forecast of Premier Briand's intended statement, there has been nothing to indicate that the land armament question is to be taken up definitely for settlement in Washington.

**No Prepared Plan.**  
So far as can be learned, no power (Continued on Page Twelve)

Washington, Nov. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) The late Premier Hara of Japan, visited the United States as "the strongest and longest friend of Japan," Rev. K. Tsunetsuna, of Tokyo, said today in an address at the First Congregational church. He quoted Premier Hara as holding it "unthinkable" that this friendship, unique and unparalleled in the fellowship of nations, should be broken.

"Strains may come from misunderstandings that may arise," the Tokyo minister said, "but long before that time we will get the support of the American people. But that the time should ever come when they shall be unable to find solution of their problems—that to my mind is absolutely unthinkable."

of propaganda and publicity has begun. Each delegation calls in the correspondence and explains its point of view but insists that there must be no direct quotation. The delegates virtually answer each other's statements that way through the press and a discussion is continued by indirection which many experienced observers of international conference think might just as well be carried on directly in open meeting. It is too early to say whether the diplomacy of the new world will get the upper hand. This far America has the edge but the secret machinations of old world diplomacy are threatening to break down the results achieved in the first two open sessions.

Looking to America.  
An American official, who has been in London, has been seen by the British press. He is said to have been in London for the purpose of discussing the situation with the British government. He is said to have been in London for the purpose of discussing the situation with the British government. He is said to have been in London for the purpose of discussing the situation with the British government.

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### NO THOUGHT OF DISTURBING THE WORLD'S PEACE

#### NO POWER HAS PLAN FOR LIMITATIONS

##### Premier Briand to Visualize Conditions That Demand Large Land Forces.

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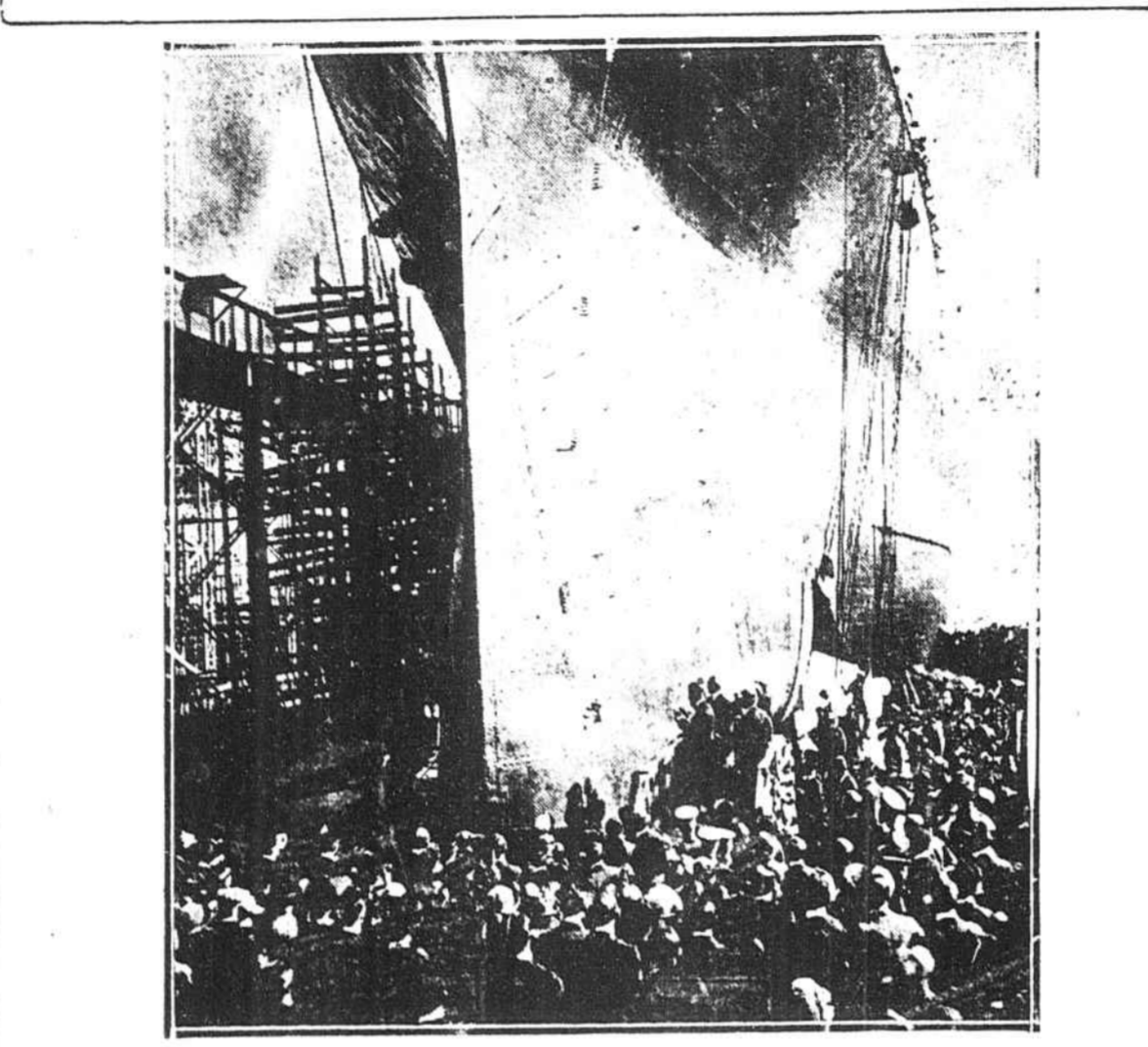
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### Launching The West Virginia



The scene at the moment when Miss Alice Mann, of Washington and Bramwell, W. Va., christened the United States super-dreadnaught West Virginia at the yards of the Newport News Shipbuilding Company last Saturday morning. The West Virginia takes rank as probably the last battleship ever to be launched in this or any other country. This ship is included in the American (Hughes) plan for the construction of warships.

### Held For Murder of Wife, Mother and Man

#### Sensational Triple Crime Near Wilmington, Ohio, With Divorced Husband Accused By His Own Ten-Year-Old Son.

Wilmington, Ohio, Nov. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) A man who claims to be a fur dealer of this city, was being held under a murder charge in the common county jail here today, following a triple murder at Cuba, a village near here, last night.

Those murdered were Bertha Whitlow, Vanderport, aged 27, his adolescent wife and mother of Vanderport's three children; Mrs. Jeff Whitlow, mother of Mrs. Vanderport, and Howard Foster, aged 24, said to have been a caller on Mrs. Vanderport.

Mrs. Whitlow, before dying from her wounds, the police said, accused the fur dealer of committing the murders. The police say she told them Vanderport came to her home while intoxicated and started a quarrel, which ended in the shooting of the three.

Robert Wallace, a farmer living near the Whitlow home, informed the authorities today that Vanderport, while crazed by drink had him held tight. A post mortem examination will be held tomorrow to determine if the same caliber bullets killed the three persons and injured Wallace.

**Denied By Vanderport.**  
Vanderport told the authorities today that he was not responsible for the triple murder, and that he is the victim of circumstances in having been found at the Whitlow home. He claims that while walking in the road in front of the Whitlow home, he heard a commotion and saw in the darkness a figure rush from the door. He said he could not tell whether the figure was that of a man or woman. According to his

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**THE WEATHER**  
Ohio and Western Pennsylvania—Partly cloudy Monday; Tuesday unsettled and colder, probably snow near Lake Erie.  
West Virginia—Fair Monday; unsettled and colder Tuesday.

**Sang the Marseillaise**  
When the press had laid away, a chorus of 100 voices, including the officers, sang the Marseillaise. The song was sung in a grand style, and the audience was much pleased. The song was sung in a grand style, and the audience was much pleased.

**Cheered by Crowd**  
The crowd was much pleased with the performance. The song was sung in a grand style, and the audience was much pleased. The song was sung in a grand style, and the audience was much pleased.

**Americans Decorated**  
The decorations were presented to the officers. The decorations were presented to the officers. The decorations were presented to the officers.

### CONGRESSIONAL ADJOURNMENT NEXT

#### WEDNESDAY DEPENDS ON TAX BILL ACTION

Washington, Nov. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) The congressional adjournment will be held on Wednesday, but with little hope of reaching the agreement as to a time for its adjournment.

Senator Walsh, Democrat, Massachusetts, planned to address the senate on the resolution calling the Michigan seat vacant and Senator Townsend, Republican, of that state, expected to speak in Senator Newberry's defense.

Senator Foraker, chairman of the senate committee on education, has notified congresses and was to appear tomorrow before the committee, which is considering the bill that they could not be heard. Indications are that no discussion will be heard this week.

**Princely Gift to the University of Pitt By the Mellon Brothers**

Pittsburgh, Nov. 20.—A. W. Mellon, secretary of the treasury, and his brother, H. B. Mellon, have given to the University of Pittsburgh a plot of land acquired at a cost of \$1,000,000, it was said by Chancellor John G. Bowman tonight. The property some four acres, lies between the university and Carnegie Institute, in the educational center of the city, and on it will be erected laboratories dedicated to chemistry, mathematics and biology.

The gift supplements a former gift of the Mellons, which some years ago resulted in the opening of the Mellon Institute of Research as a part of the university.

It is the intention of the university, the Bowman said, to make the Institute the world center in scientific teaching and research. The laboratories will be housed in a community of buildings of the finest materials obtainable, with a design of architecture that will make them the most notable in the world. They are to be equipped with the most modern laboratories and apparatus, Mr. Bowman added, to translate into scientific terms the science of human happiness and spiritual strength.

The property acquired for the university was long owned by the late Henry Clay Frick and it was stated that the acquisition of Mr. Frick's estate dropped \$1,000,000 from the price when it became known that it was to be used for the university.

After the afternoon he attended a reception at the West and Navy clubs, where he met officers and ex-officers of the United States military forces, driving to the Plaza Hotel for the night. He was accompanied by the French ambassador, General Gouraud.

**Two Boys Killed in Fire at Y. M. C. A.**

Baltimore, Nov. 20.—J. Kenneth Leonard, 16, and Freeman Leonard, nine years old, sons of Rev. Frederick F. Leonard, executive secretary of the National Army and Navy Board of the Y. M. C. A., were burned to death early this morning in a fire which destroyed the Y. M. C. A. building at the United States Coast Guard station, Curtis Bay, near Baltimore, Md., and Mrs. Leonard narrowly escaped by leaping through a window.

Fire brigades from the station and several companies from the city battled with the flames, while rescuers attempted to reach the boys. Two sailors were slightly burned in their attempts to rescue the brothers, but no one could pass the flames blocking the entrance to the second floor, and the boys perished.

**CRAIG ACCEPTS PREMIER'S BID**

London, Nov. 20.—Sir James Craig, the Ulster premier, has accepted Premier Lloyd George's offer to meet him Wednesday for an informal talk on the Irish question. The meeting will take place in the prime minister's official residence in Downing street.

### THE "BIG THREE" DISCUSS THEIR RELATIVE NAVAL STRENGTH, WITH JAPAN SEEKING HIGHER RATIO

#### EXAMINATION, HOWEVER, MIGHT SHOW 2 TO 1 PREPONDERANCE FOR THE UNITED STATES, IT IS CLAIMED—NEGOTIATIONS OF THE "BIG THREE" CORDIAL.

Washington, Nov. 20.—(By The Associated Press.) The "5-5-3" ratio of naval strength for the United States, Great Britain and Japan advanced by the delegates as a means of perpetuating the present relative standing of the three powers is coming under increasing pressure as the important cards of the big diplomatic game begin to fall.

In the main, proposed modifications seem to center about the contention that the "5-5-3" formula, which is based on tonnage alone, does not properly reflect present proportionate strength when such other elements as speed, cruising radius and armament are considered ship for ship. Thus far there has been every indication that the American group would "stand pat" for its proposal of maintaining the existing ratio, but it is declared the national viewpoints of the other powers as to what constitutes a fair basis of comparison will have due recognition as the negotiations proceed.

The result may be a more thorough review of the exact status of the present naval and the three other powers, which the Japanese hold will show Japan's right to an increase over the "5-5-3" proportion, but which American experts declare will be more likely to establish that Great Britain and the United States each is entitled to almost a 2 to 1 advantage over Japan.

**"Big Three" in Conference.**  
The advisability of such a review is understood to have been discussed yesterday at a conference between Secretary Hughes, Arthur J. Balfour and Admiral Baron Kato respectively heads of the American, British and Japanese delegations, and is expected to receive consideration very soon at a meeting of the international committee of experts appointed to sit details.

By highest authority the Associated Press was assured tonight that the American government stood four square behind its original proposal to regulate limitation by the yardstick of existing strength, and had no intention of making concessions which would mean a more complete review of the existing situation. It is understood, however, so far as details are concerned, and are willing to hear the views of any power which thinks it may have been done an injustice.

**Negotiations Cordial.**  
Despite the divergence of opinion on some features of the American naval plan, there is evidence of a very unbroken conference in the outcome. Yesterday's meeting between Mr. Hughes, Mr. Balfour and Baron Kato was described as essentially cordial, and among those on the "inside" it was declared to have been a very interesting one. The delegates, it is understood, always characterize the opening days of international conferences.

But the Far Eastern questions, which probably will reach a stage of more detailed debate at an executive meeting of the delegates later tomorrow, are regarded as leading themselves less easily to rapid decision. They deal with far less tangible things than guns and ships, and involve such a maze of diplomatic red tape that if an agreement is reached even on the general principles

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**MACHINE GUNS FOR RIOTERS**

Belfast, Nov. 20.—A sharp outbreak of rioting by rival factions in the Salford district of East Belfast occurred today. Detachments of police were hurried to the scene, and machine guns were used against the rioters. There were a number of casualties.

**GAS FIELD OF TREMENDOUS POSSIBILITIES IN LOUISIANA**

New Orleans, Nov. 20.—A natural gas field with tremendous production potentialities has been discovered in northern Louisiana, according to a report made public here today after an investigation by engineers of the United States Bureau of Mines, conducted for a state on request of Governor Parker.

A productive area of 212 square miles, or roughly 135,000 acres in a solid block, located in Union, Ouachita and Morehouse parishes near the city of Monroe, is outlined in the report.

The report estimates that the total amount of gas remaining in the reservoir is forty trillion and seven billion and eight hundred cubic feet, or 32 cubic

miles, calculated at eight ounces above atmosphere, with indications the volume is much greater, as the limits of the field had not been finally determined at the time the investigation was concluded.

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### WORLD FINANCIAL CATASTROPHE FEARED BY THE LONDON TIMES

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