

## NAVY WIPED OUT WITHIN DECADE

View of French Minister of Marine, Who Says Fleet is Dying—Urges Construction for Defence Purposes Only.

Paris, Dec. 21.—By the normal process of use the existing French fleet will have diminished by the year 1933 to three battleships, three cruisers, of which two will have only two more years of life, and two submarines. This statement was made in the Chamber of Deputies by the Minister of Marine, M. Rabier, in a discussion of the navy budget.

"France's fleet is dying," he said, "and the country ought to know it. So ought also those foreign countries which accuse us of imperialism. Yet we must have a fleet to defend our very existence."

The Minister told the Chamber that since 1914 France, which was supposed to be so imperialistic and so over-armed, had constructed only one destroyer and one submarine, while Great Britain had built 19 capital ships, 37 cruisers, 347 destroyers and 134 submarines, and the United States had constructed 35 capital ships, 7 cruisers, 320 destroyers and 123 submarines. Since 1914 the French fleet, he said, diminished by 110,000 tons, while its efficiency had decreased by more than half owing to the age of the vessels still in commission.

Next year, he continued, the Government would present to the Chamber a construction programme "well within the limits set by the Washington accords," but this construction programme would be one simply of defence. France would arm against no one. All she wished to do, all she was able to do even if she wished to do more, was to arm for the defence of her own House.

Twelve submarines, he said, were in the course of construction and he was asking for nine more. Of the 46 submarines which France possessed 21 would be useless by 1923, and those which were building and would be built, were designed only to take their place.

In the personnel of the fleet and the naval yards there had been a reduction which had saved 80,000,000 francs to the country, and he was pleading before the House a bill for reducing the fleet by 180 officers, which would bring a new economy of 3,000,000 francs. When these projects were voted, the minister said, France would be the only country among the Allies to have a smaller naval payroll than in 1914.

The Bessy Collegiate School closed for the Christmas holidays on Tuesday and the students, with the exception of those residing in distant places, have all left for their homes.

## Free! Free! Free!

- 1st---Ten Dollars in Gold
- 2nd---A Turkey
- 3rd---A Goose
- 4th---A Decorated Xmas Tree

Guess the number of buttons in the jar in our window.  
(Contest closes Saturday morning 10.30.)

SPECIAL FOR XMAS WEEK ONLY

## FURS! FURS!

Fur Muffs—Values up to \$17.50  
Xmas price \$2.98

Fur Stoles—Values up to \$22.00  
Xmas price \$3.98

**N. B. OVERALL CO'S STORE**  
291 Prince Edward Street

## DR. MOELLER, 80, FELLED BY ROBBER

Heart Specialist Blackjacked by a Young Man in His Office.

New York, Dec. 21.—Dr. Henry Moeller, 80 years old, a specialist in kidney and heart disease, was blackjacked and robbed in his office at 841 West Fifty-seventh street, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, by a well-dressed young man who had lingered in the waiting room for an hour, saying that he was waiting for a patient of the physician.

Dr. Moeller answered the bell himself upon the arrival of the young man. The visitor explained that he was not sick, but that he had promised to meet a friend who was going to call a little later for medical advice. The young man was tall, clean-shaven and neatly dressed in black clothes. He made a favorable impression on the physician, who ushered him into the waiting room. Dr. Moeller in his larger office proceeded to treat another patient. A few minutes later his wife and two daughters came home after a walk with Robert, an Albrecht terrier that is said to be a cousin of President Harding's Laddie Boy. They caught a glimpse of the good-looking young man reading a magazine in the waiting room.

About 8.15 the patient who had been in the inner office left. Dr. Moeller was then alone with the young man. The physician walked into the waiting room. His visitor told him that his friend had not arrived, but that he ought to be there soon. Dr. Moeller returned to his office.

The young man in the outer office waited fifteen minutes more before making a move. Then, at 8.30, he entered the office of the physician and said: "I don't know what's kept him, but I won't wait any longer."

The aged physician nodded. There was a small pile of papers on the desk in front of him. The young man acted as if the sight of these notes had given him a new idea. "And I'll take that with me when I go," he added, drawing a blunt instrument, apparently a blackjack, from his back pocket. In spite of his years the physician refused to be intimidated. He seized the money in his right hand and faced the visitor. The he had with the blackjack went up and came down again and again. Blow after blow fell on the face and skull of the physician. He fell over unconscious on his desk, and the visitor ran out with the money. The sound of high words, the blow, and the falling body sounded through the house. The physician's daughter Anita was in the kitchen on the floor below the office. His wife Pauline was on the second floor, which is just over the office, and his daughter Mary was on the third floor.

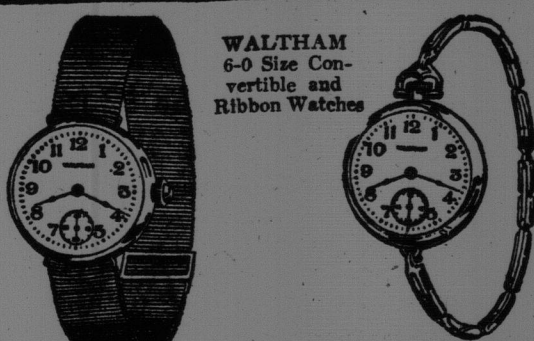
Wife and Daughters Run In.

They hurried toward the office at the disturbance and all three arrived on the main floor just as the front door was slammed by the robber. They rushed into the office where the aged man was found unconscious.

One of the daughters ran out and returned in a few minutes with Dr. Valmer, S.M. of 363 West Fifty-seventh street, who treated the injured man and put him to bed. It was feared at first that the skull had been fractured, but a careful examination indicated that the old man was suffering from lacerations only. He recovered consciousness and it was said that he would recover.

When his condition seemed much improved he was allowed to tell how the visitor had maneuvered to be alone with the physician. The name which he had given was turned over to the detectives because it was thought possible that he might be true and that the young man entered the office on a genuine errand, but turned into criminal when he saw the money and concluded that he had an easy opportunity to acquire it.

## THE SCIENTIFICALLY BUILT WATCH



No. 5417G-15 Jewel Movement  
14 K case, silk ribbon \$49.00  
No. 5017G-15 Jewel Movement  
Gold-filled case, silk ribbon \$45.00

No. 5417DE-15 Jewel Movement  
14 K case and bracelet \$60.00  
No. 5017DE-15 Jewel Movement  
Gold-filled case and bracelet \$45.00

Also made in 8-0 size, slightly larger than the 6-0 size, \$28.00.

Also made in 8-0 size, slightly larger than the 6-0 size, \$28.00.

TWO interesting ladies' watches—alike, yet not alike. The same famous Waltham movement inside—but dressed in different styles.

The one is ribboned in pure black silk (changed at the slightest of cost)—the other a bracelet watch, convertible according to the wearer's mood or the "dress" occasion. Because of the disappearing "eye" in the case, you can wear it around the wrist or as a chateau watch or on a chain.

These jeweled, fashionable Waltham Watches will keep time for a life-time. Whichever one you prefer. They are sold by first class jewelers. Ask your jeweler to show them to you. He knows what fine watches they are.

Write for a valuable booklet that is a liberal "Watch" education. Sent free on request. The Waltham Watch Co., Limited, Montreal, Canada.

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THE WORLD'S WATCH OVER TIME  
A CANADIAN INDUSTRY  
Makers of the famous Waltham timepieces used on the world's leading cars  
GIFTS THAT LAST

The Above Watches Can be Obtained Through

## Ferguson & Page

JEWELERS - 41 KING ST.

## BRAVERY AT SEA IS RECOGNIZED

Naval Officer Given Lloyd's Gold Medal for Saving Life.

London, Nov. 23.—(By Mail).—A story of gallantry at sea was related at Lloyd's yesterday, when Captain R. G. R. Evans, R.N., was presented with Lloyd's Gold Medal for Saving Life.

Mr. A. L. Sturge (chairman of Lloyd's), before presenting the medal, said that on the night of March 8, 1921, the S.S. Hong Kong, carrying 1,200 Chinese coolies, struck on the rocks northeast of Hong Kong. Captain Evans, who was in command of H. M. S. Cavendish, received a wireless message urging him to proceed at all speeds to the rescue. Proceeding at eight knots, he arrived at the rocks where the wreck had taken place. The sea was rough, and the weather extremely bad, but a boat was immediately launched, and Captain Evans himself took charge. It was found impossible to get the boat alongside the wreck. Only a powerful swimmer could make headway, and when he reached the wreck there was the danger of being dashed to pieces against it. Eventually Captain Evans got on deck and made fast the line, and the survivors were hauled on board the boat.

Later, while the boat was crowded with refugees, it was discovered that a rope had fouled the propeller, and there was great danger that the boat would be swamped. Captain Evans dived overboard and, after hard work, the propeller was released and the motor-boat succeeded in reaching H. M. S. Cavendish. "They succeeded in saving every living man from the wreck," added Mr. Sturge, amidst a storm of cheering. Captain Evans received a great ovation as he stepped forward to receive the medal.

## HELD CHRISTMAS TREAT ON LINER

Officers and Crew of C. P. S. Montclare Have Celebration—Members of Port Staff Also Entertained.

The officers and crew of the C. P. S. Montclare held their Christmas feast last night on board the ship at the west side docks. The Montclare will be at sea on Christmas and it was decided to hold this celebration while in port. Later the members of the C. P. S. port staff were entertained. A ball room was fitted up by partitioning off part of the deck and this was kept warm by the hot air system. Decorations of English holly and mistletoe, specially brought here for the occasion, were lavishly used and a Christmas-like atmosphere was produced. There were about 200 at the crew banquet and about seventy at the banquet held by the captain for the officers and petty officers. Toasts were drunk to the King, Captain Latta, the ladies, the C. P. S. company, the ship, Chief Engineer Black and the steward and catering staff. Among the visitors from the company were Commander G. R. Elliot, general superintendent; William Webber, general agent; G. Bruce Burpee, district passenger agent, and Captain W. J. McGiffin, marine superintendent. The Montclare will sail tomorrow, arriving in England on December 28, and will return here about the middle of January.

Only one-half of the wage earners of the United States work more than 48 hours a week.

The amount of toys brought into U. S. last year totaled \$7,107,408.

presently to be conferred upon four others, Bishop Tuttle, Bishop Anderson, Bishop Sumner and Bishop Dargatzis.

The investiture took place at the Cathedral in the presence of clergy of the Episcopal and Greek Churches and a number of interested people. The casket cross contains a fragment of the True Cross which, tradition says, was discovered by Helena, mother of Constantine the Great. The Patriarch conferred the Order upon Bishop Manning in recognition of his efforts for many years past in the cause of church unity.

The finance committee of the Municipal Council met yesterday afternoon and recommended an increase in the bond issue for the recent work done on the hospital by an amount of \$1,100. The extra expenditure involved arose from the fact that greater excavations had to be made than expected. The estimate was exceeded and the contractor went on with the work. There was considerable discussion on the matter yesterday. A delegation from the Hospital Commissioners headed by M. E. Apré was present during the discussion. Transfer of an account for some \$700 from the Lancaster sewerage and maintenance charge to a bond issue was recommended. Councillor Wigmore presided.

## Xmas Specials

- Electric Irons ..... \$4.75
- Immersion Heaters .. \$2.75
- Curlers ..... \$5.00
- Portables ..... \$5.00

ELECTRICALLY AT YOUR SERVICE  
**THE WEBB ELECTRIC CO.**  
ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS 91 GERMAIN ST.  
Phone M. 2123

Roman politicians before election time used to bathe with the people in public bath houses.

Adam Thompson, of Cincinnati, owned the first bath tub in the United States.

## MAHONY'S Last Minute Suggestions

WHAT TO GIVE A LADY	SPECIALS	WHAT TO GIVE A GENTLEMAN
Anything in Ivory is Acceptable	Palmolive Soap 2 Cakes 13c.	A Pair of Ivory Military Brushes
Brushes, Mirrors, Combs, Ivory Toilet or Manicure Sets, Novelties, etc.	Eno's Salts 89c.	Shaving Sets from \$2 to \$12
Waterman's Fountain Pens, \$2.50 to \$6.00	Cuticura Soap 23c.	Thermos Bottles \$1.75 to \$4.50 Lunch Kits, \$3.75
A Nice Bottle of French Perfume or Toilet Water	Nujol \$1.75 size \$1.43 90c. size 69c.	Box of Cigars 10 in box, \$1, \$1.10, \$1.20 25 in box, \$2.25 up.
A Fancy Box of Moir's, Neilson's, Metcalf's or Foss Chocolates 45c. to \$4.50	Pepsodent Tooth Paste 39c.	Safety Razors \$1.25 Gema, 79c. \$1.25 Eveready, 79c. \$5.00 Auto Strop, \$4.37. Ivory Durham Duplex, 98c. Shaving Brushes 35c. to \$3.50 Razor Strops, 50c. to \$3.50
Piver's Perfumes ... \$2.39	Djerikis Talcum 27c. Face Powder 69c.	
Piver's Toilet Waters \$2.39	Fresh Salted Peanuts 29c. lb.	

## J. BENSON MAHONY, Pharmacist

2 STORES:  
Cor. Union and Coburg      Cor. Union and Dock  
Formerly Padock's.

## Extra! Extra! Extra!

A SPECIAL OF SPECIALS  
**\$4.98**

For Actual Eight Dollars and Fifty Cents Waists.



## Huge Sale of Superb Georgette Blouses \$4.98

Right on the eve of Xmas here is a most amazing sale which outdoes all other sensational bargains of this season. These exquisite blouses would make gifts not easily forgotten. Every one well worth double the price. A brilliant collection in bewildering profusion. The Georgette is a rich thick crepe quality, the best made, but the styles—soft, graceful, lacey effects, lavish embroiderings, silver beads, gold effects and lovely contrasting colors. Some are beaded over the entire blouse, others have elaborately embroidered crepe de chene panels; rich color alliances, sand with gold, jade with white beads, navy with silver beads, brown with gold, black with jet beads, white, flesh, sand, navy, brown, black. They all must go tomorrow—only Four Dollars and Ninety-eight Cents.

## Your Last Opportunity Our Great Anniversary Sale

Closes Saturday  
Avoid the rush. Shop in the morning if possible. The above offerings will crowd our store.

81 King Street      **D'allaird**      81 King Street

## Buy Your Gifts at EVERETT'S 27-29 Charlotte St.

**LADIES' FUR COATS**  
Hudson Seal, Persian Lamb, Raccoon and Muskrat. A large variety to choose from.  
A Special Line of Muskrat Coats at \$190.00.

**LADIES' SCARFS AND STOLE**  
Hudson Seal, Raccoon and Ring tail Opossum at reasonable prices.  
A special line of Animal Ties for School Girls at a great reduction.

**MEN'S RACCOON COATS**  
GLOVES  
Fur lined gloves in Mocha or colored Kid... \$5.00  
Genuine Buck Gloves \$5.00  
Mocha or colored Kid, and lined ..... \$2.00  
Unlined Mocha or colored Kid ..... \$1.25  
Men's Wool Gloves 50c, \$2.50  
Boys' Wool Gloves 50c, \$1

**A Large Range of Velour Hats for Men**  
All the Fashionable Colors  
\$3.50 to \$8.50

We carry the largest range of Men's and Boys' Caps.  
**Prices, 75c. to \$2.00**  
With or without inside band.

Wool Seta, Scarfs and Toques. Our prices on these lines are very low.

OPENED ALL THIS WEEK AT NIGHTS

## The Universal Gift

One of those lovely packages of Chocolates designed especially for the Christmas trade by Moir's, Page & Shaw, Foss, Canon's, Lowney's, Merritt's—a large variety to choose from.

**W. Hawker & Sons, Ltd.**  
104 Prince William Street