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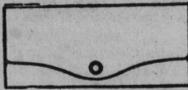
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## BRITISH PEOPLE ARE NOT SAYING MUCH BUT ARE THINKING A LOT

Wilson's Failure to Give Britain's Navy Credit for Work During the War—His Reference to U. S. Casualties Being Due to Sinking of British Transport and U. S. Announcement of Naval Program Have Created a Lot of Comment.

By Arthur S. Draper.  
(Special Cable to The N. Y. Tribune and The St. John Standard.)

London, Dec. 10.—The Tribune's editorial on Winston Churchill's speech which demanded the maintenance of Britain's naval supremacy is featured on the front pages of the newspapers and comes as a timely re-assertion to the minds of the large proportion of the population. Although there is a friendly conspiracy of reticence among members of America's best friends here, some are somewhat perturbed over the recent naval developments of the United States. Two things have largely contributed to this. First, Wilson's address to Congress, as called here, contained 29 words of reference to the British navy, which were taken up wholly with allusion to the fact that 630 of the 758 American naval casualties have occurred on account of the sinking of a British transport off the Orinoco. People here are naturally proud of the navy's war achievements and expected some acknowledgment of the part it played in carrying the American army to Europe, but found no word of it. On top of this announcement arrived the news of America's program of naval extension, with the splendor that America's naval power would soon equal Great Britain's and that the peace conditions will not affect this program. In order to appreciate the attitude of the mind of the ordinary British citizen towards this announcement, it is necessary to realize that during the past 200 years Britain cheerfully paid the high price of the

upkeep of the supremacy of her navy without assistance until recently even she believed the sole guardian of the island's integrity, although public sentiment always opposed its use as a weapon of aggression. The immediate effect of the new American naval program was to recall to the minds of all that Germany's plans for world domination—which only the British navy prevented—began twenty years ago with what seemed to be an enormous construction of battleships. Many Englishmen strongly believed that if Britain had taken a decisive stand then and insisted that Germany cease building ten years ago, the report war might have been prevented. Believing this, they are genuinely sorry that America appears to be about to enter a race for naval supremacy. It can safely be said that what ever happens elsewhere, Great Britain will maintain her naval strength to the last penny she possesses, because she regards it as essential to safeguard her existence, which cannot be placed at the mercy of any international arrangement. Although the country is ready to agree to any concerted diminution of building which will leave the present standard of supremacy untouched or even lend her ships as a police force to the League of Nations, if any country but America desisted the latter's program, it would be regarded as a menace to Great Britain equal to that of Germany in the years past. The whole country desires the race for naval supremacy ended and, therefore, it is unfortunate at this juncture that statements like some of those called in the past week should be issued.

## OBITUARY

Many friends will learn with regret of the sudden death, at her home, on November 29th, of Mrs. Annie Sterritt, wife of James A. Sterritt, of Hamilton Mountain, Queens County. Although not enjoying the best of health for some time, she was always able to attend to her household duties. Mrs. Sterritt rose on Thursday morning seemingly in her usual health, but was soon after stricken with an attack of heart failure from which she did not rally, remaining unconscious until she passed away about two hours later. Having a kindly disposition she made many friends, and was always willing to nurse the sick and to do what she could for those in trouble. She was twice married—her first husband being the late Abner M. Bramen of Kars, Kings Co. Mrs. Sterritt, who was sixty-seven years of age, was a daughter of the late Alfred G. and Susan Yawwatt, and leaves to mourn, besides her husband, three brothers and four sisters. Funeral was held on Saturday. Services were conducted by Rev. Mr. Whiteside, and interment was made in the Sterritt burying ground, Hamilton Mountain.

The death of Daniel Culligan occurred at his home, Culligan, N. B., after a lengthy illness which was borne with true Christian resignation to the Divine Will. The deceased was in his 78th year and was one of the most respected and oldest citizens of the North Shore and the last member of the old Culligan family. He was a retired employe of the C. G. R., retiring from service fourteen years ago. He leaves to mourn his wife, who was formerly Miss Mary A. Fitzpatrick of Chatham, three sons, Stanley of Jacques River, Lieutenant H. J. overseas, Daniel at home, also five daughters, Mrs. J. S. Byron, St. John, Misses Mabel and Clara, graduate nurses of St. Catherine's Hospital, Brooklyn, N. Y., who cared for him during his illness, Annie and Sue, at home.

The funeral took place Saturday, Dec. 7th, at the home of St. John Evangelist, Bellefleur, and was largely attended. Requiem high mass was celebrated by the pastor, Rev. Van de Mortel. The officiating were D. A. Stewart, Fredericton; P. J. Doyle, P. S. Salter, J. Culligan, J. Lawler and J. McGovern.

J. J. Rodgers. The community of Barnesville, Kings County, were greatly shocked when they learned of the death of one of their highly respected residents, John James Rodgers, on October 18th, 1918, at the age of sixty years. Mr. Rodgers suffered for some time with cancer and although his death was not unexpected it was regretted by all. Mr. Rodgers was for many years a member of the Orange Lodge. He is survived by his wife and five sons, Joseph, William, Robert, and Thomas, at home, and Samuel of Hammond, and four sisters, three in New London, Conn., and one a resident of Barnesville.

The funeral service was conducted by Rev. Mr. McLaren and interment took place in the Church of England burying ground. A very sad feature of his death was that his youngest son, George, aged thirteen, was shot two days before Mr. Rodgers' death and was conveyed to the General Public Hospital, St. John. The wound proved fatal and he died three weeks later, November 6th, 1918. Thomas R. Kingston.

The death of Thomas R. Kingston occurred early yesterday morning in the East St. John County Hospital after a lingering illness. Mr. Kingston was well known and his death will be learned with regret. He was thirty years of age and prior to taking ill was employed as chief engineer on H. M. S. Acadia. Besides his wife he leaves his father, Donald Kingston, of this city; one brother, William, overseas, a member of the 26th Battalion, and two sisters, Annie in Yarmouth, N. S., and Ellen in St. John. The funeral will take place on Thursday.

Philip Garrick. Many friends in this city will learn with regret of the death of Philip Garrick, a son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Philip Garrick of St. John. He died in Fawcett, E. I. He was

about forty years old and leaves his wife and daughter, two brothers and four sisters. The brothers are James and John of this city, and the sisters Mrs. Chisholm, Mrs. J. Dawson, Mrs. William Davis and Mrs. T. Brown. The body will be interred in Rhode Island.

Mrs. Phoebe A. Dykeman. Mrs. Phoebe A. Dykeman, of St. John, died on Monday in Boston, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Celesta J. Traffon. Besides her daughter, Mrs. Dykeman is survived by three sons, Frederick A. and H. W., in St. John, and W. H. at Sydney, N. S. The remains will be brought from Boston and will be interred at Tusville on Monday next.

George Scammell. George Scammell of Bay Shore died Monday evening at his residence. He was a native of Southampton, England. Mr. Scammell was forty-four years of age and was employed as a longshoreman. He leaves three children. The funeral will take place this afternoon.

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