

# MAJ. ROLPH DUFF IS TAKEN BY DEATH

Well Known in Birmingham Through Connection With Public Utilities Commission

Major Rolph Duff, well known in state political circles as dead today following a sudden illness at Harrisville Monday.

As a member of the public utilities commission, Maj. Duff was well acquainted in Birmingham, having visited this neighborhood in various capacities for the commission. He was appointed to the post by former Gov. Alex J. Gray when, at one time, he was executive secretary. He was also secretary for former Gov. Albert E. Steiner.

Maj. Duff was a Congressional minister in Armada when he first came into state notice politically in 1916. He had been interested in local politics in St. Clair and Macomb counties prior to that time but in that year he went into the primary campaign opposing State Senator Logan A. Holme. He was defeated.

When Gov. Steiner took office he named Maj. Duff as his secretary Jan. 2, 1917. The appointment came as a distinct surprise since the Armada minister had not been mentioned in connection with the appointment, for which there were many candidates. When Gov. Groves took office in 1921, he continued Maj. Duff in the executive secretary role and May 15, 1922, Groves made him a member of the public utilities commission. Although his term expired last May 15, he served until his successor was appointed last week.

## INDEPENDENTS IN 8-4 VICTORY

The Birmingham Independents defeated West Point at Edgington Sunday afternoon in a fast ball game by a score of 8 to 4. Steady pitching by McAlbrae, who was well supported by Lester, who caught, and his other team mates, enabled the Birmingham team to hold the Franklins to 4 runs.

The Independents play the Crane company team of Detroit Sunday at 3 p. m. at the Franklin field.

Cornelius Deasy of Los Angeles whipped his wife because she hid his "ask me another" book after he had amused her with questions; then she got a divorce.

52 Issues of The Eccentric \$1.50

# What's What In Washington

NEW NAVAL PARLEY VIEWED IN CAPITAL AS NOT HOPEFUL

By CHARLES P. STEWART

Exclusive Central Press Dispatch

WASHINGTON, June 29.—The Geneva naval limitations conference is spoken of in Washington as a good deal of a joke.

When the joke's on it's agreed to be seen. The "limitations conference" of 1921-2 is regarded in navy circles as having been a joke, distinctly on the United States.

This time the joke's all are so much on the alert that it's considered doubtful if the negotiations will end in anything more than a good laugh all around, without any particular victim—unless somebody's foolish enough to be disappointed when the whole thing ends in empty talk, in which case the cachuchin will be at his expense.

As a result of her war activities, it will be recalled that America had the world's strongest navy either built or building, when the 1921-2 conference began.

The other powers, and notably England, the long-time mistress of the seas, looked forward to seeing the massive backbone of submarines. Hard up as they were, from the world conflict, they knew they didn't stand a ghost of a show of keeping up any such lick as this country.

Their astonishment, the United States proposed that surrender this advantage—if it's an advantage to have the strongest navy.

Our offer was to cut down our navy to the size of England's, if England would agree to the same limitations.

A dicker like this was framed up: Our navy was to be based on a ratio of 2 and England's was to be based on the same ratio figure, as compared with 3 for Japan and 1.67 each for France and Italy.

In short, America stood ready to send thousands and thousands of tons of the finest, almost completed ships adrift to Day Jones' locker, in order not to be too much stronger at sea than the others.

Great! Will a cat eat cream? Of course they accepted.

You might have thought this would satisfy 'em.

But no. They slipped into the

herself in the position of the latter individual. It's doubtful if our navy, all told, is as strong as Japan's today, and it's a cinch that it's nothing like as strong as England's.

So now, instead of proposing to cut our navy down to the other powers' size, we're asking the others to cut theirs down to our size.

On this occasion they're not so enthusiastic. It's true that we have got one ace in the hole. We still have more money than the others have.

We've begun building 10,000-ton cruisers our own-eyes. We shall have to do a great many millions of dollars' worth of building and it will take us several years, but as a last resort we can do it.

A 10,000-ton cruiser isn't a match for a 30,000-ton battleship, but it's plenty good enough if the other has just sunk his 20,000-ton battleship.

The United States now find

The question the others are asking themselves, however, is: Will we?

There doesn't seem to be much prospect that they'll lose their nerve until they're sure we will. It will be time enough then for them to consider doing something about it.

LEGAL NOTICES

STATE OF MICHIGAN, In the Probate Court for the County of Oakland.

At a session of said Court, held at the Probate Office, in the City of Pontiac, Michigan, on the 24th day of June, A. D. 1917.

Present: Hon. Ross Stockwell, Judge of Probate.

Kate H. Cook and Arthur W. Ladd, executor of and estate, his or their sole and true legal heirs and assigns, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a correct and true statement of the assets

of said estate, and the discharge of said executor.

It is Ordered, that the 25th day of June, A. D. 1917, at nine o'clock in the forenoon, Eastern Standard Time, at said Probate Office, be and is hereby appointed for hearing and petition.

That further orders, that public notices thereof be given by publication of copies of this order for three successive weeks previous to said day of hearing, in the Birmingham Eccentric, a newspaper printed and circulated in said County.

ROSS STOCKWELL, Judge of Probate.

WILLIAM BRICK, Deputy Public Register.

Attest: My hand and official seal of said County, this 27th day of June, 1917.

Few of us fully realize the perils which have always beset pedestrians, even before the day of automobiles. The Vicksburg Daily Herald of August 12, 1895, predicted the calamity of "throwing of

shop in the streets from windows on the street who "contents of a bucket of the misfortune of a lady walking unit for future wear.

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