Hoover Urges Navy Aid Diplomacy

By EDWARD PRICE BELL

On Board U. S. S. Utah, En Route to Hampton Roads, Va., Dec. 27.—Why not conscientiously make the United States navy an arm of American liplomacy?

This query opened a brief article wrote (by request of the editor) for he ship's paper, "The Big U." Subequently at a Christmas dinner given by Capt. C. R. Train in honor of Presdent-Elect and Mrs. Herbert C. Hoover and their party, two of the chief speakers, Mr. Hoover and John Griffith Mott, expressed views completely harmonious with the suggestion. It would not be not the least surprising, therefore, if our laval forces were seen more regularly in oreign ports during the Hoover administration than they never have been not the past.

My article continued:

"Personally I dearly believe in this xtension of sea power. Existing primarily, of course, for purposes of war, the navy none the less can reenforce the influences of peace. Already, no doubt, especially in the persons of certain able and magnetic naval officers, the navy has done diplomatic work of great importance. But cannot more be done? cannot naval diplomacy be made to operate more systematically?

"Mr. Hoover is nearing the end of what I believe will be a journey of

outstanding consequence in the annals of the larger accomplishments of the United States government. He has labored with an industry equaled only by his sincerity and magnanimity of aim. His feet will rest on the path he has chosen.

"And the navy has worked with him. It has borne him with dignity and comfort over thousands of miles of seas. Its traditions and might, in my judgment, have been invaluable in the prosecution of his great enterprise. Is not this sea power and war power capable of acting

beneficently in spheres of diplomacy and peace?

"Our naval men are educated men. They are men of moral worth and of manners. They command magnificent ships and splendid personnel. They know a lot about work and should know more.

"I would see them carrying the stars and stripes into the harbors of other nations, big and little, and using their disciplinary efficiency and culture in spreading acquaintance with the United States of North America and its ideas of democracy in politics and social equality and that doctrine of industry and trade which sets a common value upon the prosperity of every country on the globe."

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