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DANIELS CALLS SOCIAL EVIL PERIL TO NATION'S POWER

A Chicago, Ill., dispatch says: Dealing frankly and boldly with the social evil as a menace to the nation's military efficiency, Mr. Daniels, secretary of the navy, in an address here before the Clinical Congress of Surgeons of North America, appealed to the medical profession "to end the false double standard that decreases military effectiveness." The profession, he declared, must share its part of the blame for the "unpardonable prudery that endured an evil rather than have it exposed and eradicated."

"There is not an army in the field whose effectiveness is not reduced by reason of social disease," said Secretary Daniels. "The navy suffers likewise, and business halts because these diseases destroy the manhood of workmen and fighters. During the last statistical year men of the American navy lost 141,378 days' sickness from a small group of absolutely preventable diseases. This means that every day throughout the year there were 456 men disabled. Add to that number those required to care for the disabled and we have enough men on the non-effective list each day to man a modern battleship.

Ravages in Civil Life, Too.

"In the navy in 1915 there were admitted for treatment for these diseases 112 persons in every 1,000, and in the army 84 for every 1,000, the number in the army having decreased from 145 to the 1,000 after the passage of an act stopping the pay of all soldiers admitted for treatment for such disease. The new navy law stops the pay of men so affected, and will probably reduce the ratio. These figures show a condition upon the part of the minority in both arms of the service that challenges the thought of the authorities.

"In civil life the number afflicted is quite as large proportionately as in the military service. It has been printed that Hecht, of Vienna, stated that at one time the equivalent of three entire Austrian divisions of 60,000 men was under treatment for social disease, while the German army in Belgium, representing only a small part of the total German forces, is reported during the first five months of its occupation to have furnished 35,000 such patients. Canadian and Australian officers have deplored the ravages of this disease. The late figures from the British army gave 78,000 cases, and all other countries have also been weakened.

"Menace in War and Peace."

"Sir William Osler places these infectious diseases at the top as a menace in war and peace. The time has come to realize that this subtlest foe of humanity must be conquered, and it can not be conquered by denying its existence, saying it is a necessary evil or applying palliatives. It is deadlier than smallpox or tuberculosis. A Canadian authority says: 'Its ravages today are more terrible for Britain and Canada than Vimy Ridge, the Somme and Lens.'

"The remedy, there is but one—continence. It must be preached in the home, in the school, in the marts of trade, in the pulpit and military camps and among shipmates afloat. The eradication of the evil effects must be thorough, but the teacher who will be heard and heeded when the teachings of all others will fall on deaf ears is the word of authority from the medical profession.

"You, gentlemen, of the medical profession, deal with life and death. You bring the bodies into the world and you close the eyes of the dead.

Yours is the ministering function, the intimate touch, and out of such relation you can enjoy an amazing power of suggestion. It is this power that America calls upon you to use. Tell our youths the truth. It is a duty laid upon you, not by the moral law alone but by the law of self-preservation that operates in nations as well as individuals. That duty is active upon you now as never before.

Truth Must Drive Out Lie.

"Continence is no longer a matter of morals only, though it must be enforced as the cardinal doctrine of morals. It has come to be seen as having its base in the great law of nature. New truths must take the place of ancient lies. We know now by the testimony of science that there is no foundation for a double standard for the sexes. To preach it is to preach immorality and a lowering of manhood.

"Only God will ever know the toll in blood and tears that this lie has taken from the heart of the world—the price that the health of the race has been made to pay for its submission to a historic falsehood. Young lives ruined, futures cheated of promise, children called upon to suffer for the sins of the fathers, innocent women robbed of the right to happy motherhood and the virility of a nation sapped at its very foundations.

"Today as never before American manhood must be clean. We must have fitness. America stands in need of every ounce of strength. We must cut out the cancer if we would live."

BAKER PLEADS FOR PROTECTION

A dispatch, dated Boston, Oct. 25, says: Unless a net work of protection is spread around the soldiers in communities adjoining the war camps, the whole moral life of this nation will be lowered and there will be a wide extension of social diseases, said Secretary Baker in an address today, before the Boston campaign committee of the war camp community recreation fund, which is shortly to start a drive for \$200,000 of New England's quota of \$700,000 for the war fund.

"Every now and then we hear," said Secretary Baker—"I don't know

anything about the truth of it—that our adversary in this war has been sending germs around to inoculate the people with disease, and using that as a means of warfare.

"But we may do it if we are not careful. If we take a million young men out of their homes and simply throw them together haphazard and give them no consideration, leaving them to find their way in these untried problems, and then when this war is over, scatter these young men over the country, with all the things they have learned and ought not to have learned, we shall have lowered the level of the moral life of this nation in a way that we can not afford to do."

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Wear Overland American Shoes They last twice as long as all-leather, rubber or wood-grained boots and shoes. Water-Proof, Rust-Proof, Rot-Proof Best leather uppers. Thick felt linings. No metal touches yet. Warm, comfortable, easy-to-walk in. Keep feet in good condition and prevent chafing. Best by test for all work in any weather. MONEY BACK if shoes do not meet with your approval. Write for FREE catalog which shows styles, gives prices and tells how to order. A postal brings it. OVERLAND SHOE CO., Dept. 79 B, Racine, Wis.

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