

DANIELS DEFENDS POLICY IN AWARDCING DECORATIONS

Made Formal Answer to Criticism by Rear Admiral Sims, Before the Senate Sub-Committee Investigating the Awards—Showed Considerable Feeling Over Sims' Statement That the American Navy "Did No Fighting During the War"—Asserted That Sims Advocated High Awards For Officers on Staff Duty Ashore Because "Most of Admiral Sims' Duty in the Navy Has Been on Shore"—Intimated That Sims Omitted Admiral Wilson's Name From List of Officers Recommended Because of Personal Differences.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Secretary Daniels made formal answer today to criticism by Rear Admiral William S. Sims and others of the policy followed in awarding decorations. Appearing before the senate subcommittee investigating the awards, Mr. Daniels reaffirmed the views which led him to alter some of the recommendations for decorations, supporting his contentions with long carefully prepared statements going into the details of the controversy.

Other changes made by Admiral Sims at the start of the war and the degree of cooperation with allied armies were not taken up directly. Mr. Daniels' concluding his testimony with the words: "I am not a fighting man during the war." In this connection Mr. Daniels told the committee that it was well that Admiral Sims had not made such an assertion to the men operating American vessels in the war zone for if he had "he would have had a revolt in his own command."

At another point, the secretary declared that Admiral Sims as a result of personal differences with Admiral Henry B. Wilson, former commander of American naval forces off the French coast, had omitted Wilson's name from the list of officers recommended for distinguished service medals.

On a controverted point of importance of sea service as compared to land service, Mr. Daniels said he had not and would never "approve a disparity between awards given men who served on shore as compared with the men who went to sea." Admiral Sims, he asserted, probably advocated high awards for many officers who served on staff duty ashore and few who served for officers who went to sea because "most of Admiral Sims' duty in the navy has been on shore."

Referring to the second fundamental difference between his views and those of Admiral Sims, Secretary Daniels said that many other admirals of the navy and the knight board of medals awards had established a precedent that such officers of ships torpedoed or mined should be decorated whenever their conduct was meritorious and reflected credit on the service. He read at length from accounts of naval actions during all of the wars the United States has been engaged in to support his contention that the policy of decorating brave officers even though they lost their ships, was established early in American naval history and always had been followed.

Concluding his testimony with a denial of Admiral Sims' charge that "a navy morale has been shot to pieces through the method followed in awarding honors," Secretary Daniels declared that there was nothing in the matter with the morale of the navy except a shortage of enlisted men in many ratings and insufficient pay for the officers and men left. Making a plea for immediate legislation that would increase pay to a scale "at least comparable with the pay given men holding positions of similar responsibility in civilian life," the secretary said that if such action were taken the country would soon learn that there is nothing in the matter with the navy.

At another point, the secretary declared that Admiral Sims as a result of personal differences with Admiral Henry B. Wilson, former commander of American naval forces off the French coast, had omitted Wilson's name from the list of officers recommended for distinguished service medals.

On a controverted point of importance of sea service as compared to land service, Mr. Daniels said he had not and would never "approve a disparity between awards given men who served on shore as compared with the men who went to sea." Admiral Sims, he asserted, probably advocated high awards for many officers who served on staff duty ashore and few who served for officers who went to sea because "most of Admiral Sims' duty in the navy has been on shore."

Saw Assemblyman Spit on U. S. Flag

Girl of 18 Made Accusation Against Charles Solomon, New York Legislator—Accused Made Denial.

Albany, N. Y., Feb. 3.—Spectators who filled floor and galleries of the New York assembly chamber today suddenly leaned forward to catch the words of a seventeen-year-old girl of 18 who asserted she had seen Charles Solomon, a member of the assembly, spit on the American flag during a debate.

There was a burst of applause when she explained that she had volunteered her testimony in a letter to Speaker Thaddeus S. Sweet, "because I think it is the duty of any American to take the side of the country which has committed treason against her country."

Small, blonde and obviously embarrassed by the hundreds of eyes turned upon her, the girl, who is a member of the Young Women's Christian association, told her story in the following words:

"I remember that in the summer of 1917 a detachment of soldiers came to Ninth street and Sixth avenue, Brooklyn, for the purpose of calling for volunteers, and they asked Mr. Solomon (who was delivering a street corner speech) if they might borrow his platform for that purpose. Mr. Solomon replied:

"Lend you my platform, can you borrow my platform? Huh, the gutter is good enough for them. They are not to be anyone who would ask a socialist if they might borrow their platform to call for volunteers."

And he continued: "I would not let you wipe your dirty feet on it." Then the officer in charge of that detachment spoke from the lines in which they had come, told them to obtain the number of recruits they could, and went away.

Condensed Telegrams

Gold sold at 177 1/2 a fine ounce in London, compared with 177 1/2 at last close.

Banks of Johannesburg, South Africa, are refusing Japanese discount bills.

America's trade balance against Europe in 1919 amounted to \$4,430,416,556.

A jury trying 36 alleged I. W. W.'s found them guilty on charge of criminal syndicalism.

Cotton acreage planted in India is estimated at 23,186,000, compared with 18,577,000 acres a year ago.

University of Chicago seismographs recorded a most pronounced earthquake about 3,000 miles away.

London Daily Mail reported formation of a tribunal at Irkutsk by the Soviet to try Admiral Kolchak.

Secretary Glass asked congress for \$2,000,000 to use in stopping smuggling liquors into the United States.

A bolshevik uprising is reported in Tiflis, Georgia, Transcaucasia. The Reds are in control in both cities.

6000 Strikes Settled in Favor of Strikers

Representative Blanton Charged That Conciliators Sent Out Were Prejudiced—Denounced Gompers.

Washington, Feb. 3.—Six thousand strikes occurring during the year were settled in favor of the strikers, Representative Blanton, democrat, Texas, told the house today, charging that the labor department always sent out conciliators who were prejudiced. He was opposing a deficiency appropriation to Pacific conciliators.

"If the executive of that department is crooked and we know it, are we not responsible when we continue to put funds in his hands?" Blanton asked, adding: "Congress has always bowed to the dictator of the slaves of this country."

Washington, Feb. 3.—Another sensational slump in foreign exchange today unsettled prices on the stock exchange and the various commodity markets especially those trading in foodstuffs and cotton. The decline was the most severe in the long-sustained reaction of international credits and was attended by many disquieting rumors.

There is no way by which the extent of today's operations in the exchange market can be computed, but the aggregate of sales probably ran into hundreds of millions of dollars, leaving the doughboys 3,000 marks monthly. This is considerably more than the pay of any German official in Coblenz.

When the Americans first went to the occupied regions they received 18 or twenty marks to the dollar.

BRITISH LEADERS DISCUSS ADVERSE RATE OF EXCHANGE

London, Feb. 3.—Austen Chamberlain, the chancellor of the exchequer, discussed with leading bankers, political leaders and others this afternoon the situation that has arisen from the adverse rate of exchange. The greatest secrecy was maintained in connection with the proceedings, a report of which is being prepared for presentation to the cabinet.

LIQUOR LADEN SHIP SEIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT

New York, Feb. 3.—The Black Star steamship Yarmouth, which sailed for Havana last month with a \$4,200,000 cargo of whiskey only to put back here for repairs, was seized by the government today. Supervising Federal Prohibition Inspector Shevlin formally notified the captain that the vessel could not depart and announced that all liquor would be stored in bonded warehouses.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE SLUMP UNSETTLES STOCK MARKET

Severe Reaction of International Credits Was Attended by Disquieting Rumors—Has Caused Many Cancellations of Outbound Tonnage—British Pound Was Quoted at \$3.33, a Discount of Almost 33 Per Cent. From Parity of \$4.86 5-8—Aggregate Sales in the Exchange Market Probably Ran Into Hundreds of Millions of Dollars.

French and Belgian francs and Italian bills, all quoted at the one price of 5:18 1-8 to the American dollar before the war, today fell to new low levels at 3:44, 1:53 and 17:52, respectively, to the dollar.

SOLDIERS' PAY FIXED AT 100 MARKS TO THE DOLLAR

Coblenz, Feb. 3.—The rate of exchange for the pay of American soldiers in the occupied territory has been fixed at 100 marks to the dollar, leaving the doughboys 3,000 marks monthly. This is considerably more than the pay of any German official in Coblenz.

When the Americans first went to the occupied regions they received 18 or twenty marks to the dollar.

BRITISH LEADERS DISCUSS ADVERSE RATE OF EXCHANGE

London, Feb. 3.—Austen Chamberlain, the chancellor of the exchequer, discussed with leading bankers, political leaders and others this afternoon the situation that has arisen from the adverse rate of exchange. The greatest secrecy was maintained in connection with the proceedings, a report of which is being prepared for presentation to the cabinet.

LIQUOR LADEN SHIP SEIZED BY THE GOVERNMENT

New York, Feb. 3.—The Black Star steamship Yarmouth, which sailed for Havana last month with a \$4,200,000 cargo of whiskey only to put back here for repairs, was seized by the government today. Supervising Federal Prohibition Inspector Shevlin formally notified the captain that the vessel could not depart and announced that all liquor would be stored in bonded warehouses.

Council for the owners, a corporation composed of negroes, announced simultaneously that they would apply to the federal court for an injunction restraining Shevlin from interfering with the ship or its cargo. A guard of 15 prohibition agents has been on board since working recently was discovered trying to make off from the ship in a small boat with 65 bottles of whiskey.

DISCUSSION OF WAGE DEMANDS OF RAILROAD MEN

Washington, Feb. 3.—Prolonged discussion of demands for increased wages between railroad administration officials and representatives of the 2,000,000 employees of federal controlled railroads had ended in a tangible result when the first session of the conference adjourned tonight. While neither Director General Hines or the labor leaders would make a public statement concerning the day's proceedings, it was understood that the agreement thus far had failed to crystallize into a definite program.

Director General Hines had not prepared his proposal in their entirety, but the conference broke up until tomorrow having adopted the policy of hearing arguments from all union heads as such passenger statement of the government's case was laid before the conference. The administration thus obtained a comparative idea of the labor view as individual claims and counter arguments were taken up.

It was not believed tonight that the conference would result in a solution of the whole wage problem. Some of the demands were expected to be withdrawn and others probably will be compromised or re-submitted to the union membership directly affected. All will be thrashed over, however, before the conference ends.

WANT REFERENDUM VOTE ON "WET" AND "DRY" QUESTION

New York, Feb. 3.—The hour of adjournment today passed a resolution calling upon the state legislature to support Governor Smith's recommendation to rescind ratification of the eighteenth amendment, in order that the "wet" and "dry" question may be put to a referendum in this state.

Will Aid In Making Arrangements For The 1920

New York, Feb. 3.—The United States is on the eve of "a very great rush of immigration, such as we have never seen before," in the opinion of Alfred Hampton, assistant commissioner of immigration at Washington, who conferred with Ellis Island officials today on plans to expand facilities at the immigration station. Figures for January show a marked increase in arrivals from abroad, he declared, whereas in November about 49,000 left the country and about 39,000 were admitted.

FOREBEE A VERY GREAT RUSH OF IMMIGRATION

New York, Feb. 3.—Sixteen per cent. was set at the maximum for woolen merchants today by Arthur Williams, federal food administrator. Mr. Williams gave the firm of Blinder and Hyman, who had made a profit of \$1.55 a yard on 1,272 yards of woollens which they bought for \$3.35, twenty-four hours to buy back the goods from the complaining firm, H. P. Beisinger and Company, at the price paid and result a profit of not more than 10 per cent., return \$1.25 for each yard to Beisinger and Company or turn the \$1.25 over to charity. The food administrator declared that the merchants should work on a basis of cost, plus fair profit regardless of the market conditions.

Nomination

Miss Mary E. Foy, of Los Angeles, is one of the two women named to aid in making arrangements for the 1920 Democratic nominations. The other woman is Mrs. George Bass, of Chicago. Miss Foy represented her state in the woman's bureau of the Democratic National Committee, which met in Washington recently.

A tough beefsteak is a sure cure for its own consumption.