

NAVY BOARD AND DANIELS DISAGREE

Secretary Says His Advisers Believe 250,000 Men Insufficient for Plan.

APPROVED BY PRESIDENT Programme for Sea Forces Outlined for the House Committee.

Special Despatch to THE SUN. WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Secretary Daniels never permits the General Board to do anything that he does not always heed the advice of his bureau chiefs when he is contemplating changes in his naval policy, he stated today when he appeared again before the House Naval Committee to urge the creation of an American Navy second to none.

The function of the General Board is described as advisory in so far as he was concerned. He confessed that some of his plans for the future rebuilding of the navy had not met with the approval of his advisers. He intimated, however, that they had received the approval of President Wilson. These included:

Abolition of the seniority rule in the raising of officers from one rank to another, promotions of officers to be determined strictly on merit by the votes of an election board of nine Admirals.

Restoration of the four years' course at Annapolis which the war suspended.

Would Transfer Reserves. Transfer from the temporary service to the permanent establishment of 1,000 reserves or temporary officers, who shall pass the necessary physical and mental tests.

Employment of enough men of the Naval Reserve to increase the personnel of the permanent establishment to 250,000, "which are deemed necessary," said Mr. Daniels not only to operate the ships of the navy but to provide men for the ships under the Shipping Board.

Continuation of the increased pay ranging from \$6 to \$15 a month for the personnel of the navy, which Congress provided as a war measure May 22, 1917, as an inducement for skilled and educated men to join the navy.

One month's pay at a gratuity on discharge from service.

The Secretary took pains to explain that some of his advisory bureau chiefs did not agree with him that an increase of the navy's enlisted personnel to 250,000 would be sufficient. They thought the figure ought to be higher, he said, but then "there had always been a tendency on the part of the navy officers to regard having too many men as a better policy than having too few."

"I always weigh the opinions of those around me carefully and then form my own," the Secretary remarked.

Representative Britten (Ill.) showed a disposition to disagree with the Secretary on the number of officers which the navy would require if the Secretary's three year building programme were continued.

Bureau to Submit Opinion. "We have not enough officers to man our ships now," Mr. Britten said. "The general board, the bureau of operations and the bureau of administration have all estimated that the navy will need more officers and men than you have figured out."

Mr. Daniels explained that he had instructed his bureau chiefs with whom he "did not always agree" to present their estimates and opinions to the committee so its members could decide between those of the Admirals and chiefs and his own. It was for the committee to decide whether he was right or wrong, he added. He said the American ships had carried a larger personnel even during the war than the British. Even after the battle of Jutland, he said, British war craft carried a smaller complement than the American. He cited the British superdreadnought Queen Elizabeth as an example, asserting that she only carried 1,918 officers and men while the Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania had 1,540 and 1,440 respectively.

In urging legislation to sanction his plan the Secretary submitted the following memorandum:

"The permanent strength of the navy to-day is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes enlisted men, apprentice seamen, flying corps, hospital corps, and total.

"The temporary strength of the navy to-day, which will be reduced to above permanent strength six months after the signing of a treaty of peace, is as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes enlisted men, apprentice seamen, trade schools, flying corps, hospital corps, and total.

Wants 250,000 Men. "The proposed legislation does not change the temporary force in any way except to prescribe that the flying corps shall not exceed 2,000, and to increase the total number of men in the navy to 250,000, including the hospital corps by employing enough men of the Naval Reserve force to operate the ships of the navy and to provide men for the ships under the Shipping Board. The operation of the proposed legislation terminates June 30, 1920.

"The proposed legislation transfers from the temporary personnel and the Naval Reserve force to the permanent establishment 1,000 officers—300 in the grade of Lieutenant, 300 in the grade of Lieutenant Junior Grade, and 400 in the grade of Ensign—with a proportionate percentage of staff officers for the various staff corps, as now authorized by law. These 1,000 officers, together with 400 expected to graduate next June from the Naval Academy and about 600 in June, 1920, will provide not less than 2,000 officers for the permanent establishment by June 30, 1920.

"The proposed legislation makes no increase in the temporary commissioned personnel, but transfers 1,600 officers from the temporary personnel and the Naval Reserve to the permanent navy and reduces the number of temporary officers by the number transferred to the permanent establishment."

1,250 Vessels in Foreign Service. A table submitted to the committee showed that the navy had a total of 1,223 vessels of all kinds and a total of 247,004 men in foreign service on December 1 last, totals which have since been reduced by the return of American dreadnaughts and other warships.

The table which follows discloses the approximate strength of the American navy as able to display during the war.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes battleships, cruisers and monitors, gunboats, destroyers and torpedo boats, submarines and all tenders, submarine chasers, mine force and sweepers, yachts, and supply (naval).

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes transports and hospital ships, armed guards (navy), troop transports, supply (army), naval district (vessels), port guards on merchantmen, foreign service on shore, and total.

Another table turned over to the committee by the Navy Department showed how many ships and men the navy plans to have in active service March 1, 1919. The table is in part follows:

BATTLESHIP FORCE (including Oregon and excluding Idaho).

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

CRUISER FORCE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

PATROL FORCE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

DESTROYER FORCE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

SUBMARINE FORCE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

MINES FORCE

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

TRAIN

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

SUBMARINE CHASERS

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

TROOP TRANSPORTS

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

SPECIAL AND DETACHED DUTY

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

PACIFIC FLEET (less Oregon)

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

ATLANTIC FLEET

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

EAGLE BOATS

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Includes in full commission, in reserve, two-thirds crew, and out of commission.

SIMS WILL HEAD NAVY WAR COLLEGE

Daniels Asks for Double Appropriation.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Under plans for a comprehensive expansion of the Naval War College at Newport, R. I., until its work will reach officers throughout the fleet, Vice-Admiral Sims, now commanding American naval forces abroad, will return to the presidency of the college when his present duty is completed.

Secretary Daniels disclosed this assignment today in presenting to the House Naval Committee a request for double the appropriation made for the college last year. He also told the committee that Admiral Sims had requested that he be returned to Newport, which he left just before the United States entered the war in order to hasten to London to arrange for the participation of the American navy in the fight against the common enemy.

"The study of naval strategy and tactics during the last four years," the Secretary told the committee, "will have deep interest for every naval officer, and the application of the principles learned during the war in future naval strategy will need to be studied by all naval officers who may be charged with responsible duties. I do not think that any money for naval purposes can be expended more wisely than to give the opportunity for naval officers to study at the war colleges and to carry the study to all men in the fleet."

"Under Admiral Sims' direction the college will expand its work so that it will touch every officer in the fleet as well as those officers who are privileged to go to Newport for a term. It is my purpose to have assigned to the college an eminent naval constructor, and along with the study of tactics and strategy there will be the study of naval construction. We have learned many things about the building of ships and the importance of the protection of ships during this war. Other officers and other staffs and corps will also have the advantage of attendance."

"It would be manifestly unjust now to put in force an order that no man should be assigned to an important place in the fleet who had not taken the college war course, but we are looking toward that end. When this has been done promotion and leadership in the navy should go to those who have mastered strategy and tactics as taught at the college, as well as to those who have shown mastery over the seas in actual practice of seamanship."

POINDEXTER AGAINST DOMINANT U. S. NAVY

Wants Only Adequate Defence Fleets.

Special Despatch to THE SUN. WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Senator Poindexter (Wash.), who under the reorganization of the Senate next March will be chairman of the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs, in a public statement today announced that he did not approve of the Daniels suggestion—supposedly the Administration programme—for an increase in the navy sufficient to win supremacy in sea power for the United States.

Mr. Poindexter is not to be classed as a "small navy" man. His own record in the Senate and House discloses him among the ranks of the supporters of great increases in the navy. He said:

"I am in favor of an adequate navy. It is especially necessary because of our double coast lines separated by several thousand miles. We must have a complete fleet in the Pacific and a large navy will more than justify itself by relieving us of the necessity of maintaining a large standing army. There is no rivalry, however, between the United States and Great Britain in the matter of sea power. Any comparison of the relative powers of the two nations in this respect is unnecessary and particularly invidious at this time. We already have mapped out a sufficient programme of naval increase, which had been authorized by Congress to occupy the resources of the Department and shipyards available for their construction for several years. A report published in the United States by one of the correspondents attending the President's visit to Europe stated as representing the views of our peace delegation that if England did not agree with the views of America as to naval force we could build a larger navy than that of Great Britain. This had the distinct tone of a threat and caused a more or less disagreeable sensation at the time when the allied nations were endeavoring to harmonize the great issues of the war. The proposition of Secretary Daniels seems to be in line with this threat. Of course France and Great Britain are fully advised of this and so far from having the effect which the Administration desires it will have the opposite effect and lessen the influence of the United States at the peace conference."

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The Great New Year Sale of American-made Underwear for Women, Misses and Children

will commence to-morrow (Thursday, January 2nd, 1919) and will continue during the remainder of the present week.

Splendid Values will be offered.

Women's American-made Underwear

New styles, the daintiest materials, beautifully fashioned.

Lingerie Undergarments

Table with 4 columns: Item, Price 1, Price 2, Price 3, Price 4. Includes Nightrobes, Chemises, Envelopes, Combinations, Pierrot Combinations, Drawers, Corset Covers, Petticoats, Pajamas.

Silk Undergarments

Table with 4 columns: Item, Price 1, Price 2, Price 3, Price 4. Includes Nightrobes, Envelopes, Knickers, Camisoles.

Misses' and Children's American-made Lingerie

Misses' Undergarments

Table with 4 columns: Item, Price 1, Price 2, Price 3, Price 4. Includes Nightrobes, Envelopes, Drawers, Petticoats.

Children's Undergarments

Table with 4 columns: Item, Price 1, Price 2, Price 3, Price 4. Includes Nightrobes, Combinations (with knickerbocker drawers), Princess Slips, Knickerbocker Drawers (sizes 2 to 10 years).

(Sale on the Second Floor)

The New Year's Opening Sale of Women's Winter Coats

for which special preparations have been made, will take place to-morrow (Thursday).

It will comprise

Eight new, smart models, variously developed in silvertone, velour, crystal cord and Bolivia cloth; seven are trimmed with fur—some with natural raccoon, some with taupe nutria, and others with seal-dyed coney. All are well tailored and silk-lined throughout, and will be uniformly marked at the value-giving price of

\$48.00

The colors are brown, taupe, Oxford gray and bison, and there are also a number of smart coats in black.

(Coat Department, Third Floor)

An Important Silk Sale

to commence to-morrow (Thursday) will offer

30,000 Yards of Fine Dress Silks

(36 to 40 inches wide)

arranged in lengths suitable for practically all purposes, at special prices ranging from

\$1.15 to \$7.90 per yard

Included in this Sale will be White Silks, Black Silks, Evening Silks, Metal Brocades, Novelty Silks and Sports Silks.

(Sale on the First Floor)

A Special Offering of Tailored Serge Dresses

at \$27.50

will take place to-morrow (Thursday)

An advantageous purchase of fine-quality all-wool dress serge, at much less than the market quotation, makes this offering possible. The assortment comprises one hundred dresses (sizes 34 to 44) in new, attractive styles.

Also, at the same price,

A Number of Crepe de Chine Dresses

in the larger sizes, up to 48

(Women's Ready-to-wear Dresses, Third Floor)

IMPORTANT JANUARY SALES

already in progress, include

Oriental and American Rugs; Household and Decorative Linens; Blankets, Bedspreads, Comfortables and Muslin Sheets and Pillow Cases; and White Cotton Fabrics.

Worth-while price advantages are offered