

DANIELS DEFENDS POLICY OF AWARD OF NAVAL HONORS

Writes Letter to Senator Page Setting Forth Reasons For Changes Made

Washington, Jan. 4.—Secretary Daniels replied today to attacks on his awards of Navy decorations in a letter to Chairman Page of the senate naval committee, which with the house naval committee probably will investigate the whole row precipitated by the refusal of Rear Admiral Sims and other officers to accept the decorations awarded to them.

The complaint of the officers was that in some instances Secretary Daniels had changed the recommendations of the board which sat on the cases, and that the officers thought merited in some cases, and lower ones in others.

Besides reviewing the details of each case, and quoting from the findings of the boards of inquiry in the cases, original boards Daniels explains at length the policy on which he disagreed on some of the awards as finally recommended to him.

The secretary also explains how he differentiated between those officers who served with distinction and those who served on land at sea.

Mr. Daniels refers to his first communication to Chairman Page in which he set forth that the highest distinction should be conferred upon officers and men who had come into contact with the enemy, and had by courage and judgment under attack exemplified the highest traditions of the service.

The Secretary's Letter.

"In thus following the act of congress authorizing three classes of medals, I do not believe that the distinguished service medal should be awarded to officers whose shore duty was meritorious but not of great responsibility.

"I stated that the service worthy of the highest distinction is that rendered in the presence of the enemy, and that the distinguished service medal should be awarded to the captain of every ship struck by the mines, or torpedoes of the enemy, if his conduct was meritorious in the way in which he courageously and bravely led his crew, and if his ship is lost by submarine or mine attack.

"Ten commanding officers of ships were torpedoed and sunk or put out of action, and the distinguished service medal, these awards, as I stated in my previous letters was made without exception to every commanding officer whose ship fell the blow of the enemy except one who was court-martialed, and who was fully acquitted, had no recommendation from any superior officer for recognition of any character.

"Instructions have been given for the fullest investigation with the view of further awarding medals to men and on these, and any other ships, who rendered meritorious service by reason of attack by enemy ships.

"Attacks by submarines.

"In an appendix a brief statement of the cases of the distinguished service medals were announced, where ships were torpedoed, or came in contact with mines, and were either sunk or put out of action.

"A mere reading of the plain recital in each of these ten cases, and the demeanor of the commanding officer will leave no doubt that if awards are to be given for coolness and judgment in danger, disregard of personal safety, and splendid courage, to any man who gave glory to the navy in the world war, it should go to these commanding officers and men under attack. . . .

"We cannot give too much honor to the commanding officers of surface ships which were able to sink, or destroy a submarine, and who, in addition, also recognized, however, that the courage, skill, determination, resourcefulness, foresight and judgment of officers whose ships were torpedoed and were only sunk or put to quite as severe a test as in the case of the commanding officers of surface ships which seek and sink the enemy. . . ."

Brother-in-law's Record.

Incorporated in the letter were the records of all the officers who lost their vessels, including W. Bagley, brother of Mr. Daniels, and Commander Percy W. Foots, the secretary's personal aide, about whom much of the controversy has centered.

In Commander Bagley's case, Mr. Daniels quoted from a letter by Rear Admiral Sims in connection with his approval of the findings of the court of inquiry convened to investigate the loss of Bagley's ship.

Bagley's handling of the situation after his ship was torpedoed was everything that I expected in the way of efficiency, good judgment, courage and valiant action," Admiral Sims wrote.

The findings of the court of inquiry were that "the commanding officer, officers and men of the U. S. S. Jacob Jones, before themselves in accordance with the best traditions of the service, and no blame or responsibility for the loss of the vessel attaches to them."

Secretary Daniels said that Rear Admiral Sims recommended Commander Bagley for a navy cross, the highest award of the service, and approved the award and the secretary suggested it, in common with the recommendations of all other commanding officers whose ships were torpedoed, except Captain Hasbrouck, to a distinguished service medal.

Reviewing the case of Commander Bagley, whose ship, the President Lincoln, was struck by three torpedoes simultaneously and sunk in thirty

(Continued on page three.)

Flynn Still After Reds Campaign Just Beginning, Secret Service Chief Asserts

New York, Jan. 4.—Announcement that the great nation-wide roundup of "reds" in New York "anywhere through" was made tonight by William J. Flynn, chief of the department of Justice secret service.

Flynn said he is going to continue gathering "reds" near to us. "For we are not anywhere near to us. We are just getting up so that we can renew our work with increased vigor."

Five hundred and fifty aliens arrested during the raids, in this and neighboring cities on Friday night and Saturday were held on Ellis Island tonight for deportation proceedings. The few American citizens taken into custody and found implicated in seditious propaganda, will be turned over to the state authorities for prosecution under the criminal anarchy statute.

The number of prisoners on the island will be increased Monday and Tuesday when 300 warrants held by the department of justice agents in New York and smaller numbers in surrounding places are served. One hundred radicals will be brought to the island tomorrow from Trenton, N. J.

A group of clerks and stenographers was kept busy at the island all day today checking and registering the prisoners. Deportation hearings before special boards of inquiry will not begin until Tuesday according to Byron H. Uhl, acting immigration commissioner.

SOLONS RECONVENE TODAY; MONTHS OF WORK BEFORE THEM

Adjournment Not Expected Before Beginning of Presidential Campaigns

Washington, Jan. 4.—Congress reconvenes at noon tomorrow after a fortnight's holiday, with months of work in sight, and adjournment expected by few leaders before the Presidential campaign next fall. The only recess looked for is a brief one in summer when the national party conventions are in session.

Immunable domestic and international problems await the attention of congress, with partisan politics of the coming Presidential election prominently to the fore. Political speeches of Presidential candidates and members of congress up for re-election are expected to flood the Congressional Record.

The senate will resume tomorrow consideration of the secession bill of Senator Sterling, republican, North Dakota, and later begin work on the house waterpower development measure. The Victor and Victoria canal is the principal feature of tomorrow's program in the house, when leaders plan to request immediately the re-election certificate of the Milwaukee socialist, ousted in the last session and promptly re-elected.

Senate Tackles Treaty.

The senate returns tomorrow in the hope of disposing of the German peace treaty this month, but without substantial results from compromise negotiations during the holiday recess. Some immediate move, however, is expected, possibly launched in debate tomorrow. The motion of Senator Underwood, Alabama, for appointment of a conciliation committee is awaiting ratification and on the calendar, as is the resolution of Senator Knox, republican, Pennsylvania, proposing ratification of all peace terms except the league of nations.

Other treaties to be considered are the French, Austrian, Polish and Panama canal, settlement with Columbia and possibly the Turkish peace treaty. Congress must also consider many measures affecting American commerce, financial and other relations abroad, arising as war aftermath.

The railroad reorganization bills and the oil, coal and phosphate land leasing bill, both in conference, are scheduled for final action this month.

Other legislative proposals include the program. Any reorganization plans of the two military committees are completed, and differ only in details, except that the house bill is to be silent on universal military training.

The senate committee will take up next Friday the bill drafted by a subcommittee.

Shipping legislation will be taken up January 12 by the senate commerce commission, with wooden ship contract adjustments slated for January 10.

Many investigations will be prosecuted by both senate and house, besides the house war expenditure inquiry, the senate committee will continue the Mexican legislation here and on the border. Mrs. Sturgis, whose husband was murdered at Chicago, will be heard here tomorrow.

Inquiry into navy awards of decorations will be begun at a joint hearing of senate and house committees.

Investigate Merit.

Investigation of bolshevik propaganda and activities of L. C. A. K. Merit, by Soviet ambassador, is to begin next Friday by a foreign relations sub-committee, headed by Senator Moses, republican, New Hampshire, under a resolution adopted last month.

Other senate investigations planned include the coal situation by the committee headed by Senator Frelinghuysen, republican, New Jersey; the Ford-Newberry election contest from Michigan; investigations and charges of Senator Watson, republican, Indiana, that some of its employees are socialist propagandists, and the newsprint situation.

KETTNER AIMS TO HIT TWO TARGETS

His Bill Will Help Soldiers And End Mexican Control In Imperial Valley

Washington, Jan. 4.—Construction of an all-American canal along the California border to remove from Mexico control over the system of the Imperial valley, the largest irrigation project in the United States is contemplated in a bill Representative Kettner, of California, plans to introduce in the house. It will make provision for opening to purchase or settlement by honorably discharged soldiers and sailors with war service, of 200,000 acres of public lands on the east mesa of the valley, which will be irrigable from the proposed canal.

This bill, a redraft worked out during the holiday recess by a subcommittee of the house committee on irrigation of arid lands, which has had several measures designed to relieve the situation in the Imperial valley under consideration. Hearings before the committee brought out that the crops of the Imperial valley, which residents said reach a value of \$80,000,000 annually, are dependent upon the uninterrupted flow of the main canal of the irrigation system which, from the diversion point on the Colorado river, swings through Mexican territory for forty miles before distribution to the American ranchers. The water users on the Mexican side, where over 100,000 acres are being irrigated, do not wish to join in the maintenance of the main canal and the protective works in Mexico, according to testimony presented to the congressional committee.

Relief is sought through the building of a high earthen canal entirely on American soil, making necessary a cut through a low range of sand hills, which the present main canal avoids by the detour into Mexico.

Under the proposed bill, 200,000 acres would be opened to purchase by war veterans at \$1.25 an acre, or at the discretion of the secretary of the interior be reserved for operation under a soldier settlement legislation as the congress may enact.

Earthquake Takes Heavy Toll In Human Lives Throughout Mexico

Mexico City, Jan. 4.—(By the Associated Press).—Scores of persons have been killed in a violent earthquake which occurred in many parts of Mexico last night. The center of the disturbance is believed to have been near the volcano of Orizaba.

Incomplete press reports indicate that the state of Vera Cruz suffered more than any other section, although seismic disturbances were felt throughout the entire republic. Advances from Cordoba say that thirty lives have already been accounted for in the village of San Juan Coscomatepec, where many houses were destroyed. There are unconfirmed reports of a similar catastrophe in the village of Huastuca.

At Jalapa, further north, fifty victims of the earthquake have been counted, including numerous dead. Lack of communication with the other small towns and villages in the area of disturbance makes even approximate estimates of the casualties impossible.

The earthquake caused great alarm in the large cities, marine disturbances have occurred off Vera Cruz city, and there were some casualties there, although the number is not known, with considerable destruction of property.

DEMOCRATIC HOSTS BEGIN ASSEMBLING AT COUNCIL LODGE

Date and Place of 1920 National Convention to be Fixed At Capital Thursday

Washington, Jan. 4.—The national capital is to be the rallying ground during the coming week for national leaders of the democratic party, who will choose the time and place for the 1920 national convention, talk over candidates and policies, and renew acquaintance at a Jackson day lovefest, which many of them believe will make party history of one kind, or another.

Although only one day, Thursday, is set aside for formal business, leaders of various magnitudes were arriving tonight prepared for a week of conferences and gossiping over the outlook for the presidential campaign.

Choice of the convention city and time is to be the only business directly taken up by the national committee at its meeting Thursday, but an effort probably will be made to have it recommend that the convention nominate a president and vice-president by majority vote, instead of the two thirds required in the past years.

Bryan and Parker started some aspirants for the presidential nomination are to outline their policies. Two former nominees, William Jennings Bryan and Alton B. Parker, also are to be present and President Wilson is expected to send a message in which many leaders believe he may state his position toward a third term.

Six cities are in the race for the convention city to nominate the president, members who had arrived tonight indicated there would be no walkaway. The six are Chicago, already selected as the convention city of the republicans; Kansas City, San Francisco, Indianapolis, Cincinnati and Cleveland. Discussion generally centers on late June, or early July as the time of meeting.

Talk of changing the time honored democratic custom of requiring a two-thirds vote to nominate among the weeks ago at a meeting of the national committee in Atlantic City and the movement has been actively promoted in many quarters. Should the committee make such a recommendation, the convention would adopt it. Only a majority is required to nominate by republican conventions, and those advocating the change believe that much of the party's energy, work and worry could be eliminated if the democrats made a like rule.

The names of speakers for the Thursday night banquet had not been made public tonight, but it was understood that several of those mentioned for the presidency would deliver addresses. Mr. Bryan, returning to the party councils for the first time in many months, is expected to be on the speakers' list, which will include about a dozen names.

Dinner in Two Sections.

So great has been the demand for seats at the dinner that officials of the committee announced today it would be held in two sections, with all of the speakers appearing at both places. In this way about 1,400 are to be seated.

Two subjects earnestly discussed among the gathering leaders tonight were the part Mr. Bryan should play in the campaign, and the attitude of President Wilson toward the presidential nomination.

After his long period of quiet, Mr. Bryan apparently has made extensive plans to get in the political swim again; but whether he will be a candidate for the nomination, or will attempt to become the controlling factor in the convention, has not been determined. He will, however, be active during the week therefore are awaited in many quarters with considerable curiosity.

Speculation about the course of President Wilson has raised the question whether he will support the nomination, and whether, if he steps aside, he will actively support someone of the aspirants. No authoritative reply to these queries has come from the white house, but it is believed that he definitely whether he would touch on these subjects in his Jackson day message, as many of the leaders expect him to do.

MYSTERY SHROUDS ORIGIN OF FLAMES

Stubborn Blaze at Danville Entails Total Loss of Approximately \$800,000

Danville, Va., Jan. 4.—Fire which destroyed half a dozen buildings in the heart of the business section of this city and caused approximately \$800,000 damage, largely covered by insurance, in the four hours it raged was subdued after a stubborn fight at 1 o'clock this morning.

Daylight revealed a vacant patch with only walls of the five-story, grey-stone Masonic building standing and surrounding buildings scorched and windows shattered. The Dudley building, recently completed, had a narrow escape with small damage. Workmen dynamited the tottering walls of the Masonic building today.

After the fire was brought under control a bright north wind accompanied by snow set in, and firemen were busy for some time with flying embers.

The cause of the fire is a mystery. It was discovered shortly after 9 p. m. Saturday, when suddenly a tongue of flame shot from the department store of the Z. V. Johnson company. Before firemen had responded to the alarm the fire spread with amazing rapidity to the Broadway theatre, the Main street cafe, Goode & Company's shoe store, Jacobus drug store and Parker's book store along Main street. The building of the Danville Register and Danville Bee became endangered, and employees working on the Sunday morning issue of the Register had to leave. The building, however, was only slightly damaged. So threatening were the flames that assistance of fire companies from nearby cities was asked.

In the buildings destroyed a number of professional men were housed and they were busy today looking for offices of which there is a shortage.

COCHRAN HOT ON DEMPSEY'S TRAIL

British Promoter Anxious to Stage Bout

Chicago, Jan. 4.—Charles Cochran, an English theatrical manager, who proposes to promote in London a world championship fight between Jack Dempsey and Georges Carpentier, is pushing his plans. He was here on other business today and said he had sent a personal representative to Los Angeles to confer with Dempsey's manager and to offer him a guarantee of \$300,000 to sign a contract and says he will guarantee the champion ten weeks of theatrical engagements in England and France at \$5,000 a week.

He also said that he not only has the French champion's signature to a contract calling for \$105,000, but has advanced \$25,000 to Carpentier.

"I am confident that the fight will be a success," said Mr. Cochran. "It is a world's championship, and can be assured that our investment will be secure."

Cochran will return to New York tomorrow.

WOMAN'S SCREAMS FRIGHTEEN NEGRO

Attempted Hold-up in Fayetteville Foiled

(Special to The Star.)

Fayetteville, Jan. 4.—William Howard, negro, of Petersburg, Va., charged with an attempted hold-up of Mrs. Walter Pope, on Green street, this city, last night, was carried to Raleigh today by Chief of Police E. H. Merker, to avoid the possibility of a lynching. His arrest being taken at the direction of Mayor John Underwood.

The negro was taken to the capital by automobile.

Mrs. Pope was held up at a dark spot on the street by a negro with a revolver. Her screams attracted a boy passing on a bicycle and the negro fled. Forty minutes after Mrs. Pope's story was told to the police, Howard was arrested in a nearby street. He was identified by Mrs. Pope, and is said by the mayor to have admitted his guilt under examination today.

BALKED BY PARLOR RADICALS, PALMER APPEALS FOR HELP

Urges Congress to Pass Law Giving Him Power to Deal With Seditious

Washington, Jan. 4.—Unable to prosecute the so-called parlor bolsheviks, long-haired men and short-haired women, who encourage agitators and promote sedition as a pastime—Attorney General Palmer today issued an appeal to congress for prompt action on the bill, submitted by him several months ago, which will strengthen the hands of the department of justice in dealing with American citizens considered as dangerous to the nation.

Coming on the heels of the most successful nation-wide raid ever made in this country on centers of radical propaganda, Mr. Palmer's statement was regarded with unusual interest by representatives and senators here for the reconvening of congress tomorrow.

At least one of the men taken in the raids is a city official, and numerous others are natives of this country, or have taken out citizenship papers after their residence here in the states. Palmer desires to handle through the federal court, rather than to leave their punishment to state tribunals, and in the absence of a federal law he is unable to do so.

Palmer's Appeal.

"In order that the department of justice," Mr. Palmer's statement said, "may deal forcibly and effectively and quickly with seditious, who are American citizens, but who are seeking to injure, or destroy, the government, I hope very earnestly that congress immediately upon the reconvening on Jan. 5 will enact into law a measure adequate to meet the grave situation now confronting us.

"There is no reason for further delay in the enactment of such a law, and I confidently expect that there will be none. That seditious should be punished is denied by no loyal citizen, and that our present laws are inadequate is questioned by none familiar with the facts.

"Several months ago, appearing before a senate committee, I made clear the fact that the department of justice was unable to proceed properly against seditious because of a lack of statutory definition of the crime, and I also suggested the enactment of a law which I thought would meet the situation.

"Since that time the bill I outlined has been introduced in the house by representative Davey, of Ohio, and it now is in the hands of a subcommittee, consisting of Representatives Husted, of New York, Graham, of Pennsylvania, and Gard, of Ohio. Epitomized, the bill after properly defining acts of sedition, would provide for a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment for not more than ten years, or both, for any person guilty of promoting sedition; for the denaturalization of any alien citizen of either of the foregoing crimes, and for the denaturalization and subsequent deportation of any naturalized citizen guilty of either or both of these crimes.

No Excuse For Delay.

"The country's response to the introduction of this measure leaves no excuse for a single moment's unnecessary delay in the passage of it.

"The patriotic press of practically every state, without regard to politics has endorsed the bill as the kind which must be enacted into law if the supremacy of our government is to be maintained. Organizations of many classes, including posts of the American Legion, have gone on record unqualifiedly in favor of the measure. Individuals have written hundreds of letters endorsing the bill. In truth, it has been hailed generally by red-blooded Americans as a measure with teeth in it, and that is the kind of a measure the department of justice must have if it is to stamp out this grave menace of sedition."

NEWSPRINT PAPER PRODUCERS AGAIN HALED ON CARPET

Attorney General Orders Federal Trade Commission to Reopen Investigations

Washington, Jan. 4.—The federal trade commission has been asked by Attorney General Palmer to reopen its investigation of the Newsprint Manufacturers' association members, who produce a large proportion of the paper used by American newspapers.

The attorney general's formal request, filed yesterday and made public today, was said to have been actuated by scores of complaints from newspaper publishers asserting that the agreement in settlement of the anti-trust suits against the manufacturers' association had not been complied with. This agreement primarily provided that the manufacturers observe prices fixed by the trade commission until three months after the war, and that small publishers not be made the victims of preferential treatment.

Questions on which Mr. Palmer asked the trade commission to base its investigation and submit a report are:

Whether the manufacturers who actually produced the daily tonnage of newsprint paper which they subjected to the terms of the agreement.

Whether the manufacturers have observed the terms of the agreement for sale to the trade.

How much of the tonnage the manufacturers have sold to jobbers, dealers and other middlemen and at what prices, and whether the so-called middlemen have observed the maximum commissions fixed pursuant to the settlement agreement.

Newspaper publishers throughout the country recently have felt keenly the high prices of print paper. Many of the complaints made to the attorney general, it was said, declared the manufacturers had not lived up to their agreement either in the matter of supplies or prices.

The United States district court for the southern district of New York, which entered the decree, still retains jurisdiction in the case. Mr. Palmer will transfer any information the commission obtains to that court for action.

BUSINESS CONDITIONS IN SOUTHERN STATES ACTIVE

Report of the Director General of Railroads Says Demand for Box Cars Cannot be Met—New Carolina Industries

Washington, Dec. 4.—Southern states' business conditions, as reflected in the report of the director general of railroads, shows marked activity with the railroads unable to meet all requirements for box cars and open top cars, but with the situation improving.

The waterway coal dumping showed a substantial decrease, due to car shortage and the letup of shipping incident toward the holidays. On account of the export restrictions, consignments of coal were very heavy, but arrangements have been made to issue permits for a limited tonnage of exports.

Holiday travel, especially that of schools, was largely, but movement is continuing to be reduced to normal. Principal lines report travel very good in the southern region.

Conditions summarized show: Continued improvement from Birmingham district in pig iron situation, both production and demand

being heavy. Twenty-six furnaces were in blast and fifteen not.

Production and movement of phosphate from Florida is reported very good.

Movement of cotton factory products is active, and mills are fully operating on full time. Construction of a number of additional cotton mills in the Carolinas is reported.

The New Orleans rice market continues active, but movement is confined largely to exports with receipts of rough and cleaned rice continuing heavy.

The Southern Pine association reported orders for 25,503 cars on hand December 19, shipments of 2,573 for the week and orders for 2,952.

Coastwise steamship lines report no change except that the accommodations at Norfolk and Newport News have been slightly reduced. Improvement is expected in traffic on the lines between New York and Savannah, and Boston and Savannah.

WORKERS REJECT LIBERAL OFFER

British Trainmen Decline Govt. Overture

London, Jan. 4.—(By the Associated Press).—The government's offer to the railway men, made public tonight, which conceded considerable advances in wages, was rejected later at mass meetings of the railway men held in central London and at Northampton.

The plan of the government was the same as that unofficially reported last week, except that sixty shillings a week was to be regarded as the average minimum wage of the different grades of workers.

Taking the situation as a whole, the increase offered was 100 per cent over the pre-war rate. Under the plan should the cost of living increase before next September, wages would be raised one shilling for every 50 per cent in the rise of prices. After September there would be sliding scale, varying with the cost of living.

Another important point provided for the creation of a central wage board, five members of which were to represent the railway administrators and five members of the unions.

James Henry Thomas, general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, addressing a mass meeting of the railwaymen at Birmingham today, advised his hearers to accept the government's terms.

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SINN FEINERS RAID BARRACKS

Blow Corner of Building Away With Bombs

London, Jan. 4.—Three hundred armed Sinn Feiners attacked the police barracks in Dublin today, blowing a hole in the building with bombs. The attacking forces fired volleys for three hours and then blew in the entrance of the barracks. Its occupants were made prisoners while the raiders looted the barracks. The barracks was occupied by a sergeant and five constables, who returned the raiders' fire. Finding eventually that they were unable to gain an entrance, the raiders threw bombs, entered the breach made in the building and seized and handcuffed the men. They searched the building, removing arms, ammunition, accoutrements and money, then held a council as to the disposal of the police, and decided to leave them bound, but threatened if an attempt was made to repair the building they would return and complete its destruction.

The raiders left after cutting the telephone communications, but police assistance finally arrived from Cork. It was found that none of the policemen was hit. The sergeant's wife and children, also in the barracks, were uninjured.

Look for Your Movie Favorite

whose picture is bound to be printed in The Morning Star's Movie Game, in the space devoted to this feature in the lower right corner of the Business Local page.

Twenty prizes offered: the rules are few and simple, and there is no registration procedure—every person is welcome to join in the fun.

Turn to the Business Local page now and see if you know the name of the picture title whose picture is published today.

RADICAL PLANS MADE PUBLIC

Documents Seized Are Given Out

Washington, Jan. 4.—Plans of the communist and communist labor parties against which the great raids by government agents inaugurated Friday night are directed to gain control of all labor organizations as the means of fomenting revolution, were revealed tonight in documents made public by the department of justice. Assistant Attorney General Garvan made public the documents, which were seized in several cities, with the desire, he said, that the American people learn the "real purpose" of these menacing groups and the nature of the poison they were spreading.