

# KNIGHT CONDEMNNS DANIELS'S AWARDS

### Head of Naval Decorations Board Takes Issue With Secretary

## HISTORIC PARALLEL FAULTY

By the Associated Press

Washington, Jan. 23.—Rear Admiral Austin Knight, chairman of the naval decorations board, took sharp issue today with Secretary Daniels on the matter of naval awards.

Testifying before the Senate investigating committee, Admiral Knight said the board could not agree that officers who lost their ships through enemy action were entitled to "high decorations unless they had engaged the enemy."

Admiral Knight said the cases of officers who lost their vessels through submarine attack were not comparable with those of Lawrence and Perry, as Mr. Daniels said in his recent letter to Chairman Page, of the Senate naval committee. Lawrence's name was immortalized because of the sinking of the ship, while Perry's name will live in history because of the skill and daring in his sinking the ship to the Niagara and then leading his almost defeated fleet to victory.

Admiral Knight said a high decoration was not deserved unless the sinking was accompanied by offensive action against the enemy.

No Decoration Asked for Bagley

Admiral Knight said that in the case of Commander David W. Bagley, secretary Daniels's brother-in-law, no decoration was recommended for any circumstance in connection with the sinking of the destroyer Jacob Jones because Commander Bagley did not engage the enemy. A Navy Cross was recommended for the officer, he said, for good seamanship displayed in taking off the crew and passengers of the torpedoed British steamship Orana.

Commander Bagley was not recommended by his immediate superior, he said, for any decoration in connection with the sinking of the Jacob Jones.

Officers whose vessels were torpedoed, but who, by good seamanship and discipline, succeeded in saving their ships, earned the D. S. M., Admiral Knight declared.

D. S. M. for Ship Saviors

"It is true that the board recommended awards for several of the officers referred to by the secretary as commanders of ships which were lost or seriously damaged by enemy submarines or mines," Admiral Knight said. "But in each case there was a special reason. Captain Vernon, of the Cassin; Captain Dismukes, of the Mount Vernon; Captain Chase, of the Minnesota; and Captain Graham, of the Enterprise, saved their ships by excellent seamanship and discipline after the ships were disabled."

No information was available to guide the board in making recommendations for Captain Satterlee, of the Tampa, and Commander Ghent, of the Antilles, nor were any circumstances known that would justify such awards. Admiral Knight said, Secretary Daniels awarded the D. S. M. to both officers. The Tampa and Antilles were torpedoed and sunk.

Commander Foote Only Exception

"Commander Foote's case is the only one in which the board recommended the award of a D. S. M. for circumstances connected with the actual loss of a ship," Admiral Knight said. "And this recommendation was based chiefly upon the recommendations of Admiral Gleaves and Admiral Mayo."

The award recommended for Captain Christy, the admiral said, was based not only on his conduct at the time of the sinking of his ship, the armored cruiser San Diego, but for his later service in command of the battleship Wyoming.

Commander Conn was not recommended for award in connection with the loss of his ship, the yacht Alcedo, the witness continued, but was recommended for a Navy Cross under the general citation given destroyer commanders.

Board Had Its Own Policy

Admiral Knight said Secretary Daniels did not furnish the board with any policy to guide it in making its recommendations. The board did not ask for one as the members did not consider it necessary. The board itself, he added, worked out a policy based on the following general principles:

"That Distinguished Service Medals be recommended for the following groups: Flag officers, including bureau chiefs; chiefs of staff to flag officers; commanders of battleships in war zone; commanders of battleships in home waters; commanders of mine-layers in the war zone.

Navy Crosses—Commanders of destroyers operating in the war zone for two months or more; commanders of submarines operating in the war zone; commanders of submarine chasers

# U. S. MAY PURCHASE ALL LIQUOR IN BOND

### Would Issue Certificates Redeemable as Stock Is Disposed Of

## VALUED AT \$100,000,000

By a Staff Correspondent

Washington, Jan. 23.—The government will purchase all of the spirituous liquor held in bond by issuance of treasury certificates, which can be liquidated as the liquor is sold for legitimate purposes, in the opinion of Representative Joseph W. Fordney, who will soon call a meeting of the ways and means committee to consider the proposition.

This is the plan recommended by Daniel C. Roper, commissioner of internal revenue, and Mr. Fordney declares that all members of Congress, with whom he has discussed the proposition are in favor of it.

"There isn't anything else for the government to do," said Mr. Fordney. "Under the existing condition the government could not destroy this liquor without immediately reimbursing the owners. And the owners themselves cannot destroy it without first paying the internal revenue tax."

"The plan of Mr. Roper is for the government to take over the liquor and give in exchange for it certificates of indebtedness which would be redeemed when the liquor is sold for medicinal or commercial purposes. Thus the government would be only bound to pay for the liquor as it receives payment for it."

"There are 60,000,000 gallons of liquor in bond, which, at a low price, is valued at more than \$100,000,000. I have no idea how long it would take to dispose of it, but there is a considerable demand for it from hospitals and otherwise for medicinal purposes and there is a larger demand for grain alcohol for the manufacture of explosives and other commercial purposes."

# PASS OVER STRIKE CLAUSE

### Conferees Can't Agree on Labor Provisions in Cummins Bill

Washington, Jan. 23.—(By A. P.)—Apparently abandoning hope of an agreement on the anti-strike and labor provisions of the Cummins railroad reorganization bill, the Senate and House conferees today passed over these sections and took up less controverted clauses.

The labor dispute may be taken up again later, the conferees said, but both sides now believe the question must go to the House for a vote on the anti-strike plan.

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# NAVY PAY RISE BILL PASSES

### Measure Adopted by House Would Increase Emoluments One-third

Washington, Jan. 23.—(By A. P.)—Increase of approximately one-third in the base pay of all enlisted men in the navy and the coast guard, except recruits, is provided for in a bill passed today by the House and sent to the Senate. The vote was 311 to 10.

The increase, retroactive to last January 1, would continue until July 1, 1921.

# Form Gloucester Ministerial Union

Protestant ministers of Gloucester, N. J., met today and organized the Gloucester Ministerial Union. The Rev. John M. Davies, of the Presbyterian Church, was elected president, and the Rev. R. A. Conover, of the First Methodist Episcopal Church, secretary.

# SEES PERIL IN INTERVENTION

### Former Mexican Consul Here Warns of Alienating Latin America

## TAFT URGES TRUCE ON ARTICLE TEN

Washington, Jan. 23.—(By A. P.)—American intervention in Mexico would cause years of ill feeling on the part of all Latin-American countries, Manuel E. Espena today told the Senate foreign relations committee. Espena formerly was consul at New York and Philadelphia for Porfirio Diaz, Madero and Huerta, and is an opponent of the Carranza movement.

He testified that a revolution against Diaz followed publication of articles by John K. Turner, an American, criticizing conditions in the southern republic. Turner's assistant, Espena said, a Mexican Socialist, showed him a check from the Standard Oil Co., which was said to have been refused on concessions in Mexico by Diaz.

When William Bayard Hale, who was sent to Mexico as President Wilson's representative, became pro-Huerta, Espena continued, he was superseded promptly by John Lind. The latter, the witness said, was given a cool reception by Huerta and wrote former Secretary of State Bryan that "Mexico City should be humbled."

# TAFT URGES TRUCE ON ARTICLE TEN

### Declares Compromise Can Be Effected Without Killing League of Nations

## SEE SENATORS AT CAPITOL

By the Associated Press

Washington, Jan. 23.—Former President Taft visited the Capitol today and conferred with senators active in the movement for a peace treaty compromise. He had a talk with Senator McCumber, Republican, of North Dakota, a "mild reservationist" leader, and later planned to see a number of other senators regarding the compromise negotiations.

During his visit to the senate Mr. Taft addressed briefly representatives of a local committee which had invited him to talk at a mass-meeting here in behalf of the treaty. He said he did not believe a compromise on this Article X can be made without killing the league.

"The matter of the ratification of the treaty is in the hands of the senators," said Mr. Taft. "It must be worked out by them. Every one knows how I stand on the treaty. I believe that the best way is to let the knowledge of the public desire that the treaty be ratified trickle into the senators."

"At present about eighty senators are in favor of ratification, about evenly divided on the reservations."

"Only those fourteen reservationists stand between them. It seems to me that compromise can be had and the treaty ratified."

"The attitude of the President in regard to what he will do is not quite clear. It has been said that Article X of the League of Nations covenant is the heart of the league. And it is, in that it embraces the intention of the members of the league to co-operate in putting an end to war."

"But on the other hand as a practical proposition, Article X will rarely, if ever, be invoked, for under Articles XVI and XVII any attempt to bring about war will be put down. So I believe that a compromise on this Article X can be made without killing the league."

# COAL WARNING

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