

Daniels Takes Issue With Admiral Sims

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criticism that his recommendation of a Distinguished Service Medal for Com-

mander J. C. Rabcock, his chief of staff, and his "everything" had not been followed. Secretary Daniels said:

"If I had thought Commander Babcock the 'everything' of the navy award, I certainly would have sent him to represent the navy at the awarding of the medal."

"I do not believe in having two supermen to do a one-man job."

Defends Own Awards

In support of his contention that a commander of a ship sunk or damaged by submarine attack was entitled to a medal if he showed gallantry, even though the ship was unable to combat the submarine, Secretary Daniels cited numerous examples in American naval history and also pointed to instances of such awards by the French government during the world war.

American naval history, he told the committee, was filled with precedent upholding his awarding of the Distinguished Service Medal to commanders of ships sunk by submarine or mines.

"In the wireless attack of submarine warfare," said Mr. Daniels, "it is struck that tests true mettle and true naval leadership. The question is: 'Does he play the part of the man, with character and thought, who is a hero and a patriot and foresight does all that is possible to meet any and every emergency? And when he faces death, awarding medals does he find that he has measured up in the terrible ordeal to the high naval traditions?'"

Recommended by Admirals

Admirals Mayo and Gleaves and Vice Admiral Grant recommended commanding officers under their Distinguished Service Medal, who displayed these high qualities, when their ships, struck by mines or torpedoes, were sunk or damaged. The board of awards approved their recommendations.

"The greatest thing that a man ever does in this world is to turn a stumbling block into a stepping stone. If medals are not given for his courage and his courage and coolness and direction in supreme danger, what on earth are they designed for?"

Referring to Admiral Sims' statement that he had not recommended awarded medals because he had nothing to give them, the secretary called the committee's attention to the act of creating the awards which he said made no distinction between an admiral, captain and enlisted man.

"It is the service he renders, the service in peril and not his rank that counts," he said. "There are occasions when a ship is threatened with destruction and when for the moment its safety and protection depends on an enlisted man and his devotion to his duty of great responsibility, and if he performs his duties at that moment with courage and devotion he is fully entitled to the recognition and honor of the Distinguished Service Medal."

Would Honor Humblest Man

Referring to the bestowal of that medal on Admiral Benson because of his services as chief of naval operations, Mr. Daniels declared he would give the same medal "that goes to that great and distinguished officer to the humblest sailor lad, who, when placed in a position of great responsibility at a time which tests the stuff of which a man is made, met the demands of those duties and placed his life in jeopardy in order that his ship and the lives of others might be preserved."

With that in mind he ordered further study of medals for enlisted men, and that only 119 enlisted men of the 500,000 in the navy during the war had been recommended for any high honor, he explained. As a result of this study, as yet incomplete, he said there were additional enlisted men who were awarded the Distinguished Service Medal and sixty-eight more were put on the list for navy crosses.

Emphatic denial was made by the secretary of Admiral Sims' statement that the policy followed in awarding medals had "shot to pieces" the navy's morale.

"It is an insult to the splendid men of the navy to say that the morale of the service could be seriously injured by any question of awards to individuals," the secretary said on that point.

"They are made of sterner stuff than is rattled by a mutiny or an unpopularity in comparison with their devotion to their duties. Their loyalty is in no sense dependent upon medals."

Denies Showing Favoritism

Explaining Admiral Sims' mention of a message from the secretary asking what recommendation had been made for "Bagley" (Mr. Daniels' brother) by Jones and other officers of the Jacobites and other destroyers that were attacked, Mr. Daniels said the note was written late one afternoon after all officers in charge of reports had left the department and was written as the easiest way of getting the information.

"There was not at that time and never has been," Mr. Daniels declared, "any question of favoritism of relationship in the matter of his relations with Commander Bagley."

Mr. Daniels said he had no criticism of the work of the board of awards, headed by Rear Admiral Austin M. Knight, and that its recommendations were faithfully reported to higher administration. The message information in its possession.

Cortelyou Defends Robinson Retention

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police officer and as superintendent of police of this city."

Further, it was stated, on the highest authority in the Police Department: "If any one has charges to make against Superintendent Police Robinson, let him come forward and file them."

"The director's endorsement of the police official whose removal would have meant the end of the police department because of his moral conditions in war-time, for which Mr. Robinson, as superintendent of police, was held responsible by law, backed up the higher administration circles by the statement that 'Robinson is making every effort to make good.'"

Works With Mayor

The significance in Director Cortelyou's statement is that Mr. Cortelyou joins the Director Cortelyou and Mayor Moore. Director Cortelyou and Mayor Moore are working together as few mayors and directors of public safety have worked in the past. Directors in the past have often been more considerate of an outside political influence than of their official chief, the Mayor. Director Cortelyou's statement was made further after he had been told that the Mayor referred to him all questions with reference to Superintendent of Police Robinson.

McLain Ready to Fight Profiteers

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ply was a graceful wave of both hands, palms upward and an expressive shrug of the shoulders which might otherwise have been expressed, in the words, "What could we do?"

"It is presumed then," I continued, "that before proceeding to indict a man as a profiteer you'll examine his books to prove a case against him so that there will be no slip-up when the case gets to court?"

"Oh, certainly. We expect the Department of Justice agents under Todd Daniel to examine the books and report accordingly."

"It is stated that there are good many thousands of food, clothing and shoe dealers in Philadelphia. The experience of the federal food administration in American naval history and also pointed to instances of such awards by the French government during the world war."

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Wilson Only Bar in Way of Treaty

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other issues than those presented in the treaty. Wilson keeps Hands Off

The President's last statement on the treaty was that he had no compromise to suggest or proposals to make. Since then he appears to have taken no part in the negotiations between Mr. Hitchcock and Mr. Lodge. He is apparently leaving the Democratic senators to settle the treaty issue by themselves.

If thus left to themselves, the Democrats are likely to yield to Mr. Lodge and accept substantially the Lodge amendments. They are sensible of the political wisdom of any other course.

President Absolutely Alone

President Wilson has got himself into a difficult and unfavorable position. His obstinacy has resulted in his being left absolutely alone. He has been de-

ferred by the public, which does not sympathize with his position. His party press, as disclosed by the Jackson Day dinner, does not support him on the treaty. His party in the Senate no longer really supports him.

Allied Europe has felt called upon to interfere in order to prevent the League of Nations from being defeated by his obstinacy. For that is what the Grey letter, now pretty well identified with the British cabinet, in substance was.

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