

# ADMIRAL SIMS REFUSES MEDAL

### Sensational Controversy Between Naval Officers and Secretary

## FIGHT ON DANIELS IS RENEWED

### Congress Will Take A Hand In Row Over War Medal Rewards

Washington, Dec. 23.—Rumblings of dissatisfaction within the navy at the way Secretary Daniels has arranged the awards of decorations for war service came to the surface today when it became known that Admiral Sims, former commander of American naval forces in European waters, had declined to accept his distinguished service medal, while the awards remain as at present.

At the same time, the row which up to this time has been a smouldering one, gave indications of a showing up in congress. Chairman Page and the senate naval committee asked for a report on the awarding of the decorations and Secretary Daniels transmitted it to him tonight.

Meanwhile, Representative Lufkin, Republican, Massachusetts, member of the house naval committee announced that he would ask the house to call for a similar report.

Coming as the climax to published charges that Secretary Daniels had rearranged the whole list of awards, raising some officers to higher distinction than recommended and "blue penciling" others, publication of Admiral Sims action created a new sensation in the navy department and added a new chapter to the long contest in which some naval officers have complained of the secretary's administration of affairs and others have defended him with equal vigor.

The whole thing has been brought to a head by the act of Admiral Sims, who writing an official communication to Secretary Daniels from the naval war college at Newport, R. I., has set out that officers for whom he recommended the distinguished service medal—highest of all naval decorations except the congressional medal of honor—received by the secretary's revision of a decoration of lesser value, and that other officers whose duties and services Admiral Sims considered as of lesser value received by the revision, the more valued decorations.

At the same time, it develops, Admiral Sims sent franked copies of his letter to many naval officers in Washington. His action became known first through them, and later today, Mr. Daniels gave out the letter, without comment. Earlier in the day, however, Mr. Daniels had announced that he had prepared the report asked for by Senator Page and tonight after transmitting it to the senate made public copies of it.

Admiral Sims, in his letter, does not appear to refuse his decoration unconditionally. He refused it under the conditions he outlines and he asked for an opportunity to explain the reasons for his original recommendations. Besides that, the admiral does not ask that the highest award be taken from any officer upon whom it already had been conferred but he does ask for a revision upward of some of the lesser decorations.

Sims, long known as the stormy petrel of the navy since his sensational "last drop of blood" speech in the Guild Hall at London, when he drew the attention of the foreign offices of Berlin, London and Washington, has figured in navy sensations before and has many warm supporters among the officers.

Secretary Daniels' report to Chairman Page of the senate naval committee, outlines the general policy followed by the secretary in awarding medals and distinctions to naval officers and enlisted men.

Indicating that the entire controversy that has now come to light revolves around the old navy department disagreement as to which class of service—shore or sea—is more important, Secretary Daniels in his report said:

"The value of the duty on shore was duly recognized but in my opinion it should be of the highest importance and responsibility in order that this duty should be recognized by the award of the same kind of medals and at the same time in positions of grave danger in the active war zone, and this was the standard which any particular case had to meet for an officer on shore duty to be awarded the medal."

Emphasizing his belief that officers engaged in hazardous and responsible duties in the North sea mining squadron, the destroyer force, the convoy and the armed guard service, should be given preference in the award of high honors over officers serving on shore, and in position of great responsibility, and officers serving with ships in home waters, Secretary Daniels said "that the services rendered by these different forces was recognized by the board of awards assigning certain medals to the officers in command of the ships and stations concerned and this plan of procedure met my approval."

In contrast to Admiral Sims' statement that the commanding officers of ships sunk by enemy submarines should not receive decorations, Mr. Daniels in his report, said:

"In addition to the recognition of the service rendered by officers and men of the forces above mentioned there was also, of course, the case of particular individuals whose conduct was outstanding and who should be singled out for special recognition. It was my opinion that distinguished service medal should be awarded to those officers in command of ships of the navy which were sunk by submarine attack and whose conduct was

# COAL COMMISSION MEETS MONDAY

### President Wilson Issues Call for Assembly of Committee to Consider Wages

## PLANS FOR INQUIRY TO BE MADE

### Expected That Investigation Will Cover a Period of Several Weeks

Washington, Dec. 24.—President Wilson today issued a call for a meeting her Monday of the special commission appointed to investigate wages and prices in the soft coal industry. The commission at that time is expected to lay plans for the inquiry which will probably continue for several weeks.

## MEMORIAL APPEAL GETTING RESPONSE

### Generous Support Being Received In Many Counties

Columbia, Dec. 23.—The people of the State are becoming more responsive to the appeal for subscriptions to the \$400,000 fund for the erection of a memorial building in honor of those South Carolinians who participated in the world war, according to the headquarters of the South Carolina Memorial Commission in Columbia.

Many of the counties of the State have a large percentage of their allotments subscribed and a number of the counties have promised to complete their quotas during January 1920.

The erroneous ideas which had become prevalent as to the misconceptions concerning it have had a tendency to cause the people to get behind the movement more liberally. The idea that the building was to be a mere adjunct to the University of South Carolina and under the control of the trustees of the University has been dispelled by the recent statement of the commission that its only function is to be repository of the State's records of participation in the world war, as well as for other wars, and a memorial to South Carolina's heroes.

And the people likewise are coming to realize, the commission avers, that the University, instead of having an ulterior motive in the construction of a memorial building, is extremely generous in offering for the purpose land, the value of which will reach into thousands of dollars. Should the building be constructed on land other than that owned by the University, it would have to be purchased by the State and would cost between \$50,000 and \$100,000, if an equally desirable site could be procured. The land offered by the University is on the 80 block of Main Street and within almost a stone's throw of the State House and near the geographical center of the city.

## TWELVE CHINESE INJURED

### Wreck of East Coast Train In Florida

Miami, Fla., Dec. 21.—Twelve Chinese en route to Cuba under guard were injured when the southbound overseas limited for Keywest on the Florida East Coast Railway collided with a north bound freight at Jensen, near here, early today. It was said the Limited ran by the meeting point.

meritorious in such cases. I required all these cases to be carefully investigated and as a result of this every officer reported meritorious in command of such a ship was awarded a distinguished service medal."

Commenting on the fact that the Knight board originally recommended only eight officers and men who served in the armed guards on board merchant ships for decorations, the secretary said that in view of the hazardous nature of such duty and after careful investigation he had increased the number of decorations awarded in such cases to 26 navy crosses and two distinguished service medals.

A recapitulation of the action of the Knight board and Secretary Daniels in the 19 recommendations made by Rear Admiral Sims shows that of the 59 officers whom the latter recommended for distinguished service medals the Knight board cut 13 of the recommendations to navy crosses. Secretary Daniels, after reviewing the Knight board report, changed the awards of distinguished service medals recommended by the board in three cases to navy crosses and in three other cases reversed the board and awarded distinguished service medals as originally recommended by Rear Admiral Sims.

By law three classes of decorations are provided for officers and men of the navy as follows: The medal of honor, awarded by the president in the name of congress for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity; the distinguished service medal to be awarded by the secretary of the navy to any person who has distinguished himself for exceptionally meritorious service to the government and the navy cross, awarded also by the secretary for extraordinary heroism or distinguished service such heroism or distinction not being sufficient to justify the award of a medal of honor or a distinguished service medal.

# HOWAT READY TO OBEY ORDER

### Recalcitrant Mine Union Leader Will Try to End Strike

Indianapolis, Dec. 23.—A call for a meeting of the executive board of the Kansas district of the United Mine Workers of America for Friday, at which steps to end the strike of 1,000 employees of the Central Coal and Coke company will be taken was issued from here this afternoon by Alexander Howat, president of the district, before leaving for his home at Pittsburgh, Kan.

Howat was released from jail today, where he had been sent following a preliminary hearing on contempt of court charges by Federal Judge A. B. Anderson yesterday after he had agreed to use his influence to end the local strike. His call for the district meeting followed a telegram sent to the Kansas district by William Green, international secretary-treasurer of the mine workers, ordering the strikers to return to work.

Charges of contempt of court against Howat were part of general charges against 84 international and district officials of the miners in which it was alleged that the officials had violated the injunction issued by Judge Anderson against furtherance of the strike. Hearing of the charges against all officials except Howat have been continued twice, the second time indefinitely. Howat's alleged action in keeping a local strike in force in Kansas, however, led to his arraignment in court here yesterday and his commitment to jail when he failed to give assurance that the Kansas strike would be called off.

The Kansas official was brought into court again today and after a general discussion of the situation during which Mr. Green agreed to use his influence as an international official to bring about settlement of the Kansas tie up and Howat finally agreed to cooperate, the latter was released from custody. It was indicated that with resumption of work at the Central Coal and Coke company's property, a hearing of the charges against Howat set for next Monday would be continued and that Howat's status would be the same as the other officials against whom charges still are pending but which according to general belief, will not be pushed so long as they do not again violate the court's injunction.

## Aerial Navigation.

London, Nov. 24.—Major General Sir F. H. Sykes, British Controller General of Civil Aviation, hopes to arrange for complete cooperation between Great Britain and the United States in all matters relating to flying. This is the purpose of his journey to America, on which he expects soon to leave.

The American Ambassador, John W. Davis, told General Sykes at a farewell luncheon to the British Controller that he thought American cooperation might be taken as assured. General Sykes said that the International Air Convention, based in the main on regulations for air navigation in Great Britain, now had received the assent of all the powers allied and associated in the war except the United States and Japan.

"The national tendency in aircraft development in Britain," said General Sykes, "is to allow individual enterprise to work out its own salvation in the main and no scheme of government subsidies such as that in France has, so far, been adopted."

But he pointed out that did not mean that the government will spend nothing to promote enterprise. "With a view to stimulating the efforts of designers and manufacturers of heavier-than-air craft and to guiding them toward the attainment of greater security and reliability," he continued, "an official competition has been instituted which is to be held next year. The prizes offered amount to 4,000 lbs. The rules of the competition are framed to encourage those attributes which are required in the future."

"Prizes will be given first for the small type of airplane required for business, pleasure and sporting flying in the British Isles; secondly, for the large weight-carrying machine which experience suggests will be necessary to meet the conditions of trans-continental traffic; and, thirdly, for a type of amphibious flying boat which, in view of its power to alight on and rise from land or water, cannot fail to find many uses."

The Civilian Aviation Department of the Air Ministry, he states, is an entirely "new departure," on the part of the government. Its purpose is to advise the Aircraft Industry and render it all assistance possible, to open international relations, to lay down internal and overseas air routes, to establish stations for landings and departures, to deal with all meteorological matters, and to provide information on that subject as well as a host of others connected with aerial navigation.

## Honor Roll Concord School.

- Eighth grade—Sam Pringle.
- Seventh grade—Jeanette Pringle, Charles Glascock, Walter White.
- Fifth grade—Samuel Glascock.
- Fourth grade—Flossie Bell Baker.
- Third grade—Myrtle Glascock, Melvin Baker, Lonnie Newman.
- Second grade—Mildred Ingram.
- These pupils made an average above 90 but were absent:
- Tenth grade—Daisy Fort, James Prescott.
- Ninth grade—J. J. Brunson.
- Eighth grade—Beda Duncan, Frances Duncan, Elsie Brunson, Cora Smith.
- Seventh grade—Inez Dennis, Betty Feet.
- Sixth grade—Azile Brunson.
- Fourth grade—Willie Fort.
- Third grade—Ela Smith.
- First grade—Rosa Lee Brogham, Louise Newman, Ellis Glascock.

## Plenty Good Pickings.

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# L U M B E R

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Ceiling,  
Siding,  
Casing,  
Mouldings,  
Framing Lumber,  
Red Cedar Shingles,  
Pine and Cypress Shingles,  
Metal and Composition Shingles,  
Doors, Sash and Blinds,  
Porch Columns and Ballasters,  
Beaver Board,  
Valley Tin and Ridge Roll.

**Brick,**  
Cement,  
Plaster,  
Fire Brick,  
Fire Clay,  
Sewer Pipe,  
Stove Flue,  
Terra Cotta Thimbles,  
Mortar Colors and Stains,  
Water Proofing Mineral,  
Corrugated Metal Roofing,  
Asbestos and Composition Roofing.

**Locks,**  
Hinges,  
Nails,  
Grates,  
Saws,  
Hatchets,  
Hammers,  
Door Hangers,  
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## CONDITIONS IN DARK RUSSIA

Helsingfors, Finland, Nov. 5.—There is no likelihood of a rising of the people of Petrograd against the Bolsheviks this winter no matter how terrible their plight may become, says I. Saponen, a prominent art dealer of that city who sacrificed a fortune of 5,000,000 rubles to escape from Russia.

"The belief of starving the population into starting a revolution is a heresy," he declares. "So far as the Russians are concerned, they will simply die."

General Yudenitch, without Finland's help, has no chance of taking Petrograd for he began his campaign a month too soon. If he had waited until Trotsky's men began to feel the pinch of the cold, along with insufficient food, their lowered morale might enable the attack to succeed.

Aided by the wife of Maxim Gorky, M. Saponen contrived, by lavish bribery of the Bolsheviks, to leave Petrograd. He arrived at Helsingfors a month ago. To a representative of The Associated Press he related the first time for publication his remarkable experiences from arrest in June while serving as a representative of the Finnish government in negotiating for the exchange of war prisoners. M. Saponen is a native of Finland, who has resided in Petrograd for the last ten years.

"Until March," he said, "we foreigners were never molested. I had been representing the Danish Red Cross until I took up the exchange of prisoners on March 11."

"After securing a written guarantee, signed by Schlovsky, the Petrograd commandant, and Tchitcheril (Commissioner of Foreign Affairs) that my life and property would be safe, I was allowed to return to Finland. Nevertheless from April 22 until May 14 I was kept in detention in my own house and was formally arrested on June 2. I was taken to Moscow, thrown into a military camp, and treated worse than a dog simply because I was a Finn. I was kept in prison until August 8 when Schlovsky ordered me to be released."

"The contents of my Petrograd house, consisting of works of art jewels valued by Russian experts at 4,000,000 rubles are undoubtedly carried off and I have no hope of seeing them again."

## Commenting on the condition of Russia, M. Saponen said:

"The Allies blockade is destroying White Russia for the Bolsheviks naturally feed their own followers; first and there is little left for the government's enemies who are perishing."

"I wish to reiterate that there is no possibility of a counter revolt for the Russian peasants are incapable of acting without leaders. It was the Germans and not the people who brought about the revolution which overthrew the Emperor and later Kerensky. Before the revolution people could obtain two or three pounds of bread. Afterwards they were only allowed one-eighth of a pound, but they were too terrorized to protest."

"There are only three to five per cent. real believers in Bolshevism in Russia, and they, by using drastic measures, are able to swing the great masses over to their side."

M. Saponen said that the central government, despite the control of the local Soviets but the Bolsheviks have done considerable constructive work principally in the establishment of trade schools. Eager to educate the masses they have opened numerous kindergartens and the State takes care of the children until they reach fourteen years of age.

He criticized the Allies, military aid to the White Russians as ineffective saying that the Allies do not send supplies regularly and in sufficient quantities.

"The Finnish troops could themselves capture Petrograd as the Bolsheviks fear them above all others. As a result of the Bolshevik propaganda during the war a Bolshevik officer announced that he would rather fight the devil himself than the Finns who never knew when they were defeated. Seventy-five per cent of the task of conquering the Bolsheviks would be accomplished with the capture of Petrograd as that is the only way to impair the blind confidence of the people who are believing in Bolshevism and in the invincibility of their leaders."

M. Saponen confirmed reports of appalling conditions in Petrograd which the winter will make far worse, and said that all wooden houses had long since been burned for fuel as

well as the flooring of others.

He asserted, however, that the depletion of Petrograd's population was not due so much to starvation as to the fact that the Bolsheviks had sent away the bourgeois and had removed prisoners to the interior.

## English Manufacturer Believes in High Wages.

London, Nov. 22.—England still is suffering from low wages, declared Lord Leverhulme, one of England's best-known manufacturers, on the eve of his departure for the United States. Lord Leverhulme has set an example to British industry by application to his own business of advanced ideas in the relations of capital and labor.

"Our wage earners have inherited ideas which low wages inflicted upon them and our manufacturers have not been driven by big wages to develop labor-saving machinery," he said. "The era of low wages has passed. If our manufacturers improve their machinery and our wage earners throw aside suspicion as a policy ruinous to their own interests, we shall have a tremendous home market in England and a bigger surplus than any other nation to send abroad to pay for our raw materials."

Not only did Lord Leverhulme see no prospect that wages would fall in England but he declared that he did not wish to see them drop, but would like to see them go higher, provided always that production kept pace with the advance in wages.

Asked by a representative of the Daily Chronicle what he would do to raise money if he were chancellor of the exchequer, Lord Leverhulme replied:

"I should institute a tax on trading profits, starting at profits of 2,000 pounds so as not to hurt the little business. It wouldn't be a graduated tax; that spoils the whole thing. It would be a tax of five per cent on all trading profits above 2,000 pounds. Now see what that tax would do. It would stimulate industry. A levy on capital ripples industry; but a tax on profits sucks industry up; makes it think harder and work harder."

"Such a tax as I suggest which would fall on the ordinary shareholder who would still have to pay income tax, and if liable, his super-tax, would have a quickening effect in the whole region of industry. Income tax is hard on the person with a small 'xed income, but it is a stimulus to a man in business who can easily increase his profits by thinking more clearly, working much harder, and acting with more faith and courage. 'o, in precisely the like manner, a profit's tax would act on British industry."

## 10,000 German Locomotives Idle.

Coblenz, Nov. 23.—Ten thousand locomotives are idle in the repair shops of Germany according to railroad men who conferred recently in Coblenz with Pierrepoint B. Noyes, the American representative on the Inter-Allied Rhineland High Commission. The meeting was called for the purpose of discussing the coal shortage in Germany and the part the railroads are to play in distributing fuel this winter.

The labor representative, at the conference, contended that the German workmen are not holding back in efforts being made to meet the economic difficulties facing the country. The chief trouble in repairing the locomotives, the railroad men asserted, was lack of proper raw material which Germany had been unable to secure since the armistice.

The railroad men asserted that the men in the railroad shops realized the responsibilities placed upon them to repair locomotives and that there was no desire on the part of these workmen to slow upon this work.

The average wage in the railroad shops is sixteen marks a day. The mark, at the present rate of exchange at army headquarters in Coblenz, is valued at a fraction less than three and a half cents.

## English People Save Coppers for Christmas.

London, Nov. 17.—The dearth of bronze coinage with which London is now faced is attributed to the approach of Christmas when many articles that cost a few cents are bought, shopkeepers with no banking account, are in the habit of hoarding coppers until after Christmas.

An official at the mint said that they were pouring out more coins than ever before but that seems to make no difference for the demand is constantly growing.

## CALMER NOW IN EGYPT

### Situation In Cairo Generally Improving

Cairo, Dec. 24.—The situation here has generally improved, following the recent disturbances in which several persons were killed and others injured. The demonstrations are subsiding.

## His Natal Day.

Thou blessed Christ, the Lord of earth, We hail this day that gave Thee birth, Our hearts, in humble thankfulness, We tune, Thy holy name to bless.

We thank Thee for Thy wondrous love, That brought Thee down from Heaven above, And with Thy coming, Thou broughtest light, To shine out o'er earth's darkening night.

Thou broughtest to this vale of tears, With all its griefs, and pain, and fears, O holy love, that with Thee came, And on human altars lit the flame.

Of hope, and peace, and sweet content, A wondrous radiance Thou hast lent To light the path where mortals tread, And turn their footsteps back to God.

O, holy One, Thou Bethlehem Child, Who walked with men, pure undefiled, No sin e'er touched Thy holy heart, Though in man's sins Thou had a part.

For sin Thou came, for sin Thou died, On Calvary's brow wert crucified, Thy dear life's blood flowed on the Cross, Poor man to rescue from his loss.

In agony, and shame, and grief, Thou died that man might find relief, That man from sin might be set free, To live, and move, and be in Thee.

But Thou didn't more than Thy life give, That man might only partly live, Thou conquered death, o'ercame the grave, Eternal hope to mortals gave.

Thy natal day, O, holy One, Thou Son of Man, and God's own Son, Thy praise and glory shall be great, While Thy natal day we celebrate.

Thy love, our hearts shall thrill with joy, Thy service shall our hands employ, For this glad day we'll spend for Thee, In helpful, Christ-like ministry.

And when the sun shall sink to rest, Full many a heart, supremely blest, Will turn in thankfulness to say: "We praise Thee for this Christmas day."

—Rev. E. W. Reynolds.  
Sumter, Dec. 22nd.

## Smith-Jones Wedding.

Last night the home of Mrs. Dora E. Dennis at 117 South Harvin Street was the scene of a very pretty home wedding, when Mary Louise Smith, second daughter of Mrs. Dennis, became the bride of John Ernest Jones of Columbia.

The hall, parlor and dining room were tastefully decorated, the color scheme being carried out in green and white. The bride carried a bouquet of American Beauty roses. The bridesmaids were Miss Earl Dennis, sister of the bride and Miss Rena Myers, a cousin. The matron of honor, Mrs. J. F. Powell, of Macon, Ga., the bride's sister, wore a gown of black georgette and lace.

The out-of-town guests were: Mrs. J. F. Powell and daughter Frances of Macon; J. M. Smith and little daughter of Jacksonville and Mrs. S. C. Entenza of Jacksonville.

After the ceremony punch was served in the dining room, after which a wedding party attended a dance in honor of the bride. The bride and groom left later for points in North Carolina to visit relatives.

For the marriage ceremony the bride was attired in a traveling suit of blue broad cloth, brown beaver hat, shoes and gloves to match. The ring ceremony was used. Rev. Ferguson of Broad Street Methodist church officiated.

Mrs. Scaries at the piano and Mr. Girard with the violin furnished pretty and appropriate music.

After the honeymoon the young couple will be at home to their friends at 1309 Blanding Street, Columbia.