

## DECKER HITS BACK AT NAVY SECRETARY

Letter Makes Harsh Charge Against Daniels.

### MOTIVES ALLEGED WRONG

Interests of Service Declared to Require Protection Against Civilian Encroachment.

WASHINGTON, June 26.—The Sims-Daniels row over the navy's conduct of the war was revived today with the publication of a letter from Rear-Admiral Benton C. Decker, commandant of the 7th naval district, in which he charges that Secretary Daniels in his testimony before the senate investigating committee "intentionally and deliberately" misrepresented certain acts of Rear-Admirals Sims, Fullam and Pike.

The letter, dated June 17 and addressed to Chief of Staff, was received by the committee, was published in the Army and Navy Register, a service magazine. Admiral Decker said he also had sent a copy of it to Secretary Daniels.

Admiral Decker formerly was naval attaché at Madrid, but was removed during the war. Secretary Daniels has stated that his removal followed representations from Ambassador Willard to the state department that he was encroaching on diplomatic functions in his activities there.

Statements Declared Twisted.

The admiral declared in his letter that "from my personal knowledge of Mr. Daniels' character I am led to believe that whatever is cited in his statements to the discredit of officers is so perverted and twisted as to give the actual facts a false meaning."

"It is probable and more than likely," Admiral Decker's letter said, "that if these officers had bowed down and had served the needs of Mr. Daniels worshiped, they would today have been fattening on the navy as commanders of the most active duty or in pleasant jobs in Washington. To me, as to other high officers of the navy, it has come that if we would bow down to the wishes of Mr. Daniels we would receive the rewards therefor—intimations that we are being considered for promotion by circuitous routes and other hand, sneaking ways, so that no one can take hold of them."

"My explanation of the incidents set forth by Mr. Daniels is based upon my personal experience with him. This explanation is that Mr. Daniels found these officers' activities to be a hindrance to the limit of demoralizing and degrading the navy; that, even though they honestly desired the best for the promotion of their career which all honorable men reasonably desire, they were not willing to sacrifice their character, their standards and their country. And as a result, Mr. Daniels determined to break them by the use of all the power of his high office, by the use of the power of ridicule, sarcasm and half truths, that as a newspaper man he has learned how to do so skillfully; by the use of strength of publicity secured through his newspaper connections, all the weapons which Prussianism used to destroy its enemies, and autocracy has used through the ages to maintain its power."

Upright Standard Maintained.

"In my opinion, all credit is due to these men that they have stood up to the end and upheld the standard of upright, honest, loyal, self-sacrificing, hard work and gentlemanly conduct, attributes that the ideal naval officer has always possessed."

"I have no desire in this letter to bring out my personal experiences with Mr. Daniels but he knows of them and he knows, if he knows the difference between right and wrong, that he has been dishonest; that he has been autocratic; that he has abused his power; that he has done all this for unworthy motives."

"In any reorganization of the navy today," Admiral Decker continued, "the navy needs and the best interests of the country demand that there shall be placed in the navy department a naval officer big enough and broad enough and of sufficient ability to maintain the standards of the navy against the encroachments of the civilian secretaries who seek to make of the navy a political organization."

In another letter to Chairman Hale, also published in the Army and Navy Register, Admiral Decker assails Assistant Secretary Roosevelt for his references to a "holier-than-thou" group of officers at the navy war college at Newport.

Communication to a member of congress suggesting certain changes in the naval organization.

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., June 26.—Secretary Daniels would make no comment today on letters from Rear-Admiral Decker attacking him, made public at Washington by Senator Hale. He would not even read the abstracts submitted to him.

If there was anything in Admiral Decker's communications that required his attention, Mr. Daniels said, he would take it up on his return to Washington, not before.

Letter carriers' association held at Salem.

Postal employees go on record as favoring collective bargaining and more pay.

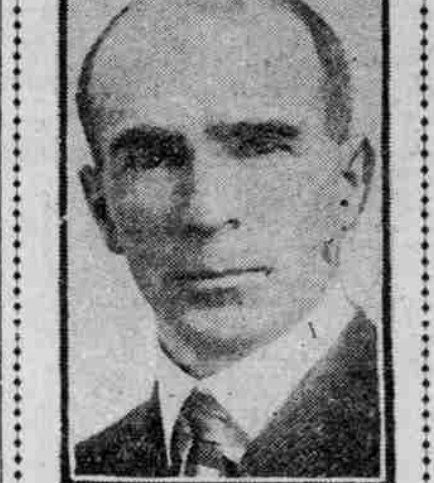
welcome, while James Elvin, in charge of the Salem Y. M. C. A., and A. G. Clark of Portland, secretary of the Oregon Associated Industries, gave brief talks. Mr. Clark paid special tribute to the men in the postal service, and urged that the government take some action to increase their compensation in proportion to the advance in the cost of living.

The set speeches of the evening were followed by a general discussion, in which the duties of the postal employees were reviewed from many angles.

Practically all towns and cities in Oregon were represented at the conventions.

Independence Day to Be Observed Quietly in Portland.

All indications point to no formal Fourth of July celebration in Portland this year. At least nothing has been planned yet and in view of the



Professor Colin V. Dymont, new dean of literature, science and the arts, University of Oregon.

festivities incident to the Shrine and other national conventions it is very doubtful if any organization will undertake the task of staging such an event.

However, Independence day will not go by without some activity in its honor. It is probable that a patriotic rally will be staged and in the nearby cities and towns old-fashioned Fourth of July celebrations will be in progress.

A warning against the sale or use of fireworks or firearms within the city limits was issued yesterday by Fire Marshal Greenleaf. No sort of fireworks, not even the small sparklers, are permitted.

Roosevelt Club Active.

Ralph E. Williams, republican national committeeman, will be chairman when the Roosevelt Republican club holds its meeting tomorrow night in the assembly hall of the central library. The principal speakers will be delegates to the national convention at Chicago, among them Dewey, Walker, Hamilton Johnston, Conrad P. Olson and Wallace McCamant. The delegates will give sidelights on the convention and will formally open the campaign for Harding and Coolidge. In the primaries the Roosevelt club was neutral, but now that there is a ticket, the club enters the campaign as an active republican organization.

Phone your want ads to The Oregonian, Main 7070, Automatic 559-25.

## LETTER CARRIERS CONFER

ASSOCIATION CONVENTION IS HELD AT SALEM.

Postal Employees Go on Record as Favoring Collective Bargaining and More Pay.

SALEM, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—More than 100 members of the Oregon Association of Letter Carriers and National Federation of Postal Employees held their annual convention here today.

The federation of postal employees went on record favoring collective bargaining in improving their present conditions, increased wages to offset the steadily advancing cost of living, and placed their stamp of disapproval on the government regulations depriving employees who have not been in the service for one year of their annual vacation equivalent to one and one-fourth days a month.

C. M. Houston of Medford was elected president of the federation while Miss Zola Zeigler of Portland was named secretary. I. P. Inman of Eugene was elected treasurer.

F. A. Baker of Salem was elected president of the association of letter carriers. Other officers of this organization include John Goring of Albany, vice-president, and Fred P. Holme of Portland, secretary and treasurer.

## C. V. DYMENT NAMED DEAN

UNIVERSITY REGENTS CHOOSE SUCCESSOR TO DR. STRAUB.

New Executive an Honor Student of Toronto and Newspaper Man of the Northwest.

EUGENE, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—Colin V. Dymont, newspaper man, professor and Red Cross worker overseas, is the new dean of the college of literature, science and the arts at the University of Oregon, succeeding Dean John Straub, known as "father" of all freshman classes and still dean of men.

Professor Dymont was an honor student of Toronto university, Canada, for years a newspaper executive on several large journals throughout the northwest and professor of journalism in the University of Oregon. From there he went to head the department of journalism at the University of Washington. With the outbreak of the war he entered Red Cross service, working with the 1st division overseas.

Last fall Professor Dymont became executive secretary of the University of Oregon's extension center in Portland, teaching classes in journalism in Eugene as well. The university's share of the successful campaign for the higher educational referendum bill was in his hands, a work scarcely completed before he was elected to his present high office.

Professor Dymont has coached the students of the university at soccer and basketball. He is known as a man who heeds absolutely to the line of accuracy and fairness.

## SERMON BASED ON MARCH

VANCOUVER PASTOR IS IMPRESSED WITH SHRINERS.

Spiritual Interpretation of Parade of Nobles to Be Given by Rev. A. H. Thompson.

VANCOUVER, Wash., June 26.—(Special.)—The grand Shriner's parades in Portland this week have had a great effect upon life in Vancouver. Of course the most of the residents of Vancouver went to Portland for one or more of the parades and Tuesday morning was a holiday by Mayor Percival, and all places of business closed for the day.

The Vancouver Shrine club had 24 members in uniform in line, being part of the Affili patrol from Tacoma. Rev. A. H. Thompson, pastor of the First Methodist church, was so impressed with the magnificent spectacle, and the power behind it, that he will deliver a sermon, "Message of the Marchers," at his evening service Sunday.

Mr. Thompson in his sermon will give his version of the spiritual interpretation of the Shriner's parade.

## NURSES ARE TO CONFER

State Meeting Called for Central Library Thursday and Friday.

The first state conference for public health nurses will be held at Central library Thursday and Friday, July 1 and 2. The topics to be taken up at this conference are those of common interest. The discussions will be entirely informal.

At the Thursday morning session the following subjects will be discussed: "Present Status of Public Health Nursing in Oregon," "Industrial Nursing," "Tuberculosis Nursing." In the afternoon school nursing will be discussed under the following heads: "Inspections," "Class Room Teachings," "Home Visits," "Cooperation of Home and School," "Relation of School Work to Pre-natal, Pre-school and Tuberculosis Nursing."

Child welfare discussions will occupy the Friday morning session, including "City Programme," "County Programme," "Clinics," "Scales," "Nurtrition Work" and "Pre-natal Work." Following this there will be held a business session of the Public Health Nurses' club.

Friday afternoon there will be a symposium on the relation of public health to "Supervising Agencies," "Professional Groups," "Public Officials," "Other Nursing Agencies" and "The Home." A discussion of the value of publicity will be held; also a discussion of "Lay Workers in Public Health Nursing," "Association of Workers" and "Home Nursing Classes" and the closing discussion will be on "Uniforms."

Tuberculosis Body to Meet.

The annual business meeting of the Oregon Tuberculosis association will be held Friday, July 2, at 4 P. M. in room A of the Central library, the president, A. L. Mills presiding. There will be reports of officers, and chairmen of standing committees and directors will be elected.

Wagon Runs Over Boy.

George Wilson, 12, of 455 East Twelfth street, received a badly bruised and cut foot early yesterday morning when a milk wagon on which he was working ran over his foot at Twelfth and Montgomery streets. He was taken to the Sellwood hospital for treatment.

## WOODRUFF GETS BERTH

SHRINE COMMITTEE SECRETARY TO GO TO ST. PAUL.

Portland Publicity Man's Work Attracts Attention of Nobles' Official Paper.

As quickly as he can conclude the mass of detail work, which is his as secretary of the 1920 Shrine committee, Mark Woodruff, newspaper man and publicity director, will depart for St. Paul.

Yesterday Woodruff accepted the position of business manager of the Crescent, the official international Shrine publication, published in St. Paul, Minn.

Harry Lewis, editor in chief of the Crescent came to Portland with the Osman temple delegation, and while here succeeded in inducing Woodruff to accept the office of business manager of the publication.

A year before Portland captured the Shrine convention, Woodruff was secretary and general publicity man for Al Kader temple. During the past year he has been secretary of the 1920 general committee, and has handled the mass of detail in connection with the staging of the largest and most successful convention ever held in North America.

It was his work, in connection with the Shrine, that attracted the attention of Editor Lewis, and the new berth comes as an unexpected reward for difficult and faithful service.

Woodruff has lived in Portland 15 years. For many years he was a member of the reportorial staff of The Oregonian. Later he was publicity secretary of the Portland Chamber of Commerce and it was his idea that caused the formation of the Northwest Tourist association, now spreading thousands of dollars each year in spreading the gospel of the great northwest throughout the United States.

WIFE CHARGES CHOKING

Woman Asks for \$2520, Unpaid Alimony Since 1912.

The role of an ungrateful husband is described in detail in a divorce complaint filed yesterday by Blanche Webster against Howard Webster, whom she married in 1917. The plaintiff states that although she had to work in hotels and support herself and baby girl, her husband showed his affection by choking her, bruising her about the neck and face and slapping her frequently.

George C. Macpherson also seeks a divorce from Bessie L. Macpherson, whom he married in 1906. His wife, he says, left him in 1913 and is living in her old home in Tennessee.

Not a divorce, but unpaid alimony is asked by Martha P. Culbertson in a suit filed against William C. Culbertson, in which it is claimed the defendant has failed to pay \$3220. A divorce was granted in 1912, and Mrs. Culbertson was allowed \$40 per month alimony.

\$106,736 Spent on Lane Roads.

EUGENE, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—Of the \$106,722.20 expended by Lane county during the first six months of the present year \$106,736.56 went into roads and highways, according to a report just issued by County Clerk B. S. Bryson.

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## FIRE HAZARDS EXPLAINED

HEAD OF PREVENTION BUREAU TAKING TRIP.

Moving Pictures Will Be Shown, Depicting Big Conflagrations and Their Causes.

SALEM, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—The campaign to eliminate all fire hazards in Oregon will be resumed Monday, when Jay Stevens, head of the fire prevention bureau of the Pacific, accompanied by Horace Sykes and Gilbert W. Allen, deputy state fire marshals, will leave the capital on a trip to many sections of the state.

Mr. Stevens arrived in Salem today from Portland and tonight was a guest of honor at a dinner served on the banks of the Willamette river by the employees of the state fire marshals' department.

In addition to giving talks on fire prevention, Mr. Stevens will present a number of moving pictures depicting disastrous fires and their causes. Fatty Arbuckle plays the leading role in many of these films, which will be shown in Oregon for the first time next week.

Cities to be visited by Mr. Stevens together with the dates, follow: Tillamook, June 28; Bay City, June 29; Forest Grove, June 30; Hood River, July 1; The Dalles, July 2; Oregon City, July 3; Albany, July 4; Marshfield, July 5; North Bend, July 6; Coquille, July 9; Astoria, July 12; Dallas, July 13, and Corvallis, July 14.

The fire prevention campaign in Oregon was started under the direction of A. C. Barber, state insurance commissioner, last summer, with the result that surveys were made in many eastern Oregon towns. This year similar surveys will be made in all other parts of the state, according to Mr. Barber.

## MARINE SEEKS RECRUITS

Sergeant at Medford to Launch Campaign for "Boots."

MEDFORD, Or., June 26.—(Special.)—The marine corps will launch an active campaign for recruits in southern Oregon, announced Sergeant P. S. Williamson, who arrived from Mare Island in this city today to take charge of the Medford recruiting station, relieving Sergeant Henry, who has been detailed to the Portland recruiting office.

Sergeant Williamson served with the marines with the rank of second lieutenant during the war.

Mail to Get In Earlier.

Announcement has been made by the passenger department of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation company that, effective July 11, the Union Pacific fast mail train which brings the through mail from Chicago and the east will arrive at 7:45 A. M. This is No. 5 on the Oregon-Washington main line, and on the present time card is due at the Portland union station at noon.

The change will be welcomed by business men as it will enable distribution and delivery of eastern mail by the second morning delivery, allowing more time for answering letters on the day of their arrival.

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