

BAD CHARGES DR. MINGUS ON ARE ALLEGED THE CHARGES

(Continued from page 1.)

Whiteom, "who never saw actual service. They went out expecting a vacation. Instead they found seaman's work and seaman's fare, neither of which they were used to. Because they were soft and not accustomed to the hard work or the scant, coarse food served them, they naturally felt that they were abused. I don't want to see them do anything rash, however, for they probably will injure themselves worse than they are aware of if they do."

Thomas P. Clemens, the steward, made a full statement at the meeting of the conditions that he said he had observed upon the ship, and his statements were partially corroborated by others present at the meeting. "Reynolds hired me on July 3," Clemens said, "to go on the cruise from Elliott's Restaurant in this city to act as steward, and to cook for the six regulars aboard the ship. Instead of filling the office for which I was hired, I was relegated to the position of a private waiter in his own cabin, and acted as a sort of bartender to him. He made no mention of the conditions in the seaman's mess, and did not appear to know of the dissatisfaction among the men until last Sunday night."

"The rations were so bad that the men got in the habit of hissing and growling at mess time. In the meantime, while I was waiting on Captain Reynolds, A. J. Capron, the paymaster, had appointed another man to act as steward, but when he called me in and asked me what was the trouble among the men, Captain Reynolds did not know anything about this arrangement. I was told that he should look over the bill of fare served the men each day, but to my knowledge, he did not do so until Sunday evening."

"On Saturday evening, at Astoria, Captain Reynolds entertained some of the officers from the mosquito fleet in his cabin, and during this dinner he kept me and four of the men busy in the pantry serving liquor to his party from 6:30 o'clock until nearly midnight. Captain Reynolds treated me abusively and when I couldn't uncork champagne bottles fast enough to suit him, ordered me to break the necks of them. The four boys I had assisting me in the pantry and who were witnesses of the whole affair were all under age, and were considerably shocked by the affair."

"I kept count of the liquor that was consumed by the party of ten, and during the evening I opened 19 pints of champagne, 38 bottles of beer, four bottles of bourbon whisky, one quart of cocktails and four quarts of imported French wine."

"The fellows who were with me in the pantry were Frank Steppick of Montavilla; Earnest Bunke, age 16, of 440 Miller avenue; Jack Kavanaugh, aged 17, of 897 Missouri avenue; Henry Strathouse, age 17 of 441 East Yamhill, and Norman Patterson, aged 19, of 449 East Yamhill. I was so disgusted with the whole job that I have resigned from my position. "Saturday night was not the only

Says That Officers and Men Are Entitled to Highest Praise For Success.

"The Oregon Naval Militia and the people should rejoice over the safely bringing of the Boston to Coos Bay and not stop to pay attention to the muck-racking and petty-bickering that always arises," remarked Dr. Mingus, one of the officers who assisted in bringing the Boston to Coos Bay when his attention was called this morning to the article in the Oregonian in which the trip was severely censured.

"I did not see one bottle of champagne opened aboard the Boston," continued Dr. Mingus. "So far as the food was concerned, I heard complain about it and took it up with Paymaster Capron who had had experience on such trips. He assured me that the men were getting ten per cent more than the usual allowance of rations. I also examined the food and saw that its preparation was absolutely sanitary."

"Some criticized because the officers had a better table than the men. The officers personally bought and paid out of their own pockets some extra rations besides the government allowance."

"Of course there were some errors made on the trip but they were due to inexperience. If the men and officers could make such cruises without errors, there would be no necessity of organizing a naval militia and calling on the government for regular men to instruct us. Next time we will do better and in time, I hope we will not make any mistakes."

"Another thing is that most the men were without any experience and the strict regulations and conditions were different than they expected. "As a whole I think it was a very successful trip and I think the officers and men are to be congratulated on the big success instead of being criticized for any little, meager error that might have occurred."

Other officers of the Boston did not care to make any official statement other than to characterize the attack printed in the Oregonian as an outrage. One of the officers called attention to the high commendation paid by the Rev. J. Richard Olson, formerly pastor of the Marshfield Lutheran church and Chaplain of the Naval Militia, to the moral showing made by the men on the trip. They declared that this should be absolute refutation of the charges.

occasion on which I had experience with Captain Reynolds' drinking. During the whole cruise he used to ring for the boy at any time and send out for me to come in and bring him a bottle of whisky or something else to drink. The party he held on Saturday night was the worst affair, however."

"As to the rations, he said, they were scanty and not very good, and I don't blame the men for complaining about them."

Officers of the Naval Militia, who went on the cruise, while not prepared to make an official statement last night, were unanimous in declaring that the charges made against Captain Reynolds by Clemens were preposterous. The rations served the men during the cruise were regular naval rations they say.

Lieutenant-Commander Wolf, chief surgeon, said that after the second day out, the rations, which had been the same as are served in the regular navy, were increased, not, however, on account of any complaint of the men.

"The officers may have had better fare than the men," he said, "but they paid for their own mess out of their own pockets. It was not secured with state funds."

"As to Captain Reynolds, I can vouch that at no time during the cruise, to my knowledge, was he intoxicated, as Clemens, the steward asserted."

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