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NAVY LATE TO START VESSEL CONVOY--SIMS

Fleet Was Kept at Home Despite His Warnings That Danger Was in East Atlantic, He Says.

SYSTEM FINALLY WON

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 12—Disregard by the navy department of his recommendations with regard to adoption of the convoy system was described by Admiral Sims today as "infinitely more serious" in its bearing on the war, than other cases of alleged inefficiency cited in previous testimony before the senate investigating committee.

Admiral Sims said that early in 1917 the allies were compelled by the submarines to adopt the convoy plan for protecting shipping and that on May 1 he "urgently recommended" that the United States give it its cooperation, but it was not until June 20 that Secretary Daniels replied he considered American vessels having armed guards were safer when sailing independently.

URGED IT MANY TIMES

The Admiral said he again urged the immediate adoption of the convoy system and stated his belief that armament merchantmen did not offer sufficient safeguard against submarine attacks.

On July 1 he received a cable outlining an entirely new plan of protecting merchant ships, formulated in the department, which he said was widely at variance with the British and French systems and which he cabled the department would be a "fundamental military error" resulting in "direct assistance to the enemy."

CAST ASIDE BY BRITISH

In answer the navy department submitted another plan, he said, and asked that he present it to the British admiral. He did so and was told that the proposal had been tried out by the allies early in the war without success, and that the admiralty desired assurance of American co-operation in the convoy plan so the first convoy might sail from New York July 8.

About the same time Admiral Jellicoe wrote expressing grave apprehension for the success of the convoying system unless the United States decided to participate, the admiral stated.

Finally, on July 22, the navy department accepted the convoy plan for troop ships and later accepted it for supply vessels, the admiral testified, but only after great pressure had been brought to bear by the other allies and after many valuable weeks had been wasted.

Even as late as August 10, he said he received messages from the department asking that the convoy system be explained, although for "four months I had been exhausting my vocabulary in attempting to explain the system."

"It is very difficult for me to make clear to you now the desperation in which I found myself almost constantly during the early months of the war," Admiral Sims said. "I reiterate there was no question that these recommendations were right. The fact remains that they were actually adopted in the end."

A misconception of the problem of defending the American coast from submarine raids, was partially responsible for the failure of the navy to act on repeated recommendations as to operations abroad, during the early months of the war, said Sims.

HOME WATER FIRST, MOTO

The officer said that during the first six months of the war he was told repeatedly that operations abroad would be depended upon what could be spared from the adequate defense of home waters.

This policy was adhered to, he said, despite his efforts to convince officials in Washington that it was the consensus of allied naval opinion, as well as his own, that the best defense for the American coast lay in offensive operations against submarines in the eastern Atlantic.

As early as April 19, 1917, he said, and several times thereafter, he had informed the department of the likelihood that enemy submarines would attempt raids in American waters, to divert attention and to keep our forces out of the critical area in the eastern Atlantic through effect on public opinion."

KIND OF U-BOATS MOVEMENTS

The correspondence read by the Admiral disclosed the high degree of efficiency attained by the allied system of discovering the movements of enemy submarines.

His messages to the department founded on this information gave warnings in advance of the sailing of the two U-boats which did harass shipping in American waters, of their probable mission and of the points at which they could be expected to strike.

County To Be 50 Teachers Short Next Fall--Williams

C. O. Williams, county superintendent, from Indianapolis Thursday evening after attending a conference of the executive committee of the State Teachers' association. The session was called to discuss the rural school conditions, relative to the shortage of competent teachers.

"The state will be about 3,000 teachers shy next fall," said Williams, "and Wayne county will lack at least 50, outside of Richmond."

"Of the 80 pupils graduating from the high schools of the county, not including Richmond, only 18 are making preparations for teaching. This leaves the county with only 18 new teachers to meet the present shortage."

Commerce Board Head



Edgar S. Clark.

Edgar S. Clark has been elected chairman of the Interstate commerce commission, which recently received a broad extension of power under the Esch-Cummins bill. Clark will take office March 17, and will serve until June 30, 1921.

WINCHESTER HERALD AND JOURNAL JOIN

WINCHESTER, Ind., March 12.—Seward S. Watson, editor and proprietor of the Winchester Herald and the Beeson Brothers, editors and proprietors of the Winchester Journal announced Thursday that their respective papers had consolidated and that Thursday's issue of the Journal would be the last one under that name.

The new paper will be styled "The Winchester Herald-Journal." Mr. Watson and John Oliver, long connected with the Journal, have purchased the Journal plant, and the Beeson Brothers retire. The Journal was the oldest paper in Randolph county, having been first issued in 1843 as the "Patriot" with Henry H. Neff afterward colonel in the Mexican war, as editor and owner. In 1853 the paper changed hands and the name was changed to "Journal," which name it has used since.

The paper was owned and edited by various persons until 1870, when A. C. Beeson of Hancock county, Indiana, purchased the plant. He edited and published the paper until his death in 1903. Since that time the paper has been managed by his two sons, Will E. and Charles H. Beeson.

HERALD IS OLD GAZETTE. The Herald was the outgrowth of the old Winchester Gazette, which was first published in 1873, with a brief existence. In 1876 James G. Brice, former county school examiner bought the plant and began publishing the Herald, which has continued by that name until this time. As many as 12 persons have owned and edited the Herald in the 44 years of its existence, among them being Enos L. Watson, father of Senator James E. Watson, Charles and Seward Watson, brothers, and Union B. Hunt, former secretary of state. Seward S. Watson has been the editor and publisher of the Herald and the Herald have openly supported the Republican party during their entire history. Winchester will henceforth have two papers, the Democrat and the Journal-Herald.

Dr. Rae's Salary Raised By First Presbyterian

W. J. Blackmore was elected superintendent of the Sunday school and all other officers of the First Presbyterian church whose terms expired were re-elected at the annual church meeting which followed a picnic supper at the church Thursday night.

Reports of different organizations of the church were reported. The general financial report made was gratifying, it was stated. Dr. J. J. Rae's salary was increased.

Members of the church voted to change the time of the annual meeting from the second Thursday in March to the first Thursday in April. Over 200 persons attended the supper.

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Richmond Must Wait for Census, Thinks Jess Stevens

It will be some time before the official census figures for Richmond will be made public, in the opinion of Jessie Stevens, district census supervisor.

"One of the Richmond portfolios was returned for correction, and it has only been a week since I sent it to Washington the second time, so it will be some time before the figures for Richmond will be announced," he said. "The county population will be delayed much longer, as there is still one precinct in the county where the portfolio has not been sent to Washington."

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Census Statistics

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Population statistics for 1920 announced today by the census bureau included:

Macon, Ga., 52,525, an increase of 11,860, or 29.2 per cent over 1910; Chattanooga, Tenn., 57,895, an increase of 13,291, or 29.8 per cent; Coatesville, Pa., 14,515, an increase of 3,431, or 31 per cent.

"SERVICE," KEYNOTE OF WORK, SAYS NEW AGRICULTURAL HEAD

(By Associated Press)

NEW YORK, March 12.—In terms of the advertising manager, Secretary of Agriculture Meredith told the members of the Merchants' association of New York Friday, of his ambition to increase the output of the department's chief product, service.

It was the first address made by Mr. Meredith since his appointment, and summarized the work done by the men in his department, while at the same time urging the advisability of increasing rather than cutting the appropriations for carrying on the work.

After paying tribute to the loyalty displayed by the employees in the department and citing cases of experts who refused positions paying much larger salaries than those they received from the government solely because of their desire to render service to the people of America, he deplored a tendency to discuss "waste," "graft" and "soft snags."

More Farm Workers.

The number of farm workers in 1919, 13,000,000, was contrasted to the number in 1870, 5,900,000, the secretary adding that in the five years, 1915 to 1919, the average production of cereals per farm worker was 418 bushels.

"These figures are interesting," he said, "and particularly so in connection with the high cost of living. The cost of living problem is a mutual one for all of us. It is the farmers' problem, it is the laborer's problem and it is the business man's problem."

If there are more men on the farm farming more acres, each acre producing more per acre, and each man producing more per man, giving each and every one of us today more of the six leading cereals per capita than we have had before, it seems to me the farmer is doing his part pretty well."

Columbia University Department Head to Talk on Teaching Situation

Dr. George D. Strayer, who will address county and city teachers and the public on the present teacher crisis, in the high school auditorium Saturday at 2:30 p. m., is known throughout the United States and abroad as an authority on teachers and education. He is said to know more about any one else in America the facts about the present shortage.

Dr. Strayer is head of the department of school administration in Columbia university. He is past president of the National Education association, and chairman at present of the commission on emergency in education of the association.

Superintendent J. H. Bentley urged Friday that every man and woman who can in Richmond and the county at large attend the meeting Saturday afternoon.

Went to Headquarters for His; Nearly Got Away With Richmond Police Flivver

The nerviest thief in city annals, is the verdict rendered at police headquarters on Gail Hawkins, a former trusty in the county jail, who Thursday night tried to sneak the police flivver out under the very noses of the entire force.

Hawkins was just released from the county jail Thursday after serving 65 days for petit larceny. A trusty, he had been going to the city and purchasing supplies for the jail, so he got three dozen cookies from a local bakery, charging them to the county, and then drifted around to the garage for the car.

Hawkins was caught in the act of getting away after he had disposed of the car. He was bound over to the circuit court. Friday.

Forward Movement Meetings Are Success, Workers Report

Friends Forward Movement conferences closed at Mooresville, Ind., and Van Wert, Ohio, Friday, it was announced at the headquarters in Richmond.

Fred E. Smith of Amboy, Charles T. Moore, and the Rev. Ida Parker of West Elkton, and Solomon Tice of Mexico presented the conference work in Van Wert county.

Levi T. Pennington, the Rev. Errol D. Peckham, Fred Smith, Herbert Wollam will set up Forward Movement work in Greensborough, N. C., on March 16 and 17.

Mrs. Sophia Benfeldt, Widow of Zachary Benfeldt, Dead

Mrs. Sophia Benfeldt, 70 years old, and widow of the late Zachary Benfeldt, a prominent Richmond contractor, died at 3 a. m. Friday at her home at Thirteenth street and South Main.

She is survived by four sons, Walter P. of Richmond, Ernest F. and Paul A. of Lakewood, Ohio, and James O. of Battle Creek, Michigan; four daughters, Mrs. Hubert Meyer of Marion, Indiana; Mrs. James Johns and Miss Freda Benfeldt, of Richmond, and Mrs. Guy Graham, of Marion, Indiana; by 12 grandchildren, four brothers and one sister.

Funeral services will be held at the home at 2 p. m. Sunday, and will be private. Burial will be in Luthernia. Friends may call Saturday afternoon and evening.

Military Funeral, Monday Morning, for Roland Walls

Military funeral services for Roland Walls will be conducted by members of the American Legion.

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News From Japan



Mrs. Zell Hart Deming.

Mrs. Zell Hart Deming, publisher of an Ohio newspaper, and the only woman member of the Associated Press, has just returned from the far east. She states that the Japanese resent the views of the American press on Korea and Shantung, and that they have only a desire for friendly relations with this country.

MUST HOLD TO OLD IDEALS, SAYS WOOD

(By Associated Press)

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 12.—Approval of the peace treaty, with reservations that will Americanize it better pay for school teachers, freedom of courts from political influences and a national department of public health, were among the things advocated by Leonard Wood, in a speech delivered here today at a luncheon given in his honor at the Columbia club.

"Hold on to the constitution," the general advised. "Just for the present conditions the world over are very uneasy," he said. "There is a curious feeling of unrest throughout the world. We want to hold on to the traditions and policies which have made us what we are. We want to hold on to the constitution. We want to stand for law and order. We want to stand against class legislation.

Autocracy Not to Be Tolerated.

"We want to stand against any autocracy of wealth or any autocracy of labor. We want to progress but we want no blind leap in the dark. We want to know that our feet are on the ground, to keep our ideals high, our eyes to the front, and not jump too rapidly just now. Hold on to the things we know are stable. Go ahead but know definitely where we are going."

"We want to keep up our public school system. We want to pay our teachers better, but you are not going to find anything that is startling or new. You know the people who find so many new things are the people who do not know about the things that have gone before. The more ignorant a man is the more prompt he is in passing out new advice and going."

Pays Tribute to Hoosiers.

Truly he noted Hoosiers with whom he has had personal contact were paid by General Wood.

"My first contact with the army was largely through Major-General Henry W. Lawton, the distinguished soldier of Indiana," the general explained. "Another distinguished son of Indiana whom I have known for years is Albert J. Beverage. Still another distinguished son of Indiana was President Benjamin Harrison, who was the first president with whom I came in what might be called intimate personal contact. Then again, there is your own Will H. Hays, who is doing so much to push Indiana forward in the field of national politics."

Vocational Board Asks For an Investigation

(By Associated Press)

WASHINGTON, March 12.—The federal board for vocational education has asked for an investigation of charges that it had instructed its agents to be "hard boiled" in dealing with soldiers seeking educational re-education.

Chairman Fess, of the house education committee announced today that the inquiry would be started by his committee tomorrow.

Weather Forecast

For Indiana, by the United States Weather Bureau.—Local snows and much colder tonight; Saturday fair; strong northwest to north winds.

Yesterday.....

Maximum 57

Minimum 42

Today.....

Maximum 57

Minimum 42