

Henry, St. Charles, Cedar, Dade, Lawrence and Barry; all that part of Illinois not included in District No. 7; all that part of Indiana not included in District No. 7; all that part of Kentucky not included in District No. 4; all that part of Tennessee not included in District No. 6; and all that part of Mississippi not included in District No. 6 with the city of St. Louis, Missouri, as the location of the federal reserve bank. This district contains 434 national banks, with a total capital stock of \$6,219,323.

District No. 9. The states of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, all that part of Wisconsin not included in District No. 7; and all that part of Michigan not included in District No. 7, with the city of Minneapolis, Minnesota, as the location of the federal reserve bank. This district contains 687 national banks, with a total capital stock of \$4,702,864.

District No. 10. The states of Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming, all that part of Missouri not included in District No. 8; all that part of Oklahoma north of a line forming the southern boundary of the following counties: Ellis, Dewey, Blaine, Canadian, Cleveland, Pottawatomie, Seminole, Okfuskee, McIntosh, Muskogee and Sequoyah; and all that part of New Mexico north of a line forming the southern boundary of the following counties: McKinley, Sandoval, Santa Fe, San Miguel and Union, with the city of Kansas City, Missouri, as the location of the federal reserve bank. This district contains 835 national banks, with a total capital stock of \$5,594,916.

District No. 11. The state of Texas, all that part of New Mexico not included in District No. 10; all that part of Oklahoma not included in District No. 10; all that part of Louisiana not included in District No. 6, and the following counties in the state of Arizona: Pima, Graham, Greenlee, Cochise, and Santa Cruz, with the city of Dallas Texas, as the location of the federal reserve bank. This district contains 726 national banks, with a total capital stock of \$5,634,091.

District No. 12. The states of California, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada and Utah, and all that part of Arizona not included in District No. 11, with the city of San Francisco, California, as the location of the federal reserve bank. This district contains 514 national banks, with a total capital stock of \$8,115,524.

The committee was impressed with the growth and development of the state of Idaho, Washington and Oregon, but on the basis of six per cent of the capital stock and surplus of national banks and state banks and trust companies which have applied for membership, that section could not provide the \$4,000,000 minimum capital stock required by the law. With the continued growth of that region, it is reasonable to expect that in a few years the capital and surplus of its member banks will be sufficient to justify the creation of an additional federal reserve district, at which time application may be made to the congress for a grant of the necessary authority.

It is no part of the duty of the organization committee to locate branches of the federal reserve banks. The law specifically provides that "each federal reserve bank shall establish branch banks within the federal reserve district in which it is located." As the material collected by the committee will be placed at the disposal of the federal reserve banks and the federal reserve board when they are organized and ready to consider the establishment of branch banks.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WINE MESS ABOLISHED

Secretary Daniels has issued an order abolishing the wine mess on board all ships and stations in the United States navy. The order puts into effect the same rule with reference to intoxicants in the navy which the laws of congress have imposed in the army. The secretary issued this order upon the recommendation of the surgeon general of the navy. The order, which goes into effect on the first of July, is in these words:

"The use or introduction for drinking purposes of alcoholic liquors on board any naval vessel, or within any navy yard or station is strictly prohibited, and commanding officers will be held directly responsible for the enforcement of this order."

The above order is substituted by the secretary for section 827, naval instructions, which it annuls.

In his letter to the secretary, the surgeon general, who came to his present high position di-

rectly from detail on sea-duty as surgeon of the Atlantic fleet, and from his long experience has had the best opportunity for judging of the wine mess, gives convincing reasons why the rule of excluding intoxicants, which has long prevailed as to the enlisted men, should be extended also to the officers. Commenting upon the recommendation of the surgeon general for ending the wine mess, Secretary Daniels said:

"I am in hearty agreement with the views expressed by the surgeon general in his paper accompanying the recommendation. There should not be on ship-board, with reference to intoxicants, one rule for officers and another and a different rule for the enlisted personnel. The saddest hour in my official life is when an officer or enlisted man must be punished for intoxication. During the past week it has been my painful duty to approve a courtmartial for dismissal from the service of an officer for intoxication. He told me that he had never tasted intoxicating drink until he did so in the wine mess on his cruises. Others, who have been disciplined for drinking to excess, have made similar statements to me. Officers are now commissioned at the early age of twenty-two years. Has the government a right to permit this temptation which too often destroys the highest usefulness of young officers? I think not. If there is one profession more than any other that calls for a clear head and a steady hand it is the naval profession. Experience has shown the wisdom of having no intoxicants on our ships for the young men who enlist. I believe experience has demonstrated that a uniform rule should prevail in the navy for all who enlist in the service, from the highest rank to the youngest enlisted man or officer who comes into the service, and that the abolition of the wine mess will be justified."

SURGEON GENERAL'S RECOMMENDATION

"In accordance with your request, based, in part, upon a perusal of the enclosed copy of an article by Colonel L. M. Maus, medical corps, U. S. navy, on "Alcohol and Racial Degeneracy," I present herewith certain information relative to the alcohol problem—for it is still a problem—in the navy:

"The use of alcoholic stimulants in our service was inherited, with many outgrown customs, at the very birth of the American navy, and was, until comparatively recent years, recognized officially to the extent of issuing a daily allowance of spirits on shipboard. An appreciation of the evils, directly and indirectly attendant upon the use of intoxicants, even in moderate degree, has, however, grown steadily in strength within the service itself, fostered, no doubt, by an awakening of the public sentiment distinctly unfavorable to intemperance. This is shown by a progressive diminution in the number of admissions to the sick list for alcoholism, and by the enactment of legislation tending to restrict the use of intoxicating liquors by all persons in the naval and military services of the United States.

"The 'Articles for the Government of the Navy,' which are based on law, state (Art. 13) that 'distilled spirits shall be admitted on board vessels of war only upon the order and under the control of the medical officers of such vessels, and to be used only for medicinal purposes.' As further showing of the trend of legislation, the following extract is quoted from section 38 of the 'Act to Increase the Efficiency of the Permanent Military Establishment,' approved February 2, 1901: 'The sale of, or dealing in, beer, wine or any intoxicating liquors by any person in any post exchange or canteen or army transport or upon any premises used for military purposes by the United States, is hereby prohibited.'"

"From the above it must be clear that congress has plainly set the stamp of disapproval upon the use of intoxicants by persons in the naval and military services. It is therefore of interest to inquire how far the navy department, through official orders and regulations, has participated in this movement in the way of reform. Reference to article 827, naval instructions, 1913, seems particularly informing, and attention is invited to Par. (1), which reads as follows:

"Wardroom officers may form a wine mess, of which all commissioned and warrant officers attached to the ship may become members, upon the payment of mess entrance fee; but no officer shall be required to become a member thereof. Suitable locker room for wine-mess stores shall be provided when fitting a ship for sea."

"No doubt this paragraph conforms to the letter of the laws, but it may be an open question as to how far it fulfills these laws in spirit. As matters stand today an enlisted man is, very

properly, subjected to severe disciplinary measures if wine or beer be found in his possession on shipboard, yet the same man is constantly aware of the free use of alcoholic liquors on board ship which is officially permitted to officers, and the too frequent derelictions which occur among them in consequence. The prohibition of alcohol to the men has rendered alcoholism among them almost a negligible quantity. Surely the officers should be in all respects models for the enlisted men in duty, habits and deportment, and the example of officers drinking aboard ship, as fostered by the wine mess, and the numerous courts martial of officers for drunkenness and the effects of alcohol, are destructive of discipline and morale, bad for the enlisted men, and detrimental to the reputation and good name of the service. The navy is comparable in many respects to a great business organization, but no efficient corporation in civil life would tolerate such a condition of affairs.

"The restrictive measures which are now enforced, so far as they go, accord with legislative action, are supported by public opinion and a steadily increasing service sentiment, and are based on sound moral and physiological principles: Why, then, are they effective for a part of the personnel only, instead of applying with equal force to the whole? It is difficult to find a satisfactory answer, especially in view of the youth of some of our officers, who may now be commissioned at twenty-two years of age, and the proposed reduction of the minimum to twenty. To assume that even the moderate use of alcohol will better equip them physically for forty years of active service, or mentally, to meet responsibilities of the gravest import, or intellectually, to solve problems which may involve our national existence, or morally, to represent this country at home or abroad, is against all reason. It may be stated as a fact, that, except as a temporary expedient in certain cases of illness, the use of alcohol is harmful, and its abuse disastrous, alike to the individual and to the human race. Its use in the service is based only upon outworn customs, and there is no authority, by law or otherwise, for its continuance, except as contained in the naval instructions.

"You have asked my opinion on this matter and I have expressed it frankly, uninfluenced by prejudice or traditions of the past. In view of the foregoing, I find it my plain duty to make the following recommendations:

"I. That a general order be issued, in substance as follows: "On and after July 1, 1914, the use or introduction, for drinking purposes, of alcoholic liquors on board any naval vessel, or within any navy yard or station, is strictly prohibited, and commanding officers will be held directly responsible for the enforcement of this order."

"II. That article 827, naval instructions, 1913, be revoked or modified in accordance with the general order specified above."

"It is probable that upon certain special occasions international courtesy might render it advisable to temporarily modify such a regulation: this could readily be done by departmental order. At the same time, efforts might be made to obtain an appropriation for the entertainment of our foreign guests in a manner which would avoid the possible appearance of criticising their own customs and regulations."

MONEY SAVED IN NAVY DEPARTMENT

In his recent hearings before the house naval affairs committee Secretary Daniels showed that the money saved to the government in the navy department since March 4, 1913, approximated \$2,000,000. The figures he gave were based on the difference between prices paid for certain materials this year as compared with previous prices for the same materials, the saving having been effected by securing real competition from firms not connected with the so-called iron and steel combination. In some cases these new firms have been the successful bidders and in others the knowledge that they were competing have

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 • and who believe that The Commoner can •  
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