

are sincere about your mission or not, and if your mission is for the benefit of the people.

Peculiarly so, the work of the Virgin Islands Protective League is largely for the benefit of the laboring classes.

In St. Thomas they received us, also in Frederiksted.

Before leaving America the laboring classes at this end were advised that we were coming to them on our arrival here.

We wired them, and since our arrival we have tried to meet with their leaders.

Is it possible that we should cringe like dogs and submit ourselves in such humble terms, that are indescribable?

May I ask the PUBLIC, is it fair to prejudice the minds of the MASSES, the very people whose cause we are sent to support?

They refuse to hear us, they criticize our work, and openly abuse us. Why? Because we speak the TRUTH.

To correct the report current that I am being paid by WHITE MEN to speak the way I do, I want it clearly understood that the League paid its delegates to come to these islands.

We are natives of these islands, and as such we have every right here.

The Governor gave us the right to work in these islands, and as citizens we have the right.

If the people do not want their own kindred and others in America to help take part in the reconstruction of affairs here, be frank in saying so, but before making this declaration be perfectly sure that you will not need their services at some future day.

With reference to the hooting and jeering and such remarks as we don't want to hear you, coming from the very persons whom we are sent to help, is of little or no importance to me.

I did say, however, the same influence which has worked its way into the minds of the masses, that only the views of one person is right, whether they are wrong or right, could have so evinced itself in keeping the masses as quiet, when his views were so clearly explained.

Whether people hoot, throw rotten eggs or else in America, is no reason that it should be done here.

The American Negro tells the masses of his own race to adopt the culture and refinement of West Indian Negroes for in the West Indies they don't hoot and jeer.

It is a part of our duty to teach our people to do what is RIGHT always, and not to feel that they are always right merely because their conduct in every particular, served to carry out our selfish and narrow point of view.

And in conclusion, I repeat, that I have no newspaper and am not supported by the MASSES.

Since personality has entered into the things that are detrimental to the welfare of the Public, let us thrash the differences on public platform without the least bit of malice on my part.

But, on the other hand if things must run this way, then with justice to me, and to those in America, don't criticize the work which you know nothing of, after you were asked to join with us, and have ignored us, and made your people to feel we are against them.

Deny us of JUSTICE all you may, invite all your OPPRESSION, insult us from your TOWN, underestimate our WORTH, and laugh at our ADVICES because you think you know it all, but the Virgin Islands Protective League, in the face of it all, shall live, to do for those whose thoughts are void of REASON and whose mighty POWER may some day cry for HELP.

I am, very respectfully,

ASHLEY L. TOTTEN.

Delegate, V. I. P. L.

U. S. NAVY PRESS NEWS.

February 3, 1920.

WASHINGTON: Senate today passed the Wadsworth bill increasing pay of Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Public Health Service. Officers ten per cent and enlisted men twenty per cent.

WASHINGTON: Secretary Daniels today appeared before Senate Subcommittee investigating Naval Awards. When hearing opened the Secretary presented a statement which he read to the Committee. In this he showed the personal difference between Rear Admiral Sims and Admiral Wilson, formerly Commander of American Naval Forces in French waters, which followed by omission of the latter's name from list of officers recommended for medals by Admiral Sims. Later Secretary declared Admiral Sims wrote a letter to him protesting against contemplated appointment of Admiral Wilson to Commander of Atlantic Fleet. Letter which was read to committee said "that questioning rumours had reached London that Wilson was to be named, and characterized the mistake as very grave mistake and called Secretary's attention to the trouble Admiral Wilson gave me in the discharge of my duties". Referring to difference between them Secretary said, "you can imagine the result of ordering a man of this character to command of the fleet". Taking up Admiral Sims' contentions in making of Naval Awards point by point, Secretary took direct and emphatic issues with him flanked by voluminous records. He went into details explaining changes he made. Outlined main point of difference, two most important being relative value of shore and sea duty and question of whether commanders of ships sunk should under any circumstances be honored with Distinguished Service Medals. Offers proof that shore duty is necessarily of secondary importance to sea duty. Secretary called attention at outset of testimony to fact that when Board's report came to him there

were few recommendations for meritorious armed guard service and that only one hundred and nineteen enlisted men out of half a million were recommended for any high honors. Says he ordered further investigation and many names added. Made emphatic denial of his charge that medal muss had shot to pieces the morale of the Navy, declaring that this was an insult to the officers and men of the service. Secretary called attention to Admiral Sims' testimony in which he said "our Navy was not in this war in a fighting sense. Were acting as motor lorries besieging the enemy except we were in the water". He says there was no fighting on the sea. Secretary pointed out some of the instances of fighting in which destroyers, subchasers, patrol boats, armed guard and others took part and cites some official reports. At conclusion of statement Committee adjourned until Saturday when Secretary will again appear.

WASHINGTON: Previously owned wireless stations, during the war controlled by the Navy Department, are to be restored to their owners as soon as peace is declared, Rear Admiral Griffin Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, yesterday told House Naval Committee.

PARIS: Entente rejoinder to refusal of Holland to accede to Allied demands for extradition of former Kaiser is imminent said Paris newspaper. Paper adds that while note will be generally conciliatory toward Germany it will consider in case of new refusal by Holland, measures even going so far as breaking of diplomatic relations of Naval blockade on Dutch ports.

NEW YORK: First passenger ship to sail from German port to United States since July 1918 reached yesterday when American steamer "Manchura" docked here. Sailed from Hamburg January 9th with 39 passengers.

TELEGRAMS.

ST. CROIX STATION.

Rio de Janeiro, Jan. 29th. The question as to the final disposition of the forty-five German ships, taken over by Brazil during the war, some of which were loaned to France, is again keenly occupying public attention.

London, Jan. 29th. Interest is being manifested in the bye-election at Paisley, an army of newspapermen following Mr. Asquith's tour.

London, Jan. 29th. The Government have refused to grant passports to Mr. Ramsay MacDonald and Mr. James Loxton to go Russia, as part of the delegation appointed by the International Socialist Congress at Berne.

Washington, Jan. 29th. The sale of the former German Liners taken over by the United States has been deferred.

Kingston, January 29th. The Government is considering a proposal to place the liquor traffic under State control.