

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC Josephus Daniels House; Wakestone

AND/OR COMMON Masonic Temple of Raleigh

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER 1520 Caswell Street

CITY, TOWN Raleigh \_\_\_ NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 4

STATE North Carolina VICINITY OF CODE 37 COUNTY Wake CODE 183

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE <input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL <input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL <input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL <input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: fraternal

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME Masonic Temple of Raleigh

STREET & NUMBER 1520 Caswell Street

CITY, TOWN Raleigh STATE  
North Carolina

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Wake County Courthouse

STREET & NUMBER Martin and Fayetteville Streets

CITY, TOWN Raleigh STATE  
North Carolina

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE National Register of Historic Places

DATE 1975  FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS National Register of Historic Places

CITY, TOWN STATE  
1100 L Street, NW, Washington, District of Columbia

# 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

## DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

From 1920 until his death in 1948, Josephus Daniels' Raleigh home was this expansive, 2 1/2-story, porticoed, gable-roofed, Georgian Revival structure of randomly laid, gray-and-tan, Wake County quarry stone. Named "Wakestone" by Daniels' wife, the house was begun while Daniels was still in Washington as Secretary of the Navy. According to biographer Joseph Morrison, Wakestone's "reputed cost of more than \$100,000 made Daniels scramble for enough lecture and Chataqua dates to pay for the home place," which he dearly loved. It remained Daniels' home throughout the remainder of his career as editor of the Raleigh News and Observer (1894-1948 except while holding Government posts) and as minister to Mexico (1933-41).

In 1950 Raleigh Masons purchased Wakestone from Daniels' sons and turned it into headquarters for the Masonic Temple of Raleigh. Although they did not change the front facade of Wakestone, the Masons made several external and internal alterations, including the addition of a massive rear wing in 1956-58. The appendage extends downhill from the original structure which stands atop a gently sloping hill and therefore does not significantly detract from the house when the latter is viewed from the front. Like the house the wing is constructed of Wake County stone. On the south facade of the original portion, the Masons replaced a side porch with a small, one-story, flat-roofed brick office wing. Inside, the first floor of the residence is little changed. On the second floor, however, several bedrooms have been converted into two meeting rooms.

The grounds of the nominated property include approximately 3 acres bounded on the west by Caswell Street, on the east by Glenwood Avenue, on the south and southeast by Williamson Drive, and on the north by a row of hedges. The house faces westward, toward Caswell Street, from which a semicircular gravel driveway curves past the entrance portico. To the northwest of the house and adjacent to the driveway is the original, one-story, gable-roofed, tan-and-gray stone, three-car garage. It has a storage room at each end. In a prominent position on the front lawn, a naval gun that Daniels procured from a German battleship after World War I is mounted on a low, 6-foot-square stone block. A sprawling, paved parking lot now lies to the south of the house, in an area once covered by Daniels' gardens. The Masons are considering constructing a second parking lot on the front lawn.

Excluding the 1950's rear wing, Wakestone consists of a seven-bay-wide, rectangular, 2 1/2-story main block and two 2 1/2-story, gable-roofed, stone ells that project eastward at right angles from each end of the lengthy rear facade. An original, one-story, gable-

16 Morrison, Josephus Daniels, 146.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1920-1948 BUILDER/ARCHITECT unknown

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Josephus Daniels, according to his biographer Joseph L. Morrison, "was one of the great Secretaries of the Navy" in American history.<sup>1</sup> Serving in this post from 1913 to 1921--a tenure equaled only by Gideon Welles during the administration of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson--Daniels not only successfully put his department on a war footing in 1917-1918 but made a number of significant changes in naval policies, particularly toward enlisted men. Determined, says historian Arthur S. Link, "to make the navy a training school for democracy," he introduced compulsory schooling for illiterate or poorly educated sailors, provided vocational training, opened the Naval Academy to enlisted men, and reformed the naval prison system.<sup>2</sup> Other Daniels innovations included requiring sea service for promotion; enlisting of women; banning alcoholic beverages from the officers' mess; creating the civilian-staffed Naval Consulting Board to advise the Navy on technological developments; and strengthening the Naval War College. A vigorous foe of monopoly and special privilege, Daniels fought collusive bidding for Government contracts, obtained appropriations for the construction of a Government armor plant, and battled for 8 years to protect the Navy's oil reserves. These policies alienated many naval officers, advocates of naval expansion, and businessmen, and made Daniels, according to scholar E. David Cronon, "probably the most controversial member of Wilson's cabinet."<sup>3</sup>

In 1933 President Franklin D. Roosevelt, who had served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy under Daniels, appointed him Ambassador to Mexico. During his 8 years in Mexico City, Daniels won the favor of the Mexican people and did much to advance the Good Neighbor Policy. Much of his popularity, says historian William E. Leuchtenburg, was based on his sympathy for the Mexican Government's "land and oil reforms" and his refusal "to serve as the agent to American oil interests."<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Joseph L. Morrison, Josephus Daniels: The Small-d Democrat (Chapel Hill, 1966), 140.

<sup>2</sup> Arthur S. Link, Wilson: The New Freedom (Princeton, 1956), 123.

<sup>3</sup> E. David Cronon, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement 4, (New York, 1974), 216.

<sup>4</sup> William E. Leuchtenburg, Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1932-1940 (New York, 1963), 209.

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cronon, E. David, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography Supplement 4 (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1974), 215-218.

Graham, Otis L., Jr., An Encore for Reform: The Old Progressives and the New Deal (New York: Oxford University Press, 1967).

# 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY           circa 3 acres          

UTM REFERENCES

A 

17
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71	2	60	0
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3	9	64	02	0
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ZONE    EASTING            NORTHING

B 

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ZONE    EASTING            NORTHING

C 

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D 

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the nominated property includes both the Daniels' garage and the main house and coincides with the boundary of the legal lot known as 1520 Caswell Street, Raleigh, North Carolina.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

# 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Mary Jane Gregory and Ralph Christian, Assistant Editors; and George R. Adams, Managing Editor

ORGANIZATION American Association for State and Local History      DATE January 1976

STREET & NUMBER 1400 Eighth Avenue South      TELEPHONE 615-242-5583

CITY OR TOWN Nashville      STATE Tennessee

# 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL                           STATE                           LOCAL     

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

TITLE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

<b>FOR NPS USE ONLY</b>	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
	DATE _____
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	
ATTEST:	DATE _____
KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

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Josephus  
**CONTINUATION SHEET Daniels House ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE one**

roofed, stone kitchen wing extends from the northern end of the main block. On the southern end is the recently added, one-story, flat-roofed, brick office wing. Lodged between the two ells and attached to the main block's rear facade is the large 1950's addition. This gable-and hip-roofed, T-shaped eastern extension follows the grade of the down-hill slope almost to Glenwood Avenue. A box cornice and returns ornament the eaves of the blue-green-slate-covered, gabled roof that tops the original portion of the house, and two tall stone interior chimneys rise from the front roof slope of the main block. One stands near the northern end, the other near the southern end. A smaller, stone, outside end chimney graces the north side of the main block.

A two-story, pedimented portico with entablature shelters the front entrance to Wakestone. Four white-painted, stone-based, wooden columns and two similarly constructed, squared pilasters, all bearing Egyptian style capitals, support the pediment. At the northern end of the structure a small, one-story, flat-roofed, white-painted, latticed, wooden side porch provides entry into the kitchen wing. All windows and doors of Wakestone display white-painted wood frames, and most windows are six-over-six sash with stone sills. Four gabled, 12-light dormers adorn the front slope of the main block's roof. An interesting feature of the house is the one-story, semicircular, bow window that protrudes from the rear wall of the southernmost rear ell. This window consists of three 20-light mullion windows set in a curving, stone base. Two attic windows, quarter-round in shape, flank the stone exterior chimney located at the northern end of the main block. A half-round, attic window graces the gable end of each ell.

Front entrance to Wakestone is a single, white-painted, paneled, wooden door flanked by rectangular sidelights and set within a white-painted wooden architrave that features two wooden pilasters bearing an entablature topped by a black iron balustrade that forms a balcony for a large, second-floor, 16-light, double window flanked by sidelights and capped by a 6-light transom. Wakestone also has two side doors, both single; one provides entry to the kitchen wing and the other gives access to the office wing. A door in the front facade of the kitchen wing leads to the basement. There are three exterior entrances to the large 1956-58 extension.

Immediately inside Wakestone's front door is a small, wood-paneled, original-tile-floored vestibule. A door on the left opens into a bathroom, and French double doors lead forward into the T-shaped hall. The hall has its original hardwood floor, 18-inch-thick plaster walls, wood baseboards, and white-painted plaster ceiling with molded wooden cornice.

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On the right wall, an open-well, two-flight, open-string staircase with landing displays a curving mahogany rail and white-painted wooden balusters. An original, black iron chandelier hangs from the hall ceiling. To the right of the hall is a room now used as a ladies' lounge. From the left of the hall, a short corridor leads to Daniels' study. There a brick fireplace flanked by wooden pilasters bearing a wooden mantel stands in the northwest corner, and shelves line two of the green-painted walls. In the study's rear wall, a transom-topped doorway leads into a small hallway. Here are a second staircase, an elevator installed by Daniels in 1941 for his invalid wife, and a cloakroom that the Masons converted from a closet by adding a window opening in its wall.

At the end of the right wing of the hall, a pair of French double doors opens into the little-altered, green-painted living room, which occupies the south end and ell of the house. Recently glassed-in bookshelves line the room's southern wall, and a brick fireplace with wooden mantel stands against the front wall. Directly opposite the fireplace, the rear wall curves out to form the bow window. In the living room's south wall, a door which at one time opened onto a small side porch now provides access to the one-room office wing.

At the end of the left wing of the hall, a second pair of French double doors opens into the dining room, which occupies the north end and north ell of the house. Walls in this room are also green-painted plaster. Daniels' original dining room table still furnishes the dining room, but the Masons have built a dumbwaiter into the rear wall. At the west end of the dining room, a door opens into the butler's pantry, the walls of which are lined with glassed-in cupboards. Just outside a door in the pantry's south wall, a flight of steps descends to a full basement. A door in the pantry's north wall leads into the kitchen wing, which retains its original plaster walls and white, ceramic tile wainscoting.

At the eastern or rear end of the front hall, a portion of the original wall has been demolished to provide access to the large rear wing. Here, three linoleum-covered steps lead down to a foyer, at the end of which is a set of modern double doors. The addition has linoleum flooring and cinder-block walls throughout. The downstairs portion is monopolized by an immense auditorium and stage. Upstairs are a kitchen and a large room that serves a dual purpose as both banquet hall and chapter room.

Wakestone's second floor has witnessed considerably more alteration than the first floor. Two bedrooms in the northernmost ell--above the

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CONTINUATION SHEET Daniels House ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE three

dining room---have been converted into a single meeting room. In the southernmost ell--above the living room--four more bedrooms have been converted into another lodge meeting room. A large bathroom and a janitor's room have also been installed on the second floor. During Daniels' residency, the attic contained servants' quarters, but now it is vacant.

There are two other extant structures associated with Daniels, but neither has as strong nor as lengthy an identification with him as does Wakestone. From 1913 to 1915, Daniels lived in Single Oak, a 2 1/2-story, pink stucco, gable-roofed dwelling at 2920 Cathedral Avenue, NW., in Washington, D.C., and for a brief time in 1915, he lived in a three-story, white stucco residence at 3000 Woodley Road, also in Washington. A third Washington house, which Daniels occupied from 1916 to 1921, has been demolished. It stood at 1851 Wyoming Avenue.

Josephus  
CONTINUATION SHEET Daniels House ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE one

Kilpatrick, Carroll, Roosevelt and Daniels: A Friendship in Politics (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1952).

Leuchtenburg, William E., Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, 1932-1940 (New York: Harper and Row, 1963).

Link, Arthur S., Wilson: The New Freedom (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1956).

Morrison, Joseph L., Josephus Daniels: The Small-d Democrat (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1966).

Urofsky, Melvin I., "Josephus Daniels and the Armor Trust," North Carolina Historical Review, XLV (Summer, 1968), 237-263.

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Because of his closeness to Roosevelt, Daniels ignored the hard-line policy dictated by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and according to Cronon, "ultimately paved the way for the settlement" of major differences in November 1941 and "assured a friendly neighbor to the South in World War II."<sup>5</sup>

Daniels was also one of the leading journalists of his era. As editor of the Raleigh News and Observer after 1894, he became, says Cronon, the "leading voice of reform in North Carolina and the upper South and a fervent partisan of the progressive wing of the Democratic party."<sup>6</sup> Until his death in 1948, Daniels continued to speak out for world peace, improved economic opportunity, better education, and a whole plethora of reforms.

Daniels' Raleigh residence was this spacious, 2 1/2-story, porticoed, gable-roofed stone structure in the Georgian Revival style. Known as Wakestone, the house was begun for Daniels in 1920, while he was still in Washington as Secretary of the Navy, and he occupied it until his death in 1948. Wakestone is in good condition, and, although the structure has been altered to accommodate the Masonic Temple of Raleigh, this is not readily apparent from the front. Three Washington, D.C., structures, two of them extant and one now demolished also served as Daniels' residences, but Wakestone is more closely identified with him.

Biography

Josephus Daniels was born May 18, 1862, in Washington, N.C., to Josephus and Mary S. Daniels. In 1865 his father, who was a shipwright building vessels for the Confederate Navy, was killed by Union troops in an ambush. Almost destitute, Mary S. Daniels and her three sons moved to Wilson, N.C., where she supported them by working as a seamstress and serving as postmistress. Although educational opportunities in Wilson were somewhat limited, young Josephus took full advantage of them and acquired an education which was to stand him in good stead in the years to come.

5

E. David Cronon, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement 4, 217.

6

Ibid., 216.



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CONTINUATION SHEET Daniels House ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE two

By age 16, Josephus had developed his lifelong interest in journalism, and he and one of his brothers began to publish an amateur newspaper. Soon Josephus became Wilson correspondent and subscription agent for two Raleigh newspapers, and in 1880 he became local news editor of the Wilson Advocate, a weekly country newspaper. Two years later with borrowed money he purchased the Advocate and within 3 years had acquired a substantial interest in two other rural papers. Strongly Democratic in his political leanings, he became a leading exponent of improved educational facilities, diversified agriculture, and prohibition. And he created something of a stir by refusing to accept advertising for the Louisiana lottery. In recognition of his accomplishments, the State Press Association elected him as its president shortly before his 23rd birthday in 1885.

In the summer of 1885, Daniels received his only taste of higher education when he attended the summer session of the University of North Carolina Law School. Although he passed the State bar exam in October 1885, he never practiced law. With the financial backing of Julian S. Carr, a wealthy Durham tobacco manufacturer, Daniels purchased the bankrupt Raleigh State Chronicle, which he then made one of the leading voices for better public schools and railroad regulation. By 1887 he had become influential enough in Democratic circles to win the contract for State printing from the legislature. Two years later, he attempted to make the State Chronicle a daily paper, but heavy financial reverses forced him to sell it in 1892.

In 1893 Secretary of the Interior Hoke Smith appointed Daniels chief of the appointment division, later raising him to the position of chief clerk. Late in 1894, Daniels, again with financial assistance from patron Carr purchased the Raleigh News and Observer. Returning to Raleigh in 1895, he breathed new life into the paper and made it one of the leading instruments in the overthrow of the State's Republican-Populist fusion government. Although one of the major spokesmen for Negro disfranchisement in a 1898 white supremacy campaign, Daniels, according to his biographer Joseph L. Morrison, worked to improve the educational and economic lot of Negroes and "helped create that Tar Heel climate of opinion in which a Blease or a Bilbo could not flourish."<sup>7</sup> Within a few years, Daniels, says biographer E. David Cronon, had become the "leading voice of reform in North Carolina and the upper South and

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a fervent partisan of the progressive wing of the Democratic party," advocating measures like woman suffrage, antitrust laws, and greater regulation of railroads.<sup>8</sup>

Daniels also became influential in the inner councils of the National Democratic Party. A member of the Democratic National Committee for many years, he was a close friend of William Jennings Bryan and handled the publicity effort for his 1908 Presidential campaign. In 1912 Daniels favored Woodrow Wilson for the party's nomination and served as one of his floor leaders at the Baltimore convention. In the Presidential campaign, Daniels again headed the Democratic Publicity Bureau and contributed materially to the party's victory.

In 1913 Wilson named Daniels as Secretary of the Navy. Serving in this position for the next 8 years--a tenure equaled only by Gideon Welles under the administrations of Abraham Lincoln and Andrew Johnson--Daniels, according to Morrison, "was one of the great Secretaries of the Navy" in American history.<sup>9</sup> Determined, says historian Arthur S. Link, "to make the navy a training school for democracy," he introduced compulsory schooling for illiterate or poorly educated sailors, provided vocational training, opened the Naval Academy to enlisted men, and reformed the naval prison system.<sup>10</sup> Other Daniels innovations included requiring sea service for promotion; enlisting women; banning alcoholic beverages from the officers' mess; creating the civilian-staffed Naval Consulting Board to advise the Navy on technological developments; and strengthening the Naval War College. A vigorous foe of monopoly and special privilege, he fought collusive bidding for government contracts; obtained appropriations for the construction of a Government armor plant (because says historian Melvin I. Urofsky, he wanted a "yardstick against which to measure the price and quality of private manufacture"), and battled for 8 years to protect the Navy's oil reserves.<sup>11</sup> These

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Cronon, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement 4, 217.

9Morrison, Josephus Daniels, 140.

10

Link, The New Freedom, 123.

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Melvin I. Urofsky, "Josephus Daniels and the Armor Trust," North Carolina Historical Review, XLV (Summer, 1968), 262.

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policies alienated many naval officers, advocates of naval expansion, and businessmen, and made Daniels, according to Cronon, "probably the most controversial member of Wilson's cabinet."<sup>12</sup> Despite the criticism he received, Daniels had the Navy in a reasonable state of preparedness when the United States entered World War I, and it performed creditably.

After leaving office in 1921, Daniels returned to the News and Observer and continued to play an important role in State and national politics. His efforts to protect the oil reserves while Secretary of the Navy increased his popularity in the aftermath of the Teapot Dome Scandal, causing a brief Daniels for President boom in 1924 which he quashed. During this period of his life, Daniels remained on close terms with Franklin D. Roosevelt, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Navy, and their relationship, says historian Carroll Kilpatrick, increasingly took on the "aspects of a father-son relationship."<sup>13</sup>

In 1933, shortly after Roosevelt became President he named Daniels Ambassador to Mexico. During his 8 years in Mexico City, Daniels won the favor of the Mexican people and did much to advance the Good Neighbor Policy. He strongly sympathized with the Mexican Government's land and oil reform program, much to the chagrin of American oil interests. Because of his closeness to Roosevelt, Daniels ignored the hard-line policy dictated by Secretary of State Cordell Hull, and according to Cronon, "ultimately paved the way for the settlement" of major differences in November 1941 and "assured a friendly neighbor to the South in World War II."<sup>14</sup>

In 1941 Daniels resigned his post because of his wife's poor health and returned once again to Raleigh and his newspaper. Unlike many of the older progressives, Daniels wholeheartedly supported Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, exhibiting, says historian Otis L. Graham, Jr., an "almost instinctive dislike of those in established political or social positions."<sup>15</sup> On January 15, 1948, Daniels died of pneumonia in Raleigh at the age of 85.

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Cronon, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement 4, 216.

13

Carroll Kilpatrick (ed.), Roosevelt and Daniels: A Friendship in Politics (Chapel Hill, 1952), vii.

<sup>14</sup>Cronon, "Josephus Daniels," Dictionary of American Biography, Supplement 4, 217.

<sup>15</sup>Otis L. Graham, Jr., An Encore for Reform: The Old Progressives and the New Deal (New York, 1967), 114.