

Battle Fleet Gathers Here For Welcome

Six Great Fighting Ships Follow Destroyers Into Hudson to Await Review

Victory Parade Dec. 26

Overseas Squadron, Expected Christmas, To Be Greeted at Sea

Christmas shoppers atop Riverside Drive were given a hint of the dignity of the great naval pageant to be witnessed here next Thursday when, yesterday afternoon, a fleet of six of the navy's great fighting ships, direct from their duties as guardians of the Atlantic coast, steamed up the Hudson river to Ninety-sixth Street.

The battleships came to anchor just below the half-dozen low-lying destroyers that have been riding at anchor in the river for two days, in preparation for joining the overseas fleet when it reaches the harbor, Christmas Day. With the camouflaged fighters is the hospital ship Solace, which will accompany the ships to be reviewed by the Secretary of the Navy.

The forerunner of the big fleet consisted of the Illinois, Alabama, Kentucky, Mississippi, Iowa and Indiana. Since the beginning of the war they have secured the Atlantic coast of the United States from submarine and German raiders, and all show evidence of service particularly trying of every size and description which is being carried over New York, will arrive off the Ambrose lightship about noon of Christmas Day, according to latest advices received by wireless yesterday afternoon. To meet row after another wireless will be sent to the pilots' Association, which will send boats down to meet the battle fleet on its arrival here.

Other boats, carrying representatives of the Mayor's Committee to Homecoming Soldiers, soldiers' relief organizations and city officials, will go down to meet the fleet and carry Christmas gifts to the returning seamen. There is no assurance that they will get close enough to the battleships to deliver their gifts, however, as the Atlantic, even in the partly protected spaces of the lower harbor, is a treacherous body of water at Christmas time and experienced shipmasters refuse to take any risks at this season.

In the battleships will be 35,000 officers and men, practically all of whom will have shore leave immediately following the victory parade down Fifth Avenue Thursday afternoon. The men will be met by the fleet and will result that they will bring something like \$7,000,000 to spend along Broadway and in shops that sell French fashions—the favorite delicacy of seafaring Americans who have been accustomed to ship's fare for months.

Happy Homecoming Planned

Most of the men who will come ashore have been in foreign service since the beginning of the war. It will be their first homecoming and every effort is being made by numerous organizations in addition to the Mayor's committee to make it a happy one. Arrangements were under way yesterday whereby the entire downtown district will be decked out with "Welcome Home" signs and flags when the men in blue set foot on shore Thursday. An appeal to business men and householders was issued by Rodman Wamsucker, chairman of the Mayor's Committee of Welcome, calling upon them to aid in the celebration by showing their colors wherever possible.

In this appeal Mr. Wamsucker said: "With spontaneous zeal and patriotic fervor our citizens individually and our many service organizations

collectively are extending a 'Welcome Home.' The welcome is alike to all—officers, drab and blue, men and women—to the wounded, the maimed, the sick, the suffering, and to all who have offered their lives in the service of their country, whether in overseas duty or in preparatory camps.

Show Gratitude to Fighters

"On Christmas Day the battle fleet of the United States will be within our harbor. Soon thereafter will come the city's own fighting units.

"Let us show in outward form the sacred inner feeling of gratitude in our hearts. Let the Stars and Stripes be flown from every building. Let 'Welcome Home' flags and signs be shown in conspicuous places. Let fitting decorations be arranged in all sections of the city.

"Let each one of us take a personal responsibility to care for those men and women who are about to be liberated from their duties, many of whom find themselves strangers in our city.

"Let us take them into our homes, especially on Christmas Day, and make them one with the family, cooperating with the War Camp Community Service and other organizations in whatever manner they may indicate.

"Let us return to them their old jobs and places of business service, also making new places for the partially disabled, that they may again take up the pursuits of peace and become workers with us for the individual and collective good of our city, our state and our country.

"Let us realize that this Victory Christmas of 1918 signifies the birth of a new world, and that it offers to each of us the opportunity to find our own duty and to express our deep thankfulness to those who have made their sacrifice for us and for humanity."

Gen. Menoher Appointed To Succeed J. D. Ryan

Colonel James A. Mars Named Acting Director of Aircraft Production

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Appointment of Major General Charles T. Menoher, who commanded the 42d (Rainbow) Division in France, as director of aircraft production, succeeding William C. Potter, D. Ryan, was announced today by General March, chief of staff.

Colonel James A. Mars has been named acting director of aircraft production, succeeding William C. Potter, General March explained that these two details brought the producing machinery of the aviation service back into the permanent military organization.

General Menoher is now on his way home to take up his new duties. General March said his old division, the Rainbow, is attached to the American army of occupation on the Rhine. General Menoher's record as division commander during the active fighting in which the 42d participated led to his assignment as commander of the Sixth Army Corps, some time before the signing of the armistice.

Assignment of these regular army officers to posts in the air service previously held by civilians of wide business experience indicates that in the forthcoming staff reorganization plan the air service will be treated as an integral part of the existing military establishment and not as a separate service in any sense. General Menoher may be appointed an assistant chief of the general staff in order to complete this military reorganization.

The announcement by the chief of staff of these appointments does not indicate any change in the present organization beyond that resulting from substituting army officers for civilians. Major General William L. Kenly continues as director of the Bureau of Military Aeronautics, which is the operating branch of the air service.

Two Officers Dismissed Failed to Prevent Undue Severity Toward Objectors

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Dismissal from the army of Major Gustav C. Tausig and Captain Frank S. White for negligence, in connection with undue severity disciplinary measures against army conscientious objectors in a detention section at Camp Funston, Kansas, was announced today by Secretary Baker.

Major Tausig was in charge of the section. He was convicted of having permitted undue severity before the prisoners had been formally convicted of any offense. Captain White, as judge advocate, was charged with having made only a superficial investigation of the case when it was brought to his attention.

200,000 Men Have Been Demobilized. Gen. March States

900,000 More Are Assigned for Early Release from Army Service, Mostly in Training Camps at Home

WASHINGTON, Dec. 21.—Demobilization of the home military forces at the rate of 30,000 a day, the goal set less than a month ago by the War Department, has been reached, if not exceeded.

General March, Chief of Staff, announced today that demobilization at the home camps during the seven-day period ended December 14 was at an average of 27,000 a day, although no men were discharged from most of the camps on Sunday.

Total demobilization on December 14 had reached 29,903 officers and 188,392 men. The Chief of Staff said more than 900,000 men have been assigned for early demobilization, including 21,000 divisional troops, 43,000 engineers and 16,000 men of the military aeronautics division.

General March made public a report from General Pershing, under date of December 15, saying at that time a total of 3,210 American officers and men, taken prisoner by the enemy, had been released and that only a few Americans in isolated camps remained prisoners.

Red Cross workers and Allied and neutral agents, the report said, are now searching for the few Americans still held by the enemy.

As an illustration of the heavy flow of troops returning from France on board the largest ships, General March announced that the steamer Leviathan, making ten trips, had carried an average of 9,418 men to France on each trip. Seven other ships averaged more than 2,000 men a trip.

Every effort is being made to arrange for the delivery of mail consigned to units which have been designated for early return, the chief of staff said. In cases where a majority of the members of any unit have been ordered home, the mail is held in the United States until the organization arrives and a report is made of the men left in France. The mail addressed to these men then is sorted out and sent across.

In cases where only a small proportion of a unit is homeward bound, the mail for the entire unit is shipped to France, and that consigned to the men who have been returned home is sorted out in France and redirected.

General March disclosed the fact that the communication facilities with the American forces in Russia, particularly in the Archangel area, have been very unsatisfactory. The War Department itself has had difficulty in communicating important military instructions to the commander, and only meagre dispatches have come through to this end. General March said he felt sure that the authorities in England and France, through whom these messages pass, are doing everything possible to improve the situation.

BROOKLYN ADVERTISEMENT

OPEN EVENINGS
All Pianos delivered before Christmas

Gift Handkerchiefs
Men's Imported Colored Silk Novelty Handkerchiefs, each... 75c
Women's Irish Linen Handkerchiefs with small block initial. Hand embroidered, 6 for... \$1.50
Other Men's Handkerchiefs, from 12½c to \$5 each. Women's Handkerchiefs, 12½c to \$38 each. Children's Handkerchiefs, from 10c to \$1.00 each.

GIMBELS—Main Floor

PLAYER \$475 PIANOS

NEW UPRIGHT \$225
INCLUDING Stool, Music Cover, Carriage This Week With Each Upright Piano

New and Used Player Pianos
INCLUDING 12 rolls, bench, stool and cover.
\$295 American \$10 Monthly
445 Lohmann 10 Monthly
450 Cambridge 10 Monthly
475 Liberty 10 Monthly
475 Goetz & Co. 10 Monthly
495 Goetz & Co. 10 Monthly

USED UPRIGHT SALE

at unusually low prices.
\$40 Dotzmann \$3 Monthly
100 Geo. Steck 4 Monthly
103 Bradbury 4 Monthly
135 Arion 4 Monthly
135 E. Gabler 4 Monthly
150 Weser Bros. 5 Monthly
150 Kirchoff 5 Monthly
150 E. Gabler 5 Monthly
155 Goetz & Co. 5 Monthly
160 Wissner 5 Monthly
165 Jacob Bros. 5 Monthly
165 Goetz & Co. 5 Monthly
175 Weber 5 Monthly
175 Arion 5 Monthly
175 Weser Bros. 5 Monthly
180 Cameron 5 Monthly
180 E. Gabler 5 Monthly
185 Hardman 5 Monthly
190 Weber 5 Monthly
190 Sohmer 5 Monthly
195 Palmer 5 Monthly
225 Chickering 6 Monthly
225 Steinway & Son 6 Monthly
225 Lindeman 6 Monthly

VICTROLAS \$22.50 & \$32.50

GOETZ & CO.
81-87 Court St., Brooklyn

1/2 Price Sale of Military Goods

Great Inducements—Fourth Floor

Gimbels Will Meet Every Christmas Need Tomorrow and Tuesday

For Women's Afternoon or Evening Wear A New Dress oforgette Crepe, Heavily Beaded



Is Modestly Priced \$29.50

The charming panel-bodice, back and front; the skirt, wing sleeves—all bead-embroidered in this broad cross-bar. A rose of bead embroidery is a smart accent at the bodice and another correctly poised on the skirt. The entire dress is over a lining of Japanese silk.

Flesh Pink Grey Pelkin Blue Navy Blue
Afternoon dresses of satin,orgette crepe, tricot, combinations of chiffon velvet and satin, velveteen, \$29.50 to \$75.

Dresses of French-Finished Serge
Offering Very Exceptional Value
\$16.75 \$29.50 \$42.50

GIMBELS—Third Floor

Christmas Stockings For Women

Pure Silk Stockings, \$2
Silk from top to toe. Plenty of black and street colors. The ideal stocking to be worn with low shoes.

Black Silk Stockings, \$1.39
Pure ingrain silk in black only. Full fashioned with lisle tops and soles.

Fine Mercerized Lisle Stockings, 39c
With seamless feet and seamed legs. Black only; regularly 55c.

GIMBELS—Main Floor

Gift Handkerchiefs

Men's Imported Colored Silk Novelty Handkerchiefs, each... 75c
Women's Irish Linen Handkerchiefs with small block initial. Hand embroidered, 6 for... \$1.50
Other Men's Handkerchiefs, from 12½c to \$5 each. Women's Handkerchiefs, 12½c to \$38 each. Children's Handkerchiefs, from 10c to \$1.00 each.

GIMBELS—Main Floor

Gimbel Brothers
The Store of A Million Gifts
NEW YORK
32nd ST - B'WAY - 37th ST

Gimbels Will Meet Every Christmas Need Tomorrow and Tuesday

Stationery Section

Last Minute Suggestions for those who hesitate:
Fountain Pens
Waterman's, \$2.50 to \$11.00.
Army and Navy, with 14-Karat Gold Pen, \$1.50.

Gift Stationery
Artistic Christmas gift cabinets, filled with high-grade paper, including the famous Crane papers. Prices 50c to \$10.00 a box.

Calendars and Xmas Cards
Beautiful Illustrated Calendars in many sizes and designs at 25c to \$3.

Brass and Bronze Desk Sets
Every novelty and necessary accessory for the writing desk, also beautiful Desk Sets from \$5.00 to \$25.00.

GIMBELS—Main Floor

A Woman's Coat of Cashmere Velour

with Shawl Collar of Nearsal (dyed coney)
Exceptional Value at \$49.50

Cashmere velour is a material almost doubly as thick as velour, extremely lightweight and meltingly soft. It is among the preferred fabrics of the season.

Made in the smartly distinctive fashion illustrated. Silk lined-throughout. In black only.

Coats of Bolivia Cloth, Velour du Nord, Wool Velour, Kersey, Mixtures. Fur trimmed and without fur—
\$29.50 \$49.50 \$69.50

GIMBELS—Third Floor

Diamond Mounted Jewelry and Sterling Silver Novelties

that are appreciated for Christmas Gifts

Diamond Jewelry

Solitaire Diamond Rings. 14 kt. mountings, platinum crown, \$35.00 to \$475.00
Fancy Diamond Rings. Green gold, platinum top, or all platinum mountings, \$25.00 to \$450.00

Diamond Brooches and Bar Pins. 14 kt. green gold, platinum setting, or all platinum mountings, \$35.00 to \$300.00

Diamond Lavallieres. Green gold or platinum mountings, \$25.00 to \$200.00

Diamond mounted Cuff Buttons. Plain engine turned, or mother of pearl, \$19.50 to \$70.00

Diamond Scarf Pins. 14 kt. green gold or platinum, \$19.50 to \$110.00

Diamond mounted Cigar Cutters, \$11.00 to \$40.00

Diamond mounted Bracelets. Engraved or plain, \$60.00 to \$185.00

GIMBELS JEWELRY STORE—Main Floor

Solid Gold Jewelry

Signet Rings. Plain, engraved or Japanese style, \$2.50 to \$19.00
Stone Rings, \$2.50 to \$27.00
Cameo Rings, \$3.25 to \$14.00

Brooches. Stone set, \$2.75 to \$21.00
Circle Brooches, \$2.25 to \$4.50
Bar Pins. Stone set, \$2.75 to \$21.00

Bar Pins. Plain, engraved or engine turned, \$2.25 to \$7.50
Cuff Buttons. Plain, engraved or engine turned, \$3.00 to \$13.50

Cuff Buttons. Set with small diamond, \$10.00 to \$12.00
Tie Clasp, \$2.00 to \$8.50

Scarf Pins. Pear shape set with pearl or diamond, \$4.75 to \$25.00
Scarf Pins. Set with colored stones, \$3.00 to \$15.25

Bracelets. Engraved or engine turned, \$4.95 to \$13.50
Handy Pins, pair \$1.50 to \$8.00

GIMBELS JEWELRY STORE—Main Floor

Silver Novelties

Sterling Silver Vanity Case. Fitted with two coin holders, powder box, mirror and place for cards, \$10.50 to \$40.00
Others, \$7.50 to \$15.00

Sterling Silver Powder Boxes. Thin models, made for holding cake powder. Attached with finger ring and chains, \$2.50 to \$5.00

Evening Rhinestone Dinner Rings. Smart looking styles; princess, marquise, cluster and other fancy effects, \$5.50 to \$8.50
Others, \$2.95 to \$12.50

Rhinestone Bar Pins. New lace-like designs, made with safety catch, \$3.00 to \$15.00
Genuine Hand Carved Cameo Brooches. Mounted in gold filled, filigree, hand engraved or other fancy designs, \$3.95 to \$8.50

Sold gold Hat Pins, \$1.00 to \$7.50
Solid gold Crosses, \$1.50 to \$7.00
Solid gold Locketts, \$2.00 to \$10.00

GIMBELS—Main Floor

CHURCHILL'S
"MORE THAN A RESTAURANT A BROADWAY INSTITUTION"

Dinner at Churchill's
A cuisine in a la carte service that is world famous for its superiority; a Special Dinner, \$1.65, equally famous—and the spirited entertainment of Churchill's New Revue unite to make Dinner at Churchill's a delightful occasion.

And there is the added pleasure of dancing—enjoyed in an atmosphere of refinement.

Special Dinner, \$1.65. Dancing on the Main Floor.

To have luncheon at CHURCHILL'S is to enjoy a twofold pleasure—an excellent Special Luncheon, \$1.00, and dancing.

Special Luncheon, \$1.00, With Dancing

Fine Blankets, Bed Sets, Comforters and Auto Robes

This superb showing for Christmas Gifts was arranged for months ago, so that you might have practical articles for this War-time Christmas, and planned so that you might buy the best that the market affords at the price you want to pay.

Blankets So Practical for Christmas
\$27.50 \$7.95 \$27.50 \$25.00 \$22.50 \$8.95 \$7.50

Fine Comforters

Lambs' Wool-Filled Comforters. Fine brocaded silk centers; figured effects; plain satin borders to match; full size beds. \$18.50 ea.

Lambs' Wool-Filled Comforters. Some plain satin on both sides. Some brocaded satins. Others plaid silks with fine nansook back to match, for full size beds, at \$22.50 ea.

All Pure Silk on Both Sides Comforters. Lambs' Wool-Filling. Plaid, check and striped designs; plain silk borders to match. Full size beds. \$27.50 ea.

Fine Lambs' Wool Comforters. Beautiful brocaded silk centers and plain satin borders to match. Various colorings. Full size beds. \$35.00 ea.

An exceptionally fine assortment of High Grade Down Comforters in printed satins, plain silks and satins and novelty brocaded effects in the most wanted colorings. Cut size 6 x 7 feet. \$25.00, \$35.00, \$45.00

Other Comforters up to \$65.00 ea.

Auto Robes

Plush Auto Robes—two-color combination in brown and black. A good winter robe—plenty of warmth. 72 in., \$10.50 84 in., \$12.50

Fine Double Mohair Plush Robes—an excellent light warm robe in brown, tan, navy, dark green, taupe, maroon. 72 in., \$15.00 ea. 84 in., \$17.50 ea.

Double Plush Zibeline Robes. All colors. Two weights; suitable for open or closed cars. 72 in., \$16.00 ea. 84 in., \$17.50 ea.

Fancy Mohair Mottled Plush Robes. Two color combinations. Skin effects and plain colors. A beautiful robe equal in appearance to all silk plush and much more serviceable. 72 in., \$25.00 ea. 84 in., \$27.50 ea.

All Wool Auto Robes. Stitched edge. Size 54 x 74 in. \$12.50 ea.

Extra Heavy All Wool Auto Robes. Handsome Scotch Plaids with plain color backs; warm and very serviceable. 54 x 84 in. \$25.00 ea.

Other Auto Robes, \$35.00 up to \$85

Fine Blankets

White Blankets. Wool and cotton mixed. Extra soft finish; wide ribbon binding; pink and blue borders. For full sized beds, at \$10.75 pr.

Fine White Woolen Blankets. Small percentage of cotton to prevent shrinkage; wide ribbon binding; pink and blue striped borders. Size 72 in. x 90 in. \$13.50 pr.

Plaid Woolen Blankets in various color combinations; neatly bound with colored ribbon to match. Size 72 in. x 90 in. \$15.00 pr.

Fine Plaid Blankets. Pink, Blue, Tan, Yellow, and White; bound with colored ribbon to match. Size 72 in. x 84 in. \$18.00 pr.

All Pure Wool White Blankets. Extra fine stock; pink and blue borders; fine silk binding; each blanket cut, and bound separately. Size 80 in. x 90 in. \$25.00 ea.

Other Blankets up to \$45.00

Fine Bed Sets

Dainty floral designs in Pink, Blue, Yellow, and Lavender, in 3 special sizes: 64 in. x 90 in., \$5.75, \$6.75 and \$7.50 set. 76 in. x 90 in., \$6.95, \$7.50 and \$8.95 set. 92 in. x 96 in., \$8.50 and \$9.50 set.

White Satin-Finish Bed Spread Sets. \$7.50 set. Including Spread and Bolster to match, neatly scalloped. Nicely boxed for Xmas gift. Full size.

Other Bed Spreads up to \$25.00.

White Woolen Blankets, \$7.75 pr. Wool-and-Cotton mixed. Size 70 x 80 inches. Mohair binding. Pink and Blue borders.

Figured Silk Mull Comforters, \$5.00 ea. Dainty new floral designs. Novel colorings. Plain mull borders to match. White, fluffy, cotton filled. Full size.

Other Ribbons from 12c Pc. to \$17.00 a Yard

First Aid from The Christmas Book Section

which Specializes in the Solution of Last-Minute Gift Problems:

For a Dear Old Lady
A Minister in France, Harry Laster. \$2.00

For an Equally Dear Old Gentleman
The Story of Our Army from Colonial Days to the Present, 2 Vols. 89c. Set

For Romantic Sixteen
Daughter of the Land, Gene Stratton Porter. \$1.40

For Sweet and Twenty
The Star in the Window, Olive Higgins Prouty. \$1.50

For Mother
Diplomatic Days, Edith O'Shaughnessy. \$2.00

For a Real Boy
The Wonders of Modern Invention, Archibald Williams. 50c. Each.

For a Wounded Soldier
American Pep—the Yank's Greatest Mystery Story. \$1.50

For the Kiddies
Peter Patter Rhymes. \$1.50
Other Books from 10c to \$29.00.

GIMBELS—Main Floor

Christmas Ribbon Fete

Draws to a whirlwind finish on Monday by pricing
All Silk Moire Taffeta, Moire and Satin Stripes, Warp Print and Plaid Ribbons
39c a Yard

This is a Ribbon Event to be hailed with joy by every woman who has in mind the Christmas possibilities of wonderfully beautiful exquisitely hued ribbons.
Come early!

Other Ribbons from 12c Pc. to \$17.00 a Yard
GIMBELS—Main Floor