

MEMORIAL MARCH
AIR SERVICE HEAD

Rainbow Division Chief
Will Succeed Ryan, March
Announces

RELEASES DUE 900,000

Demobilization of Army Being
Rushed at Rate of
30,000 Daily

By the Associated Press
Washington, Dec. 21.
Appointment of Major General Charles T. Menoher, who commanded the Forty-second (Rainbow) Division in France, as director of air service, succeeding John D. Ryan, was announced today by General March.

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 March 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 veteran Forty-second 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 forthcoming staff reorganization plans, the air service will be recognized as an integral part of the existing military establishment and not as a separate service in any sense.

General March was appointed as permanent chief of the general staff in order to complete this military co-ordination.

With a total of 188,562 men discharged through the army during the week ended December 14, General March announced today, the War Department has about reached the average of 20,000 discharges daily for which the demobilization plans are made.

On a seven-day basis the average for that week was 27,000 men per day, but in many cases demobilization officers had not yet reported to date.

Additional units in this country designated for early demobilization bring the total of men so selected to 100,000. General March announced that to date of the latest official reports, 20,303 officers had been honorably discharged.

3210 Prisoners Repatriated
General Pershing has reported that 3210 American prisoners of war were repatriated on December 19.

Not to Control Harbor
General March stated today that the War Department was not considering taking over New York harbor traffic in connection with the threatened harbor boat employees' strike there.

Every effort is being made to arrange for the delivery of mail consigned to units which have been designated for return, but that consignment 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 is ready to be reactivated.

Mail Rediverted in France
In cases where only a small proportion of a unit is homebound bound the mail for the entire unit is shipped to France and that consignment to the men who have been returned home is sorted out in France and rediverted.

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 meager 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.

In answer to a question General March said that coast artillery units which were being used for army and corps artillery are all being returned to this country, but those which were serving as divisional artillery probably will stay abroad for some time.

SCALEMAKERS CELEBRATE

Henry Troemner Company's Employees Give Victory Supper
A victory supper was given by the Independent Protective Association, composed of employees of the Henry Troemner Scale Manufacturing Company, 311 Arch street, followed by a vaudeville show. The covers of the center tables were so arranged as to represent the flag.

HELD AS LOOT RECEIVER

Stolen Cloth Found in Possession, Is Charge
Max Friedman, Franklin street above Yellowhill, was held in \$1000 bail by Magistrate Meclary this morning for a charge of receiving stolen goods.

HELD ON SUSPICION

Four Alleged Pickpockets Are Placed Under Bail
Four pickpocket suspects, one from this city and three from New York, had hearings before Magistrate Meclary at Central Station today and were placed under heavy bail to hold them in jail during the holiday season.

4 FAKE ALARMS,
3 REAL BLAZES

False Calls Keep Firemen Busy in Kensington District

FLAMES DAMAGE MILL

Christmas Toys and Novelties Destroyed in Germantown Store—Home Burns

Four false alarms kept firemen in Kensington on the go up to a late hour this morning.

When the firemen and horses were almost exhausted from answering false calls an alarm summoned them to a real fire at 6:15 o'clock this morning.

The blaze was discovered on the third floor of the plant of Robert Beatty & Co., yarn manufacturers, at Coral and Letterly streets.

It was at this spot that thirty years ago one of the most disastrous fires in the history of Kensington started and destroyed an entire block, burning for almost two days.

This morning the fire-fighters were given a hard two-hour battle before they got the flames under control. They managed to confine the flames to the third floor of the six-story building, but the two lower floors and basement were badly damaged by water.

Called to Fire Second Time
The firemen had hardly reached the fire houses after fighting the flames in the Beatty & Company yarn mill when when fire started there a second time.

The second alarm was turned in shortly after 8 o'clock. A quantity of yarn caught fire from some sparks. The blaze was extinguished without much difficulty.

The Kensington firemen were routed out for the first of the series of false alarms at 10:30 o'clock last night. It was sent in from a box at Cedar and Ann streets.

Three other fake alarms followed: 3:45 a. m., Emerald and Westmoreland streets, 430 a. m., Cambria street and Trenton avenue, 6 a. m., Trenton and Letterly streets.

Several thousand dollars' worth of Christmas toys, novelties, and Christmas tree ornaments were destroyed when fire swept through the store of A. S. Swartz, 5427 Northampton avenue.

The Swartz store occupies the ground floor of the Masonic temple building. On the ground floor in the rear of the store is a factory.

A small driveway runs along one side of the building. Packing boxes and piles of yarn in the driveway caught fire. The flames communicated to the shutters of the Swartz store and darted into the interior, finding plenty of highly inflammable material to feed upon.

The flames also reached the Masonic temple, reducing much of it to ashes, and reached the office of Appel & Hall, Deaks and other fixtures were attacked by the flames and partly destroyed before firemen conquered the blaze.

The flames also reached the Masonic assembly rooms, burning a huge hole in the second floor of the building.

Leads Family to Safety
A William Fields, treasurer of the Elite Laundry Company brought his wife and two children into an adjoining house when he discovered a fire under the flooring in the kitchen of his home, 634 McCallum street.

Fields was awakened by an odor of smoke. He traced the odor to the kitchen and found flames eating through the flooring in the kitchen of his home, 634 McCallum street.

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EVENTFUL WAR EXPERIENCE

Philadelphia Camp in Convalescent Hospital at Camp Meade
Drafted and sent to Camp Meade in May of this year, sent overseas in several battles and now back at Camp Meade again, all in less than seven months, constitute the war experiences of Joseph Sgro, twenty-four years old, of 16 North Robinson street.

Sgro, suffering from the effects of German gas, reached this country last Monday, and was sent to a convalescent hospital at Camp Meade. A long-distance telephone conversation with his uncle, Thomas Moriselli, 19 North Fifth street, last night, was a relief to the soldier, said he would be home tonight or tomorrow morning.

The young man denied an official report that he had been wounded and shell-shocked. He said he was gassed, Sgro was in Company C, 10th Machine Gun Battalion, and was rejected six times when he tried to enlist, but was accepted by a draft board.

HELD ON SUSPICION

Two New Yorkers Detained Here
Awaiting Extradition

NAVY HOUSE AIDS IN RED CROSS PARADE



The Navy Auxiliary of the Red Cross, with headquarters at 221 South Eighteenth street, stands high in the list of Red Cross organizations that made a success of the membership drive. Nearly 1000 women representing the different women's war-work organizations which have boosting the Red Cross Christmas roll call drive marched in parade today.

YULETIDE ICE CREAM FOR EASTERN PRISON

Criminals Who Knitted for Soldiers Remembered by Logan Emergency Aid
The Emergency Aid of Logan, as a mark of appreciation of the war relief work done by the men at the Eastern Penitentiary, will supply ice cream for every prisoner as a special Christmas day treat.

The society has received and distributed many socks knit at the penitentiary. The eagerness of the men to have their share in helping to win the war, in spite of their punishment, is in keeping with the general spirit of the place, which is felt by all who come in contact, even for a short time, with Warden Robert McKenty.

"The boys are to have a good feed this year," Warden McKenty said this afternoon, "and I think they will have a happy Christmas day."

Warden McKenty said that the ice cream will consist of roast beef, with potatoes, turnips, oranges, apples and an individual mince pie for each one.

There will be the ice cream, and another of our kind friends has asked if he might supply cigars, so that each of the 15,000 men may have a good smoke to top it off with.

The silent watch being kept over Piper was continued today, a deputy sheriff being placed before his cell with instructions not to converse with him in any circumstances.

760 BIG GUNS SURRENDERED

Germans Turn Over Artillery to Americans Near Coblenz
American Army of Occupation, Friday, Dec. 20.—(By A. P.)—The German authorities today began turning over to the American Third Army large quantities of captured artillery. The French army of occupation will require special trains to transport.

Included in the artillery given up by the Germans are 760 guns of various caliber, one nearly 2000 machine guns. It will take one train to carry the machine guns alone.

The other guns, ranging from 1500 to 2100, will require at least three trains for their transportation.

Metternich, just outside of Coblenz, in the assembling point for this material. Today American troops were checking up the guns as they came in.

Eight battalions of French soldiers assigned to duty in the American bridgehead sector were reviewed on their way through Coblenz today by Major General Dickman, commander of the American army of occupation. The French are taking positions on the right of the Americans in the territory east of the Rhine.

HUNT JOBS FOR SOLDIERS

Knights of Columbus Adopts System to Aid Heroes
Knights of Columbus secretaries at all debarkation points are meeting and giving them double postcards, one-half for the soldier and one-half for the other half of which contains questions regarding their employment.

The hearing training and chances for work are sent to Knights of Columbus councils in the cities in which the men reside, with the request that steps be immediately taken to provide employment for those who expect to be mustered out of service.

SHIP FROM HERE IS WRECKED OFF FLORIDA COAST

Bedminster, Breaking Up on Shoal, but Crew Is Reported Rescued
The steamship Bedminster, from Philadelphia for Jacksonville, Fla., has been reported wrecked on a shoal off Sopoia Island, near the Florida coast.

No details have been received of the accident, other than a flash that reached the Maritime Exchange this afternoon, stating that a heavy sea was running and that the vessel was breaking up. The boat is a cargo carrier.

PORT KENNEDY FOLK FEAR DOOM OF TOWN

Residents Believe Valley Forge Commission Will Add It to the Park
Norristown, Pa., Dec. 21.—The razing of the former home of the late Rev. Mr. Riddle, at Port Kennedy, by direction of the Valley Forge Park Commission, by the use of dynamite, has caused the residents of the village adjoining Valley Forge to fear the "crack of doom."

As to the two hotel buildings at Valley Forge, it is said that nothing will be done until after the expiration of the present licenses. They are the Washington Inn and the Mansion House. In both cases there will be no renewal of the application for liquor licenses, it is said, in conformity with a policy of the Valley Forge Park Commission, and along park regulations or both States and nation, to omit the sale of intoxicants within the park areas.

The Washington Inn will be used as a restaurant. It is asserted that a part of the Mansion House was used by the Continental army as a hospital and this portion is to be restored to its original condition.

The two hotels have thus far not been included in condemnation proceedings. Those properties at Port Kennedy that have been acquired by the State and not wanted will be removed during the winter in preparation for new work in the spring.

FOREIGN LABOR BARRED

Mexicans and West Indians Cannot Be Imported After Jan. 15
Washington, Dec. 21.—(By A. P.)—No more permits for the importation of Mexican and West Indian labor will be granted, the Department of Labor announced today, and permits already granted will be void after January 15.

Aliens permitted to enter temporarily for war work will be repatriated gradually, with interfering with agricultural or other work now in progress.

The admission of semi-skilled laborers from Canada will be discontinued, but present arrangements whereby skilled laborers are admitted on temporary contracts will be continued.

At Philadelphia Hospital
At the Philadelphia Hospital there are 266 patients who are suffering from influenza. Many of the patients are from New York city, one of the poorest districts in the world.

Child's Leg Crushed Under Train
A five-year-old child was killed and his leg crushed under a train at the intersection of the 15th and 16th streets, near the Philadelphia Hotel, where it is believed he is in a serious condition. The boy's home is at 127 Washington avenue.

CONCERNS HERE ORDERED TO PAY U. S. WAGE SCALE

Seven Plants Must Adopt Schedules in Force at Frankford Arsenal
Seven local machinery concerns that were ordered by the war labor board at Washington to pay their employees the same scale of wages as is in force at the Frankford arsenal, are being urged to do so.

The concerns named are the Merchant & Evans Company, twenty-first and Arch streets; the Fox Gun Company, J. S. Johnson, Kruse-Slatery Company, the Emerson Engineering Company, Erie avenue and B street, and the Standard Machine Company, Fifteenth street and Lancaster avenue.

The decision is unexpected," said Powell Evans, of the Merchant & Evans Company. "Of course, we will do anything that the Government orders and charge it up to the Government. The people will pay eventually. What was the agreement made with the Government by firms taking war contracts, with a fluctuating wage scale, and liable to be wiped out entirely. The Government did not intend to buy machinery at less than cost, so where wages are increased the selling price is correspondingly increased."

W. E. De Wolf, production manager of the Standard Roller Bearing Company, said the decision had not been anticipated. He indicated that his company would comply at once with the order as soon as an official copy had been received.

THE REV. DR. CHAPMAN ILL

Evangelist to Undergo Operation in New York Tomorrow
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RACING CARS NEAR NAVY YARD

Autos Meet With Crash and Man's Skull Is Fractured
Two automobiles racing down Broad street at high speed early this morning crashed together within a few hundred feet of the Philadelphia Navy Yard gate, throwing their occupants into the street.

Another Badly Hurt
Other Passengers Sustain Cuts and Bruises, but Hurry Away From Wreck
One man was injured severely in the crash and several others received cuts and bruises. The machines were headed directly for the closed gate of the navy yard, and would have catapulted against the barrier had not the collision occurred.

When the motorcars came together the noise of the impact brought marine sentries running to the battered cars. All of the occupants were dropped by the machines were able to rise except Joseph De Plinio, 535 Washington avenue, who lay unconscious in the street. Another man, Joseph Evans, Emily street above Twelfth, was bleeding profusely from deep gashes in the head.

De Plinio revived for a few minutes after reaching the hospital's receiving ward. He was able to give his name, but could recall no details of the accident. He couldn't remember, he said, whether or not he had been driving one of the automobiles.

Five hours after the accident occurred the police of the Fourth street and Snyder avenue station had no details of the accident. They explained that their district detectives were still investigating.

Several men who had been in the racing automobiles were slightly injured, but could recall no details of the accident. He couldn't remember, he said, whether or not he had been driving one of the automobiles.

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BALTIC BRINGS 2042 MEN

Liner Passes Sandy Hook With Big Contingent of Fighters
New York, Dec. 21.—(By A. P.)—Bringing home 2042 officers and men of the American expeditionary force, the British steamship Baltic, of the White Star line, passed Sandy Hook at 1:40 a. m. today.

Among the officers were Major August Belmont, Captain Arthur Waterbury, the famous American polo player, and Major Percy D. Haughton, former British Army, who was decorated with the Legion of Honor.

Lady Constance Stewart Richardson, noted as a big-game hunter, was one of more than 200 civilians in the first contingent of the expeditionary force.

The army transport Metapan, with thirty-seven officers and twelve enlisted men, discharged from the American expeditionary force and bound for their homes, docked here today. The vessel sailed from Paulliac, France.

The Cunard liner Walmer Castle, with several hundred officers, including many Red Cross, Y. M. C. A. and Knights of Columbus workers, also came into port.

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BRIGHT FUTURE FOR SHIPMEN

Foreign Orders Promise to Keep Workers Busy
With the Governments of France, Italy, Norway and Denmark eager to speedily meet their needs for shipping vessels that will guarantee many of them from failure and abandonment in the coming winter, the outlook for workers in this country will escape a period of idleness or unemployment at the close of the year.

Charles Pleg, director general of the Emergency Fleet Corporation, said today that many foreign contracts with American yards from shipping interests overseas are being secured.

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SOLDIER IS KILLED

DRIVING WOUNDED
Shell Hits Ambulance at Night, Bringing Death to Philadelphian

72 FROM HERE ON LIST
Sketches of Men Who Have Made Sacrifice in War

Just after midnight, in the dark hours of early morning, October 28, three ambulances sped through a rain of shells to the front to rescue wounded soldiers.

They had loaded and started the return trip when a big shell fell, making almost a direct hit on the car driven by Private Thomas Webster, son of Mrs. Rheda Webster, 6067 Reinhardt street. Private Webster was killed and his comrades in the other ambulances were wounded.

The story of his death is told in a letter to his mother from his commanding officer, Lieutenant F. A. Seidler, who praised Webster as a brave soldier.

Lieutenant Seidler inclosed a French Croix de Guerre, with silver star, which was awarded to Private Webster last July for extraordinary bravery.

"Well do I remember," the lieutenant writes, "the first time he passed through a barrage fire and won the respect of all by his courage and splendid example. The French called him an ace, meaning the best."

"I do not fear a thing when I can help those who are helpless," Private Webster wrote home at the time he was awarded the French decoration.

Lieutenant Seidler, who only recently was killed in action October 28, according to word received by his wife from a brother officer. The letter described how Lieutenant Webster, mortally wounded, seized a machine gun, a wounded soldier and attempted to follow his command, Company B, 525th Infantry, in a victory.

Name of eighty-eight soldiers from Philadelphia and vicinity appear in casualty report for today. Three were killed in action, seven died of wounds, three died of disease, fifteen were wounded severely, twenty-five were degree undetermined, and thirty-two were injured slightly.

SKETCHES OF THE HEROES

Corporal Archie Dunn escaped the German shells only to be wounded by the explosion of one of the Four Point batteries at Ypres. He was a member of the 10th Field Artillery. He was a member of the 10th Field Artillery.

Injured When Big Field Gun Exploded at Ypres
Planes, in September, recovered and re-joined his unit, Battery F, 10th Field Artillery, in time to accompany it to a famous battle of Ypres. On the morning of October 28, he joined in the infantry advance on Rotters, Belgium, where he was killed.

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