

# EARLY LIFE OF GEN. PERSHING IS TOLD BY HIS INTIMATES

(By Associated Press.)  
LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 24.—It was a newspaper story that diverted John J. Pershing from his purpose to become a school teacher and started him upon the military career which led to his appointment as general in the United States army and commander of the American expeditionary force in France. The story is told by General Pershing's sisters, Mrs. Butler and Miss May Pershing, who are residents of Lincoln and who have given the Associated Press intimate views of Pershing's character in his youthful days.

It was while Pershing and his sister, now Mrs. Butler, were attending the Missouri state normal school at Kirksville, Mo., that his attention was one day called to a newspaper announcement that examinations were to be held for appointment to the West Point Military Academy. Young Pershing asked his sister's advice as to whether he should try for the appointment and she advised him to do so. Then followed a short season of intensive study in preparation.

In a few days he was called before the examining board and, although improperly prepared, received the highest mark among the contestants and soon afterward was notified of his appointment. Up to this time his action had been a secret between his sister and himself and it remained so until he was ready to start for West Point. On his way to the military academy he stopped off at the home his parents and for the first time told them they were to have a soldier in the family.

As a boy, General Pershing, as his sisters say, was of a quiet, serious temperament, assuming, as the oldest of six children, many of the responsibilities of the family. He was wont, during the early years which were spent in LaCade, Mo., his birthplace, to manage one of the several farms operated by his father, John F. Pershing, a merchant and farmer of LaCade.

"John," Mrs. Butler said, "although of a quiet disposition, liked a good time and enjoyed fun as much as anyone. Yet when he started anything he wanted to get the result and he generally attained that object before he gave it up."

While at the normal school at Kirksville, he was always in the center of student activities and never was content to be merely one of the crowd, but wanted to be head of the movement. His personal magnetism and generally likable character quickly won him friends and supporters and soon he became one of the student leaders.

After having been graduated from West Point and having served with General Miles in a campaign in New Mexico against the Indian chief, Geronimo, Pershing was stationed as military instructor at the University of Nebraska. His friends there remember him as a fun-loving young man who enjoyed music and dancing, parties and other social activities and who appreciated a good joke.

"Old Jack Best," the veteran trainer at the university, remembers Pershing intimately. "He was the finest man that I ever worked with," said Best. "It's true he was mighty strict with his work, but the results he got were so good that every body he worked with loved him for it. When he was here we had a regiment the university could be proud of. I just worshipped that man and everybody around the university felt the same about him. If any of you newspaper men get a chance to tell it to him, you just say that Old Jack wishes him the best luck in the world and that he hopes he will beat the Germans all alone."

"Usually he was mighty dignified in his work, but he had a way of getting next to new men," continued Best. "The first time I ever saw him he walked right up to me, slapped me on the shoulder and said, 'Well, Jack, they tell me you got along mighty well with my predecessor. If you did, I am darned sure we'll get along just as well.'"

"The boys at the university got a surprise the first day Pershing drilled them," said Best. "It had been their habit before that time to come to drill with shoes blackened or not, just as they pleased. When Pershing took hold, the first thing he looked at was to see that all shoes were well blacked and that the heels looked as good as the

toes. He was just that thorough-going in everything all the time. He was A-1 in every way and you can ask anyone who knew him if that isn't the gospel truth."

Odd as it may seem in a fighting man, General Pershing's one fond, according to his sisters, is gardening. His father was an expert gardener and the taste descended to the military man. Whenever he was on leave, he immediately would don work-day clothes, go into his father's garden, seemingly enjoying the work over the vegetables as much as he enjoyed social activities.

The first time that General Pershing appeared in Chicago and was seen by neighbors, he was clad in overalls and was hard at work in a vegetable garden in the yard behind his father's house in the south side of the city. There was some surprise among the neighbors that a man who then was entitled to wear the uniform and brass buttons of a captain should be willing to put them aside and hoe the garden, but the incident is illuminative of the character of the man upon whom the country relies to lead the American forces to victory against the Germans in Europe.

### TO ENLIST OLDER MEN.

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 24.—To enlist 1000 men over 31 years of age for the United States Guards for service as near their homes as practicable is the task now confronting Lieut. Col. John H. Gardner, in command of the San Francisco recruiting district for the army.

Men with previous military service or experience in a police or fire department are desired particularly for this branch of the service. For men with previous experience of this kind who are over 41 years of age, special permission to enlist will be secured from the war department, providing they are physically qualified.

The uniform will be that of the United States army and the regulation army rifle will be provided. The pay will be that of the regular army. This branch of the service affords an opportunity for the man just a bit too old for the strenuous life of the battle front. His enlistment is considered none the less patriotic, for in so doing he relieves a man more able to serve at the front.

Lieut. Col. Gardner is making appeals to the various camps of the Spanish-American war veterans to encourage their members to enlist in this essential branch, which will be responsible for the safe guarding of government properties in this country.

### RECRUITING CONTINUES.

(By Associated Press.)  
SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 24.—Contrary to the general belief, recruiting for the United States army is still in progress, with even greater intensity than ever before. Lieut. Col. John H. Gardner, in command of the San Francisco recruiting district, announced today.

All men between the ages of 18 and 41 who are not registered under the selective service act are eligible to enlist. Recruiters in all the important cities of the district are continuing in their efforts to arouse technically trained men with mechanical experience to volunteer, for upon these men depends to a large degree the successful outcome of the war.

Men over 31 years of age with experience in any of the building trades or structural work are certain to be promoted to rank of non-commissioned officers shortly after enlistment.

All branches of the service are open for the man who volunteers with the opportunity to follow the trade in the service of the United States that he followed in civil life.

### ARABS DESERTING.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, Dec. 24.—Arab soldiers in the Turkish armies have been deserting in great numbers during the past few months, according to information received from Palestine. Those who were retaken have been subjected to the heaviest penalties as a lesson to their fellows, one man in every ten being publicly hanged, and the body left exposed for a long time afterwards.

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# FOUR DEATHS IN PERSHING'S REPORT

TWO SWEEP OFF TRANSPORT; OTHERS VICTIMS OF GUN-SHOT WOUNDS.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—General Pershing reports that two soldiers have been swept overboard and drowned off a transport on December 17, and that two others have died from gunshot wounds.

The men lost at sea were: Corporal Samuel H. Kehl, Shenandoah, Pa., and Private William F. Smith, engineers, Chicago.

Those who died of wounds were: Sergeant Grover Goodall, headquarters train, December 19, Sharon, Pa., and Corporal William Fautleroy, stevedore regiment, December 20, Kingsdale, Va.

### USING LOAN INTEREST.

"Apply the interest from your Liberty Bonds to the purchase of government thrift stamps." This suggestion was advanced by President William Sproule to all officers and employees of the Southern Pacific Pacific system.

The suggestion came in the form of a circular which is to be widely distributed. Announcement is made that the company will offer the security of its own vaults to all employees who desire to protect their Liberty Bonds and will collect in their behalf the interest as it accrues and either remit same or invest it in government savings stamps as the owner desires.

All employees are urged to buy their stamps and urge other employees to purchase these securities, which are described as "a remarkable opportunity to save small amounts on favorable terms."

### LECTURES ON U. S.

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, Dec. 21.—Dr. Herbert Adams Gibbons has begun an extensive program of lectures in important cities on "What the United States is Doing in the War" for the committee on the effort of France and her allies, of which Stephen Pichon, minister of foreign affairs, is chairman.

### END OF TERM.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, Dec. 24.—It is announced that Lord Cunliffe will end his five years of governorship of the Bank of England next March, and the court will recommend as his successor Sir Brian Cokayne, the present deputy governor.

# BERLIN SOCIALIST PAPER RE-APPEARS

(By Associated Press.)  
AMSTERDAM, Dec. 24.—Vorwaerts, the German Socialist organ, reported to have been ordered to suspend publication three days ago, appeared unexpectedly Sunday. It says the suspension was due to criticism of provisioning war invalids under the heading, "Let Them Beg," and prints prominently a defense of German Food Controller Von Waldow, quoting him as denying he excused or tolerated certain conditions that were alleged to exist, but admitting that illicit trading had assumed such proportions as to threaten to endanger the food supply.

### WOULD HALT ELECTION.

(By Associated Press.)  
PARIS, Dec. 24.—Emanuel Brouze has introduced in the chamber of deputies a bill which would make all members of the present chamber ineligible to re-election. In the preamble he sets forth the impossibility of elections while the war continues, and the necessity of maintaining the present chamber until the end of the conflict and the settlement of peace questions and the economic problems arising from the war. It points out the necessity for the members to go about work of such vast importance without pre-occupation as to re-election.

### WEATHER FOR WEEK.

(By Associated Press.)  
WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—The following forecasts for the week beginning Sunday, December 23, is made by A. J. Henry:

Southern Rocky Mountain and Plateau Regions—Generally fair weather, with seasonal temperature, except colder north portion first part of week.

Pacific States—Frequent rains in Washington and Oregon; generally fair in California, with decidedly temperature changes.

### GERMANY RAISES WAGES.

(By Associated Press.)  
LONDON, Dec. 24.—The average increase in wages in industry in Germany up to the end of 1916 may be reckoned to be about 25 per cent, says the Board of Trade Labor Gazette. According to official statistics, food prices were 116 per cent higher in June, 1917, than in July, 1914.

Jones' pure apple cider at Hall Liquor company. Just arrived. Six bits a gallon. advN231f

# CAL.-NEV. RECRUITING BREAKS ALL RECORDS

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Dec. 24.—All recruiting records in the history of the San Francisco recruiting district were shattered during the past ten days, as shown by the tri-monthly report sent to the adjutant general's office at Washington by Lieut. Col. John H. Gardner.

The report shows that 3,528 men enlisted during the past ten days. This is more than double the number shown on any tri-monthly report submitted by the San Francisco recruiting headquarters.

These volunteers were drawn from California north of the Tehachapi mountains and Nevada.

Seventy-five per cent of these men went into the aviation section as skilled mechanics and experienced automobile drivers and repairers. The engineering corps was the next most popular arm of the service.

### VOTES FOR CAILLAUX.

PARIS, Dec. 24.—One of the negative votes cast in the chamber of deputies today on the resolution depriving former Premier Joseph Caillaux of parliamentary immunity in the accusations against him for alleged treasonable dealings with the enemy was cast by M. Raffin Dugues, one of the three Socialist deputies, who attended the International Socialist conference in Switzerland in the spring of 1916, which also was attended by German Socialist representatives.

The other vote in opposition was cast by M. Bellanger, a deputy from Haute-Garonne, a member of the Caillaux group. The vote for the resolution was 417.

### CHRISTMAS AT ST. PATRICK'S.

First mass at 7 a. m. Second mass at 8:30 a. m. Third mass, which will be a high mass, at 10 a. m. Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament immediately after the 10 o'clock mass. The music will be appropriate to the occasion.—Edward Noonan, Pastor.

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