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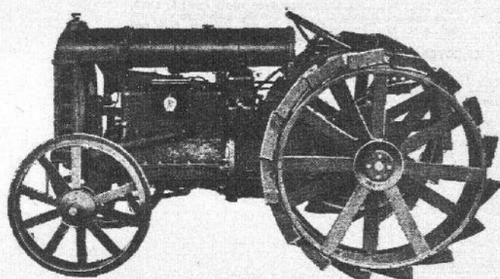
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## CURTAIN FALLS ON STUPENDOUS WORK OF WAR CONGRESS

### MANY VETERANS OF NATIONAL BODY RETIRE WITH AD- JOURNMENT.

### VARDAMAN ONE OF SEVERAL TO RETIRE

Failure of Passage of Many Important Measures Makes Probable Extra Session of New Congress at Early Date.

Washington, March 4.—The sixty-fifth or great war congress passed into history today with final taps of the gavel by Vice President Marshall and Speaker Clark. Failure of scores of important bills gave promise of early convening for reconstruction, legislation of the new congress in extraordinary session, in which control passes from the Democratic party to the Republicans.

Unusual scenes of confusion in the final rush to complete its work accompanied the closing hours of congress, in which President Wilson, just back from France in his room off the senate chamber, hastily signed many last-minute measures.

Stupendous was the record of the congress, which carried the nation into and through the war and which had been in almost continuous session since it was called by President Wilson into extraordinary session April 2, 1917, to declare war against Germany. It appropriated about sixty billion dollars, authorized twenty-five billion dollars in bonds, and enacted countless measures for prosecuting the war and of domestic import. The new congress will take up the limitless task of reconstruction problems, ratification of the peace treaty and other vital questions, probably immediately after the return of President Wilson from his second visit to France.

Historic as War Maker.

Special features of the sixty-fifth congress were many addresses by President Wilson, including those recommending war with Germany and Austria, that of Jan. 8, 1917, enunciating his famous fourteen principles of peace, and those endorsing woman suffrage, announcing the armistice terms imposed upon Germany last November and, his recent address detailing accomplishments of his work at Paris.

There were three sessions of the congress. The first, extra session met April 2, 1917, following shortly after the turbulent and successful senate filibuster on the administration armed ship bill which marked the close of the sixty-fourth congress. The dramatic night address of President Wilson to urge war with Germany, which was promptly declared, marked the opening of the extra session, called but a few weeks after the president's inauguration for a second term. The session closed October 6, 1917, lasting 188 days. The second session—lasting 354 days and the longest in the history of American government—began Dec. 3, 1917, and adjourned November 21, last. The third and final session which ended today began December 2, last, and was the statutory short session of 93 days.

Substantial Democratic majorities in both senate and house since President Wilson's inauguration six years ago now have passed. In the new congress, the senate will have 49 Republicans and 47 Democrats and the house 238 Republicans and 193 Democrats, one Socialist, two Independents and one Prohibitionist.

Many veterans in both houses retired with today's adjournment. In the senate these included Senators

Saulsbury, of Delaware, president pro tempore; Lewis, of Illinois, Democratic whip; Shafroth, of Colorado; Thompson, of Kansas; Hardwick, of Georgia; Hollis, of New Hampshire; and Vardaman, of Mississippi; Goff, of West Virginia; Smith, of Michigan; and Weeks, of Massachusetts. Among prominent representatives whose services ended were Miss Jeannette Rankin, of Montana, the first woman elected to the house; Meyer London, of New York, Socialist; Swager Sherry, of Kentucky, chairman of the appropriation committee; Hayes, California; Keating, Colorado; Powers, of Kentucky; Foster, Illinois; Cox, Barnhart and Dixon, of Indiana; Miller, Minnesota; Borland, Missouri; Parker, New Jersey; Gordon, Ohio; Farr, Pennsylvania; O'Shaughnessy, Rhode Island; Slayden, Gregg and Dtes, Texas; and Cooper and Stafford of Wisconsin.

New members of the next congress include senators-elect Harrison, Mississippi; Harris, Georgia; Stanley, Kentucky; Capper, Kansas; Edge, New Jersey; Elkins, West Virginia; McCormick, Illinois; Newberg, Michigan; and Walsh, Massachusetts.

Partisan politics, although it caused the mandate for change from Democratic to Republican control of congress, was largely buried during the war period, war measures being hastily rushed through with big bi-partisan majorities. Many acute controversies, however, marked the congress. Among these were the 1917-1918 question of war efficiency, developed from an investigation of the senate military committee and reaching a climax in the dispute between President Wilson and Senator Chamberlain of Oregon, chairman of the committee. Others involved the League of Nations, the Overman bill conferring unlimited authority on the president to reorganize government departments, government control of railroads and the food control act.

During the first session of the congress, devoted largely to prosecution of the war, among the important measures passed were:

The war declaration against Germany, signed April 6, 1917; the selective draft act; the law for seizure of interned German ships; the war risk insurance bureau act; the first war revenue bill; the food and fuel control law; the daylight saving measure; the initial and record-breaking aviation appropriation of \$640,000,000; the trading with the enemy act; and measures providing for soldiers and sailors insurance and protection of their civil rights at home.

Outstanding measures of the second, long session, were:

The Austrian war declaration; the national prohibition resolution; the Webb export trade act; the alien property custodian bill; the laws for government control of railroads, telegraphs, telephones, cables and radio utilities; the second draft law; the war finance corporation act and the Overman reorganization bill.

During the last session, completion of the \$6,000,000,000 revenue bill was the chief accomplishment in addition to completion of the wheat guaranty bill, authorizations of \$7,000,000,000 in short term notes and the huge annual appropriation bills.

To Renew Suffrage Fight.

Woman suffrage also was a much-debated topic, but as defeated in the senate last month, 55 to 29, lacking the necessary two-thirds by margin of one vote, after the resolution proposing submission of an equal suffrage amendment to the constitution had been adopted by the house on Jan. 10, 1917, by a vote of 274 to 134. The campaign for its adoption will be renewed in the new congress.

Investigations by both senate and house committees were numerous throughout the three sessions. Among these were the inquiry into disloyalty charges against Senator LaFollette of Wisconsin, which recently ended in a vote dismissing the charges. Other important inquiries, in addition to the senate military committee's general army investigation, were those into radical, pro-German and brewers' propaganda, activities of the National Security League, regulation of the meat industry; the railroad question, into coal and sugar condition; the Ford-Newberry senatorial election contest from Michigan; and the Hog Island shipbuilding enterprise.

Nominations. It ratified treaties for nominations it ratified treaties for acquisition of the Virgin Islands, for reciprocal drafting of aliens and several commercial and arbitration treaties. Despite the support of President Wilson, the \$25,000,000 Colombia treaty again failed.

### NOTICE

I, the undersigned, convicted of manslaughter, January 23, 1918, am applying for parole. (Signed) WILLIAM HANNEY. feb-8-

Uncle Sam may be derided for his idealism, but he is decidedly admired in Europe for the practicability of his meal ticket.

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### THE EYE BEHIND THE BATTLE LINES

By the eternal fitness of things Sir Arthur Conan Doyle should write this story, for in the spellbound hours in which laconic brown men in khaki and "horizon blue" gave it to me, I visualized no one so much as Sherlock Holmes, grim, brooding and penetrating, riding in their places miles over the smoke of Flanders; sitting in their places in the map-littered dugouts behind the lines of battle, untangling the mysteries of uncanny secrets.

It is the story of the greatest detective system ever devised by man, the inner story of how the allies by aerial photography and weird deduction from meaningless prints of the German lines solved the riddles of the foe—the story of "the camera, the best spy of all time."

For, as much as any other factor, the camera won the war. Time and again the allies, in those terrible days of suspense before America flashed to the rescue, only met and stopped Hun drives because the camera had told them where and when to prepare. And in the brief year of America's fighting, the all-seeing eye of the black box from our planes did its share in ripping the veil of secrecy off German plots of battle. Into this story will come the strange case of the human footprint and the countless things of stealth it revealed, also the curious "rogue's gallery" of German generals which the allied detectives collected, kept and used with such sure might—also the odd—but a beginning must be made.

In the first place one must understand that the general in warfare must always see the whole line, see his own men, see the enemy, see everything. Caesar stood on hills and saw his handiwork fighting over a valley. Napoleon always ordered a high scaffolding erected to view his battles; Frederick the Great preferred wind-mills. Foch sat in a cellar, thirty feet underground, and saw a thousand times more than Napoleon on his turret; saw infinitely more of that line from the Alps clear to the sea than the Corsican saw of the scant ten miles of his battle lines.

This was because Foch had the camera, while Napoleon had a spyglass. Modern photographic science laid before each allied general a complete picture of everything the enemy was doing and almost everything it was go-

ing to do. It showed him unmistakably what his own men were doing and what they could do. It relieved him of conflicting stories from spies from human mistakes—for the camera does not lie.

Napoleon could but guess what Wellington was planning; Foch could send up a photographer and within an hour know what Ludendorff was thinking of.

Consider this: Once the French were planning to take a certain hill, knowing that Bavarian "Landstrum"—poor machine-gun fighters—held it weakly. At dawn a photographer went up, came dashing back with a picture, and fifteen minutes later the French general called off the attack and saved the lives of thousands of his men. And yet the camera had caught no remarkable thing. It merely showed that one group of men had gone out and another come into the trenches during the night. The footprints of the Germans told that much. The incoming trail, followed back, was found to emerge from a woods, lying beside a fine white road. The allied detectives bending over their prints, followed that road to the nearest German cantonment and proved by still other photographs that the cantonment was held by Prussians. Presto! The French staff knew that crack Prussians were opposing them, and that it would be nothing short of suicide to attack.

Deduction of this sort was more than half of the work of the aerial photography sections of the allied armies. The work of snapping pictures from the air was picturesque, dangerous, heroic; but for thrills and romance give me those sweating, silent men in the dugouts, studying photographs by the hour, catching a clue have a telltale mark there, that made Hindenburg's plans an open book.

The work of the United States aerial photography corps was divided into three sections, each of them half ace and half spy, each of them a mixture of reckless dare-devils and cold master minds.

The first was long-range reconnaissance, performed by the United States division of aerial photography; the second, trench photography, and the third, battery photography, both performed by the United States army section of photography. The men who did the work in the second and third branches were merely attached to a certain sector to be of immediate help in solving the doughboys' perplexities.

Fighting men might be moved in or relieved, but the photo section remained always at the same sector, thus becoming perfectly familiar with every hill and dale.

Sherlock Holmes would have been in long-range reconnaissance! For here the powers of human deduction were put to their greatest test. Everything that the enemy was doing, miles and miles behind his lines; all that he was getting ready to do, must be photographed and translated.

A photo section in the American army—and the French and British organizations, in the main, paralleled our formations—consisted of thirty men under a first lieutenant and was assigned to do sleuthing over a certain territory far within the Hun holdings. Some fifteen of them are dark-room men, experts at developing, printing, enlarging, etc. Some of them are map makers; some of them are camera adjusters; some are lantern-slide authorities, and some are file clerks. Two of them are motorcycle riders, who hurry the prints to the staff officers. The first lieutenant, his first sergeant, and such other men as qualify, are photographers, riding with the armmen who are assigned to take them where they want to go.

The camera here is the spy behind the lines, a furtive thing hanging stealthily on the clouds, miles high; slipping here and there over the enemy unseen, yet seeing all. Contrary to the general belief, it is now known that the long-range reconnaissance men were usually unprotected on their trips.

The photographer is driven aloft in a slow plane, one that an enemy combat plane can easily overtake, since the latter holds but one man and no camera. Anyway, he goes up. He may be assigned to take map pictures, or he may be told to take special views of a certain suspicious spot. He works with a map camera in the first instance, a standard aerial camera in the latter, or in exceptional cases he may use a special "gun" with long focus to bring out a strip of ground with extra clearness. He rarely or never takes pictures below three and one-half miles. His task is not hard, according to himself. He is told his objective when he ascends; his camera is set to be "shot" at a certain altitude, at a certain plane speed, and his shutter is corrected to meet the atmospheric conditions. Science makes

(Continued on Page Six.)

### Stop Corn Agony In Four Seconds

Use "Gets-It"—See Corns Peel Off!

The relief that "Gets-It" gives from corn-pains—the way it makes corns and calluses peel off painlessly in one piece—is one of the wonders of the world. The woman in



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"Gets-It" is the guaranteed, money-back corn-remover, the only sure way, costs but a trifle at any drug store. **W. F. B. LAWRENCE & CO., CHICAGO, ILL.** Sold in Opelousas and recommended as the world's best corn remedy by Opelousas Drug Store.

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