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Thus beginneth the long procession of resignations in Washington.

Although he has been out at sea for 24 hours, Wilson still appears to be president of the United States.

That little Chile-Peru war sideshow will not attract much attention after what has been going on under the "big top."

Mayor Ashley of New Bedford, Mass., has just been re-elected for the twentieth time, and he must be about ready to foreclose his mortgage on that city.

Vice-President Thomas Marshall (you know we have a vice-president) probably feels himself a little more prominent now that his boss has taken to the sea.

Too bad that Secretary Tammuly couldn't go on a European junket! But a few of our officials are really needed at home, and Tammuly appears to be one of the essentials.

Roosevelt's criticism of Wilson following the latter's appointment of delegates to the peace conference cannot be ascribed to pique on the part of Roosevelt that he was not selected.

Those 23 specialists in economics, international law, history and politics who accompanied the American peace delegation to the conference are somewhat reassuring to those who thought it might be a one-man participation so far as the United States was concerned.

The warship convoy accompanying President Wilson and the receiving warships will constitute a sizeable demonstration of American naval strength, serving to impress upon the minds of Europeans that the United States now stands second in naval strength in the world.

Vermont ought to put in a claim for one of those captured German cannons to be placed on the State House grounds at Montpelier. There are enough of those trophies to permit the government to distribute one each among all the states and then have a large surplus. A real German cannon captured by the 29th division of New England troops would add greatly to the attractiveness of the State House grounds.

Theodore Roosevelt makes a very apt presentation of what President Wilson's position in the peace conference should be. Wilson should not be an umpire between two contending sides; he should be aligned with one of those sides and should act loyally with that side, which happens to be the entente allies. Of course, any delegate from the United States could not with propriety act as an umpire because the United States has been one of the belligerents. It is probable that the great bulk of the American people will agree heartily with this presentation of what Wilson's position in the conference ought to be.

A prominent official of the new German government expressed the belief at the outset of the overturn of autocracy that if the new regime could stand for six weeks its permanence ought to be assured. The six weeks are not yet up, but the absence of a new revolutionary movement of any consequence (if cable messages are trustworthy) should be taken perhaps as a sign that the prediction is coming true. However, it will be recalled that Russia's first democracy ran several months after the abdication of the czar, only to fall before a new assault from the extreme radicals of that country. Germany is not yet clear of entanglements by any means.

CURRYING FAVOR WITH GERMAN PEOPLE.

The statement credited to the former crown prince of Germany, to the effect that he knew Germany had lost the war as early as October, 1914, when the first drive toward Paris was checked in the battle of the Marne and, moreover, that he tried to persuade the general staff to make peace at that time, even if Alsace-Lorraine had to be sacrificed, can be put down as a more or less clumsy attempt to curry favor with the people of Germany. The former crown prince probably does not care a snap of his fingers if he antagonizes his father in so speaking or if he causes the former emperor to sink still lower in the esteem of the German people through being pictured as the one who insisted on carrying on the bloodshed which continued for more than four years after the eldest son of the Hohenzollern family had become an apostle of peace. There have been other times in which wide differences have sprung up between father and son, and it is not at all improbable that filial devotion in the present instance is so slack that the former crown prince would sacrifice his father's remaining prestige to get back into popular favor with the German people once more, or as nearly back there as it is possible for a man of his make-up to get. If it is the purpose of the eldest son to seek favor with those whom he once held in contempt he will not be likely to make much headway in this manner.

PERSHING DESCRIBES AMERICAN VALOR

(Continued from first page.)

Chateau Thierry against powerful artillery and infantry attack. "A single regiment of the third wrote one of the most brilliant pages in our military annals on this occasion," General Pershing says. "It prevented the crossing at certain points on its front while, on either flank, the Germans who had gained a footing, pressed forward. Our men, firing in three directions, met the German attacks with counter-attacks at critical points and succeeded in throwing two German divisions into complete confusion, capturing 600 prisoners."

Thus was the stage set for the counter-offensive which, beginning with the smashing of the enemy's Marne salient, brought overwhelming victory to the allies and the United States in the eventful months that have followed. "The intimation is strong that General Pershing's advice helped Marshal Foch to reach his decision to strike. General Pershing continues:

"The great force of the German Chateau Thierry offensive established the deep Marne salient, but the enemy was taking chances, and the vulnerability of this pocket to attack might be turned to his disadvantage. Seizing this opportunity to support my conviction, every division with any sort of training was made available for use in a counter-offensive. The place of honor in the thrust toward Soissons on July 18 was given to our first and second divisions in company with chosen French divisions."

"Without the usual brief warning of a preliminary bombardment, the massed French and American artillery, firing by the map, laid down its rolling barrage at dawn while the infantry began its charge. The tactical handling of our troops under these trying conditions was excellent throughout the action. The enemy brought up large numbers of reserves and made a stubborn defense both with machine guns and artillery, but through five days' fighting the first division continued to advance until it had gained the heights above Soissons and captured the village of Berry-le-sec. The second division took Beau Repaire farm and Verzy in a very rapid advance and reached a position in front of Tigny at the end of its second day. These two divisions captured 7,000 prisoners and over 100 pieces of artillery."

The report describes in some detail the work of completing the reduction of the salient, mentioning the operations of the 26th, 34, 4th, 42d, 32d and 28th divisions. With the situation on the Marne front thus relieved, General Pershing writes, he could turn to the organization of the first American army and the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient, long planned as the initial purely American enterprise. A troop concentration, aided by generous contributions of artillery and air units by the French, began, involving the movement, mostly at night, of 600,000 men. A sector reaching from Port sur Selle, east of the Moselle, westward through St. Mihiel to Verdun and later enlarged to carry it to the edge of the forest of Argonne, was taken over, the second Colonial French holding the tip of the salient opposite St. Mihiel, and the French 17th corps on the heights above Verdun being transferred to General Pershing's command.

The combined French, British and American air forces mobilized for the battle, the report says, was the largest aviation assembly ever engaged on the western front up to that time in a single operation.

Of the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient, General Pershing says: "After four hours' artillery preparation the seven American divisions in the front line advanced at 5 a. m., on Sept. 12, assisted by a limited number of tanks manned partly by Americans and partly by the French. These divisions, accompanied by groups of wire cutters and others armed with bangalore torpedoes, went through the successive bands of barbed wire that protected the enemy's front line and support trenches, in irresistible waves on schedule time, breaking down all defense of an enemy demoralized by the great volume of our artillery fire and our sudden approach out of the fog."

"Our first corps advanced to Thiaucourt, while our fourth corps curved back to the southwest through Nonsard. The second Colonial French corps made the slight advance required of it on very difficult ground, and the fifth corps took its three ridges and repulsed a counter-attack. A rapid march brought reserve regiments of a division of the fifth corps into Vigneulles in the early morning, where it linked up with patrols of our fourth corps, closing the salient and forming a new line west of Thiaucourt to Vigneulles, and beyond Fresnes-en-Woevre."

"At the cost of only 7,000 casualties, mostly light, we had taken 16,000 prisoners and 443 guns, a great quantity of material, released the inhabitants of many villages from enemy domination, and established our lines in a position to threaten Metz."

"This signal success of the American first army in its first offensive was of prime importance. The allies found they



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had a formidable army to aid them, and the enemy learned finally that he had one to reckon with."

The report shows for the first time officially, that with this brilliantly executed coup, General Pershing's men had cleared the way for the great effort of the allied and American forces to win a conclusive victory. The American army moved at once toward its crowning achievement, the battle of the Meuse.

The general tells a dramatic story of this mighty battle in three distinct phrases, beginning on the night of Sept. 27, when Americans quickly took the places of the French on the thinly held

line of this long quiet sector. The attack opened on Sept. 26 and the American drove through entanglements, across No Man's land to take all the enemy's first line positions. Closing the chapter, General Pershing says:

"On Nov. 6 a division of the first corps reached a point on the Meuse opposite Sedan, 25 miles from our line of departure. The strategic goal which was our highest hope was gained. We had cut the enemy's main line of communications, and nothing but surrender or an armistice could save his army from complete disaster.

"In all, 40 enemy divisions had been

used against us in the Meuse-Argonne battle. Between Sept. 26 and Nov. 6 we took 26,059 prisoners and 468 guns on this front. Our divisions engaged were the 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th, 26th, 28th, 29th, 32d, 33d, 35th, 37th, 42d, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 82d, 89th, 90th and 91st. Many of our divisions remained in the line for a length of time that required nerves of steel, while others were sent in again after only a few days of rest. The 1st, 5th, 26th, 42d, 77th, 80th, 89th and 90th were in the line twice. Although some of the divisions were fighting their first battle, they soon became equal to the best."

PAYMENTS IN FULL for 1917-18 CHRISTMAS CLUB are due this week and will be received until NOON, SATURDAY, Dec. 7th. CRISP, NEW, one-dollar bills for Christmas gifts or trade may be obtained here until our supply is exhausted.

CHRISTMAS CLUB for 1918-19 is now open for members. FOUR CLASSES—\$12.50 (25c per week), \$25.00 (50c per week), \$50.00 (\$1.00 per week), and \$100.00 (\$2.00 per week).

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For this week we are giving the public an unusual opportunity to secure their Winter Gloves, Sweaters, Caps, etc., at greatly reduced prices:

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 Children's 15c Mittens and Gloves 10c
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