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WILSON HOPES FOR PEACE BY SPRING

HUNS SILENTLY WATCH YANKS CROSS BORDER

Americans Unprepared For Indifference Shown As Columns Swing Past Closely Shuttered German Homes.

AMERICAN ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Dec. 2. (By the Associated Press.)—No demonstrations marked the entry of Maj.-Gen. Dickman's army into Germany yesterday. The frontier was crossed early in the day and by nightfall the Americans had moved forward 12 miles, reaching Badgen, on the left, and Saarbrebach, on the right. The line extended along the Saar river and through Saarburg and Treves.

The reception given the Americans differed from that encountered in Luxemburg and parts of Belgium and France. There they were welcomed as deliverers. The attitude of the population of Rhenish Prussia was different. Not a single act of open antagonism was reported, but it was evident that even the children had been schooled carefully in the role they must play.

Officers and men were not surprised by the absence of cheering crowds, but they did not expect the calm silence with which the advance patrols and the columns were received.

On the Luxemburg side of the Moselle river the streets were filled with those out to say good-bye. Across the Moselle the villages were almost deserted. Perhaps 85 per cent of the population remained within their homes and the blinds were drawn. Here and there a German stood in the doorway watching the troops pass and occasionally groups assembled at streets, but there were no signs of pleasure or disapproval.

Large crowds were encountered in Treves, the largest place occupied, later in the day, but even there most of the people kept moving, maintaining always a studied air of indifference. Once in a while the youngsters were carried away by the excitement and displayed enthusiasm over the marching troops, but their forgetfulness was corrected promptly by some older person.

Brig.-Gen. Preston Brown, the military governor for occupied territory, has established his headquarters at Treves, which also has been made advanced general headquarters. Gen. Pershing will spend part of his time at Treves.

EIGHT MORE HUN SUBS SURRENDERED TO ALLIES

HARWICH, Dec. 2.—Eight more German submarines have been surrendered, making a total of 122 which have been taken over by the allies.

ALLIED NAVAL FLEET NABS RUSSIAN VESSELS

PARIS, Dec. 2. (Havas.)—The allied naval squadron which arrived off Sebastopol a few days ago took possession of the Russian battleship Volga, one destroyer and five German submarines.

Fourteen German merchantmen were found in Black sea ports and will be used by the allies as transports.

BRITISH OFFICIAL SAYS TERMS WILL NOT BE SOFT

LONDON (via Montreal), Dec. 2.—Walter Hume Long, secretary of state for the colonies, speaking at Bristol, has disclosed the fact that he was a member of the committee mentioned by the premier on Nov. 29 to consider the terms that should be demanded from Germany. Therefore, he could emphasize the fact the empire need have no anxiety on the ground of undue tenderness on the part of Great Britain and the allies.

He said that although he did not desire to enlarge the British empire, he saw no alternative to the solution of the problem of the German colonies save by their inclusion in the empire. Where the natives had been consulted they overwhelmingly favored that course, he said.

EIGHT DAYS REMAIN FOR RHINE EVACUATION

PARIS, Dec. 2. (Havas.)—Eight days remain for the Germans to evacuate the left bank of the Rhine from lower Alsace to Holland. French and allied forces, which crossed the German frontier yesterday, have received strict instructions as to their attitude toward the German population in the occupied territories. France will be represented by contingents in all enemy territory, according to an announcement.

PLUMMER'S TROOPS CROSS FRONTIERS OF GERMANY

LONDON, Dec. 2.—Gen. Plummer's advanced troops Sunday crossed the German frontier between Beho and Eupen and advanced toward the Rhine, the war office announces. By evening the troops had reached the general line of Hurg, Reuland, Bullinger and Mont Joie.

AMERICANS CROSS OVER FRONTIER INTO PRUSSIA

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY OF OCCUPATION, Dec. 2. (By the Associated Press.)—American troops crossed the frontier into Prussia at daylight Sunday behind the German rear guards. Treves is the most important city thus

(Continued on Page 3, Column 6.)

ARKANSAN IMPROVING.

CONWAY, Ark., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—As soon as his recovery will permit, Lieut. Theodore Smith will rejoin his organization, the veteran Sixth field artillery, and will return to America when it does. This information was sent by Lieut. Smith on Nov. 11 from the base hospital where he has been held since the receipt of serious wounds about Oct. 5. The former Conway man had come through numerous actions, dating from Sept., 1917, unscathed, only to fall in the final American offensive before the signing of the armistice.

PLAN ENGLAND'S DAY.

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—The public schools of Meridian and rural schools of the county will join in the celebration of Dec. 8 as England's day, in accord with the request of Superintendent of Education W. F. Bond. The celebration falling on Sunday, the school children will join in the celebration to be arranged by the board of trade. Mayor Dabney with the assistance of Secretary J. B. Holland, of the Y. W. C. A. The celebration will be held at the courthouse.

Serb Minister To Represent Nation

DR. M. R. VESNITCH.

Dr. M. R. Vesnitch, Serbian minister at Paris, probably will represent Serbia at the peace conference, as Prime Minister Pachitch is ill. Dr. Vesnitch was formerly a professor at the University of Belgrade. He headed a Serbian mission that visited the United States early in the present year.

MOURNED AS DEAD FOR FOUR MONTHS, WRITES TO PARENTS

Private Robert Weakley, Killed July 22, Pens Letter to Family Dated Nov. 14—Is In Base Hospital.

For four months the family of Private Robert Weakley mourned him as dead. A telegram from the war department informer them that he had been killed in action July 22.

Monday they received a letter from him, dated Nov. 14, in which he says he hopes to soon be home.

Private Weakley is a son of R. H. Weakley, of Cedar Grove. He slipped away when he was 17 years of age and joined the army. The first information the family had of his whereabouts was when they learned he was at Jefferson barracks. This was in April, 1917. He later was placed with the Rainbow division of the U. S. army, which led the way to France. Private Weakley's letter, which came as such a happy surprise to his family, is as follows:

"Somewhere in France, Nov. 14, 1918.—My Dear Father: Guess you have heard the good news by this time. It is all the talk over here now and it sure does sound good to me to know that there are no more muddy, cold trenches or going over the top for me. Dad, you know I was one of the first to land over here and of course have seen a lot of the hardships of this war, but as we think it is about to end now will not try to tell you much about it until I see you. I think that I came out very lucky, as I was in the trenches several times, as I wrote to mother, and three times over the top. I was gassed only once and wounded three times, but I don't mind that, as I think I will be able to come home soon. I am now in base hospital No. 13, getting along fine. Have been in the hospital since July, but think I will be able to be out soon.

"Now, dad, don't feel the least bit uneasy about me. I am not seriously hurt. I am resting well and improving rapidly. Have the best attention that could be given anyone, and am only awaiting my turn to come home.

"This war has taught me a lesson not soon to be forgotten. I long to get home so that I can go to work for you and mother. I feel that I want to work for you the remainder of my life. I just now realize what you all have done for me and feel that I can never repay you for your trouble, but I beg that you will not worry about me, as I think I will be home soon, almost as good as ever. Keep the car in good condition, as I want to take a few little spins around to see my friends when I return.

"How is that brother of mine? Guess he is some sailor by this time. Am glad he didn't get to come over and see the h— of it as I did. I thought that it was my duty, and if it was to do over again I would do as I have done. I have a great many things to tell you which may be quite interesting to you when I get home. I have seen so many dark places and, as you know, there's nothing beautiful in war except the nurses."

BURLESON DISMISSES TWO HIGH OFFICIALS

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—Postmaster-General Burleson has dismissed from government service Edward Reybolds, vice-president and general manager of the Postal Telegraph-Cable company, and A. B. Richards, general superintendent of the company's Pacific coast division, for alleged subordination against the government's plans to amalgamate the Postal and the Western Union Telegraph company.

MONTENEGRIN KING OUSTED; JOINS SERBIA

Assembly Deposes Ruler and Declares Itself in Favor of Union With Other Nation Under King Peter.

LONDON, Dec. 2.—King Nicholas of Montenegro has been deposed by the skupshtina, the Montenegrin national assembly, according to a message received here from Prague today.

The dispatch was sent from Prague by the Czecho-Slovak press bureau by way of Copenhagen. It says that the skupshtina voted the deposition on Friday last and declared for a union of Montenegro with Serbia under King Peter.

The family of the king was included in the act of deposition.

UNCOVER HUGE PLOT TO RESTORE KAISER

LONDON, Dec. 2.—A plot to restore imperialism and secure the return of Emperor William has been discovered in Berlin, according to a dispatch from Amsterdam to the Express.

According to the dispatch, which was filed at Amsterdam Friday, the chief men behind the plot were Field Marshal von Mackensen, Gen. von Born and Gen. Count Sixt von Arnim. It is said they instructed the Prussian officers' corps to carry on a pro-emperor agitation, beginning immediately after demobilization of the troops was completed. Large sums of money are said to have been placed at the disposal of the leaders by munition makers.

The plot collapsed owing to the fact that a secret service agent overheard a telephone conversation. Many arrests have been made in Berlin and other cities, while the government has long lists of suspects, who had planned to seize members of the present government.

No direct evidence of William Hohenzollern's connection with the plot has been found, it is said, but it is believed the outline of the plan was brought to Berlin by two of his suite, who recently went to the German capital for the ostensible purpose of taking the wife of the former emperor to Amerongen, Holland.

Lieut. Dr. Gustav Krupp von Bohlen is said to have been in control of the financial arrangements. Field Marshal von Mackensen is reported to have attempted to induce Field Marshal von Hindenburg to join, but the latter refused, saying he intended to retire after the demobilization of the army.

The whole Prussian court, it is stated, was in sympathy with the plotters and it is said that Prince von Buelow and Dr. Georg Michaelis, former imperial chancellor, had promised to help. The plan was to organize a provisional government under Field Marshal von Mackensen, or some other military leader, and then urge William Hohenzollern to return.

BERLIN STARTS PROBE INTO HUN ATROCITIES

LONDON, Dec. 2.—The German government is starting an investigation into the German crimes in Belgium, the deportation of Belgian workmen, the theft of Belgian machinery and the murders of Edith Cavell and Capt. Fryatt.

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4.)

UNSKILLED LABOR IS NEEDED IN SHEFFIELD

SHEFFIELD, Ala., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—Maj. D. A. Watt, engineer in charge of construction of Dam No. 2 at Muscle Shoals, has returned to Washington. Maj. Watt made no statement as to the reason for his visit, but it is presumed that it had to do with the labor situation here. Men are needed badly for work on the dam, and work is being retarded by the scarcity of unskilled labor. It is stated that the engineers in charge are anxious to proceed with the work of organization and that they hope to be ready to get to work in earnest not later than early spring.

Some 600 men are employed on the construction and the necessary preliminaries at the present time. Materials are being rapidly assembled and everything will be in readiness for real construction work very shortly. It was thought that men could be taken over for dam construction as they were released from Nitrate Plant No. 2, but it seems that the demand for unskilled labor at Nitrate Plant No. 2 is still great.

There is no shortage of skilled labor in the district so far as is known, but unskilled labor is in great demand and excellent wages are being paid.

MISSISSIPPI BAPTISTS SEEK $1,000,000 FUND

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—Mississippi Baptists began a campaign Sunday to raise $1,000,000 for their schools. They plan to raise $200,000 a year in cash. Half of this amount for the first year's amount is already pledged and will be provided for as soon as the other $100,000 is in sight. It is believed that it will be an easy matter to raise the $100,000 as the Mississippi Baptists during the past year have given $85,000 in cash for their schools. Five men have been placed in the field for the work.

One hundred thousand dollars of the amount raised will be used for the purchase of Blue Mountain college, the other to pay indebtedness.

U-BOAT IN SPAIN.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Ten days after the armistice was signed a German submarine arrived in the port of Barcelona, the state department was notified today. The boat will be interned by the Spanish government.

CARRY ON!

Dear Goodfellows:

Thank God the ravages of war have not made barren the fields of memory, and its iron hoof has not crushed from your souls the sweet charity that makes glad the heart of childhood, and brings a song to childish lips that would otherwise tremble with the pain of hunger and emptiness.

The year that is so swiftly passing has been a year of hardship and suffering. It has left the hush of death upon once happy homes, and strewn the gray ashes of wanton waste, over green fields and glorious cities. It has cast into the crucible of life the baser metals of mortality and melted them into purer thought and broader vision.

It has brought pain, and want, and sorrow, but hope is ever lifting its head above the ruins of the past, and our eyes are ever turning toward the dawn-kissed mountains of another day; and so the spirit of Christmas lives always in the hearts of old and young alike, for even though we have reached twilight end of the journey, what are we except children in thought, with the half-forgotten memories of childhood ringing like happy laughter along the empty hallways of the dragging days?

Oh, the heritage of youth in all its wonderful simplicity! How often it sweetens the flow of bitter tears that come when life is hard, and aching arms are empty for those we can not have or hold.

It's good to know that you are back again this Christmas, but somehow, boys, I knew you'd be here; just as I know that Christmas is coming and just as I know, deep down in my heart, there is a Santa Claus.

Somehow, if you hadn't come along with your message of good fellowship, I would have been terribly disappointed, and my Christmas memories would have been less sweet, for, after all, it's best to see others happy. And the kiddies! God bless them all! To make Christmas morning for just one little, eager-eyed tot is worth more than all the gifts that come with bartered friendship.

And, say, boys, keep on asking them—every day hammer it into them, over and over. Beg them, plead with them, for deep down in their hearts they want to help, but they just get cold and careless and selfish. They can't refuse to give; for who could enjoy a big Christmas dinner with the memory of a little tear-stained face looking out upon a gray December twilight, and trembling hands hugging an aching heart, an empty stocking?

How could you eat, folks, unless you have given some of all you have to the Goodfellows?

Have you ever had any little fellows of your own? Have you ever had their baby fingers get all tangled up in your heartstrings and their baby laughter make bearable the long, hard, lean days?

And, say, folks, have you ever had them go, leaving you alone, with the touch of their moist lips still warm against your own, and your heart all numb with the pain of it?

If you have, or if you have not, for God's sake give to the Goodfellows! Keep your heart from growing little, and dry and shriveled; for if you don't, give—listen. Some night when the rain beats against the window like the tapping of an old man's cane, ghostly baby arms will reach out to you and ghostly baby faces will look up at you, pleading for the childish joy of a Christmas stocking—an empty stocking you failed to fill.

WILL D. MUSIK.

The author of this letter is a charter member of the Goodfellows club. He knows the great work the club does each year at Christmas time, for the poor children. He is familiar with the workings of the greatest organization in the South for the distribution of Christmas cheer. He knows that through this wonderful society thousands of youngsters' hearts are made glad Christmas morning, youngsters who faced a day of misery, heartaches and tears but for you. Each year he sends in a personal appeal, a message from the depths of the heart and a material contribution as well.

Goodfellows, as he says, it matters not what we are now, after all we still are children. Thousands are looking to us for remembrance this Christmas. Don't disappoint them. Let's hear from you. Carry on!

CASUALTY LIST

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Two army casualty lists made public here today, with a list made public Sunday, contain a total of 6,304 names, divided:

Killed in action 1,627, died from wounds 583, died accident and other causes 43, died airplane accident 1, died of disease 1,127, missing in action 1,249, wounded, degree undetermined, 656; wounded slightly 543, missing in action 1,249.

Included in the lists:

TENNESSEE.

Killed in action: Capt. Isaac Reese, Jr., 510 Vance avenue, Memphis; Lieuts. Thomas S. Tate, 894 McLemore avenue, Memphis; Carrick H. Yeager, R. F. D. 5, Highland avenue, Memphis; Alvin H. Cameron, Nashville; Sergts. Milo Lemert, Crossville; Clarence Johnson, Roan Mountain; Hugh Luttrell, Knoxville; Corporals Harry E. Smith, Tyner; Edward H. Lockhart, R. F. D. 1, Camden; Milburn Moffit, Hampton; Frank R. Johnson, Donaldson; Claud McKinney, R. F. D. 1, Hampton; Walter E. McNeese, R. F. D. 2, Jonesboro; Eley Sparks, McKenzie; Albert A. Carlock, Etowah; John F. Compton, Rogersville; Joe S. McCormick, R. F. D. 1, Frankewing; Privates Louis J. Tucker, 1201 Mississippi avenue, Memphis; James Nathan, 1094 Union avenue, Memphis; Isham D. Robbins, Oakdale; John Civils, Portland; Benjamin Nichols, R. F. D. 1, Englewood; William H. Lanier, Mount Pleasant; George S. Sterling, Medon; Jodie P. Smith, Friendship; Gilbert W. Smith, R. F. D. 3, Ntoda; William Bilyins, Elve, Scott county; Walter J. Hudgins, R. F. D. 2, Tennessee City; Chas. R. Foster, R. F. D. 3, Red Boiling Springs; James E. Bivens, Sardis; Tillman Butler, R. F. D. 2, Rockwood; Archibald L. Briggs, Moscow; James W. Ragan, R. F. D. 2, Bristol; Jesse W. Temple, R. F. D. 2, Lyles; Luke D. Hunter, Haydenburg; Arthur Lee, Ducktown; Charlie G. McCown, Fayetteville; Henry Gulley, R. F. D. 2, Mount Pleasant; William P. Myers, R. R. D. 1, Townsend; George W. Rose, R. F. D. 2, Dyersburg; William E. Sparks, 112 East Market street, Dyersburg.

Died from wounds: Lieuts. Grover Carter, 1208 Central avenue, Memphis; Rowdy Gentry, Greeneville; Sergts. Roy L. Sweet, Fountain City; Sherman Stanley, New River; Corporals Blaine Perkins, Johnson City; Joe T. Kennedy, R.

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

ORDERED TO TEXAS.

CONWAY, Ark., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—Lieut. Claud M. Tingle, of Utica, Miss., adjutant of the S. A. T. C. unit at Hendrix college since its formation, has been ordered to the University of Texas, Austin, for an indefinite stay. During his absence his duties here will be assumed by three other officers assigned at the college. Lieut. Tingle is a graduate of Mississippi A. and M. at Starkville, and made many friends during his stay at the college.

MAY CONTEST ELECTION.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—The Hamilton county Democratic committee has adopted a resolution demanding that W. B. Cleage, defeated Democratic candidate for the state senate, contest the seat of T. F. Carter, Republican, who was elected and who has received the certificate of election. The action was taken at a secret session at which there was some doubt as to the presence of a quorum.

NAMES COMMISSION.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Dec. 2.—Gov. A. O. Stanley has appointed former Senator Johnson N. Camden, of Versailles; Judge Allie B. Young, of Morehead; W. J. Abram, of Louisville; J. O. Keene, of Lexington, and former State Senator Thomas A. Combs, also of Lexington, as members of the state racing commission. Messrs. Camden and Young served on the former commission. According to law there must be three breeders on the commission of five. These are Messrs. Camden, Keene and Young.

THE WEATHER

Tennessee—Fair, little change in temperature.

Mississippi—Fair, frost, probably heavy; slightly warmer Tuesday.

Arkansas—Fair, freezing.

Alabama—Fair with heavy frost; slightly warmer Tuesday.

Kentucky—Fair, little change in temperature.

Louisiana—Fair, heavy frost; not much change in temperature.

Oklahoma—Fair, freezing.

East Texas—Fair, frost to coast, heavy in interior.

West Texas—Fair.

South Carolina and Georgia—Fair with frost, probably heavy.

Heads Brazilian Peace Delegation

DOMINICO DA GAMA.

Dominico da Gamma, foreign minister of Brazil, heads the Brazilian peace delegation which has already left for Paris. Da Gama for some years was Brazilian ambassador at Washington.

PROPOSES SENATE ENVOYS FOR FRANCE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Senator Cummins of Iowa, Republican, introduced today a resolution proposing that a senate committee of four Democrats and four Republicans be sent to France for the peace conference to keep the senate informed on questions arising there.

BIG DECREASE IN U. S. EXPENSES SHOWN

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Cessation of war will result in a reduction of government expenses for the fiscal year 1920, starting next July 1, to $7,443,415,838 from the $24,599,000,000 appropriated for the current year, according to tentative estimates submitted to congress today by Secretary McAdoo, transmitting the reports of the various departments.

MAJ.-GEN. OMAR BUNDY ORDERED TO CAMP LEE

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—According to private dispatches received from Washington today, Maj.-Gen. Omar Bundy will not come here to take command of Camp Pike. Army orders issued Saturday night, the dispatches said, ordered Maj.-Gen. Bundy to proceed to Camp Lee, Va.

No new commander was named for Camp Pike.

PENNSYLVANIA ROAD RATIFIES U. S. PLAN

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 2.—The federal control contract was today ratified by the stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad company. The contract covers the Pennsylvania railroad and the lines operated by it east of Pittsburgh.

The compensation named in the contract is $53,603,427.58 per year. President Rea announced that it is sufficient to pay all fixed charges and continue the 6 per cent dividend. Separate contracts are being negotiated for the lines West and for those Eastern subsidiaries which are owned only in part by the Pennsylvania railroad.

MASONS OF MISSISSIPPI WILL HOLD ELECTIONS

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—Much interest in Masonic circles is directed toward the election of officers which begin Monday night.

King Solomon Lodge No. 233 will be the first to elect officers Monday night. Meridian lodge No. 208 will follow Tuesday night and Meridian Royal Arch Chapter Thursday night. On Monday night, Dec. 9, John I. Spinks lodge No. 507 will elect officers and on the following Tuesday night the Eastern Star will elect officers. Thursday night, Dec. 12, Cyrene Commandery will hold the annual election. Tuesday night, Dec. 17, the Scottish Rite bodies will elect officers and on Dec. 19, W. S. Patton council will hold the annual conclave. On Thursday night, Dec. 27, Hamasa Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine will elect officers.

QUASH BISBEE CASE.

TUCSON, Ariz., Dec. 2.—Judge Wm. W. Morrow, of San Francisco, sustained the demurrer and quashed the indictments in the Bisbee deportation cases in a decision filed this morning in the United States district court. Twenty-five capitalists, mine operators, public officials and citizens of Bisbee were involved.

MAURETANIA, WITH 4,000 YANKS, SAFE AT NEW YORK CITY

First Large Contingent of U. S. Troops Reaches America From England—Will Demobilize at Camp.

NEW YORK, Dec. 2.—The British steamship Mauretania, sister ship of the Lusitania, is in port today with the first large contingent of American troops from overseas. The 4,000 men, mostly noncombat troops who were stationed in England, will be taken to Camp Mills on Long Island during the day. Demobilization will take place at this camp in the near future.

U. S. LEARNS OF TWO MORE SHIPS EN ROUTE TO PORTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Notice has been received by the war department of the sailing from Liverpool, Nov. 29, of the steamer Ascanius for New York with 47 officers and 1,427 men, and the steamer Canopic, for Boston, with 54 officers and 1,067 men.

All on both steamers are aero units except a few casuals and unattached officers.

On the Ascanius are the 348th, 475th, 476th, 326th, 351st, 378th, 841st, 355th, 473d and 832d aero squadrons, five officers and 15 men, medical detachment casuals and six unattached officers.

On the Canopic are the First Handley-Page acceptance park, the 211th, 282d and 306th aero squadrons, a detachment of the Second Handley-Page acceptance park, three officers and 12 men, medical casuals and 14 unattached officers.

This makes a total of 13,590 officers and men now en route home from England, representing nearly two-thirds of the total number of American troops in that country when the armistice was signed. The remainder are to return home on several steamers leaving Liverpool this week and next week.

The Canopic is the first ship to sail from England for Boston, the others being en route for New York.

GIVEN FIVE-YEAR TERM.

MERIDIAN, Miss., Dec. 2. (Spl.)—Macon Reynolds, the negro who came near precipitating a race riot at State Line last summer, when he stabbed a white boy, was sentenced to serve five years in the state penitentiary by Judge Heidelberg on conviction on a charge of assault with intent to murder, at Leakesville, Green county, according to District Attorney Martin Miller, who has just returned from there.

RECEIVES CERTIFICATES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Certificates of election of Senators-elect Pollock, of South Carolina, and Ball, of Delaware, were received today by Vice-President Marshall and presented to the senate.

PRESIDENT ASSERTS TRIP TO FRANCE IS DUTY THAT HE CANNOT ESCAPE FROM

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Declaring that he hoped to see a formal declaration of peace by treaty "by the time spring has come," President Wilson, addressing congress in joint session today, formally announced his intention to go to Paris for the peace conference, saying that as the allied governments have accepted principles enunciated by him for peace, he considered it his paramount duty to be present. The president said he will be in close touch by cable and wireless, and that congress will know all that he does on the other side.

Declaring he had no "private thought or purpose" in going to France, but that he regarded it as his highest duty, the president added:

"It is now my duty to play my full part in making good what they (America's soldiers) offered their life's blood to obtain."

Referring to his announcement that the French and British governments had removed all cable restrictions upon the transmission of news of the conference to America, the president said he had taken over the American cable systems on expert advice so as to make a unified system available.

He expressed the hope that he would have the co-operation of the public and of congress, saying through the cables and wireless constant counsel and advice would be possible.

Much of the address was devoted to the railroad problem, for which the president said he now had no solution to offer. He recommended careful study by congress, saying it would be a disservice to the country and to the railroads to permit a return to old conditions under private management without modification.

The president declared he stood ready to release the railroads from government control whenever a satisfactory plan of readjustment could be worked out.

No definite program of reconstruction can be outlined now, Mr. Wilson said, but as soon as the armistice was signed government control of business and industry was released as far as possible. He expressed the hope that congress would not object to conferring upon the war trade board or some other agency the right of fixing export priorities to assure shipment of food to starving people abroad.

As to taxation, the president indorsed the plan for levying $6,000,000,000 in 1919, and for notifying the public in advance that the 1920 levy will be $4,000,000,000.

The new three-year naval building program was indorsed because, the president said, it would be unwise to attempt to adjust the American navy to a changing world policy as yet undetermined.

Paying tribute to the people's conduct in war, he spoke particularly of the work of women and again appealed for woman suffrage by federal amendment.

Democratic representatives arose and applauded vociferously when the president announced his intention of going in person to the peace conference. The Republican side was silent and so were many senators on both sides of the chamber.

The president concluded, after speaking 42 minutes, and left the chamber amidst applause limited to the Democratic side. Interruptions of the address for questions which had been threatened by some Republican members of the house, did not materialize.

The president said:

"Gentlemen of the congress:

"The year that has elapsed since I last stood before you to fulfill my constitutional duty to give to the congress from time to time information on the state of the Union has been so crowded with great events, great processes and great results, that I can not hope to give you an adequate picture of its transactions or of the far-reaching changes which have been wrought in the life of our nation and of the world. You have yourselves witnessed these things, as I have. It is too soon to assess them, and we who stand in the midst of them and are part of them are less qualified than men of another generation will be to say what they mean or even what they have been. But some great outstanding facts are unmistakable and constitute in a sense part of the public business with which it is our duty to deal. To state them is to set the stage for the legislative and executive action which must grow out of them and which we have yet to shape and determine.

"A year ago we had sent 145,918 men overseas. Since then we have sent 1,950,516, an average of 162,542 each month, the number, in fact, rising in May last to 245,951, in June to 278,760, in July to 307,182 and continuing to reach similar figures in August and September in August 289,570 and in September 257,438. No such movement of troops ever took place before, across 3,000 miles of sea, followed by adequate equipment and supplies, and carried safely through extraordinary dangers of attack—dangers which were alike strange and infinitely difficult to guard against. In all this movement only 758 men were lost by enemy attacks—630 of whom were upon a single English transport which was sunk near the Orkney islands.

Nation Behind Boys.

"I need not tell you what lay back of this great movement of men and material. It is not invidious to say that back of it lay a supporting organization of the industries of the country and all its productive activities, more complete, more thorough in method and effective in results, more spirited and unanimous in purpose and effort than any other great belligerent had ever been able to effect. We profited greatly by the experience of the nations which had already been engaged for nearly three years in the exigent and exacting business, their every resource and every executive proficiency taxed to the utmost. We were the pupils. But we learned quickly and acted with a promptness and a readiness of co-operation that justify our great pride that we were able to serve the world with unparalleled energy and quick accomplishment.

"But it is not the physical scale and executive efficiency of preparation, supply, equipment and dispatch that I would dwell upon, but the mettle and quality of the officers and men we sent over and of the sailors who kept the seas, and the spirit of the nation that stood behind them.

"No soldiers or sailors ever proved themselves more quickly ready for the test of battle or acquitted themselves with more splendid courage and achievement when put to the test. Those of us who played some part in directing the great processes by which the war was pushed irresistibly forward to the final triumph may now forget all that and delight our thoughts with the story of what our men did. Their officers understood the grim and exacting task they had undertaken and performed with audacity, efficiency and unhesitating courage that touch the story of convoy and battle with imperishable distinction at every turn, whether the enterprise were great or small—from their chiefs, Pershing and Sims, down to the youngest lieutenant, and their men were worthy of them—such men as hardly need to be commanded, and go to their terrible adventure blithely and with the quick intelligence of those who know just what it is they would accomplish.

Proud of Yanks.

"I am proud to be the fellow countryman of men of such stuff and valor. Those of us who stayed at home did our duty; the war could not have been won or the gallant men who fought it given their opportunity to win if otherwise; but for many a long day we shall think ourselves accurs'd we were not there, and hold our manhoods cheap while any speaks that fought with these at St. Mihiel or Thierry.

"The memory of those days of triumphant battle will go with these fortunate men to their graves, and each will have his favorite memory. Old men forget; yet all shall be forgot, but he'll remember with advantages what feats he did that day."

"What we all thank God for with deepest gratitude is that our men went in force into the line of battle just at the critical moment when the whole fate of the world seemed to hang in the balance and threw their fresh strength into the ranks of freedom in time to turn the whole tide and sweep of the fateful struggle—turn it once for all, so that thenceforth it was back, back, back for their enemies; always back, never again forward! After that it was only a scant four months before the commanders of the central empires knew themselves beaten, and now their very empires are in liquidation!

"And throughout it all how fine the spirit of the nation was, what unity of power, what untiring zeal! What elevation of purpose ran through all its splendid display of strength, its untiring accomplishment. I have said that those of us who stayed at home to do the work of organization and supply will always wish that we had been with the men whom we sustained by our labor; but we can never be ashamed. It has been an inspiring thing to be here in the midst of the men who had turned aside from every private interest of their own and devoted the whole of their trained capacity to the tasks that supplied the sinews of the whole great undertaking! The patriotism, the unselfishness, the thoroughgoing devotion and distinguished capacity that marked their toilsome labors, day after day, month after month, have made them fit mates and comrades of the men in the trenches and on the sea. And not the men here in Washington only. They have but directed the vast achievement. Throughout innumerable factories, upon innumerable farms, in the depths of coal mines and iron mines and copper mines, wherever the stuffs of industry were to be obtained and prepared, in the shipyards, on the railways, at the docks, on the sea, in every labor that was needed to sustain the battle lines, men have vied with each other to do their part and do it well. They can look any man-at-arms in the face and say, 'We also strove to win and gave the best that was in us to make our fleets and armies sure of their triumph!'

Praise for Women.

"And what shall we say of the women—of their instant intelligence, quickening every task that they touched; their capacity for organization and co-operation, which gave their action discipline and enhanced the effectiveness of everything they attempted; their aptitude at tasks to which they had never before set their hands; their utter self-sacrifice alike in what they did and in what they gave? Their contribution to the great result is beyond appraisal. They have added a new luster to the annals of American womanhood.

"The least tribute we can pay them is to make them the equals of men in political rights as they have proved themselves their equals in every field of practical work they have entered, whether for themselves or for their country. These great days of completed achievement would be sadly marred were we to omit that act of justice. Besides the immense practical services they have rendered, the women of the country have been the moving spirits in the systematic economies by which our people have voluntarily assisted to supply the suffering peoples of the world and the armies upon every front with food and everything else that we had that might serve the common cause. The details of such a story can never be fully written, but we carry them at our hearts and thank God that

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HUGE PROBLEMS BEFORE SOLONS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Problems of peace and reconstruction promise to occupy fully the third and last session of the Sixty-fifth congress, which opened today at noon to continue until it ends by limitation on March 3. After a 10-day holiday, following the long second war session, most of the members of both senate and house were on hand today to start the work of the winter.

Framing of the legislative program had been held in abeyance to await the address of President Wilson, an hour after the opening. This program must cover an extraordinary congestion of business, including the many annual appropriation measures, revenue legislation, investigation and miscellaneous.

The usual formalities of the opening of a new session were hurried through because of the fact that President Wilson, about to sail for Europe, desired to deliver his address on the first instead of the second day of the session. After calls of senate and house rolls to disclose presence of quorums, committees were appointed to notify the president and the respective branches of congress that the new session had begun.

Long before noon, convening hour, spectators thronged into the capitol, pressing particularly to the house galleries for seats at the joint session at 1 o'clock to hear President Wilson.

FREED AMERICANS KICK ON HUNGER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—American prisoners returning from German prison camps complain of scanty food and bad housing conditions, Gen. Pershing has informed the war department, but there is no evidence of discrimination against Americans nor any authenticated report of brutality toward them.

The war department issued the following statement, based on a cable from Gen. Pershing, dated Nov. 29 and sent in reply to an inquiry cabled by Gen. March:

"American prisoners released from German prison camps complain of poor and scanty food and bad housing conditions. Only a small percentage of those who are sick are hospital cases. The majority are suffering from slight colds and the prospect is that all will recover rapidly with proper food and housing. There is no evidence of discrimination against the American prisoners.

"Among 7,000 prisoners of all nationalities who have been released there is no authenticated instance of brutality against the Americans.

"The majority of the American prisoners state that the German soldiers also suffered food privations, but that in cases where the supply of food was insufficient, food for the prisoners was cut off before that for the German soldiers."