

THE EUROPEAN WAR A YEAR AGO THIS WEEK

Dec. 20, 1914. Von Hindenburg advanced further toward Warsaw. Russians crossed the Bzura, burning the bridges. Serbians and Montenegrins again invaded Bosnia. Turks made gains near Lake Urumiah. Allied fleets bombarded interior forts of the Dardanelles. Russians drove Turks toward Van. Belgian provinces agreed to pay tax to Germany.

Dec. 21, 1914. Allies extended offensive operations in west, gaining in center. Russians won over Turks in Armenia, capturing equipment. Allied aviators dropped bombs in Brussels and made night attack near Ostend. Chile protested against violation of her neutrality by German navy. Germans driven across border of North Poland.

Dec. 22, 1914. Germans claimed to have stopped allies in west. Germans accused of shelling hospital in Ypres. Russian army threatened railway to Thorn and Germans reformed to protect it. Von Hindenburg's left threatened by new invasion of Germany. Germans crossed branches of Bzura and Rawa rivers. Austrians defeated in the Carpathians. Arabs menaced Christians in Hodeida and French consul was seized. Allied fleets bombarded German positions on Belgian coast. French destroyer shelled Turks. Allied fleets shelled Kilid Bahr. Many Austrian soldiers killed in troop train accident.

Dec. 23, 1914. Allies made slight gains in west. Austrians defeated in southern Galicia. Portuguese retreated before the Germans in Angola, Africa. Turkish army left Damascus and marched on Suez canal. Russian destroyers in Black sea bombarded Turkish villages. King of Belgians sent message of thanks to Americans.

Dec. 24, 1914. British using new howitzers in west; French artillery demolishes German trenches. French cruiser damaged by Austrian torpedo. French submarine sunk by Austrian shore batteries. German aviator dropped bomb in Dover. Germany denied French charge of hiring neutral ships to lay mines in Mediterranean.

Dec. 25, 1914. Unofficial Christmas along much of the western front, the allies and Germans in some instances exchanging gifts and visits. French shelled the outer forts of Metz. Civilians of East Prussia began movement toward interior of province. Russo-Turkish operations were stopped by intense cold. Two German aviators flew up the Thames.

Dec. 26, 1914. British made naval and air attack on German fleet without important results. Zeppelin dropped bombs in Nancy, German aeroplanes made raid in Russian Poland and French aviators attacked Metz. Fighting in Flanders was halted by dense fog. Russians made gains in the south. French attacked Austrian naval base at Pola in the Adriatic. Germany notified neutral nations their consuls in Belgium would not be recognized further.

Unqualifiedly False. "Skinner boasts that he never lets anybody get ahead of him—that he takes nobody's dust." "Skinner's a falsifier; he takes everybody's dust he can lay his hands on."—Boston Transcript.

Driven to Desperation. "I am so tired of being conventional and customary and correct," stated H. H. Harsh, "that one of these days I shall stop right in front of a church and in a firm voice ejaculate 'Drat!'"—Kansas City Star.

His Opinion of Brown. Smart Young Man—"What do you think of Brown?" Indignant Old Gentleman—"Brown, sir! He is one of those people that pat you on the back before your face, and hit you in the eye behind your back!"—Tit-Bits.

True Happiness. To watch the corn grow and the blossom set, to draw hard breath over plowshare and spade, to read, to think, to love, to hope, to pray—these are the things to make man happy.—Ruskin.

ASQUITH PLEADS FOR MORE MEN

MOVES FOR AN ADDITIONAL MILLION SOLDIERS FOR SERVICE IN THE WAR.

NOW HAS OVER 1,250,000

Ever-Widening Theatre of War Requires Enlisting of Every Man of Military Age.

London.—Premier Asquith made his long-expected statement on the Allies' military position in the house of commons in connection with the introduction of a "supplementary estimate" providing for the raising of the numerical strength of the army from 3,000,000 men to 4,000,000 men.

The house was crowded and the premier's speech was listened to earnestly and silently. In the Peers' gallery, Lord Fisher, the former first sea lord and Earl Derby, director of recruiting, occupied the most prominent position.

The prime minister, as usual, got to the heart of his subject in his opening sentences and declared that although the British fighting forces in the various theaters now amount to more than 1,250,000 men the war's demands were such as necessitated calling out the empire's "recruitable maximum."

Although the premier did not put himself on record as either for or against conscription, John Redmond, leader of the Irish Nationalists, at the close of Mr. Asquith's speech, flung a bombshell by declaring that the Nationalists would oppose conscription by every means in their power.

John Dillon followed with a severe arraignment of the British war leadership, inquiring: "What is the use of sending out more troops to be led like men responsible for the Suvla Bay and Anzac failures?"

Turkey Holds Abundance of Food and Supplies. Berlin.—"Turkey has an abundance of foods and other material of all kinds which she can supply to Germany if Germany needs them," said Dr. Nazim Bey, secretary of the Young Turk's Committee, in a statement to the Associated Press on his arrival in Berlin.

There is no lack of anything in Turkey. For example, we have 30,000,000 kilograms of cotton which Germany can have the moment she solves the transportation problem, not to speak of 10,000,000 kilograms of reserve supply in the shape of mattresses and other articles in Turkish homes.

The same is true of copper. Of this we have at least 40,000,000 kilograms which Germany can have at any time. 734 British Ships Sunk. Berlin.—"It is stated on competent authority," says the Overseas News Agency, "that since the beginning of the war to the end of November last, 734 enemy ships with a tonnage of 1,447,628 tons were destroyed. Of these 568 with 1,079,492 tons were destroyed by submarines and 93 with 94,700 tons of mines.

Oppose Compulsory Service. London.—The Irish party held a meeting in the House of Commons, John Redmond presiding, and affirmed its unshaken adherence to the resolution adopted June 7 opposing compulsory military service.

Col. House to Visit Europe. New York.—Col. E. M. House, confidential adviser of President Wilson, stated that he will shortly sail for Europe at the request of the President.

Sarah Barnhardt Dying. London.—Sarah Barnhardt is reported to be dying, according to a dispatch from Paris to The Telegraph.

Moton Heads Tuskegee. New York.—Robert R. Moton, of the Hampton Normal Agricultural Institute, Hampton, Va., was selected to succeed Booker T. Washington, president of Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Ala., at a meeting of the special committee of the trustees of the institute here. The choice was unanimous. The committee making the selection was composed of Seth Low, chairman of the Tuskegee trustees; Frank Trumbull of the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad; Edgar A. Bancroft, W. W. Campbell

Horse Meat For Food. New York.—Sale of horse meat for food will be permitted in New York after January 1, the board of health announced. Commenting upon the revocation of the section of the sanitary code which prohibited the use of horse flesh, Commissioner Emerson said that while the health department does not exactly recommend it no harm can be seen in its use.

"The horse never has tuberculosis and almost never communicates a malignant disease to human beings," he said.

BIGGEST HARVEST EVER RECORDED

LARGE CROPS AND GOOD PRICE RULE THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

AN UNUSUAL COMBINATION

For First Time in History Extraordinary Production and High Prices Have Prevalled.

Washington.—The nation's harvests this year have surpassed any ever before recorded. The value of the principal farm crops, based on prices paid to farmers December 1, was announced by the department of agriculture in its final estimate as \$5,568,773,000 making 1915 a banner year both in value and in production of crops.

The unusual situation of extraordinary production and high prices, probably never before so pronounced is credited principally to the European war.

With the price of grain soaring as the war progressed, American farmers began the season by planting greater areas to grain. The acreage of the principal crop this year aggregated approximately 486,570 square miles. That is larger than the combined area of Germany, France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark and Switzerland.

Corn was planted on 108,321,000 acres, the second largest area ever planted, and the harvest was 3,054,535,000 bushels, the second largest crop ever grown. Its value was \$1,755,859,000, exceeding that of the previous most valuable crop by \$33,000,000.

New records were made in production by wheat, oats, barley, rye sweet potatoes, rice and hay, while tobacco closely approached its production record, 1,103,415,000 pounds, made in 1910. Each of these crops, in addition, established records as being the most valuable crop ever grown, except in the case of barley and tobacco.

Production of the first billion bushel wheat crop and second three-billion bushel corn crop were features of the year. Wheat acreage aggregated 59,898,000 acres, or 6,000,000 more than ever before. The yield was 16.9 bushels an acre, the largest acre yield for winter and spring wheat combined ever attained in this country. The final estimates of production was 1,011,505,000 bushels with a value of \$930,302,000. The crop exceeded last year's which was a record, by more than 120,000,000 bushels and by \$50,000,000 in value.

Oats, rye, potatoes, sweet potatoes and tobacco all were planted on record areas. Oats exceeded its record production of 1912 by 122,000,000 bushels and its record value of 1914 by \$56,000,000. Barley production was 13,000,000 bushels more than the 1912 record crop and was worth \$4,000,000 more than the former most valuable crop that grows in 1914. Rice passed the 1913 record by 3,200,000 bushels and its 1912 record valued by \$1,700,000.

The apple crop was 76,670,000 valued at \$156,407,000; the bean crop, in the three principal producing states, 9,325,000 bushels—a decrease of 1,688,000 bushels—valued at \$27,558,000 and the cranberry crop, 457,000 bushels, valued at \$2,845,000. The value of these three crops are included in the year's total. The value of each crop was announced as follows: The value this year of each crop, based on its farm price on December 1, with last year's value, is announced as follows: (in thousands, i. e., 000 omitted).

Table with 3 columns: Crop, 1915, 1914. Rows include Corn, Winter wheat, Spring wheat, All wheat, Oats, Rye, Buckwheat, Flaxseed, Rice, Potatoes, Sweet potatoes, Hay, Tobacco, Cotton, Sugar beets.

In addition to these crops other farm products, such as minor crops and animals and animal products, will bring the year's total to about \$10,000,000,000. Other details of the report show: (Production in 000's.) Corn: Production, 3,054,535 bushels, against 2,672,804,000 last year. Acre yield 28.2 bushels, against 25.8 last year. December 1 farm price, 57.5 cents a bushel against 64.4 last year.

W. W. Horn, aged 70, a Confederate veteran of Rutherford county, died suddenly a few days ago. What is considered one of the best corn shows ever held in Buncombe county took place at the courthouse at Asheville. Fifty-two entries were on exhibition, and every one of the 52 was worthy of a prize. Christian Luther of Candler carried off the chief prize for yield, profit, history of work and exhibit, receiving \$20 in gold and a cornsheller.

E. P. Josey, county demonstrator for Nash county, has resigned. The moonlight school movement in Gaston county continues to grow. The Wilmington-Fayetteville Highway association was organized at Burgaw when over 500 good road enthusiasts met there for the purpose of launching the project. The Baptist State Board of Missions was in Raleigh a few days ago laying plans for the work of the coming year. The Southern Hotel Association has just held its annual meeting in Winston-Salem.

NORTH CAROLINA BRIEFS.

Carolina Wins Debate. Chapel Hill.—Carolina won the first debate, defeating George Washington College here. The query for debate was "Resolved, That the Federal Government should own and operate all telegraph lines, constitutionally conceded." Carolina upheld the negative and was represented by R. B. House and A. H. Wolfe. P. Bryan Moorehouse and Charles W. Jacobson argued on the affirmative for George Washington. The judges were Dr. T. P. Harrison, Prof. W. K. Boyd and President W. A. Harper of Elon.

Burned to Death. Monroe.—M. M. Coltharp, a native of Mecklenburg county who traveled for The Atlanta Journal Publishing Company out of Fort Mill, S. C., lost his life in a fire which partially destroyed the Shute building in which were located Holloway Brothers, music dealers, and the Southern Express Company. The second story of the building has been used as a boarding and lodging house by Mrs. Addie Porter and in a room directly over the express office Mr. Coltharp was sleeping.

ANNUAL DEBATE AT U. OF N. C.

Winners Uphold Proposition Adoption of Compulsory Military Training in Nation.

Chapel Hill.—The annual Sophomore and Philanthropic Societies was won by the Phi. The question of the debate, the affirmative side of which the Phi upheld, was "Resolved, That the United States should adopt some policy of compulsory military training for young men possessing the right to vote."

The affirmative was upheld by Albert M. Coates of Smithfield and J. K. Holloway of Raleigh. C. R. Edney of Mars Hill and C. B. Hyatt of Boonesville argued in vain for the negative. The judges were R. H. Thornton, W. W. Pierson and Dr. W. M. MacNider. The decision rested two to one in favor of the affirmative. The presiding officers were Hugh B. Hester, president of the Phi, and R. L. Young, secretary of the Di.

Both sides maintained good arguments, and the debate was one of great interest from start to finish. This victory of the Phi is the first one over the Di in three years.

In the main speeches Mr. Coates maintained that the growing interests of the United States demanded a growing policy of preparedness. He proved that the voluntary systems tried or proposed were inadequate or inefficient, and that adequacy could be obtained only by some system of compulsory military training.

Mr. Edney admitted that preparedness was necessary, but that a compulsory system was not the way to get it since the scheme was impracticable, tremendously expensive, and that the principle upon which it was based is contrary to our democratic government since it curbs the liberties of the people and demands uncalled-for service.

Grand Lodge Orator.

Raleigh.—Acting Grand Master A. B. Andrews announces that the orator for the approaching session of the North Carolina Grand Lodge of Masons will be Hezekiah A. Gudge and that the oration will be delivered on the evening of January 18. Mr. Gudge who is a gifted speaker was consul general to Panama and served as chief justice of the Panama Canal zone. Mr. Andrews says the outlook is for an excellent attendance on the Grand Lodge. The steady convalescence of Grand Secretary John C. Drewry who is just back in Raleigh from Baltimore where he underwent a successful operation gives promise that he will be able to attend the sessions and at least have an oversight of the work in his division.

Raleigh Sells Bonds.

Raleigh.—The city of Raleigh has sold an issue of \$49,921.98 improvement bonds for a total premium of \$2,942.91, the purchaser being Citizens National Bank of Frostburg, Md. There were 20 bidders, the second highest being C. T. McDonald of Raleigh, who offered a total premium of \$2,873.99.

Durham Votes Bonds.

Durham.—Durham voted \$75,000 in bonds for erection of two new school buildings. A proposal to increase the special school tax five cents on the \$100 was also carried. The election was held against one of the biggest registrations ever booked for school bonds. The bonds got a majority of 250 and the tax increase 200. Only one precinct in the town gave a majority against either proposition. The school board will begin immediately to make preparations to build schools.

Bids For Shelby Postoffice.

Shelby.—Postmaster W. J. Roberts has received notice from the treasury department asking for bids for the \$60,000 postoffice building which is promised for next year. The bids will be opened in Washington on January 26. Blueprints and specifications have not yet arrived, so it is not learned what material will be used and on what plan the building will be erected.

Four Hurt in Wreck.

Monroe.—Miss Leitha Davis and Miss Bessie Love are seriously hurt, John Baucom has a shoulder broken and Green Paxton a painful wound in his head as a result of the collision of an automobile in which they were riding with a Seaboard freight train on a local crossing.

ANNUAL ORATORIO AT STATE NORMAL

"THE MESSIAH" PRESENTED BY CHORUS OF 160 AND FOUR SOLOISTS.

MANY COULD NOT ENTER HALL

Auditorium Would Not Begin to Hold All Who Desire to Hear the Splendid Performance.

Greensboro.—One of the three occasions especially devoted to music in this city each year has just passed. The State Normal College's annual presentation of Handel's "Messiah" occurred. Two performances were necessary on account of the limited auditorium of the college. At 7:30 in the evening the 700 women of the college student body of the high school at the college and that of the Greensboro College for Women composed the audience, while the next afternoon at 2:30 when the second presentation occurred, the public generally was invited.

It attended. The streets of the city leading toward the college in the west presented an appearance which suggested a general hegra. The doors of the auditorium opened at 2 o'clock and a crowd had already collected. The fear of exclusion by lack of space was felt and many were turned away. The oratorio was sung by the chorus of 160 with 110 women of the student body and 50 men of the city composing it. The soloists were Miss Kathryn M. Severson of the faculty, a remarkable soprano; Mrs. Wade R. Brown, a contralto of exceptional power; Mr. Overton Moyle of New York, bass, and Mr. Judson House of New York, tenor.

Music lovers were particularly interested in the tenor, inasmuch as he was the single unknown soloist to the city. The singing of Mr. Hoyle was known, inasmuch as this was his second appearance here in the oratorio and had sung Mephisto in the recent presentation of "Faust" at the college. He had lost none of his power and Mr. House found a welcome. "These two singers are the only paid persons in the performance.

The appreciation was well divided between the singing of the women soloists and the men; while the chorus proved itself a surprise, inasmuch as practice had improved its capacity noticeably. "The Messiah" is the annual Christmas music of the college and in the several presentations, so familiar has the chorus become with the lines that it is almost in position to discard all cues.

One of the hopes of the future of the State Normal is for a magnificent music building with an auditorium in keeping with the significance of its productions such as that of today. The building has already been projected into the minds of Greensboro people and of other friends of the college through the state and there is hope of a movement soon to put the structure on the campus. Should this eventuate, an even more imposing program than now in vogue would be instituted in the effort at the popularization of good music in North Carolina. The performance preceded the beginning of the holiday vacation at the college.

One Killed, Two Hurt.

Asheville.—As the result of an altercation which took place at the North Fork Baptist church about 20 miles from Asheville, Martin Burnett is dead, shot through the heart, William Burnett is in custody, with a slight wound on his head and Claud McAfee, the man who used the pistol, is in a local hospital in a precarious condition as the result of knife wounds inflicted by William Burnett.

Waxhaw is Third Class Office.

Washington.—The Waxhaw postoffice, in Union county, has been advanced to a presidential office of the third class effective January 1. Representative Page has recommended John W. McCain the incumbent to be postmaster.

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Continual Disappointment. "I know a clergyman," stated Groot P. Smith, "of such a saturnine cast of countenance that when I see him place his hands in front of his bosom, palms toward each other and finger tips touching, to pray, I always expect that the next minute he will shift them to tandem, with the thumb of the lead hand touching the little finger of the wheel hand and the thumb of the latter touching his nose. He has not done so yet, however, and if he does not make good pretty soon I am going to quit attending church."—Kansas City Star.

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