

IMPORTANT NEWS THE WORLD OVER

IMPORTANT HAPPENINGS OF THIS AND OTHER NATIONS FOR SEVEN DAYS GIVEN

THE NEWS OF THE SOUTH

What is Taking Place in The South and Will Be Found in Brief Paragraphs

Domestic

Judge Emory Speer of the United States district court for the southern district of Georgia, died December 13 at Macon, Ga. He was one of the most spectacular figures in American politics during the days of reconstruction...

All government regulations affecting raw cotton ended with the dissolution of the cotton distribution committee of the war industries board.

The Southern Commercial Congress, closing its general sessions in Baltimore, approved the Bankhead measure for \$500,000,000 in five annual federal appropriations for highway and post road facilities...

Five to five and a half billion dollars more of bonds will have to be raised to finance the government. This estimate is based on an estimate of eighteen billion dollars in expenditures...

It has not been decided what portion of the voluminous documents shedding light on the activities of the German propagandists in this country to make public.

Henry Outsey, convicted in 1900 of being a party to the murder of Governor Goebel, has been paroled after years in the pen.

Director General of Railroads McAdoo, in order to take the question out of politics, has asked that rail control be extended five years.

Silver chevrons will be given the soldiers kept at home by order of the commander-in-chief of the army and navy, Woodrow Wilson.

Nearly eight thousand happy soldiers, sailors, marines and aviators landed in New York the other day. Some of them are maimed for life, but are as happy as though they were boy scouts on a hike.

Mrs. Wilbur J. Ham of Cartersville, Ga., and Mrs. O. H. P. Wright of Selma, Ala., the aged mother of Mrs. L. G. Hames of Cartersville, and Catherine Hames, 10 years old, were instantly killed at a crossing two miles north of Cartersville, Ga. Little Wilbur Ham, a four-year-old child, whose mother was killed, was fatally injured and died a few hours later.

Cotton ginned prior to December 1 was 9,563,124 running bales, including 134,150 round bales; 10,170 bales of American Egyptian and 25,741 bales of sea island.

Vice President Marshall presided "informally and impersonally, not undertaking to exercise any official duty of function" at the cabinet meeting on December 10. President Wilson asked the vice president to preside.

Legislation designed to carry into effect the recommendations of the federal trade commission to President Wilson that the government regulate the meat packing industry, has been proposed in the house at Washington by the interstate commerce committee.

European

The German finance minister says that if the war had ended in the fall the amount of money required from imperial taxation would have reached fourteen billion marks. These calculations have been upset by recent events.

David Lloyd-George says that Great Britain's navy must remain supreme, no matter what the action of the peace conference.

A voice interrupted the British premier when he was speaking in Bristol the other day about the superiority of the British navy. "Then watch Wilson!" "Well, I hope to meet him in a fortnight. I will tell him what you say," instantly shouted the premier.

With the arrival of the Americans at the Rhine, a company of engineers prepared to throw a temporary bridge across the stream. There were, however, already four bridges spanning the stream, two here and one in the north and another to the south, over which the American army was ordered to cross December 13 in a thirty-mile arc.

When the American forces reached Coblenz, Germany, a local committee was appointed to assist the Americans in assuming control and officers of the German army remained behind after the last of their men had marched out in order to deliver to the Americans great stores of supplies.

The German army moved out of Coblenz in an orderly fashion, with the spirit of a holiday rather than that of a defeated army. Almost every man had a rosette or a sprig of green in his cap. The spirit of Christmas was in the atmosphere, and the broad smile of the Germans was contagious.

It is stated that Germany is spending too much money on irrelevant details of state administration.

The British government has decided upon the attitude it will adopt at the peace conference regarding the freedom of the seas. It is stated that the British government is ready to concede to the United States the freest of all free hands in naval development, and it welcomes the idea of the extension of American sea power as one of the best guarantees of the peace of the world and of real freedom of the seas.

Dr. W. S. Solf, German minister of foreign affairs, because his relations with the Independent Socialists had reached the straining point, has quit his job and gone home.

General Russki and Dimitrieff, of the Russian army, have been shot by order of the local soviet at Prapargorsk. M. Rukhloff, former minister of commerce and communications in the Russian cabinet, was shot at the same time.

General Russki, who was recently shot by order of the Russian government, commanded the Russian troops ingloriously routed by the Germans in the northern Polish campaign.

During the war twelve spies were shot in the tower of London. Among the condemned were two women, but they were reprieved and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment.

Copenhagen hears that the Intente governments intend to refuse to send foodstuffs to Germany until a demand they are said to have made for the dissolution of the soldiers' and workmen's council is carried out. The allies may reserve the right to march into Germany.

Washington

Cablegrams announce that President Wilson reached the harbor of Brest on board the steamer George Washington and stepped on shore—the first time an American executive had ever trodden European soil. The arrival was the culmination of an imposing naval spectacle which began as the presidential fleet rounded the outer capes, then passed the entrance forts and moved majestically into the harbor, where the George Washington anchored at the head of a long double column of American dreadnaughts and destroyers and the units of a French cruiser squadron.

The "United States stands ready to tender alone, or in conjunction with other countries of their hemisphere, all possible assistance" to bring about an equitable solution of the difficulties presented in the Chile-Peru situation, says Acting Secretary of State Polk.

Eighty or ninety thousand claims, principally from relatives of soldiers who were killed or who died in the war, are expected to be filed in the next few months.

All South American countries have been asked by the United States to join in the suggestion to Chile and Peru that the interests of pan-American unity demand an amicable settlement of their controversy over the provinces of Tacna and Arica. Acting Secretary Polk of the state department announced this, explaining that it had been erroneously reported that Argentine alone had been approached on the subject.

While the main endeavor now is to end the present strained relations between Chile and Peru, it is said that the occasion may arise for a final settlement of the dispute by the carrying out of the treaty of Ancon, signed in 1883 by the two republics and calling for a plebiscite in the dispute in the provinces to determine their disposition.

Congress was asked by Secretary McAdoo in a letter made public here to authorize the continuation of loans to the allies for one year after the termination of the war to finance the purchase of foodstuffs and reconstruction material in this country.

No additional appropriation for loans to the allies is sought by the treasury department, but it is suggested that the proposed peace-time provisions apply to the \$1,500,000 of the \$10,000,000,000 appropriated for allied loans, which Secretary McAdoo estimates will remain unexpended when peace is declared. Under existing law the United States may lend to the allies only for war purposes and during the war.

President Wilson probably will not sit at the peace table, but will be represented there by delegates while remaining in close contact with the heads of other nations and prepared to decide questions referred to him.

Premier Clemenceau of France, it is believed, will be president of the peace conference. This is considered fitting because the conference will be held in France.

The mayor of New York City announces that Marshal Foch may visit the United States shortly after the consummation of the peace conference.

The senate committee investigating brewers and German propaganda in the United States is in full swing and many prominent characters are being called daily.

A battalion of the Thirty-ninth United States infantry left Treves by train for Coblenz, a four-hours' run. The premature occupation of Coblenz is due to the request of the German authorities, who are apprehensive of the conditions that might prevail there after the withdrawal of the German forces.

It is announced that if President Wilson's views are concurred in the peace proceedings will be entirely public, and nothing of a secret nature will be permitted to enter into the deliberations.

STRASSBURG, OCCUPIED BY THE FRENCH UNDER MANGIN



Strassburg, the capital of Alsace, which was occupied by the French under General Mangin. That commander is shown in the insert.

AUSTRIAN NAVAL BASE DEMOLISHED

Illinois Sailor Describes Feat of American, British and Italian Fleet.

ALLIES HAVE NO CASUALTIES

Mighty Base at Durazzo Is Laid in Ruins, Several Warships and at Least Four Submarines Are Destroyed.

Waukegan, Ill.—How the American, Italian and British sailors destroyed the enemy fleet and reduced Durazzo, Albania, the mighty Austrian naval base, to ruins, is graphically told in an uncensored letter by George Millmore of Waukegan, stationed on a United States submarine chaser, in a letter to Thomas H. McCann, as follows:

"We are just returning from an attack we made on an Austrian port. American submarine chasers co-operated with allied marines in destroying a strong Austrian submarine rendezvous and port of disembarkation. We left our base last week and put into an Italian port.

"A few days later we shoved off for Durazzo, an Albanian town captured early in the war by the Austrians and turned into an Austrian submarine base and port of disembarkation for Austrian troops on their way to the Macedonian front.

"We maneuvered over the fortifications for about an hour when the English light cruisers and destroyers and torpedo boats, with the Italian battleship, destroyers and torpedo boats and English and French submarines appeared on the horizon, bearing down on us at full speed. Our ship had the exceptional honor of being flagship of the squadron, which represented Uncle Sam in the scrap.

"We were assigned to submarine and torpedo defense for the other ships, and were the first ship in line

and the first to draw fire from the land batteries. We were from two to three thousand yards nearer the beach than the other ships, and the shells began dropping all around us and whizzing just over our aerial.

"One broadside from a battleship silenced the shore battery just about the time they had our range. Our bombardment started at noon and lasted about an hour and a half. The Austrian submarines came out and were immediately attacked by our fast chasers.

"In one attack, as a submarine came up for a sight, the second shot from a chaser cut his periscope clean off.

"After a short run, dropping light depth charges on it, we blew the submarine clear out of the water.

"Another chaser pounced on another submarine as it was about to discharge a torpedo into the fleet of warships and a few more ash cans (depth charges) sent one more Hun pirate and its crew on its final submergence. Still another unit of chasers saved at least two first-class destroyers from mines by cutting in across their bow and sinking mines by gunfire which lay dead ahead in the destroyer's course.

At times during the bombardment, when we would be in a certain position as a broadside was being delivered, the concussion would be great enough to roll our light craft as though in a heavy sea. When the bombardment

was finished, the whole allied fleet steamed back to open sea, while the United States chasers remained and kept up the defense until it was obvious no more submarines were forthcoming.

"We soon got into formation and under full speed headed out to sea and picked up the main fleet. The town of Durazzo was bombed by planes from 5 a. m. every half hour until after we finished. The results were as follows: One big Austrian transport sunk and two large supply ships; one large Austrian destroyer and one torpedo boat; at least four submarines sunk and one Austrian plane brought down. Our whole fleet returned intact, with no casualties, and Durazzo is no more.

"We intercepted an Austrian hospital ship and sent a boarding party aboard and found 200 Austrian soldiers aboard who were wounded during the early bombardment.

"It appears that some were just leaving the transport and others were stationed in the town when they met their fate. There were a number of nurses aboard and when they saw the United States chasers they rushed to the rail to wave to the American boys."

"We turned the ship free asteward and let it proceed back to the Austrians, even though the crew and nurses seemed quite pleased at being made prisoners by the Americans.

"This scheme was brought about mainly through the efforts of our captain and commander in charge of this fleet. He is a real American scrapper and has enough reserve American 'pep' to supply the whole allied fleets here. He is an old United States navy man and hero of the Spanish-American war."

VETERAN MARINE ALTHOUGH BUT 18

Youth Who Fought at Chateau-Thierry Will Enter Naval Academy.

ENLISTED WHEN ONLY 16

Carried His Full Burden of Campaign and Actual Combat While He Was 17—More Veterans Will Probably Be Named.

Annapolis, Md.—A youth who was in the very thick of the fighting around Chateau-Thierry and Belleau Wood and passed a full year abroad as a United States marine has obtained an appointment for the naval academy and is in Annapolis preparing for his entrance examinations next spring.

He is Arthur C. Heller, son of C. Arthur Heller, an attorney of Newark, N. J., and is now a student at a naval preparatory school here.

Young Heller is a most modest youth and declines to say anything about his exploits. He wishes only to pass his examinations for the academy and to enter as any other youth, working hard for advancement through the different classes, and finally to win a commission in the navy. He was loath to accept the appointment, which was obtained without solicitation on his part, as he wished to stay abroad until the end of the war. He was with the very first troops that went to France with Pershing.

He was cited in the debates in congress upon the question of lowering the draft age as an example of what a very young man could accomplish, for Heller enlisted in the marine corps when he was only sixteen and has just reached eighteen. Consequently he carried his full burden of campaign and actual combat while he was seventeen. It was argued from his case that the best kind of fighting could be done by American youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one.

Heller will try for the academy by virtue of a regular congressional appointment. There are quite a number of other service men in Annapolis also preparing for the entrance examinations next spring, young men who have

been in army training camps and others from various branches of the naval service. They have been given furloughs in order to prepare for the naval academy.

More Veterans to Be Named.

So far as it is known none but Heller has had actual battle experience, but doubtless there will be a number of others before the next class is formed. These will come from two sources. Members of congress will take this opportunity of rewarding worthy youths of their own district who have done creditable work in the service, and are still of the right age. Undoubtedly Secretary Daniels will be able to designate the full quota of a hundred youths from the enlisted personnel of the navy and marine corps, which the law permits to enter each new class at the academy.

This year, though the law has been in effect only a little over a year, more than fifty were designated by the secretary. It was said that one reason why the quota was not full was that many of the young men in the service refused to leave active duty while there was a chance of meeting Germany either on land or sea. Many of these spirited fellows will be designated for the next class.

Many well-educated youths entered the navy and marine corps for the purpose of getting into the thick of it, and are still of the proper age, that is, below twenty. Any of these can aspire to an appointment to the naval academy through designation by the secretary of the navy.

MAN VOTES IN ONE PRECINCT 64 YEARS

Clarksville, Ia.—Thomas Hunt of this city claims the championship long-distance vote-in-one-precinct race in the United States. Mr. Hunt cast his first vote in 1854 and has voted at every election since in this precinct. He has not missed an election in 64 years, state, national, county or municipal. He's a Republican, and generally "votes her straight."

PRESIDENT VISITS LAFAYETTE'S GRAVE

HOLDS A BRIEF CONFERENCE WITH PREMIER CLEMENCEAU AND WITH COL. HOUSE.

HE ALSO ATTENDS CHURCH

Rests in Evening in Preparation for Strenuous Week After Brief Call on President Poincare.

Paris.—President Wilson spent his first Sunday in Paris by going twice to church, laying a wreath on the tomb of LaFayette and having a brief conference with Premier Clemenceau and another with Col. F. M. House. In the evening he rested in preparation for the coming strenuous week of preliminary conferences.

During the afternoon the President made a short call on President and Madame Poincare at the palace of the Elysee.

In the morning, the President, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson and Admiral Grayson and by secret service men, went to the American Presbyterian church in the Rue De Berri. His coming was known to only a few of the American colony who had guessed that the President, being a consistent churchgoer, would choose a church of his own denomination.

The President visited the tomb of LaFayette in the Picpus cemetery, in the southeastern section of Paris, while returning home after the morning church service. No ceremony had been arranged at the cemetery and the President was accompanied only by Brigadier General Hays, a secret service operative, and a French officer assigned to him as a personal aide. The President, removing his hat, entered the tomb carrying a large floral wreath.

As the President placed the wreath on the tomb, he bowed his head and stood silent before the resting place of the famous Frenchman who helped America in her fight for liberty. He made no speech whatsoever. He then returned to the Murat residence.

ARMISTICE TO GERMANY IS EXTENDED TO JANUARY 17

Copenhagen.—The German armistice has been extended until five o'clock on the morning of January 17, according to a dispatch from Treves.

The messages state that the following conditions have been added on the armistice agreement of November 11:

"The supreme command of the allies reserve the right should it consider this advisable and in order to obtain fresh guarantees, to occupy the neutral zone on the right bank of the Rhine north of the Cologne bridgehead and as far as the Dutch frontier. Notice of this occupation will be given six days previously."

DOCTOR PAES, PRESIDENT OF PORTUGAL, SHOT AND KILLED

London.—Dr. Sidorio Paes, president of Portugal, was shot and killed by an assassin shortly before midnight Saturday while he was in a railway station at Lisbon waiting for a train to Porto Rico. Advances from Lisbon reporting the assassination say that he was struck by three bullets. President Paes died within a few minutes after he was shot.

The president's assailant, named Jeetne, was killed by the crowd.

Dr. Sidorio Paes was formally proclaimed president of Portugal on last June 9. He headed a revolt in Portugal in December, 1917.

GERMAN PAPERS PLEADING THAT THEY WERE DECEIVED

Berlin.—Dispatches reporting the arrival of President Wilson in Paris are displayed prominently by the Berlin newspapers. The President's utterances are being scanned carefully. Newspapers which formerly were foremost in attacking the President's policies now plead that they were deceived.

SOLDIERS TO RETAIN THEIR OVERCOATS AND UNIFORMS

Washington.—Secretary Baker informed Chairman Dent, of the house military committee, that the war department had decided discharged soldiers may permanently retain their uniform and overcoat they wear when mustered out. Mr. Lent prepared a bill embodying the authority. Previously the department had planned to have the clothing returned to government three months after a soldiers' discharge.

CONSTRUCTION WORK AT ALL-TENT CAMPS IS ABANDONED

Washington.—Abandonment of all construction work in progress or projected at so-called "tent camps" was ordered by the war department.

The camps affected by the new abandonment orders are Wheeler, Ga.; Hancock, Ga.; Wadsworth, S. C.; Sevier, S. C.; Greene, N. C.; McClellan, Ala.; Sheridan, Ala.; Logan, Tex.; Bowie, Texas; Gard, La.; Cody, N. M.; Doniphan, Okla.; Fremont, Cal., and Kearney, Cal.

HONORED BY FRENCH



In being awarded the Croix de Guerre and a commission as a Lieutenant in the French army, Dr. Anna I. Sholly has won a distinction extended only to two other women, both of them her associates. A graduate of the medical department of Cornell university, Doctor Sholly volunteered for surgical work at the outbreak of the war.