SOUND OF BATTLE ROLLS THROUGH "PEACE YEAR"

Signing Of Many Treaties and Beginning Of League Of Nations Fail to Prevent Series Of Wars and Revolutions

(By International News Service)

NEW YORK, Jan. 1.—The world hailed 1920 as "peace year," but the familiar sound of battle rolled unceasingly through many parts of Europe and Asia. All of the big powers with the notable exception of the United States and Russia had signed treaties or joined the League of Nations, but the whole year was marked by wars, revolutions and attempted military coups. Fighting was continuous in Russia and Turkey. Civil war broke out in China. Germany had a narrow escape from civil war when a small clique of German militarists under von Kapp attempted to seize the Berlin government on March 13. Violent strife has raged and continues to rage in Ireland. The year ends with the virtual collapse of the Utopian movement for universal disarmament. The United States is maintaining nearly a quarter of a million men under arms and is executing a naval program that will make her the first sea power in the world unless Great Britain enlarges her program. And Japan has served notice upon the League of Nations that she will not disarm so long as the United States continues to increase her land and sea forces.

The biggest war of 1920 was fought between soviet Russia and Poland. Enraged at the territorial encroachments of Poland and possibly seeing an opportunity to push bolshevism westward the soviet massed a great army against the Poles. Fighting broke out in March and soon a terrible struggle was raging over battlefront approximately 500 miles long. The Poles were successful in the initial stage of the fighting, but the Russians rallied, smashed the Polish front and were on the point of taking Warsaw when, with French and British help, the Poles beat off the invaders. After six months of violent fighting peace negotiations were opened at Minsk, but were later transferred to Riga, where they are still in progress.

"Red" Armies Win

Except for the Polish war, 1920 was a successful military year for Red Russia. Three extensive campaigns were conducted against the soviet with allied assistance, but all collapsed. They were led by Admiral Koltchak, who was executed in Siberia, following his defeat by General Denekin, who fled to England after his army was defeated and scattered in south Russia, and by General Baron Wrangel, who fled to Turkey after his army was crushed in Crimea.

During 1920 Red Russia entered into an alliance with the Turkish nationalists under Mustapha Kemal Pasha and together they smothered Armenia into submission. The present state of Armenia, about as big in extent as an American county, lies in the Caucasus mountains outside of the borders of the old Ottoman Empire.

Protect Persia

The military ambitions of the soviet were reaching into Persia, even while Red armies were contending against the Poles and General Wrangel, but the British put an army into Persia, and compelled the Russians to withdraw. Red troops were landed at Enbell, Persia, from 13 transports in May and threatened to march upon Teheran and convert Persia into a soviet republic. The British army which drove out the Russians is still maintained in Persia as a bulwark for the protection of India.

Fighting in Turkey

The thunder of battle has roared almost without pause throughout the old Turkish empire with four allied armies arrayed against the Arabs and the Turkish nationalists. Although little news has reached the outside world from Mesopotamia, that obscure quarter of the world has for months been the theatre of a violent struggle between a British army of nearly 100,000 men and strong forces of Turks and Arabs. In the interior of Anatolia the brunt of the fighting on the allied side fell upon the Greek army which was sent to crush the nationalists. On the Marmora littoral the British and Turks were at grips, but the fire from British warships compelled the Turks to retire to the hinterland. In Syria the French went to war against the Arabs because the Arabs refused to accept the French mandate. Only a brief campaign was necessary to quell Arab resistence. But little fighting fell to the lot of the Italian forces of occupation in Turkey.

Japanese in Siberia

Only the lack of transport and the embroilments in western and southern Russia prevented Siberia from becoming a great battle field during 1920. The Japanese occupied vast stretches of Siberian territory in defiance to the soviet, meanwhile giving assistance to the anti-bolshevik army of General Semenoff. The Reds crushed Semenoff's army, but were not strong enough to go to war against the Japanese.

The only warfare in continental Europe occurred in western Germany where communists were engaged with the government forces. After a brief campaign the communists were defeated and disarmed.

The Balkans, formerly known as "the cockpit of Europe," failed to run true to form in 1920. It furnished only a little fighting. This occurred in the mountains of Albania where Montenegrin insurgents and Albanians united against the Servians.

Fiume a Hotbed

Fiume was a sore spot all year and was filled with the potentialities of war between Italy and Jugo-Slavia. In defiance to the Rome government, Gabriel D'Annunzio's legionaires occupied a number of islands which were claimed by Jugo-Slavia. Finally the treaty of Rapallo was negotiated, but D'Annunzio refused to recognie it and continued his warlike seizures. An Italian army and fleet were sent to Fiume to blockade the port. D'Annunzio retaliated with a "declaration of war." This war declaration, however, was never put into effect. Fighting was confined to skirmishing between D'Annunzio's troops and Jugo-Slav border guards.

Outbreak in Ireland

Rebellion and potential rebellion simmered all year long in three-quarters of the British Empire—Ireland, India an Egypt. Virtual war has been raging in Ireland for several months. In Egypt and India huge British armies have maintained order except for sporadic outbreaks.

Terific fighting marked China's civil war in the extreme northeastern corner of the country. The militarist-monarchist forces attempted to gain control of the Pekin government, but the civil strife died down as quickly as it had flared up.

Keen racial animosities were aroused in southeastern Europe by the new frontiers drawn since the peace treaty. Impartial observers declare that disputes in that quarter threaten new wars. Czecho-Slovakia, Jugo-Slavia and Rumania entered into an alliance to oppose Bulgaria. Hungary, aroused over allotments of territory to Czecho-Slovakia and Rumania, is threatening reprisals. The Balkan interests of Jugo-Slavia and Greece clash and the antagonism between the two countries was intensified by the overturn of Venizelos, Jugo-Slavia's friend in Greece.

Revolt in Mexico

On the American continent there was one revolution in 1920. This was the May revolt in Mexico which resulted in the overthrow and death of Venustiano Carranza and the elevation of the Obregon-de la Huerta faction to power. President Obregon promises that fighting is over in Mexico. The government is demobilizing the army and there are indications that 1921 will be a real "peace year" for Mexico.

Czecho-Slovakia Revolt

The latest rebellion reported from Europe occurred in Czecho-Slovakia, one of the new states to which the World war gave birth. On December 14 dispatches reported martial law in Czecho-Slovakia followed on December 15 by reports of a revolution with widespread fighting in which many persons were killed. Czecho-Slovakia took in Polish and Hungarian territory containing residents inimical to the Czechs.

DECLINED TO ACCEPT PLACE AS ASSISTANT POSTMASTER

(Special to The Star)

NEW BERN, Jan. 1.—After a recommendation by Postmaster L. G. Daniels that George A. Wood, superintendent of mails in the New Bern office, be appointed assistant postmaster to fill the vacancy caused by the retiring of Thomas D. Hewitt, and with this appointment almost a certainty, the appointee declined to accept and will retain his present position.

Mr. Daniels at once telegraphed the assistant postmaster general recommending Carlyle Harker, mail clerk, and who has had five years' experience in this office, be named as his assistant.

Mr. Hewitt reached the age of seventy recently and was placed on the retired list, having completed a number of years of service and considered a very efficient man.

FUNERAL OF A. L. M'GOWAN

KINSTON, Jan. 1.—Scores of prominent Duplin county men were honorary pall-bearers at the funeral recently of Alexander L. McGowan of Wallace. Mr. McGowan was a prominent banker, tobacconist and merchant, and was a member of several fraternal orders. He was a steward in the Methodist church. He was forty-four years of age and is survived by a widow and six children. Pneumonia was the cause of death. Burial took place in Rockfish cemetery.

Twenty-six per cent of the 55,000 motor license tags issued in the District of Columbia, in 1920 went to non-residents of that city.

SUICIDE OF CARDENAS CLEARS UP A MYSTERY

Former Mexican General Said He Commanded Troops Who Killed Madero

GUATEMALA CITY, Jan. 1.—The suicide of the former Mexican general, Francisco Cardenas, in the Central Plaza of this city on November 27, is believed here to have ended all doubt as to who was the real slayer of the Mexican President, Francisco I. Madero. Cardenas had told the Associated Press correspondent that he commanded the guard by whom Madero was shot but did not explain why he ordered the shooting.

Madero, with the vice president, Pino Suarez, was shot to death on the night of February 22, 1913, while being conveyed under a guard of armed soldiers from his place of imprisonment in the national palace to the penitentiary in Mexico City. The usual report was rendered to the authorities that the prisoners had tried to make their escape and that the soldiers, in order to prevent them getting away, were obliged to shoot them.

Not very long after the event, Francisco Cardenas appeared in Guatemala. Within a very short time he was arrested and imprisoned by orders of Estrada Cabrera, the president then of this country. It is not clear just on what grounds Cabrera ordered the imprisonment of Cardenas. The government of Cabrera was not on particularly friendly relations with that of Carranza who had succeeded General Huerta as president of Mexico. It is thought that the Guatemalan president was aware that Cardenas was wanted by the Carranza government, and purposed turning him over to the Mexican authorities in exchange for certain Guatemalans in Mexico who might be conspiring against Cabrera's government. However this may be, no exchange was made and Cardenas was kept a prisoner for nearly seven years.

During the revolution of last April when the dictator, Cabrera, was overthrown, Cardenas was taken from the penitentiary and brought into this city under a guard of troops. Colonel Belteton pointed him out to the Associated Press correspondent as the man who had killed Madero.

Cardenas was a man of medium height, robust in appearance, bullet-like head, thin black mustache and thin black hair parted in ringlets over his forehead. Questioned as to the killing of Madero he dismissed the subject with the simple statement that he was in command of the guard that did the killing. He offered no explanation why he had commanded the guard to shoot the prisoners, but was more intent on relating his own misadventures, stating that he had been in prison nearly eight years, more than two years of which had been in solitary confinement. If this part of his statement is correct, he must have fled from Mexico shortly after the murders were committed, and when Huerta was still in power.

With the change of government in Guatemala last April, Cardenas was set free and given an important official position in the penitentiary, with chance to make good, but it is said that he accepted money for granting certain privileges to prisoners. He lost his position in the penitentiary and was accused of paying too much attention to the wife of a political prisoner. When the husband of the woman was also released from the penitentiary, he was stabbed by a man who said Cardenas had paid him to do the stabbing. Cardenas was arrested and imprisoned, but was released on bail.

Recently, a request came from the proper authorities in Mexico requesting that he be held by the authorities until papers could be forwarded for his extradition on the Madero murder charge, it being explained that direct testimony had been obtained showing him to have been the man directly responsible for the deed. Through some blundering of the police department, Cardenas was permitted to make his escape from the city but was eventually located in some woods a few miles beyond the district of Las Vacas. On the night of November 26 he was captured.

It was stated by the lieutenant who commanded the soldiers that Cardenas offered him $25,000 for himself and $1,000 for each of his soldiers to be set at liberty. The offer being refused, Cardenas asked permission to rest, whereupon he wrote in a memorandum book which he carried a few lines addressed to the woman with whom he had been living, giving her his money and jewels and requesting her to bury his body in event of his death.

The soldiers brought Cardenas to the Central Plaza of the city, where Cardenas suddenly drew a small revolver wrapped in a handkerchief and shot at one of the soldiers, only wounding him slightly. As the other soldiers closed in on him, he placed the muzzle of his pistol in his mouth and fired twice, and fell to the ground mortally wounded. He was conveyed to the general hospital where he soon died.

MAGNOLIA SOCIAL

MAGNOLIA, Jan. 1.—Of great interest to numerous friends was the wedding of Miss Evelyn Middleton to Rev. D. E. Hill, of Louisville, Ky., which was solemnized at the home of the bride's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Middleton, in the presence of a few friends and relatives on Christmas evening at 7:30 o'clock.

The room where the vows were taken was lovely, southern smilax, potted plants and antique brass candelebra being used to carry out the scheme of green and white. Prior to the ceremony a musical program was rendered by Misses Emily Southall and Norma Williams. Miss Williams sang in a most charming manner "At Dawning" and "I Love Thee." At the strains of the wedding march the bride entered with her sister, Miss Elizabeth Middleton, her only attendant. She wore a lovely dress of white duchess satin, with trimmings of silver lace and veil, carrying a shower bouquet of Bride's roses. Her maid was charmingly dressed in rose charmeuse with turquoise blue trimming, carrying sweet peas. Little Bettie Sue Heath, in white accordion plaited organdy, was ring-bearer.

Mr. Hill had as his best man Henry Hoey, of Faison. The impressive ring ceremony was performed by Rev. C. E. Stephens of Selma. The happy couple left for Louisville on the 9 o'clock train and will be at home there after January 1.

FORMER SOLDIER GETS EVEN WITH HIS WARTIME CAPTAIN

NORFOLK, Jan. 1.—Samuel Berman, a New York salesman, was fined $10 in police court today for settling a wartime grudge against his old company commander, ex-Capt. B. R. Fink of Norfolk, with his fists. Alleged wrongs while a private at Camp Lee were recited in justification for the attack on Fink, who was knocked down twice. Berman claims to have trained for two years for the meeting.

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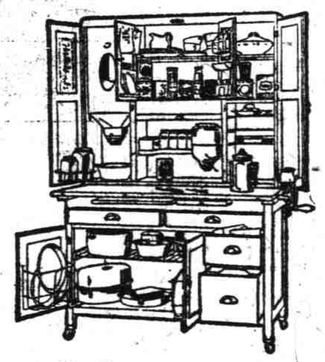

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LAURINBURG BUSINESS FOLK ARE OPTIMISTIC

New Year Finds Business Conditions There Fairly Good, Mills All Running

(Special to The Star)

LAURINBURG, Jan. 1.—The New Year finds Laurinburg in as good business condition as any place on the map, and perhaps in better shape than many another town. Of course the prevailing depression has hit the town, but the people do not seem to take it so hard.

Business concerns are hoping for an early change in affairs. Local industries with few exceptions are running right along and there is a payroll of some $30,000 a month, almost all of which is spent in the town. The four cotton mills had a week off for Christmas, but resumed Thursday. They have never been operated at night.

The big flour mill of the Hammond company is using up a car of wheat daily, which satisfies present demand, but its capacity is greater than that and the output can be increased as occasion demands. The mill is a modern, electric-driven plant.

The oil mill and fertilizer plants are running on full time. Several cars of fertilizer have been received here, but there is as yet no demand for it. Farmers appear non-committal and seem to be waiting to see what is going to happen. A decrease in acreage is expected in Scotland county, as it is throughout the cotton belt.

The last census report gave 33,991 bales ginned in the county, and it is estimated that there is yet 10 per cent of the crop in the fields. One woman estimates she has as much as 60 bales unpicked.

Among the defendants in superior court, scheduled for trial in April, are two negro men who are charged with killing their wives, one in Laurinburg and the other at Johns, six miles away. Pistols were used, and it is said death was instantaneous in each instance.

What will be two of the most elegant homes in this section are now under construction, one for Frank C. McCormick and the other for James L. McNair. Plumbing and heating equipment for the two, it is stated, will cost over $10,000. Material is placed for other homes to be built in the near future. Laurinburg is short on houses.

The city schools will resume Monday, following the Christmas vacation.

By a change in schedule on the S. A. L. which goes into effect at 12:01 tonight, train No. 14, now due here at 9:12 a. m., will arrive at 9:16; train No. 31, due at 11:54 a. m., will arrive at 11:50, and train No. 13, due at 7:38 p. m., will arrive at 7:26. There will be no change in trains Nos. 20 and 34.

It is reported that the Postal telegraph line will be extended from Charlote as far east as Lumberton during the new year, taking in all important towns between the two points. At present Lumberton is the only point reached by the Postal between Charlotte and Wilmington.

Lewis (Red) Wilson, formerly a member of the Charlotte police force, has accepted a place on the local force and went on duty today.

THOUSAND WOMEN EMPLOYED IN THE BANKS OF BOSTON

BOSTON, Jan. 1.—One thousand women are employed in the banks of Boston. This would not be surprising but for the fact that a large proportion are employed as expert clerks—an elastic term—in all departments of the institutions.

The women were employed, in many cases with reluctance, as a war emergency when the boys went marching away, but they are said to have shown adaptability to the banking business.

Miss Caroline P. Stickle, in charge of the woman personnel in an institution employing 318 women, says that last year 200 women bank clerks occupied much of their spare time obtaining added knowledge of the principles and details of banking afforded by the evening courses conducted for the benefit of the Boston chapter of the American Institute of Banking. Of women in the banking world she says:

"Until within a few years most positions open to women within banking institutions have been largely in the nature of stenographic work. At present you will find women in almost every department and when the department head is consulted he will tell you that the woman clerk's work is very satisfactory indeed.

"Occasionally, we hear of some woman who has attained an executive position within the conservative circles of banking, although such attainments have not been at all general. This is not a bit discouraging, however, when we realize that what we have been given to do we have done satisfactorily. We need to realize that the future may bring greater opportunities and to be ready for these we cannot have too great knowledge relating to the principles and details of banking."

NORFOLK METHODISTS BUILD A CHURCH WITHIN 10 HOURS

NORFOLK, Jan. 1. — Professional men, including high army and navy officers comprising the congregation of Larchment Methodist Episcopal church, in Norfolk's most fashionable suburb, donned overalls today and in 10 hours constructed a building which will be used by the congregation for the first time tomorrow morning. The building is 60 by 100 feet and is of wood construction, even to the foundation.

By displaying a gress cross, physicians on emergency calls can have traffic right of way at street intersections in Louisville, Ky.

The capacity of production of motor vehicles in the United States is estimated at 2,200,000 cars a year.

Placed end to end the automobiles in New York city would extend in a solid line more than 600 miles long.

FINDS UNEXPECTED SOMETIMES HAPPENS

"I suffered for 10 years with stomach trouble and doctored away a lot of money before I found a medicine that was a real benefit to me. Since taking one dose of Mayr's Wonderful Remedy, 14 weeks ago, I have had more real joy of living than I had in 10 years before." It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the catarrhal mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded. R. R. Bellamy and druggists everywhere. (Adv.)

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