

# THE NEWS-HERALD.

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## WILSON ADDRESSES CONGRESS AND ANNOUNCES PURPOSE TO ATTEND THE PEACE CONFERENCE

Will Attend Solely As Representative of United States — Gives Views of Government's Reconstruction — Is Ready to Release Railroads at Any Time—Appeals For Equal Suffrage.

Congress in joint session Monday heard President Wilson announce formally his purpose to attend the peace conference and give his views on the part the government should play in dealing with reconstruction problems. Democrats of the house received the announcement with cheers in which some senators joined; the Republicans were silent almost throughout the address, except when the President referred to the valor and efficiency of America's soldiers and mentioned the names of Pershing and Sims. Threatened interruptions by members who disapproved of the trip and of the President's failure to include a senator among the peace delegates, however, did not materialize.

Of the railroad question Mr. Wilson said he had no solution to offer. He said he was ready to return the lines to private control whenever a satisfactory arrangement was offered to prevent a return to the old systems under private management without modification and asked congress to study the subject.

Recommendations included a renewed appeal for woman suffrage in recognition of woman's work in the war; a request for early and favorable action on the unratified Colombian treaty; and a suggestion that authority should be given to the war trade board or some other body to continue control for a time over exports.

The President concluded with the announcement of his forthcoming trip overseas. He said since the associated governments had accepted principles enunciated by him as the basis for peace, he regarded it as his paramount duty to go.

Full Text of President Wilson's Message.

The full text of President Wilson's address is as follows:

"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, and great results that I cannot 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.

Outstanding Facts.

"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 each month, the number in fact rising, in May to 245,951, in June to 278,760, in July to 307,182, and continuing in August and September—in August 289,570 and in September 257,438. No such move-across three thousand miles of sea, followed by adequate equipment and supplies, and carried safely through extraordinary dangers of attack — dangers which were alike strangers and infinitely difficult to guard against. In all this movement only 758 men were lost by enemy attack—630 of whom were on a single English transport which was sunk near the Orkney Islands.

"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 of all its productive activities more complete, more thorough in method and effective in result, more spirited and unanimous in purpose and effort than any other great belligerent had been able to effect. We profited greatly by the experience of the nations which already had 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 their 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.

Not Physical Scale. "But it is not the physical scale and executive efficiency of preparation, supply, equipment and despatch 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 it with an audacity, efficiency and unhesitating courage touch the story of convoy and battle with imperishable distinction at every turn, whether the enterprise were great or small—from their great 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.

"I am proud to be the fellow-countryman 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 it otherwise; but for many a long day we shall think ourselves "accursed we were not there, and hold our manhoods cheap while any speaks that fought," with these at St. Mihiel or Thiery. 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 fought, 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 the time to turn the whole tide and sweep to the fateful struggle—turn it once for all, so that henceforth 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 purpose, 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 fine 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 thorough-going 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 viewed with each other

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## AGED AND RESPECTED CITIZEN PASSES AWAY

Mr. A. F. Somers, After Long Illness, Died Monday Night.

After having been in feeble health for several years and extremely low for a number of days, Mr. A. F. Somers, aged 83, passed away Monday night at his home here. He suffered a stroke of paralysis early in the fall and since that time his recovery had been despaired of.

Mr. Somers was a native of Iredell county, coming to Burke many years ago. For a long time he was in business in Linville township at what is now Noblitt's store. A number of years ago he moved to Morganton and before his health failed was in the mercantile business, associated with Mr. R. E. Roper.

Mr. Somers married a Miss Spencer, aunt of Messrs. C. A. and W. A. Spencer. She with three sisters and a brother survive. The sisters are Mrs. T. W. Noblitt, of McDowell county, Mrs. John Brown, of Hillsboro, Ill., and Miss Mary Somers, of Stony Point. The brother, Mr. P. F. Somers, lives at Stony Point. Another brother, Rev. J. N. Somers, who died sometime ago, at one time served as Methodist preacher on a circuit in this county.

Mr. Somers was a man of fine business sense, conservative, level-headed and always thoroughly dependable. His name was synonymous with reliability. He was a faithful member of the Methodist church. The funeral services, at the home Wednesday morning were conducted by Rev. C. M. Pickens, of the Methodist church. Burial was made at the cemetery.

Mr. A. A. Somers, of Stony Point, a nephew, was here to attend the funeral.

## Death of Mrs. Nancy Team Patton.

After an illness of only a few days Mrs. Nancy Team Patton, widow of the late Robert Patton, of Table Rock, died Tuesday night at 10 o'clock at her home at Table Rock. The funeral and burial services, conducted by Rev. J. B. Tabor, were held yesterday afternoon at Mountain Grove church. Mrs. Patton had no children. She was closely related to the Harbison families of this county and was the stepmother of Rev. R. L. Patton, Mr. P. W. Patton, Mrs. Brent Rhyme and Mrs. Kate Bellmer, of Morganton. She was the third wife of the late Robert Patton, to whom she was married about 23 years ago. She was about 78 years of age.

All who knew her spoke in highest terms of Mrs. Patton. She was a quiet, homeloving person, was ever kind and charitable.

## New Pastor Arrives.

Rev. C. M. Pickens and family arrived Tuesday from Spencer and are domiciled in the Methodist parsonage. Mr. Pickens is the newly appointed pastor of the Methodist church, he and Rev. E. E. Williamson, who had been here four years, having been given by conference an exchange of charges.

The Pickens family consists of Mr. and Mrs. Pickens and five sons, two of whom are in the service, and three at home. They have been held in the highest esteem wherever they have lived and the church here feels very much gratified in securing Mr. Pickens as pastor. The family will be given a cordial welcome to Morganton.

Mr. Pickens will hold his first service here next Sunday morning.

## New Clerk of the Court.

The first Monday in December is the beginning of the county's fiscal year. The recently elected county officers began their new terms on that date. Since the sheriff and register were reelected the only new officer is clerk of the court, Mr. C. G. Hicks succeeding Capt. L. A. Bristol in that capacity. Capt. Bristol had been clerk for 16 years, a long period of faithful service to the county. It may be said without exaggeration that few men in the county have more friends than Captain Bristol.

## Union Service.

A union service of the different churches of the town will be held at the Methodist church Sunday night for the purpose of extending welcome to the new Methodist pastor, Rev. C. M. Pickens.

People who cease to fight do not cease to eat.

## NEW COUNTY BOARD SWORN IN MONDAY.

New Commissioners Begin Term of Service — Largely Routine Business Transacted.

The new board of county commissioners elected November 3 took the oath of office Monday and held their first meeting. Mr. S. Huffman, who was elected chairman, was the only member holding over from the old board. Mr. B. C. Bright, of Glen Alpine, was appointed to fill the place made vacant by the death of Mr. D. B. Garrison. Other members of the board are Messrs. W. J. Alexander, C. F. Wellman and William Wall. All the members are Republicans.

After being sworn in and the election of the chairman, business transacted was largely of a routine nature. The office of county farm agent was unanimously abolished. Mr. G. W. Sanders was appointed road supervisor in Lower Creek township in place of Mr. M. S. Arney, resigned.

## ANOTHER BURKE BOY GAVE LIFE FOR COUNTRY

Ellis Buff, of Valdese, Died October 3rd As Result of Wounds.

In Sunday's casualty list was the name of Pvt. Ellis Buff, of Valdese, who died of wounds. We are informed that relatives in the county received a message recently stating that young Buff died on October 3 of wounds received September 27. He was in the "Old Hickory" division, of undying fame, the 30th, a member of Co. A, 120th Infantry. His name will ever stand among the first on Burke's honor roll. He died for the sake of freedom.

## Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson.

The news that Mrs. Clarence A. Johnson has become a member of the force of women deputies in the office of Insurance Commissioner James R. Young at Raleigh will be of much interest in Morganton, her home town. She began her work this week, which consists of interesting people throughout the State in preventing fires and in showing them preventions and protection.

Mrs. Johnson is one of the best known club women in the State and was at one time president of the Woman's club at Raleigh and in 1917 was elected president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's clubs, the term of which continues until next spring.

## Watch Your Label.

Due to the fact that a great deal of our office work has been delayed because of the "flu" invasion we have not yet worked out a plan for notifying subscribers of the expiration of their subscriptions, as we had expected to do when we adopted the cash plan. Until we are able to do this we ask subscribers who do not want to miss a copy of the paper to watch their labels and send in their renewals before the time is up. Each label gives the date of expiration. Jan 19 means your subscription is paid until the first of next month.

## Corrections.

The News-Herald was incorrectly informed last week in regard to Mr. John Pottee's marriage. He was married to Miss Della Beck, not to Miss Myrtle Beck, her sister, as was stated.

Also the information we had that Derr Duckworth was missing in action was without official foundation, we are glad to state, the family not having received such notice.

## Musical.

A quartette from the State Normal, Greensboro, will give a musicale in the auditorium one night during the week of December 16-21. Full announcement as to the exact date, etc., will be made later.

## Table Rock Circuit.

There will be preaching at Fairview Sunday at 11 a. m., and Arney's at 3 p. m.

Oak Hill the 3rd Sunday and Linville and Obeth the 4th Sunday.

Hope all our people will come to church.

J. B. TABOR.

America's minimum food pledge is 20 million tons—save food. We have promised to feed the hungry millions of Europe—the allies and the liberated nations—U. S. Food Administration.

## OLD LANDMARK IS ORDERED REMOVED

Town Board Has Condemned and Ordered Ray and Tate Corner Building Torn Down.

At the meeting of the town board Monday night notice was ordered served on the owners of the old building known as the Ray and Tate corner, occupied by J. R. Taylor and the City Restaurant that unless the building is torn away within 90 days from that date, December 2, a penalty of \$5 for each day would be charged the owners after the expiration of the time given. It is presumed that the owners, the Tate heirs and Mrs. Ray, will comply with the order and will erect a new building on the site.

## ORDERS NOT GIVEN YET FOR RETURN OF 30TH.

Were Withdrawn From British and Turned Over to Pershing—Those Coming.

General March has corrected an erroneous impression that the 27th and 30th divisions, the latter comprising North and South Carolina and Tennessee troops, had already been ordered home. These troops, after being withdrawn from the British, were sent back to General Pershing's command and on orders have yet been issued for their return. General March said as fast as divisions can be spared they will be sent home and announcement made of the orders.

Four divisions in their entirety and major units of eight other divisions of the American army in France, have been designated by General Pershing for an early return home. These troops, with other special units, General March, chief of staff, announced, total 3,451 officers and 79,663 men.

The complete divisions which will return at an early date, General March said, are the 39th, 76th, 87th and 92d. Important elements of the following divisions to return as soon as transportation facilities are available are the 31st, 34th, 38th, 40th, 84th, 85th, 8th and 88th.

New figures on the American army casualties, announced by the chief of staff, which exceeds that made public a week ago by 28,000, covers all losses to November 26. The principal change in the revised list is the addition of 13,100 men missing in action.

The special units to embark soon consist largely of coast artillery brigades and separate regiments, many battalions and batteries of anti-aircraft artillery and other organizations, including aero squadrons.

Orders have been issued, the chief of staff also said, for the demobilization of 649,000 men in the camps and cantonments in the United States. Approximately 46,000 officers and men in the home camps have already been discharged.

By the end of December, General March indicated, probably 150,000 to 175,000 members of the expeditionary forces will have returned to this country. He said the war department hoped in time to provide transportation for 300,000 men a month.

## Rev. N. M. Modlin to Morganton Circuit.

At the recent Methodist Conference in Charlotte Rev. R. F. Mock, stationed last year at Old Fort, was assigned to the Morganton circuit. Since Conference Mr. Mock has been sick and an arrangement has been made whereby Rev. N. M. Modlin, who was to go to Old Fort, will come to the Morganton circuit and Mr. Mock will be left with the same charge. Mr. Modlin, who has been at Cliffside, exchanges work with Rev. A. J. Burrus, who has been on the Morganton circuit for the past year. Mr. Modlin and family are expected to arrive here today, and the Burrus family leaves today for Cliffside.

## Death of a Child.

Phifer McGimsey, the 22-month-old child of Mr. and Mrs. Horace McGimsey, died at the McGimsey home on "Sampson" last Saturday of pneumonia. He was buried Sunday afternoon at Forest Hill cemetery, Rev. C. A. Caldwell conducting the services. The bereaved parents have much sympathy in the loss of their bright and attractive little son.

Put a new leaf in the "Common Table." Many of our new guests haven't had a square meal for a long time and never had a square deal.

## AMERICA'S REPRESENTATIVES PEACE CONFERENCE

President Wilson Heads American Representation With Lansing, White, House and Bliss as Members of Delegation.

The representative of the United States at the peace conference will be: President Wilson, Robert Lansing, secretary of state, Henry White, former ambassador to France and Italy, E. M. House.

General Tasker H. Bliss, representative of the American army with the supreme war council at Versailles. This announcement was made last Friday night at the white house.

In the absence of any official explanation it was assumed that the President goes as President of the United States and that Secretary Lansing, Mr. White and Colonel House and possibly also General Bliss will be delegates with ambassadorial rank.

It was recalled that he would go to France "for the purpose of taking part in the discussion and settlement of the main features of the treaty of peace," said that it was not likely that he could remain throughout the sessions of the peace conference and that he would be "accompanied by delegates who will sit as the representatives of the United States throughout the conference."

The white house announcement "It was announced at the executive offices tonight that the representatives of the United States at the peace conference would be the President himself, the secretary of state, the Honorable Henry White, recently ambassador to France, Mr. Edward M. House and General Hasker H. Bliss. "It was explained that it had not been possible to announce these appointments before because the number of representatives each of the chief belligerents was to send had until a day or two ago been under discussion."

White house officials would add nothing to the formal statement, and no one professing to be in the confidence of the President would talk. There was only one surprise in the statement—the appearance of the name of General Bliss as one of the representative of the United States on the supreme war council would take part in the discussions at Versailles, but the prevailing idea had been he would be attached to the delegation in a military capacity just as Admiral Benson probably will be present as spokesman for the navy in the great naval problems to be solved.

The premiers of Great Britain, France and Italy are expected to attend the peace conference as representatives of this government, but like the President, may not remain through the conference. The general understanding here is that present plans are to have the conference first agree to the board principals of the treaty and leave the working out of details to further sitting.

This would enable the President and the entente premiers speedily to return to the capitals of their respective countries so as to give their personal attention to affairs of state.

Secretary Lansing, who heads the delegation proper, became secretary of state in June, 1915, when William Jennings Bryan resigned rather than sign a note to Germany in the Lusitania case which he thought might lead to war. During the three and a half years that have followed Mr. Lansing has conducted many difficult negotiations for the country as a neutral and as a belligerent, and his name appears on all the historic documents telling the story of America's entry into the war as well as those answering Germany's peace pleas which preceded the downfall of the central alliance. At the time of his appointment he was counsellor of the state department, after a career as an international lawyer which had established his reputation as one of the foremost American authorities on this subject.

Mr. White, the Republican of the delegation, is a diplomat of long experience, who began as secretary of the American legation in Vienna in 1884. He served as secretary of embassy at various capitals, represented the United States at several great international gatherings and in 1905 was appointed ambassador to Italy by President Roosevelt.

Two years later he was made ambassador to France, where he remained until 1909. His last public (Continued on fourth page.)