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NAVY GIVES NATION CAUSE TO BE PROUD

Secretary of the Navy Daniels, in his annual report, tells in detail of the remarkable expansion of our navy since the war began, but more particularly since the United States entered the conflict.

The Secretary also lays stress on the benefits he believes would result from a complete democratization of the navy's personnel. "The day will come," he declares, "when all appointments to Annapolis will be made from the ranks of enlisted men. Why not now? The day of promotion by seniority in the line," he adds, "has forever passed."

"We have prepared for and have met the duties of the present; we are preparing for and are confident we will be able to meet any call for greater duties, for more exacting responsibilities."

Record One to Inspire Pride
"Since April 6 the Navy of the United States has been undergoing the test of war. While I may not, therefore, speak in detail of the greater operations since that date, it may be stated that the record is one of increasing power, of developing resourcefulness and of so-operative achievement which the American people may well survey with national pride."

"Although the naval activities in this war have been largely confined to the extermination of the submarine, our navy has been called on to do much more than the public realizes, and in no case and in no way has it so far been found wanting either in material or personnel."

"The Atlantic Fleet has been reorganized to meet war conditions so that it has readily assimilated a large number of new units. Experimental tactical groups have been organized to keep pace with material development in anti-submarine warfare."

Discussing the inauguration of promotion by selection, Mr. Daniels says: "The day of promotion by seniority in the line of the navy has forever passed. It was the ideal system for rewarding mediocrity in the same manner as initiative, resource and great ability were rewarded. It was un-American and was apparently framed with the object of protecting the less efficient from the eagerness of seeing the more efficient advanced over their heads. It denied the stimulus of a reward for professional excellence."

Draws Lesson From History
"Under the new law, whereby line officers above the rank of Lieutenant Commander are promoted by selection, the question of approved ability rather than length of service determines promotions. It well demonstrates its superiority over the antiquated seniority system, which tended to put a premium upon mediocrity and ultra-prudence. If a man played for safety under that system he was far surer of promotion than if he had the sand to do something new that involved some chance of accident. Safety and prudence are requisites, but every naval officer who is remembered had the courage, when it would serve his country, to take a chance by an audacious and daring move."

Mr. Daniels advocates the immediate extension of promotion by selection to include the staff as well as the line of the navy. The Secretary makes the following reference to the success of the new system of appointing a considerable number of enlisted men to Annapolis:

"The truth is that the day will come when all appointments to the Naval Academy will come by promotion from the enlisted personnel. Why not now? There are but two arguments against it, and only one of them is tenable. The first is that Congressmen would be slow to surrender their right of appointment. If, however, they are persuaded that the good of the naval service would be promoted by surrendering the right of appointment, it is not to be believed that Congress would hesitate to vote for the change. Seaman's Basis of All

"The navy would then truly be the highest example of the American doctrine that opportunity and promotion are reserved only for those who establish fitness for command. Fewer men would then enter the Naval Academy to secure an education and fewer still would bilge. No man would pay the price of an appointment unless he loved the naval service. The naval officer today is a select man, trained and ready, but if no man entered the academy who had not been trained in the hard school of seafaring experience and by competition with 200,000 youth, would there not be born that enthusiasm for excellence that would insure a still higher standard of efficiency in the service?"

"If the only open door to instruction at the academy was through regular enlistment and a year's service as a seaman, you doubt that the ranks of the enlisted personnel would be thronged by youths, who love of the sea, ready and willing to make any sacrifice to earn a commission? The navy would then truly be the highest example of the American doctrine that opportunity and promotion are reserved only for those who establish fitness for command."

As to expansion, Mr. Daniels says: "From a force of 4,500 officers and 68,000 enlisted men in January, 1917, the navy has expanded to 15,000 officers and 254,000 enlisted men, including regulars, reserves and national naval volunteers. Further expansions are inevitable. The navy had 130 stations of all kinds on Jan. 1, 1917. It now has 363. The number of employees at regular Navy Yards in the United States has in-

Quarantine Over at Camp Sevier—Promotions in Company K

Last Friday at noon the general quarantine was lifted at Camp Sevier. It is needless to say there was "joy in the camp" and Company K did her share of rejoicing. The only hard part of it was Company K went on guard at 5:00 o'clock Saturday afternoon for 24 hours. They all wore the heavy regulation overcoats, however, and in most cases sweaters and mittens—and while we are on the subject, mittens would not be returned to the home folks, if sent to boys of Company K.

In most cases the boys say they sleep warm, and late any afternoon the woodpile is by far the most popular place in any camp. A man or two at least from each tent are seen cutting wood industrially.

Some of our boys have had promotions recently, sergeant Ernest Bunting was made first or "top" sergeant in Lieutenant Clarence Lovett's place. Lieutenant Lovett stood the examination for second lieutenant and has received his commission. Lieutenant Hal W. Walker and Elmer W. Mason, who were second lieutenants, after passing examinations were commissioned first lieutenants. As has been previously announced each company will be recruited to two hundred and there will be three first and two second lieutenants to each company. Company K now has her three first lieutenants viz: E. J. Lusk, H. W. Walker and Elmer Mason, the latter of whom was assigned to Co. K about two months ago. Mr. Mason is a writer of some note. He was in France for two years before the war broke out and knows the French language. This will be a great help to the boys of Co. K when they go to France.

Corporal James O. Walker has been transferred to headquarters in the insurance department. He was promoted to sergeant major. The health of the company generally is unusually good. There is only one case of pneumonia at the present.

Postmaster Inspector E. B. Webb, of Statesville, arrested Arthur Jones, colored, at Greensboro last Wednesday on the charge of attempting to blackmail M. S. Satterfield, a white man of Lexington.

Increased from about 35,000 to over 60,000. Over 200,000 and ahead, including civilians and sailors, the naval establishments embraced more than 300,000. At the beginning of the fiscal year 1917 the monthly expenditures for all naval purposes were about \$2,000,000; they are now about \$60,000,000. On Jan. 1, 1917, there were 300 naval vessels of all kinds in commission; today there are many more than 1,000.

Regarding the increase in aircraft forces the report says: "During the present calendar year the ratio of increase in material has been approximately 1,400 per cent, the increase in personnel trained and under training has been approximately 3,000 per cent, the increase in stations and training schools has been approximately 3,200 per cent."

"The service has been so popular as to attract to it scores of young men of real stuff, some from factories, who loved engines and machinery, and some with college diplomas, who were eager and quick to learn this new and daring adjunct of war. They have demonstrated the courage and capacity of American youths, and the only complaint heard from any of the young men in the Aviation Corps has been that the factories could not provide air craft rapidly enough to give them as much opportunity to fly as they desired."

In the matter of appropriations the total the Secretary asks is \$1,039,660,502.84, saying this is needed for the vigorous prosecution of the war. The appropriations made the present year amounted to \$1,592,732,859, which, taken in connection with the \$312,678,071 appropriated Aug. 29, 1916, makes a total of naval appropriations in a period of a little more than a year of \$1,905,410,930. This exceeds the sum of all appropriations from 1883 to 1911.

Public Interest in Navy
The genuine interest shown by the American people in the men of the navy is emphasized, the Secretary holding that there should be "some desire by which the spontaneous desire to give proof of helping men in the navy shall be directed into the best channels." He recommends that Congress, in view of the unauthorized use of the word "Navy" by organizations, "many of them with the spirit of unselfish desire to aid the service," but which confuses the people, should deny to any organization to right to call itself by the name "Navy" or "Navy" that, unless authorized. "It has occasionally happened that money contributed by generous people for men in the service has gone instead to 'expenses' and 'organizations' instead of to the purposes which the contributors desired to aid," the Secretary says.

"What we have done in the navy," says the Secretary in conclusion, "is but the earnest proof of things that will become manifest in the nations that are before us. Among the 300,000 men in the Navy, enlisted and civilian personnel, or the thousands working outside, there is no thought of lessening effort until the great victory is won. Much remains to be done, but it will be done cheerfully, gladly, efficiently. The plans have been made on a scale commensurate with the task. They will be carried out with speed, with confidence and with ultimate success."

After Three Weeks Means Case, End in Drawing Near

The means case is drawing to a close. All testimony has been concluded and arguments of counsel are now in progress. During the week Gaston Means testified in his own behalf, explaining and accounting for many financial transactions involving the use of funds belonging to the deceased. He gave an account of the killing of Blakewelder Spring. On cross examination he held his own with the attorneys for the prosecution.

A sensation was created by Means' response to attorney Dooling's question as to whether dunning letters had not been written Means for rent of a safety deposit box in New York, to which Means replied that if such letters had been written Dooling had stolen them.

Another sensation arose from a newspaper story in which it was said that argued sympathizers of Means were present in court and that a Hillsville affair might be impending. While it was manifest that the situation was extremely tense, it turned out that the reporter was unwarranted in his assertion and Judge Clise stated from the bench that he was much humiliated that such a statement had been given to the public.

Mrs. Julie P. Means, wife of the defendant went on the stand and corroborated her husband's testimony. She bore herself with great composure and was unshaken by cross examination. The evidence was concluded by the State's introduction of witnesses in rebuttal. On Tuesday Capt. W. A. Jones, a New York police officer, made a test in court by firing a pistol to show that no smudge would be left on the hand holding it, the defense having made a strong point that a smudge was left on Mrs. King's hand.

Mr. W. H. Ragan of High Point Killed in Pennsylvania Munition Plant Explosion.

Mr. W. H. Ragan, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Ragan of High Point was among the number of men killed as a result of the explosion at the "T. N. T." plant, Heidelberg, Pa., a suburb of Pittsburgh last week. His parents were notified that he was among the missing and later that his body had been found among the ruins of the munitions plant.

The young man was 20 years of age and was a workman of the class of 1911 of the State College of Agriculture and Engineering. He graduated as a chemist and as such was employed by the "T. N. T." company. The body of the young man was brought to High Point where a funeral service was conducted at the home of his parents Monday after which interment followed.

Alien Enemies Receive Fair Treatment and Pay for Their Labor
The interned Germans at the station at Hot Springs, N. C., are not prisoners of war. They comprise officers and crews of the German merchant vessels which were held in the United States at the time of the declaration of war.

These aliens receive no funds from the Government except compensation for labor actually performed. Those engaged in construction work get \$20 a month, with an additional \$5 to foreign men. Interned officers have not been permitted to receive from any source more than \$10 a month and crewmen not more than \$5. Receipts in excess of these amounts are placed to the credit of the aliens in banks.

Three plain but substantial meals are prepared each day. There is no waste, the same measures of economy and conservation which are being urged upon every American household being practiced at Hot Springs.

New Publication Shows Aims of Germans in Their Own Words
"By right of war the right of strange races to migrate into Germanic settlements will be taken away. By right of war the non-Germanic population in America and Great Australia must be settled in Africa. By right of war we can send back the useless South American romance peoples and the half-breeds to north Africa."—Quotation from the German in the new 170-page publication issued by the Committee on Public Information, "Conquest and Kultur."

Copies may be secured free of charge by application to the Committee on Public Information, 10 Jackson Place, Washington, D. C.

Alcoholic Content of Beer to Be Limited to 3 Per Cent Maximum

There is in the country from two to three years' supply of whisky, brandy, and gin which may be commandeered by the Government if required for purposes of manufacture of alcohol for munitions. The requirements for industrial alcohol, however, in addition to the normal output from sawdust and other waste products, is negligible. The desirability of saving all the grain used in brewing from the standpoint of food conservation is therefore limited by the social question involved in the exclusive use of whisky.

The President has approved the recommendation of the Food Administration that the alcoholic content of beer be reduced to a 3 per cent maximum and the volume of grain used be reduced to approximately 70 per cent of that formerly used. Provisions are made to increase the output of cattle feed from brewing establishments.

President Wilson last Friday sent the Governor General of Canada an expression of sympathy of the people of the United States because of the disaster at Halifax.

MOTHERS' PENSIONS EXPECTED TO CONSERVE CHILD LIFE

Thirty States Have Passed Mothers' Pension Act

The Mothers' pension act will be looked to in the United States to help to mitigate the suffering of war, particularly to help preserve the home and conserve child life, according to Judge Henry Neal of Chicago who is now in England for the purpose of interviewing members of the House of Commons in the mothers' pension system. Thirty out of the forty-eight states of the Union have adopted this system. These are—for the most part, Northern and Western states. Two municipalities, St. Louis and Milwaukee, have established similar systems independent of state action.

These acts of pensioning widows and orphans, as explained by the American Medical Association Bulletin, are an endeavor to keep the family together with the mother herself at home with the children and not place them as wards on the state. Evidence, therefore, is required not only that the family is in need but that it also is worthy of preservation. The amounts in most states are fairly liberal. Illinois, which was the first state to pass the act, allows \$15 for one child and \$7 for each additional child under 16 years. Pennsylvania allows \$12 for each child, \$10 for two and \$5 for each additional child.

Mr. Bernard Shaw advocating the mothers' pension bill in England said recently: "Child poverty is the only sort of poverty that matters. The adult who has been poor as a child will never get the chill of poverty out of his bones; but he will make room for a better nourished generation. Neglected children cost more than well-nourished ones to everybody except their immediate parents."

Sunday School Association Notes

The new system of uniform lessons called the Improved Uniform Lessons, will begin in January. Every superintendent and teacher who is using the uniform lessons should have these on hand now in order to become familiar with the system. These new lessons will demand a closer attention to the grading of the school and in order to carry out the intents of the system it will be necessary to follow the graded plan of organization to a great extent.

The lesson text for the whole school is the same there are separate topics for the primary, junior, intermediate and young people's Departments. There is additional Biblical material for each department. School officers and teachers should begin now to look for any improvements in the grading of their schools and be ready to begin the first of the new year with the new system of lessons well in hand.

Two schools in Providence township and one in Randleman township have reported the adoption of graded lessons for their elementary division to begin January 1. Many other schools are preparing to take such steps and our teachers are getting ready for better work as never before.

Christmas this year should mean more than ever before to the Sunday schools. There are so many worthy causes asking for consideration that no school need miss the blessings that attend the giving spirit. The needy Armenians and Syrians are calling to the Sunday schools of America to help them with food and clothing. Many of the churches are sending out these appeals through their denominational headquarters. Newspapers are carrying their appeals also. The orphanages, too, are needing the support of the Sunday schools and the appeal of the homeless children round about us will furnish a splendid opportunity for Christmas service. Not money alone, but the orphans will appreciate any gift either of food, clothing, or toys. Nothing will delight the children of the Sunday School more than to prepare a box for their orphanage.

Now is the time to do some valuable reading. The library here offers splendid advantages to teachers and officers in all parts of the county. Although there is not a large number of books, they are the very best to be had in every department. The rough days and long winter evenings give us time to become well informed along the lines of work in which we are most interested. The teacher or officer who fails to read the best and latest literature touching his or her work will soon become uninteresting and inefficient. The library is now kept at the association office by calling or writing for them. If you have no catalogue, tell us in what department you are interested and you will find a book that will help you.

The cradle roll and home departments should receive attention at the season of the year. Remember the children and the older ones as well. No person ever gets too old to appreciate a Christmas remembrance.

Some of our Sunday schools have prepared honor rolls of the boys who are in their country's service. Whether your school has done this or not, the boys from your community who are away at the camps now will be happy to hear from their friends back home.

The Sunday school should not lose this opportunity to carry a Christmas message of love and cheer to those who will be denied the pleasure of a Christmas with their own at home.

It required but 1 hour and 43 minutes for a jury in the supreme court at Mineola, N. Y., last Saturday night to reach a verdict of not guilty in the trial of Mrs. Blanca de Sautes for the murder of her divorced husband last August.

WAR THRIFT STAMPS

Anyone Can Save Money and Help Uncle Sam Win the War

Postmaster E. R. Ross has received a supply of war thrift stamps and war savings certificates for Asheboro and the different postoffices in the county.

The plan is easy even for boys and girls to lay away a little money and get compound interest on it from Uncle Sam. The war thrift stamps are now on sale for twenty-five cents each. When one of these is purchased a card is given the purchaser on which are spaces for sixteen stamps, which would amount to four dollars. The thrift stamps are pasted on this card and when it is full the thrift cards are turned in at the postoffice and a war savings certificate is secured in return. The four dollar card, if turned in during December or January will buy a war savings certificate, with twelve cents additional. This card will be redeemed on January 1, 1923 for five dollars cash. If the card is not filled during this and next month one cent for each month will be added when turned into a war savings certificate. For instance, the five dollar certificate will sell for \$412 in January, \$413 in February and so on.

These cards are gotten out for the benefit of the small savings funds, which are not enough probably to buy a Liberty Bond with and they pay a splendid rate of interest. It is being urged that parents fill out thrift cards and present their children with war savings certificates for Christmas presents, instead of giving them presents of equal value that will be used up or torn up by the time the holidays are over. Dime savings banks and penny banks can be opened and stamps placed in thrift stamps, and thus little stores of money can be made to draw interest for the little folks, which in a few years will be paid to them in cash. The opportunity is open to everybody to invest small savings in this way, such money as is usually kept idle because of its small amounts, and any person can purchase certificates up to one thousand dollars worth.

Anyone desiring further information can secure same by calling on Postmaster Ross or any of the other postmasters in the county after they have received the supplies. Col. F. H. Fries, of Winston-Salem, is state chairman.

The Holy City Has Fallen

Jerusalem, after being surrounded on all sides by the British troops has surrendered. The British officially entered the city last Monday accompanied by the French officers. The capture of this city by the British forces marks the end, with two brief interludes, of more than 1200 years possession of the seat of the Christian religion by the Mohammedans.

Mrs. T. E. Kirkman at Pleasant Garden Dead

Mrs. T. E. Kirkman, widow of the late Elwood Kirkman, died at her home near Pleasant Garden Friday evening after a short illness. The deceased was 62 years of age and one of the most highly respected people of the community. The funeral was held at Pleasant Garden church Sunday morning at 11 o'clock.

U. S. Destroyer Sunk By German U-Boat

Seventy-six lives are believed to have gone down with the American destroyer Jacob Jones, torpedoed and sunk in the war zone by a German submarine last Thursday night.

Commander David Worth Bagley is among those who were saved.

Arsenic Supply Will Be Needed for Insecticides

In placing the arsenic industry under the control of the food administration, the President has acted in answer to the threatened shortage in the supply of arsenical insecticides.

Since arsenic is the active agent in potato-bug poison, the farmer is dependent upon an adequate supply of arsenic compounds for combating the potato bug. It is considered important that a supply of white arsenic be available to meet the needs next year for grasshopper control. It is also necessary for control of cutworms and army worms.

Eastern Conference of M. E. Church Closed

The Eastern conference of the Methodist Episcopal church was in session at Greenville last week closed Monday with a stirring patriotic service in behalf of the American soldiers and sailors.

The following are the presiding officers for the different districts: Durham district, J. C. Wooten; Elizabeth City district, G. T. Adams; Fayetteville district, J. T. Glass.

The ministers in whom the vestments of the Center will be worn, the following places:

Sanford—W. R. Royal.
Beaufort—R. F. Bumpass.
Kinston—Queen Street, J. H. Tuttle; Caswell Street, Daniel Jones.
Garner circuit—E. B. Craven.
Louisburg—N. H. D. Wilson.
Raleigh—Central, D. N. Caviness; Euten Street, M. Evanson.
Editor Nashville Christian Advocate—T. M. Ivey.
Rockingham—G. F. Smith.
Weldon—M. E. Fisher.
Rocky Mount—First Church, E. C. Craven.
Washington—D. H. Tuttle.
Wallace and Rose Hill—M. D. Hicks.

The battlements of France do not provide the horrible parallel to scenes witnessed at Halifax.

DISTRICT EXEMPTION BOARD MET LAST FRIDAY

At the meeting of the District Exemption Board of the Western District of North Carolina last Friday the following persons were exempted:

Exemptions granted comprise the following: Henry Grady Redding, Cedar Falls; William Henry Fox, Randleman; Elsie Cleveland Luther, Eleazer; Connie Lee Alfred, Franklinville; John Dexter Graves, Ramseur; Edward L. Hedrick, Asheboro; Bethuel Clarkson Cox, Ramseur; Clarence Bynum Adams, Randleman; Jeffrey Clyde Loftin, Edgar; John Sylvester Cooper, Pleasant Garden; Jeffrey Dael Farlow, Randleman; James Henry McBride; Ramseur; Samuel Williams, Seagrave; John Emory Taylor, High Point; Charles Carpenter Barker, Trinity; George Washington Field, Climax; Dias Spencer Moore, Complex; Earl Franklin Bulla, Asheboro; Calvin Bird, Asheboro; Hurley Edmond Halthcock, Cedar Falls; William Madison Hayes, Randleman; Charles C. Ward, Warrenton; Henry Herbert Bunting, Asheboro; Dillie Reeves, Rachel; John Alexander Curtis, Climax; William B. Henshaw, Worthville; William Rufus Luther, Strieby; Clayton Max Newberry, Liberty; Robert Early Moffitt, Ramseur; James G. Royals, Thomasville; Walter Smith, Meadows; William Manly Ashworth, Asheboro; Dewey Williams, Seagrave; Virgil Martin Aldridge, Millboro; Samuel Alexander Frazier, Randleman; William Harvey Bulla, Randleman; Irvin Stacey Keavans, Babin; Clifton Nixon, Millboro; Troy Richardson, Ramseur; John Curtis Liberty; Eugene Farlow, Seagrave; Clifton R. Hinchshaw, Randleman; Nathaniel Irvin Cox, Ramseur; Ollie Merritt Kennett, Liberty; William Charles Mangum, Alfred, Asheboro; Elmer Vernon Hix, Rachel; Joseph Elisha Alfred, Randleman; Burnett Irvin Parham, Franklinville; June Carol Freeman, Julian; Daniel Robert Bulla, Sophia; William Clarence Scotten, Climax; Clarence Monroe Nason, Climax, and Thomas Roscoe Parker.

Exemption claims were refused to the following: Verius Reynolds Hodgkin, Ramseur; Woosley Edwyn Marley, Ramseur; William Poole, Jr., Franklinville; Thomas Jesse Osborne, Trinity; Marvin Lewis Small, Randleman; William Brown Lowe, Edgar; Floyd Franklin Craven, Ramseur; John E. Hodgkin, Ramseur; Jeremiah William McLeod, Strieby; Albert Herman Hill, Caraway; Rufus Young Blanchard, Seagrave; Charles Anthony Sheffield, Randleman; James Vernon Siler, Ramseur; Pearl Goldston, Ramseur; Alphonso Hayes, Ramseur; Alfred Chalmers Brooks, Ramseur; Theodore Redding Alfred Cedar Falls; Parker Holmes Laughlin, Randleman; Claude Edgar Williamson, Franklinville; Jonah Andrew Hancock, New Hope; John Franklin Hancock, Franklinville.

President Wilson's Red Cross Proclamation

Ten million new members in a week! That is the goal the American Red Cross has set for itself in its Christmas membership campaign that is to be launched December 16. Throughout the United States Red Cross chapters are preparing for the enrollment of the new army which is to stand as the organized support of the boys in the trenches.

No man is more deeply concerned in the world war than President Wilson—who is also president of the Red Cross—and this is his proclamation:

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ten million Americans are invited to join the American Red Cross during the week ending with Christmas Eve. The times require that every branch of our great national effort shall be loyally upheld, and it is peculiarly fitting that at the Christmas season the Red Cross should be the branch through which your willingness to help is expressed.

You should join the American Red Cross, because it alone can carry the pledges of Christmas good will to those who are bearing for us the real burdens of the war and, both in our own Army and Navy and in the nations upon whose territory the issues of the world-war are being fought out. Your evidence of faith in this work is necessary for their heartening and cheer.

You should join the Red Cross because this arm of the National service is steadily and efficiently maintaining its overseas relief in every suffering land; administering our millions wisely and well and awakening the gratitude of every people.

Our consciences will not let us enjoy the Christmas season if this pledge of support to our cause and the world's weal is left unfulfilled. Red Cross membership is the Christian spirit in terms of action.

(Signed) WOODROW WILSON,
President of the American Red Cross

Congress Passes Resolution Declaring War With Austria-Hungary and President Signs It

War between the United States and Austria-Hungary was formally declared last Friday. The response of Congress to the President's request in his address Tuesday is similar to that passed April 6 declaring war with Germany.

After but one hour's debate the resolution was unanimously adopted by the Senate with an affirmative vote of 74. It was approved by the House, 363 to 1. A few minutes later Vice President Marshall and Speaker Clark had signed the document and sent it to the White House where it was signed by President Wilson.