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BATTLE FLEET BACK FROM NORTH SEA IN REVIEW IN HEAVY SNOWSTORM; MONSTER SHIPS OF NAVY REACH PORT AT 9 A. M.

Daniels on Presidential Yacht Sees Craft Pass In From Anchorage Opposite Bartholdi Statue—Mightiest Units of American Armada Pass Through Narrows While Thick-Falling Flakes Blind Spectators to Bulk of the Big Squadron—Street Parade of Men Who Stood Ready Behind Guns Germany's Navy Dared Not Face. Illumination of Men-of-War in Evening—Destroyers and Air Scouts Lead Them In

(By the United Press)

New York, Dec. 26.—In a swirling snowstorm the American fleet coming home from the war passed through the narrow straits shortly after 9 o'clock this morning.

The Gloucester, a low flying airplane and two destroyers preceded the first of the big dreadnaughts. The snowstorm created a condition of low visibility shrouding all but the nearest battleships from the watchers who thronged the shores on both sides of the narrows.

Secretary Daniels, reviewing the ships from the yacht Mayflower, dropped anchor off the Statue of Liberty at 9:30. The ships anchored in Hudson River at 10:30.

Tugs carried the men ashore from the ships for a parade. The parade started at 1:30. It passed the reviewing stand at 2:30. The fleet will be illuminated at 7 p. m. A dance at the 71st Regiment armory will be held at 7:30.

In the fleet, which is commanded by Admiral Henry T. Mayo, are the following ships: Pennsylvania (flagship), New York, Texas, Arkansas, Wyoming, Nevada, Arizona, Oklahoma, Florida and Utah. The Utah and New York are division flagships.

Britain Will Care for Her Soldiers' Graves in Distant Countries

(By the United Press)

London, Dec. 14 (By Mail).—Beautification and care of thousands of cemeteries in every part of the world will be undertaken by Great Britain as one of her after-the-war duties.

Plans for the work already are being worked out by the imperial war graves commission which recently sent to France Sir Frederick Kenyon, director of the British Museum. Kenyon, who made a survey of the situation, made recommendations for laying out and care of the cemeteries which the commission adopted.

No private memorials will be permitted in the cemeteries. Headstones will be identical for men and officers alike as memorials of equal sacrifice. A corps of architects and landscape gardeners soon will be sent to France to plan the central memorial for each cemetery and decide on plans for its care and beautification.

It is planned to erect in each cemetery a cross and another monument which, it is proposed, will be "one great, fair stone of fine proportions, 12 feet in length, lying raised upon three steps, of which the first and third shall be twice the width of the second, and that each stone shall bear, in indelible lettering, some thoughts or words of sacred dedication." This stone in each cemetery will be near the eastern boundary.

Arrangements will be made in all cemeteries in which Indians are buried to conform to their caste and creed practices.

Although the majority of British soldiers fell in France and Belgium, cemeteries will number hundreds in other lands, some of which are Mesopotamia, Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Gallipoli, Malta, Mudros, Gibraltar, Bulgaria, Italy, Cyprus and China.

It is expected work of establishing the cemeteries will require several years. Because of the fact that thousands of Britishers were buried where they fell in France and Belgium, the work will be made most complex. In some cases it will be impossible to transfer the battlefield graves.

EMANCIPATION DAY.

Kinston's colored residents will celebrate Emancipation Day January 1 after a lapse of several years. A parade and exercises will be held.

Kansas Became Great Soldier State After One War; What Now?

(By the United Press)

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 26.—As the Kansas boys begin to come back from the war, and the problem of placing them on the Kansas farms, already pretty thickly populated, is considered, the boys' fathers are telling how it was done when they returned from the war, following demobilization of the Union army.

The conversation usually leads to the conclusion that there is no land left in Kansas for settlement by the returning soldier who has little besides his strength and determination as capital.

There is some land still unhome-steaded in the extreme west part of the State, but it is not suitable for farming. Some of it might be made suitable by irrigation, but no young man who needs to farm for a living could afford to do the irrigating. It would have to be undertaken with public money, and it is fairly certain that there won't be a lot of public money available for the purpose when the boys get home—as they already are getting home.

The farms from which most of the Kansas boys went will reabsorb most of them without much difficulty, just as most of the rest of the country will reabsorb most of its quota of soldiers, leaving the unemployment problem not much worse than it was before the war, after peace conditions have taken the place of war conditions. The question of displacing woman labor is not so important in Kansas as in the manufacturing states.

When the boys came back in the '60's Kansas was practically all virgin prairie, and the homestead law offered the returning troops such inducements to take up claims in the new country that they swept into the State like a flood. Kansas had sent to the Union army more soldiers than she had voters, without the use of conscription. When those who were left alive from the 16 Kansas regiments returned, they were accompanied by tens of thousands of strangers.

The Kansas State Historical Society estimates there were 150,000 war veterans in the State in 1885. Other thousands had come and gone during the 20 years between the close of the war and that date. Many had been chased back East during the first few years of their settlement by armies of grasshoppers that foraged the country much more thoroughly than any of the boys in blue had foraged the invaded South.

Kansas was distinctively a soldier State. With the energy and enthusiasm of returning conquerors who had been given a chance, they broke out the prairie, built roads, made their humble homes, and turned a desert of coarse grass into a garden empire. The land some of the late comers paid \$5 an acre for now sells for from \$250 an acre up. There were no bolsheviks among those returning soldiers, and nobody worried about the social, economic, or industrial unrest that might follow their demobilization. There was land enough for all, and the terms were most liberal. Their only unrest was that caused by rain dripping through their shanty roofs.

In 1881, when the old soldier rule was practically complete in Kansas, 90 per cent. of the legislature was composed of old soldiers, and the same class of citizens held practically all the city and county offices in the State. The old boys have retired from most of the public offices now, and are ready to turn them over to the new returning army. Meantime the men who were too young for the first war and too old for the last one, and perhaps had their hands in the little Spanish-Philippine episode, have been helping the old boys hold on till the young fellows get back from Germany.

BULLETINS

(By the United Press)

CRITICAL TIMES.
Washington, Dec. 26.—Bloody fighting occurred at Berlin around the royal palace Tuesday, according to French diplomatic officials today declared. Sailors hurled bombs into the palace and adjoining buildings. At 11 a. m. a truce was called. The dead numbered 68. Many were wounded.

WILSON REACHES DOVER.
Dover, Dec. 26.—President Wilson arrived here today from France on his way to London.

PRESIDENT REVIEWS EIGHT THOUSAND OF A. E. F. VETERANS

Tells Sammie's Country's Proud of 'Em; Dines With Officers

WAS DRAMATIC MOMENT

When Chief Executive Stood Before Conquering Troops—Visit to Billets—Old Woman With Flowers Held Up Party

(By the United Press)

London, Dec. 26.—England is ready to give President Wilson the greatest welcome ever accorded a distinguished visitor or conquering hero. This is a holiday throughout Britain—"Boxing Day." The London police are prepared to handle the biggest and most exuberant crowds since the victory celebration. The crowds were out early, filling the streets through which the President will ride.

(By Webb Miller)

With the Army of Occupation, by Courier to Nancy, Dec. 25.—A vast sea of tin hats, wave on wave, swept past President Wilson as he reviewed 8,000 American troops at Langres today. He told the officers they would get the kind of peace they fought for and that everybody at home was proud of them and just waiting for the chance to acclaim the soldiers conquering heroes on their return.

The men represented many divisions. It was a dramatic moment—one of the most dramatic in history—when the President of the United States stood before the American boys who had come so far from home to fight and win and congratulated them on their victory.

After wishing the troops a happy New Year, remarking upon having had to bid them a merry Christmas so far from home, the President had dinner with the officers of the 26th Division. All present wore decorations.

Then there was a long motor trip in the rain, with occasional flurries of snow and flickers of sunshine. The President visited soldiers' billets. He was cheered all along the route by the inhabitants. The party halted once when an old French woman appeared carrying flowers for Mrs. Wilson.

THEY WEAR GOLD STRIPES.

Bryant Ipeck, wounded in the stomach, and W. H. Heath, minus an arm, passed through the city recently en route to their homes at Cove City from overseas. They were among thousands of wounded who returned on recent convoys.

MR. LEWIS' SANTA CLAUS LETTER TO THE PARENTS OF BOYS AWAITING DISCHARGES

(By E. B. Lewis)

I have had many requests from mothers to assist in securing discharges from the service for their sons. I think the difficulties encountered and the reasons for vexatious delays in so doing can be best shown by relating my own experience with the secretary of the navy. Following is a copy of a telegram and the reply:

"Hon. Josephus Daniels,
Washington.

"My son Donovan, private, 402nd Co., T. Battalion, Marine Corps, Paris Island, S. C., has applied for discharge in order to continue course at university. He writes this morning that he cannot get leave Christmas because he has applied for discharge. Please have discharge issued by the 22nd or instruct commanding officer there to give him furlough.

"ELISHA B. LEWIS."
December 19, 1918.

"My dear Mr. Lewis:
"I have your telegram of today asking for the discharge of your son from the naval service.
"I have already given orders that the young men who desired to go

There's Big Work to Be Done Overseas; Two Big Tunnels Planned

(By the United Press)

London, Dec. 11 (By Mail).—Railroad tunnels under the straits of Dover and Gibraltar are projected as part of English and European reconstruction. Plans already have been prepared.

It also is proposed to construct a railroad from Gibraltar along the northwestern coast of Africa to Dakar, Cape Verde, or Bathurst.

This, it is planned, would make possible steamboat connection with Brazil by which a traveler could go from the Mediterranean to South American in five days. Connections from England and France would be almost as quick.

WILL BE CHANGE IN STATUS OF GUARD

(By the United Press)

Washington, Dec. 26.—That the general staff's recommendations for the country's future military preparedness will not include the use of the national guard is the belief of some War Department groups. The practical killing of the national guard through the decision of Acting-Judge-Advocate Ansell will necessitate the substitution of another method of reorganization of the guard in practically all states.

ELOPERS ARE ARRESTED AND MAN LOCKED UP.

Bowden, Dec. 26.—Ed. Cooke, 28-year-old white man who eloped Saturday night with 13-year-old Gladys Baars, daughter of Daniel Baars, has been arrested and placed in jail at Goldsboro to await trial on the charge of seduction.

Cooke and the girl left Bowden in a buggy Saturday afternoon. It was discovered about 7:30 Saturday night that they had gone and a search was instituted. They were seen walking on the railroad during the forenoon Sunday. Monday night officers saw the couple get on the train at Genova, four miles below Goldsboro. The girl took a seat in one end of the coach and Cooke at the other end. The officers took the pair into custody.

THANKS CITIZENS FOR SERVICES RENDERED IN WAR-SAVINGS CAMPAIGN.

(Special to The Free Press)

Winston-Salem, Dec. 26.—While the work of the war-savings campaign is to be continued until January 1, Col. F. H. Fries, State director, took Christmas as the occasion to express his appreciation to the citizens of North Carolina for the services they have rendered in the campaign throughout the year. He says that while the amount of money called for in the State's allotment has not yet been raised, the campaign is a success. The value of its thrift and other uplifting influences is worth all of the effort and expense that it has cost.

NO MOB VIOLENCE; NEGRO MURDERER IS SAFELY IN PRISON

Grapevine Rumors Discounted by Sheriff at Snow Hill—Positive James Warren Alive and at Greenville

"James Warren is in the Pitt County jail at Greenville. Reliable persons who have been there to see him have so informed me," declared Sheriff J. E. Herring of Greene County to The Free Press Thursday. Talking over long distance from Snow Hill, the officer stated that Warren would be kept at Greenville until the time of the trial in Greene County.

Warren last week shot and fatally wounded J. Denver Hughes, white merchant at Lizzie, Warren is colored. The shooting occurred over a trivial account. Hughes died soon after being shot. Warren was at large until Tuesday.

Rumors of quiet disposition of Warren or his body as early as last Saturday have interested persons in Lenoir, Greene and Pitt counties.

There has been no lynching, Sheriff Herring asserted to The Free Press. "Saturday, I think it was, through the instrumentality of Greene County searchers two negroes were arrested in Pitt. The sheriff of Pitt and Judge H. W. Whedbee of Superior Court drove to the place where the men were taken and told whites gathered there that these men would assist in locating Warren if they were not troubled. The possemen assured them that violence was not intended and that all they wanted was the apprehension and trial of the negro.

"The search was unsuccessful. Rain came on and hindered it. Finally, Tuesday morning, I was notified of the arrest of Warren and his commitment to jail at Greenville. He was positively identified. The same two negroes may have aided in his apprehension."

Sheriff Herring is positive there has been no violence and that none was intended. It seemed that from a short time after the crime the people of Greene were bent only upon bringing the slayer to trial. Herring himself is of this opinion, stating it in a professed conservative mood.

Three Stills Raided Before Christmas; M. D. Leads One Posse

Three pre-holiday raids on moonshine stills were reported by the Sheriff's office here. One in South-west Township, where a cold plant was located, was reported Monday, the others Tuesday afternoon.

Dr. J. M. Hodges, prominent Moseley Hall physician, his two sons and another man destroyed a plant on Dr. Hodges' farm. It was located within 400 yards of the physician's residence, in spite of which fact the operators were not identified. The still was cold when the "posse" raided it. They had been formally deputized by the Sheriff here.

The LaGrange police engineered a raid near that town. Sheriff Taylor Thursday said Winfield Rouse, William Rouse, Doc. Grady and Thomas Hill were at the still and that warrants had been issued for them. One of the party was named as the suspected operator.

AMERICAN AGRICULTURAL "MOVIES" SENT TO RUSSIA.

Washington, Dec. 26.—The Department of Agriculture has supplied to the Committee on Public Information more than 20 motion pictures showing agricultural production, highway construction and forest work in this country, to be sent to Russia, at the request of the Russian Primorskoye Provincial Zemstvo, for use in depicting the advanced practices in these activities in America.

81ST DIVISION SUFFERED BIG LOSSES AT THE LAST.

Wilmington, Dec. 25.—In a letter to his wife here Lieut. J. H. Salling speaks with horror of the losses suffered by the "Wildcats" or 81st Division in the last two days of the war, right on up to 11 o'clock on the 11th of November. In the last few hours Capt. Joseph S. Loughlin and Lieut. W. Gregory Davis of Wilmington lost their lives.

KINSTON NEVER HAD BETTER CHRISTMAS; QUIET, BRIGHT DAY

Good Cheer and Peace; No Accidents; Beady Beverage Banished

KEPT WITHOUT BLEMISH

More Happiness Than Ever Before—Sammy Was Home and Santa Claus Was Generous—Health Situation Better

It was the quietest Christmas Kinston ever had, and probably the happiest. The weather was bright and the temperature moderate. In the average home there was "more of Christmas" than a year ago. And hundreds of walking Christmas presents stalked around, back from the camps. Last-hour shoppers Tuesday riddled the store stocks.

There were almost no drunks, and almost no disorder. The elixir of jags was extraordinarily scarce, and the price of the small available supplies almost fabulous. The police blotter's December 25 page was most uninteresting. It may be that the dozens of stills raided in the past three months reduced the moonshining fraternity's facilities until little whisky could be made for the holidays, although it had been said by some authorities that plants were plentiful enough. Anyway, something happened to keep the juice from would-be consumers.

Fireworks also were comparatively scarce. Young Kinston was all but deprived of a favorite holiday diversion. Such as were obtainable were of the harmless sort. Nowhere in Lenoir County was a shooting through malice or by accident reported.

There was much journeying to and fro on trains. Hundreds came in to spend the day and other hundreds went away to visit relatives and friends at other places.

No time for dancing. Christmas eve the manager of a South Kinston dance hall for negroes notified Police Chief Hamilton that the hall would be closed at midnight for a one-hour intermission as per custom, reopening at 1 o'clock.

"No," said Chief Hamilton, "we're not going to work it exactly that way this time. We'll close at midnight, and then at 1 o'clock we'll not reopen." He added something about not desiring any cuttings and shootings. So there was no trouble in that vicinity, although the manager, William Dixon, colored, did get pinched later for carrying a gun.

Remember This! The holidays from now until New Year's will be quietly kept here. The public is apparently keeping in mind the Health Bureau's warning against public gatherings. It seems that the influenza is getting no worse if it is not actually improving, and the health authorities say that by foregoing a few pleasures the public may escape a second tragic epidemic.

Question of Camions; French Railroads May Get Tough Competition

(By the United Press)

Paris, Dec. 6 (By Mail).—What will become of the thousands of military automobiles and trucks now in France? is a question frequently heard. It is possible, according to some sources, that the French transportation system may be practically revolutionized by use of the famous camions.

The French army alone has thousands of big trucks, which not only carried supplies, but dashed from one part of the front to another with troops. Should these trucks be turned to peaceful pursuits, railway traffic would be reduced greatly. It is likely they will play a big part in the work of reconstruction, at least.

CZECHO-SLOVAK COINS.

London, Dec. 14 (By Mail).—British mint officials are interested in plans of the Czecho-Slovak nation for new coinage. The coins will be based on the French franc.