

DEMobilIZATION AT HIGH RECORD

Average Daily Discharge of Men From Service in This Country Has Reached 27,000.

MANY AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR ARE RELEASED

General Pershing Believes Very Few United States Soldiers are Now Held in German Camps.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 21.—With a total of 188,562 men discharged from the army for the week ending December 14, General March announced today that the war department had about reached an average of 30,000 daily for which demobilization plans called.

On a seven day basis the average per week was 27,000 men per day, but in many cases demobilization officers did not operate on Sunday.

Additional units in this country designated for early demobilization brings the total number of men selected to 990,500, General March announced.

Up to the date of the latest official report 26,593 officers had been honorably discharged.

General Pershing has reported that 3,210 American prisoners of war were repatriated up to December 16. Of these, 2,653 came through Switzerland; 324 passed through the American front lines; 120 went through Holland and 113 through Denmark.

Those passing through Holland and Denmark are now en route to England, discharges said.

General Pershing has expressed the opinion that very few American prisoners remain in Germany and believes these will be quickly evacuated.

He said a continued search is being made of isolated prisons, British and French officers in Switzerland, Holland and Sweden, and in Germany itself, aiding in this search.

W S S

BOB WHITES KILLED BY SEVERE WINTERY WEATHER

Could Not Get Food in December, 1917, and January, 1918—Thousands Frozen.

"Bob whites—quail they are called in the north and partridges in the south—were never scarcer in the tide-water counties of Virginia than this year," J. W. M. Green, one of the most prominent sportsmen of northern Virginia, tells the Washington Post.

"One can tramp all day without seeing a feather. At first blush this may appear astonishing when it is remembered that these incomparable game birds were never more plentiful than last year. The explanation of their scarcity is to be found in the severity of the winter of 1917-18, the most rigorous of my time. The bob white under ordinary conditions is the hardiest of birds. But he must have food to withstand hard weather. He could not get food through the months of December and January and part of February of last winter because of the snow and sleet. Very little small grain is raised in the tide-water counties of Virginia now, and through the months I have mentioned the ground was covered not only by snow, but by a hard crust caused by the occasional thaws and freezes and almost invariably followed. Pot hunters tramping the woods in March found time and again whole coveys of these valiant little birds frozen stiff in the fence corners and under pine scrubs. Not having been able to scratch thru the hard crust that covered the snow in the fields and woods for seeds, they had been unable to obtain the food that might have enabled them to withstand the bitter cold and zero weather.

"The destruction of coveys that were not frozen to death by such furred marauders as foxes, minks and weasels and farmyard cats, and wild hunters, was made easy by the weak condition of the half-starved birds. Then, too, they were taken by hundreds by hawks and owls. But there need not be any scarcity of bob whites next season if gunners will let the few that survived last winter alone to breed in the spring and summer. Bob whites are prolific breeders, and in such times as these they raise two broods a year. As a matter of fact they should be protected in Maryland and Virginia by law. But since the legislatures of the states are not in session their protection is entirely up to the sportsmen. The birds we have left are in no danger from pot hunters.

Virginia's new laws, which prohibit the shipping of game out of the state, have not a stop to the activities of the pot hunters. These laws are conscientiously and effectively enforced by capable game wardens. To prevent loss thru starvation in the future should be the work of the American Game Propagation and Protective association and similar organizations. The association I have named has ample revenues. Its membership is 500,000. The central and state officers have only to send reminders to farmers everywhere to scatter small grain, or cracked corn in lieu of small grain, in fence corners and under blackberry bushes in covers and under the birds are known to use when snow is on the ground, and the birds will do the rest.

W S S

HOW HE ENDED KIDNEY TROUBLE.

"I had a severe kidney trouble and for three weeks could not get out of doors and scarcely out of bed," writes C. E. Brewer, Village Springs, Ala. "Could not bend over at all without the most excruciating pains. I purchased a bottle of Foley's Kidney Pills. Was relieved after the first few doses and continued their use until completely cured. I consider Foley's Kidney Pills the best kidney remedy in the world. No recurrence of my trouble."—Sold everywhere.

PERMANENT RANK ASKED FOR OFFICERS

Secretary Baker Wants Permanent Ranks Bestowed on Pershing, Bliss, March, Bullard and Liggett.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Bestowal of permanent rank of general on Pershing, commander of the American forces in France, Peyton March, chief of staff and Tasker Bliss, American representative at the supreme war council, and permanent rank of lieutenant general on Hunter Liggett and Robert Bullard, commanding the first and second American armies, was asked by Secretary Baker today in a letter to Chairman Dent of the house military committee.

W S S

THIRTIETH IS AT LE MANS NOW

War Department Announces That the 30th Division is Located at Le Mans—The Location of Other Divisions Are Given Out.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The exact location of 35 combat divisions and six depot divisions of the American army in France, German and Luxembourg burmas they were stationed on the 28th day of November were announced today by the war department.

The announcement includes the 30th division which was at Le Mans.

The 30th division is one in which so many North Carolina men are located. A number of North Carolina troops are with this division which has borne some of the brunt of the stubborn fighting of the later days of the war.

W S S

WILSON IS OPPOSED DESTROYING SHIPS

Word Came from Paris that American Delegates and British Advocated Such Destruction.

SOME NAVAL OFFICERS WERE FAVORABLE TO THIS

Reason Was the Incorporation of German Construction Into Crafts of Other Navies.

(By the Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 23.—It may be stated authoritatively that President Wilson will oppose proposals from any source of the sinking of the surplus surrendered by Germany under the terms of the armistice.

Word came from Paris that American delegates to the peace conference with British support intended to advocate the destruction of enemy vessels to avoid contention over their distribution, and the subject has been discussed with much interest among American and allied naval officers here.

Some officers found reasons for support of such a course, particularly in the incorporation into the main fleet of German construction.

W S S

AFTER FIFTEEN YEARS JIM WILCOX PARDONED

During the Fifteen Years He Had Never Denied Nor Confessed the Murder.

EASTON MEANS WANTS TO TELL IT

Concord Man Appears Before Senator Sherman's Committee and Expresses Desire to Tell What He Knows of German Propaganda.

Washington, Dec. 20.—Most of today's session of the senate committee investigating German propaganda was taken up with this between Alfred L. Becker, assistant attorney general of New York, and Senator Reed, of Missouri, who is not a member of the committee.

Gaston B. Means, who formerly was employed by Von Bernstorff as a secret agent and later acquitted of the murder of Mrs. Maude King, at Concord, N. C., appeared today and asked Chairman Sherman to be permitted to tell what he knew of German propaganda. He was accompanied by William J. Burns.

Senator Reed, in cross-examining the New York official, who had been on the stand two days, charged that Merton E. Lewis, attorney general of New York, and Becker misused their official positions in making public information contained in affidavits secured by them under special war legislation. These affidavits referred to alleged meetings of William Randolph Hearst with Bolo Pasha, executed in France as a traitor, and former Ambassador von Bernstorff.

Becker Denies Charge

Mr. Becker died the charge, saying that the affidavits made public here were not secured under the special legislation. He said that certain disclosures supporting to show association of Hearst and Bolo were made public "for what I frankly admit were political purposes." He justified this course on the ground that their publications was in the public interest.

The information under discussion was given to New York newspapers mainly in August, September and October, when Becker was a candidate for the Republican nomination for attorney general of New York state and Attorney General Lewis was a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor against Charles S. Whitman. It appears from the cross-examination that Hearst was considered a supporter of Whitman, and Senator Reed sought to show that Lewis and Becker intended to damage Whitman by attacking Hearst.

Senator Reed read from a New York newspaper of July 31, 1917, a story telling of Bolo Pasha's attentions to a Metropolitan opera singer whose relations with Bolo were declared by Becker to be entirely blameless. In this story was a letter from Bolo to the singer mentioning "my friend, Mrs. Millicent Hearst."

Mr. Becker admitted having given to the papers the statement containing this letter.

Sharp Questions and Answers

"What was the purpose of giving it out at this particular time?" inquired Senator Reed.

"It was an interesting item of news which I thought the public would be glad to read," Mr. Becker replied smiling.

"Was there no purpose to connect Hearst with Bolo?"

"I had regarded the purpose to show the connection of Hearst with German propagandists as more interesting to the public than disclosure of Bolo's attentions to the opera singer."

Becker added, shouting to drown Senator Reed's voice: "I think it should have been done a long time before."

Senator King, of Utah, then asked: "Did you attempt to prejudice the public against Whitman by showing his connection with Hearst?"

Mr. Becker replied: "It was Lewis campaign committee which did this."

When the cross-questioning was interrupted by adjournment, to be resumed tomorrow morning, Senator Reed asked Mr. Becker to produce vouchers showing expenses incurred by state service agents in obtaining depositions in the investigation of Bolo's activities in the United States. The witness stated with heat that he would "do a such thing" as they were confidential.

W S S

GERMANY HOLDING BACK SUBMARINES

Reported That U-157 Has Been Cruising Off the Norwegian Coast—Has Record of Four and Half Months' Cruise Without Making Port.

Paris, Dec. 24.—(Havas Agency.)—The Germans have not completely complied with the clause of the armistice providing for the delivery of all submarines, according to the Matin. The newspaper points out particularly in this connection the presence at Trondheim on the Norwegian coast of the submarine cruiser U-157. This is a vessel of most recent displacement of 1,800 tons, credited with having made a cruise of four and a half months without making port.

W S S

CUT THIS OUT—ITS WORTH MONEY.

DON'T MISS THIS. Cut out this slip, enclose with 6c and mail it to Foley & Co., 2835 Sheffield Ave., Chicago, Ill., writing your name and address clearly. You will receive in return a trial package containing Foley's Honey and Tar Compound, for coughs, colds and croup; Foley's Kidney Pills for pain in sides and back; rheumatism, backache, kidney and bladder ailments; and Foley's Cathartic Tablets, a wholesome and thoroughly cleansing cathartic, for constipation, biliousness, headache and sluggish bowels.—Sold everywhere.

TO GUARD AGAINST INFLUENZA

Don't let the dread influenza get you. If you have even the slightest cough or cold better being using Foley's Honey and Tar at once. Henry Willis, Sandy Point, Texas, is one of many thousands who consider this remedy "just fine." He says: "I suffered severely with a bad cough; after using four or five dollars' worth of different medicines decided to try Foley's Honey and Tar. One bottle gave relief. Best medicine I ever used." Contains no opiates.—Sold everywhere.

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W S S

REVENUE BILL PASSES SENATE

Bill to Raise Billions of Dollars to Pay For the War Is Passed by the Senate and Must Now Go to Conference.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Without a record vote, the senate late tonight passed the war revenue bill reduced to raise about \$6,000,000 in 1919 and \$1,900,000,000 in 1920, as compared with the levy of \$8,200,000,000 for next year, proposed in the bill passed by the house three months ago.

RED CROSS ROLL CALL IS OVER

Twenty Six Hundred New Members and a Good Many Unreported at Make-Up Today.

WILL RUN GOOD MANY BEYOND THESE FIGURES

Salisbury Enrolled More This Year Than Last With Numerous Reports Due.

The Christmas Red Cross Roll Call closed last night with a total enrollment of 2690 new members. This is not a complete report, however, as the returns from Spencer shops, Coal Mine, Landis, Woodleaf, Cleveland, Rockwell, Gold Hill, Mt. Ulla and the Livingston auxiliary are not all in and with the new members that will come in from those points it is predicted that the enrollment will pass the 4000 mark. Salisbury has enrolled more new members this Christmas than during the last Roll Call.

The following is the report to date: Miss Sallie Klattz, captain, 612 South Ward.

Mrs. W. A. Goodman, captain, 299 North Ward.

Mrs. Pritchard Carlton, captain, 214 East Ward.

Mrs. Smith Foushee, captain, 276 Livingston Auxiliary.

Total for Salisbury 1349

Report of Salisbury Branches:

Salisbury 1349

Spencer 213

China Grove 287

Enochville 177

Unity 91

Patterson School 81

Mill Bridge 61

Granite Quarry 48

East Spencer 49

Union Church 37

Saw 19

Cleveland 19

Rockwell 15

South Rowan 14

South River, Franklin 20

Faith 12

Cleveland (colored) 10

Liberty 9

Miranda 4

Bear Pond 3

Gold Hill 3

Mt. Ulla 3

Grand Total to date 2690

W S S

BAPTISTS GAINED 5875 NEW MEMBERS IN 1918.

Splendid Report Will Be Made to the State Convention at Raleigh Next Month.

Raleigh, Dec. 23.—When the North Carolina Baptist convention meets in Greensboro in January, it will have 5,875 more members than it had last year and 28 additional churches.

Moreover, it will be in pocket \$60,351.95 which isn't an inconsiderable sum. These gains all have been made in the face of influenza which stopped the church work more than a month and the government did the churches a bad turn in its coal restrictions last spring. There are 65 associations with 2,191 churches. The membership is 13,268, which is a loss of 696 from 1916 to 1917, and 2,833 more than in 1915 to 1916, yet 4,632 fewer than there were from 1914 to 1915.

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FREEDOM OF SEA IS BEING TALKED

Allies Are Looking to the United States to Develop Some Definite Plan of Action.

ONE PLAN IS UNDER DISCUSSION MOST OFTEN

Small Vessels to Guard Merchantmen and Protect Colonial Possession.

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, Dec. 21.—King Victor Emmanuel of Italy left Paris at midnight to visit the Italian troops in Belgium. With his departure Paris put aside the holiday appearance and began to consider the preliminary conference arranged for today.

President Wilson and his American associates had a day with few interruptions and studied the various plans for the proposed enactment of the much discussed freedom of the seas program.

Apparently the other nations are looking to the United States to develop and present some definite proposition concerning the freedom of the seas. The American delegation has not in all probability agreed on any concrete plan but are discussing several suggestions which have the question in view. It is thought, however, that the one plan most discussed is the proposal to limit the construction of naval craft and to limit craft to lightly armed vessels like revenue cutters whose sole purpose would be to protect merchant shipping. This plan is said to find much favor.

Advocates of this plan say that there would be no further need of heavy armed ships if all are placed on the same reduced footing.

The answer to the British reasoning that the British empire would continue to need large ships to protect her colonial lands is made by advocates of the plan in this way, that a strong navy being lacking elsewhere there would be no longer the need of such large forces to protect these colonial possessions, but that they could be adequately protected by small craft and armed forces on the land.

This plan, however, is but one of the several suggested all of which are designed to open up the subject and to produce discussions and bring out plans from the allied powers.

W S S

COUNTY UNION MEETS AT MT. ULLA

Farmers to Hold Annual Meeting With the Mt. Ulla Local on the 27th and 28th of December—Election of Officers Comes Up.

Salisbury, N. C., Dec. 20. To the Members of Rowan County Farmers' Union:

The Rowan County Farmers' Union will meet with Mt. Ulla Local at Mt. Ulla, N. C., Friday and Saturday, December 27th and 28th. The county officials urge upon the various locals to be fully represented. This is the occasion of the election of officers for the ensuing year. Your presence is very much desired.

Fraternally, ARTHUR L. KLUTTS, Sec'y-Treas.

The following is the program for meeting: Called to order by President J. H. Keeler at 10:30 a. m.

Devotional Exercises by Chap. G. F. Hock.

Address of Welcome by C. P. Lefler. Response by G. F. Hock. Roll Call of officers. Roll Call of locals and seating delegates.

Report of delegates. Report of President; Report of Secretary and Treasurer. Report of County Business Agent. Report of Standing Committee. Announcements. Appointment of Committees. Dinner. Session opened at 2:30. Report of Executive Committee. Unfinished Business. Deferred Business. Election of Officers. Other Business. Report of delegates from State Meeting.

Saturday, December 28th. Meeting opened at 9:30. Short Business Session. Presentation of Banner. County Demonstrator S. S. Stabler will address the County Union. Subject: "The Local as a Social Unit."

W. R. Dixon of Wilson, N. C., newly elected State Organizer-Elector in expected to be with us Saturday at 11 o'clock; also W. B. Gibson of Statesville will be with us.

Saturday will be open meeting for the public. Everybody is invited.

W S S

ROWAN BOY HURT.

In the casualty list given out today is the name of Claud Watson. This young man, whose home is on route No. 2, his full name being Claud Wentworth Watson. He left Salisbury in September, 1917, and was sent to Camp Jackson for military training, later being sent across.

W S S

HAS ECKHARDT BEEN RECALLED?

Report That German Minister to Mexico Has Been Recalled But This Is Denied in Some Quarters.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Ambassador Fletcher has advised the state department that L. Pueblo, a government organ, has denied that von Eckhardt, German minister to Mexico, has been recalled. Other Mexican newspapers, however, say von Eckhardt's mission there has terminated though he has not decided as to leaving the country.

WILCOX AND SIX OTHERS PARDONED

Governor Bickett Gives Pardon to Noted Man and to Six Others in State Prison.

WILCOX EXPECTED TO GET HOME FOR HOLIDAYS

Is Now in Western Portion of the State and at a Convict Camp—Wilcox's Statement.

(By Associated Press.)

Raleigh, Dec. 21.—James Wilcox, who has served 16 years of a 30 years' term in state prison, sent up from Raftonank county for the killing of Nellie Croppie, pardoned by Governor Bickett, is expected in Raleigh this evening from a convict camp in the western part of the state and will receive his pardon at the hands of prison authorities and will leave tonight for Elizabeth City to spend the holidays with relatives.

Seven other prisoners who were serving various terms of imprisonment were also pardoned by the governor at the same time. Among these are Carl G. Fritz, of Davidson county, and John Teachey, of Wake, and Neil Black of Cumberland.

W S S

GUARDS