REVIEW OF THE WORLD WAR AND OTHER HISTORY MAKING EVENTS OF YEAR 1917

Entrance of United States Into Conflict Outstanding Development of Past Twelve Months-Political Upheaval in Russia Affects Struggle-British and French Smash Teuton Lines on West Front--Austro-Germans Launch

By DONALD F. BIGGS.

pared.

back to new lines which had been pre-

The relations between Germany and

the United States were further strain-

ed March 18 by the receipt of reports

steamers, the City of Memphis, Illi-

On March 21, President Wilson is-

The American steamer Healdton

was torpedoed without warning, March

22, 21 men including seven Ameri-

United States Declares War.

clared war on Germany on April 7.

The British forces en the west front

The French forces hunched an of-

The first American emmatters in the

American Freet im Action.

measure and issued a proclamation fix-

During the early part of June grow-

the attention of the allies. On June 1,

workmen and soldiers seized Kron-

negotiations and recognized the pro-

King Constantine Dethroned.

The subscriptions to the first Ameri-

On June 26, it was announced that

The new Greek cabinet, headed by

Kerensky succeeded Prince Lvoff as

visional government.

fensive against the enemy on a :25-mile-

On April 2, President Wilson ap-

ter's erew being lost.

Drive Against Italy.

THE WORLD WAR. \

After three and a half years of the most sanguinary fighting in history, the great nations of the world, together with many of the smaller ones, are still at death grips, with less prospect of an early peace than was thought to sois and Vigilancia, fifteen of the latexist a year ago.

Undoubtedly the greatest development of the year was the entrance of sued a proclamation calling congress the United States of America into the in special session on April 2. conflict. The throwing of the tremendous resources and man power of the American republic into the balance on the side of the entente allies, in the cans, being lost. opinion of military experts, has more than off-set the advantages gained by Germany and her allies during the past | peared before a joint session of contwelve months and has made possible gress and called for a declaration of a the continuance of the conflict until a state of war with Germany. On April time when a definite military decision 4, the senate passed a resolution decan be obtained.

There have been a half dozen or The resolution was adopted by the more outstanding events in the past house of representatives April 6 and year. Some of these have been of was signed by the president the same purely military significance and others day. At the same time 91 Germanhave been occurrences of a political na- owned vessels in American ports were fure which have had a far-reaching ef- seized by the government. Cubs defect upon the titanic conflict.

Chief among the political upheavals The following day, Austria-Hungary of the year was the Russian revolution which resulted in the overthrow of United States. Czar Nicholas and culminated during the closing months of the year in a began the first great effensive of 1947 counfer-revolution which practically on April 9, penetrating the enemy poeliminated Russia from the ranks of sitions north and south of Arms to a the nations opposed to the central pow- depth of from two to three miles. ers. From a military standpoint the chief events of the year have been the launching of the German ruthless ish offensives on the west front, first In the Arras sector, later in Flanders | war were reported April 28, when the tween Arras and St. Quentin; the Ital- was sunk by a submarize and several title Elessian army. ian offensive against Austria from American gunners were bust. Tolmino to the Adriatic and the sub-

Sinn and other countries into the war on the side of the entente allies, the everthrow of King Constantine of her allies and other events important in themselves were overshadowed by ing June 5 as registration day. the greater developments of the year.

American Peace Effort Fails. As the year opened the only military movements of importance in progress were those aimed by Germany and her allies to complete the annihilation of Roumania and attention was centered upon the request that had been made by President Wilson that the various belligerent nations state the terms upon which peace might be discussed. F. Stevens, arrived safely at Russian a peacemaker, but on January 22 President Wilson in an address before the senate laid down the principles which enforce peace at the close of the present war.

President Wilson acted promptly, severing diplomatic relations with Germany on February 3.

February 25 with the loss of 13 lives, that country, including those of two American wom-

On February 28, it was announced that the United States government was of the allies in the Balkans, was reachico City, instructing him to propose an alliance between Germany known to be favorably inclined toward and Mexico, and to suggest that the allies. London reported another as soon as war with the United States big raid by Zeppelins on June 13, in communicate with Japan, offering to many injured. erat financial support from Germany and the reconquest of lost territory in 000,000. Texas, New Mexico and Arizona.

The United States department of the first contingent of American troops, state announced, March 12, that it under command of Major General Sihad determined to place armed guards bert, had arrived safely in France, sailing through the German war zone. Eleutherios Venizelos, went into office were forced to execute a further re-March 14, it was learned that the on June 27 and two days later the new American steamship Algonquin had government severed diplomatic rela- The Italians, re-enforced by British been sunk without warning by a Ger- tions with Germany, Austria-Hungary, and French armies, which reached the man submarine. On the same day Bulgaria and Turkey. China severed diplomatic relations with Germany and seized German mer- forces, under the personal feadership chant ships in the harbor at Shanghai. of War Minister Kerensky, electrified

the allies by launching a powerful of-Czar Nicholas Dethroned. On March 15, the Russian revolu- fensive on an 18-mile front in Galicia, tionary movement, which had begun capturing many strongly fortified the west front between St. Quentin and with food riots and strikes, culminated towns and taking thousands of pris- the Scarpe. In a surprise attack, bein the abdication of Czar Nicholas both oners. For two weeks the Russians gun without the usual artillery prepafor himself and his son. Pending the continued to advance along a front ration, the British infantry under Genmeeting of a constituent assembly the that widened to 100 miles, but on July government was vested in the execu- 19 the Russian offensive collapsed and tive committee of the Duma and a turned into a rout, when many Rus- burg line toward Cambrai, taking many newly chosen council of ministers with sian regiments mutinied and fled. towns and thousands of prisoners l'rince Lvoff as premier.

The German forces on the west premier of Russia on July 20. retirement on a front of 85 miles from man cabinet during the war resulted under the leadership of M. Lenine. south of Arras to Soissons, falling on July 14 in the resignation of Chan- seized the government at Petrograd on in a Chicago tenement killed 25. On industries was undertaken as a war

of the allied nations to sixteen.

British Launch Great Offensive. tense artillery preparation. The Brit- all belligerents. ish forced their way into the German more than 5,000 prisoners.

ent and neutral governments.

The Italian forces opened a grand offensive on August 19, attacking on g front 40 miles long from Tolmino to the Adriatic sea. On August 25, the Italians captured Monte Santo, an Austrian stronghold on the Isonzo front. of the sinking of three American Two more nations entered the war on the side of the allies in August. Liberia declaring war on Germany Augboth Germany and Austria-Hungary August 14. On August 28, President lines back for a distance of several Wilson's reply to the peace proposals miles at some points. of Pope Benedict was made public. It declared that "we cannot take the as a guarantee of anything that is to endure, unless explicitly supported by such conclusive evidence of the will and purpose of the German people themselves as the other peoples of the world would be justified in acceptclaring the existence of a state of war. adopted President Wilson's note astheir own reply to the pope.

Early in September the Italians continged to make progress in their drive on the Isonzo front, armouncing on September 1 the capture of 14 strongly fortified mountains, causing an 12mile breach in the Austrian lines and! sesulting in the capture of 27,000 prissevered diplomatic relations with the

Chaos Threatem in Russia. Conclicions in Russia grew more chaoffer diwing the mouth of September. General Korniloff, commander in chief of the Rusian armies, on September: 10 demanded that call civils and milltary powers be placed in This hands. Premier Kerensky immediately defront between Somsoms and Reims, posed General Kornike and etvil wars April 16, and after three days' fighting threatened as Kornillet, at the head, Tectly responsible for the entry of the United States into the war; the Britand still later on the 35-mile front be- armed American track steamer Vacuum to General Alexieff, chief of staff of that time.

It was learned on May 16, that a 14, when four Americans were killed 000,000,000 and authorizing the secre-Austrians against Italy, which resulted squadron of American destreyers un-in the overrunning of northern Italy der Rear Admiral Simus and safely pitals in France. America's war prepa-curities of governments at war with by the Tentonic allies.

| Crossed the Atlantic and had been pa- intions were continued rapidly, the Germany to the amount of \$3,000,000, trolling the seas in war service since first continued of the per cent of the 000. new Baticoal army arriving at their The United States army draft bill gantenments September 5.

became a law May 18 when President The replies of Germany and Austria-Greece on the demand of France and Wilson affixed his signature to the Etingary to Pope Benedict's peace propasals were made public September 21. They accepted the pope's offer as a basis for the beginning of negetiations, \$3.287,004,54160 for the army and ing unrest in Russia began to attract hut made no definite concessions.

Italians Driven Back. The great Austro-German offensive ate May 19 without a roll out. stadt, the Russian fortress defending against the Italians was launched ed by Elihu Root, and the American railroad commission, headed by John had overrun all of northern Italy, The United States began to take a signed by the president June 15.

ports. On June 7, the Russians in more active part in the fighting during 4 bill appropriating \$646,600,000 for further action by the United States as possession of Kronstadt yielded to October, the first American troops go- the development of the air service was ing into the first line trenches in passed without a record vote by the France on October 23. On October 17 senate on June 18 and by the house the American transport Antimes, re- an June 28. In the meantime the American preparations for the war were proceeding turning from France, was torpedoed ne declared should gate to rapidly. On June 5, nearly 10,000,000 and sunk, with a loss of 67 lines. The broad powers were given, to the presi- July 12 the people of Sigbee, Aria, demen of military age registered for mili- second American. Liberty loan of dent for the regulation of the sale of ported 1,200 members of the Industrial tary service under the selective draft \$3,000,000,000 closed October 27 with food and fuel, was passed in the house Workers of the was many widely separated countries in on January 31, Germany announced law. On June 8, Major General John an oversubscription of nearly \$2,000. June 23 by a vote of 365 to 5 and in charged had femented the strikes in 1917, leading in some cases to revolu-On January 31, October 11 Strates in the senate July 21 by a water of 81 to 61 the copper mixes. On July 314 32 L. tion and civil war. The revolution in the inauguration of ruthless submarine J. Pershing, who had been selected to 000,000. Several more South American in the senate July 21 by a water of 81 to 61. The copper mixes. can nations took a decided stand in head the American expeditionary forces in France, arrived with his staff favor of the allies in October. Peru authorizing the issuance of bonds to Gallup, N. M. On August 1, Frank Lit. Czar Nicholas and the forced abdicain London. On the same day Wash- broke off diplomatic relations with the amount of \$7,538,945,640 and war- the, L W. W. leader, who had been dies of King Constantine of Greece ington reported the safe arrival in Germany, October 6 and Eruguay took savings certificates to the amount of France of 100 American aviators, the similar action the following day. On \$2,000,000,000, was passed in the houseence of a state of war with Germany.

There were evidences of internal dis-A solution of the Greek situation, turbances in Germany during the which had endangered the operations month, a mutiny of German sailors at in possession of a communication ad- ed June 12 when on the demand of October 30 Count George von Hertitag dressed by the German foreign minis- France, Great Britain and Russia, King was made imperial chancellor of Gerter to the German minister at Mex- Constantine abdicated in favor of his many, Chancellor Michaelis having resecond son, Prince Alexander, who was signed.

On the sea the chief event of the month was the sinking by two German raiders of two British destroyers and was certain, the president of Mexico which 157 persons were killed and 12 Scandinavian merchantmen they 016,93, including \$635,000,000 additional were convoying in the North sea on October 17. On October 31 the Ameri-As a reward Mexico was promised gen- can Liberty loan closed June 15, the can transport Finland, returning from loan being oversubscribed by \$750,- France, was struck by a torpedo and eight men were killed.

Italians Stop Invaders. Big events crowded fast upon each other during the month of November. The Italians, after reforming their lines back of the Tagliamento river, treat, Yalling back to the Plave river. Italian front November 25, withstood On the first of July, the Russian repeated attacks launched by the Aus-

tro-German armies, holding their lines at all points along the Plave. On November 20 the British opened the greatest offensive of the year on eral Byng, headed by a large force of tanks, smashed through the Hinden-

Russia was thrown into civil war during the month by a counter-revolufront, on March 17, began a general The first political crisis in the Ger- tion by means of which the bolsheviki, peligo.

appointment as his successor of Dr. from Petrograd, and other members of hurt in a ship explosion at Archangel. son selected Herbert C. Hoover, chair-Georg Michaelis. On July 22, Siam the cabinet of the provisional govern- On the same day an explosion at Yo- man of the Belgian relief commission, declared war against Germany, and ment were arrested. On November 10 kohama killed 100. On February 21, as head of a food control board, and Austria-Hungary, bringing the number the rebel government made Lenine pre- the British transport Mendi was sunk mier. Kerensky, at the head of a body in a collision, 625 South African laof loyal Cossack troops, attacked Pe- borers being lost. The British launched their second trograd November 12, but was badly great offensive of the year on the defeated. The bolsheviki were appar-Flanders front on July 31, attacking ently in full control of Russia by No- sons and on March 23, 38 were killed prices for bituminous coal in the proon a 20-mile front from Dixmude to vember 22, when the Lenine govern- and more than 200 injured when a tor- ducing districts of the country. On Warneton, after three weeks of in- ment proposed a general armistice to nado wrecked part of the city of New August 23, President Wilson appointed

American troops on the west front lines to a depth of two to two and a suffered their first casualties on Nohalf miles, taking ten villages and vember 3 when German troops raided sons April 10. An explosion in the fixed the basic price for the 1917 crop a salient held by the Americans, kill- Hastings mine near Ludlow, Colo., at \$2,20 a bushel. Pope Benedict, on August 14, trans- ing three, wounding five and taking mitted peace proposals to all belliger- 12 prisoners. On November 5 the American patrol boat Alcedo was sunk by a torpedo and 21 were lost.

During the last days of November and the early part of December the Germans made determined efforts to regain some of the parritory captured ed property worth millions of dollars. by the British around Cambral but the May 29, many persons were killed in British held a large portion of the tornadoes in southern Illinois, Kenon the Germans. The Mastro-German sas. ust 7, and China declaring war on forces began a new offensive in Italy early in December, forcing the Italian

Early in December it was announced that a large number of national guard word of the present rulers of Germany troops from the United States land arrived in France, units from every state being insluded. On December 7, the United States congress declared the existence of a state of war with Mustria-Hungary. The following day is was announced that the Abnerican ing." Other allied governments later destroyer Jacob Jones had been sunk by a German submarine with a loss of 34 men.

The Eussian saturtion was further the Bollsheviki government lausched ish steamer City of Athens, carrying ed by the explosion of a bomb found by General's Kaledosev and Korshoff, missionaries to Africa, was sunk by a line church and taken to police head-'ossavk lienders.

British, French and Italian troopson December 10, captured Jerusatem. which for \$73 years has been under the undisputed sway of the Moslems.

On December 16, fy was announced had signed a four-week's armistice, one phoon and flood at Tollio, October 2. The house of representatives, on De-provision of which warsting peace the and a thousand persons were reported comber 17, adopted a resolution, alprovision of which warstimt peace 1300 gotiations should begin timmediately.

THE WAR CONGRESS

The Bist "war session for the Sixty Petregrad. The refellion collapsed, fifth congress which opened on April the harbor at Halifan N. S. between however, on September 12 when 2 was the most momentous session in Mont Blanc, to French munition ship. States and Mexico, which had threat-General Korniloff agreed to surrender fitte history of the United States up to and the Imo, liden with supplies for two years or more to result

The mist war bill passed by congress The first American committee in was one authorizing the issuance of t Branes were announced on September bonds were amount not exceeding \$5,-

> passed by the house April 28 by a vote of 307 to 24 and by the scrate on May

> 1.by a vote of SI to 8. The first big war appropriation bill, carrying: appropriations aggregating navy; was mosed in the lause May 2 with one-opposing vote and in the sen-

The measure known as the espion-Petrograd, and repudiated the provis- along the Isonzo front Getober 24, and age act; intended to prevent disloyal ional government. On June 3, the within ten days the Teuron forces had acts on the part of residents of the American commission to Russia, head-retaken all the territory won by the United States and also commission pro-Italians in two months' fighting and visions giving the president power to place an emberge on experts, was

The food control act, under which

without warning off the Irish coast first American fighting forces to reach October 26 Brazil declared the exist- September 6 and in the senate September 6 ber 15.

The revenue act, first introduced in the house May 9, was passed by the ment. house May 23, but was not passed by Ostend being reported October 18. On the senate until September 10. The conference report was accepted October 2. The message provides for the raising of nearly \$3,000,000,000 annually, largely from income and sacess profits taxes.

The second big war appropriations act, carrying a total of \$5,356,666,for the emergency shipping fund, was approved by the president October 6.

The second session of the war congress opened December 3, and the following day President Wilson delivered a message declaring that nothing will turn the United States aside from its task until the war is won.

During December both houses of congress opened far-reaching investigations into the war preparations of the war and navy departments.

DISASTERS ON LAND AND SEA

The year 1917 was marked by many disasters on land and sea, aside from naval operations of the countries at another crisis during the closing rule constitution for Ireland. and millions of dollars worth of property was destroyed by fires, explosions, structive agencies in all parts of the world.

On January 5, an earthquake in Formosa caused the death of 300 persons, On January 25, an earthquake killed 50 persons on Bali Island, Malay archi-

cellor von Bethmann-Hollweg and the November 8. Premier Kerensky fled February 3, 30 were killed and 344 measure. On May 19, President Wil-

On March 11, a tornado in east central Indiana killed more than 20 per- son issued an order fixing the basic Albany, Ind.

plant near Chester, Pa., killed 112 per- the United States wheat committee April 27, caused a loss of 119 lives,

May 22, the city of Gyoenyoes, Huagary, was devastated by fire. Thirty lives were lost and great damage was done by a storm in Kansas May 25 and from Denmark for \$25,000,000, passed the following day tornadoes in central sader the jurisdiction of the United Illinois killed 150 persons and destroy-

were partially destroyed by vetennic eruption, earthquake and fire Jane 7. More than 150 men perished in a blaz- infantry (colored) started a race riot ing mine at Bixte, Mont., June 9. Thir- at Houston, Tex., August 23, resulting tem were killed and many injured in the death of 15 whites and several when a water tank fell on the steamer negroes. Christopher Columbus at Milwauliee, Wiss, June 30.

killed! A name explosion at New War des. Judge Hylan, Democratic nomiterford, Cape Breton, killed 62 men nee, was elected mayor of New York on July 25.

A raine explosion at Clay, Ky., candidates. foating mine or August 10. Eighteen quarters. were killed in se troffey car collision near North Branford, Conn., Angust 13. On August 18, a disastrous fife rises at Houston, Tex., August 23, were swept Salbniki, Greece, destroying a large part of the city.

Many persons were Miled in at th. drawned in great floris in Naishi ready adopted by the senate, submit-South Africa, October 28.

about 1,200 persons were killed and amendment for national prohibition. millions of dollars worth of property distrayed December 6 by an explosion. and fire which followed a collision inthe Belgian Relief Commission.

INDUSTRIAL AND ECONOMIC:

the Enited States throughout 1917, United States into the world war, the hargely as a result of war conditions Mexican "crisis" faded from the public and in spite offefforts made by the view. government, alord by Reders of organ- Despite the failure of negotiations ized lubor, to preven would delay the nation's war preparate deat Wilson ordered the withdrawal of

strike of the skilled railroad employees, his troops marched out of Mexico afwifich had been avertestin 1916 by the ter having been in that country almost passage of the Addansonihw, providing a year. indirectly for any increase in wages, On March 11, General Carranza was was again threatened, owing to the formally elected president of Mexico. fact that the placing of the Adamson From this time on conditions in Mexiiaw in operation was delived pending to became more tranquil and there a decision by the United States See were evidences that President Carranpreme court on its validity. The za was succeeding in restoring order throatened strike was averted March in the republic. It was not until late 18thy the capitalation of the railr and in the year that Villa again became acmanagers. On the following day the tive. On November 13, troops led by United States Supreme court handed Villa's aids, captured Ofinaga, on the down a decision holding the Adamson American border, after a hard fight.

hw constitutional. the Arizona copper fields July 1 when in the United States. the miners struck. Disorders were reported from several points and one The second great bend issue act. W. W. leaders were deported from Russia, resulting in the abdication of prominent in the Arizona troubles, was, were events closely allied with the lynched at Batte, Mont., where he had war. Disturbances in China, including gone to take part im a strike of miners. am attempt to restore the monarchy. and where he was alleged to have were influenced partly by the war. made speeckas attacking the govern- Conditions in China were unsettled un-

workmen struck in San Francisco Sopand representing both employers and Germany and Austria-Hungary. employees, to act as his personal representatives in allaying labor trembles Francisco shipyards was ended Sepgovernment mediators.

United States took a decided stand of Gomez. throughout the year in support of the against antiwar propagands. At the year. The Irish nationalists, on March government preparations for war and annual meeting of the American Fed. 7, demanded immediate home rule and eration of Labor in Buffalo in November, union labor pledged its solid support to the government in the presecution of the war.

war. Thousands of lives were lost months of the year when demands were made by the four brotherhoods for wage increases averaging 40 per earthquakes, tornadoes and other de- cent, affecting, directly and indirectly, approximately 2,000,000 railroad em-

Labor troubles of the year were closely allied with economic developments, growing out of the increased order to prevent further increases in door policy in that country. On February 2, an explosion and fire prices government regulation of many (Copyright, 1917, by the McClure Newspo-

later, on August 11. following the passage by congress of a food-control bill, Mr. Hoover was made food administrator. On August 21, President Wil-Dr. H. A. Garfield fuel administrator Explosions in a Russian ammunition for the United States. On August 30

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

The Danish West Indies, purchased States January 27, and were renamed the Virgin islands.

Serious race riots in East St. Louis, Mo., July 2, resulted in the killing of ground taken, inflicting heavy losses tucky, Temmessee, Alabama and Arkan- more than 20 negroes and two white men and a heavy property loss by fire. Sars Sarvador, capital of Sarvador, The riots were followed by prosecuand a mumber of surrounding towns tions by state officials and a congressional investigation.

Soldiers of the Twenty-fourth U. S.

Interest in the general elections on November 6 was centered in New A Niagara Corgo trolley car plunged York and Chicago, where Socialist into the rapids; July 1, and 28 were tickets were defeated by large majoriover fusion, Republican and Socialist

caused the loss of El Rves on August In Milwaukee, Wis., November 23. 4. Ninsteen were lest when the Briti ten policemen and a woman were kill-

Thirteen negroes, convicted by court martial of participating in the race harmed at San Antonio, December VI. Forty-one others were given life sen-

ting: to the states a constitutional

MEXICO AND UNITED STATES

The friction between the United in open warfare, began to disappear early in 1917 and when the attention; of the people of the United States was focused upon more important Industrial unrest was apparent in matters by the entrance of the

strikes which with the Carranza government Prestthe American troops from Mexico and Early in the year on mation-wide on February 5, General Pershing and

Several hundred Carranza soldiers fled Serious troubles-were-precipitated in across the border and were interned

POLITICS IN FOREIGN LANDS

A spirit of unrest was apparent fa

til June 30, when under the influence A serious tie-up of all shipbuilding of monarchists, Fisuan Tung, Manchu plants in the country was threatened emperor, announced his resumption of in August and September. Machanists the throne of China. Civil war imand boilesmakers in Eastern ship mediately broke out and on July 10 yards went on strike August 221 and the attempt to restore the monarchy 25,000 skilled mechanics and other collapsed. On July 13 the monarchist army, led by Chang Hsun, surrendered tember 17. On September 20, Presi- after a battle at Peking. The repubdent Wilson named a commission, lican government was firmly establishheaded by Secretary of Labor Wilson ed again and later declared war on

Civil war in Coba threatened to disrupt that country during the early during the war. The strike in the San menths of the year. The rebels were badly defeated in several engagements tember 26 through the efforts of the and on March 7, Gomez, their leader, was captured. The rebellion was Leaders of organized labor in the stamped out quickly after the capture

Great Britain continued to wress with the Irish problem throughout the marched out of the house of commons in a body. On July 25 a convention proposed by Premier Lloyd George and epresenting all factions in Ireland met The railroads of the country faced for the purpose of drafting a home

Some misunderstandings between the United States and Japan over far Eastern matters were cleared away by the signing by diplomatic representatives of the two countries on November 2 of an agreement by which the United States recognizes the fact that Japan has special interests in China because of its proximity but guaranteeing the territorial integrity of cost of living in the United States. In China and the maintenance of the open