

## PRESIDENT'S RED CROSS APPEAL TO THE PEOPLE

"Send Forth to the Whole Human Family the Christmas Greeting for Which it Waits and for Which it Stands in Greatest Need."

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Wilson, in a proclamation made public today, calls on every American to join the American Red Cross during Christmas Roll Call Week, December 16 to 23, "and thus send forth to the whole human family the Christmas greeting for which it awaits and for which it stands in greatest need." The proclamation, prepared before the President departed for Europe, follows:

To the American People:

One year ago 22,000,000 Americans, by enrolling as members of the Red Cross at Christmas time, sent to the men who were fighting our battles overseas a stimulating message of cheer and good will. They made it clear that our people were of their own free choice united with their Government in the determination not only to wage war with the instruments of destruction but also by every means in their power to repay the ravages of the invader and sustain and renew the spirit of the army and of the homes which they represented. The friends of the American Red Cross in Italy, Belgium and France have told, and will tell again, the story of how the Red Cross workers restored morale in the hospitals, in the camps and at the cantonments, and we ought to be very proud that we have been permitted to be of service to those whose sufferings and whose glory are the heritage of humanity.

Now, by God's grace, the Red Cross Christmas message of 1918 is to be a message of peace as

well as a message of good will. But peace does not mean that we can fold our hands. It means further sacrifice. We must prove conclusively to an attentive world that America is permanently aroused to the needs of the new era, our old indifference gone forever.

The exact nature of the future service of the Red Cross will depend upon the program of the associated governments, but there is immediate need today for every heartening word and for every helpful service. We must not forget that our soldiers and our sailors are still under orders and still have duties to perform of the highest consequence and that the Red Cross Christmas means a great deal to them. The people of the saddened lands, moreover returning home today where there are no homes, must have the assurance that the hearts of our people are with them in the dark and doubtful days ahead. Let us, so far as we can, help them back to faith in mercy and in future happiness.

As president of the Red Cross, conscious in this great hour of the value of such a message from the American people, I should be glad if every American would join the Red Cross for 1919, and thus send forth to the whole human family the Christmas greeting for which it waits and for which it stands in greatest need.

WOODROW WILSON.

## PERSHING TELLS STORY OF WAR

Commander in Detailed Report Relates How the U. S. Men Won.

### SETS MARCH 21 AS CRISIS

Views American Operations Prior to That Date as Part of Their Training — Pays Supreme Tribute to Officers and Men.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Gen. John J. Pershing's account of his stewardship as commander of the American expeditionary forces was given to the public Wednesday by Secretary Baker.

It is in the form of a preliminary report to the secretary, covering operations up to November 20, after the German collapse. It closes with these words from the leader of the great army in France, expressing his feeling for those who served under him:

"I pay the supreme tribute to our officers and soldiers of the line. When I think of their heroism, their patience under hardships, their unflinching spirit of offensive action, I am filled with emotion which I am unable to express. Their deeds are immortal and they have earned the eternal gratitude of our country."

The report begins with General Pershing's departure for France to pave the way for the army that was to smash German resistance on the Meuse and give vital aid to the allies in forcing Germany to its knees 19 months later.

**Crisis on March 21.**

General Pershing views the encounters before March 21 of this year, in which American troops participated as a part of their training, and dismisses them briefly. On that date, however, the great German offensive was launched and a crucial situation quickly developed in the allied lines which called for prompt use of the four American divisions that were at the time "equal to any demands of battle action."

"The crisis which this offensive developed was such," General Pershing says, "that on March 21 I placed at the disposal of Marshal Foch, who had been agreed upon as commander in chief of the allied armies, all of our forces. At his request the First division was transferred from the Toul sector to a position in reserve at Chateau en Vexin.

"As German superiority in numbers required prompt action, an agreement was reached at the Abbeville conference of the allied premiers and commanders and myself on May 2 by which British shipping was to transport ten American divisions to the British army area, where they were to be trained and equipped, and additional British shipping was to be provided for as many divisions as possible for use elsewhere."

**Men Eager for Test.**

"On April 26 the First division had gone into the line in the Montdidier salient, on the Picardy battle front. Tactics had been suddenly revolutionized to those of open warfare, and our men, confident of the results of their training, were eager for the test. On the morning of May 28 this division attacked the commanding German position in its front, taking with splendid dash the town of Cantigny and all other objectives, which were organized and held steadily against vicious counter-attacks and galling artillery fire.

"Although local, this brilliant action had an electrical effect, as it demonstrated our fighting qualities under extreme battle conditions and also that the enemy's troops were not altogether invincible."

**Hold Foe at Chateau Thierry.**

There followed immediately the German thrust across the Aisne river toward Paris. He continues:

"The Third division, which had just come from its preliminary training in the trenches, was hurried to the Marne. Its motorized machine-gun battalion preceded the other units and successfully held the bridgehead at the Marne, opposite Chateau Thierry.

"The Second division, in reserve near Montdidier, was sent by motor-trucks and other available transport to check the progress of the enemy toward Paris. The division attacked and retook the town and railroad station at Bouches and sturdily held its ground against the enemy's best guard divisions.

"In the battle of Belleau wood, which followed, our men proved their superiority and gained a strong tactical position, with far greater loss to the enemy than to ourselves. On July 1, before the Second was relieved, it captured the village of Vaux with splendid precision.

**Stand Between Paris and Foe.**

"Meanwhile our Second corps, under

**SECRETARY OF WAR'S REPORT**

Says Question of Permanent Reorganization of Army Has Been Deferred.

Washington, Dec. 5.—The question of permanent organization of the army has been deferred for consideration after the close of the peace conference. Secretary Baker, in his annual report says this course is determined upon since "the military needs of the United States cannot be prudently as-

my's front line and support trenches in irresistible waves on schedule time, breaking down all defense of an enemy demoralized by the great volume of our artillery fire and our sudden approach out of the fog.

"Our First corps advanced to Thiaucourt, while our Fourth corps curved back to the southwest through Nonard. The Second Colonial French corps made the slight advance required of it on very difficult ground, and the Fifth corps took its three ridges and repulsed a counter-attack.

"A rapid march brought reserve regiments of a division of the Fifth corps into Vincennes in the early morning, where it linked up with patrols of our Fourth corps, closing the salient and forming a new line west of Thiaucourt to Vincennes and beyond Fresnes-en-Woevre.

**16,000 Prisoners Taken.**

"At a cost of only 7,000 casualties, mostly light, we had taken 16,000 prisoners and 443 guns, a great quantity of material, released the inhabitants of many villages from enemy domination and established our lines in a position to threaten Metz.

"This signal success of the American First army in its first offensive was of prime importance. The allies found they had a formidable army to aid them, and the enemy learned finally that he had one to reckon with."

The report shows for the first time officially that with this brilliantly executed coup, General Pershing's men had cleared the way for the great effort of the allies and American forces to win a conclusive victory. The American army moved at once toward its crowning achievement, the battle of the Meuse.

**Counter-Offensive Opens.**

General Pershing continues:

"The great force of the German Chateau Thierry offensive established the deep Marne salient, but the enemy was taking chances, and the vulnerability of this pocket to attack might be turned to his disadvantage.

"Seizing this opportunity to support my conviction, every division with any sort of training was made available for use in a counter-offensive. The place of honor in the thrust toward Soissons on July 18 was given to our First and Second divisions in company with chosen French divisions.

"Without the usual brief warning of a preliminary bombardment, the massed French and American artillery, firing by the map, laid down its rolling barrage at dawn while the infantry began its charge. The tactical handling of our troops under these trying conditions was excellent throughout the action.

"The enemy brought up large numbers of reserves and made a stubborn defense both with machine guns and artillery, but through five days' fighting the First division continued to advance until it had gained the heights above Soissons and captured the village of Berry-le-Sec.

"The Second division took Beau Repaire farm and Vierz in a very rapid advance and reached a position in front of Tigny at the end of its second day. These two divisions captured 7,000 prisoners and over 100 pieces of artillery."

**First American Army Formed.**

The report describes in some detail the work of completing the reduction of the salient, mentioning the operations of the Twenty-sixth, Third, Fourth, Forty-second, Thirty-second, and Twenty-eighth divisions. With the situation on the Marne front thus relieved, General Pershing writes, he could turn to the organization of the First American army and the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient, long planned as the initial purely American enterprise.

A troop concentration, aided by generous contributions of artillery and air units by the French, began, involving the movement, mostly at night, of 600,000 men.

**Battle of St. Mihiel.**

Of the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient General Pershing says:

"After four hours' artillery preparation the seven American divisions in the front line advanced at 5 a. m. on September 12, assisted by a limited number and partly by the French.

"These divisions, accompanied by groups of wire-cutters and others armed with Bangalore torpedoes, went through the successive bands of barbed wire that protected the ene-

**Other Corps Active.**

The commander in chief does not lose sight of the divisions operating with French or British armies during this time.

He tells of the work of the Second corps, comprising the Twenty-seventh and Thirtieth divisions, in the British assault on the Hindenburg line where the St. Quentin canal passes through a tunnel.

Of the total strength of the expeditionary force, General Pershing reports:

"There are in Europe altogether, including a regiment and some sanitary units with the Italian army and the organizations at Mürnsak, also including these en route from the States, approximately 2,053,347 men, less our losses."

**First U. S. Planes in May.**

The first airplanes received from home arrived in May, and together we have received 1,379. The first American squadron completely equipped by American production, including airplanes, crossed the German lines on August 7, 1918.

"As to tanks, we were compelled to rely upon the French. Here, however, we were less fortunate, for the reason that the French production could barely meet the requirements of their own armies.

"It should be fully realized that the French government has always taken a most liberal attitude and has been most anxious to give us every possible assistance in meeting our deficiencies in these as well as in other respects. Our dependencies upon France for artillery, aviation and tanks was, of course, due to the fact that our industries had not been exclusively devoted to military production."

**Small Things Once Precious.**

In the reign of Henry VIII, a needle was so valuable a thing that an English comedy was written about the loss of one. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, a pair of gloves were held to be a fitting gift for the sovereign. Henry IV of France, a poor and a frugal monarch, committed one extravagance, which was commented upon by the court and noted down in Sully's memoirs. He used as many handkerchiefs as he required when he had a cold in his head.

## DEFY FATHER TIME

Passing Years Need Not Bring Uselessness.

California Writer Arises in Wrath to Deny That Seventy-Two Should Be Considered a "Ripe Old Age."

A newspaper item, a few days ago, stated that a certain man named So-and-so died "at the ripe old age of seventy-two."

Commenting on this the Los Angeles Times says that seventy-two is not a ripe old age and adds:

A ripe old age is an age when the person who has attained it is ready for old Father Time to come along and pluck him from the tree of life. If you will take a bird's-eye view of the activities of the world at the present hour, or even if you will look about you in your own community, you will see that men and women of seventy-two are among the foremost hustlers everywhere.

Active heads of great nations, big business men in the biggest businesses, leaders and go-getters of all descriptions in every direction you look have passed the seventy-two mark and are still going strong.

Why, a man should be about at his best at the age of seventy-two. And it is at that age that woman should really begin to enjoy life in high-heeled shoes, short skirts and a hat with roses all over it.

Cato did not begin the study of Greek until he was eighty years of age, and it was at the same age that Plutarch began the study of Latin. Hobbes, the English philosopher, published his best book when he was eighty-seven, and Chevreul, forever immortal in scientific research, was busy as a bee at his work in his one hundred and second year.

One of the most active lawyers of the Los Angeles county bar is past his nineteenth year, and we know of another Los Angeles man who has just been appointed cashier of a new bank at the age of seventy-four.

In short, the cold fact is that seventy-two is very far indeed from being "a ripe old age."

On the other hand, of course, a man can let himself be old at most any age. There are lots of men who are old at thirty, but it is a state of mind with them and not a physical condition, even though they may not be in good health.

As to women, we very well know that it was the fashion for them to be old and fear ruffled caps at forty. But that isn't the case now, by any means. Think of Lillian Russell, Sara Bernhardt and Schumann-Heink, merely to mention some of the more prominent women of our time.

We would go so far as to say that age is a question of what way we look at it. That "a man is as old as he feels and a woman as old as she looks," is, indeed, a very good saying. A man is a fool not to feel all right, and a woman may be trusted never to "look" old if she is the woman she ought to be.

It is a great idea for a man when he is anywhere between fifty and seventy to mentally start all over again as though he had set out, like a boy, upon the great adventure of life.

Instead of spending his time then in vain regrets, let him resolve to attain all that he has missed. Let him, above all things else, renew his enthusiasm. Let him go to the circus again and buy peanuts for the elephant; let him go, stark, into an old swimming hole; whenever he hears a band let him follow it till he has lost the way home.

It shall be just as we think about it. We are to remember that we shall live only once on this earth, and that we will be a long time dead.

**His Achievements.**

"I have been in business here at the old stand for thirty-four years," admitted the proprietor of the Right Place Store in Petunia. "During that time 27,050, in round numbers, fresh young drummers have tried to talk me into buying rare bargains that I didn't want, and 13,525 well-meaning lunkheads have left the door open when it ought to have been shut. I have listened with a crocodile smile to something like 46,743 old stories and no more than two dozen new ones. I have furnished settin' places for all the prominent and influential loafers of the community, and have had two tons of prunes, cheese and ginger-snaps set up by 'em. I am thirty-four years older than I was when I began, and very little wiser or richer. I have trusted almost everybody who has asked me to, and some of them cheated me and others didn't. So, speaking biologically, I s'pose I don't think any worse of my feller citizens than they do of me."

—Kansas City Star.

**Mount Ararat Now a Republic.**

The announcement of the formation of "the Independent Republic of Ararat" will brush away the fallacy which regards Ararat as just a mountain instead of a country, albeit the very mountain on which the ark rested when the waters of the Deluge began to abate. Genesis is explicit enough to have prevented the mistake, it might be thought; it says quite distinctly: "The ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat." In its day, Ararat was a great power, holding sway far to the east and to the west. But to western Europe Ararat has long been known as the place where the dove first plucked the olive branch and returned with her message of hope to the Ark.

### LIFE SENTENCE FOR THEFT.

**Third Conviction For Prisoner Results in Heavy Penalty in W. Va.**

Huntington, W. Va.—When he was sentenced to life imprisonment for the theft of one automobile tire and one inner tube Robert Bayles fainted in Judge T. N. Taylor's court. This sentence was the only recourse of the trial judge, as it was the third conviction for the prisoner, and the laws of West Virginia provide a life sentence for the third offense. Bayles' previous sentences were for three and ten years, respectively. He was paroled both times and was on parole when last arrested. He is about 40 years old.

### WILSON LAUDS SCHWAB.

**President is Reluctant To Part With Emergency Fleet Director.**

Washington.—The resignation of Charles M. Schwab as director general of the Emergency Fleet Corporation was accepted by President Wilson in a wireless message from the transport George Washington to the White House. The President said:

"I accept your resignation only because you wish it and because I feel I must do so in fairness to you. You have been exceedingly generous in giving your services and they have been invaluable."

### CHILE CONSIDERS U. S. OFFER.

**Likely To Accept Mediation in Dispute With Peru.**

Santiago, Chile.—The Council of Ministers has under consideration the offer of the United States of mediation in the question of the provinces of Tacna and Arica, in dispute with Peru. The ministers will confer Sunday on this subject with the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies. Opinions in the Congress appear to be divided as to the procedure to be employed, but all agreed that a definite solution should be speedily reached.

### NEW FIELD FOR WOMEN.

**Eight Hundred Are Building Flying Boats At League Island.**

Washington.—More than 800 women are building flying boats at the League Island Navy Yard, where they are working side by side with men in every department. These women have gone through the training school, where they learned to handle drill presses, splice wires, solder pontoons and construct hulls and wing floats. The women work 49 hours a week, the same as the men.

### SCORES RED FLAG.

**Grimson Banner Protest Against All Law And Order.**

New York.—"When the red flag is carried upon our streets it is a protest against law and therefore a menace to our free institutions," declared President John Grier Hibben of Princeton University in an address before the Association of Life Insurance Presidents. Dr. Hibben was emphasizing the obligations of liberty which, he said, the sons of America had established now.

### THE COUNTRY AT LARGE.

A message from King George, expressing the hope that Britons and Americans may be as united in peace as they were in war was read at New York's celebration of Britain's Day. J. Paul Stevens, general manager of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, is critically ill at Covington, Ky., of pneumonia, following an attack of influenza.

Rev. Dr. Maitland Alexander, of the First Presbyterian Church of Pittsburgh, has been made religious director of the American Army of Occupation.

Columbia University chemists have perfected a process for keeping fish and meats indefinitely and then restoring them to their original freshness.

### CLARENCE H. MACKAY DECLARED THE PROPOSAL TO POOL THE TELEGRAPH, TELEPHONE AND CABLE FACILITIES OF THE COUNTRY IS A GENUINE MENACE.

The National War Labor Board has refused to withdraw its examiner from the shops of the Bethlehem Steel Company.

### TO EXTEND LONG DISTANCE.

**Connections Offered To Local Lines By Burlington.**

Washington.—Extension of long-distance telephone service to all local lines where practicable is planned by Postmaster General Burleson. Companies without long-distance connections were invited to make applications in writing.

### ALMOST TO THE RHINE.

**Several Of American Units Are Within 25 Miles Of The River.**

Americans in Rhenish Prussia.—Four front-line divisions of the American Army of Occupation are racing toward the Rhine. Several of the American advanced guard units were reported to be within 25 miles of the river.

### PETROGRAD DESERTED.

**Half The Population Driven Out By Starvation And Terrorism.**

Washington.—Petrograd is like a deserted city, with probably one-half of its population gone through starvation and terrorism, according to Swedish press reports forwarded to the State Department. No details were made public.

### HUNS LEFT INFERNAL MACHINES.

**Attempt Made To Blow Up Brussels Palace Of Justice.**

Paris.—The Germans had laid plans to blow up the Palace of Justice in Brussels, according to a dispatch to the Soir from Brussels. In the cellar of the palace four infernal machines, placed there by the Germans, have been found close to some gunpowder and ammunition.

### BANS ALL SUGAR DOWLS.

**Manager Of Childs' Restaurants Says They Are Not Sanitary.**

Philadelphia.—Childs' restaurants are among the few eating places in this city where the sugar bowl has not made its reappearance. J. A. Holmes, manager of Childs' restaurant at 1208 Chestnut street, explained it had been decided not to return to the free bowl practice for sanitary reasons.