

AMERICA'S FIRST YEAR AS A PARTICIPANT IN THE GREAT WAR LEADERS REVIEW WORK

FIRST YEAR OF WAR POINTS WAY TO ULTIMATE VICTORY

Remarkable Achievements of Army, Navy and Other Departments of Government Heartening to American People

Washington, April 5. THE American army and navy are living up to their highest traditions. This can be taken exactly as it is written. There was no victory before the uniforms were taken off to be laid away. The fighting men who now are in the trenches, those in the camps who are getting ready to go there, the men who are coming up with the next draft—and the next and the next if need be—the 300,000 odd fighters of the army will see to it that there is no compromising peace that will simply bury the sword for a few years. That is the great, all compelling and convincing fact that today stands out here in Washington, the hub of the national war activities.

When Germany forced war with the United States it found a nation unprepared. There was no real war machine. The navy—what there was of it—was ready. It is true. But the navy of April 6, 1917, and the navy of today are two radically different bodies. The half of our ships were in reserve. Our building program was proceeding leisurely. The entire personnel was only 85,000 men. Today it is nearly six times that.

And as for the army. Well, there was no real army. The regular branch was on the border in Panama, Hawaii and the Philippines. What there was of it was good. But there was not even enough of it for defensive purposes. Of artillery we had none. Aircraft, such as there was, was a joke. Today the army and navy of the United States are a powerful potent factor to be reckoned with in the struggle to save the world for democracy. And every day the strength and power of this machine which will make the influence of the United States all potent at the council table where the new map of the world will be drawn.

Mistakes, But Not Repeated. All this is encouraging, especially so in view of the general criticism of the war preparations in certain quarters. There has been and is much to criticize if one is that way inclined. Much has been done that should not have been done. Many things have been left undone that ought to have been done. No one in official life will essay to deny this. But right in this connection, there is one great truth which means much to the people of the country. That is this: There is no known to newspaper correspondents a single mistake that has been repeated. In every instance the Government has taken advantage of its mistakes to improve its plans and to see that they did not occur again.

There is distinctly some satisfaction in this. In every way before us in which this nation has engaged mistake has been piled on mistake, and officials have refused to take heed to their errors. Today this is changed. Mistakes are a medium through which a corrected program is prepared, and there is not an official in the land who does not frankly admit willingness to make any change if shown that he was wrong.

General Crowder's Great Work. Of course, the most significant achievement of the war has been the working out of the selective army plan. General Crowder's work in this connection has labored night and day, generally overlooked for other things more spectacular, but of far less worth. For almost a year now this veteran leader has labored night and day perfecting the machinery which feeds raw civilians into one end of a hopper and brings out at the other end the "army of democracy." It is now in evidence and acts as though they had never known anything but the rifle and the khaki.

MILLIONS SAVED IN FIRST YEAR OF WAR BY COUNCIL OF DEFENSE. Oversight by National Body Insures Economy and Co-operation—Women's Committee Valuable Adjunct, Correlation of Capital and Labor Promoted

By WALTER S. GIFFORD. Director of the Council of National Defense and of the Advisory Commission. THE Council of National Defense, the advisory commission and the agencies under both bodies were not permanently organized for business until March 3, 1917.

Three of the council's chief contributions to America's part in the war have been: First, the elimination of the industrial, engineering and scientific leaders of the country for the nation's defense; second, the elimination of profligates to a very considerable extent in the war making of the United States; third, its function as a crucible for the development of new ideas and new methods of administration demanded by modern war.

More specifically, some of the accomplishments of the council for the last twelve months may be mentioned as follows: The procurement of raw materials for the use of military and naval forces of the United States at prices greatly below the current market price, this being made possible by enlisting the patriotic co-operation of industrial leaders.

The completion of the inventory for military purposes of American manufacturing plants. The saving to the Government of millions of dollars by the proper coordination of purchases through the agency of the general munitions board.

War Record of Country Is Greatest in History

By CLAUDE KITCHIN. Democratic Floor Leader of the House. "Undoubtedly some mistakes have been made in our preparations during the first year of the war. But taking a broad view, considering the mistakes in their relation to the achievements of the first twelve months, the errors are insignificant and the achievements very great. "In my judgment the United States has done more in the first year of the war than any nation has ever before achieved in so short a space of time, in the history of the world. Congress must in a measure, be credited for our showing, for without the cooperation and support of the legislative branch the President and his advisers could have accomplished very little."

WAR CRISIS MET BY U. S. FIGHTERS

Army Jumps From 195,000 to 1,700,000 Men Since Conflict Started. 300,000 NOW IN FRANCE. 1,500,000 Selected Force Mustered Into Service Within Ninety Days.

Washington, April 5. From a partially trained army of 195,000 men, made up of 120,000 regulars and 75,000 national guardsmen, which was declared on January 9, 1917, the United States army has been recruited from totally untrained recruits until today it consists of approximately 1,700,000 men trained and equipped to the highest point of efficiency in modern warfare.

Another "side line" which Secretary McAdoo has under his direction is the insurance of the armaments. More than fifteen million dollars worth of insurance will be in force in this department.

Feeding Our Army. The country and its defenders not only had to be fed, but Uncle Sam was compelled to assume the task of feeding a great part of the world. There has been some decided differences of opinion as to the work which Herbert C. Hoover, food administrator, has done. Because of the great difficulty of his task he has made bitter enemies and many, very many enthusiastic supporters. But there has been no fault found with the work of the food administrator. It is not a matter of history that General Pershing and his staff arrived in Paris on June 24, 1917, and on July 4 American troops entered the city. The streets of Paris and were crowded with the former of the army of the United States who had just won the war.

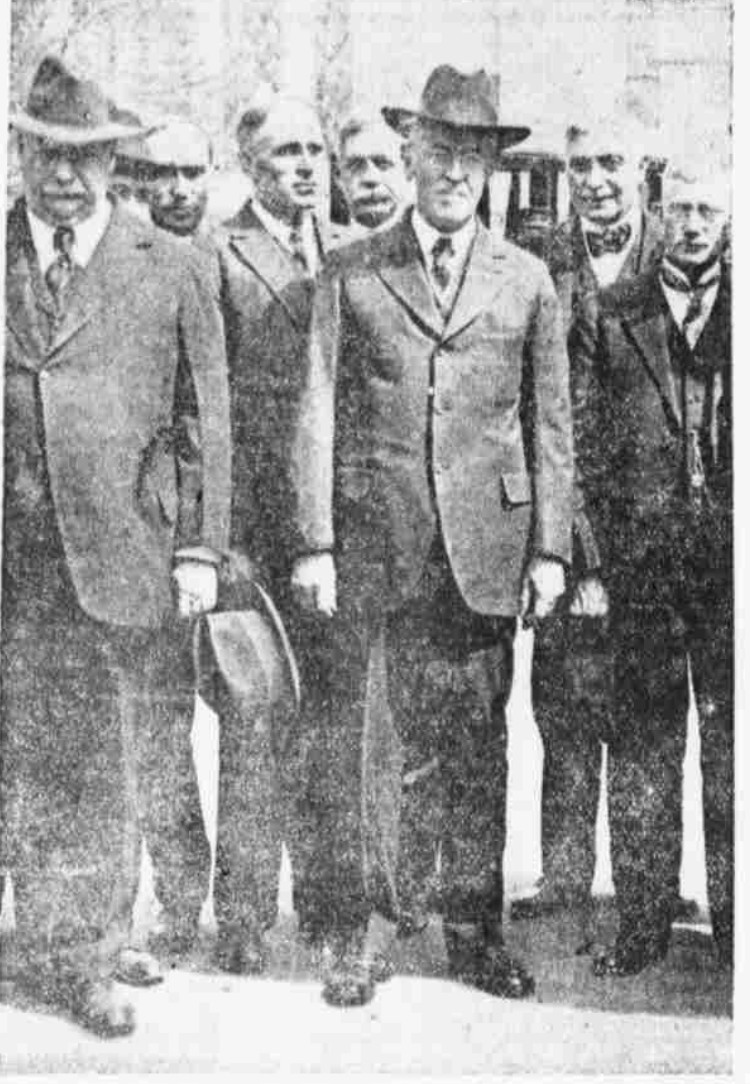
On Firing Line October 1. Within six months after war was declared, on October 10, to exact the first United States soldiers took their places on the firing line and in January of this year American troops took over a part of the line permanently as the American sector. This line has been continually lengthened since.

When war was declared there were no organizations for raising an army of the proportions necessary to fight Germany, except by voluntary enlistment. Experience of Great Britain and other belligerent nations had demonstrated that the best results were obtainable by universal conscription. It then became necessary to pass legislation and form an organization to draft as many millions of men from among the 100,000,000 in the United States between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-seven. This organization was formed with remarkable expedition and within ninety days after war had been declared the first draft of 1,300,000 men had been mustered into the ranks.

27,341 New Officers. To procure officers to command the army of approximately 2,000,000 men, sixteen officers' training camps were opened at various points throughout the country and opened on May 15. Of 40,503 candidates, 27,341 qualified for commissions. Five months later, on August 27, approximately 23,000 more candidates for officers' commissions were assembled at the training camp and about 18,000 of them were later commissioned. The majority of those who failed to obtain commissions were given places as non-commissioned officers.

United Labor and Capital. The very general acceptance by labor and capital of the suggestion of the council that existing labor standards be maintained.

THE PRESIDENT AS HE LOOKS TODAY



This is the very latest photograph of President Wilson, and shows the changes wrought in the appearance of the nation's Chief Executive by the heavy responsibilities and problems of a full year of war. The picture shows the President surrounded by an advisory committee of representative producers of farm products and livestock.

NOTABLE DATES IN WAR RECORD OF U. S. CONGRESS

- March 21—Proclamation of President calling extra session. April 2—Congress convenes pursuant to President's summons. April 2—Congress addresses Congress calling for war on Germany. April 3—Senate adopts war resolution. April 6—House passes war resolution. President signs it immediately. April 6—Proclamation of President calling extra session. April 21—President signs bill authorizing first Liberty Bonds and loan to the Allies. May 1—French Ministry received in House. May 2—Senate receives French Mission. May 2—British Mission received in House. May 5—Senate receives British Mission. May 18—President signs draft law. June 15—President signs espionage bill. June 15—President signs \$225,000,000 urgent deficiency bill, one of that (one the largest appropriation bill in the world). June 23—President signs \$600,000,000 deficit bill. August 10—President signs food control and food control bills. October 6—President signs meeting with the enemy act. October 6—President signs food control bill. October 6—Congress adjourns until December 3. December 2—Congress reconvenes. December 7—President addresses Congress, stating war on Austria. December 7—Declared war on Austria.

SPECULATION IN FOOD U. S. SHIPPING BOARD NECESSITIES REMOVED MEETS BIG PROBLEM

Hoover's Administration Cuts Price to Production Cost. Must Produce Tonnage Space With Inroads of Teuton Submarines. The shipping board has taken over 112 German and Austrian ships of 78,000 dead weight tonnage, all of which have been requisitioned and developed here in the early days of the European war. To speed up ship construction, the shipping board has advanced financial assistance to sixty-three plants to put them in construction of shipyard plants and the installation of plant equipment.

ARMY, READY TO DO BIDDING, RENEWS PLEDGE TO PRESIDENT

By PEYTON C. MARCH. Major General, General Staff, Acting Chief of Staff. The year just closed has been for us a period of preparation. We have been building up our fighting forces. The nucleus of a great army has been transported safely overseas; an army of picked men is being trained and made ready to embark. Eight hundred and eighty thousand new men will be called to the colors during the year. Creditable though our achievement has been, we who are in the army know that our soldiers in the trenches and those in training are but the vanguard.

Hundred Billions Cost of Four Years' War

Washington, April 4. The great war thus far has cost more than \$100,000,000,000, Representative Hull (Tenn.) financial authority in Congress, estimated today. "Despite the predictions of experts four years ago that it would be utterly impossible for the most important commercial nations to finance a war of this magnitude, except for a very brief time," Hull said, "the great expenditures have piled up in excess of \$100,000,000,000—a cost to every man, woman and child on the globe of more than \$60 each."

Navy's Record for Year Remarkable Achievement

By REP. LEMUEL P. PADGETT. Chairman of the House Naval Affairs Committee. "The navy's record for the first twelve months of the war, as shown by the report of the subcommittee which investigated its activities, is one of the most remarkable achievements of the war. "In no way was the navy found wanting. Although the personnel was multiplied by six, every man who enlisted was most carefully cared for; our destroyer force in the next twelve months will be the largest in the world, and the sea fighters are well supplied with all kinds of equipment. I cannot do better than to quote Admiral Mayo, who said: 'All is well with the fleet.'"

NAVAL STRENGTH TRIPLED IN YEAR

350,000 Men Now in Sea Service of United States. WARRING ON SUBMARINES. Navy Quick to Co-operate With Allied Fleets in Protecting Shipping.

Washington, April 5. In twelve months the navy has increased its personnel strength to more than three times what it was on April 6, 1917, the increase in officers and men being from 52,000 to 350,000. A goodly portion of the American navy has worked in close cooperation with the British and French fleets in sealing up the German navy and combating the U-boats, while navy gunners and gunners are on every American merchant ship to protect it from attack by the guns and torpedoes of the German undersea monsters.

DRAFT LAW SUCCESS AS SEEN BY PROVOST GENERAL CROWDER

Vaunted German Efficiency Offers Nothing to Compare with Mobilization of 687,000 Men for National Army, Director Declares. One of the greatest achievements during America's first year in the great world war was the creation of a national draft law, which has largely been responsible for the creation of this great fighting machine.

PREDICTS GREATER U. S. ARMY ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

By H. HUBERT DENT, JR. Chairman House Military Affairs Committee. Much of what has been accomplished by the military branch during the first year must be necessarily remain secret. However, the American people may rest assured that the achievements have far surpassed the fondest hopes entertained by the most optimistic official in Washington a year ago.

LONG AND HARD WAR, GENERAL WOOD PREDICTS

Just Returned From Front, He Believes It Will Be Mislead People by False Hopes. New York, April 3.—General Leonard Wood, just returned from the battlefield, believes the war will be long and hard. "It is wicked to mislead our people into believing that it will be an easy war," he declared here. "It is going to be war that will try our very souls."

CONGRESS COMPLETES MOST EVENTFUL YEAR

Two Declarations of War, Appropriations of \$23,000,000,000, Big Army Authorized, Draft and Many Other Laws Enacted. Washington, April 5. THE Congress of the United States will tomorrow round out the most eventful year in its history. It has broken so many records that they defy complete enumeration. It has established for the past year a place unequalled in historic importance in all American parliamentary annals.

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