

# CHAUMONT WILD IN WELCOME TO NATION'S CHIEF

### In Field Near Langres President Pledges Preservation of Ideals

By Associated Press  
 Chaumont, Dec. 27.—President Wilson on Christmas Day pledged himself to the American troops in the field to attain a peace which would preserve the fruits of the sacrifice they have made. Standing with bare head in a field near Langres, over which Caesar had marched with his legions centuries ago, the President told 10,000 American infantrymen that, now they had done their part to win the ideals for which America entered the war, they could depend upon him to see that they were preserved.

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the American army, did itself proud in its reception. In its homely way it riled Paris, and in the depth of its sincerity it fully equaled it. Cold gray cloud banks shut out the sun and the ground was wet and sodden. But there was no dampness in the welcome. Chaumont simply went wild. The American troops, muddy, cold and soaked, but happy, seemed just as enthusiastic as the country people.

**Speeches in French Tongue**  
 The President's train arrived at 9 o'clock in the morning and the party went at once to city hall, where there was a formal reception. There were speeches, all in French, by the general commanding the district, the mayor and the prefect.

The President nodded appreciatively and smiled from time to time. Just as he began to make his reply, the military band in the square outside broke into the strains of "The Battle Hymn of the Republic," and the President spoke to the dramatic accompaniment of the notes of the famous old American fighting hymn.

**Not Unlike Gettysburg**  
 The preliminary ceremony soon was over, and the President and his party took motorcars to Langres, where selected troops from six divisions were waiting to be reviewed. They were gathered in a field, which might be likened geographically to the battle field of Gettysburg. It lies on a gentle slope between two elevations, with a range of hills on either side and a road running along the top of one of them.

Just as the caravan came up on the crest overlooking the troops, a very old French woman standing at the roadside waved frantically at the passing cars to take in a bouquet of flowers she wanted to give to Mrs. Wilson. The long line of cars had stopped on, showing the distinguished old woman with mud when the President caught the situation and, stopping the line, sent a colonel back through the mud to get the old lady's flowers. Having taken them in, the cars proceeded.

A temporary boardwalk had been built over the quagmire of the reviewing field to the stand and there the President took his place, surrounded by General Pershing, Mrs. Wilson, Rear Admiral Grayson, General Liggett, General Alexander and General Hale, commanding the 26th Division.

**Wilson Speaks Earnestly**  
 The President addressed the troops as "My fellow countrymen," and silence, which he characterized as the quiet of peace, settled down over the spot as every man of the 10,000 stood at attention and strained to catch the President's words. He spoke for about five minutes earnestly and as loudly as he could. Probably half the troops heard him. They all seemed to recognize the historical significance of the occasion. There stood before them an American President, the first in history to review an American army on foreign soil.

Every man taking part in the review had seen action. War crosses were plentiful; the men had been through all and were veterans in every sense of the word. There was an unmistakable flash of wholesome pride in the President's eye and a catch in his throat as he looked at them and remarked what a privilege it would be to have been one of them.

**Plays American Melodies**  
 The moment the President finished speaking, the review was on—men, guns, horses, dogs, of the latter a select assortment. The headquarters band began with a "French air," then switched to "The Stars and Stripes Forever," "The Swanee River," "Maryland," and "Dixie."

The notes of the American airs were wafted over the bleak fields to the blue hills in the background as the men began to move, marching in company front formation, wheeling past the reviewing stand, eyes right.

First came the men of the 6th Division, veterans of the Meuse and Argonne offensives; then infantry and machine guns of the 26th, veterans of the Chemin Des Dames, Chateau Thierry and the Argonne. The men of the 29th, also in the Argonne offensive, were next, and a composite battalion of the 77th. Detachments of the 80th, who were in the fighting at Verdun last October and detachments of the 82nd followed. The review was brought to an end by a long train of ammunition wagons, dragged through the mire by the inevitable army mule, who seemed to be the least interested of all, and a company of fifteen whippet tanks.

**Presents Division Emblem**  
 At the close of the review General Alexander stepped up to the stand and presented Mr. Wilson with one of the little silken statues of Liberty which the men of the 77th wear on their shoulders to denote their division.

The President and party then reentered the motorcars, going to Christmas dinner with the officers of the 26th Division, composed entirely of New England troops. Dinner was served in one of the empty wards of an old French hospital several miles away. It had been the President's wish and plan to dine with the troops themselves, but in the crush of arrangements something went wrong and the plan was not carried out.

**Dinner in Simple Fashion**  
 The President seemed to enjoy the dinner none the less. It consisted of army bread without butter, roast turkey with dressing, boiled onions, French lettuce and coffee with cream. All was served in the simplest style and with the littlest ceremony.

From dinner, the President went on a tour of billets in the nearby neighborhood, all of them on the road returning to Chaumont, and inspected personally several of the places where the men live with old French families, some of them in thatched huts.

**Greatest Day of His Life**  
 The resident told those about him that he had passed through the greatest day of his life. The French thought it was a great day for them, and the Americans were sure it was not less great for them. All the American troops in the vicinity, who were not concerned in the review, were somewhere to see what was going on.

**WARSHIPS GOING TO DENMARK**  
 Copenhagen, Dec. 27.—The American legation here was informed that American warships would arrive at Copenhagen probably Saturday. It was said they would remain here several days on their way into the Baltic sea.

# POPE BENEDICT FINDS TASK IN KEEPING PEACE

### Assures Members of Sacred College He Will Strive For Durable Peace

Rome, Dec. 27.—Pope Benedict sees in the result of the world war his task of repairing the moral ills of the war no less than the material damages. In replying to the greetings of the members of the Sacred College, who presented their Christmas wishes to him, the Pope said he wondered if it were not the Holy Father's task to dissipate, as far as lay in his power, the dangers of fresh perturbations which might result from excessive national hatreds and passions.

The Pope said he hoped his work henceforth might be an echo of the decision of the peace conference and mainly directed to the areas and instructions of his children and the protection and direction of workers and the counselling of the wealthy classes for the good use of their wealth and authority.

The Pope expressed a wish that the decisions of the coming peace congress not only would re-establish order, but would give a new birth "to human sentiments which will render communion with our brothers and the sacrifices made for them sweet." The Pontiff declared that he would do all in his power to facilitate acquiescence in the decisions of the congress in order to insure a just and durable peace.

Pope Benedict expressed doubt whether the temper that had devastated the world had not left in the hearts of men the deadly remains of ancient rancors, unwholesome germs of discord, vengeance and reprisals. The very ardor of war and the passion for defense of country, the Pontiff added, were noble in their origin, although it was natural that in principle they could easily lead to excesses and make the germs of social discord more grave.

# WAR PUTS LEAN FARE ON ENEMY CHRISTMAS MENU

### Nearly All Feasters Compelled to Resort to "Schlechtelhandel"

By Associated Press  
 Berlin, Dec. 27.—The Germans, particularly those living in the larger cities, had lean fare for their Christmas dinners.

So much has been said about the food situation that it is understandable if there is an impression in some quarters that the situation has been exaggerated. Here, however, there is one excellent barometer of the situation, namely, "Schlechtelhandel," as illegitimate trafficking

in foodstuffs is termed, and this is beginning to diminish markedly. A month ago it was possible to buy butter, sausages and some other articles from these surreptitious dealers at high prices. During the last fortnight, however, it has become increasingly difficult to find these things, and even the best "connections and sources" now are unable to produce more than occasional small portions at greatly increased prices.

When the crafty dealers in this business cannot longer secure articles, there can hardly be a doubt that it is because they do not exist. Wealthy people, it is true, still can obtain limited quantities of what used to be considered luxuries, though at terrific prices. In one particular case one man in Berlin paid 540 marks for a ham, the eggs to go with it costing three marks apiece. A dinner recently purchased at an Unter Den Linden restaurant, consisting of this soup, fish, meat and a baked apple, cost 62 marks. Coffee would have cost three marks additional.

the highest daily wage of a skilled German mechanic rarely reaches 20 marks. Those in the poorer walks of life all declare that it is absolutely impossible to keep body and soul together on the rations distributed on food cards. The correspondent can declare on personal knowledge that it was impossible even in the winter

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Not a garment in our whole stock held back. The sale involves the lowest as well as the finest garments we have and the reductions are made regardless of the real value of the merchandise. There is plenty of winter weather ahead—in fact, the real winter hasn't begun—but we are bound to have frigid weather.

These styles will be suitable for next winter as well as for now, and can be worn until the warm weather sets in. Our Underselling policy has never been better demonstrated than right now, in the midst of a season. On account of the drastic reductions none will be sent on approval and none C. O. D.

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 Sizes from 16 Misses' to Women's 46 and Extra Sizes to 54  
 Fur Trimmed and Self Trimmed—All Lined Throughout With Guaranteed Satin.  
 Women's & Misses' Plush Coats, Special, \$18.75  
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 Comprising Those That Sold up to \$49.50  
 Your Unrestricted Choice at **24.50**  
 Broadcloth, Silvertone, Velour, Poplin, Tricotine, Serge and Velvet. All the most fashionable colors and all sizes in the lot. Remember these are our finest suits and are wonderful values.

**Women's and Misses' Coats**  
 After Christmas Sale at **\$18.75**  
 Velours, Kerseys, Pompoms, Novelties and Salt's Plushes. All the wanted shades both in the staple colors and odd shades. And all the new models—they are copies of the highest priced coats. Most of them sold freely at much higher prices. All sizes for misses and women.



**Women's and Misses' Coats**  
 After Christmas Sale at **\$22.75**  
 Broadcloths, Kerseys, Velours and Pompoms. With fur or plush collars—lined throughout with guaranteed linings. A wonderful assortment of the best models to select from. All of the newest colors and plenty of blacks. Sizes range from misses' 16 to women's 46.



**Women's and Misses' Coats**  
 After Christmas Sale at **\$13.75**  
 In Our After Christmas Sale Wool Velours, Pompoms, Egyptian Plushes and Kersey, Black, Navy, dark brown, dark green, Burgundy, taupe and gray. Nutria collars, cone collars and self collars. Some self lined; some full lined.



**Women's and Misses' COATS \$9.75**  
 In Our After Christmas Sale Wool Velour in two new models. All colors and sizes for misses and women. A very excellent group of Coats for general and dress wear, in the leading shades and most extraordinary special value.



**Women's and Misses' Coats**  
 After Christmas Sale at **\$24.75**  
 Exclusive models in many styles. Staple styles in fine broadcloth and velour with or without fur collars. Many of them silk lined throughout all have guaranteed linings. A great assortment of styles but not many of each. Sizes for misses and women. All are wonderful values.



**Women's and Misses' COATS \$16.75**  
 In Our After Christmas Sale Velours, Pompoms, Kerseys, Meltons. All the colors are among them and the odd shades of resindee, claret and beetroot. Some have big fur collars, while others have big collars of plush. Most of them are half or full lined.



**Women's and Misses' COATS \$11.75**  
 In Our After Christmas Sale Pompoms, Velours, Boucles—an excellent assortment of the new models for misses and women. Some have lined. Some with plush collars; some with fur collars; others with self collars. Black, Navy, taupe, Burgundy, dark brown, dark green.



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 Extra Special Saturday News 1/2  
 We will place on sale the soiled from display and slightly hurt merchandise remaining from the holiday selling tomorrow at ..... Original Price  
**Electric Table Lamps Reduced to \$2.45**  
 These were left from the Christmas selling and sold for much more. They are mahogany finish and completely wired.  
**Japanese China Half Price Saturday**  
 Fancy pieces, such as syrup jugs, bureau sets and rosette jars, together with many other desirable pieces.  
**Mahogany Candle Sticks 24c**  
 This is half price. Well finished and well made. Just what the home should have all the year round.  
 HUNDREDS OF OTHER ARTICLES IN THE BARGAIN BASEMENT WILL BE MARKED AT HALF PRICE ON SATURDAY. COME AND LOOK OVER THE VARIOUS LINES AND MAKE YOUR SELECTION.

**Big Clothing Reductions For Saturday**  
 Our Entire Stock of Men's, Young Men's and Boys' Suits and Overcoats Generously Reduced for Saturday Selling  
 We place the entire clothing stock at your disposal on Saturday at big reductions. You may come and choose the suit or overcoat you like and you will be able to buy it for less than the regular price. The reduction will be very substantial and will be a splendid saving. The fact that our reductions are genuine and made from our regular low prices means a lot to you. It is better to get a genuine reduction that doesn't sound so unheard-of than to get one in the paper but not in fact. Here you will find what you come for and the price will be agreeably surprising.  
**The Reductions in This Saturday Sale Include:**  
 All Men's and Young Men's Suits  
 All Men's and Young Men's Overcoats  
 All Boys' Suits and Overcoats  
 Every garment is the newest in style and the materials are excellent and are stylish as well as serviceable. All sizes, for all builds.  
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