

S. WINDS UP BUSIEST YEAR IN WAR OFFICE

Demobilization of Great Army
Completed Even Faster
Than Anticipated.

ANNUAL REPORT MADE

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The war work of the war department following the armistice and during 1919 was principally that of taking a great war machine to pieces.

The biggest task was demobilization, including as it did the return of 2,000,000 troops from overseas in even less time than they were rushed to the front, and their return to civil life after arrival here, as well as the help in helping the new civilian to readjustment.

During this demobilization the war department was also concerned with building up a force to replace that being returned to the walks of peace, and one large enough to meet the needs of the country until a permanent policy is determined.

The department has also disposed of a large part of the vast stocks of supplies accumulated for war.

SECRETARY TELLS OF HUGE TASK

"The armistice, which concluded hostilities on Nov. 11, 1918, called upon us to reverse the flow of men and supplies across the Atlantic," said the secretary of war's annual report. "Up to that day the energies of the department were devoted to the acceleration of the processes by which our army was selected, trained, transported to France and supplied there. From the 11th of November our problems have been the return and demobilization of our soldiers, cancellation and adjustment of contracts for war supplies, the settlement of obligations between the war department and the public authorities and nationals of our allies in the war, and the formation of a military policy for the country which would adjust the permanent military establishment to our needs and apply to its organization the lessons learned in the war."

"The general plan for demobilization of the emergency army had as its object the transfer of all men prior to their discharge to the demobilization camp in or near their home states, from which they entered the service, and there dis-

PRESIDENT'S CHIEF COOK WEDS



WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—Christian H. Nilsson, a soldier stationed at Ft. Washington, is sure of good eats hereafter. His bride, recently wedded, is Sigfred C.

charging them," the secretary's report continues.

"For this purpose," said the secretary, "certain camps used during the war for mobilization were put to the use of demobilization. Work was facilitated by having much preliminary detail completed in France." The United States report states, was able to follow a different plan than any of the other countries, which insured the maximum strength of the various units right up to the time they were mustered out, and prevented discontent. Every effort, the report said, was made to see that each man was returned to his niche in

the civil world, or assisted to suitable employment.

ARMY TOTALED 3,737,624 MEN.

The army, during the war totaled 3,737,624 men. There had been demobilized on Nov. 10, 1919, 3,236,206 men.

"During the earlier period of this rapid demobilization," said the report, "the problem of unemployment of the part of returned soldiers presented serious difficulties. The industry of the country itself was in process of reorganization, and there was a necessary interval before the channels of trade could be cleared and the resumption of ordinary business effected."

"Very close co-operation was established by the department of labor in dealing with this situation. An agency was set up in the war department to aid discharged officers and soldiers to find employment. It did not operate as an employment agency, but appealed success-

fully to the chambers of commerce, local councils of defense, business men's associations and other bodies in the industrial centers and by giving a certain leadership and direction to their several efforts greatly relieved the condition."

"Throughout the country there was an instant response to the appeal of the returned soldier," said the secretary. In building up the force to replace the emergency army in 1919 units of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps had been established, 191 being in collegiate and 128 in secondary institutions. More than 90,000 students were undergoing instruction at the close of the academic year, June, 1919. Applications for such additional units for the term which commenced in September were received. During training camps were conducted during last summer which were attended by 2,405 students. Due to demobilization

of officers on duty with these units a reorganization has been necessary. The organization on Oct. 31, 1919, called for a total of 347 units in which incomplete enrollment shows approximately 100,000 students undergoing training.

Approximately 137,000 men have been enlisted for periods of one and three years during 1919 for service in the regular army. This year also more than 7,000 replacement troops were dispatched to Russia, and a garrison provided for the Rhine, while another force has been sent to Coblenz, Germany, for possible service in Silesia later. The American force in Germany, which is the successor to the A. E. F., numbers 10,339 enlisted men, with 519 officers, and the force destined for Silesia is 4,330 enlisted men with 220 officers.

American forces in northern Russia were withdrawn in September, 1919. Their total casualties during their occupation of Russia were 533 men. The United States still maintains a force in Siberia, the report states. These troops have been in action in 1919, the first skirmish occurring in June with bolshevik forces. Up to Oct. 1, 1919, a total of 109 casualties had been suffered, of which twenty-eight were killed in action and eight died of wounds, five committed suicide, forty-one of disease and twenty-seven of accident and other causes.

Summarizing his figures, the secretary estimated that the total surplus property both here and abroad, amounted roughly to \$3,700,000,000, of which amount \$2,882,000,000 has been disposed of, giving a return to the war department of \$1,314,000,000, or a recovery of 51 per cent, based on the ratio of return to cost.

Under financial operations the secretary has given data on the Panama canal, in which he pointed out that the tolls collected in 1919 amounted to \$6,149,508.54.

"Had a juster system of measurement for tolls been in force," he said, "the receipts would have aggregated \$7-

Wife Gets His Job and Bosses Him Now

NEW YORK, Jan. 2.—From now on, in the town clerk's office at Orangeburg, Rockland county, Mr. Helen E. Essex, wife of Harry T. Essex, will give her husband orders instead of taking them from him. Town Clerk Essex, elected for seven terms, surrendered the office today to his wife, who was elected in November to succeed him, beginning Jan. 1. No woman ever before had been elected town clerk. Mr. Essex has been in office fourteen years and his wife was his deputy. Henceforth she will be the "boss" officially and he will be her deputy.

"He's always handy," she said, "and when I need help I'll call on him."

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Bolshevik Facing Big Disappointment

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A soviet wireless message from Moscow yesterday flashed New Year's greetings to the world. The message, after celebrating 1919 as a year of victory for the soviets, says:

"In 1920 we shall attain a victorious end of civil war. Siberia, the Ukraine, the Don region and the Caucasus desire soviets. There also will be soviets at Berlin, Washington, Paris and London. Soviet authority will be supreme throughout the world."

Measures looking to this correction have been introduced in congress, he said.

A total of 2,025 ships passed through the canal in 1919, the report stated. Their aggregate net tonnage was 6,175,575 tons. In addition 186 vessels of the United States navy passed through the canal.

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