

PARIS, Dec. 24 .- Important confer

Astoria Celebrates in Song.

MARGUERITE

CLARK

IN

"LITTLE

The entente governments, the press accounts declare, are completely in ac-cord in a decision to refuse to under-take a vast military expedition into Russia. It is considered the part of Russia herself to get together her or-derly elements, which, when united, it is declared, will find support and practical help forthcoming from the allied mations and America.

RAILWAY NEEDED FOR RELIEF

Chartes R. Crane Says Russia Faces

Serious Condition.

SEATTLE, Dec. 24 .-- Charles R. Crane, SEATTLE, Dec. 24.—Charles R. Crane, former member of the Root commis-sion to Russia, just back from Siberia and the Orient, said today: "No one knows anything about Russia; it is a tragedy. There are two things which stand out distinctly, which are des-perately needed—maintenance of the trans-Siberia Railway and the abso-late need of Russia for relief."

lute need of Russia for relief." Men who possessed great knowledge of Russia prior to the war and even during her share in the war, Mr. Crane believes, cannot give reliable views on the country now. To supply food and relief and save the country from a dangerous position, he said, the trans-Siberian Railway must be Improved and kept in steady operation.

GUARD MAY BE WIPED OUT

ARMY OFFICERS SAY UNIVER-SAL SERVICE MAY COME.

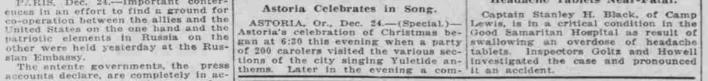
Secretary of War Says States Should Wait Until Men Return Before Trying to Reorganize.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—If Congress determines to continue the National Guard as the Army reserve of the Nation, Secretary Baker said today, the Guard service will have to be recon-stituted from the ground up. Federall-mation of the Guard for war service, the War Department has held on the

mation of the Guard for war service.
the War Department has held on the opinion of Brigadier-General Samuel T. Ancell. Acting Judge Advocate-General, will wipe out of existence the Federalized regiments. When the men are discharged they will return to civilian life without any obligation either to the Federal or state governments to continue in National Guard service.
Mr. Baker expressed a belief that the problem of the National Guard movement is bound up closely with what Congress may do later in framing legislation to establish a permanent military policy. Should some system of universal military training be worked out, Army officers said, it is probable that the National Guard would cease to exist. The War Department has not as yet made any recommendations on the subject.
There are many National Guard mits organized since the war by the various states which are not affected by the War Department's ruling. In some cases Federal recognition has been obtained, bringing the units under the federalization sections of the act of 1916.

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of 1916. Mr. Baker said he anticipated that state authorities generally would not attempt to reconstitute any of the old





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