

America Has Passed Most Stirring Year



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Pictorial Phases of Year's Events at Home

1, James Whitcomb Riley, poet, died; 2, submarine Deutschland; 3, President Wilson and Charles Evans Hughes; 4, Congressman William C. Adams, sponsor for eight hour bill; 5, Francisco Villa, bandit leader; 6, General Pershing, leader of punitive expedition; 7, soldiers leaving for border.

By GEORGE L. KILMER.
Election and Politics.
The chief events in this country during the twelve months just closed have been the national election and the situation on the border of Mexico. The prospects of complications with Germany over submarine warfare assumed serious aspects early in the year. The whole country has had an unusually prosperous year. The prices of all kinds of produce and of many household necessities have advanced, in some cases, beyond all precedent, with the result that the cost of living has increased on an average of 33 1/3 per cent or more.

Villa's Columbus Raid.
The situation on the Mexican border became acute early in the spring, when a body of Mexicans led by General Francisco Villa crossed into United States territory on the 9th of March and raided Columbus, N. M. Eighteen United States soldiers were killed in repelling the attack. This foray halted temporarily proceedings looking to a favorable understanding between the United States and the de facto government of Mexico headed by Carranza. It was about this time that rival factions in Mexico were aiming to defeat Carranza's efforts to restore order. Following Villa's raid, troops of the United States army were rushed from their stations inland to reinforce the slender garrisons which the United States had maintained at important points on the Mexican border since the outbreak against the government of Porfirio Diaz five years ago.

The Affair at Carrizal.
A "punitive expedition" was ordered to cross the Rio Grande and eliminate Villa and his band. On March 15 Colonel Dorr and General Pershing were on Mexican soil, proceeding south in two columns, Dorr's in the lead. On March 20 Dorr's column defeated 500 Villistas, killing thirty. Other actions between United States troops of Pershing's column and the Mexicans followed. Carranza immediately began to object to the presence of United States troops on Mexican soil and asked for their withdrawal. At the end of April General Obregon met General H. L. Scott and General Funston at Juarez to discuss the situation on the border. Nothing came of it. A month later Carranza asked for immediate withdrawal, alleging bad faith on the part of the United States.

The first clash between Carranzistas and United States troops occurred in June. On the 16th General Trevino informed General Pershing that a movement of United States troops east, west or south from the positions then occupied by them would be considered a hostile act. About that time President Wilson called out the militia of the whole country for service on the Mexican border and notified Mexico that American troops would remain solely to protect the United States border. The next day two troops of the United States cavalry were attacked outside of Carrizal, ninety miles south of Juarez. Mexican General Felix Gomez was killed, also Captain C. T. Boyd and Lieutenant Adair of the Tenth cavalry. The affair resulted from an attempt by the cavalry to march westward in defiance of General Trevino's notice of the 16th. Twenty-three troops were made prisoners by the Mexicans, thirteen killed and sixteen missing.

President Wilson demanded the immediate release of the prisoners and ordered the militia rushed to the border. The prisoners were delivered at El Paso three days after the president's demand. Early in September an American-Mexican joint commission met to confer upon the matters in dispute between the government of the United States and Mexico. This joint commission signed a protocol Nov. 24. Meanwhile, one day before the protocol was signed, Villistas attacked Chihuahua City and were defeated by Carranzistas. Two days later they again attacked and occupied part of the city, but were expelled on Dec. 1 by Carranza forces.

Vagaries of weather began in the winter and continued up to autumn. On Jan. 27 the temperature was 66-69, a record, in New York. The same day there was a blizzard on the Pacific coast and in the Rocky mountains. Aug. 14 was the coldest for that day known in the east in forty-six years, the thermometer touching 53. The latest real snowstorm known in New England in fifty years came on April 28.

In August the United States concluded a treaty with Denmark to purchase the Danish West India Islands for \$25,000,000. The Panama canal was reopened to traffic in April after being closed for several months by obstructions in the Gatun lock. In June the epidemic among children known as infantile paralysis broke out in New York City and spread to neighboring districts. Another August the death toll exceeded 2,000, and the epidemic began to subside.

Clapper Army and Navy.
During the year Congress appropriated nearly \$200,000,000 for national defense. On July 1 the army reorganization act of June 3 went into effect. It increased the strength of the regular army and decentralized the national guard, placing it under the pay and control of the national government.

The new law authorized a war strength of approximately 290,000 regulars and a national guard maximum of 400,000. The defense legislation authorized early construction of four huge battleships and four big battle cruisers. July floods in Virginia, North Carolina and South Carolina caused a loss of life estimated at fifty and property loss of \$15,000,000. In August a cloud-burst and flood in West Virginia destroyed sixty-six lives and property valued at \$5,000,000. An explosion of European war munitions in New York harbor caused damage amounting to \$15,000,000.

Among the deaths of notable people during the year were General Victoriano Huerta, J. E. Trowbridge, Robert Burns Wilson, Clara Louise Kellogg, Rev. Dr. Timothy Dwight, James J. Hill, H. H. Green, James Whitcomb Riley, John P. St. John, Horace White, Seth Low, Frank Dempster Sherman, Charles Tazewell, John D. Archbold and Percival Lowell.

The nomination of Louis D. Brandeis to the supreme court bench caused criticism, but he was confirmed June 3. Brandeis's statue of Liberty Enlightening the World was first illumined by an electrical flood of light, which is to be permanent, on the 2d of December.

A "Friendly Match."
I speak of a "friendly match," not at all forgetting that dictum of the old Scot to whom his opponent, breaking some trivial rule, said, "I suppose you won't claim that in a friendly match?"

"Friendly match!" was the reply. "There's no such thing as golf!"—London Telegraph.

Morbidly Suspicious.
"If you want to fight I'll hold your coat," said the bystander to the quarrelsome man.

"Great Scott! Can't a man even stand in the street without having a check boy try to work a tip out of him?"—Washington Star.

Couldn't Fool Her.
The Mother—Do you think he has matrimonial intentions, dear? The Maid—I certainly do, mother. He tried his very best to convince me last night that I appeared to better advantage in that twelve dollar hat than in the fifty dollar one.—Puck.

Foxy Jack.
Edith—Oh, Jack told a dozen girls he loved them before he proposed to you. Ethel—Well, that's all right. When I spoke of it he told me they merely represented steps in his progression to his present ideal.—Exchange.

Cynical.
Stane—So you believe in signs, eh? Well, when a man is always making new friends what is that a sign of? Blane—It's most likely a sign that his old friends have found him out.

The one who has read the book that is called woman knows more than the one who has grown pale in libraries.—Houshaye.

A Policeman's Life Is Not a Happy One

By M. QUAD
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"My son," began the officer as we walked his beat together, "when you see a patrolman sauntering along the street and swinging his club you think to yourself how easy he earns his money. It is not so easy when you come to understand everything. I may not make an arrest once in two weeks of an offender against the law, but I am busy all the time, and you shall hear about it."

"In the first place it seems to me that four out of five families have a row three or four times a week. In winter I do not hear so much, but in summer, when the windows are open, I hear much more than I want to. The dwelling houses on my beat are mostly three stories and of brick. The first story is occupied, as a rule, by bookkeepers, salesmen and the like, who can afford to pay about \$20 a month. There are two families above them which belong to the laboring class."

"I am sauntering along my beat and the first floor family are at supper when I hear the husband call out: 'Maggie, what in the devil do you get such meat for?'

"It was all I could get with the money you left me."

"Then why didn't you run in debt a little?"

"Because we owe now more than we can ever pay."

"Don't you concern yourself about what I can pay or cannot. This meat isn't fit for a dog to eat! It is all bone and fat and gristle!"

"Well, you must eat it the best way you can. I am always pinched for money and always have to buy the cheapest things. We have got to keep you well dressed, you know, and the rest of us must wear our old clothes."

"Turned if I don't wish I had never married!"

"And so do I, for that matter."

"And then I hear the husband shove back from the table, and in a minute more he is on the street and walking away. Half a block below I hear an other row."

"You may say, my son, that these family skeletons do not concern the patrolman on the beat, but they do just the same. About three out of five of them end in a row in which furniture is smashed and blows are given and taken. Then it is his duty to make his appearance and take a hand in. We try to be peace-makers, but it often happens that we have to take the whole family to the station. Wives drink as well as husbands, and when it happens that both have been drinking they are very hard to handle. When they appear in court next morning one or the other has a black eye to be ashamed of, and they are so repentant that his honor or generally lets them go on suspended sentence. There is another thing, my son, that may surprise you. Take them as they run on any patrolman's beat in this city and not one out of five children up to six years old has learned the number and street of his home. As sure as they get three or four blocks away they are lost. They can tell the first name of the father or mother, but that is the best they can do. It would take a father or mother about fifteen minutes to teach a child the street and number, but they don't do it. It would take about ten minutes to write the address down on a card and sew this card to their clothing, but they never take this precaution. When a child is lost they seek to think I ought to know every child on my beat."

"I can't leave my beat to go hunting up lost children and so I send her to the station. Nine times out of ten I have got to go looking around after my regular hours of duty. Sometimes I find the child not more than two blocks away, and sometimes I have to hunt for two hours, with my feet aching as if somebody had clubbed them. I tell you as a fact that not one mother or ten in can do so describe a lost child as to make easy work of finding him or her. We will suppose that a woman comes running up to me to say that her little girl, five years old, is lost. I must first calm her, for she is greatly excited, and then the conversation runs about as follows:

"When did you miss your girl?"

"About two hours ago."

"What was the color of her hair?"

"Brown, sir."

"And were her eyes blue or black?"

"I can't be sure which, but I think they were black."

"What sort of a dress did she have on?"

"A brown calico."

"Did she have shoes on?"

"I think not, sir."

"Did she wear any sort of a hat?"

"No, sir."

"Is she a good sized girl for her age?"

"Many people have taken her for ten years old, sir."

"I take all this down in writing, but I am pretty sure that it is useless. Four blocks up my beat I come across the first girl. She has walked and walked until she has become weary and is sitting on the curbstone to rest. Her hair, her eyes, her size, her dress are all different from what the mother described them, and yet she is the lost girl. When I lead her back to the corner from which she can see her house she is all right. If I hadn't happened to pass her he hunt might have gone on for two or three days."

An Easy Task.
Lover (mournfully)—Have you learned to love another? Phil (who had just broken off her engagement with him)—Oh, no, George. I didn't have to learn. The man is very, very wealthy, and the love came spontaneously.

Raised the Ante.
Small Elmer—Papa, give me a nickel. Papa—Why, Elmer, you are most too late to be begging for a nickel. Small Elmer—I guess you're right, papa. Make it a dime.—Chicago News.

Time For Little but War Abroad In 1916



Pictorial Phases of Year's Events Abroad

1, King Constantine of Greece; 2, French soldiers protected by mask against a gas attack on the Somme front; 3, Sir Roger Casement, hanged for participation in Irish rebellion; 4, Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, who died; 5, Roumanian infantry, which entered war this year; 6, Earl Kitchener, killed by a submarine; 7, the Sussex, cross channel steamer, torpedoed by a submarine; 8, British battleship battered off Jutland during greatest sea battle in history.

By Captain GEORGE L. KILMER, Late U. S. V.

SURPRISES have not ceased in the surprising world war, now well into its third year. The more important of these surprises in 1916 have been in France, at sea, on the Italian front and in the Balkans. In January the Germans, who were supposed to be on the defensive in France, sprang a vicious attack along a five mile front in the Champagne. Farther north, on Vimy ridge, and at Ypres, Belgium, they stormed British trenches, 800 yards and 600 yards in length. While attention was thus drawn to the northern front the Germans suddenly launched heavy attacks on Feb. 22 north of Verdun, starting a tremendous drive against that famous salient, which the crown prince originally struck at in August, 1914. Three days later Fort Douaumont, four miles from the city, was captured following a bombardment which nearly razed its walls. Next day the Germans captured six fortified French villages and on the 23rd shifted the attack from the north to the south east. Fighting continued for weeks. The middle of May it was evident that the French line would hold in front of the city itself.

The element of surprise in the Verdun drive lay in that the Germans would risk heavy losses in storming fortifications for the mere purpose apparently of shortening their front.

Counterdrive by the Allies.

It has been hinted that the German offensive at Verdun was launched to forestall an expected Anglo-French offensive against the German command farther north. Such a movement was launched the 1st of July along the river Somme and the river Aisne. Peronne and Bapaume being the objectives. Every day for two weeks either the French or British plunged forward, now capturing a village, now a woods. Again the Germans would retake ground by desperate counterattacks. Supposed keys like Contalmaison and Comblis were captured, but Peronne and Bapaume still cover the railroad along which the Germans on the battle line in France receive their supplies through Belgium. At the end of two weeks of forward movements on the Somme, Lloyd-George, British minister of war, exclaimed in a council of leaders, "Victory is beginning to flow in our direction."

Russia Comes Back.

Lloyd-George evidently included in the flow of victory Russia's great enterprises in her southwest war zone, Bukovina and eastern Galicia. The Russians had been expelled from the Warsaw and Vistula line in the autumn of 1915, but a considerable body remained in eastern Bukovina and just outside its borders. The Austro-Germans had also left garrisons for their original fortifications there. Early in January the Russians began a drive in the vicinity of Czernowitz. Nothing of consequence resulted, but the movement, taken in connection with attacks in the district of Vilna and Dvinsk, in the north, gave proof that Russia still had aggressive power. In June General Brusiloff assumed command in the southwest and, aiming for the Lemberg, turned the flank of the Austrian defenses in Volhynia and Bukovina. In one week the Russians claimed 80,000 prisoners, captured the fortress of Dubno, also Czernowitz, and were marching upon Lutsk and Kovel. But about the time that Lloyd-George voiced his optimism the Russians found themselves checked on the river Stokhot and on the Dniester, south.

Greatest of Naval Battles.

Lloyd-George also had in mind the naval battle of Jutland, which took place on the last day of May. This has been called the greatest naval action in history. It was the greatest to date in this war. The British claimed a great victory, which amounts to a confession that the German navy is

by no means a negligible factor. The Germans ventured to sea seeking battle. They overcame the advance British column and were not checked until the heavy British battleships arrived on the scene.

Both sides lost heavily in battleships, cruisers, destroyers and men. In a tactical sense the action was a draw, but it demonstrated that the German navy is not "bottled up."

Early in the spring the Italians resumed activities on the line of the Isonzo, particularly at Goritz. In April the Austrians suddenly began an offensive against Italian positions in Trentino, which the latter had invaded May, 1915. This move was a complete surprise and forced the Italians into hurried retreat. At the end of May Austria reported 80,000 prisoners and 200 cannon as the spoils of two months' operations. By the middle of June the Italians had turned on their enemy, and the great offensive was checked.

The Austrian movement was evidently timed to affect Italy's aggressive movements in the south, where the objective of the Italians is Trieste. Goritz stood in the way of progress toward the coveted citadel. It fell Aug. 9. Since the fall of Goritz the Italians have made slow progress toward Trieste.

Something was needed in the allied camps at midsummer to pull up waning hopes, hopes dashed by the abandonment of the Gallipoli expedition early in January, the surrender of Kut-el-Amara with 10,000 British soldiers in April, the subjugation of Serbia and Montenegro and the menacing situation in Greece. The allies' infantry from Gallipoli had been transferred to Salonika with the evident purpose of marching northward and taking the Bulgarian forces in Serbia and on their own borders in the rear.

Serious Outlook For Germany.

In some respects it seemed as though the allies had unloaded a dead weight by abandoning the direct attack upon Constantinople. The Russians almost from the beginning of the war had been coming down into Asia Minor in a direction which would bring them into junction with the British column moving up the Taurus river toward Bagdad. In February Russia captured Erzerum, Mesopotamia, from the Turks. This was followed two months later by the capture of Trebizond, on the Black Sea. Russia's southward march from bases in her own home territory, backed up by her fleet on the Black Sea, really a strategic prolongation of her line in Rukewina and Galicia, constituted a menace to German ambition in the near east.

The elimination of Serbia as a factor, which was made certain in the winter of 1916 and the certainty that Turkey could be relied upon for troops and supplies, coupled with the apparent difficulty of the allies in launching a stroke in the back of the Teutonic

powers through Greece, brought up again the supposed German dream of a Berlin to Bagdad route. This dream was dissipated when it became evident that Russia was forcing the Turks out of Mesopotamia and effectively co-operating with the allies at Saloniki. The situation of Germany had a serious look as autumn came on, with Verdun untaken, the allies storming a third line on the Somme and the Russians displaying enough vigor in their southwest to hold the Austrian forces at full strength in Volhynia, Bukovina and Greece. Then suddenly Roumania cast her lot with the allies and, as it was supposed, added 400,000 men to the enemies of the Teuton on the Vienna to Constantinople line.

Von Hindenburg Scores Again.

How Von Hindenburg turned to grapple with this new foe is the most surprising chapter in the history of the war, a new example of efficiency at headquarters and in the fighting ranks. No check worthy of the name was suffered after crossing two frontiers, until converging armies met before doomed Bukharest, taken on Dec. 6.

Roumania seems to have repeated the French blunder of August, 1914, when, instead of going to the aid of Belgium, Joffre sent a big army to recover Alsace. Instead of striking Bulgaria, Roumania marched north into Hungary, a move which invited German and Bulgars to strike at her vitals from the south. So, while Von Mackensen marched and conquered in the general direction of the Danube, central Roumania and Bukharest, the Roumanians, who had poured over her northern border, were easily turned back, their conquests wrested from them and the entire venture of the last of the Balkan states was turned into a fizzle, so far as support of the allies was concerned. There remains Greece—at least the rebellious part of it—to stimulate the hope that the Teutonic powers may yet receive a vital thrust in the back. The conquest of Roumania required time, energy and lives. Whether the compensation will equal the investment time alone can tell. The end of 1916 finds the German powers resourceful in men and undaunted in spirit. On the other hand, the allies' cabinets are reorganizing to restore the flow of victories to the channels of midsummer. Lloyd-George became British premier Dec. 7.

Miscellaneous Events.

Minor events of the war were the torpedoing of the British channel steamer Sussex, the transfer of the submarine war zone across the Atlantic in October and General Kitchener's death at sea. Air craft battles have been many, fierce and deadly; casualties of all kinds have been heavy.

Outside of war the old world has been normal, with the exception of a brief rebellion in Ireland, which had been expected and was ruthlessly suppressed. Japan and Russia formed an agreement, and Japan made new demands upon China, whose ruler, Yuan Shih Kai, died in June. Deaths abroad during the year included Franz Joseph, emperor and king; Carmen Sylva, Roumanian queen dowager and a personality of note; Dr. Metchnikoff, the bacteriologist; Monnet-Stully, French author, and Stenckiewicz, Polish author. Sir Roger Casement was executed for treason as instigator of the rebellion in Ireland; also Pearce, the rebel "president," and Connolly, the military chief.

Harriman Told Him.

Harriman had an almost supernatural instinct for knowing what was going on and who was doing it in the mysteries of stock manipulation. Once when Southern Pacific had been going up fast, Harriman and various banking houses buying in concert, he called up on the telephone one of his private brokers. "Somebody is selling," he said. "Yes, sir," was the answer. "Well, hand the market 25,000 for me." Immediately he called up the head of a banking firm much interested in the market. "Who's selling Southern Pacific?" he asked. "I don't know. We haven't been able to find out," was the answer. "I'll tell you," snapped Harriman. "It's your house." And he cut off the connection before any reply to him could be made.—Exchange.

Somewhat Different.

Fred—There are times when I care nothing for riches, when I would not so much as put forth a hand to receive millions.

Kittie—Indeed! That must be when you are tired of the world and its struggles and vanities, when your soul yearns for higher and nobler things. Is it not?

"No; you are wrong."

"Then when is it?"

"When I'm sleeping."—London Mail.

Success or Failure.

"How's that young doctor getting along in your neighborhood?"

"It depends."

"On what?"

"If that crowd that visits his office daily are patients he's doing very well; if they're bill collectors he's having a hard time of it."—Detroit Free Press.