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DECLARES IT IS DUTY TO ATTEND PEACE CONCLAVE

(Continued from page one)

would work better than present constituted government agencies.

Text of the Message.

The president's speech follows: Gentlemen of the congress:

The year that has elapsed since I last stood before you to fulfill my constitutional duty to give to the congress from time to time information of the state of the union, has been so crowded with great events, great processes and great results that I cannot hope to give you an adequate picture of its transactions, or of the far-reaching changes which have been wrought in the life of our nation and of the world. You have yourselves witnessed these things as I have. It is too soon to assess them; and we who stand in the midst of them and are part of them are less qualified than men of another generation will be to say what they mean, or even what they have been. But some great outstanding facts are unmistakable and constitute, in a sense, part of the public business with which it is our duty to deal. To state them is to set the stage for the legislative and executive action which must grow out of them and which we have yet to shape and determine.

Comparatively Small Losses.

A year ago we had sent 145,918 men overseas. Since then we have sent 1,950,513, an average of 162,542 each month, the number in fact, rising, in May last, to 245,951, in June to 278,769, in July to 307,182 and continuing to reach similar figures in August and September—in August 289,570 and in September 257,438. No such movement of troops ever before took place, across three thousand miles of sea, followed by adequate equipment and supplies and carried safely through extraordinary dangers of attack—dangers which were alike strange and infinitely difficult to guard against. In all this movement, only seven hundred and fifty-eight men were lost by enemy attack—six hundred and thirty of whom were upon a single English transport which was sunk near the Orkney Islands.

Support Back of Movement.

I need not tell you what lay back of this great movement of men and material. It is not invidious to say that back of it lay a supporting organization of the industries of the country and of all its productive activities more



'Tis better to do than to promise.

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represent years of experience in the purchasing and blending of tobacco. They're beyond the "promise" stage—a cigarette for the wise ones who know a good thing. Buy and see for yourself.

complete, more thorough in method and effective in result, more spirited and unanimous in purpose and effort than any other great belligerent had been able to effect. We profited greatly by the experience of the nations which had already been engaged for nearly three years in exigent and exacting business, their every resource and every executive efficiency taxed to the utmost. We were their pupils, but we learned quickly and acted with a promptness and a readiness that justify our great pride that we were able to serve the world with unparalleled energy and quick accomplishment.

Praises Fighting Men.

But it is not the physical, scale and executive efficiency of preparation, supply, equipment and despatch that I would dwell upon but the mettle and quality of the officers and men we sent over and of the sailors who kept the seas, and the spirit of the nation that stood behind them. No soldiers or sailors ever proved themselves more quickly ready for the test of the battle or acquitted themselves with more splendid courage and achievements, when put to the test. Those of us who played some part in directing the great processes by which the war was pushed irresistibly forward to the final triumph may now forget all that and delight our thoughts with the story of what our men did. Their exertions understood the grim and exacting task they had undertaken and they performed them with an exactitude and unhesitating courage that touch the story of convoy and battle with imperishable distinction at every turn, whether the enterprise were great or small—from their great chiefs, Pershing and Sims down to the youngest lieutenants; and their men were worthy of them—such men as hardly need to be commended and go to their terrible adventure blithely and with the quick intelligence of those who know just what it is they would accomplish. I am proud to be the fellow countryman of men of such stuff and valor. Those of us who stayed at home did our duty; the war could not have been won or the gallant men who fought it given their opportunity to win it otherwise; but for many a long day we shall think ourselves "accused" we were not there and hold our manhood cheap while any speaks that fought" with these at St. Mihiel or Thierry. The memory of those days of triumphant battle will go with these fortunate men to their graves; and each will have his favorite memory.

"Old men forget; yet all shall be forgotten, but he'll remember with advantage what feats he did that day!" What we all thank God for with deepest gratitude is that our men went in force into the line of battle just at the critical moment when the whole fate of the world seemed to hang in the balance and threw their fresh strength into the ranks of freedom in time to turn the whole tide and sweep of the fateful struggle—turn it once for all, so that henceforth it was back, back, back for their enemies, always back, never again forward!

After that it was only a scant four months before the commanders of the central empires knew themselves beaten; and now their every empire are in liquidation!

And throughout it all how fine the spirit of the nation was; what unity of purpose, what untiring zeal!

What leaven of purpose ran through all its splendid display of strength, its untiring accomplishment. I have said that those of us who stayed at home to do the work of organization and supply will always wish that he had been with men whom we sustained by our labor; but we can never be ashamed. It has been an inspiring thing to be here in the midst of fine men who had turned aside from every private interest of their own and devoted the whole of their trained capacity to the tasks that supplied the sinews of the whole great undertaking.

The patriotism, the unselfishness, the thoroughgoing devotion and distinguished capacity that marked their toil—some labours, day after day, month after month, have made them fit mates and comrades of the men in the trenches and on the sea. And not the men here in Washington only. They have but directed the vast achievement. Throughout innumerable factories, up

on innumerable farms, in the depths of coal mines and iron mines and copper mines, wherever, the stuffs of industry were to be obtained and prepared, in the shipyards, on the railways, at the docks, on the sea, in every labour that was needed to sustain the battle lines, men have vied with each other to do their part and do it well. They can look any man in the face and say "We also strove to win and gave the best that was in us to make our fleets and armies of their triumphs!"

Women Did Noble Work.

And what shall we say of the women—of their instant intelligence, quickening every task that they touched; their capacity for organization and cooperation and enhanced effectiveness of everything they attempted and their aptitude at tasks to which they had never before set their hands; their utter self-sacrifice alike in which they did and in what they gave. Their contribution to the great result is beyond appraisal. They have added a new lustre to the annals of American womanhood. The least tribute we can pay them is to make them the equals of men in political rights as they have proved themselves their equals in every field of practical work they have entered, whether for themselves or for their country. These great days of completed achievements would be sadly marred were we to omit that act of justice. Besides, the immense practical services they have rendered, the women of the country have been the moving spirits in the systematic economies by which our people have voluntarily assisted to supply the suffering peoples of the world and the armies upon every front with food and everything else that we had that might serve the common cause. The details of such a story can never be fully written, but we carry them at our hearts and thank God that we can say that we are the kinsmen of such.

The Tasks of Peace

And, now we are sure of the great triumph for which every sacrifice was made. It has come, come in its completeness, and with the pride and inspiration of these days of achievement quick within us we turn to the tasks of peace again—a peace secure against the violence of irresponsible monarchy and ambitious military coteries and made ready for a new order, for new foundations of justice and fair dealing.

We are about to give order and organization to this peace not only for ourselves, but for the other peoples of the world as well, so far as they will suffer us to secure them. It is international justice that we seek, not domestic safety merely. Our thoughts have dwelt of late upon Europe, upon Asia, upon the near and the far east, very little upon acts of peace and accommodation that wait to be performed at our own doors. While we are adjusting our relations with the rest of the world, it is of capital importance that we should clear away all grounds of misunderstanding with our immediate neighbors and give proof of the friendship we really feel! I hope that the members of the senate will permit me to speak once more of the unratified treaty of friendship and adjustment with the republic of Colombia. I very earnestly urge upon them an early and favorable action upon that vital matter. I believe that they will feel, with me, that the stage of affairs is now set for such action as will be not only just but generous and in the spirit of the new age upon which we have so happily entered.

So far as our domestic affairs are concerned, the problem of our return to peace is a problem of economic and industrial readjustment. That problem is less serious for us than it may turn out to be for the nations which have suffered the disarrangements and the losses of war longer than we. Our people, moreover, do not wait to be cajoled and led. They know their own business, are quick and resourceful at every readjustment, definite in purpose, and self-reliant in action.

Any leading strings we might seek to put them in would soon become hopelessly tangled because they would pay no attention to them and go their own way. All that we can do as their legislative and executive servants is to mediate the process of change here,

there and elsewhere as we may. I have heard much counsel as to the plans that should be formed and personally conducted to a happy consummation, but from no quarter, have I seen any general scheme of "reconstruction" emerge which I thought it likely we could force out spirited business men and self-reliant laborers to accept with due pliancy and obedience.

While the war lasted we set up many agencies by which to direct the industries of the country in the services it was necessary for them to render, by which to make sure of an abundant supply of the materials needed, by which to check undertakings that could for the time be dispensed with and stimulate those that were most serviceable in the war, by which to gain for the purchasing departments of the government a certain control over the prices of essential articles and materials, by which to restrain trade with alien enemies, make the most of the available shipping and systematize financial transactions, both public and private, so that there would be no unnecessary conflict or confusion—by which, in short, to put every material energy of the country in harness to draw the common load and make us one team in the accomplishment of a great task. But the moment we knew the armistice to have been signed, we took the harness off. Raw materials upon which the government had kept its hand on for fear there should not be enough for the industries that supplied the armies, have been released and put into the general market again. Great industrial plants whose whole output and machinery has been taken over for the uses of the government have been set free to return to the uses to which they were put before the war. It has not been possible to remove so readily or so quickly, the control of foodstuffs and of shipping, because the world has still to be fed from our granaries and the ships are still needed to send supplies to our men overseas and to bring the men back as fast as the disturbed conditions on the other side of the water permit; but even the restraints are being relaxed as much as possible and more and more as the weeks go by.

Never Before Such Agencies

Never before have there been agencies in existence in this country which knew so much of the field of supplies, of labor, and of industry as the war industries board, the war trade board, the labor department, the food administration and the fuel administration have known since their labors became thoroughly systematized; and they have not been isolated agencies; they have been directed by men which represented the permanent departments of the government and so have been the centers of unified and cooperative action. It has been the policy of the executive; therefore, since the armistice was assured (which is in effect a complete submission of the enemy) to the disposal of the business men of the country and to offer their intelligent mediation at every point and in every matter where it was desired. It is surprising how fast the process of return to a peace footing has moved in the three weeks since the fighting stopped. It promises to obtain any inquiry that may be instituted and any aid that may be offered. It will not be easy to direct it any better than it will direct itself. The American business man is of quick initiative.

Get Work for All

The ordinary and normal processes of private initiative will not, however, provide immediate employment for all of the men of our returning armies. Those who are of trained capacity, those who are skilled workmen, those who have acquired familiarity with established businesses, those who are ready and willing to go to the farms, all those whose aptitudes are known or can be ascertained, will find no difficulty, it is safe to say, in finding places and employment. But there will be others who will be at a loss where to gain a livelihood unless pains are taken to guide them and put them in the way of work. There will be a large, floating residue of labor which should not be left wholly to shift for itself. It seems to me important, therefore, that the development of public works of every sort should be promptly resumed, in order that opportunities should be created for unskilled labor in particular, and that plans should be made for such developments of our unused lands and our natural resources as we have hitherto lacked stimulation to undertake.

Land Should be Reclaimed

I particularly direct your attention to the very practical plans which the secretary of the interior has developed in his annual report and before your committee for the reclamation of arid, swamp and cut over lands which might, if the states were willing to cooperate, redeem some 300,000,000 acres of land for cultivation. There are said to be fifteen or twenty million acres of land in the west, at present arid, for whose reclamation water is available, if properly conserved. There are about two hundred and thirty million acres from which the forests have been cut but which has never yet been cleared for the plow and which lie waste and desolate. These lie scattered all over the union. And there are nearly eighty million acres of land that lie under swamps or subject to periodical overflow or too wet for anything but grazing, which it is perfectly feasible to drain and protect and redeem. The congress can at once direct thousands of the returning soldiers to the reclamation of arid lands which it has already taken, if it will but enlarge their plans and appropriations which it has entrusted to the department of the interior. It is possible in dealing with our unused land to effect a great rural and agricultural development which will afford the best sort of opportunity to men who want to help themselves; and the secretary of the interior has that the possible methods, out in a way

(Continued on page six)

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\$42.00	\$23.75
\$45.00	\$25.00
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\$65.00	\$35.00
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Regular values \$20.00	Sale Price \$13.50
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Regular values \$35.00	Sale Price \$20.00
Regular values \$39.50	Sale Price \$25.00
Regular values \$42.50	Sale Price \$27.50
Regular values \$47.50	Sale Price \$29.50
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EXTRA!	EXTRA!	EXTRA	EXTRA!
Women's Gabardine and Serge Suits; regular values up to \$25; Unloading Sale Price \$11.50	Heatherbone Petticoats, in a good assortment of sizes and colors; values to \$2.50; Unload Sale Price 89c	Trimmed Hats regular values up to \$7.50; Unloading Sale Price \$1.93	Another lot of beautiful Crepe de Chine Waists; regular prices \$5.50 to \$6.50; Unloading Sale Price \$3.45