

THE DAILY NEBRASKAN

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Those who have had any doubts about the kind of metal the freshmen class of this year is made of, will have these dispersed at the freshman convocation this morning, for the girls in the Temple theatre and for the men in Memorial hall. It was proven last night that the spirit was there, and it will be proven again this morning. Yesterday several freshmen got together and worked out the idea that the first-year men shouldn't wear green caps to distinguish them in their newness from the rest of the University; they planned a general freshmen meeting in the Temple last evening to discuss the matter, and, if those present decided against the caps, to pass resolutions to the effect that they revolted against the custom. But when they talked up the meeting among their fellow classmen they found that almost all of those they encountered were in favor of wearing the caps, and the impetus for the meeting died a natural death. The spirit which prompted the bunch to agitate the discussion of a common cause is the spirit which will make for a strong freshmen class and therefore a greater University. To be sure, the men were wrong in the assumption that the wearing of freshmen caps was useless and humiliating, but that was because they did not fully understand the purpose of the custom and the content of Nebraska traditions. But their desire to get together and work for the good of all freshmen was right, and when the impulse, when turned into the right channels, should make the class of 1921 able to keep astride of the momentous times in which it has made its debut. After the meeting this morning, when it is explained that freshman caps are worn by every incoming Nebraskan, not to make him ignobly conspicuous, but to enable him to meet and become acquainted with his classmates as quickly and effectively as possible; when he understands that freshmen are not ridiculed because they are freshmen, he will wear his green topknot with pride as he should, while he sets to work at generating right away a class spirit which will pave the way for his class to make good at everything it tackles.

ANOTHER GRAND ADVANCE?

We are wondering now about the future German military operations in Russia from the new base, Riga. Will the German war chief, aware of the possible psychological benefits of a blow at St. Petersburg, push still further? Will the world see another grand advance into that desolate land which Napoleon's army penetrated in 1812, to return demoralized and decimated in struggling handfals? Probably not, for none less high in authority than the crown prince himself is said to have believed that the German war lord would profit by Napoleon's mistakes and thus conquer the world. Napoleon found the long, (extended line of communications through the heart of a swampy, barren country and the bitter winter his undoing. The outstretched line was harassed at every point by bands of peasant guerrillas; it could not protect his ammunition and provision trains. The column was so long that it was cumbersome, unwieldy, and when "the infantry of the snows and the cavalry of the wold blasts" set in, it wavered and broke into ever-faster retreat, until at last the few thousands that remained of the half-million pushed across into Poland and safety. The danger of repeating Napoleon's experiences even under present methods of warfare, will balance the benefits of the possible demoralization of Russia by the appearance of Teuton troops at the gates of St. Petersburg. But here, too, Germany must consider a situation which Napoleon realized too late. Napoleon thought the investment of the Russian capital, Moscow, would

strike dead the heart of resistance in Russia as a similar blow on Paris would have done to France. But it did not. Huge, amorphous, unorganized Russia was not even dangerously hampered by the occupation of its capital. The country is today just as much an uncentralized mass, capable of acting independently of one or two of its territorial members. Even though the Germans might slice off a section including St. Petersburg they would be little farther along in their endeavor to bring about the complete capitulation of Russia. No, mindful of their great model's misfortune, the German war chiefs will probably be content, as The Independent recently suggested, to hold the territory they have gained and claim it after the war as a legitimate part of Germany, a "lost province."

GERMANY BEFORE JUDGMENT (Springfield Republican)

The holy father, reports the British minister to the vatican, "felt grieved at the un pitying condemnation of Germany's perfidy." It was to be expected that the president's pitiless indictment of the honor and good faith of the Berlin government, in his note to the pope, would strike the Potsdam autocrat like a blow in the face and fill with rage the big and little bureaucrats who surround the "present rulers" of Germany. But it was high time that German perfidy, as disclosed by this war, should be pilloried in history forever. If the pillorying was to be done adequately, it had to be done pitilessly. Mr. Wilson's performance was, perhaps, an application to the domain of history of the German doctrine of "frightfulness" in war, which is to say that he has not permitted himself to be swerved by diplomatic convention, or softness or even politeness from the task of establishing the truth for the ages to come.

"We cannot take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that is to endure," wrote this merciless president of ours; and in writing that he delivered a message pertaining to historical fact that will have to be taken account of in every history of the great war until the end of time. Even the German historians, the Mommsens and the Von Sybels and the Treitschkes in the centuries to come, must place in their pages the president's note to the pope, and they must give it to their readers to the last word. One can imagine them furiously controverting the president or even abusing him in chapters massed like the regiments of the Prussian guard, but always must meet his terrific accusation and forever must the professors and the doctors of philosophy break their polished spears on his incontrovertible conclusion.

The president's lofty and unique position as the head of this free nation insures absolutely the immortality of the charge of dishonor and perfidy against the rulers of Germany; also the immense historical importance of his reply to the supreme pontiff in this fourth year of the war, pales the charge upon an eminence from which it will blaze into the consciousness of all succeeding generations. No one in a position of lesser importance than the president could have made such an indictment and such a fact live forever. Two thousand years hence the president's words will affect posterity like the most vivid and terse savings of Thucydides or Tacitus. And the evidence will go with the indictment—evidence indestructible and indisputable, which is accumulative on all sides and which almost daily comes sifted out of Reichstag debates and the unguarded confessions of German soldiers, diplomats and statesmen.

If the president had written the commonplace abstractions about the wickedness of exalting might over right and brutish cruelty over humanity, he would have left posterity as well as Prussia cold, but by his very simple, explicit and concrete testimony, as a qualified witness at the bar of history, that no nation can "take the word of the present rulers of Germany as a guarantee of anything that is to endure," he has driven home truth that no German triumph in war could ever erase from the records of these awful years.

NEBRASKANS RECOGNIZED AT DODGE TRAINING CAMP (Continued from page one)

strongest football teams in the middle west on the field inside of a few days' notice. There are in camp some of the greatest football players in the country and before Thanksgiving day rolls around, no doubt a number of new stars that the sport world has never heard of, will have developed.

"A team that could take the measure of the majority of the larger colleges in this section of the country could be picked from among the officers here.

"While at Fort Snelling, the officers football team practiced one hour every day under Doc Williams of Min-

nesota University. The same team, with a few exceptions, could be gotten together at Camp Dodge.

"Following are the names of the men who would make an all Western team, and the positions they would play:

"At the end of this famous football aggregation we would have Nicholas of Cornell University and Corey of Nebraska. Ossie Solem, last year coach at East High and a former Minnesota gridiron hero would be another candidate for end.

The tackles would be well taken care of by Baldrige of Yale, Shull of Chicago and Tobin of Minnesota.

"The guards would be composed of Halligan of Nebraska and Gregor of Minnesota. At center we could select from two stars, Towley of Minnesota and Moser of Nebraska.

"There is wonderful material in the backfield. Long of Minnesota, would take care of the quarterback position with Wise and Solon of Minnesota as the two halves. Pudge Wyman, the smashing gopher line plunger could be used at fullback.

Floyd Thomas, a former Harvard player and last year freshmen coach at Iowa university, could be used on the team if needed.

The above team is composed of about half the Minnesota team of last fall, which made a wonderful record on the gridiron in the Western conference."

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