

NEBRASKA'S RECORD

HER WONDERFUL SHOWING FOR THE YEAR 1917.

RESULTS TO BE PROUD OF

Brief Review of Her Accomplishments and Achievements During the Twelve Months Just Ended.

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Standing upon the threshold of the New Year, it is well that Nebraskans pause and review the accomplishments of the year that has just disappeared into the limbo of things that were. The record of 1917 is one to which Nebraskans may point with pride, a record of things accomplished, physical, spiritual and mental.

When 1917 dawned upon the world this great republic was at peace with all the nations. Ere four months of the year had passed the republic was a part of the great world war. What has been Nebraska's contribution to the great struggle being waged for the preservation of democracy? Let us briefly review the record:

The first great effort put forth was the mobilizing of men to bear the brunt of the fighting, and Nebraska was among the first to respond with three regiments of National Guardsmen recruited to almost full fighting strength—a brigade of Nebraska soldiers who had volunteered to fight for their country. While this brigade was being mobilized and whipped into shape, the selective conscription machinery was at work, not only in Nebraska but elsewhere, and in no other state was the draft law better enforced nor the machinery in smoother running order than in Nebraska. Under the direction of Governor Neville the selective conscription worked so smoothly that Provost Marshall General Crowder paid to Governor Neville and through the governor to the state, the highest compliments for the good work performed. Today Nebraska has nearly 20,000 of her brave sons in army and navy, all prepared to go "over the top" in making permanent the ideal that peoples and not autocrats shall rule the world.

But it takes more than men in arms to win a war. Behind the fighting men there must be men and women making the utmost sacrifices to feed them and clothe them and provide them with everything necessary to their comfort and well being. The production of foodstuffs and material for clothing, Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. activities and Liberty bond subscriptions, are among the greatest of war activities, and just as essential to success as fighting men. How has Nebraska measured up in these things?

Nebraska exceeded her quota in the first Liberty Bond drive by several millions of dollars, and when the second Liberty Loan drive came on, Nebraska set out and greatly exceeded the proud record made in the first drive. Nebraska's quota for Liberty Bonds was followed by the Y. M. C. A. drive, and Nebraska came across with nearly double the quota assigned to her. This was immediately followed by the Knights of Columbus drive, work similar to that of the Y. M. C. A., and forgetful of religious differences again, as always, Nebraska proceeded to more than double the K. C. quota. From a per capita standpoint no other state has excelled Nebraska in investments in Liberty Bonds or contributions to the Y. M. C. A., K. of C. and Red Cross activities. Nor can any other state excel Nebraska's proud record of volunteer enlistments and ready responses to the selective conscription act.

In the matter of contributions other than men and money, what has been Nebraska's record? Napoleon said that "armies crawl on their bellies," and Sherman said "armies move no faster than their wagon trains." In other words, food supplies for the soldiers are as essential as soldiers themselves. It is to this great republic that our associates in this great struggle are looking for their supplies of foodstuffs, and nobly is the republic responding. It is chiefly to the middle west, however, that the allies must look for those supplies of food. Only ten states in this American Union produce more foodstuffs than they consume, and of these ten only one produces more of the three great staple foodstuffs, bread, meat and sugar, than it consumes, and that one is Nebraska. The five great soil products necessary to human life are bread, meat, sugar, wool and cotton. Nebraska produces three of these in surplus, and one other, wool, may be produced in surplus. No other state in the union is able to match Nebraska's record in this respect.

When it was realized that the middle west must produce the foodstuffs it was also realized that other states not capable of producing a surplus

What Constitutes Dependency
 Lincoln.—Draft boards have been instructed by Provost Marshal General Crowder to use "common sense and sympathy in the facts of each individual case." In determining what would be adequate support for dependents of a man registered for war service. Many boards have indicated doubt as to what should be done when it appears that a soldier's pay and war risk allowance will provide support for dependents whose claims otherwise would entitle the registrant to deferred classification.

must economize in consumption in order that there might be enough to go around. Again Nebraska came to the front, and no other state is better organized for food economy than Nebraska. Under the direction of Gordon W. Wattles, one of Nebraska's capable organizers, Nebraska is setting a record for food conservation. Under the direction of John L. Kennedy, another splendid type of Nebraskan, fuel economy is being practiced with gratifying results.

Thus we have considered Nebraska with relation to its contribution of men, its contribution of dollars and its conservation of foodstuffs. What about its production.

For the first time in history Nebraska practically lost a wheat crop in 1917. The crop of last year was less than 20 per cent of the average. Was Nebraska discouraged? Not at all. The farmers answered the appeal of the State Council of Defense, and the destroyed wheat acreage was sowed to oats and barley or planted in corn. With farms hard hit by the selective draft, the farmers "speeded up" to the limit, and the result was the largest corn crop in the state's history—more than 260,000,000 of bushels. The oats production was also a record breaker, exceeding the best previous yield by several millions of bushels.

Here is a fact that can not be disputed: Nebraska in 1917 produced a greater surplus of foodstuffs than any other state, measured either by population or totals. Although the wheat crop was deemed a total failure, Nebraska produced enough to supply her own needs for bread and seed, and had a few millions of bushels to spare to the armies in the field. Nebraska raised enough sugar for her own consumption, and had almost as much more for her contribution to the allies. Three years ago not a pound of potash was produced in Nebraska, and the United States produced less than 5 per cent of the potash it consumed, the remaining 95 per cent coming mainly from Germany. Today the United States is producing practically every bit of potash it is consuming, and Nebraska is producing 75 per cent of it. The potash produced in Nebraska in 1917 was worth more in dollars than the gold mined in any one state in the Union. Following is a conservative statement of Nebraska production in 1917, based upon the average of prices prevailing during the year:

Corn	.....	\$325,000,000
Wheat	.....	30,000,000
Other grains	.....	70,000,000
Potatoes	.....	12,000,000
Fruits	.....	8,000,000
Potash	.....	18,000,000
Meat stuffs	.....	100,000,000
Butter	.....	25,000,000
Poultry	.....	20,000,000
Eggs	.....	35,000,000
Garden products	.....	10,000,000
Sugar	.....	9,000,000
Value added in manufacturing	.....	30,000,000

Grand total for year, \$692,000,000
 This means a wealth production of nearly \$550 per capita for the year—a record that Nebraska challenges any other state to excel.

On December 31, 1917, Nebraskans had more than \$400,000,000 on deposit in the state and national banks of the state, or approximately \$300 per capita—another record which challenges comparison.

Nor is the record of 1917 an exceptional one, Nebraska has been going "over the top" in the matter of productivity for twenty years. The Department of Publicity has recently compiled from the reports of the United States Bureau of Agriculture a table showing the productivity of the states covering a period of twenty years, 1895 to 1916, inclusive. It shows that in the production of wheat, oats, corn, horses, cattle, swine, and average farm values and value of all farm property, Nebraska ranks third among the states being exceeded only by Illinois and Iowa. In the total value of corn, wheat and oats produced during that period, Nebraska ties with Illinois for first place. In the production of cattle and swine Nebraska ties with Illinois for second place. In average values of all farm property Nebraska is in fourth place, and in the same relative position in the average values per farm.

Measured in contributions of men and money to the great war, Nebraska ranks alongside any of her sisters. Measured on contributions of foodstuffs to the great war, Nebraska claims first place and is ready with the figures to substantiate her claims.

Nor has Nebraska lagged behind in other activities because of the "speeding up" of war activities. Educationally this great state still holds first place. For each child of school age within the state's borders there is upward of \$40 invested in interest bearing securities, the revenues from which are devoted to the support of the public schools. The state does not owe a dollar, either in bonded or floating indebtedness. It owns property exceeding \$30,000,000 in value. Its future is as sure as its past development has been marvelous.

Gathering the Income Tax.
 Washington.—The great task of gathering income tax and excess profits returns began Wednesday with the new year. Every unmarried person earning more than \$1,000 during the last year, and every married person or head of a family who made more than \$2,000, must file with the internal revenue collector of his district a report any time between Wednesday and March 1. He will be notified before June 1 of the tax due, and payment will be due by June 15.

TELLS WHAT CAN BRING WAR TO END

BRITISH PREMIER MAKES SENSATIONAL SPEECH IN LONDON.

SMALL NATIONS MUST BE FREE

Declares Alsace-Lorraine Must Be Restored to France—Germans Suspend Negotiations With Russian Bolsheviks.

London, Jan. 8.—Britain's answer to Count Czernin's terms of peace for the central powers was emphatically announced to the world by Premier Lloyd-George in a speech at the British laborite "man power" last Saturday. He exposed the annexation clause of the central powers as a bait held out by the mailed fist of Prussia ready to strike the death blow to freedom everywhere and garner in the spoils of war.

On such "lip service" basis, he said, lasting, secure peace is impossible.

Then he defined with greater directness and explicitness, every one of Great Britain's war and peace aims, mentioning all the vital disputed territories by names. His basic principles are those first enunciated by President Wilson, to whom the premier referred repeatedly.

He said the three main pillars of lasting peace must be:

- 1.—Sanctity of treaty.
- 2.—Government by the consent of the governed.
- 3.—International limitation of armaments.

The premier's speech came as a tremendous surprise. Though it had been rumored for several days that such an utterance was forthcoming, it had not been expected to come so soon.

The speech was addressed to the peoples, rather than the government on the quadruple alliance. Particularly did it contain a virtual heart to heart talk with the people of Germany.

The premier said that Britain and her allies are fighting:
 Not for the destruction or disruption of Germany.

Not to destroy Austria-Hungary or Turkey.

Not merely to alter or destroy the imperial constitution of Germany.

Not to take Turkey's lands that are predominantly Turkish from them.

But for these principles:

First—Complete restoration of Belgium.

Second—Reparation as far as possible for devastated towns and cities.

Third—Neutralization and nationalization of the Dardanelles.

Fourth—"Reconciliation" of the "Great wrong" done to France in 1871—referring to Alsace-Lorraine.

Fifth—Establishment of an independent Poland—comprising all genuinely Polish elements, because this is necessary to the stability of western Europe.

Sixth—Arabia, Armenia, Mesopotamia, Syria, Palestine—all entitled to separate national conditions.

Seventh—Of Russia, the British statesman left the future to decision of the Russian people themselves.

Eighth—Inhabitants of African colonies to be "placed under an administration acceptable to themselves for the purpose of preventing exploitation for the benefit of European capitalists and of European governments.

Suspend Peace Parleys.

London, Jan. 8.—The peace negotiations between the central powers and the bolshevik government in Russia have been "temporarily suspended" by the Germans. From advices from Berlin it appears the rock upon which a continuation of the parleys split was the demand of the Russians that the conference be resumed at Stockholm, instead of at Brest-Litovsk.

The decision of the Germans to discontinue the sittings was arrived at during a crown council held in Berlin Saturday, which was attended by Field Marshal von Hindenburg and General von Ludendorff, first quartermaster general.

The Germans' reason for the refusal to consider Stockholm a place where peace might be advantageously discussed was the fear that British, French and American diplomats in the Swedish capital would by intrigue render all endeavors futile.

May Take Over Mines.

Philadelphia, Jan. 8.—The United States government may take over the meat industry of the country in order to control the three principal necessities of wartime—meat, coal and transportation. This was plainly indicated at Saturday's session of the federal trade commission here.

Food Scarce in Europe.

Washington, January 8.—The food situation in the allied countries of Europe is graver than it has been at any time since the beginning of the war and is giving American government officials deep concern. Official reports picture extreme food shortages in England, France and Italy. The fact that conditions in Germany and Austria are far worse offers the only grounds for optimism in viewing the situation.

In England and France the situation is described as critical.

FIRST PHOTOGRAPH OF CAPTURED AMERICANS IN GERMAN CAMP



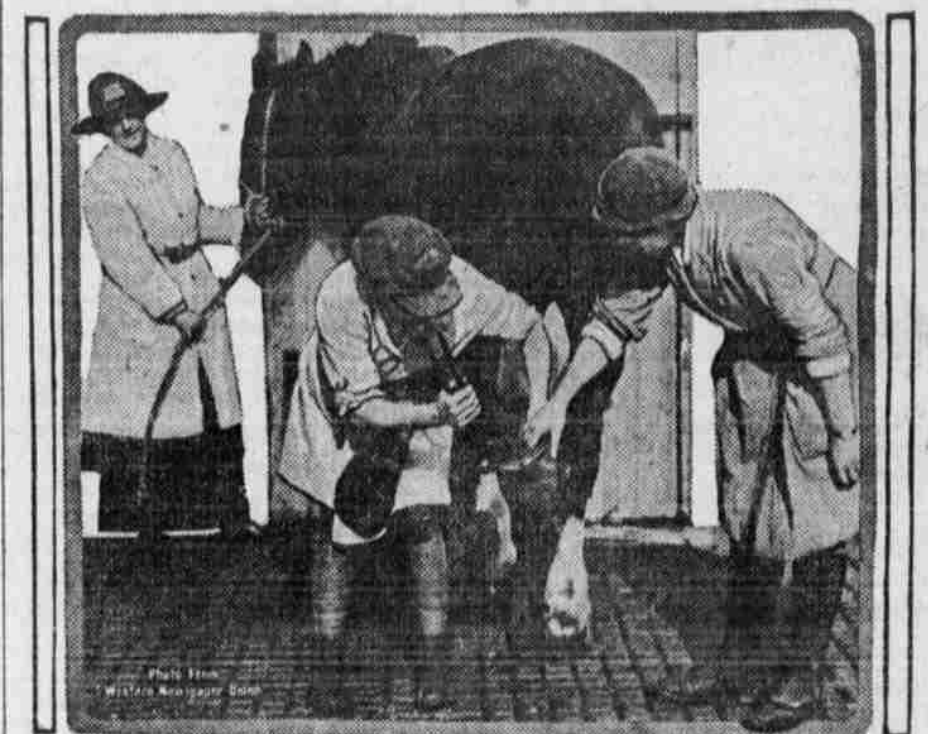
This photograph shows the first American soldiers taken prisoner in France being questioned by their captors in a German camp. It was published in the German propaganda organ, "Welt im Bild," and reached America through British official sources.

EMPEROR WILLIAM VISITING HIS ALLY, THE SULTAN OF TURKEY



The kaiser paid a visit to his ally, the sultan of Turkey, recently, and this most unusual photograph shows their meeting.

WOMEN RUN VETERINARY HOSPITAL



In many districts English women are taking the places of the men who are at war, and now a big veterinary hospital in London is run entirely by women. The photograph shows the horse doctors removing the shoes from a patient.

HEADS SERBIAN MISSION

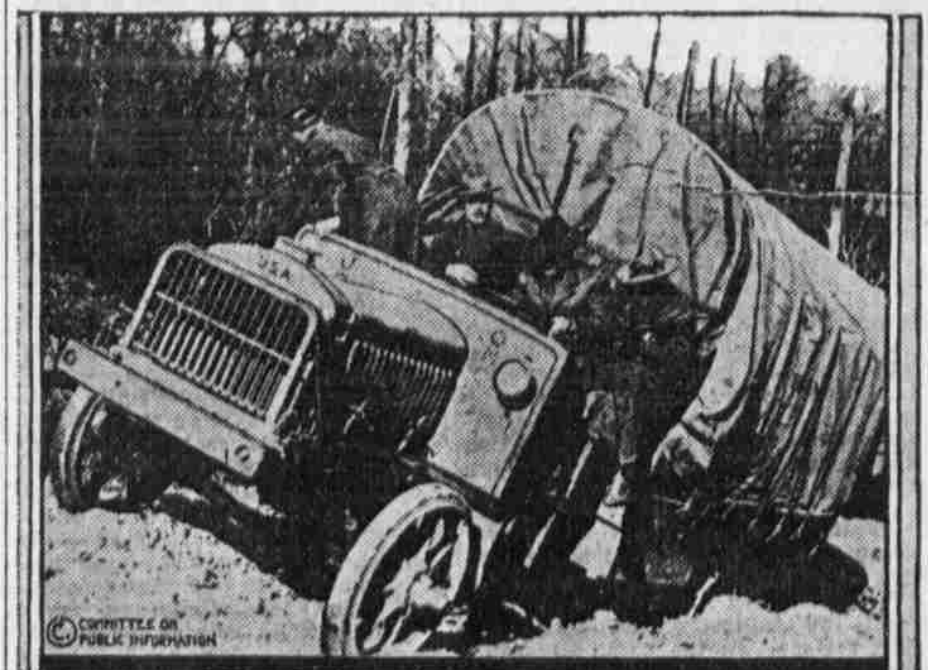


Dr. Milenko Vesnich, Serbian minister to France, who heads the diplomatic and military mission to the United States. Doctor Vesnich represented his country at the interallied conference in Paris.

Study the Words.

Noah Webster started with 70,000 words. That was in 1828, when the first edition of his dictionary was published, says the New York Times. In the next edition, that of 1864, the list had grown to 114,000. Noah had died in the meantime, but his heirs and assigns continued his work. In 1890 a total of 175,000 words were listed. Since then the number has more than doubled. It is now about 400,000. Of course, nobody could be expected to learn all these words, nor is it necessary. Whenever in your reading you come across a word the meaning of which is not entirely clear to you drop your book or newspaper, as the case may be, and consult the dictionary. Don't delay. If you do probably you will never look the word up. It is surprising how many words one may add to one's vocabulary by this simple method.

ARMY TRUCKS ON THEIR WAY TO SEABOARD



A military freight service has been established by the quartermaster general to carry ammunition by army truck and relieve the railways of some of the congestion. The first truck train of 30 machines started from Detroit to the Atlantic seaboard, the trucks also to be shipped to France. Two of the machines carry supplies. The photograph shows the leading truck on a difficult bit of road.