

United States' War Loss 322,182 Men Is Last Official Report

Washington, Sept. 23.—The cost of the war to the United States in man-power is now estimated officially as 116,492 dead, and 205,690 wounded, a total of 322,182. These figures include losses to army and marine units on all fronts to September 1. Killed in action totaled 35,385, or 11 per cent of the entire list; died of wounds, 14,742; died of disease, 58,073; died of accidents and other causes, 8,092. Under the head of "missing" the announcement records a zero, with the notation "all corrected."

Pershing and His Jolly Crowd Cleaned Out Railroad Restaurants and Ran the Train



Gen. Nelson A. Miles.

Tells a Joke Sprung in the Old Ebbitt House Bar—Cowboy Shot Up Chestnut Bell—Rounded Up Cree Indians and Scouted With Renegades in New Mexico.

Jack Pershing's letter, sent to West Point to be published with other letters from those of his class telling of their exploits between the time of their graduation and their arrival at their first posts, follows.

"You may 'skin me for a late,' and probably you had better 'rake me for an absence,' leaving out this letter, entirely. My summer was spent mostly at home. But, before reaching there, I, with several of the boys, was awhile in Washington. Walcutt, Duncan, Bean and I were guests of Charlie Lyman. Brooks, Elliott, Proctor, Mencher and Fowler were in the city at different times, all of us doing our best to work out the development scheme in the west, the result of which is known to all.

"We four, who were the guests of Major Lyman, together with Charley, had a private box at the theater, and had a great time generally. "Duncan was the originator of a good joke on Wiley Bean, which happened on his arrival; but it is better perhaps to keep it for the class history. "To fill out this letter I will tell you on Duncan, He, Walcutt and I were sitting at a table in the Ebbitt house bar, Duncan having paid for the drinks. When the old negro Uncle John or Tom—came back with the change, Duncan put it in his pocket, and began a conversation with the old fellow, finally saying:

He Got the Change. "Uncle, can you tell a gentleman from Kentucky when you see him?" "Yes, sah," replied the negro. "Well, do you think I am from Kentucky?" "No, sah." "Why do you think I am not?" "Cause they always leave the change on the plate." "The waiter got the change." "Walcutt and I left Washington about June 24, Duncan having gone the day before; Bean remaining in charge of affairs. I reached home about the 29; stayed there till August 1; then roamed about until the 12th, when I brought up in Chicago. Walcutt, Sep Lewis, Mike Hartington and I did the town for five or six days until the 'general'

left for Silver City, reaching Bayard September 30, where I met Captain Wood, Rosy Cabel, Old Crank Cole, the married old soul; Billie Biddle and Tough Koehler, who is my roommate.

"This letter is much longer than I intended, but if you don't think it fit for the waste basket, publish it. Your classmate.

(Signed) J. J. PERSHING, 2d. Lieut. Sixth Cavalry." If one would secure a really intimate picture of the Jack Pershing of 1886 one should call at the building of the quartermaster's department at B and Nineteenth streets in Washington. In that building is a classmate of Jack Pershing at West Point—Colonel Letcher Hardeman.

Rounded Up the Crees. Colonel Hardeman enjoys nothing better than to talk of his friend, Jack Pershing. With much detail he told me of those days on the Mexican border when he and Jack Pershing chased Indians, and where years later, Jack Pershing was to chase the Mexican outlaw, Villa. He told me of those days in 1890 and 1891 when the bloody war with the Sioux Indians was fought in the Dakotas. He told me of those days when, a first lieutenant of the Tenth Cavalry—the famous colored cavalry, part of which Jack Pershing led up San Juan Hill—Jack Pershing organized a command of Sioux scouts and rounded up the Crees. It was a feat which won commendation from the secretary of war. And most interesting, he told me the real story of how Jack Pershing came to get the name "Black Jack."

"I was with the Fourth cavalry," Colonel Hardeman told me, "but I saw much of Jack Pershing, and whenever we met we would have long talks.

Many Indian Renegades. "We got down into New Mexico just after the Geronimo campaign. There were still many Indian renegades about and a little scouting to do. Occasionally there would be a skirmish. Jack Pershing developed into a wonderful scout, and even in those days he won high praise from his superiors, even the commendation of General Miles, in command of the department."

Perhaps it would be well to mention here that, besides at Fort Bayard, Jack Pershing also served, while in the Department of Arizona, at Fort Wingate, a post village and military post of McKinley county, New Mexico, near Albuquerque, and at Fort Stanton, a post village of Lincoln county, New Mexico, 12 miles west of Lincoln.

Pershing's Capture. "After the Indian campaigns were over" said Colonel Hardeman, "General Miles instituted a system of maneuvers whereby certain detachments were sent out to capture a 'raiding' party commanded by one of the most clever captains in the service."

Such praise from Colonel Hardeman may sound like hyperbole. Here is what General Miles, in a book written by him of his personal recollections, has to say of Jack Pershing in connection with the maneuvers:

Praised by Miles. "On five different occasions raiding parties were overtaken and captured by Captains Chaffee (later the famous General Chaffee), Wood (Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood) and Stanton, and Lieutenants Scott (later the famous General Scott) and Pershing, notwithstanding that every device was adopted to annoy and deceive the pursuers by dispersing, destroying trains by having herds of cattle driven over them, by false maneuvers, etc. "Captain Wallace started from Fort Bayard, New Mexico, captured the command sent in pursuit of him, and, avoiding the troops in advance, succeeded in reaching Fort Stanton, New Mexico, but was captured by Lieutenant Pershing endeavoring to return." (Continued tomorrow.)

ments of troops, simulating Indians, sought to pass from place to place, from fort to fort, undetected, while other detachments endeavored to capture them. Jack Pershing was sent out to capture a 'raiding' party. His ability to follow trails, his skill in handling men and horses, his knowledge of the country, made it easy for him to distinguish himself. He effected the capture of a 'raiding' party commanded by one of the most clever captains in the service."

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suddenly left for home. Reaching my home, I remained until I left for the land of the burro, the cactus and the tarantula. "Bean made me a pleasant visit of three days, both of us expecting to meet Shattuck in Omaha, but much to our disgust, that gentleman telegraphed us that he could not stop. Duncan met us in Kansas City, reporting Elliot, W. G., and his baggage, but somewhere in Missouri. At Fort Dodge, Kan., Pettit and Mott joined us, having many good stories about Boot Hill, and later in the day Sandy Harris wandered into our car, he also having been lost.

"Ran the Train." "A jollier crowd of young men than ours never traveled over the A. T. & S. F. We told stories, sang class songs, cleaned out eating houses, fired at prairie dogs, hazed the peanut boy and practically ran the train. "Our stories came to be such chestnuts that Bean bought an old-fashioned door bell which was used as a chestnut bell, with which we had great fun, until Bean rang it on a cowboy, and the bell was returned. Duncan left us at Albuquerque, N. M., the rest of us coming together as far as Deming, where I

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