

**THE AMERICAN CONGRESS**

THE sixty-fourth session of the American Congress promises to be an exceedingly interesting one, not alone because of the approach of the Presidential election, but because of the problems arising out of the war and of the fact that President Wilson is forcing to the front a policy of "preparedness," that is to say, provision for a large increase in the military and naval establishments of the country. In addition there will be up for discussion rural credits, national prohibition, woman's suffrage, and a measure for the building of a fleet of merchant steamers, the scope of which is not yet disclosed, but which is designed to take the place of the abortive Ship Purchase Bill of last session.

The budget of estimated expenditure is the largest in the history of the United States in peace times, aggregating a total of \$1,285,857,808, or an increase of more than \$170,000,000 over the expenditure for the current year. This huge increase is almost wholly due to the plans for "military preparedness." More than \$116,000,000 of the total is for direct expenditure on the Army and Navy, with millions more to be expended on coast defences and other fortification work. The chief items of estimated expenditure are as follows:

Legislative	\$ 7,573,372
Executive	30,807,505
Judicial	1,368,500

Agriculture	24,159,089
Foreign Intercourse	5,426,699
Military	152,354,259
Naval	211,518,074
Indian Affairs	10,175,036
Pensions	160,565,000
Panama Canal	27,535,469
Public Works	104,644,689
Postal Service	316,364,879
Miscellaneous	98,290,563
Permanent Appropriations	135,074,673

The Pension Bill is one of the few items which shows a decreased expenditure, as compared with last year, amounting to nearly four million dollars, but, in practically all other branches increases are provided for because of the developments due to the war in Europe. The vast expenditure for military purposes is likely to cause the President no little trouble, and present indications are that it will precipitate a split in his party following in the House of Representatives. Indeed, Representative Kitchin of North Carolina, who is the floor leader of the Democrats in the House, is out against the President's scheme. But, as President Wilson's general proposals for "military preparedness" have received the endorsement and approval of the American press at large, he may be able, aided by the Republicans to carry them through over the heads of the recalcitrants in Congress.

The Democratic majority in Congress has been reduced to 24. Two hundred and twenty-nine Democrats, 197 Republicans, six Progressives, one Socialist, and one Independent, compose the new House. There is one vacancy. The

dozen or more Republican of the "old guard" who went down in defeat three years ago only to be returned to the Lower House over Democratic opponents last fall, form an interesting group. Joseph G. Cannon, former Speaker of the House, and now well on toward eighty years of age, stands out prominently. If he finishes his present term he will have served forty years in Congress, eight years as Speaker. Other Republicans who remained at home during the last Congress to reappear now are Nicholas Longworth of Ohio; William B. McKinley, W. A. Rodenberg, William W. Wilson, Geo. E. Fose, John A. Sterling and Charles E. Fuller of Illinois; Ebenezer J. Hill of Connecticut; Cyrus A. Sulloway of New Hampshire, and Benjamin K. Focht of Pennsylvania.

**EMPEROR FRANCIS JOSEPH REPORTED PARALYZED**

PARIS, Dec. 19.—A report that Emperor Francis Joseph's legs were paralyzed last year, and that the Emperor also has lost the use of his right arm, is forwarded by the Rome correspondent of the Matin. He says understood in Rome that this information was taken to the Vatican by Cardinal von Hartmann, Archbishop of Cologne, who recently went to Rome for the consistory.

According to this report, the Emperor is able to sign no State papers and a special stamp has been made for use in his presence by his private secretary.

The chap who yells loudest about "personal liberty" and boasts of his indifference to criticism is usually the man who gets the hottest when someone tells someone he saw him coming out of a saloon.

**MID-WEEK PROGRAMME AT THE NICKEL!**

"THE DOUBLE TRAP"  
**The Seventh Episode of "THE EXPLOITS OF ELAINE."**  
 (Arnold Daly, Pearl White, and Sheldon Lewis, in the greatest of all serials,—  
**"THE CLUTCHING HAND."**  
 "THE TIE THAT BINDS."—An Essanay social drama. "A LILY IN BOHEMIA."—A Vitagraph comedy-drama.  
 "HIS NASTY TEMPER."—A Keystone riot.  
**"FRAUDS."**—Edna Mayo and Bryant Washington in a three-part dramatic offering.  
 FRIDAY—CHARLIE CHAPLIN, AND A GREAT BIG HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.

**To-Night at the CASINO Theatre--3 Shows--3---7.30, 8.40, 9.50.**

THE ST. JOHN'S DAILY STAR, in collaboration with Manager Kiely of the NICKEL THEATRE, PRESENTS THE OFFICIAL MOTION PICTURES OF THE WAR, TAKEN BY ORDER OF THE GREAT GENERAL STAFF OF THE FRENCH ARMY FOR THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES.  
**"FIGHTING IN FRANCE."**  
 King Albert at the Front—With the Heavy Guns in France—Around the Soissons district—At Tracey-le-Val—Allied Fleet in the Dardanelles—French warfare at Bois Le Petre.  
 3 Shows Each Night—ADMISSION 10c.—7.30, 8.40, 9.50.

There ought to be only one head to any family, shouted an orator. "That's true," replied a married-looking man in the audience. "You agree with me?" shouted the speaker. "I do," replied the married-looking man. "I've just paid for hats for nine daughters."—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

**Muddling Through With a Vengeance**

Marvellous Progress Made Regardng Munition Plants—1,620 Factories Going, Employing 1,000,000, Including Boys and Women

Recent British papers give some conception of the extraordinary activity which the Imperial Government is displaying in the manufacture of war munitions. Lord Murray of Ellbank, just appointed director of recruiting for munitions factories under Mr. Lloyd George, made a statement a few weeks ago which is borne out by other authorities connected with that department. We in Canada can boast that over 100,000 men are now employed in our munition works (but in England there are 1,300,000, including boys and women, engaged in 1,620 factories, that turn out big guns and shells for the land war, together with guns for the navy. In Leeds and neighborhood, where there was not a single factory before the war, there are now over 500. At Birmingham an armament firm which did a very modest business before the war now employs 60,000 hands, including 6,000 women.

In Scotland a filling factory has 35,000 operatives, covers 200 acres of ground, and requires twenty-two miles of heating pipes to warm the buildings. It has been erected and set going during the last three months. From all quarters come reports of the "indomitable zeal and energy" of the women workers. Many of the ablest mechanical engineers are employed in the factories, and are giving their services without fee or reward. At Woolwich Arsenal, 18,000 men are employed in making 18-pound shells. An Irish peer in working-man's garb is "doing his bit" at a lathe; he is an inventor and a skilled artisan. The factories are run at night as well as by day. In the buildings where the explosives are made and in shops where the shells are filled and supplied with fuses there are over 16,000 hands, who work as noiselessly as they can.

In the shipyards of England and Scotland warships and submarine are being produced at an astonishing speed. The recruiting stations all over the country are sending a large number of men every day to the training camps, and when these are ready to go to the war they are marched to the railway without any fuss and within 30 hours or less are in the trenches. Britain was not fully prepared for the war when it broke out, but is now "muddling through" with a vengeance. She has the men, about 3,500,000 of all ranks; she certainly has the ships; and it is equally true that she has the money with which to wear out Germany in the fighting yet to come.

**AT THE END OF THE DAY**

Oh, love, good-night! The deepening shadows blend With daylight's gold; the silvered moonbeams wend Their way to light our world till dreams descend.  
 Oh, love, good-night! And may life's shadow's blend With youth's bright sun till evening falls, and then Love's glory light thy pathway to the end!  
 —Munsey's Magazine.

**ROSSLEY'S THEATRE!**

St. John's Leading Vaudeville, Dramatic and Picture Theatre.  
 The Matinee To-day is under the Distinguished Patronage and Presence of His Excellency Governor Davidson and Lady Davidson and the Misses Davidson.  
**Rossley's 4th Annual Grand Christmas Pantomime, "BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."**  
 WITH A CAST OF 60 PERFORMERS.  
 DAINY DANCES, CATCHY SONGS—SPARKLING MUSIC.  
 WONDERFUL ELECTRICAL EFFECTS!  
 GORGEOUS COSTUMES—THE FINEST PERFORMANCE EVER IN THE CITY.  
 Special Matinee, 10 and 20 Cents.  
 One Big Show at Night. General Admission, 20 and 30 Cents.  
 NOTE—In preparation, another wonderful Pantomime—"JACK AND JILL."

**THE CRESCENT PICTURE PALACE.**

'WHEN GRATITUDE IS LOVE'  
 A Romance of the Woods and the open Featuring MARGARET TRUSSING, an Edison Entering.  
 'THE MISER'S LEGACY'  
 A Biograph Drama.  
 'THE OUTLAW'S AWAKENING'  
 A Western Drama with G. M. JOHNSON—Broncho Billy.  
 'THE LEGAL LIGHT'  
 A Selig Melo-Drama Featuring TOM MIX.  
 'HANS AND HIS BOSS'  
 A "WADDY and ARTY" Comedy Drama.  
**DAN DELMAR, The Popular Crescent Vocalist,**  
 SINGING NOVELTY SONGS AND BALLADS.  
 A BIG HOLIDAY PROGRAMME IS BEING ARRANGED FOR NEW YEAR'S EVE AND NEW YEAR'S DAY.

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**NEGLIGEE SHIRTS**  
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**THE "BOND" NEGLIGEE SHIRT**

A special made Shirt of the very best Repp Goods in the newest and most favored stripe effects. The Shirt is double stitched all through and reinforced back and front, making it the most durable Shirt procurable. Regular \$1.75. Selling, each **\$1.50**

**MEN'S DAINY NECK-WEAR**

In the newest American styles, fancy and stripe effects. Each **40c**  
 Other qualities range from 15c. up.

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In a nice assortment of Light Fancy shades, with strong Buff Leather straps, with the button-holes double stitched; good elastic webbing. **30c**  
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**STUDS AND CUFF LINKS**

Pull-Out Studs. **4c. each**  
 Gold Burnished Cuff Links, set with brilliants. **15c. each**  
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 Gilt Burnished Cuff Links and Scarf Pin. **12c. each**

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**BIGGEST FUR VALUES EVER OFFERED**

Bought under very favorable conditions, being part of a realization sale. If you are planning to make a present of a Fur, here is your opportunity of securing exceptional values at remarkably low prices. **\$1.80, \$2.60, \$2.90, \$3.00.**  
 HALF THE REGULAR PRICES.

**LEOPARD COLLARETTE AND MUFF SETS**

This is another exceptional offer. Formerly sold at \$6.00. Our **\$4.20**  
 price, per set.

**LADIES' BLOUSES**

White Crepeolene Blouses with low Collar and Scalloped Yoke and neat Fancy Trimming. **65c**

**COLORED DELAINE BLOUSES**

With High Collar and Lace Fronts. Each. **\$1.10**

**VELVET BLOUSE**

With Low Collar, in colors of Saxe Blue, Navy, Grey and Vieux Rose. **\$2.75**

**COMBS AND PINS**

Barrettes. **10c., 16c., 18c.**  
 Side Combs. **9c., 14c., 18c., 27c. each.**  
 Side Combs with Brilliants, **18c., 27c., 35c.**  
 Back Combs. **10c., 12c., 15c., 18c., 27c.**  
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 Shell Turban Pins. **7c., 14c., 18c.**  
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**CHILDREN'S DRESSES**

Tweed Dresses. **70c. up.**  
 Children's Plaid Dresses. **75c. up.**  
 Children's Navy Serge Dresses with Scalloped Yoke and Red Piping. **75c.**

**GIRLS' DRESSES**

Twill Cloth Dresses with self color facings and cuffs. **\$1.50 up.**

**SHEPHERD CHECK DRESSES**

With White Pique Collar and Glazed Leather Belt. **\$1.50 up.**  
 Girl's Coduroy Velvet Dress. **\$2.75.**

**WOOL CAPS**

Child's Wool Caps. **35c. up.**  
 Child's Wool Hoods. **22c. up.**  
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**MITTS AND BOTEES**

Infants' Mitts. **15c. up.**  
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From the Small Ware Department.  
 Gilt Finished Beauty Pins, 2 on card, **5c.**  
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Only **16c. each.**

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