

**CRIPPLED WHILE DEFENDING  
EMPIRE, VETERAN NOW LIES IN  
CELL ON DESERTION CHARGE**

**John J. Farmer Served Valiantly in France, But On Return  
Overstayed His Leave—Says He Notified Authorities  
But Was Posted As Deserter**

Although crippled while defending the Empire on the shellfront fields of France, and although he had kept the mud on his boots, he was not at all the time that he was absent. John Joseph Farmer, a 13th Battalion veteran, is charged to jail for sentence on a charge of desertion. He is on his physical condition that only a few days ago he was ill in his cell, turned out of the barracks. Farmer is not yet 20 years of age.

**Volunteered Early.**

In the early days of the war the veteran endeavored to enlist with the Canadian Expeditionary Force and to crush the country's work in the crushing Pershing's army. He was refused from doing so. He was residing in the United States at the time. However, when the public entered the war his opportunity.

He enlisted at Detroit and after re-seeing in June, 1917, he went into the firing line with the 47th Battalion.

After doing a "turn" there he came back, but was immediately sent back again, this time with the 19th Bn.

All through the "big push" which opened at Arras on August 8, until he fell wounded near Cambrai on October 19, he was in the front line. In this place he received gunshot wounds in the shoulder. A Red Cross nurse also informed him that he had been shell shocked.

His knee was twisted and matter ran from his ears.

**Ill When Posted.**

For four months he was convalescing in England. Then he was sent home and was given leave to go home. During this time he had been in England and was unable to report to the military authorities in this city. He informed his family that he was in England.

This was in February, 1919, and four months after the cessation of hostilities.

He had hoped to be

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**FOUR THOUSAND CHICAGO SALOONS WILL CLOSE UP ON JANUARY FIRST**

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Four thousand of Chicago's five thousand saloons will close their doors or go into other business on January 1, according to an estimate today by M. J. McCarthy, secretary of the Illinois Liquor Dealers' Protective Association. McCarthy really expected to see the saloons

open up after the supreme court action," he said, "and the decision upholding war-time prohibition took the pep out of the owners."

Most of the saloonkeepers had retained their leases and operated soft drink establishments

**NEW GERMAN DELEGATION  
WILL DISCUSS SCAPA**

**Councillor Seelinger Heads Latest Representatives from Germany.**

Paris, Dec. 16.—A new German delegation which has come to Paris to discuss compensation for the sinking of the German warships in Scapa Flow arrived this morning.

The delegation, which is presided over by Councillor Seelingier, a member of the Reichstag, is headed by the German foreign minister, consists of Rudolph Brohin, representative of the Hamburg shipyards; Councillor Bisch of

The director of public works, Dr. Reiser, director of the Hamburg-American Line, Dr. Petens, director of the Weser shipyards at Bremen; a representative of the Hamburg Government and a Dr. representing three groups of seamen.

The delegates arrived in a special car attached to the ordinary express train.

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**GERMANY'S PLAN.** Berlin Dec. 16.—The German Government's idea regarding compensation for the sinking of the Scapa Flow fleet is to offer such harbor material as can be spared without seriously disturbing the country's economic life, according to the Morning Post. The remainder of the amount of tonnage decided upon as

## DECLARES BELGIUM WILL NOT RETURN TO FORMER STATE OF NEUTRALITY

Brussels, Dec. 15.—The Belgian Government will refuse absolutely to return to its state of neutrality, according to the terms of the 1919 Peace Conference, the consequence of the Belgian ultimatum soon to be made by Premier Delors on the subject will specify the government's viewpoint, the newspaper adds.

**WOMAN'S DEATH WAS DUE  
TO GUNSHOT WOUNDS**

Saskatoon, Sask., Dec. 16.—That Mrs. Mary Wilson, first wife of Sergeant John Wilson, was killed by a gunshot wound today by the House Agriculture com-

Washington, D. C., Dec. 16.—An unfavorable report on the bill to repeal the war-time prohibition law was ordered today by the House Agriculture com-

gunshot wounds, was established at the preliminary inquest held into her death last night.

The remains were discovered a few days ago by provincial police in a shallow ditch about 40 miles from Vancouver. Wilson had been missing since September 15, her husband marrying her there within a few days after her disappearance.

Wilson is being held on a charge of manslaughter.

**BLAZE IS EXTINGUISHED**

ST. JOHNS, Nfld., Dec. 16.—The blaze in the Lyndland Irish Mercantile, which put into port last week with part of her cargo, was extinguished last night.

The blaze, which broke out in the forenoon, was the result of a fire in the cargo, which was the result of a fire in the cargo, which was the result of a fire in the cargo.