

thusiastic multitude. At the same time all the war craft, merchantmen and transports dressed ship and manned the yards, and the strains of the American anthem floated over the water, mingling with the roar of the guns and the shouts of the vast crowds.

BATTLE FLEET IN COLUMNS

The George Washington came to anchor a mile off shore while the battleships ranged themselves in double column on either side.

President Wilson witnessed the spectacle from the deck of his steamer, waving greetings and acknowledgments as the cheering throngs ashore vied with the artillery in the old world's first tribute to an American president.

Soon after the arrival of the presidential fleet Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister, and Georges Leygues, the minister of marine, who were at Brest to meet the president on behalf of the French government, boarded the ship to extend their first greeting. American officials also went on board to make the arrangements for the landing of the president.

GERMAN CAPTIVES ALERT

A singular feature of the welcome to the president was the suppressed interest of the German prisoners at Brest. It was evident that their interest in the visitor was keen as that of the huge crowd thronging the town, but the authorities kept these Germans in the background.

Among those who lined the route to the station were delegations of patriotic societies and other organizations and throngs of people from the neighboring localities, attired in gala Breton costumes.

TARDIEU FIRST TO GREET

■The first to greet the president, besides the French ministerial representatives, were Andre Tardieu, French high commissioner to the United States, the mayor of Brest, Ambassador Sharp, Col. E. M. House, Gen. John J. Pershing, and Gen. Tasker H. Bliss.

LIEGE INVITES HIM

Paris, Dec. 13.—The town of Liege, where the Germans were halted several days on their first rush into France, has sent a delegation to Paris to invite President Wilson to visit the historic place. President Poincare, Premier Clemenceau and Marshal Foch will be invited to accompany President Wilson.

FIRST PRESIDENT TO VISIT EUROPE; GREETING MARTIAL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE.)

American soldiers lined the streets and took assigned positions along the Cour Dajot, the handsome promenade leading from the commercial harbor to the city, over which President Wilson was to pass.

The whole city was a mass of bunting.

The entire presidential route was lined with Venetian masts, flags and transparencies.

At about 9 o'clock the French cruiser squadron, consisting of the Admiral Aube, Conde and Montcalm, with a number of destroyers, moved out of the harbor amid the screech of sirens, to meet the incoming fleet off shore.

TRAINLOAD TO WELCOME

A special train bearing Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister; Georges Leygues, minister of marine, and other distinguished officials, officers of the army and navy and the foreign committee of the chamber of deputies, arrived this morning and another train brought American Ambassador Sharp, Col. E. M. House, Gen. Pershing, Gen. Bliss, Admiral Benson and other prominent Americans.

WELCOME VOCIFEROUS

President Wilson's progress from the pier to his train was made amidst a vociferous welcome from throngs in the streets. He delivered a brief address, thanking Mayor Goude of Brest for the Breton welcome, then drove thru the cheering crowds, the frantic ovation continuing until he reached the railway station, which he left at 4 p. m. for Paris.

The arrival of the president in the harbor was the culmination of an imposing naval spectacle which began as the presidential fleet rounded the outer capes, then passed the entrance forts and moved majestically into the harbor, where the George Washington anchored at the head of a long double column of American dreadnoughts and destroyers and the units of a French cruiser squadron.

FLEET SIGHTED AT 11:30

The presidential fleet was first sighted at 11:30 a. m. passing Point St. Mathieu, 15 miles off shore. The sea was calm and the stately fleet moved landward under skies which were steadily brightening after a dark and gloomy morning. It was more than an hour later that the ships were signalled at the entrance of the harbor and a great cheer arose from the waiting crowd as the cloud of black smoke showed that the presidential fleet was near.

Ahead came a single destroyer, showing the way to the fleet, and close behind loomed the huge bulks of the battleships Pennsylvania and Wyoming, flying, respectively, the flags of Admiral Mayo, commander of the Atlantic fleet, and Vice Admiral Sims, commander of the American naval forces in European waters. Just back of them moved the George Washington, bearing the president, flanked on either side by the battleships Arkansas, Florida, Utah, Nevada, Oklahoma, New York, Texas and Arizona, by French cruisers and by a great flotilla of American and French torpedo boat destroyers.

PAGEANT IS IMPOSING

The entrance to the harbor is a narrow strait a mile wide with forts crowning the towering cliffs on each side. Thru this avenue the imposing pageant moved, each of the 10 forts contributing its cannonade and the 10 American battleships answering gun for gun.

As the fleet neared the inner harbor the land batteries and assembled war craft took up the thunderous salute, while the quays, the hills and terraces of the old Breton city rang with cheers from the en-