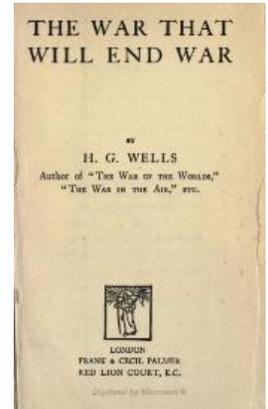


ISCHUA VALLEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

THE WAR TO END ALL WARS 1914-1918

PART I

Author [H. G. Wells](#) penned a number of articles and published them in a book entitled: *THE WAR THAT WILL END WAR*. President Woodrow Wilson slightly changed the wording to: *THE WAR THAT WILL END ALL WARS* to describe World War I. Today that description is treated sardonically as we remember all the wars that followed. Many Americans lost their lives or were injured and the centennial seems to be largely ignored. Marjorie Graves, a piano teacher in Franklinville, wrote award winning articles on Franklinville for *THE CHRONICLE JOURNAL* newspaper. In the next few newsletters we will be writing about Franklinville's role in World War I, based on her writings and research.



In 1917 the United States entered World War I and President Wilson called for 500,000 men and \$500,000,000 to engage in this war. *THE CHRONICLE* published a list of 87 questions that had to be answered by all males between the ages of 16 and 50 living in New York State. A registration day was chosen.

In July 1917 soldiers from the 74th regiment in Buffalo came to Franklinville with a machine gun and military equipment on a recruiting expedition. They took up a stand in front of *THE CHRONICLE JOURNAL* office and a large crowd gathered to watch the proceedings. The names drawn were: Harry Pappas, Clair Sherwood, Clarence Pixley, Petro Maffei, Lewis Maffei, Irving Mackie, Frank Devereaux and Cyril Ullman. The men went to Buffalo for examination and enlisted.

A complete list of the war draft was printed and Franklinville's share of 384 men from Cattaraugus County was 127. The first two men drafted were Ira H. Michael and Roswell Weeks, two lawyers from town. They were to report on September 4th. On the 19th of that month the next 45% were to go and on October 1st, 50% would go. All the men were promoted to Corporal.

On September 11th, the citizens of Franklinville turned out to honor the young men leaving for service. A big parade was held followed by speakers, enlisted men, The G.A.R., Sons of Veterans, Boy Scouts and firemen. They marched on North and South Main Street, down Elm and back to the Park. A bandstand was erected at the Robson Corner and the crowd listened to the speakers that included C. D. Van Aernam and Rev. George Middleton. Musical numbers were played.

Herbert Hoover, Director of Food Control, sent out a list of 6 things citizens were asked to do to cut down on food consumption in the U.S. People were urged to economize on the use of butter and sugar; eating one wheat less meal a day, using more vegetables, fruit and fish; and eating beef,

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mutton or pork not more than once a day. Each family was given a stamp book for sugar purchases which allotted a family of 3 to 6 pounds of sugar for the month.

In October 1917 Colonel Ervin L. Phillips was appointed as Colonel of the new National Army then being formed.

At a Sunday evening service at the Baptist Church a service flag was unfurled given by the Christian Endeavor in honor of the young men from their congregation who had gone into service. It contained the following names: Edward Van Schaick, Roy C. Wilder, Claude J. Domes, Percy Manke, Henry Howard, Leon C. Smith, William Howard, William A. Day, Claud Sill, Harry DeWitt, Earl Paynter, Harry Alger and Leslie Fraser. Other churches had their rolls of honor also and continued to add names.

New recruiting rules were published, stating that married men, but no draft registrant, would be allowed to enlist after December 15th. All draft eligible who had not been called for examination by the local board were entitled to enlist.

On December 28th, a notice appeared stating that the government would take possession of every railroad in the U.S. for war purposes. A second draft was scheduled for January 1st, 1918.

[Service flags](#) were placed in the windows of the homes from which the men had gone, a blue star for each one in the service.

Franklinville in World War I, Part II, will continue next month, Jan 2021.

