

Chapter One- Thirteen and Friday the Thirteen

It was with surprise that we read the newspaper reports of the fact that, although President Wilson would arrive in the port of Brest, France on Friday *the 13th* of December, he and his national escort would not proceed to Paris until the next day, the purpose being that they wished to avoid reaching their destination or first objective on such an uncanny or supposedly unlucky day as Friday, *the 13th* as it is held to be in the mind of a hoodoo ridden public.

Now there are numerous historic events which have occurred on *the 13th* day of the month, which have been great epoch makers.

For instance, in our Civil War which ended and the first order for troops issued *April 13th*: Fort Sumter surrendered on *April 13th*; the battle that ended with the capture of Fort Donaldson by the Union troops began *February 13th*; the battle of Fredericksburg with victory for the Union was fought and gained *December 13th*, 1861.

Again, in regard to the Spanish-American war, what Dewey did in Manila Bay on the first of May is tame in its far-reaching results as compared with August *13th*, the date of the capture of Manila, the victory that broke the back of Spain's resistance, after which a treaty of peace was signed in less than four months whereby Spain relinquished her claim of sovereignty over Cuba, and ceded Porto Rico, Guam in the Ladrones and the Philippines to the United States.

Also, during the Mexican War the battle of Chapultepec was fought and won on September *13th*, the result of which permitted the American army to reach and enter the City of Mexico the next day, this being the decisive victory that led to the signing of a peace treaty before the following winter was over.

But coming down to more recent events, Dr. Davis, returned from France, and speaking for the American Red Cross in company with the head of that organization, made the statement in various coast cities, and no doubt elsewhere, that when our first troops sailed for France, there were just *thirteen ships*-transports and convoys—in the fleet; that they sailed on June thirteenth, 1917, and that they were just *thirteen days* in crossing. This statement was also corroborated by the head of the American Red Cross at a noonday luncheon of the Arctic Club in Seattle.

These gentlemen, seemingly, did not see in all this that which we hope to point out later, their expressed thought being that the Lord had so helped America in the war that we were able to succeed against that which was generally considered an unlucky circumstance and coin-cident.



General John "Black Jack" Pershing (September 13, 1860 – July 15, 1948) LEFT
General Pershing and King George V inspecting the troops 1918 RIGHT

But still more, a recent and marvelous fact in connection with this subject, is that the really decisive battle of the great World War was successfully concluded on ***Friday September 13th*** by the American Army under the leadership of **General John Pershing**. We refer to the cutting of the St. Mihiel salient, which the Germans had driven toward Paris, forming a peninsular into the French lines. After they had driven the British back from March to late May, when the battle raged about Ypres, and then turned their attention to the French in an endeavor to take Paris they were within 39 miles of Paris, with that delicately poised and inexplicable, spiritual thing, the morale, of both French and British badly broken.

At this time the command was given to **Pershing** to take **Belleau Woods**, afterward called by our boys "***Hell Woods***", to which he consented only on condition that they be permitted *to do it their way*, to which after some demur the Commanding General Foch said, "*Well do it your way, and Heaven help you.*" They did it their way, the God of heaven did help them, and they made that spot famous, after which **Pershing**, at the risk of incurring the displeasure of the high military commanders of our Allied forces, stood like a rock and insisted that hereafter if the American forces were to be used it would be as an army and not

singly as "*shock troops*" before the allied lines which failed to properly support them. The Germans had called our forces "*lightning made soldiers*" and the allies protested that "green troops" could not hold the line as an organized army, but **Pershing** won out and took over that portion of the Hindenburg line where they had gained their first victory as a national army.



“HELL WOODS” painted by Frank Schoonover 1919

The Germans massed their best former offensive against the British to resist the American Army, thus enabling the English troops to advance against them with but little resistance, at a time too when their morale had been restored by the successes of our troops at Chateau Thierry.

The declared and recognized morale was encouraging and uplifting, not because our boys were fresh and vigorous while their allies were war-worn and weary, but because they were in the fight within fifteen minutes after the trucks had landed them on the field, going into battle yelling and singing at the top of their lusty young voices. Thus it was that our boys, as an army, steadily, slowly but surely drove the Hun backward and knew *no reverses*, for they had not learned in their “lightening made” military training the possibility of retreat.



The 28th President of the United States
Thomas Woodrow Wilson
(December 28, 1856 – February 3, 1924)

It was the remarkable coincident of the President whose name *Woodrow Wilson* contains just *thirteen* letters, and who is the ruler and chief of the nation whose heraldic number is *thirteen*, visiting both the protector nation and the mother nation of the original *thirteen* colonies, and who sailed on a vessel bearing the name of the first President of those *thirteen* colonies, which had been converted into *thirteen* states he coming to them on a day bearing the date of *thirteen* !

It is most unfortunate that so few of our leaders, both in church and state are aware of the pertinent fact that *thirteen* is distinctively *the national heraldic number* of these **United States of America**, and that it is such by the direct choice and election of the God of our fathers. But it is our purpose for the present to waive aside the divine phases of this great truth, and deal only with its political and national features, because, although our representatives, our senators, our army, navy, and governmental officials have learned of this fact in the numerous schools of our country, they have utterly disregarded its great, significant import.

But the facts are, that the First Continental Congress held in this country met, as the representative of the *thirteen* original colonies, in Philadelphia, September 5th, 1774, at which gathering the confederation or union of these colonies, as an independent nation, was discussed and seriously considered. The Second Continental Congress met, also in Philadelphia, May 10th, 1775 and continued in session one year, seven months and two days. At this second Congress each of the *thirteen* Continental colonies had a chosen and fully authorized representative, at which time the previously considered Union was consummated, the Declaration of Independence by these *thirteen representatives*, and this nation was born the day that that declaration was unanimously adopted. At this time a nation, not a nation of people, but a nation composed of previously people - *was born in a day*, ie, July 4th, 1776.



Hence, our national birthday, our natal day, and on that birthday there were just *thirteen states* in the Union, of which the *thirteen stripes* in our national flag "*Old Glory*"— is an unchanging and forever. unchangeable witness.

In spite of the fact that the number of stars in that flag have and still may change so far as number is concerned, the fact remains, and forever will, that the first original colonial flag of this new born nation raised over "**Liberty Hall**" and flung to the winds of heaven had only *thirteen* stars.

Again, the **thirteen** bars or paleways on the American shield which forms a part of our national escutcheon, (*shield or emblem bearing a coat of arms*) and which is borne on the breast of the eagle also bears unchange-able evidence to the fact that **thirteen** is the representative heraldic number of our national existence. These **thirteen** pales support a "chief" across the top, which binds and unites the whole into one and represents Congress, i.e., that which depends on the solid compact of the Union for its support as the representative of the united whole.

This is also the significance of the shield -**thirteen** in one. The paleways which are alternately white and red, in heraldic parlance are called *argent and gules*. The signatures of the **thirteen** men, who were the colonial representatives, which were affixed at different times to the "Articles of Confederation" were secured in the following order:

(1) New Hampshire, (2) Massachusetts Bay, (3) Rhode Island and Providence Bay, (4) Connecticut, (5) New York, (6) New Jersey, (7) Pennsylvania, (8) Delaware, (9) Maryland, (10) Virginia, (11) North Carolina, (12) South Carolina, (13) Georgia. Our history shows this to be the exact order in which the **thirteen** delegates signed the original unanimous Declaration of Independence, and shows also that this is the exact order in which their former Sovereign, King George III, acknowledged these **thirteen** original colonies to be free and independent States. Following this order, whether we count from north to south or *vice versa*, left to right or *vice versa*, from dexter to sinister or *vice versa* Pennsylvania is represented by or vice versa Pennsylvania is represented by the seventh or central pale, in consequence of which she has always been called "The Keystone State."



Furthermore, in our national coat of arms, the eagle holds in his right talon an olive branch with just *thirteen leaves*. The olive branch is the universally acknowledged emblem of peace. Thus with all the blessings of peace, the United States of America holds out to all the world this heraldic emblem, and bids the down trodden of every land to come and enjoy the privileges and blessings of the welcoming olive branch. But in the left talon that national ensign holds *thirteen arrows*, our distinctive symbol of war, held ever in full sight as a *warning* to all who would either invade our shores or tyrannize over the rights and liberties of mankind.

Reader, if you doubt either the olive branch with its *thirteen* leaves or the *thirteen* arrows, just take a dollar bill from your wallet and count them for they are both there.



You will also find in the azure field (or glory) above the head of the eagle a constellation of *thirteen* stars, these stars being a part of the crest in our national seal. Together with these *thirteen* stars, *thirteen* arrows, and the *thirteen* olive leaves joined together on one olive branch, you will find a scroll carried in the beak of the eagle. Upon this scroll is inscribed one of our great national mottoes "E PLURIBUS UNUM" meaning "one out of many" and of which there are but *thirteen* letters.

The fact of this motto on our great national seal with its marvelous Scriptural significance is one of the miracles of the ages, the marvels of which we must pass by for the present, as we are now dealing only with the national and political import of this our national number.



Therefore we hasten to say that the shield, stars, olive branch, arrows, and motto are all on the obverse side of our Great Seal, but that seal has also a reverse side, every feature of which has been placed there by an Act of Congress, and on which we find an unfinished **pyramid** built of *thirteen tiers of solid granite blocks*, set on a rock foundation.



On the lower tier of blocks is cut the year of our nation's birth, i.e., On the lower tier of blocks is cut the year of our nation's birth, i.e., MDCCLXXVI—1776. Suspended in space above the *thirteenth* stone tier is the "*all-seeing eye*," enclosed in a pyramidal triangle, which when lowered to the position of capstone will complete the pyramid. The eye is surrounded with a radiating glory. Over the eye is another pertinent motto, "*Annuit Coeptis*," in which there are also but *thirteen* letters, and which means "*He (God) hath prospered our undertaking*" or, as some translate it, "*He hath prospered our beginning*," having reference, of course, to the beginning of our national undertaking for independence.

Furthermore, the Revolutionary Flag of Massachusetts was the famous "**Pine Tree Flag**," on the white field of which was a pine tree. At the base of the tree was coiled a rattlesnake with *thirteen* rattles on tread which was the pertinent warning, "*Don't tread on me*," in which you will notice there are also but *thirteen* letters, while in the space above the pine tree was inscribed the reverent words "*An appeal to God*," and this also has but *thirteen* letters.



The Mace of the US House of Representatives

Again, we find that "*The National Mace*" of the House of Representatives is composed of a bundle of *thirteen* ebony rods, entwined and bound together with silver bands. These are also representative of the original states of the Union and are surmounted by a globe of silver upon which is delicately traced a map of both hemispheres, while a silver eagle, with its symbolic outstretched wings, is perched on the summit of the globe. According to our national law a full military or naval court consists of only *thirteen* members. Also according to our Constitutional Amendment *thirteen* persons is the full number that may sit on the jury of any court in our or any other Anglo-Saxon domain.

Again, that God-honoring motto on some of our armorial bearings and our national coinage "*In God We Trust*" together with its tell-tale motto of *thirteen letters* "E Pluribus Unum," from which, in spite of all the modern protests of some of our individual citizens with sceptical and infidelic tendencies, there is no national escape, is only further evidence that 13 is our nationally elected num-ber, although there is not a man in the nation with sufficient wisdom to tell why that number should be that which it is, except those who have the *Scriptural illumination* concerning it. *Oh that someone might enlighten our national leaders!*



It is a most remarkable fact, and one for which there can be no accounting (except the Scriptural reason which, for the present, we are withholding) that the Battle Flag of the Southern Confederacy which was formally adopted by the Confederate Congress was composed of a blue St. Andrew's Cross on a field of red, and the blue cross charged with *thirteen* white stars, although, at the time, there were only eleven states in the secession.

Later, in 1863, the flag for the Confederacy which was adopted by the Confederate Congress was a white flag with a red field in the upper dexter corner, on which field of red was this same blue cross with its ever present **thirteen** white stars.

The only difference between the cross on the battle flag and that of the Confederacy being that one was fimbriated (*having a ruffled or fringed edge to it*) with white, while the other was not, but both flags conspicuously floated the elect, heraldic number which is destined to forever keep this nation one and undivided, as prophetically foretold.

Now, by turning our attention back for a moment to the various groups of **thirteen** as found in our heraldic mottoes, stars, bars, shield, olive leaves, arrows, etc., we find in these various national insignia just *thirteen thirteens*, which fact doubly emphasizes the truth of our nation's elect number 13. Then, when we enumerate the entire number of emblems on the Great Seal of the United States of America as a whole, whether they signify the 13 or some other national feature, we find there are 6 on the obverse and 7 on the reverse side, thus making a total of 13, each of which was adopted by an Act of Congress.

"Coincident!" we hear one cry. Yes, "coincident," but do not forget that coincident means the evidence of a power back of the incidents that shaped them to a definite end or purpose.



