

WAR NOTES

Four concrete ships only, the emergency fleet corporation announces, are to be built under the first concrete ship program recently decided on. If these types prove satisfactory more of the same kind will be constructed.

Plenty of time should be allowed for mail to reach the soldiers in France; according to a report issued by Postmaster General Burleson between 15 and 20 days are required. And in cases where the forces have been shifted even a longer time than that is sometimes necessary.

Secretary of War Baker announces the dissolution of the board of control of labor standards which was formed to keep plants employing sweat shop methods from getting contracts for army clothing. Hereafter the duties of the board will be performed by the quartermaster general's office.

A training school for army chaplains has been ordered erected at Fort Monroe, Va., where candidates will be taught military law, international law, military science and tactics and hygiene. Men who fail in the examination will be returned to their civil pursuits and compensated for the time spent studying at the school.

Loyal Americans are called on to assist in apprehending alien enemies who fail to make proper reports of their property holdings in this country to the alien property custodian. Persons convicted of making untrue statements regarding their possessions are liable to a \$10,000 fine or ten years' imprisonment.

After a thorough investigation the federal grand jury brands as utterly without foundation the changes made by C. H. Thompson, a former member of the American Defense Society, that there had been a number of spies in this country shot and that ammunition had been sent to Germany. Thompson, himself, it is announced, now admits that he may have been misinformed.

Approximately 1,080,000 soldiers, sailors and nurses, nearly 90 per cent of the fighting forces of the country, have applied for government insurance. An extension of time from March 12 to April 12 has been made in which to make application; it is hoped that during this time every man will take out a policy. Automatic insurance—giving the benefit of policies to men who have not made application—has been discontinued.

Congress has appropriated \$100,000 for the manufacture of five airplanes to carry mails daily between Washington and New York city. The post office de-

partment favors the plan and efforts are being made to bring the enterprise to a realization some time in April. The shortest distance between the two terminals is 225 miles. The proposed route will extend through Philadelphia, three hours being allowed for the entire trip. About 300 pounds of mail will be carried by each machine, at a postage rate of 25 cents an ounce.

An exhibition of motion pictures showing the American navy as it is today was given recently in Washington. Secretary of the Navy Daniels commended the way in which the navy had grown from a comparatively small number of men a short time ago to more than 300,000 men now. It is a question of a little longer, he said, when it will take its position as the "incomparable and unconquerable navy of the world." He recommended that the pictures be displayed in every city, town and hamlet so that the people of the country could see the great strides that have been made.

ELECTORAL COLLEGE

The president and vice-president of the U. S. are not elected directly by the people but by electors who are voted for on the party tickets or, in some states, nominated by petition. The chosen electors meet on the second Monday in January, following their election in their respective states, and vote by ballot for president and vice-president of the U. S. The result is transmitted to the president of the senate. On the second Wednesday in February, succeeding the meeting of the electors, the electoral votes are opened and counted in the presence of both houses of congress and the result is announced by the president of the senate. Candidates for the offices of president and vice-president are nominated at national party conventions.

These conventions are not provided for by the constitution but it has become the invariable rule that the candidates presented by them are voted for by the presidential electors. The latter are nominated at the state party convention or primaries and are elected on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of every fourth year preceding the end of the presidential term. Each state is entitled to as many electors as it has senators and representatives. No senators or representatives or persons holding an office of trust or honor under the U. S. may be an elector. The number of electors depends on the population within the districts or counties represented. Therefore it is not the same in all states.

The sixth grade pupils are reviewing the study of our first eight presidents, and the events leading up to the Revolutionary War. All are interested in the study of history.