

FIRST STEP TAKEN TO ORGANIZE VETERANS

Colonel Roosevelt Telegraphs Suggestions to Oregon.

STATE CONVENTION AHEAD

Delegates Will Be Picked for National Meeting; Lieutenant Burgard Temporary Secretary.

Preliminary steps were taken yesterday to form an organization open to all the men in the land and naval forces of the United States in the recent war, when Colonel Theodore Roosevelt telegraphed to Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Kelly making suggestions for action in Oregon.

This organization, as yet nameless, is designed to be the real, comprehensive organization for the men who have seen service against Germany and to shut out alleged fly-by-night organizations which are beginning to spring up. The organization will proceed in a temporary manner pending the return of the men overseas, so that when they are home they will have a voice in it.

State Convention Suggested.

Colonel Roosevelt, whose address is 15 West Forty-fourth street, New York City, in a series of telegrams to Colonel Kelly indicated a general outline for fashioning a state organization of the proposed war veterans' association. He asked that immediate publicity be given to the program and that the name and address of a temporary secretary be published, so that all the veterans can get in touch with the pending organization.

It is suggested that a call be issued for a state convention to select delegates to attend a national convention at St. Louis. No date has yet been set for the state national meetings, but these will be announced later.

Oregon to Have 10 Delegates.

Representation in the national convention will be based on twice the congressional representation of a state. This means that with Oregon having two senators and three representatives, the Oregon branch will be entitled to send to St. Louis ten delegates.

That Colonel Roosevelt has perfected the details of the plan was indicated by the fact that he had even designated the names of the men he wished to sign the call for the state convention in Oregon. The call for the convention is signed by the following:

Lieutenant-Colonel George H. Kelly, Portland; Lieutenant-Colonel George A. White, Portland; Major William R. Logan, Oregon City; Captain Dow V. Walker, Portland; Lieutenant John Clark Burgard, Portland; Sergeant Carl H. Featon, Dallas; Private Fred Kiddie, La Grande; Private Harry Critchlow, Portland.

All of the men whose names were selected by Colonel Roosevelt to sign the call have seen service overseas. Lieutenant-Colonel Kelly was in charge of getting all the lumber used by the American expeditionary force in France; Lieutenant-Colonel White, who was adjutant-general of the Oregon national guard, is still in France; several others signing the call are still in France.

Complying with the request of Colonel Roosevelt, Lieutenant John Clark Burgard has been selected as temporary secretary. His address is 373 Oak street, Portland. Lieutenant Burgard, who recently was with the trophy train of the victory liberty loan, was severely wounded in France.

As soon as dates for the state and national conventions are established, the call for the state convention will be issued. It is the desire of Colonel Kelly to see large delegations from all parts of the state at the state convention, in order to make the organization as representative as possible.

TROOPS ASK WITHDRAWAL

(Continued From First Page.)

The Americans were keen for fighting the bolsheviks, whom they had been told were German agents. They have fought bravely throughout the campaign, and they still are doing so.

However, since the armistice with Germany was declared, the soldiers have been subjected to constant bolshevik propaganda, which together with their desire to return home after the end of the war for which they were drafted, and the hardships and loneliness of the Arctic winter, has caused them to lose their spirits.

Meanwhile they have had no official statement from the government to answer bolshevik propaganda and no American in Archangel is in a position to tell them officially what they are fighting for.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Advices from Archangel to the state department today state the provisional government

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has ordered the meeting of the senate and municipal assembly for the first two weeks in May.

Thirty-five representatives of the district senate and 15 representatives from the city and village administrations will be represented. Taxation, financial powers of the senate, unemployment and relief measures, public health and sanitation, supplies and trade are among the matters to be considered.

LONDON, April 10. (via Montreal.)—Forces of the Russian government at Omsk have defeated two bolshevik regiments at Zaratul on the Kama river, according to an official announcement received here from Omsk. Nine hundred bolsheviks were killed.

LONDON, April 10. (Reuters.)—The bolshevik armies which captured Odessa are now trying to penetrate the Crimea. They have already come into contact with the Franco-Greek troops who, according to bolshevik reports, were driven back. The bolsheviks captured Perekop, 100 miles north of Sebastopol. It is officially announced from Omsk that two bolshevik regiments were completely defeated at Sarapul, 900 men being killed.

PARIS, April 10.—Reports received by the Russian commission in Paris from the all-Russian government at Omsk show that the official expenses of that government are declining and there is in progress a rapid increase in the monthly revenue. The last totalled 190,000,000 rubles in February, as against \$5,000,000 rubles for the previous month and 25,000,000 rubles last July.

COMMANDER MAKES REPORT

War Department Receives Notice of Soldiers' Action.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The war department issued tonight an official statement confirming Associated Press advices from Archangel that what amounted to a mutiny occurred among the American troops there on March 26. A company of infantry, the message stated, refused to entrain for the front until personally urged to do so by Colonel George E. Stewart, commanding the American contingent. Open threats were made of general mutiny unless a definite statement from Washington insuring early withdrawal was forthcoming.

The text of the paraphrase of the code message, dated March 21, follows, the department having eliminated only the identification of the company and certain military information not bearing on the incident:

"Yesterday morning, March 26, a company of infantry, having received orders to go to the railroad front, was ordered out of barracks for the purpose of packing sleds for the trip across the river to the railroad station. The non-commissioned officer who was in charge of the packing soon reported to the officers that the men refused to obey. At this some of the officers took charge, and all except one man began reluctantly to pack after a considerable delay. The soldier who continued to refuse was placed in confinement. Colonel Stewart, having been sent for, arrived and had the men assembled to talk with them.

"Upon the condition that the prisoner above mentioned was released the men agreed to go. This was done, and the company then proceeded to the railway station and entrained there for the front. That they would not go to the front line positions was openly stated by the men, however, and they would only go to Obzorskaya. They also stated that general mutiny would soon come if there was not some definite statement forthcoming from Washington with regard to the removal of American troops from Russia at the earliest possible date."

The department has cabled for more information. From the message received today officials were unable to ascertain whether a condition of mutiny had in fact developed in the past ten days. Pending fuller advices, no comment was forthcoming as to the course to be pursued.

Presumably, it was said, Colonel Stewart already had been advised directly that it was the purpose of the supreme war council, in charge of the policy governing the movement, to withdraw the entire force from northern Russia when the ice blocking the harbors goes out. The British relief expedition, originally scheduled to the 24th strong, has sailed, as have the two companies of American railway engineers sent at the request of the British authorities to keep open the railroad south of Murmansk.

The dispatch today did not show to what extent bolshevik propagandists could be held responsible for the behavior of the troops, nor has any information reached the department tending to show the extent to which the rebellious attitude may have spread through the whole American contingent.

The 228th infantry of the 55th division forms the bulk of the American contingent in the Archangel region. The unit is almost wholly composed of selective service men from Michigan. It is commanded by Colonel George E. Stewart of the regular army, who served in some of the most northerly posts in Alaska and became thoroughly familiar with weather conditions such as those in Archangel.

While the action of the company at Archangel undoubtedly is notorious under any strict interpretation of the military code and would render the men liable to severe disciplinary action, under ordinary circumstances, war department officials did not believe such action would result. It was pointed out that the men apparently obeyed their orders subsequently when the situation had been made clear to them. Only in the event of a refusal which jeopardized the lives of other men, it was thought, would any drastic measures of discipline be invoked. Officers here were frankly doubtful that public sentiment at home would permit any other course and many of them expressed sympathy with the feelings of the men.

The force in the Archangel region operating with the British, French and North Russian armies is the 228th infantry, national army, composed largely of Michigan men. The regiment is commanded by Colonel George E. Stewart, a regular army officer.

CHURCH HEAD TO RETIRE

Appointment of Missionaries Results in Conflict.

LAMON, Ia., April 10.—Frederick M. Smith has offered his resignation as president of the reorganized Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints to the general conference in session here this week. It was learned today.

Mr. Smith's action, it is said, was due to a difference of opinion as to whether the appointment of the church's 200 missionaries should be in his hands or left to the "quorum of 12."

Several hundred delegates from all parts of the United States and several other countries are attending the conference. Lieutenant Reed Expected Home. First Lieutenant Kenneth S. Reed, son of Mrs. George M. Reed, 713 Unger drive, is expected to arrive in Portland today or tomorrow. Lieutenant Reed saw overseas service as aide to Brigadier-General Colwell of the 73rd brigade of the 51st division. He was mustered out at Camp Dodge, Ia. The return from France was made on the steamer Kentuckian.



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MANY TREES ARE PLANTED

DEFORESTED AREAS IN OREGON RECEIVE ATTENTION.

Forest Service Officials Estimate That Timber Will Be Ready for Use in 1959.

In 1919 the trees which will be planted this week and in the near future under the direction of George Cecil, district forester, will be ready for the market, according to estimate of the forest service.

Planting was started in four Oregon forests and one national forest this week. Directions have been given to plant with fir and pine 3000 acres of national forest which have been burned off a number of times and which would produce no new trees if left to nature. Planting is to take place on 100 acres near Rustlers creek on the Crater national forest, on 425 acres near Oakridge, southwest of Eugene, on the Cascade national forest, on 500 acres at Mount Hebo, south of Tillamook in the Siuslaw national forest, and on 525 acres on the old Solidus burn on the Olympic national forest.

Trees two years old are used for planting. The trees were all grown on the Windy river government nursery in the Columbia national forest and are of Douglas fir except those to be planted on the Crater forest, which are yellow pine and grown at a nursery in that forest.

It is expected that within 20 years the timber planted this spring will be large enough to be used for mill and post timber. Within 75 to 100 years from now it will be ready for saw timber.

Centralla to Clean Up. CENTRALIA, Wash., April 10.—(Spe-

JURY SAYS DEATH ACCIDENT

Joseph P. Arthur Exonerated of Blame in Drowning of Women.

OAKLAND, Cal., April 10.—Joseph P. Arthur of Waukegan, Ill., was cleared by a coroner's jury yesterday of responsibility for the death of Mrs. James Stockton and Mrs. Paul V. Smith, who were drowned when Arthur's automobile plunged off a wharf on the Oakland waterfront two weeks ago.

Arthur is in a local hospital recovering from injuries suffered in the accident. He says he met the women at a restaurant and was taking them for a ride when he missed a roadway leading to a bridge and drove into the estuary. The husbands of the women formerly were employed in shipyards here and were out of the city when the tragedy occurred.

Veterans Will Organize.

SALEM, Or., April 10.—(Special.)—Salem's returning soldier will organize a veterans' society at a meeting to be held at the armory next Tuesday evening.

will affiliate with the American Legion, the national organization now in process of formation. A goodly number of Salem's sons have already returned from overseas and all appear to be favorable to the new organization. They will make an effort to have the Salem branch the first to be enrolled from this state in the national organization.



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