

ARMY OF 1,000,000 MEN TO BE TRAINED

Rifles, Uniforms and Artillery Lacking.

COST TO BE BILLION A YEAR

Great Factories to Be Transformed to Munition Plants.

DEFENSE BILLS ARE URGED

Congress to Be Asked to Rush Appropriations—Brand Whitlock's Withdrawal From Belgium Forecast of Declaration.

BY JOHN CALLAN O'LAUGHLIN. WASHINGTON, March 24.—(Special.)—An army of 1,000,000 men will be trained and equipped to assure the defense of the United States and such service elsewhere as may be needed for the assertion of American rights. President Wilson, accompanied by Mrs. Wilson, called at the War Department late this afternoon and for more than an hour went over the plans of military preparation with Secretary Baker. From time to time one of the staff officers of the Department went in to recite personally what his branch is doing to meet Germany in war.

Pork to Be Utilized.

The development of an Army such as the authorities have in mind is a tremendous task in itself. It is not believed the raising of the men themselves will be difficult. The difficulty will lie in supplying them with officers, quarters, clothing, rifles and other equipment. So far as quarters are concerned it is proposed to use, as far as possible, many of the posts which are the product of the policy of pork, but which now can be utilized for training purposes.

Moreover, department commanders at Chicago, New York, San Antonio and San Francisco have been instructed to arrange for extensive sites, similar to that at Plattsburg, N. Y. With reference to clothing, it will be some months before the uniforms can be secured. The importance of this one feature of the matter will be realized when it is recalled that Germany has declared that a man in civilian clothing with weapon in hand will be shot as a "Franc-tireur" and not treated as a prisoner of war in case of capture.

Rifles Are Lacking.

The War Department has a reserve of some 800,000 rifles, not of the most modern pattern, and even this number is inadequate for the army proposed to be formed. There is a terrible paucity of artillery, of all kinds of machine guns and of ammunition.

Fortunately for the United States, Germany cannot attack us upon land, so that we will have ample time in which to train and equip the Army. Because of this fact the War Department has been content to await authorization by Congress before proceeding with the development of force which it is conceded will be necessary.

Munitions Plants Must Extend.

As far as possible the preparations for raising the force are being perfected. Every dollar that is available is being spent for guns of all calibers, rifles and munitions. The department cannot afford to be too lavish in placing contracts, it is argued, because it is advisable for the munitions plants to turn out the supplies ordered by Great Britain, France and Russia. It is becoming increasingly apparent, however, that these plants must be extended and that other factories, especially automobile factories, must be transformed into munition plants.

T. R. WOULD HEAR "DIXIE" IN FRANCE

COLONEL SAYS HE CAN TAKE DIVISION ABROAD SOON.

Roosevelt Declares If Government Gives Permit He Will Have Army Overseas in 5 Months.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., March 24.—Theodore Roosevelt, in an address here today, said he would have a division of American soldiers in the trenches of France within four or five months if permission would be given by the Government.

The statement was made just after the band had played "Dixie," and Colonel Roosevelt had remarked: "I would like to hear that tune against Von Hindenburg's line in France."

The Colonel said the United States should carry the war to Germany. He pleaded for universal military training. Colonel Roosevelt departed today for Fort Meyer to hunt devils.

NICHOLAS LOSES COMMAND

Grand Duke Removed From Head of Russian Armies.

LONDON, March 24.—The retirement of Grand Duke Nicholas from his post as commander-in-chief of the Russian armies is officially confirmed, according to a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd. Pending the appointment of a successor, the dispatch adds, General M. V. Alexieff, chief of the general staff, will act as commander-in-chief.

The retention of the Grand Duke as commander-in-chief was considered undesirable by the Russian Minister of War because of Grand Duke Nicholas' connection with the Romanoff dynasty.

DRYS NOT TO PRESS ACTION

Methodists Take Stand Defense Requires Congress' Attention.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Organized agencies of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it was announced here today by the Board of Temperance, will not press the prohibition constitutional amendment during the special session of Congress.

The action is taken on the patriotic ground that the full attention of Congress is required for National defense.

BIG WARSHIP SOON TO DIP

Superdreadnought New Mexico to Be Launched April 23.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The superdreadnought New Mexico, a sister ship of the Pennsylvania, will be launched at the New York Navy-Yard April 23. Only Naval officers, the Governor of New Mexico and representatives of the press will be present.

The New Mexico will have 12 14-inch guns as a main battery and will displace 32,000 tons.

SENTRY AND INTRUDER FIRE

Prowler Discovered Within Prohibited Lines of Fort McArthur.

SAN PEDRO, Cal., March 24.—Shots were exchanged today by an intruder who got past guards around Fort McArthur and a sentry who discovered the man within the prohibited lines. The sentry fired two shots, and the intruder fired twice in reply and escaped in the brush, according to a report made by the sentry.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE TOWNS

Kering, Persia, Taken and Pursuit of Turks Continues.

PETROGRAD, via London, March 24.—The capture by Russian troops of the Persian town of Kering, in the sector west of Kermanshab, about 40 miles from the Mesopotamian border, is announced by the War Office.

Pursuit of the Turks toward the Mesopotamian border continues.

CITY FOLKS URGED TO PLANT GARDENS

Farmers Asked to Diversify Crops.

GOVERNMENT MAKES REQUEST

Purpose Is to Provide Ample Food in Event of War.

ARMY TO NEED RAILWAYS

Cultivation of Small Plots by Every Person at Home Will Permit Freer Action Against Enemies of America.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—A statement urging that as a patriotic duty city residents transform their yards into gardens and farmers so diversify their crops as to make each section self-sustaining, was issued tonight by Carl Vrooman, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture.

The great need in war time, Mr. Vrooman said, would be a surplus of wheat with which the Nation could feed its allies. He also declared acreage of soy beans and cow peas should be increased to augment the resources for protein which in emergency could replace meat for human consumption.

Two or three crops of some sort should be raised during the coming summer, he said, on every vacant square foot in the cities.

Risk Put on Whole Nation

"If National policy decrees that there should be a big increase in our acreage and yields per acre of food crops," the statement says, "then the Nation as a whole and not the farmers as a class should and must assume the major part of the risk involved."

"The Department is urging each section of the country to become as nearly as practicable agriculturally independent. This is good policy in time of peace and would be a vitally important policy in time of war, when our transportation systems necessarily would be chiefly occupied with the transportation of soldiers and war supplies."

Spring Wheat Is Urged.

"In view of the apparent world-wide wheat shortage and present and prospective high prices in those parts of the country where Spring wheat at normal prices is as profitable or almost as profitable as oats, farmers would do well to seed a part at least of their normal oats acreage to Spring wheat. In case of war few things would be more important than that the United States have on hand a large surplus of wheat with which to feed its allies."

"It is the patriotic duty of every city boy, girl and woman who can to transform his or her yard or some nearby vacant lot into a garden, each square foot of which will grow two or possibly three crops during the coming Summer. Moreover, the average small farmer and his family owe it to their country as well as themselves to raise at least 100 chickens, to keep one cow or more, at least enough hogs for home consumption and perhaps a little bunch of sheep."

Lime Quickens Production.

"The cheapest, most profitable and quickest known means of increasing general production is by the use of lime. There are few sections in the United States without some local supply of limestone, marl or oyster shells. If every farmer in the country would apply from two to four tons of crushed limestone per acre to all his sour land, our National supply of breadstuffs this year would be augmented by a surprising number of million bushels."

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather.

YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 80 degrees; minimum, 40 degrees. TODAY'S—Showers; westerly winds.

American-German Situation.

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Germany, if interned in America, may be put to work on salaries on reclamation projects. Section 1, page 7.

Preparedness plans are rushed. Section 1, page 3.

Theodore Roosevelt wants to hear "Dixie" played before Von Hindenburg's line. Section 1, page 1.

American relief committee withdrawn from Belgium. Section 1, page 1.

Government urges every city person to plant gardens. Section 1, page 1.

National.

Washington issues regulations covering handling of military and naval news by newspapers. Section 1, page 2.

Western roads expected to ask for immediate increase of rates. Section 1, page 6.

Foreign.

America supports Cuban government. Section 1, page 5.

Cordiality shown by United States pleasing to Russian government. Section 1, page 6.

"Little Grandmother" of Russian revolution returns to Petrograd after 30 years' exile. Section 1, page 3.

American Embassy attaches cheer orders to recognize new Russia. Section 1, page 3.

War.

French capture forts on Hindenburg line. Section 1, page 4.

French author says Kaiser will abdicate. Section 1, page 3.

Sports.

Portland dogs to vie in Seattle show. Section 2, page 4.

Grammar and High School students to get reduced prices at Columbia indoor meet. Section 2, page 2.

Boxers to hold "knockout" touring tonight. Section 2, page 2.

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Walter J. Travis accepts golfing dietum on amateur standing. Section 2, page 5.

Siglen, Farmer, Brenton and Fisher look good to McCredie. Section 2, page 2.

Portland Yacht Club plans busy week. Section 2, page 3.

Trapshooters' league opens April 8. Section 2, page 3.

Athletic organizations prepare to suspend activities in case of war. Section 2, page 6.

Pacific Northwest.

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Governor selects commission to propose consolidation program. Section 1, page 1.

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Portland and Vicinity.

Fire chiefs say two-plant campaigners are Judge Gattens. Section 1, page 11.

Forest supervisors enjoy banquet. Section 1, page 11.

Insurance Federation offers services to National Guard. Section 1, page 12.

Pacific Coast rescue workers to convene in Portland Tuesday. Section 1, page 15.

Plumbers plan to pass license law. Section 1, page 14.

Captain James Nevins has letter from Sergeant Ball in trenches. Section 1, page 14.

C. B. Hegardt explains grain elevator and storage programs of Commission of Public Docks. Section 1, page 17.

Three hundred motorists to ply Columbia. Section 1, page 16.

BOARD TO SUGGEST MERGERS IS NAMED

Governor Selects Men of Every View.

ALL SECTIONS REPRESENTED

Complete Consolidation Plan to Be Given Legislature.

ACT FOLLOWS DEADLOCK

Appointment of Commission Authorized by Last Session, When All Efforts to Prevent Duplication Were Blocked.

SALEM, Or., March 24.—(Special.)—Governor Withycombe today appointed the seven members who are to investigate the question of what state activities can, consistently in the interests of efficiency and economy, be consolidated or eliminated to avoid duplication of work. It will report to the Legislative Assembly which meets in 1918.

The members of the commission are: A. J. Johnson, Corvallis. T. J. Scroggins, La Grande. Austin T. Buxton, Forest Grove. Frank Patten, Astoria. Herman Van Buren, Portland. Charles Rudeen, Portland.

Legislation Unable to Solve Problem.

Necessity for the appointment of such a commission became apparent in the closing days of the last Legislature after that body had wrestled with the consolidation problem from the beginning of the session.

While the Legislature was practically a unit in the belief that some consolidation and elimination of commissions should be brought about, no conclusion could be arrived at to cover any general consolidation program.

Committees, Houses Deadlocked.

Consolidation committees were named by each House, after the two bodies had deadlocked. Then the two committees proved hostile. But the dove of peace finally settled down over the committee and they succeeded in arriving at some conclusions as to consolidation, but these were in turn blocked by dissension between the two houses again.

The situation was admittedly one of 88 members, who all sought to attain a definite object, but all were at sea as to the best way to attain it and what the best object to attain really was.

Commission Is Authorized.

Consequently the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, it devolves upon the Legislative Assembly to provide for an economical and efficient administration of the business of the state; and

Whereas, without thorough investigation, no member of the Legislative Assembly can vote intelligently upon the measures providing for the consolidation of any of the state offices; and

Whereas, the purpose of the Legislative Assembly is to provide for the economical and efficient administration of the various offices and departments of state without hampering or destroying efficient work by its officials; therefore, be it

Resolved, By the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring, That a commission of seven members composed of representative business men of the state of Oregon, be appointed by the Governor and instructed to make, during the ensuing biennium, a thorough investigation of the several offices, boards, commissions and departments of the state as to the scope, nature and importance of the different branches of the work performed by each and that the above-mentioned commission be required to make a complete and comprehensive report of its findings, together with such recommendations.

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CO-EDS IN SECRET 'DIPPYDROME' REVEL

OREGON UNIVERSITY WOMEN BAR MEN FROM FROLIC.

Programme Mentions Bacchus, Dancing, "Brown Kanakas"—Rest Left to Imagination.

UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, Eugene, March 24.—(Special.)—The women of the university reigned alone tonight in the realm of "dippydrome." Men were absolutely taboo, even to the extent that guards prevented the privacy of the women from being intruded upon.

Tonight no man was allowed to speak to a co-ed; neither could he have the privilege of her company. For the 500 or more co-eds in the university and all means. Men have been expelled in previous years for letting their curiosity get the better of them.

But a programme inadvertently dropped by a co-ed as she was going to the party gives a clew to what April frolic means. Verses describe the stunts and the rest is left to the imagination.

One verse reads: "Down by the sheltering palms, airy, fairy, beast of bacchus, dancing, prancing, brown kanakas." Another, "This stunt we are free to confess is the result of pre-arrangement," and still another, "There once was a lady's convention, opposed to armed intervention; when the meeting grew hot, they reversed on the spot and ended all in contention."

DEFENSE LINE IS OFFERED

Damon Point Owner Would Give Right of Way to Government.

HOQUIAM, Wash., March 24.—(Special.)—A. O. Damon, a pioneer of the Grays Harbor district, and owner of Damon Point, the peninsula separating Grays Harbor from the Pacific Ocean on the north side of the harbor entrance, has made an offer to the Government of land for fortifications for this port.

Mr. Damon 54 years ago was a Lieutenant in the United States Army. Since the European war has demonstrated that heavy defense guns mounted on heavy cars and operated over tracks along the line, designed to be fortifications, make the best defenses, Mr. Damon offers to give five miles of right of way for such a defense railway running along the point.

MORE RAIN DUE THIS WEEK

Frequent Showers Predicted for North Pacific Coast.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Weather predictions for the week beginning Sunday, issued by the Weather Bureau today, are:

Pacific states—Generally fair except for frequent local rains on the North Pacific Coast; normal temperatures.

FOOD IS DECLARED AMPLE

German Official Reassures Deputation Regarding Supplies.

AMSTERDAM, via London, March 24.—Adolf von Batocki, president of the food regulation board, addressing a deputation on the food question, expressed confidence that the supply was sufficient until the next harvest, according to a Berlin dispatch to Reuter's.

SLAVERS' PENALTY STANDS

Supreme Court Issues Final Mandate in Caminetti-Diggs Case.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—The Supreme Court's mandate sustaining penitentiary sentences given F. Drew Caminetti and Maury I. Diggs, of Sacramento, for violating the Mann white slave law was issued today.

AMERICA GIVES UP WORK IN BELGIUM

Brand Whitlock Withdrawn by Washington.

ORDER ARRAIGNS GERMANY

Berlin's "Disregard of Written Undertakings" Is Cause.

DUTCH TO TAKE UP WORK

State Department's Announcement Calls Attention to Discourteasies, Denial of Privileges and Sinking of Relief Ships.

WASHINGTON, March 24.—Because of "the German government's disregard of its written undertakings," for the protection of Americans and American relief work in Belgium, the State Department announced today that American Minister Brand Whitlock had been withdrawn from Brussels, and the staff of the American Commission for Relief in Belgium advised that they should not remain longer in German occupied territory.

Minister Whitlock, who has been kept on Belgian territory chiefly to aid the relief work, will go to Havre, the temporary capital of the Belgian government. The withdrawn American relief workers will be relieved by Dutch citizens and the committee through that means will continue from outside bases as best it can the work of caring for 10,000,000 dependent Belgians.

Indictment Is Severe.

The department's announcement, one of the most severe indictments of Germany drawn by the United States, recites that restrictions have been imposed on the Americans "which, under ordinary conditions, would never have been tolerated," and that Minister Whitlock has been denied diplomatic privileges and courtesies.

Whether Germany will continue to make the relief work difficult for other Ministers is not known here. The general American executors, headed by Chairman Herbert C. Hoover, will continue their efforts for Belgium and Northern France outside German jurisdiction.

Step Admittedly Serious.

The following announcement was given out by the State Department: "By direction of the President, the Minister at Brussels has been instructed to withdraw from Belgium with foreign diplomatic and consular officers and take up his official residence at Havre."

"After consultation with the Commission for Relief in Belgium, Mr. Whitlock has also been instructed to arrange for departure of the American members of the commission. This step, the seriousness of which is fully appreciated by the Government, was taken only after careful consideration and full consultation with all the interests involved."

Moral Responsibility Felt.

"When diplomatic relations with Germany were broken off the normal procedure would have been to withdraw the Minister at Brussels and the American members of the relief commission. Both this Government and the commission, however, felt a heavy moral responsibility for the millions of innocent civilians behind the German lines and it was decided that the

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HIGH LIGHTS IN SOME OF THE WEEK'S NEWS EVENTS BY CARTOONIST REYNOLDS.

