

AMERICANS FIGHTING UNDER OTHERS FLAGS WOULD FIGHT FOR U. S.

Many in British Uniforms Are Asking How Transfer Can Be Brought About.

CITIZENSHIP LOSS FACED

Forewarning of Allegiance Required on Enlistment in British Army; All Expect Congress to Open Way.

By Lowell Mellett.
London, March 29.—(U. P.)—Americans now fighting the Germans under the British or French flags would rather be doing it under the Stars and Stripes.

At least, that is the case of a large percentage of them, judging from the number that have so far expressed themselves at the American embassy here. Never a day passes now but one of several Americans in British khaki appears to ask how he can transfer his services direct to the United States army in case the United States goes to war. Thus far they have not received a great deal of comfort. They face the fact that they have lost their American citizenship.

To become a member of the British army, an American is required to swear allegiance to the king and forewear allegiance to all other countries. Legally, such Americans cannot become American citizens again without the process of naturalization, but some have, nevertheless, devised ways of evading this. It probably isn't treason to conceal the nature of these plans, under the circumstances. Anyhow, the soldiers feel certain congress will enact special legislation in their behalf permitting restoration of their citizenship, in consideration of the purpose for which they desire it.

A further complication is the fact that all such Americans have enlisted in the armies of England or of France for the period of the war. To obtain the privilege of serving in American commands, they must obtain some concession from their adopted country. They all seem confident of receiving such a favor.

BRYAN APPEALS TO CONGRESS TO TRY FOR PEACE

(Continued from Page One.)

asked to go 3000 miles for a chance to fight. Third, that we may not have the excuse for going to war that the European nations had. They had no machinery for peace; we have a peace plan, offered by this nation to the world and now embodied in 30 treaties with three quarters of the population of the globe. The plan has the endorsement of the president, the commendation of the senate, and the approval of the people at the polls. It provides for investigation of all disputes by an international tribunal before resort to war.

Would Invoke Treaty Plan.
Fortunately, these treaties compel us to employ the plan with Great Britain, France, Italy and Russia before going to war with them. Germany formally approved the plan, although no

treaty has yet been concluded with her. Shall we repudiate our own plan the first time we have an opportunity to employ it? If, as the president recently declared, the American people do not want war, is it not worth while to try the peace plan before bringing upon the people the horrors of war? Until an attempt is made and fails, no one is able to say that it would be impossible to secure the suspension of "truthless submarine warfare" during the investigation for which the plan provides. Shall we deny to ourselves the credit of trying to settle the dispute with the treaty plan?

Is it not worth while to do our part in trying to avoid injury? Would it not be better, as well as expedient for the government to carry on its own vessels such Americans as must go to Europe, rather than engage in war to vindicate the right of citizens to disregard all risks and ride upon belligerent ships?

Referendum Vote Suggested.
"Is it not worth while to separate passengers from contraband cargoes, so that the passengers can give their entire attention to the safety of the passengers? Our nation is the world's foremost advocate of peace. If we go to war, it should be for a cause which history will justify."

"If you reach the conclusion that the peace plan is the best way to preserve peace before you take the responsibility of plunging our beloved land into this unprecedented struggle, begun without any sufficient cause and conducted by both sides in utter disregard of the well settled rights of neutrals. Very truly yours,
"WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN."

Urges Compulsory Training.
Emporia, Kan., March 29.—(U. P.)—William Allen White, editor of the Emporia Gazette, today took a census as to public opinion regarding compulsory training in a democracy. The right to vote should depend entirely upon the will to defend, he said. "The will to defend one's country is important only as the will is supported by intelligent training to defend."

"Modern life is so organized that every man and every woman may have as important a part in our national defense as they have in making national opinion. A democracy is only as strong as the trained patriotism of its citizens. Education and training for the voter and the defender should be universal and compulsory."

Submarine Plans Sent by Department

The navy department has mailed plans and specifications of the submarines wanted by the government to the Chamber of Commerce for distribution among Portland's shipbuilding plants.

This port was slightly by the department when it first sent out calls for bids, but attention was drawn to the matter by the Chamber of Commerce with the result that immediate action was secured.

Bids on the fleet of submarines chasers wanted are to go forward Friday to the navy pay department at Seattle and from there to be sent to Washington, D. C.

Word that bids are to be sent by Penney & Bremner of Tillamook and by the Coast Bay Iron Works of North Bend was received by the chamber. At least six Columbia river yards are also to bid, while it is said that in the event of awards being made certain bidders at least two new yards will be established.

LOWER COLUMBIA IS STIRRED BY APPEAL FOR NATIONAL UNITY

One Thousand Persons Attend Mass Meeting at Astoria; Pledge Support.

ACTION IS RECOMMENDED

Citizens' Patriotic League Promises Care of Families of Men Who Are Called Into Defense Service.

Astoria, Or., March 29.—A patriotic meeting attended by fully 1000 persons was held at the Astoria theatre last night. That Astoria is ready to stand by the government in the present crisis was indicated by the enthusiasm shown.

Members of the Ninth Company Coast Artillery, Spanish-American War Veterans, Girls Honor Guard, G. A. R., Red Cross and others were represented. Attorney G. C. Fulton was the principal speaker and appealed to the patriotism of local citizens, and in behalf of the newly organized Citizens' Patriotic league pledged support to the families of the men who would be called into service.

Other speakers were Dr. F. J. Pilkington, president of the league, who presided; Dr. R. C. Ellsworth, local commander of the Spanish-American war veterans, Dr. Alfred Kinney, Captain J. T. Jeffries of the Ninth Company Coast Artillery, and Judge E. C. Judd.

A resolution favoring a vigorous prosecution of the government in the present crisis was adopted at the meeting. Will Celebrate Saturday.
Walla Walla, Wash., March 29.—Patriotism Day will be celebrated in Walla Walla Saturday, March 31, instead of a week later, as originally planned. The change was made because of the probability of the National Guard being ordered out before the latter date, and it is believed they will be here Saturday.

Enlistment has been slow among the guardsmen, mainly because there is no prospect of fighting ahead. Police duty does not seem to appeal, and at present Company K has but about 105 members.

The spirit of the day has permeated every part of the city. Whitman college trustees have granted the petition of the women for military training. The men and women of the school will organize Red Cross units at once.

In the high school the boys of the yesterday for compulsory military training. Red Cross headquarters have been opened by the women of the city, headed by members of the D. A. R., and the women are being pushed as rapidly as possible.

O. A. C. Cadets to Colors.
Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, March 29.—Thirty members of the faculty of O. A. C. have sent in applications for positions on the national war reserve list according to the last report from the office of commandant of cadets here. If these applications are accepted by the war department, the men will be among the first called by the government in case of actual hostilities.

From 40 to 50 students have left college to join their respective commands in the National Guard. The college authorities express willingness to grant diplomas to seniors who leave for service before the end of the college year.

The women of the college are showing a keen interest in the preparedness work. One hundred and five are enrolled in the Girls' Honor Guard and more are coming in daily. The big inter-society dance has been called off and the money destined for it will go to augment the funds of the Guard.

Centralia Has Spirit.
Centralia, Wash., March 29.—That Centralia is alive to the crisis that this country is facing, that they are ready to back up the president in any move that he may make and appreciate the sacrifices being made by members of Company M, which was ordered to mobilize Monday morning is evidenced by the fact that upwards of 500 persons participated in the patriotic demonstration staged in the Main street park Monday night, followed by a street parade. There was little cheering from the multitude, but the very stillness was proof that the throng realized the seriousness of the assemblage.

Reservists Not Eligible.
Seattle, Wash., March 29.—(P. N. S.)—Former reservists of the National Guard in this state, flocking to the armory to seek reinstatement in the guard, are met with the reply that they cannot only not see active service yet, but cannot resign from the reserve list to reenlist in the new guards.

Under present orders a reservist must remain a reservist, even though he wants to resign merely to reenlist. This ruling robs the Washington guard of many hundred men.

Another War Bride.
Seattle, Wash., March 29.—(P. N. S.)—Lieutenant James E. Shaw, company D, National Guard of Washington, and Miss Mabelle Kelsa, Seattle girl who was to have become his bride next June, are married today. When Lieutenant Shaw was forced to go with his company on the new call of the president, they decided to wait no longer.

Expected to Organize Company.
Chehalis, Wash., March 29.—In January W. A. Behr, local manager of the North Coast Power company, took the examination and has been commissioned as captain in a company of United States engineer reservists. Captain Behr expects to have little trouble in enlisting the membership of a company that he expects to organize in Chehalis.

Will Aid Recruiting.
Centralia, Wash., March 29.—Private Edw. W. McDougal is here from Portland to assist Sergeant Gurn in the local recruiting office of the United States army. McDougal succeeds Private Eddie Eubanks, who has been transferred to the coast artillery corps.

Railroads Win First Round.
Lansing, Mich., March 29.—(U. P.)—The railroad won the first round of their battle to put an increased passenger fare bill through the legislature yesterday. By a vote of 20 to 11, the senate on third reading, the Smith bill after enacting of the measure had failed in their efforts to tack a referendum on the measure.

Hillsboro "High" to Give All Credits to Those Who Enlist

Hillsboro, Or., March 29.—The Hillsboro school board this morning met with the faculty and students of the Hillsboro high school and informed the young men of the student body that credits for underclassmen, and senior diplomas for seniors would be granted to all who enlist in the Oregon National Guard. The district board made it plain that this is optional to those who wished to join the guard, although the offer was not in the nature of an inducement to encourage enlistment. As a result a number of students enlisted. Up to 11 o'clock 14 young men have enlisted since recruiting opened here Tuesday morning. The recruiting officers expect to enlist at least 10 more before night.

England Expected to Give Vote to Women

Electoral Reform Bill Probably Will Be Amended to Provide Franchise at Next Parliamentary Elections.

London, March 29.—(U. P.)—England's women have apparently won the vote. It was considered a foregone conclusion today that the electoral reform bill would be so amended in its final stages in the house of commons as to provide the franchise for England's women.

The suffrage plan will presumably go into effect at the next parliamentary elections, which means at the end of the war, since every effort is to be made during the conflict to avoid a general election, forced by disagreement of parliamentary with the ministry. It will grant to women precisely the same rights of the ballot in selecting parliamentary officers as men now enjoy.

Shingle Company Is Hit Hard by Fire

Raymond, Wash., March 29.—Loss of \$30,000 was sustained this morning by the Southwest Manufacturing company, as the result of fire that started at 2 o'clock, presumably from the dry kiln. Between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 shingles and four cars of cedar siding, made during the conflict, were destroyed. The mill and 5000 shingles were saved by the hardest kind of work on the part of the fire department. Owing to the car shortage the company carried an abnormal stock of shingles, which was the cause of the heavy loss sustained. The fire will cause the mill to be idle 60 days. Two box cars loaded with shingles burned.

Americans Landed When Bark Is Sunk

New Orleans, March 29.—(U. P.)—The Portuguese bark Argo, aboard which were five American sailors, was torpedoed and sunk off the coast of England March 23, according to advices received in shipping circles here today. All members of her crew were landed.

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PORTLAND CHOSEN AS GUARD HEADQUARTERS FOR ALL NORTHWEST

This District Will Embrace States of Washington, Idaho, Oregon and Montana.

GENERAL ORDER ISSUED

First District Will Be Commanded by Colonel John L. Hayden, of the Coast Artillery Corps.

San Francisco, Mar. 29.—(P. N. S.)—The national guard of the western department recently called to the colors will be divided into three districts for administrative and inspection purposes.

A general order drafted yesterday at department headquarters defines these districts as follows:
District No. 1—To embrace the states of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana, with headquarters at Portland.

District No. 2—All of Utah and such portions of California and Nevada as lie north of the thirty-seventh degree, with headquarters in San Francisco.

District No. 3—Southern California and Nevada, with headquarters in Los Angeles.
The first district will be commanded by Colonel John L. Hayden, Coast Artillery corps; the second by Colonel Richmond F. Davis, Coast Artillery corps, commanding officer of the coast defenses of San Francisco at Fort Winfield Scott; the third district by Colonel Wilber E. Wilder, Fifth cavalry, now on the California border.

Powers of Commanders.
What troops will belong to the particular districts will be determined by Major General J. Franklin Bell, who will notify the district commanders of the original assignments. But district commanders may make such changes in the stations of companies or lesser units as they may see fit. No transfers will be made, however, except after telegraphic communication with department headquarters. The district commanders will organize their own staffs of assistants, either from regular officers now under their command, or with officers of the national guard.

The general relations of a district commander both to those under him and to his superiors will be those of a brigadier commander. The order closes with this paragraph: "District commanders should keep constantly in mind the fact that the national guard has been called into the federal service for the protection of instrumentalities and resources of vital importance to the United States as a whole."

Officers Are Detailed.
In connection with the mobilization of the national guard, the following details of officers of the regular army were made yesterday by General Bell: Lieutenant Colonel Ulysses G. McAlexander, infantry, mustering officer of Third Oregon infantry.

Captain Rex Van Den Corput, Coast artillery corps camp, quartermaster for Washington national guard.
Captain Henry A. Hanigan, infantry, mustering officer of Seventh California infantry.

Captain Wilson B. Burtt, infantry, mustering officer of Second and Fifth California infantry regiments.
Captain Harold D. Coburn, infantry

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GERMAN RETREAT IN WEST APPARENTLY IS REACHING LAST STAGE

Belligerent Reports Indicate Fighting Is Now Nearing Hindenburg Line.

GERMAN "BIG GUNS" USED

Presumption Is That Term Means Artillery Requiring Permanent Emplacements—British in Open.

New York, March 29.—(U. P.)—Official statements from all belligerents today indicated that the German retreat on the western front is apparently reaching its final stages. From now on the fighting will probably be of masses of men on both sides—not of the type heretofore exemplified in warfare of hurriedly advancing forces clashing in comparatively open order with rearguards.

Today's battlefront dispatches, including the Paris official statement, reporting French forces "in contact everywhere with the enemy lines," indicated the changing character of the conflict.
"Big Guns" Again in Use.
Moreover, as indicative of the close approach of the French to the permanent "Hindenburg line," the Paris statement spoke of a bombardment from "big guns" of the enemy, directed at Soissons. "Big guns" presumably means that type of artillery requiring permanent emplacements—such as are undoubtedly built on the permanent line.

British front dispatches indicated Haig's troops have not approached as close to this German line as the French, as the British are still making use of armored cars and cavalry, useful only in open fighting.
Mass Attacks Reported.
Berlin reported mass attacks around hill 804 in the Verdun sector and general artillery conflict along the line of the retreat, with heavy losses inflicted on the Anglo-French troops. General Murray reported success in the British movement toward Jerusalem, with the defeat of a big force of Turks south of Gaza. The British

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