

ROOSEVELT CALLS ON PROPOSED VOLUNTEER DIVISION TO DISBAND

Advises Men to Get to Front as Best They Can or to Aid Country at Home.

TO PASS UP N. Y. POSITION

Vigorous Reply Is Made by Colonel to President's Statement Denying Request for Service Abroad.

New York, May 21.—(I. N. S.)—Colonel Theodore Roosevelt, in a statement Sunday night, called on the men who had volunteered for his proposed division in France to disband immediately. He advised them to get to the front in the best way they could. If they are unable to secure places in service abroad, he suggests that they devote their energies to aiding the country at home.

A vigorous reply was made to the statement of President Wilson issued Friday denying the Roosevelt request for service abroad.

It is understood that the colonel will decline to accept the position at the head of the New York National Guard offered to him by Governor Whitman.

Colonel Roosevelt's statement follows:

Why Force Is Disbanded.
To the men who have volunteered for immediate service on the firing line in the divisions which congress authorized:

The president has announced that he will decline to permit these divisions to be organized or to permit me to have a command in connection with such a force. After consultation yesterday with my friends, I have decided to accept the president's decision.

I wish respectfully but emphatically to deny that any political consideration whatever, or any desire for personal gratification or advantage, entered into our calculations. Our undivided purpose was to contribute effectively to the success of the war, and as representing a policy of personal gratification or advantage.

Politics Not Considered.
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Must Loyal Obey Decision.
As good American citizens, we loyally obey the decision of the commander-in-chief of the American army and navy. The men who have volunteered will now consider themselves absolved from all further connection with this movement. The funds that have been promised will be treated as withdrawn and applied to other purposes. I therefore have no further statement to be sent to the leaders in various states who have been raising troops and that it is published. Our sole aim is to help in every way in our power the successful prosecution of the war and we most heartily feel that no individual's personal interest should for one moment be considered as a factor in the general public interest.

Expedition Called Compromise.
The Brooklyn Eagle last evening stated authoritatively that the sending of this expedition was a compromise between the original plans of the general staff, which favored no early expedition, and the request of Colonel Roosevelt for authority for an immediate expedition. The Roosevelt agitation, backed by expressed desire of such distinguished leaders as Marshal Joffre and General Petain, unquestionably had its effect in bringing about the French expedition. It is believed in Washington that any criticism for turning down Roosevelt will be fully answered by the fact that American soldiers are going over.

Officers Were Eager to Join.
It has been stated that regular army officers are opposed to our plan as a matter of fact, the most effective fighting officers have been eager to be connected with or have under their command the troops proposed to raise. The president condemns our proposal on the ground that "dramatic" action is needed, action that is "practical and of scientific definiteness and precision." There was nothing dramatic in our proposal as all proposals indicating eagerness or willingness to sacrifice life for an ideal are dramatic.

Several Changes in Cash Apportionment Appear in New Bill
Washington, May 21.—Several changes and modifications in Oregon and Northwest appropriations appear in the new river and harbor bill, in addition to the striking out of \$975,000 for continuing improvement at the mouth of the Columbia river, upon statements by army engineers that this work can be carried forward on the balance remaining from former appropriations.

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had been accepted, the various units of the first division would tomorrow begin to assemble at whatever points the war department indicated, and they would have assembled in full force and without delay at the points indicated as rapidly as the war department directed them to go, and as soon as it provided them with tents, blankets and sleeping places, and with food and other supplies, by the use of private funds partly to make good any immediate lack of any such supplies as regards many of the units.

About Half Had Been Served.
"Fifteen days afterward the second division would have mobilized in similar fashion and then at intervals of 30 days the other divisions, in accordance with what I had found to be the wish of our allies, would have been ready to sail for France for intensive training back of the theatre of war, if the war department were able to furnish supplies, and we would have asked permission to use the rifles and ammunition now in use in the first division. All four divisions would have been on the firing line by September 1, the time at which the secretary of war has announced the assembling of the selective draft army is to begin.

Report Quoted by Committee in Submission of New Rivers and Harbors Bill.

OPPOSITION IS EXPECTED
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P. R., L. & P. IS GIVEN ORDERS TO CUT RATES
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Argument for Continuing Work.
The committee does, however, make an argument for going ahead with river and harbor work in war time, saying: "The very fact that a condition of war has already effected a congestion of traffic upon our railroads and at our principal railway and water terminals, and that the maintenance of the channels in our interior waterways and of fostering our water-borne transportation."

Opposition Will Be Expected.
The committee will have opposition. The committee will be assailed for allowing appropriations in some places and refusing them in others where it may be difficult to sell that one is any more an emergency matter or more related to national defense than the other. But after all has been said, the bill probably will pass the house in just about the way it has been reported.

Foreign Improvements Cited.
An interesting part of the report deals with information as to how some of the other nations engaged in war are dealing with waterway improvement. Berlin, it is said, since the war began, has taken up the building of a harbor in the western part of the city, at a cost of over \$3,000,000, and spending \$8,000,000 for a harbor in the eastern part of the city. Berlin is not on a large navigable river, and these expenditures are largely to accommodate the traffic of canals.

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It has been stated that regular army officers are opposed to our plan as a matter of fact, the most effective fighting officers have been eager to be connected with or have under their command the troops proposed to raise. The president condemns our proposal on the ground that "dramatic" action is needed, action that is "practical and of scientific definiteness and precision." There was nothing dramatic in our proposal as all proposals indicating eagerness or willingness to sacrifice life for an ideal are dramatic.

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Clatskanie rivers, Oregon; Cowitz, Lewis, Lake and Gray rivers, and Skamokawa Creek, Washington; for maintenance, \$48,500; completing improvement of Willamette river around the Willamette Falls at Oregon City, Oregon, in accordance with the report submitted in House Document Numbered One thousand and sixty, sixty-second congress, third session, \$30,000; continuing improvement of Lewis river, including North and East Fork, \$13,500; in all, \$141,500.

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JUDGE LOVETT WILL GIVE HIS SERVICES TO AMERICAN RED CROSS

Union Pacific Head Volunteers and Will Be Given Charge of New Agency.

ANXIOUS TO DO PART

Railroad Man Will Be Made Chairman of National Committee on Cooperation to Prevent Waste.

Washington, May 21.—(I. N. S.)—Henry P. Davison, chairman of the American Red Cross, announced Sunday that Judge Robert S. Lovett, formerly of Texas but now of New York, and chairman of the board of the Union Pacific railroad, has volunteered to give practically the whole of his time during the war to any work to which he may be assigned by the Red Cross.

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