

Secretary of Treasury Points Out Reason for Insurance of Soldiers

Protection of Dependents Declared Imperative Duty of the Government; Arguments Are Presented Why Proposed Emergency Bill Must Be Passed.

By W. G. McAdoo
Secretary of the Treasury

The number of claims for exemption from military duty under the draft law has caused a painful impression in many quarters, but after all, does not the fact that no provision has yet been made by the government for the support of the wives and children, mothers or fathers, of the men who have been drafted explain many of these claims for exemption?

Under the draft law the government has the power to require every able-bodied man between 21 and 31 years of age to perform military duty. Thousands of the drafted men are wage earners who married years ago and are the sole support of dependent families. So long as the government has made no provision for the care of these dependents, it is natural that such drafted men should seek to protect their loved ones by staying at home. I am sure that if the congress should promptly enact the pending war insurance bill, which makes definite allowances for the support of the dependent wives and children, fathers or mothers, of our soldiers and sailors, claims for exemption on that score will cease. This is an imperative duty of the government. We cannot deprive helpless women and children of the support of the wage earner by forcing him into the military service of the country unless the government substitutes itself as their support.

Morale of Army Involved

Imagine the emotions of the man who is called into the military service of his country with full knowledge that his loved ones are left without means of support and may be reduced to want unless the charity of the community in which they live comes to their relief. It would be nothing less than a crime for a rich and just government to treat its fighting men so heartlessly and to subject their dependent wives and children, who are unable to fight, to greater suffering than if they could fight.

The morale of an army is as essential to its effective fighting power as guns, ammunition and other instrumentalities of war. If equal importance is the morale of the civil population, which must support the armies in the field. We cannot have this essential morale unless the nation comforts the men in the ranks with the knowledge that everything possible will be done for them and their families, and renders to the civil population at home the assistance which will make it most effective in upholding the government and the fighting forces.

Purpose of Bill Explained

The purpose of the war insurance bill now pending in the congress is to secure the families of America's soldiers and sailors by insuring their lives and providing adequate compensation and indemnities for loss of life and limb, for partial or total disability, also to protect their families against poverty and want by providing them with sufficient means of support during the absence of the men at the front.

The nation, having been forced to resort to the draft in order to create quickly an army to save the country, is under a high obligation to those who volunteer for its fighting forces than if a volunteer army only was created. This great and free republic cannot afford to do less, and it must do what is proposed in a spirit of justice and not as charity. Every soldier and sailor who serves his country in this war will earn everything the proposed war insurance bill provides. To be a beneficiary of the proposed law will be a badge of honor.

Sacrifice Held Not Divisible

When we draft the wage earner, we call not only him but the entire family to the front. The sacrifice entailed is not divisible. The wife and children, the mother, the father, are all involved in the sacrifice—they directly share the burden of the war. They suffer just as much as the soldier, but in a different way, and the nation must generously discharge as a proud privilege the duty of maintaining them until the soldiers and sailors return from the war and resume their responsibility.

We have drawn the sword to vindicate America's violated rights, to restore peace and justice, and to secure the progress of civilization. We cannot permit our soldiers, while they hold the front, be stabbed in the back by uncertainty as to what is being done for their loved ones at home. Our tomorrows are in their hands—theirs in ours. The national conscience will not permit America's soldiers and their dependents to go unprotected with everything that a just, generous and noble people can do to compensate them for the sufferings and sacrifices they make to serve their country.

Provides for Dependents

Aside from the care and protection of their dependents while the soldier is alive, the proposed war insurance act provides for definite compensation for his dependents in case of death, for definite and adequate indemnities in case of total or partial disability, and for re-education of the maimed and disabled man, so that he may take up a new occupation and make himself a useful member of society. We must restore their efficiency and adjust their still available faculties and functions to suitable trades and vocations, which the injuries of the battlefield have not wholly destroyed. The heavy deprivations in man power resulting from the conflict, which is without precedent in history or imagination, will place new and greater values upon all forms and degrees of human energy, and demand as a first duty of intelligent government that every remaining useful sense and limb of the blind or crippled shall be reclaimed under the benevolent processes of education and taught to economic uses for the benefit of society. The millions we shall be called upon to spend to support the dependents of the soldiers and demand as a first duty of intelligent government that every remaining useful sense and limb of the blind or crippled, are in the last analysis investments of the best sort; they are

Defense Battalion in Charge of Armory

The Home Defense battalion, composed of the Spanish-American War Veterans, will be in charge of the

Armory hereafter, and will be recognized as a state force of the National Guard. Rifles will be issued in a few days, and uniforms this week.

There are three companies of the battalion and nearly 200 men are now enrolled. Company A, commanded by L. E. Beach, and Company C, commanded by H. M. Dukes, will meet

every Friday night. Company B, commanded by Richard Delch, will meet on Monday nights. Another company may be formed later.

Only Too True

From the Cincinnati Enquirer
It's a slow auto that can't keep ahead of a man's income.

St. Patricks Church To Hold Excursion

St. Patricks church will hold a benefit excursion down the Columbia on Labor day, September 3. The com-

mittee in charge of the arrangements, the ladies of the Altar society, with C. A. Legrand as chairman, plan to leave at 9:15, on the Swan and be towed down the river and land at some beach on the Columbia.

A good orchestra will be along and there will be dancing and games on the boat. The committee's plans include bathing in the river. The party will return at 7 o'clock.

The tickets are on sale now. The entire proceeds of the excursion will be used for benevolent purposes.

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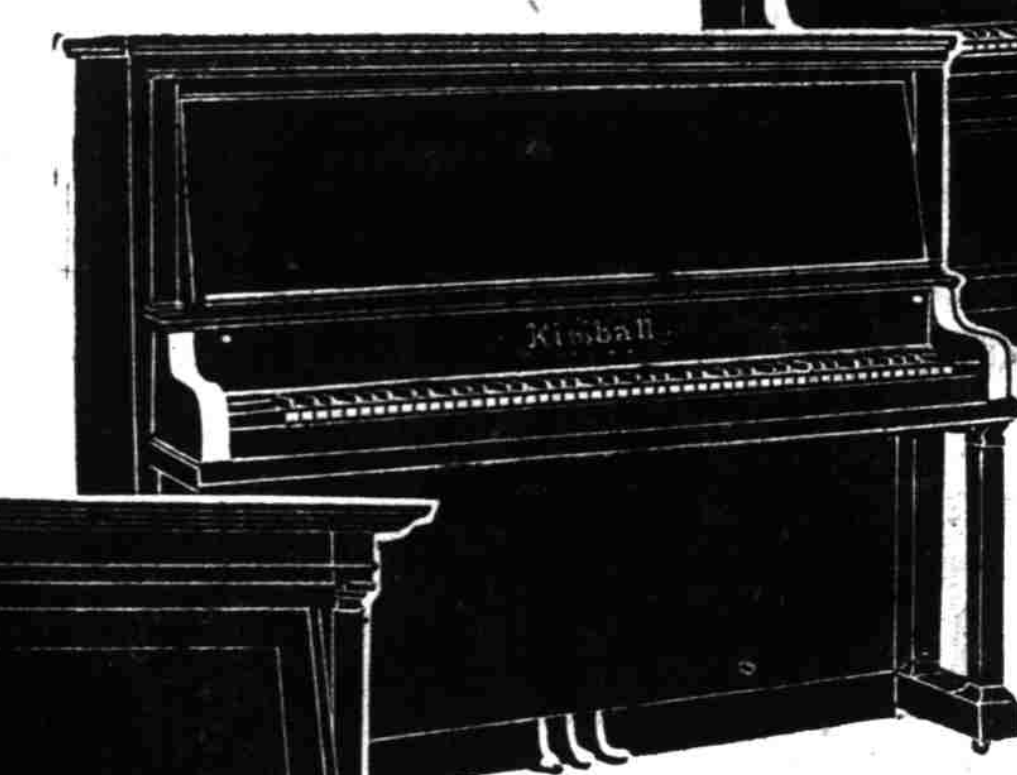
22%. Easy terms!

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We shall sell playable used pianos here now for as little as \$19, and there are many for only \$23. We offer elegant new player pianos for less than \$300; numerous \$600 style for only \$235; all on easiest imaginable terms. Any home can afford to have one. We have now latest new pianos, warranted makes, for only \$137 and \$115.

Prices can never be lower than now. Rows of pianos and player pianos, and many grands at less than they cost us. We have done all within our power in the matter of price slashing, and go still further by arranging terms of payment more liberal than ever heretofore.

BRING US \$5.00 DEPOSIT
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Organs \$6.00, \$9.00, \$12.00,
\$15.00 and so on.
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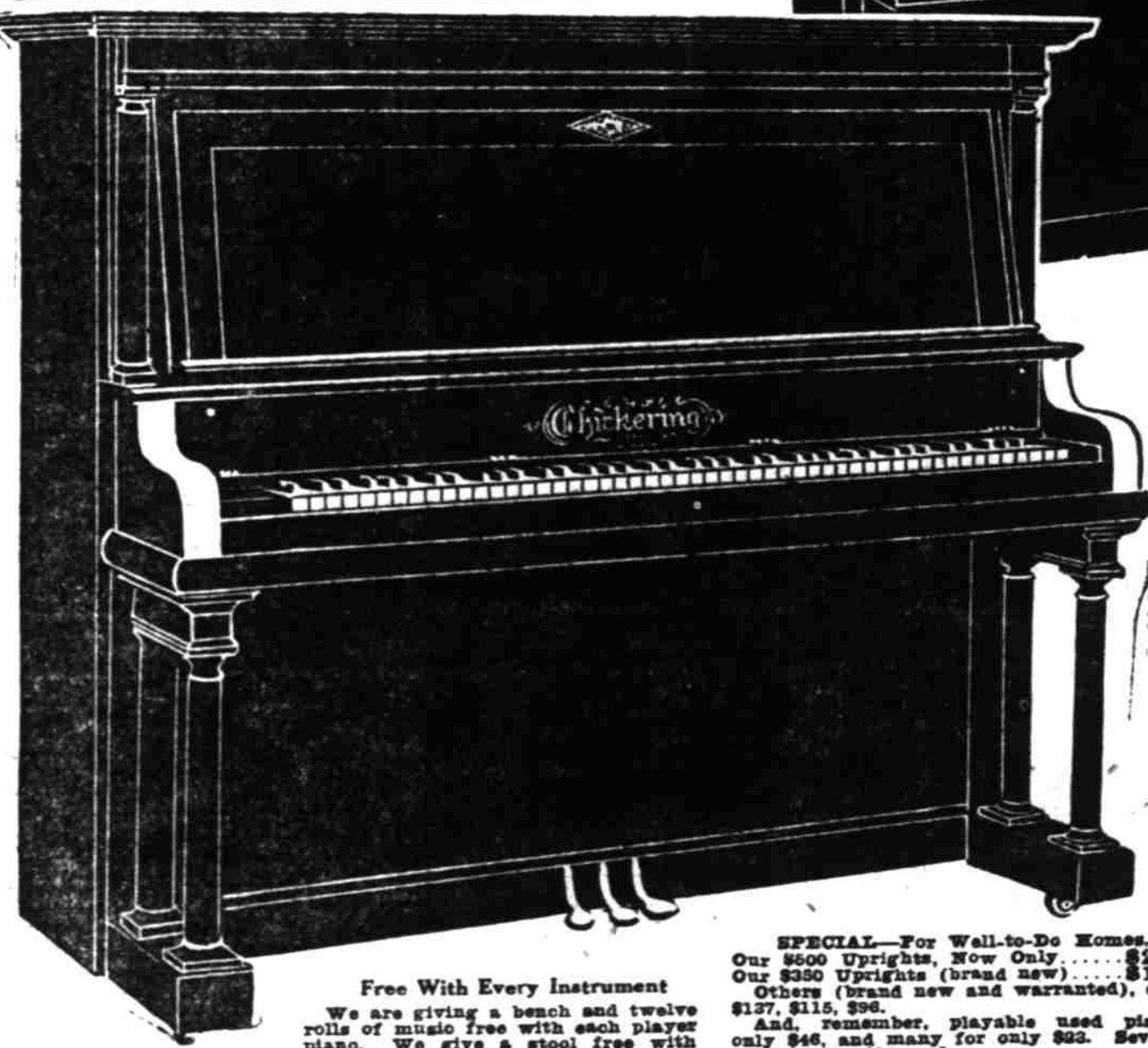
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\$12.00 Guitar	\$10.75	Black Japan, regular \$1, at .50c	
\$15.00 Guitar	\$12.25	White Beauty, regular \$1.25, 80c	
\$20.00 Guitar	\$16.75	Hamilton, regular \$1.75, \$1.40	
\$25.00 Guitar	\$21.25	Directors' stands, heavy metal base, wood top. Regular \$4.50, at	\$2.75
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\$ 5.00 Outfit	\$3.25		
\$ 7.50 Outfit	\$4.25		
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\$25.00 Outfit	\$18.00		
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Band Concert at Mount Tabor Park

The municipal band concert this afternoon will be given at Mount Tabor park and will begin at 3 o'clock. Director Perry A. Campbell has prepared the following program:

Christmas Cheer Is Planned for Troops

Washington, Aug. 18.—(U. S. S.)—Plans for the Christmas cheer for every soldier and sailor in the country have now been formulated by the American Red Cross. It was announced today, that Christmas chapters nearest the 22 army camps and cantonments will appear in their town communities Christmas trees with carols, packages and holiday cheer. The chapters will send 500,000 men in training will be invited.

Queen Mary Is Gracious
Paris, Aug. 18.—On Queen Mary's tour of the French front she paid a visit to an American hospital, shook hands with the medical staff, complimented the nurses, went through the wards and spoke a word of appreciation of the work as a whole.

September
First