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## CLARK OPPOSED TO CONSCRIPTION PLAN

Says He Will Never Vote for It and That Bill Will Not Pass.

By J. P. Yoder.

Washington, April 24.—Opponents of conscription in any form held sway during today's debate in both houses on the administration's army measure.

Speaker Clark announced himself as entirely opposed to conscription.

In the senate, Thomas, democrat, Colorado, arguing for trial first of a volunteer system, said that if conscriptionists were sincere they would advocate not only emulation of England's example in this respect, but also would demand emulation of England's example in government control of railroads and waterway transportation systems.

Advanced as an argument for trial of the volunteer system before resorting to the draft, Thomas read Roosevelt's offer to raise and lead a volunteer division to the trenches. He termed Roosevelt's offer as "a great, worthy, patriotic" offer.

Senator Gallinger called attention to the reported refusal of Roosevelt's offer.

"Has that offer been entertained?" he asked Thomas.

"As far as I know no offer to raise volunteers has been entertained," Thomas answered.

### Pulling Its Teeth.

"It is my understanding that it was refused," Gallinger retorted.

"Such offers should be heeded before we resort to conscription" declared Senator Thomas.

Thomas attacked vigorously the "selective element" of the bill as creating a class of slackers and he assailed exemption classes as framed on the ground of their inequality.

The very class—slackers—this bill is designed to reach are exempted under the provisions. For instance, there is nothing to compel a man exempted because engaged in agricultural pursuits, to continue in that occupation," he said.

Senator LaFollette offered an amendment to the army bill proposing to open up wide latitude in exemptions.

"Conscription objections" to the war the largest of the proposed exemptions. That such objections would open doors for "slackers" and weaken the bill, was the retort of advocates of the conscription measure.

### Plenty of Exemptions

Other exemptions for exceptional financial or business obligations or domestic position, would be allowed under LaFollette's charge.

College students and students in any line of work and persons engaged in work expedient to the national interest would be exempted.

LaFollette proposed to establish local tribunals in each congressional district composed of men appointed by the president, to hear exemption pleas. They would be authorized to grant certificates of exemption.

In the house, Representative Anthony of Kansas, charged that munition makers are behind the propaganda to force selective draft in the army. He said he would not be surprised to learn that members of the American Defense society of New York, who sent a telegram to his district urging conscription, were stockholders in munitions plants.

Passage of a straight conscrip-

tion bill will "rob the homes of the country," of youths "undeveloped physically and mentally" many of them with no spirit to fight," Representative Fields of the military committee declared.

"We need the best fighting force we can get," Fields said. "Under a straight conscription system we shall get an army of youths, two-sevenths of them under 21 years old."

### Clark is Bitter

Speaker Clark is bitterly opposed to a conscription army system as against the volunteer method.

He told a delegation from the National Security League that he never would vote for conscription. The delegation presented Clark with a petition bearing one million names of persons who think the volunteer system wrong. The members asked Clark "as head of the popular branch of the national legislature," to vote for a straight conscription system.

"I'd never vote for such a plan," declared Clark with heat. "Such a bill never will pass. The war department is trying to bulldoze the country into approving conscription. The best armies we ever had were volunteer armies."

"I do not want to see my son conscripted. I favor letting the flower and youth of the country volunteer before fastening the disgrace of conscription upon them."

## Neutrals Demand Food

SWISS PRESS OPPOSES AMERICAN EXPORT LIMITATIONS.

Proposal of New York Papers is Likened to German Submarines. By Journal de Geneve.

Berne, via Paris, April 22.—Telegrams stating that the United States Congress is considering restricting exportations to neutral countries, are printed prominently in the Swiss press, the neutral organs of which protest against any curtailment or point out the serious consequences of such a step for Switzerland. These newspapers say the increased importations to Germany are but the result of the inability to procure normal supplies from Russia and Roumania.

The Journal de Geneve summarizes the opinion of the Conservative press in saying:

"German submarines which, in order to blockade England, sink neutral ships are guilty of infamous acts, New York newspapers, in order to blockade Germany, propose to starve out neutrals, which isn't much better. America proclaimed to the world that she was coming into the war for the sake of right. Don't begin with an injustice."

### WAR.

What is war? A very good definition of war is given out by Mr. Arthur McDonald, of Washington, D. C. He said:—"War consists of the dead in convulsive states, groans and shrieking of wounded men, screams of dying horses, shrapnel ripping, tearing, lacerating and penetrating human flesh; pierced bodies, exuding hogsheads of blood, maimed limbs, broken bones, glazing eyes, slow dying from exposure or starvation, inflammatory rheumatism from watery trenches, skulls smashed, brains oozing out, abdomens ripped open and bowels protruding and so on ad infinitum, producing the most excruciating pains, and it is the healthy and strong that suffer most."

## ALLIES ARE PLAYED FOR REFUSING PLAN TO DISCUSS PEACE

Action Enabled Germans to Denounce Them as "Moral Outlaws," Says Shaw.

London, April 21.—There's a certain cowardice in being afraid to discuss peace, in the view of G. Bernard Shaw, novelist, dramatist, critic, essayist—and pacifist. Because of his views at this present juncture, when news of Socialists efforts for peace are of particular interest, the United Press today asked him what he thought of the situation.

"The alarm thus created," he said, discussing the Stockholm reports of Socialist conferences, "is in consequence of the mistake made by all anti-German belligerents except President Wilson, of not announcing at the outset that they were open at any moment to proposals to end the horrors of war."

"The Germans first saw the moral advantage of this position, and declared they were ready to discuss peace. It was the allies' business thereupon to outdo the Germans and to represent themselves as willing to sacrifice everything except honor and reasonable security for peace. Unfortunately, they gave way to ridiculous panic lest a handful of helpless pacifists—most of whom were in prison—should instantly stop the war, leaving Germany in possession of her conquests."

"Their reply, which enabled Germany to denounce them as moral outlaws, was expressed in the manner of a gang frightened by blustering pirates, instead of civilized statesmen engaged in a crusade."

"The Stockholm scare is part of the same panic of cowardice that would sacrifice everything for it, but it isn't respectable."

## EARLY PEACE FORECAST

America Said to Have Entered War to Save Allies From Certain Defeat and to Protect Investment.

Amsterdam, via London, April 22.—An appeal to the German people not to give in for the sake of a mouthful of bread, but "to hold out only a little while longer" is printed in the Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung.

"America found out," says the statement, "that England will be beaten and she entered the war to save what she could of the money put into the munition business. Shall we let America reap the profits? Set your teeth and it will soon be over. Remember all is at stake."

The Association of Christian Trade Unions of Berlin in a manifesto couples an affirmation of loyalty to the German Emperor and empire with a strong condemnation of strikes, which it says, "do not provide a single gram more bread and the enemy, like a drowning man, is grasping at the straw, eagerly watching for the least sign of disunion in Germany."

"Therefore," says the manifesto, "all must stand pat."

## AMERICAN ARMY IS DESIRED BY FRENCH

Washington, April 26.—Conferences between members of the French war mission and American Government officials for exchanges of views regarding the conduct of the war against Germany, began here today after the leading commissioners had paid official calls upon President Wilson, Vice-President Marshall and Secretaries Lansing, Baker and Daniels.

## Mill Workers at Yakima Get Raise

North Yakima, Wash., April 21.—Wages for laborers at the mill of the Cascade Lumber company were advanced 25 cents a day, following a formal request presented by the workmen Friday. The wages at the mill run from \$2.75 up under the new schedule. Before the raise common labor about the mill and yards was paid at the rate of \$2.50 a day. This is the second raise granted the men since the first of the year.

Men on the paving job on East Yakima avenue Friday asked for a raise of 50 cents a day, and, when refused, they walked out. The men have been getting \$2.50 per day and asked for \$3. A new crew was put on this morning at \$2.75 a day, and it is thought the compromise will hold the crew.

The city's street workers, who were advanced 25 cents a day in February, are asking for another raise. They are getting \$2.50 a day. Teamsters on the street jobs, who are now getting \$4.75 a day, are wanting an additional 50 cents.

## TRYING TO MANUFACTURE A WAR SPIRIT

Investigation Has Blasted a Dozen or More Fantastic Stories of War Atrocities.

Portland Journal.

Wild and gruesome rumors have been permeating almost every circle of Portland society of late. So fantastic and yet so like unto the truth are they that hundreds of people believe them to be true. The Journal has investigated a dozen or more of these, finding all the sheerest fabrications, emanating from sources impossible to trace.

Here are some of the rumors: Two Belgian children have arrived in Portland with both hands chopped off, presumably by German invaders. Three distinct stories of this kind were investigated.

Portland women—four up to date—have received letters from relatives in Germany expressing hope of disaster to the kaiser, notations by the censor indicating that the writers had been executed for such treasonous words.

Other foreign born persons have received letters from Germany breathing hope and happiness, to deceive the censor, while under the stamp on the envelope were penned the despairing words: "We are starving."

Other reports have had it that letters have been received telling of women relatives of German born people now in this country who had been conscripted by German authorities to become involuntary mothers to help repopulate the country.

Needless to say, every effort to verify these rumors has led to naught, one informant explaining that he "heard it from So-and-So," who in turn had heard it on a street car from a laundress in Sellwood or at the depot from a brakeman.

France is known to desire the sending of an American expeditionary force to co-operate with her armies and Marshal Joffre came to the United States prepared to give reasons for the opinion of French military experts that the sending of such a force is advisable. Information regarding the meeting between the military leaders was withheld.

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## HIGH COST OF LIVING

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4 Quart lipped sauce pan .95

5 Quart Berlin covered kettle 1.50

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