

# ONE CHANCE IN THREE OF BEING CALLED TO ARMY

### How National Army Will Be Raised Under Universal Service System.

## READY TO START THE WORK

#### Rules for Exemption Boards Will Be Ironclad and Every Possibility of Misunderstanding Eliminated—First Call Probably Will Be for 750,000 Men.

Washington.—Of nearly 9,500,000 men of military age who have been registered in accordance with the selective draft law, those who are physically qualified and are not exempted will have one chance in three of being called to the colors this year.

This is the estimate that has been made by the military authorities in Washington.

The first phase of the great task of raising an army under the universal service system has been completed. More than 10,000,000 men have actually been enrolled and, taking into consideration the number of men of registration age who are now serving either in the army or navy or National Guard, the estimates made by the census bureau upon the basis of population have been attained. All of the men subject to the law have responded to the call.

#### Wait for Army Regulations.

The second phase of the problem of raising a national army will begin as soon as the president has approved the exemption regulations which have been drafted by a special board under the direction of the provost marshal general. In many respects it is the more complicated and difficult portion of the task. Approximately 4,800 boards—one for every 30,000 of the population of the country—are to be appointed to pass upon the exemptions, to decide who shall be subject to the call of military duty and who shall not. Boards of appeal for every federal judicial district must also be designated by the president.

When this has been accomplished the instructions to the primary boards, which are to act in the capacity of courts of first instance in passing upon exemptions are to be issued. Maj. Gen. Enoch I. Crowder and his assistants—among them some of the most distinguished lawyers of the country—

have virtually completed the preliminary draft which is now before the president and the secretary of war. As soon as it is approved and the word is given the huge machine will be set in motion grinding out the first increment of 500,000 men for the new national army.

#### No Comment in Advance.

For fear of confusing the 9,500,000 men who will be subject to the call, General Crowder has been unusually careful not to discuss for publication the system that has been tentatively devised. He himself has a very clear idea, he said, of what is to be done, but before the instructions are to be sent out every possibility of misunderstanding is to be weighed and every chance for complication is to be eliminated. The rules are to be ironclad and as specific as human ingenuity can make them, so that there will be no possibility of charges of discrimination and favoritism in the selection of the men who are to take up arms with the first 500,000.

Military authorities estimate that the first draft will be for considerably more than that number. In addition to the national army, the regular army and the National Guard will probably be brought up to war strength. There also must be reserve training camps, which may be drawn upon to fill vacancies in the active ranks. It is not improbable, therefore, that the number to be selected will be nearer 750,000 than 500,000.

Placing the number of men registered at 10,000,000, it is estimated that 5,000,000 will be exempted for general reasons; of the remaining 5,000,000, 2,500,000 will be rejected for physical disability, according to the standards now prevailing for recruits.

There will remain, therefore, subject to call for duty at any time 2,500,000 men, who will be ready at any time to begin their military training. If 750,000 are to be called, the man who has registered and is physically fit and cannot claim exemption, has a little better than one chance in three to go into active service.

#### General Exemptions.

It is probable that a certain proportion of those who have registered will be exempted in classes—foreign subjects, those who are obviously physically unfit, and in general persons employed in the public service, mariners, workmen in arsenals, armories and at the navy yards. The regulations will designate specifically how these general exemptions are to be made.

Those who do not fall within these general classes must appear before the exemption board within their district and set forth their claims. The mere fact, for example, that a man is married and has children will be no bar to his selection for service. He must demonstrate that he contributes to the support of his family. The village idler whose wife takes in washing will probably have difficulty in convincing the board that he should not go into training.

The call will be made by the president for a certain number of men sufficiently large to make it certain that the necessary number for actual service will be obtained after eliminations for one cause or another.

The board which is now devising the scheme by which the men may be chosen has experimented with various devices for drawing by lot. It is probable that this phase of the draft will be made a public ceremony, which will be carried out at the capitols of the states or in some other public place. If the registrant has run the exemption gantlet he will present himself before the military authorities for physical examination. If rejected, he will be dismissed, but a record of his case will be kept. If accepted, he will be sent to one of the sixteen cantonments where he will undergo training to fit him for the rigors of war or held in

## "TO WHAT END, O GOD?"



Not since the flood itself has humanity faced the woe that hangs like a pall over the earth today. The mothers of all nations are asking, with streaming eyes and breaking hearts, as they send their sons into the welter of world-war; "To what end, O God?" So must the mother of him who died on the cross have questioned, in the bitterness of her soul, as she looked upward past the dying Christ, to the darkening skies of Calvary. And as Mary knew, even in her suffering, that back of that darkness shone the greatest light humanity has ever known, so the mothers of today know that back of their supreme sacrifice shines the glory and joy of world-freedom.

readiness to enter one of the training camps which will be drawn upon to fill gaps in the ranks.

Army officials do not minimize the difficulty of the intricate task ahead of them. The president is wrestling with the problem of selecting the exemption boards, so that there will be no basis for charges of favoritism or political preference. The normal board probably will be the same as that which conducted the registration, but there will probably be many exceptions to the general rule. An effort is being made to obtain men only of the highest character for the appellate boards.

General Crowder and his assistants are very careful not to disclose even the most general features of the system upon which they have virtually agreed. They fear that if it were explained now changes that might be made before its final approval by the president would lead to confusion. For that reason the word is not to be given until every detail has been pondered carefully, and when it is given there is to be no retracting of steps.

#### His Story Won Jewels.

Marysville, Cal.—Three cans of jewelry found recently in the crevice of a rock in the hills near Wheatland by a trapper were claimed by A. A. Renting of Southside, Omaha, in a letter to the sheriff. Renting said he was making a trip from Sacramento to his home in 1895 and that he had the jewels with him. Fearing he would be robbed, he said, he hid them in the hillsides, and was never able to return to retrieve them.

## NOT ONE SLACKER THERE

### Father and Five Sons of New Jersey Are All in Army in War With Germany.

Verona, N. J.—No one would accuse Thomas Elston of this place and his family of eight of being a group of slackers. The father, who is now an American citizen, was born in Devonshire, England, and served six years in the artillery branch of the British army. Too old for active service in the land of his adoption, he has joined the Verona Home battalion.

#### REBUILD DESTROYED TOWNS

### Russian Prisoners Restore 30,000 Homes Wrecked in Invasion of East Prussia.

London.—Advices from Königsberg, East Prussia, tell of the rebuilding of 30,000 homes wrecked last year in the Russian invasion. More than half of the ruined homes have already been restored.

Through a curious fate thousands of Russian prisoners taken in the Rus-

sian drive in Germany are now at work on the job of restoration. Every available acre of ground in East Prussia is now being utilized for agricultural purposes, with potatoes as the chief crop.

## GERMANS GET BOGUS PAPERS

### Fury of British Drive Made Impossible to Continue Publication of the Genuine.

London.—War papers issued by German armies at the front are bringing high prices. The fury of the British drive has made it impossible to continue their publication and scarcity of numbers issued has resulted in as high as 300 marks (\$80) being offered for a single copy.

Printers throughout the empire are working on counterfeit reproductions, many of which are so near the originals that it is impossible to tell them apart. Although warnings have been given not to buy the bogus copies, thousands are being sold as originals throughout the country.

## STATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Astoria is now in the first-class postoffice column. The great increase in the sale of stamps and stamped envelopes the past year or two has made the new classification possible.

Hood River county authorities, declare that they look for early work of paving the six miles of Columbia River Highway in Hood River county that were graded in 1915 with the \$75,000 bond issue voted by the county.

A. Rood, of Heppner, whose automobile was wrecked when he was turning a right-angle corner just west of Hood River on the Columbia river highway, has presented the county with a large danger sign, which will be placed at the turn.

June was an exceptionally wet month in Astoria, according to the records of the weather bureau. The rainfall for the month was 4.98 inches, or 2.98 inches in excess of the average for the corresponding month for the past seven years.

Forty husky Roseburg business and professional men displayed patriotism Tuesday afternoon clearing weeds from three acres planted to beans by Boy Scouts of that city. The laborers with hoes and other implements went to work in automobiles.

To arise funds for the women's building at Eugene, 10,000 postcards are to be sold in lots of 10 for 25 cents. Each 25 cents will represent the cost of one brick. The building will cost \$100,000 and the contractors estimate 400,000 bricks will be required.

A reduction in Clackamas county's indebtedness of \$91,890.80 since December 31, 1916, is shown by the semi-annual report of County Clerk Iva M. Harrington. The report gives the indebtedness at that date of \$102,300.19, with the present indebtedness of \$10,409.39.

Fires in Oregon during June caused a loss of \$54,620. The number of fires totaled 49, of which 5 were in Roseburg, 11 in Portland, 2 in Oregon City, 1 at Prineville, and 1 at Springfield. The rest were scattering. The figures were compiled by Fire Marshal Wells.

E. J. Adams, State Highway commissioner, appeared in Justice Daniel Webster's court at Salem Tuesday and paid a fine of \$7.50 for speeding. He was accompanied by S. Benson, chairman of the Highway commission, and Herbert Nunn, State Highway engineer.

Astoria faces a milk strike that is being organized by the housewives. The dealers increased the price per month per quart July 1 from \$2.50 to \$3. This raised a serious protest among the housewives and approximately 500 of them from various sections of the city held a meeting at Uniontown to consider the situation.

In response to the recent circular of State Labor Commissioner Hoff, relative to farm hands, M. M. Burtner, master of the grange at Dufur, replies that from 1000 to 1200 hands already have been secured through Portland employment agencies, but many more will be needed as the harvest progresses. He states that from \$2.50 to \$5 a day, with board, will be paid for such labor, according to its varying ability.

The Jensen shingle mill at Wheeler was destroyed by fire Monday morning; loss \$10,000, no insurance. The mill was of three-machine capacity and was shipping two to four cars of shingles each week. An adjoining lumber mill plant was saved.

On their return from an inspection of the Payette-Oregon slope irrigation project on the Snake river, Attorney General Brown and Superintendent of Banks Sargent were enthusiastic about the project. They went as members of the state bonding board to investigate the land relative to the certification of \$225,000 worth of bonds the district proposes to issue.

Determined that there shall be no repetition of disaster like that wrought by the breaking of the Killimaque Lake dam, in Eastern Oregon, when the town of Rock Creek was wiped out and thousands of acres of crops flooded, ranchers along the streams that flow down the sides of the Elkhorn mountains, where irrigation reservoirs have been built at the sources, have started a movement toward protecting themselves.

County Judge R. W. Warsters of Roseburg, says the first roads to be improved in Douglas county under the state road bonding act will be those in Pass Creek and Canyon creek canyons. Besides \$350,000 to be obtained from the state and federal government, about \$200,000 realized from the county bond issue will be expended in improving the Pacific Highway in Douglas county. Work will begin this summer.

## FAIR WILL AID FOOD

### Big Premiums for Poultry to Be Given at State Exhibit—Entertainment of Visitors Drawing Card.

Olympia—Premiums for poultry exhibits will be doubled at the State Fair, according to Harry H. Collier, of Tacoma, superintendent of the poultry department, who visited the state department of agriculture here Thursday. The reason for this is that it is desired to stimulate the interest of the people of the state in poultry raising.

M. Collier stated that during the campaign that is being waged to increase the supply of food in the country, the raising of poultry can play an important part. It takes only three months to bring chickens to the stage where they may be useful as food. Any other meat producing animal requires from 18 months, as is the case with pork, to three years, the time necessary for cattle to reach their greatest productive point, to become food products.

If chickens can be used for the purpose of meat supply and will meet the demand in so much shorter time, the raising of them should be encouraged, said Mr. Collier. And for that reason, he added, the premiums will be raised on exhibits of them at the State Fair.

The State Fair is an annual event and will be held in North Yakima from September 17 to 22 this fall. Mr. Benson, state agricultural commissioner, is of the opinion that the fair will receive a better attendance from the Sound territory this year than ever before. The reason he gives for this is that the Yakima valley is coming more and more into prominence as a producing center and is making particular endeavors to entertain the visitors at the fair in a cordial way this year.

## GRAIN OUTLOOK ENCOURAGES

### Bumper Crops in Walla Walla, Eureka Flat and Yakima Sections.

The grain crop outlook in the Inland Empire, is reported by W. G. Paine, of Spokane, to W. C. Wilkes, assistant general freight and passenger agent of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle Railway company, as follows:

"Weather clear, calm and cool. No rain, excepting scattered showers. Big Bend will need rain soon. Palouse country will not suffer for two weeks. Conditions reported fair as a whole, optimistic generally.

"Big Bend crops full of promise. No immediate danger from lack of rain. No signs of burning, except slight damage near Schrag. Bumper crops at Yakima, Walla Walla and Eureka Flat. Will be some threshing by August 1. No general rain since last report. Conditions in Palouse, Big Potlatch and Nez Perce not so full of promise. Heads are forming low."

## NORTHWEST MARKET REPORT

Wheat—Bluestem.....	\$2.20
Fortyfold .....	2.15
Club .....	2.15
Red Russian .....	2.10
Oats—No. 1 white .....	\$4.00
Barley—No. 1 feed .....	42.00
Cattle—Steers, prime .....	\$9.50@10.50
Steers, good .....	8.75@ 9.25
Steers, medium .....	8.00@ 8.75
Cows, choice .....	8.75@ 9.50
Cows, medium .....	7.50@ 8.00
Cows, fair .....	6.75@ 7.25
Heifers .....	5.00@ 9.25
Bulls .....	5.00@ 7.25
Calves .....	7.50@ 9.50
Hogs—Packing .....	\$15.25@15.90
Rough heavies .....	13.90@14.25
Pigs and skips .....	12.00@12.50
Stock hogs .....	11.00@12.50
Sheep—Wethers .....	8.75@ 9.50
Ewes .....	7.50@ 8.05
Lambs .....	10.00@12.75
Flour—Patents, \$11.40.	
Millfeed—Spot prices: Bran, \$32 per ton; shorts, \$35; rolled barley, \$48; rolled oats, \$50.	
Hay—Producers' prices: Timothy, Eastern Oregon, \$26 per ton; alfalfa, \$18; valley grain hay, \$18@20.	
Butter—Cubes, extras, 37c per pound; prime firsts, 36c. Jobbing prices: Prints, extras, 38c; cartons, 1c extra; butterfat, No. 1, 38c; No. 2, 36c.	
Eggs—Ranch, current receipts, 30c per dozen; select, 32c.	
Poultry—Hens, 14@16c per pound; broilers, 19@22c; turkeys, 20c; ducks, 18@22c; geese, 10@12c.	
Veal—Fancy, 14@15c per pound.	
Pork—Fancy, 19c per pound.	
Vegetables—Artichokes, 70 @ 75c per dozen; tomatoes, \$1.85@2.00 per crate; cabbage, 2@3c per pound; eggplant, 25c; lettuce, 35@50; cucumbers, 50c@\$.1.25 per dozen; peppers, 30@40c per pound; rhubarb, 2@3c; peas, 4@5c; asparagus, 5@6c; spinach, 6@7c per pound.	
Potatoes—Buying prices, \$3.25@ 3.50 per hundred.	
Green Fruit—Strawberries, Oregon, \$1.35@1.60.	
Wool—Eastern Oregon, fine, 47@53c per pound; coarse, 58c; valley, 60@ 63c; mohair, 60@65c.	