

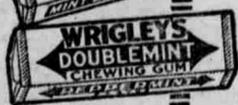
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NATIONAL CAPITAL AFFAIRS

World's Active Armies Total 6,000,000



WASHINGTON.—Active armies of the 14 most important nations of the world today include approximately 6,000,000 men, according to figures obtained here and regarded as reasonably correct.

While China stands first among the nations in this summary of soldiers actually under arms September 1 last, being credited with 1,370,000 active troops, France is far ahead among nations not distressed by civil strife. In the number of men with the colors, the French army strength is placed at 1,034,000 men, the British empire standing next with 740,000 and Germany last with 600,000.

The United States stands thirteenth with 149,000 men in the regular army, exceeding only Germany, while Italy has 350,000 and Japan 300,000 active troops.

Figures for other powers include Russia, 538,000; Poland, 450,000;

Greece, 255,000; Spain, 253,000; Switzerland, 170,000; Turkey, 152,000; Czechoslovakia, 150,000.

In considering problems connected with attempted reduction of armed forces ashore it is to be assumed, however, that the Washington conference will of necessity take into consideration many other factors than the forces actually under arms in computing the army strength of any nation for purposes of discussion. Reserve systems, the extent to which reserves have been organized for quick mobilization and the degree of training they have received all would be reviewed by technical experts.

In many countries some form of universal military service obligation rests upon the entire male population. Japan, Italy, France, Greece, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Switzerland and Spain all have in force such laws while among British colonies, South Africa, New Zealand and Australia have similar enactments.

One thing clearly established by these army figures, military experts said, was that the United States alone among the victor nations in the war seems to have completely demobilized. The regular army today is little stronger in numbers than it was before the mobilization in 1917. The National Guard, due to reorganization after the war, actually is weaker.

Assignment of the Veterans in O. R. C.

DETAILED regulations under which thousands of World War veterans, now members of the officers' reserve corps, will be assigned for duty in the reserve army framework contemplated by the national defense act, have been made public by the War department and distributed to the 66,000 officers who now compose the corps.

Assignment of reserve officers to the 27 divisions of organized reserves throughout the country will follow immediately as the first step in general staff plans, under which an army of more than 4,000,000 could be quickly mobilized at need.

The extensive regulations cover every phase of the relationship between the citizen officers and the regular army. The same theory of decentralization of administrative authority from the War department to corps area commanders is carried out that was employed in planning for the organization reserve system.

There are now in the officers' reserve two major generals, O'Ryan of New York and Price of Pennsylvania, and 17 brigadier generals, all of whom saw service in that rank during the



war. There are also 322 colonels, but the great majority of the reservists, 29,967 of them, are second lieutenants.

In conformity with wartime practice, the regulations provide that only men with actual training or experience may be appointed reserve officers of the line. This includes appointments in the infantry, cavalry, field or coast artillery, and air service, the combat arms of the army. Special service appointments may be made, however, where the civil training or professional training of a citizen fits him for wartime service with the army, but not to lead troops in battle. To accomplish this, two distinct classes of reserve officers are created.

Tentative Consolidations of Railroads



TENTATIVE plans for the consolidation of all major railroads of the United States into 19 systems, have been announced by the interstate commerce commission. The proposed consolidation was authorized by the transportation act. The consolidated systems proposed by the commission include these:

- New York Central, including the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis; Monongahela; Boston & Maine; Bangor & Aroostook; and others.
- Pennsylvania, including Toledo, Peoria & Western, Long Island, Monongahela, as an alternative to the inclusion of that road in the New York Central system, and others.
- Baltimore & Ohio; Reading; New York, New Haven & Hartford; Lehigh & Hudson, and others.
- Lehigh Valley; New York, Chicago & St. Louis; Pittsburg & West Virginia, and others.
- New York, New Haven & Hartford; Boston & Maine; Bangor & Aroostook; Lehigh & Hudson River, all of these being alternatively to be taken into other systems.
- Atlantic Coast line, Norfolk Southern, Florida East Coast, Mississippi Central, Louisville & Nashville and others.
- Illinois Central, Seaboard Airline; Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio and others.
- Union Pacific lines, Chicago & Northwestern, Wabash lines west of the Missouri and others.
- Chicago, Burlington & Quincy; Northern Pacific; Spokane, Portland & Seattle and others.
- Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul; Great Northern and others.
- Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe; Colorado & Southern; Denver & Rio Grande; Western Pacific and others.
- Southern Pacific company; Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific; El Paso & Southwestern; Vicksburg, Shreveport & Pacific and others.
- Chicago & Eastern Illinois; Missouri Pacific; Texas & Pacific; Gulf Coast lines and others.

Bible; Public Schools; Supreme Court

CAN the Bible legally be excluded from the public schools? The United States Supreme court will be asked to decide this question. This was announced recently by leaders of the Presbyterian church in New York, who have headed a movement among various religious denominations to bring a test case before the nation's highest tribunal. The state of Washington, which officially excludes the Bible from its public schools, will furnish the basis for the case.

The line of attack will be based on the Declaration of Independence. The claim is that the declaration is a covenant between the American nation and God, and that the study of the Bible by American children is essential to an understanding of the covenant and to full knowledge of God.

"To exclude the Bible from the public schools," the Presbyterians contend, in their presentation preparatory to an appeal to the Supreme court, "is to violate one of the essential clauses of the opening program of the Declaration of Independence. In the state of Washington, the attorney general and later the state Supreme



court, have rendered an opinion, in which the Bible in effect is judged to be a sectarian book, and in which it is decreed to be unconstitutional to read or teach of the Bible in the schools.

Extensive arguments have been presented in the presentation to show that no state has a right to exclude from its system of education "instruction in the science of religion as set forth in the Bible, the only book which sets forth the existence, laws and other attributes of the Divine Providence to which the Declaration of Independence is committed, without this exclusion being repugnant to the declaration, and therefore void."

DARLING BABY BRIGHTENS HOME

Children's Laughter a Pleasing Sound



Altoona, Pa.—"I am writing to tell you what Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has done for me. We had six children die almost at birth. From one hour to nineteen days in all they have lived. Before my next one was born I took a dozen bottles of your Vegetable Compound, and I can say that it is the greatest medicine on earth, for this baby is now four months old, and a healthier baby you would not want. I am sending you a picture of her. Everybody says 'That is a very healthy looking baby.' You have my consent to show these few lines to anybody."—Mrs. C. W. BENZ, 131 3rd Avenue, Altoona, Pa.

Mrs. Janssen's experience of interest to childless wives. Millston, Wis.—"I want to give you a word of praise for your wonderful medicine. We are fond of children, and for a considerable time after we were married I feared I would not have any. I began taking Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, and it strengthened me so I now have a nice, strong, healthy baby girl. I suffered very little at childbirth, and I give all the credit to your medicine, and shall always recommend it highly."—Mrs. H. H. JANSSEN, Millston, Wis.

Mrs. Held of Marinette, Wis., adds her testimonial for Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. She says:

Marinette, Wis.—"I was in a nervous condition and very irregular. My doctor advised an operation. My husband brought me one of your booklets and asked me to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. It overcame my weakness so that I now have a healthy baby girl after having been married nine years. I am glad to recommend your medicine, and you may use my letter as a testimonial."—Mrs. H. B. HELD, 330 Jefferson St., Marinette, Wis.

There are many, many such homes that were once childless, and are now blessed with healthy, happy children because Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound has restored the mother to a strong and healthy condition, as it acts as a natural restorative for ailments as indicated by backache, irregularities, displacements, weakness and nervousness.

Women everywhere should remember that most of the commoner ailments of women are not the surgical ones—they are not caused by serious displacements or growths, although the symptoms may be the same, and that is why so many apparently serious ailments readily yield to Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as it acts as a natural restorative. It can be taken with perfect safety and often prevents serious troubles.

Therefore if you know of any woman who is suffering and has been unable to secure relief and is regretfully looking forward to a childless old age, ask her to try Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound, as it has brought health and happiness into so many homes once darkened by illness and despair.

Lydia E. Pinkham's Private Text-Book upon "Ailments Peculiar to Women" will be sent to you free upon request. Write to The Lydia E. Pinkham Medicine Co., Lynn, Massachusetts. This book contains valuable information.

Inconvenient Husband. Attorney—And wasn't it the fact that you insisted on taking this woman out to dances that caused the trouble? Defendant—No, sir, not at all. Attorney—Well, what was it, then? Defendant—The fact that her husband objected.—Michigan Gargoyle.

Polite to Dog. Little Jacky—Look, mother! This bulldog looks like Aunt Emily. Mother—Hush, child! Don't say such things. Little Jacky—Well, mama, the dog can't hear it.—Boston Globe.

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Mutual. Revenue Officer—I don't know what to make of it. Home Brewer—I didn't either.

Cole's Carbolic Salve Quickly Relieves and heals burning, itching and torturing skin diseases. It instantly stops the pain of burns. Heals without scars. 50c and 60c. Ask your druggist, or send 5c to The J. W. Cole Co., Rockford, Ill., for a package.—Advertisement.

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