Upstate Indian Powwow Over the Paleface Draft

Medicine Man Finds "Moon Not Ripe" Yet, but Revolt Is in Air

Signal Fires May Call Chiefs Again

Great White Father in Washington Is in a Quandary

By Robert H. Rohde

ONONDAGA INDIAN RESERVATION, N. Y., Aug. 18.—"The moon is not ripe," said Dr. War Eagle, the medicine man.

"Not ripe," sagely assented Mary Big Bear, grandmother of all the tribal grandmothers of the Onondagas.

"Now not ripe," grunted Tommy Tea Kettle, adapting to the situation the persiflage of the paleface. "Now not ripe, but may be soon."

There was another speaker to be heard from—one well qualified to interpret into a warning the fanciful and ambiguous talk of these moonstruck red people, the witch doctor, the old squaw and the overalled brave. But he can wait.

In Shadow of the Long House

These first three did their talking in the shadow of the "Long House," the council chamber, out of which to this day come the laws which govern the six Iroquois nations of whom Cooper wrote. About them stretched away, acre upon acre, as far as the eye could see, the fertile lands which support in a measure of prosperity the last of the Onondagas. To the north the houses of an Onondaga village shut off the view. Half-clothed pappooses and pappooses clothed not at all tumbled over one another in the dust of the single street, busily involved in a game that was highly popular before Isabella ever dreamed of pawning her diamonds to help the inquisitive Columbus.

From some hidden quarter the breeze carried the quaverings of a voice—tuneless, yet nevertheless lifted in song—which broke adolescently in the upper register. The song had to do with the state of the moon. The moon, too, was on the mind of Dr. Eri A. Bates, president of the Indian Welfare Association.

A couple of hours after, Dr. War Eagle and Mary Big Bear and Tommy Tea Kettle had their enigmatic say Dr. Bates stood with one foot on the low sill of a window that looked out on Warren Street, only five miles from the Onondaga village, but in the heart of the city of Syracuse. Seven stories down big interurban cars were rolling through the busy thoroughfare, cars as long as the "Long House" itself. The sidewalks were black with office and factory workers released for the day, common-place folk only vaguely conscious that the country 'round about ever had owners other than their own kind.

Dr. Bates Issues Warning

"When the moon is ripe," said Dr. Bates, barking back to that threadbare topic as he looked down upon the street crowd, "look out for trouble."

Fantastic it may seem and wildly improbable, but right here in New York State, a scant seven hours out of New York City, and scarcely seven minutes' jitney ride out of the southernmost suburb of Syracuse, Indian trouble is brewing which may develop into something far more serious than any of the sporadic outbreaks recently reported from the "wild West." All concerned, including Dr. Bates, the Sheriff of Onondaga County and the Iroquois themselves, are hoping devoutly that it won't develop, and fearing that it will.

The moon, in this case, is a figure for the draft. When the draft comes to the Iroquois the moon will be ripe, and when that full ripeness is achieved it will mean the death, at least, of the joke concerning the Englishman who wants the New Yorker to tell him about the Indians. And not unlikely, warns Dr. Bates, it will mean the more sudden death of as many paleface deputies and soldiers as the ammunition hoarded by the Six Nations can account for.

An Unconquered People

Sovereign nations, they proclaim themselves; unconquered peoples they have proven themselves. They vow they will remain both sovereign and unconquered, though the whole strength of their surrounding neighbor nation, the United States, be pitted against them.

How close the moon came to ripening, a few months back, only a few men know. Dr. Bates is one of them and it is he, benefactor and confidant of the Onondagas, who knows it best. The others who know are in Albany.

The record of the resistance which the Iroquois had prepared against registration is now for the first time disclosed. To the man in the subway, whose newspaper assures him the year is 1917, it will have the sound of pure romance. Yet there were days and days during which romance was tinged—for those in state and Federal authority—with the grimness of reality.

I give the story as it was told by Dr. Bates in the wake of the matter of fact warning which was his introduction.

Tale Told by Indians' Confidant

First of all it is well to put down that there are living within the boundaries of a half dozen reservations scattered about this section of the state no fewer than 11,000 Indians of the Six Nations. The tribal lines no longer are sharply drawn, but in the main it is the Onondagas who inhabit this reservation near Syracuse, and the Oneidas the reservation beyond Utica. The Senecas are on the Allegheny reservation and on lands south of Buffalo; the Mohawks at the mouth of the Lafayette River, and the Tuscaroras north of Buffalo. Of the Cayugas so few are left that their tribal identity is all but lost. A few of them are to be found on each of the reservations.

The Six Nations now thus disposed have been banded in an offensive and defensive alliance ever since the legendary Hiawatha Lake guided his white canoe down Onondaga Creek and stepped ashore with his sheaf of prophecies. That was long before the coming of the white man, who found in the Iroquois confederation a full blown democracy already operative on the face of the new continent.

And through the centuries that democracy has endured the tribes have wasted away. They count themselves in tens where once they flourished in hundreds and thousands. The paleface has covered one of their happy hunting grounds with cities and has pitched irreverant skyscrapers high towards the others. What the paleface calls civilization has wound itself closer and closer about them, throttling their once limitless range into the confines of grudgingly measured acres.

Washington Their Only Saint

This encroachment had made itself felt when the states were colonies, but in Revolutionary days the Iroquois were still a mighty military force. They chose, chief among them the fierce Senecas, who had defended its western borders for the confederation, to lend their strength to the cause of the struggling colonies—a favor so generously repaid by General Washington that to-day he is the only white man in their catalogue of saints. No pale face may enter the happy hunting ground, but they will tell you on any of the reservations that there is a shining temple just outside the gates, and that he who paces under its arches, smiling a welcome upon the worthy and the brave, is Washington.

Those were the great days, in '76. There were a few more of them in 1812, when again the Iroquois were allies of the United States. Then came famine, pestilence, weakness and obscurity, until at last the fact that Indians still lived within the boundaries of the Empire State become to most of its white residents a rumor hardly to be credited.

It was not until the draft law was passed that the Iroquois were really rediscovered. Orders from Washington were that every male of a certain age, citizen and alien, must register for military service, and in the search for such males the registrars reached the half-forgotten reservation.

With Yankee Neighbors

The Iroquois knew full well that a war was in progress and that the United States had become embroiled. Most certainly they knew it. They read the newspapers, most of them, and some, educated at Carlisle and Hampton and Haskell, read Schopenhauer. Until the United States broke relations with Germany they were neutral. But at the declaration of war they were one with their Yankee neighbors. Such is the habit of the Iroquois when there are battles to be fought.

But it was the biggest news of all when newspapers arrived in the reservations telling of Colonel Roosevelt's project to raise a division for immediate service in France.

In the old days, when one tribe of the Six Nations was attacked, it was the custom to send a runner to the "Long House," which stood then where it stands now. Signal fires were lit on the hill behind the "Long House," bringing in for conference the chiefs of the Oneidas and the Cayugas. These were fighting tribes of less value than the frontier-guarding Senecas and Mohawks, but of greater avail in conflict than the Onondagas, who held the "Long House" and excelled in statecraft.

To the Iroquois Colonel Roosevelt's was a familiar name. They had heard much of him to command respect, and had discussed and rediscussed him until to them he had become simply "Teddy." And now "Teddy" was in sore need of warriors.

Firebrand Carried Again

Again the firebrand was carried among the tribes. Even though the "runners" rode about on trains, traditions were otherwise adhered to. The signal fire flared once more on the hill behind the "Long House." The chiefs assembled. Breech clouts and headdresses had gone out of fashion. The clothes they wore were the clothes of the paleface, and a couple of them rattled up to the "Long House" in Fords.

But once they were squatted in the conference circle, these comfortably established farmers became, purely and simply, Indian chiefs considering no less a matter than embarking, after many years of peace, upon the war path. Dr. Bates, whose welfare work among the Iroquois has won him the title of "Little White Father"—yes, not in a yellow back, but in New York in the year 1917—was called from his Syracuse office at the end of the powwow.

"Tell Teddy on the telegraph," was the direction of Frank Logan, head chief and high priest of the Six Nations, "that the Iroquois will send with him four troops of mounted braves. It is not much, but we can do no more until after the harvest. Our young men are not many."

A couple of days later Dr. Bates carried news to the reservation that "Teddy" thanked the Iroquois for their offer and accepted it.

Braves Answered the Call

For weeks therafter the dwellings of the Six Nations resounded with the martial clamor that arises when a war party is preparing for the trail. The quota of this reservation was forty braves. All contrived to find mounts of which "Teddy" need not be ashamed, and those who had turned from farming to enter factories in Syracuse quit their jobs and spent the days in cavalry drill.

If the newspapers had suspended publication then, all would have been well. But the presses kept rolling them off week in and week out until they reached the one which announced President Wilson's emphatic "No." Colonel Roosevelt was not to go to France and would not need the Iroquois braves. The war party, thinking hard, went back to shop and farm.

It was not long before the newspapers began to tell of arrangements for registration of all young men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one. The Iroquois were only slightly interested. It was a project which did not concern them, for the Great White Father at Washington was only the White Father by courtesy. His laws were not the laws of the Six Nations, nor were the laws of the lesser White Father at Albany. The Iroquois had always ruled themselves without interference.

That there was a state statute which gave them the right to hunt and fish in season or out, the men of the Six Nations neither knew nor cared. When they hunted and fished they were only doing what they had always done unquestioned. When sheriffs' deputies had come upon their lands they had, where it suited, either ignored or gently ejected them.

White Squaws Have No Vote

These were minions of another democracy. The government of the Iroquois was their own. The democracy from which the trespassing officials came need not brag. It did not even permit its squaws to have a voice. Long ago the Iroquois had outgrown that old-fashioned idea.

That the squaw has wisdom entitling her to be heard the simple Iroquois cheerfully admits. She proved it so conclusively on one of those bygone, glorious days that the Six Nations were satisfied of the verity for all time. Called into council in a desperate moment, after the Tuscaroras had launched south in an assault on the Seminoles and had been gobbled by the enemy, it is well remembered that the squaws had made suggestions which, as laws, brought forth new generations of lusty papooses and raised them into mighty braves, suggestions that eliminated polygamy and that barred intermarriage within the clans of the Eels and Snipe and Turtles and Herons and Beavers and the rest of the eight great families into which the Iroquois are divided.

So it has come about that to-day, unfortunate paleface pickets and banner flaunters, the squaws are the acknowledged rulers of these "uncivilized" Six Nations; and the older the squaw the greater her individual power. Thirty-four chiefs there may be—thirty-four chiefs and uncounted medicine men and witch doctors—but they all wait on the word of Mary Big Bear and Lily Moonbeam.

Lily brings us back to the subject of moons—and drafts.

There was another fluttering about of couriers, another signal fire lighted and another conclave of chiefs in the "Long House" a couple of weeks before registration day. To this Dr. Bates was not invited. His information of what transpired came at second-hand, but he considered it authentic enough to justify a rush message to Governor Whitman. His protégés, he learned, were getting ready to take the warpath again, this time to uphold principles purely Iroquois. Not being wanted as volunteers with "Teddy," they were resolved to sell their lives dearly in resistance to the draft.

Major Leslie Kincaid was sent down from the office of the adjutant general, who is in charge of the state draft. After a talk with Dr. Bates, he did not doubt the ability of the handful that is left of the Six Nations to make very bad medicine should they be so disposed.

Every brave, young and old, has arms, ammunition and a determination not to be imposed upon by foreign powers.

When he came to have a heart-to-heart talk with the head chief, Frank Logan, Major Kincaid learned that in the eyes of the Iroquois, the United States is nothing more nor less than a foreign power when it begins to dictate what the Six Nations shall and shall not do.

The Difference Explained

It was carefully explained by the head chief that there is a difference between the Iroquois and Western Indians—that the tribes on the plains are conquered peoples, driven by force of arms onto reservations and held there under military law; whereas, the Six Nations are unconquered and sovereign, living where and as they do because they chose to sign treaties far in the past with Dutch and English and early state Governors.

The major went to Washington and could find nothing in the records to refute Frank Logan's contention. Between them, promising there would be no draft, he and Dr. Bates managed to persuade the embattled Iroquois to submit to registration. What the government intends to do is a mystery.

Provost Marshal General Crowder has decided that "blanket" Indians shall not be conscripted, but the Iroquois are not that kind of Indian, their case, as Frank Logan demonstrated to almost everybody's satisfaction, being considerably dissimilar.

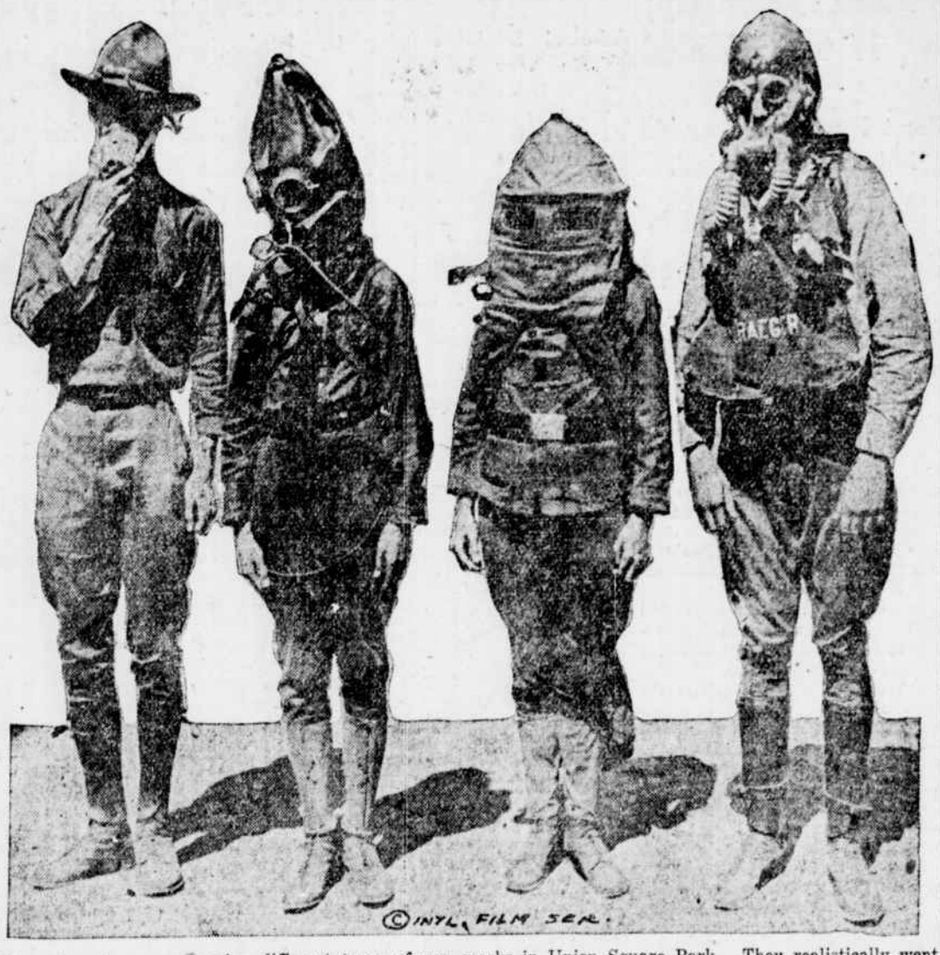
If the Six Nations are to be included in the "blanket" exemption, well and good. They will go on tilling the soil and working in the factories, and maybe some later on will enlist.

Frank Logan died three weeks ago, his part of the work accomplished, and the Six Nations are without a head chief.

The all powerful "grandmothers" are biding their time before suggesting that another meeting of the lesser chiefs be called, on the chance there may be a second purpose for the passing of the firebrand—that purpose to declare a last Indian war on the United States.

It all depends on the Great White Stepfather and what he intends to do with the registration cards of the Iroquois braves, which are now held by the clerk of Onondaga County. If he regards the Iroquois as they regard themselves and as the old treaties appear to establish them, a sovereign nation, all will be well. If he does not, New York of the present day stands to learn with a jolt what a ripe moon means.

BOY SCOUTS EQUIPPED WITH GAS MASKS



These four boys are wearing different types of gas masks in Union Square Park. They realistically went through their drills and manœuvres, and won applause from the great crowd gathered where they exhibited.

Conkling Finds Draft Board 156 Has Clear Record

Director Says There Is No Ground for Inquiry by Swann

Deputy Attorney General Roscoe S. Conkling, director of the draft for New York City, announced last night that he had made unsuccessful efforts to ascertain from the District Attorney's office the reason for summoning the members of Local Exemption Board 156, with their records, for an investigation into alleged irregularities.

Mr. Conkling expressed explicit confidence in the integrity of the members of the board, and declared that the policy of the District Attorney's Office in holding up the work of any board for an entire day merely because of the complaint of "some disgruntled fellow" was absolutely against the interests of the government and the raising of the new National Army.

Inquiry Hampers Board

"I was amazed to learn that charges had been made against this board," said Mr. Conkling. "The adjutant general's office never had been informed by the District Attorney's office that there were irregularities there, and it seems absolutely against the interests of the government to call an entire board away from its work for an entire day in order to investigate some charge of which no notice had ever been given to this office.

"The United States attorneys and the Department of Justice are handling a great many claims, some of which are well founded, but most of which are complaints due to the fact that various board members have dealt justly and honestly with, some disgruntled fellow who wants to let some one else do the fighting for him.

"The United States authorities act under the very proper system of making every investigation quietly and accurately, and giving publicity only to those cases which are absolutely grounded on fact. This method of calling board members away from their work for most of the day and questioning them, and then, without one word to the adjutant general's office, giving out a statement charging that board with, or intimating charges of, misconduct, is absolutely improper.

"The adjutant general's office and the United States authorities undoubtedly want every bit of assistance they can secure from all sources, including Mr. Dooling's office, but speaking for myself, as representing the adjutant general's office, I feel that greater care ought to be exercised in making insinuations against board members.

Defends Board No. 156

"I am quite familiar with the work of Board 156 and know each member. I believe that the board is doing its duty honestly and faithfully, and I make this statement because I want it known to the members of that and other boards that the adjutant general's office is behind every board in the city until it is proved that the members of that board are not worthy of the trust reposed in them."

Members of the board were back at their work at the headquarters, at Lexington Avenue and 105th Street, and Chairman Plavnick issued a challenge to Mr. Dooling or any one else to prove that there had been any irregularities there.

"No member of this board has accepted so much as a cigar from any man that came before it," said Alexander Plavnick, the chairman. "There was just one case in which money was offered, and that was when a Russian alien offered a dollar to one of the members for helping him fill out an exemption blank.

"I told Mr. Dooling that we welcomed any kind of an investigation, and simply laughed in his face when he asked: 'Who is taking the money up there?'

It was learned that the District Attorney's office is still in possession of the records of four men examined by Board 93 at 229 East Broadway.

Conscientious Objector Held

William Hendel, of 998 Trinity Avenue, The Bronx, a Socialist and a conscientious objector who refused to appear before Board 12 for examination, was arrested by agents of the Department of Justice and held in $500 bail for further examination by United States Commissioner Hitchcock. Hendel is a natural born citizen, twenty-six years old and single. He wrote a letter to the clerk of the board stating that he was opposed to war and capitalists, and that any time the authorities wanted to arrest him they would find him at home.

Herman J. Fernberg and Carl Johnson, arrested on a steamship with passports to Spain in their possession, were also arraigned before Commissioner Hitchcock and held in $5,000 bail each on charges of attempting to leave the country to avoid conscription.

Henry Goldfarb, of Jersey City, and Julius Wolgemuth, of Brooklyn, were held in $2,000 bail each by United States Commissioner Carpenter, in Jersey City, on charges of conspiracy to evade the draft law. Four men confessed to Dr. Daniel J. Donohue, of the 1st District Exemption Board, in Jersey City, that they had used spirits of ammonia to dilate the heart and escape the draft. According to Dr. Donohue, belladonna is also being used on the eyes by some would-be slackers in an effort to evade service.

More of the 69th Camp at Mineola

Detachment to Prepare Tents —Regiment at Ball Game To-day

Civilian enthusiasm which has surrounded the old 69th Regiment, now the 165th, ever since it became known that the men were soon to go to France, has not waned.

Throughout yesterday a crowd of not less than 500 persons packed itself in orderly fashion on the east side of Lexington Avenue, at Twenty-fifth Street, and cheered every wagon of supplies that came by on its way to the regiment's camp at Mineola.

Word was passed along that some 235 men were to leave for camp at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and when they finally got under way at 5:45 o'clock, headed by their band and Lieutenant Sherman P. Platt, an assemblage of over a thousand well-wishers bade them godspeed.

The departing troops were made up of sixteen picked men from each company, with additional experts on camp arrangement added to the complement, to pitch tents, arrange kitchens and have the site in readiness when the main body of the regiment arrives at Mineola, on Monday.

Colonel Charles De Lano Hine, the newly appointed colonel of the 165th, will not take command until the entire regiment is at Mineola.

The baseball game to be played this afternoon at the Polo Grounds between the Giants and the Cincinnati Reds was something the men of the new 165th looked forward to. The game will be played for their benefit and the proceeds given to the fund which will care for the dependents of members of the regiment. The men will march to the ferry at the end of East Thirty-fourth Street, and there embark on the municipal ferryboat William J. Gaynor, which will take them around the Battery to 155th Street and the North River, where the march to the Polo Grounds will start. The regiment will enter the grounds at 2:30 p. m.

Part of U. S. Forces Will Train in Cuba

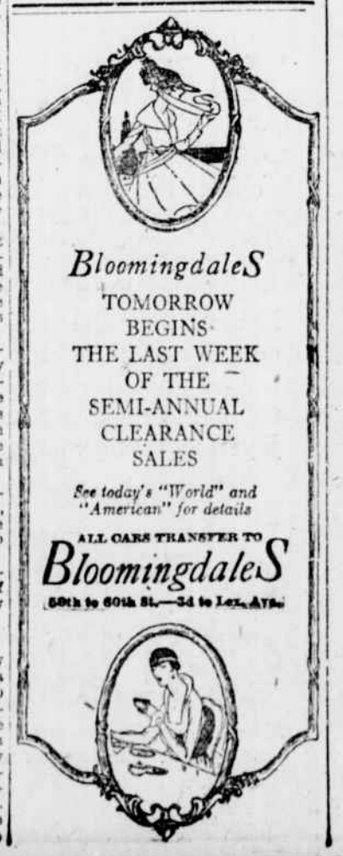
WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Cuba's offer to provide a mobilization and training ground for a part of the American forces has been accepted. The number or description of the forces to be sent cannot be disclosed for military reasons. The State Department to-day issued this statement:

"The government of Cuba has offered in a most friendly spirit to the Government of the United States the use of training grounds in that republic for the American forces.

"This generous offer has been accepted by this government with great pleasure, and careful consideration has been given to the question as to which of the American forces would be most benefited by training on the Island of Cuba.

"This question has now been determined and American forces will proceed to the eastern end of Cuba for training at an early date.

"The action on the part of President Menocal in making this friendly offer is considered as a further proof of Cuba's desire to give cordial coöperation to the United States of America and to be of every assistance to it in the war which both countries are now waging for the rights of humanity against the imperial German government."



No Appeal for Men Who Ignored Conscription Call

Those Who Failed to Present Themselves for Examination Are Deserters

Punishment Is Certain

Crowder Rules Slackers Will Be Jailed, Then Made to Serve

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Renewed instructions that drafted men who failed to report for service will be classed and punished as deserters were sent to United States District Attorneys and agents of the Department of Justice to-night by Attorney General Gregory.

Provost Marshal General Crowder has ruled that persons who neglect to appear for examination will be accepted automatically and that the privilege of claiming exemption will be denied. It was to help carry this policy into effect that the attorney general acted. His instructions follow:

"It has been determined by the provost marshal general that persons who failed to appear for their physical examination after having received their notices to do so from the local boards, by such failure waive their right to physical examination and are accepted by the board without such examination. Their names will be certified to the district boards as chosen by the local boards for the National Army.

Lose Exemption Rights

"If they do not then appear to claim exemptions, they will waive thereby the right to such exemptions as they might have claimed, and their names will be certified by the district boards to the adjutant generals of their respective states as persons for the National Army. The adjutant general will then mail them a notice to report for duty at a specified time and place, and such notices will be given publicity according to the regulations of the conscription act.

"Such persons then become subject to the military authorities at the time designated by the adjutant general for them to report. Should they fail to comply with this notice they become deserters from the army, and will be treated as such by the military authorities.

Automatically Drafted

"It is, therefore, a matter of vital concern, not so much to the government as to the persons themselves, to see that they give the correct address for their notices to be mailed to them. Should they fail to comply with these notices after receiving them, they become automatically drafted without regard to physical examination or to exemption or discharge.

"Where persons are known to be wilfully refusing to comply with the requests of the local boards and are so conducting themselves as to be a menace to the proper enforcement of the conscription act, and their whereabouts are known, they should be detained in jail on complaints charging violations of Section 6 of the conscription act until the time when they are ordered by the adjutant general to report for duty in the National Army. They should, at that date, be turned over to the military authorities. No prosecution need be had, as it will be unnecessarily expensive and little is to be gained therefrom."

Reno's Mayor Is Drafted

Soldiers Needed, He Says, Refusing to Ask Exemption

RENO, Nev., Aug. 18.—Reno is the first city in the West to lose its Mayor in the army draft. Roy Frisch, alderman, who is also acting Mayor, qualified yesterday before the exemption board and when asked if he wished to claim exemption as a civil official, said:

"There will be plenty of men left for aldermen and Mayor, but Uncle Sam seems to need soldiers, therefore I will not claim exemption."

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Wilson's Letter Revives Talk of Draft Exemption

Many Contend He Approves Relieving Husbands of Army Service

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—Renewed discussion of the status of married men under the selective service law has been aroused by the publication of President Wilson's letter to Senator Weeks dealing with this and other subjects. In many quarters the President's statement that he had no doubt Senator Weeks's point as to the exemption of married men was well taken was interpreted as an indication that he approved exemption of any man of family who had not married merely to escape military duty.

The President has full power to direct that the regulations governing selection be amended to this effect. A proposal specifically to exempt all married men was made when the bill was in the Senate, an amendment to that effect by Senator Smith, of Georgia, being lost by a wide margin. This fact, together with the regulations later promulgated by the President, making exemption possible only in case of actual dependency, is taken as an indication that no general exemption for married men as a class will be given now.

Additional interpretations of the regulations, issued to-day by General Crowder, provide that Great Lakes mariners may have their places of examination by local boards transferred to any one of the following lake posts: Buffalo, Erie, Conneaut, Ashtabula, Fairport, Painsville, Lorain, Huron, Toledo, Sandusky, Detroit, Marquette, Escanaba, Ashland, Superior, Sheboyan, Milwaukee, Duluth, Two Harbors, Chicago or Gary. Any local board in any of these ports may make the examination.

In cautioning local boards to-day against attempting to fill quotas by selecting an inequitable number of men who have waived exemption and are, therefore, practically volunteers, General Crowder said that the greatest care must be exercised in sending forward the last 10 per cent of any quota.

"The last 10 per cent," he says, "must be selected with great care, to be sure that no one in the whole quota is sent for military duty while a selected person with an earlier order of obligation for military service is allowed to remain at home."

Speech Gag Irks Germans

Agitation at Stettin Spreads to Solingen

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 18.—Agitation at Stettin, Germany, over the announcement that the authorities proposed to suspend or limit the right to hold meetings has spread to Solingen. Socialist supporters of the government are trying to prevent unorganized demonstrations and warn the rank and file that unless these demonstrations are held under proper leadership they will be apt to defeat their own aims.

The decision of the commanding general at Stettin prohibits under a state of siege in the interest of public safety meetings of any character. The penalty is a year's imprisonment.

Hughes Indorses Exemption Plea For Policemen

Firemen, Too, Should Be Freed From Draft, He Tells Whitman

Asks Appeal to Wilson

Board Would Detail Medical and Dental Conscripts to School

The exemption of all firemen and policemen from the draft is sought in a letter sent to Governor Whitman yesterday by Charles E. Hughes, chairman of the district board and chairman of the committee of fourteen appointed at a conference of all the district boards in the state last Thursday.

Mr. Hughes sent a second letter to the Governor, urging him to request President Wilson to detail all medical and dental students and internes drafted to schools and hospitals for the continuation of their preparatory course.

Both of these letters are in accordance with the spirit of resolutions adopted by the committee of fourteen and made public by Mr. Hughes yesterday.

3,000 Police Draft Eligibles

As to excluding policemen and firemen from selective service, Mr. Hughes suggests that this can best be brought about by requesting the President to amend the rules and regulations concerning "county and municipal officials" so as to cover these classes. He points out in his letter that policemen and firemen cannot, under the strict interpretation of the draft law, be classed as "persons engaged in industries" and that the term "county and municipal officials" embraces only elective officers.

Mr. Hughes refers to a letter from Police Commissioner Woods that between 3,600 and 3,500 of the 10,760 men in his department are of draft age, that 1,200 special patrolmen have been engaged to do emergency work and that efforts are being made to obtain appropriations for 1,20 more. He also quotes from a letter from Fire Commissioner Adamson to the effect that 1,462 of New York's 3,823 firemen are within the draft age. It is pointed out that it takes three years to train a good fireman.

"In view of the extreme importance of maintaining adequate police protection and security against fire," the letter concludes, "I trust that you may be able to secure appropriate action by which policemen and firemen in cities may be discharged from the selective draft, as recommended by the committee of the district boards."

Seek to Reëxamine Policemen

The resolution adopted by the committee also suggests that the District Board be empowered to reopen the case of any policeman or fireman already certified for service.

The District Board yesterday issued a printed form of notice for the information of those seeking industrial exemption. This form tells what information should be included in the affidavits supporting the application. These affidavits are of too diverse a nature to permit of any set form.

Mr. Hughes made it plain that no set policy has been followed in passing on either exemption appeals or industrial claims. Each individual case, he said, is judged on its merits and in accordance with a just interpretation of the law.

Owing to the increasing number of resignations from local boards, Provost Marshal General Crowder instructed the adjutant general's office not to accept such resignations in the future unless the reasons given are most grave or urgent. Pay warrants were sent to many board members yesterday for their services thus far.

"We Cannot Yield The Principle"

J. Q. Adams

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