

# America Will Win the War in 1919, March Tells Senate Committee

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It represents America's maximum effort for the present. Plans for calling new registrants under the proposal explained by Secretary Baker provide for three classes—probably to be called in order—those between nineteen and thirty-seven years of age, those between thirty-seven and forty-five and those between forty-five and fifty-nine. Mr. Baker did not object to separate classification of eighteen year old youths, but he and General March said all eligibles probably would be called out not later than next spring.

The Secretary told the committee that his previous statement of the department's intention to liberalize the draft regulations in dealing with the older men to be made subject to call had been misconstrued.

### Married Men Not Exempt

He said there was no intention to exempt married men as a class, and that married men who do not support their wives or are not engaged in useful occupations will be called, as they now are.

Discussing the "work or fight" amendment of Senator Thomas, of Colorado, to the Senate bill, Secretary Baker said "it seems entirely consistent" with the present regulations and is unobjectionable. He said it does not provide for conscription of labor, as contended by representatives of organized labor, but merely would be a declaration by Congress of the "work or fight" principle already put into effect by the draft regulations.

Congress prepared to-day to enact quickly the new man-power legislation. The Senate set aside its summer vacation agreement in order to take up the measure Thursday.

### Simultaneous Debate

It appeared probable that the bill would be debated simultaneously in the Senate and House the last of this week and passed soon thereafter. Senate prohibition advocates agreed to temporarily lay aside the national prohibition bill and give the man-power programme the right of way.

The bill calls for an army of nearly 4,000,000 Americans in France by June 30, 1919, with another 1,000,000 in training in this country.

Chairman Dent said to-night that he hoped to report the measure Wednesday or Thursday, probably with amendments, if sentiment in the committee for provisions specifying the order of classes to be called and to specifically defer calls for eighteen-year-old boys are adopted. Representative Kahn, of California, ranking Republican member, plans a minority report in favor of the Administration plan.

### All Classified by January 1

General Crowder told the committee that men now in Class 1 will be exhausted after the September call, and urged speedy action on the bill to provide sufficient men for future calls, although General March said he thought there will be enough men to last until November without the new legislation. By January 1, General Crowder said, he hoped to complete "classifying the nation."

General March read to the committee an official statement showing that on August 1 the American army numbered 3,012,112 men, divided as follows:

- American expeditionary force and en route overseas, 1,301,742.
- In the United States and insular possessions, 1,432,706.
- Called in the August draft, 277,664.
- In addition, there are about 15,000 marines serving with the expeditionary force.

For the present it is planned to send 250,000 men monthly to France, General March stated, adding: "But we hope to increase that in the spring."

The eighty-division plan, General March said, depended on shipping facilities, but he added:

"I might as well say right here frankly that the programme of Mr. Schwab will take care of the army programme and more than take care of it."

"There are two ways of prosecuting this war," Mr. Baker said. "One way is to make every possible effort to do it now and the other is to proceed somewhat more leisurely and do it later. The obvious advantage from every standpoint, social, military, industrial and economic, is to put forth every effort in this country and win the war as soon as possible."

### Across in Less Than Six Months

As to how long before men called under the new law will go across Mr. Baker said not more than six months' training would be given at home.

In extending the draft ages, Secretary Baker said, suspension of academic education is an "unsolved problem" of the situation, and that it would be most unfortunate to have all collegiate education stopped.

He believed there still would be many youths left at school, but was against exemption of college students as a class as "thoroughly undemocratic." Scientifically trained experts, however, are needed, and education of such men must be continued to an extent. Men injured in the war will be sent to colleges after they recover, the Secretary explained, and thus to some extent fill up academic institutions. Regarding present exemption of divinity students, he said, their draft for army chaplains is being urged.

The department's plans, Mr. Baker said, are to call all the younger men by the middle of next year—but substantially after the school year is through.

### 2,900,000 in Camp by June

General Crowder interjected that the new programme is expected to raise 2,900,000 men by June 30, 1919, and that it is proposed to call 2,000,000 men by that time.

On the question of volunteer enlistments, which some committee members said should be discontinued for the army and marine corps as well as the

army if the new bill is passed, Mr. Baker said the navy opposes prohibiting volunteer enlistment, and he had withheld an expression of opinion. He pointed out, however, that the bill would place every man between eighteen and forty-five under control of the War Department and that it would be possible for him and Secretary Daniels to work out in harmony a programme to supply men for the navy for the fighting branch and also the merchant ship service.

Representative Caldwell, of New York, suggested that the army provide for enlistment of women to do non-combatant work as is done by the navy, and Mr. Baker said so far the army uses for such service men drafted and not qualified for military duty.

### Young Officers to Fight

Regarding supplanting young officers in non-combatant duty by older men, Secretary Baker said all young officers capable of military duty are being relieved as far as possible. He added that youths in colleges, who are drafted, if retained there for training, will be put in uniform.

Turning to the Thomas "work or fight" amendment, added to the bill by the Senate Committee, the Secretary said he could see no objection to it in view of the fact that the regulations of the President are to be relied upon to carry it into effect. Regarding its provisions for revoking deferred classification for men who refuse to work, he added:

"That seems to me to be entirely proper." In case of a strike, he said, the President could determine whether suspension of work was "in good faith," and could defer suspending exemption of workmen.

"Then you would be willing to use the draft regulations in industrial disputes?" Mr. Baker was asked.

"Yes, to a limited extent," the Secretary replied.

### Against Slacker Methods

Chairman Dent emphasized that the Thomas amendment was not a part of the department's bill.

"I have a very strong feeling against a slacker using exemption," the Secretary said, adding that even though the "work or fight amendment" was not recommended by the department, he thought it might be well for Congress to make such a declaration to deal with industrial slackers.

When Representative Dunn, of New York, joined with Chairman Dent in opposing the Thomas amendment, Secretary Baker, and also General Crowder, pointed out that the amendment is not mandatory and that discretion is left to the President.

Pointing out the existing "work or fight" regulations, involving conscription of labor, Mr. Baker declared that

with men being drawn from the farms and industry it is only fair to require a skilled man to work or fight.

"The amendment seems to be entirely consistent with the policy the War Department is enforcing and is unobjectionable," he said. "And I am less disturbed because the attitude of labor as a whole is so fair and wholesome, helpful and patriotic."

### Board's Power Broadened

Extension of the draft age limits, Mr. Baker said, necessitates the bill's provision broadening draft boards' power over "occupations and employments," as well as "industry, including agriculture."

When committee members complained that too many men are being taken off farms, the Secretary said it is not intended to draft more farmers under the new law and that the present policy will continue. General Crowder pointed out that local boards are responsible for selecting men from farms.

The law permitting men to be furloughed home for harvesting crops has not been used to any great extent, Mr. Baker said, and has not been found very necessary.

Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor interrupted to oppose the "work or fight amendment" of the Senate bill.

"There is no question about labor going along with this government," Mr. Morrison said. "Labor is doing its level best, but this amendment is nothing less than conscription of labor."

### Would Control Employers

Secretary Baker said the draft law should not be used by private corporations to control their employees. The Thomas amendment, he said, is merely a declaration of the present department policy.

"I do not agree with Mr. Morrison that the amendment is conscription of labor," Mr. Baker added. "It is not, unless it is used that way."

The Secretary was followed by General March, who said all of the belligerent nations have age limits of fifty or over and minimums of eighteen or less. Some German captives, he said, have been found to be as young as sixteen. Representative Kahn, of California, interrupted to say both the British and French minimum age limits are eighteen years.

With General Crowder the committee discussed the estimates of men he expects to get from the enlarged registration of the bill.

Some committee members expressed surprise that only about 600,000 fightmen are expected from registrants between thirty-two and forty-six. The provost marshal explained that the nation's industrial requirements were considered in his estimates. He said: "Our main dependence is upon the men of lower age limits."

By having the bill passed quickly, General March told the committee, the new men could be called in time to get more training than the six months' minimum.

"By calling these men then," said

# Marriage Will Not Save Slackers Under New Army Bill, Says Baker

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—In answer to a letter from Chairman Chamberlain, of the Senate Military Committee, asking whether it was true that the War Department proposed to exempt married men as a class under the new man power bill, Secretary Baker to-day informed the Senator that the existing regulations as to married men would continue in force.

"The present situation," Mr. Baker replied, "with regard to married men in Class 1 is that four classes of married men are included within the limits of that class: First, married men who do not support their wives or families; second, married men whose wives support them; third, married men whose wives have adequate independent means; fourth, married men engaged in useless occupations and who are not the main or principal support of their families.

"There is no intention to change this situation. In construing the regulations with regard to dependency of wives and children, financial dependency has been looked upon as the reason for deferred classification. This will continue to be the case.

"I am told that in some parts of the country there is an abnormal increase in the rate of marriages, which suggests the possibility of a desire to use marriage as a basis for a claim of exemption. The status of registrants married at a time and under conditions suggesting any such purpose will be that of unmarried persons, so far as their classification is concerned."

Representative Anthony, "you will have delivered by July 1 this country's maximum military power?"

"By no means," General March sharply replied, laughing. "Not at all."

### 19 to 36 Called First

The question of maintenance of men abroad has been considered in adopting the eighty division programme, General March said, and expressed confidence that the larger force will be maintained.

"We have had a most satisfactory report from Mr. Stettinius regarding the shipping situation abroad," he added.

The bill, General March said, will not interfere with men between eighteen and forty-five going into training camps to seek commissions.

"Do you think this number of men, together with what we have, will be enough to win this war?" asked Representative Kahn.

"My answer is this," General March replied. "If you put eighty divisions of trained Americans in France under an American commander they can go through the German line wherever they want to. That is my firm belief."

Representative Kahn said it might be necessary to go beyond the Rhine, and asked if any accurate estimate could be given of the number of men that finally would be necessary to win the war.

Replying, General March said that when the Germans began their spring offensive they were superior in rifle power.

"If you put eighty divisions of Americans in France, of approximately 45,000 men to a division," said General March, "you will give us marked superiority in rifle power—more marked than was the Germans'—and we should

be able to bring the war to a successful conclusion in 1919."

General Crowder said that by September 1 there would be 216,000 men left in Class 1, while the September call planned is for more than that number. Weekly registrations of men becoming twenty-one, he said, will furnish 80,000 more men. For October calls, he said, therefore, there will be a deficiency unless the bill provides a new supply.

After the bill is enacted, General Crowder said, he would ask to have the President order the new registration in ten days to provide for drawing of numbers as soon thereafter as possible.

"Within thirty days after questionnaires are distributed," he said, "I probably would have enough men for future calls."

The committee adjourned until tomorrow, arranging to hear representatives of organized labor against the "work or fight" amendment of the Senate bill.

### 18 States Called On to Send 5,709 Draft Men to Army Schools

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Eighteen states were called on by the Provost Marshal General to-day to furnish 5,709 white draft registrants of grammar school education for general military service. The men will entrain September 6. Voluntary enlistments will be accepted until August 26.

All of these men will be sent to schools or training centres for instruction in special lines of service for which they are wanted.

Following are the calls on some of the Eastern and New England

States and the points to which the men were ordered:

- Massachusetts, 256; Wentworth Institute, Boston.
- Massachusetts, 103; Franklin Union Institute, Boston.
- New York, 206; New Hampshire College, Durham, N. H.
- Pennsylvania, 206; Newark, Del.
- Pennsylvania, 206; Cambridge Springs, Penn.
- Pennsylvania, 257; Spring Garden Institute, Philadelphia.

### Young Draft Men To Be Enabled to Continue Education

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Plans for continuing the education of youths between the ages of eighteen and twenty-one years, inclusive, after they have

been registered under the draft law and while they are waiting to be called into the service, are being formulated by a committee on education and training of the War Department.

Details of the proposal, which is to be submitted within a few days to the General Staff for its approval, were revealed to-day by the Senate Military Committee in making public the testimony of Dr. C. R. Mann, of the War Department, who appeared before it in connection with the pending man-power bill.

A list of 359 colleges, at which the youths between eighteen and twenty-one years, are to undergo military training, has already been prepared. At these schools they can become candidates for particular positions in

the army suited to their qualifications. Those especially adapted for commissions will be given special training. All are to be enlisted in the student army training corps.

During the hearing Dr. Mann revealed that the War Department is discouraging the establishment of military courses by various colleges. "We do not want the schools to set up a school requirement of military training," Dr. Mann told the committee, "but we want the thing to come from the government. Enlistment gives a reality to it, and since they will have real army officers it gives a snap to it that the school cannot get by any of its own requirements in the matter. It becomes a real War Department matter, not a school requirement."

Dr. Mann told the committee there are about 165,000 men between eighteen and twenty years now attending colleges, while of the 700,000 in the high schools about 100,000 are above eighteen years of age.



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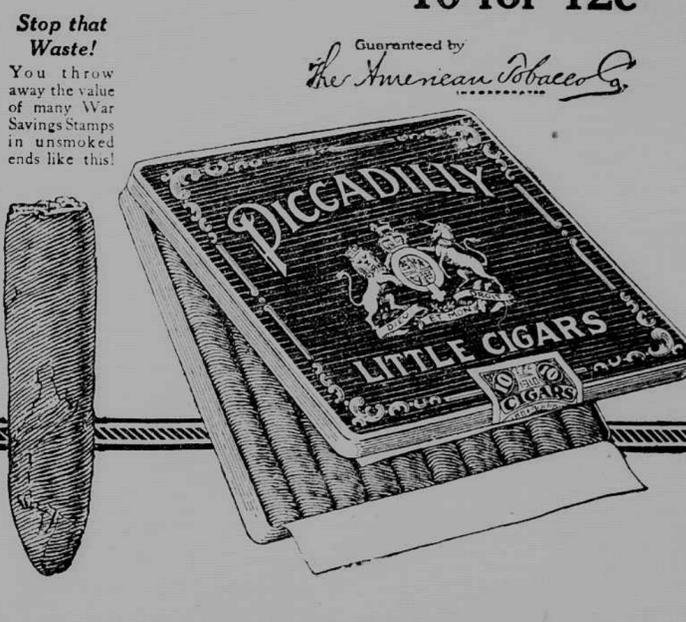
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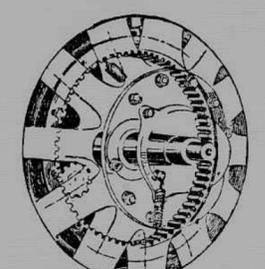
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