AMERICANS REMAIN IN FOREIGN UNITS

No General Transfer to Be Requested of France and Great Britain.

FIGHT IN SAME CAUSE

Changes to Be Made Only in Specific Interest of United States.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Associated Press has received information that the American War Department has decided on rules governing the transfer of Americans serving with the British forces to the American Army by which their present status will not be disturbed except in special cases and where the transfer "is plainly in the interest of the United States."

This decision, it is said, was reached on the following grounds:

First—That Americans who enlisted with the British forces must have been prompted by patriotic motives to do so, and that therefore it does not matter whether they remain British or are transferred to their own flag, since they would be fighting for the same cause.

Second—In some cases, particularly with the Canadians, many of whom are Americans, transfers might seriously disorganize units.

Form Sizable Army.

While no official statistics are available it is fair to guess that there are at least from 25,000 to 30,000 Americans in the Canadian forces alone, and perhaps half as many more scattered through other British contingents in France, Mesopotamia, Palestine and elsewhere. Hundreds of letters have been sent to the American authorities in London begging for transfer, but the authorities say they are unable to make concessions to any special number of men without taking over the men as a whole.

In many instances, it is pointed out, the desires for transfers are not prompted by patriotism but because of the chance to enjoy greater benefits and the higher pay of the American forces. The authorities argue that if, in the first instance, the men joined the British army "to fight for principle" the principle is not changed if they remain with the British forces, hence it has been decided that an officer in the British army who is an American and desires a transfer must apply to the Embassy in London, which will be guided in the premises by instructions from the War Department at Washington.

No General Request.

The rules adopted say that "it will not be the general policy of the War Department to request the release of an American holding a commission in a foreign service." Regarding enlisted men the new rules say that release will be considered only in the case of applicants who present themselves personally to the Military Attache of the American Embassy in London "with satisfactory documentary evidence of citizenship," and that the Military Attache "may then, in special cases, ask for release." The rules add: "When so released men are to proceed to France at their own expense and report for enlistment in our service to the headquarters of the American Expeditionary Force."

The rules provide that an enlisted man also must procure from the commander of his unit of the British forces a written recommendation that the commander regards his transfer to the American forces "in the interest of the United States."

AIRMEN TAKEN OVER.

Lafayette Escadrille First to Enter American Service.

PARIS, Jan. 4.—Negotiations between the French and the American army authorities for the transfer to the United States Army of the American aviators in the French escadrilles have been completed and transfers of the men have been begun.

Thirty-two experienced pilots, mostly members of the Lafayette Escadrille, are being taken over first. These men are being sworn in as members of the American forces as fast as they can conveniently arrange for Paris leaves.

READY FOR FRONT.

American Fliers End Training Near Battle Line.

By the Associated Press.

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE, Jan. 4.—The first group of young pilots and observers to take a course of instruction in the American flying school nearest the battlefront in the Woevre completed its work yesterday. After a rest of a week the squadron will be sent to the front, where the finishing touches will be added under actual battle conditions. The work at the front will be carried out under the guidance of veteran French aviators.

For many weeks the aviators have been flying over the American zone, taking instruction in their various duties, including aerial photographic work and observation. Only one member of the entire class under instruction failed to measure up to all standards.

BRITISH IN BIG AIR RAIDS.

Bomb Many German Points of Military Importance.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—An official communication on aviation to-night says:

"Two hundred bombs were dropped Thursday on two hostile airdromes, on the Ledgeheim Railway Junction, on cantonments in the neighborhood of the Houthoulst Forest and billets south of Lille.

"Six hostile airplanes were downed in air fighting and two others driven down out of control. Three of our machines are missing.

"During the night an additional 300 bombs were dropped on six enemy airdromes, including the Gontrode airdrome. Successful raids were also carried out in spite of the very bad weather against factories at Mezieres-les-Metz, railway communications at Woippy and the railway junction at St. Privat, all of which are in the neighborhood of Metz. All of our machines returned."

LONDON NEARLY MEATLESS.

Even West End May Have to Go Without Usual Supply.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—So meagre is the supply of meat in London that the first meatless day is expected for a large number of the inhabitants during this week end. Retail butchers to-day crowded the wholesale markets in an attempt to obtain a supply for their customers, but the majority of the dealers met with disappointment.

The Government has released 3,000 carcasses of lamb, but this supply is reserved for distribution among butchers in the poorer districts. The West End butchers have been told to advise their customers to eat fowl, game and fish until meat conditions are improved.

STOCKHOLM PLAN SPURNED BY BERLIN

Continued from First Page.

ments to the problem of defining diplomatic relations with Petrograd are highly significant and suggestive, but although the British press is strongly convinced that the Bolshevik Government soon will be recognised a Government authority states positively tonight that this is untrue. The Bolsheviki are not regarded as a Government and they will continue unrecognised, although Great Britain is disposed to establish informal diplomatic relations with them without involving recognition.

It is explained that if the Russian Constituent Assembly is permitted to be organized honestly and it recognizes the Lenine-Trotzky Government then Great Britain would formally recognize it also. France is even less favorably inclined to recognition than England, while it is reported that Japan has recognized the Bolshevik regime.

MORE HOPE IN LENINE.

Growing Entente Disposition to Recognize Bolshevik Regime.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The growing disposition among the Entente Powers to recognize the Lenine Government, if the latter demonstrates clearly that it is not under the domination of Germany and is able to command a fair degree of support from the Russian people, is voiced in the *Daily Chronicle*, which says that such action by the Entente Allies is likely.

"There are," it says, "three possibilities: The Bolsheviki may give way, the Germans may give way or there will be a rupture of relations. The first is hardly likely in view of Foreign Minister Trotzky's declaration. The second is possible, for the Germans are past masters in the art of specious compromise. But the third is most probable since the Bolsheviki have exhibited a perspicacity which was hardly expected in this country.

"Russia, the land of boundless surprises, may witness a revival of war—if not in the merely active form it might at least be sullenly defensive war—necessitating the keeping on the frontier of a considerable German force. It would at least prevent those pleasant and profitable commercial exchanges which Germany hopes for.

"Assuming such a situation and the consolidation of Bolshevik power, provided failure to extract a peace does not wreck the Lenine regime, then recognition of that power as the de facto government follows. Since that is so, a Socialist would be the logical representative of that Government and Maxim Litvinoff, who has been appointed, is a likely enough occupant of the Embassy.

New Statement of Policy Soon.

"We may expect soon some new statement of policy with regard to Russia, which, should it lean toward the latest developments and democracy, would undoubtedly strengthen the allied cause in Russia."

Maxim Litvinoff, who has been appointed Bolshevik Ambassador to Great Britain, has decided to remain in London pending the receipt of his instructions. His wife is an Englishwoman, and he is an old friend and associate of Lenine. He is declared to be a whole hearted supporter of the Bolsheviki, with whom apparently he is in close touch. In a long interview printed to-day he says:

"My task as Ambassador will be to disseminate the truth about Russia and to dissipate misunderstanding and misinterpretations of the motives, character and purpose of the Workmen's and Soldiers' Government. It is grossly mischievous to represent the Bolsheviki as pro-German, anti-Ally or as mere pacifists. They realize as clearly as any one that Kaiserism and junkerdom are the greatest obstacles to the self-emancipation of the international proletariat, but have discovered that Prussia is not the only soil for the congenial growth of noxious plants. They oppose replacing Prussian militarism by Russian, French or English militarism."

M. Litvinoff declared his emphatic belief that by the present negotiations and propaganda among the German soldiers in the east Trotzky and Lenine are contributing to the downfall of Kaiserism more effectually than the Allies are by fighting in the west. He concludes.

"I am sanguine enough to imagine that the Russian and German armies on the eastern front some day will march together against the common foe of the world's proletariat in Germany itself, and, perhaps, in other countries, too."

Assembly to Meet January 18.

The Bolsheviki have fixed the opening of the Constituent Assembly for January 18, provided there is present at that time a quorum of 400 members.

According to a telegram from Brest-Litovsk, peace delegates from Ukraine have arrived there and reported that the Ukrainian Government is preparing to conduct its own international affairs everywhere.

On the invitation of the German Foreign Minister, Dr. von Kuhlmann, Prof. Emil Oplik, an artist, will go to Brest-Litovsk to sketch the assembled peace delegates.

Disclosure of details of the Brest-Litovsk peace negotiations makes it clear that Germany assumed a domineering attitude, while Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey were very conciliatory and disagreed with the German position. There were differences also among the German delegates. Foreign Minister von Kuhlmann and Gen. Hoffmann clashed openly during the general meetings. Germany posed constantly as a conqueror, while her three allies showed eagerness for peace and a disposition to compromise.

A statement issued by the Bolsheviki emphasizes the fact that the enemy delegations now in Petrograd have no diplomatic standing and are here merely to arrange details growing out of the armistice, such as the exchange of prisoners and the resumption of postal service.

The work of the commission which is dealing with prisoners is proceeding slowly. The Russian delegates asserted the right to send any publications they desired to Russian prisoners in Germany and to Socialists in the Central Empires. They also demanded unrestricted direct telegraphic communication with representatives of the Socialist parties in the enemy countries. The German delegates replied they were unauthorized to make an agreement on this point.

Polish Deportations an Issue.

The Russians demanded the creation of a special commission to inquire into the deportation of Polish workmen for employment in privately owned factories in Germany. To this demand the Germans responded they had not been authorized to take up the question. The Russians thereupon asked for further instructions from the Council of People's Commissioners.

Between the two distinct factions noticeable in the enemy delegation at the Brest-Litovsk meetings, the Petrograd correspondent of the *Daily News* says, there were frequent disputes. These were settled, it was added, by appeals to Berlin, which always supported Von Kuhlmann and Czernin. Gen. von Hoffmann took the purely military point of view and complained with great bitterness that the Russians were using the armistice to agitate among German soldiers.

According to the correspondent there is a belief among the Russian delegation that Germany will yield to the Russian demands concerning Poland and Lithuania so as not to lose the advantage she gains by seeming to agree with Russia while the Entente Allies disagree.

The *Daily News* correspondent was present at Smolny Institute, the Bolshevik headquarters, when M. Kamenoff, one of the Russian peace delegates, presented his report on the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk. Among other things M. Kamenoff's report showed, he says, that the Germans attempted to bind Russia to their country by renewal of the treaty of 1904, which Emperor Nicholas declined to extend, resulting in a situation which was one of the causes of the war.

German Trade Terms Rejected.

Germany made other proposals, all for the purpose of obtaining a position as the most favored nation. The Russians stated that they believed in equality of trade, and that at the very moment when they were engaged in socializing industries nationalizing banks, &c., they could not subscribe to principles contrary to socialism. On this point, the correspondent says, the Germans seem to have receded from their position.

Speeches by Soldier delegates described the appalling conditions in the army, which is disorganized, poorly clothed and starving. Even the artillery horses have died from lack of fodder. Nevertheless all the delegates asserted the soldiers were willing to continue the war, notwithstanding these desperate conditions, unless the Germans agreed to peace on the lines laid down by the Bolsheviki.

The Bolshevik Foreign Minister is said by the Petrograd correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company to have sent a communication to the Persian Government offering to begin negotiations for the withdrawal of Russian troops from Persian territory provided Turkey will withdraw hers.

According to the same correspondent, M. Kerensky, the deposed Premier, has prepared an account of his services during the period of the first revolution, which will be presented to the Constituent Assembly. It includes full details of conditions at the front during the June offensive and the reasons why M. Kerensky decided to send former Emperor Nicholas to Siberia.

In the archives of the Russian Foreign Office there have been discovered documents of unusual interest dealing with negotiations between Germany and the Imperial Russian Government in regard to a national convention to combat Socialism. Other curious documents relating to the origin of the war throw light on certain aspects of German policy. These papers will be published as soon as they have been classified.

TROTZKY IS OBDURATE.

Won't Resume Parleys at Brest-Litovsk and Berne Is Suggested.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times.*

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PETROGRAD, Jan. 4.—Although Germany has refused to permit the transfer of the peace negotiations from Brest-Litovsk to Stockholm, it is still maintained by Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik Foreign Minister, that the discussions will not be resumed at Brest-Litovsk, but will be held in some neutral city. It is reported that Berne has been selected with the idea that Switzerland is better situated than most countries and the proletariat, the Russian delegates imagine, will be more easily influenced by the proceedings and induced to cooperate with the Russian revolutionists.

The German conditions, so far as they have gone up to the present, are considered by Lenine, Trotzky and their colleagues as absolutely inadmissable. The objectionable factor is principally the Germans' refusal to remove military pressure from the occupied territories and give the inhabitants a free hand to determine their future destiny. In certain political circles, however, it is maintained that Germany is asking the maximum in order to obtain the minimum, and that probably she will be satisfied with the annexation of Courland as far as the Dvina.

SIBERT AND FLETCHER FOUND UNSUITED FOR WORK ABROAD

Army and Navy Adopt New Policy of Picking Specially Fitted Men.

SHAKEUP IS EXPECTED

Lack of Harmony With Pershing Marked Returned General's Case.

Rear Adl. W. B. Fletcher

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Major-Gen. Sibert of the regular army and Rear Admiral William B. Fletcher of the navy have returned from abroad because of a new policy of maintaining with the American fighting forces only such officers as appear to be best fitted for the particular work assigned to them. There has been in progress for some days a weeding out process which is likely to affect the fortunes of army and navy officers abroad. It is not a question of weeding out inefficiency, it is explained, but a question of "getting just the right man for the right place."

Rear Admiral Fletcher until recently was in charge of the convoy system abroad. He has been relieved by Rear Admiral Henry B. Wilson. It was while Rear Admiral Fletcher was responsible for the convoy plans that the American transport Antilles was sunk by a German submarine last October with a loss of sixty-seven lives. The charge has just been made in the House by Representative Britten of Illinois that the loss of the transport was due to inadequate convoy.

Admiral Sims placed valuable naval ships at the disposal of Rear Admiral Fletcher and the latter was responsible for the use made of these vessels. Nothing has developed, it is said at the Navy Department, to show any negligence or mistake on the part of the American naval officers, but this case taken in conjunction with others impressed Admiral Sims that the work assigned to Rear Admiral Fletcher might be better performed by certain other officers.

Major-Gen. Sibert, who was in command of the First Division of American troops in France, is recognized generally as a good officer, but Gen. Pershing believes his post can be filled more advantageously. There has not been complete harmony between Gen. Pershing and Gen. Sibert, partly due, it is said, to temperamental differences. As the dominant idea is harmony and teamwork in the American army abroad Gen. Sibert has been assigned to command the Southeastern Department here and Major-Gen. Robert L. Bullard has succeeded him as commander of the First Division in France.

Rear Admiral Fletcher soon will be given duty in command of a navy yard.

TOKIO COURSE IN DOUBT.

Berlin Says Japan Has Decided to Recognize Bolsheviki.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 4.—The *Lokalanzeiger* of Berlin says is learns from Tokio that the Japanese Government has decided to enter into diplomatic relations with the new Russian Government.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Officials here regarded it as possible that the Entente nations and the United States later may recognize the present Bolshevik regime as the de facto Government of Russia, but say that this question has not yet come up for decision.

Confirmation has been received from American Ambassador Francis at Petrograd of the rejection by the Bolshevik leaders of the terms proposed by the Central Powers. There is interest here in the reception which the German Socialists will give to the so-called German terms. They admittedly conflict with the much advertised "no annexation, no indemnity" slogan and thereby expose the duplicity of the whole German peace plans, it is said by officials here.

The question of recognizing the Bolsheviki as a de facto government may be precipitated by the sending of special Bolshevik emissaries to the Entente capitals. These must either be received or informed that they cannot deal with Entente Government officials in any diplomatic capacity, and the question of recognition therefore will probably come up then.

Nothing of the reported intention of the Japanese Government to extend recognition to the Bolsheviki has been heard by the State Department, and the Japanese Embassy is equally ignorant on the subject.

In view of the complete understanding that has existed between the Entente Allies and as to unity of action in such matters it is said in Entente circles here that it is certain Japan would not take the initiative in recognizing the Bolsheviki without full conference with her allies and America.

URGES STANDARDIZED WAGES.

Senate Resolution Seeks to Have Inquiry Made.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Reciting alleged demoralization of the labor situation in the country because of high wages paid for Government work, Senator King (Utah) to-day introduced a resolution proposing an investigation by the Senate Labor Committee with a view to legislation standardizing wages. The resolution went over under the rules.

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PROMOTION FOR 196 YAPHANK OFFICERS

Three Captains Now Majors; Eight New Company Commanders Chosen.

FIRST LIST IS ANNOUNCED

Pelham St. George Bissell, Jr., and 184 Other Second Lieuts. Elevated.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

CAMP UPTON, L. I., Jan. 4.—The first list of promotions of officers of the National Army attached to the Seventy-seventh Division was made public here to-day. The appointments consist of three Captains promoted to Majors, eight First Lieutenants to Captains, and 185 Second Lieutenants to First Lieutenants.

The remaining 25 per cent. of the vacancies that existed in the division will be filled from the recently arrived officers who graduated from the second officers' training camp, who are attached but not assigned to the different units in the division.

The promotions are as follows:

To be Majors, National Army—Kenneth P. Budd, Holland H. Duell, Alvin Devereaux.

To be Captains, National Army—George G. McMurtry, Edward E. Nelson, Clarence E. Stantial, Frank J. Walters, Huntington Lyman, Sigourney Olney, Reginald Field, Louis B. Gerow.

To be First Lieutenants, National Army—Hermann C. Schwab, Earle Boothe, John M. Oshison, Reginald B. Rives, Edward P. Ellis, Harold V. Jones, Philip Cheney, Nathan H. Lord, Kenneth T. Tucker, Alfred K. Taylor, Howard O. Cowing, Herbert L. Miller, Raymond W. Bolton, Henry E. Weaver, John K. Rixey, Everett A. Butterfield, John H. McDermott, Samuel H. Nash, Jr., Clinton N. Hernandez, William R. Reid, McNeal Seasey, John C. O'Brien, Joseph M. Adrian, Earle D. Felter, Tobias Miller, William F. Cassill, Thomas E. Stone, Jr., Henry W. Davis, George H. Barber, William Van Thun, William E. C. Washburn, Walter W. Hoover, Lawrence H. Scofield, Christian I. Naylor, Alfred S. Willits, Harry D. McKeige, George E. Ogilvie, Donald F. Taylor, Alden Anderson, Joseph S. Smith.

Henry L. G. A. Rau, Norris M. Converse, Emery Bryan, Pelham St. George Bissell, Jr., Richard C. Klugescheid, Andrew J. Connick, Jr., Wright Kramer, Hayden C. Dayton, Kenneth O'Brien, Harry B. MacLaughlin, Charles W. Gleason, Joseph Morschauser, Jr., Donald L. McCuen, Robert B. Hassen, Samuel H. Randle, Ralph E. Peck, Richard Brinsley, Charles W. Turner, Cornelius F. Roddy, Patrick H. Daniels, Edwin H. Quickley, John J. Bennett, Louis Connick, James W. Reynis, Frank W. Hempstone, Regna T. Kidder, B. Meredith Langstaff, Clarence A. Hastings, Paul R. Knight, Robert K. Haas, Wallace M. Bush, Edwin A. Kane, Louis J. Lederle, L. Wardlow Miles, George Lynch, Charles A. Ginter, Irving F. Heyl, Charles Smith, Walter A. Richter, Charles C. Greenwood, Henry G. Fowler, Frank J. Murphy, Edward R. Bartlett, John F. D. Riedell, James C. Thornton, John H. Ketcham, George Friedlander, Edward P. Hamilton, William A. Vollmer.

William D. Scholle, Allen Lefferts, George E. Dyke, Clark J. Lawrence, Charles A. Chipman, Philip W. Vonsaltza, Roswell A. De La Mater, Thomas M. Brassel, Chester G. Burden, Paul Jones, George B. Brooks, Sheldon E. Hoadley, Henry G. Hotchkiss, Thornton C. Thayer, Lydig Hoyt, Allen T. Klots, Walter E. Young, Paul Cushman, William G. Johnson, Louis A. Brown, Lothar W. Newbery, J. Edgar Kenny, Henry E. Russell, William J. Cullen, Allan MacDougall, John O. Norris, William H. Mansfield, Walter F. Wyman, Frederick M. Gannon, Charles V. Graham, Henry J. Amy, Oswald Praelher, John W. McMaster, Keith F. McVaughn, Cleveland E. Dodge, August E. Richard, Colles J. Cruikshank, Harold A. Shedd, Lawrence D. Thornton, Charles S. Reinhart, George W. Cook, Herbert L. Bodman, George I. Hartley, John H. Wiepert, Roger A. Fuller, James A. Demarest.

Renwick M. Brown, Henry J. A. Collins, J. Kendrick Upton, Leonard G. McAneny, Thomas A. E. Harris, Samuel J. Reid, Jr., David Remer, Robert W. Morgan, Charles D. Miller, Charles A. Minton, Theodore C. Jessup, Gus E. Graefmuller, Charles De Rham, Jr., Alfred W. Gardner, William J. Hever, Danforth Miller, William M. Washburn, Augustus J. Cordie, John D. Kenderdine, Frank A. Slocum, Jr., Robert L. Gerner, Shively V. Aldridge, Benjamin K. Gatins, Homer Eugene Sawyer, Jr., James E. Lawyer, Rochester B. Jones, Ferdinand D. Sanford, Francis L. Whitmarsh, Loren F. Collins, Seymour W. Hyde, Walter E. Seibert, Donald R. McIntyre, Mathew J. Harkins, Bradford Ellsworth, Kurt J. Huttinger, William Michaelis, Michael J. Hayes, Walter J. Sutherland, Howard E. Foster, Clifford Hendel, John J. Riordan, Robert C. O'Donnell, Hamilton R. Howey.

Ten thousand Camp Upton soldiers were intensely disappointed to-night when orders were read to them cancelling the usual leave over Saturday and Sunday. The Long Island Railroad informed the officers at division headquarters late this afternoon that it would be impossible to run special trains to-morrow and Sunday because of a shortage of coal and a large number of passenger cars being frozen in the railroad yards. Only 4 per cent. of the enlisted men here or about 1,200 men will be given passes to-morrow over three trains leaving Camp Upton station.

PROTESTS AT YAPHANK.

Officers and Men Do Not Relish Going to Spartanburg.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

CAMP UPTON, L. I., Jan. 4.—Protests from both officers and men came to-day against the idea of taking men from the Seventy-seventh Division, National Army, and sending them to Camp Wadsworth, at Spartanburg, S. C., to build up seven infantry regiments and three machine gun battalions on the skeleton commands that are to remain in the South Carolina camp.

The personnel of the Seventy-seventh wishes to keep the command intact and have it go to France as a representative of the Metropolitan fighting force. The official idea is that such a scheme would leave the Upton command with the necessity of filling its ranks with green men just as the training of the men already in hand has reached a satisfactory stage. The Seventy-seventh has already developed a strong organization pride and wants to stick together to the finish.

It is stated that the proposed transfers to Wadsworth would have a like bad effect at Camp Dix, from which it is proposed to take upstate New Yorkers to fill the gaps left in the commands that draw their support above the Harlem River.

NEW AID FOR SCOTT.

Col. H. N. Cootes Now Chief of Staff at Camp Dix.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

CAMP DIX, WRIGHTSTOWN, N. J., Jan. 4.—Col. H. N. Cootes, for years a prominent figure on the General Staff of the United States Army, was transferred today to the National Army as chief of staff to Major-Gen. Hugh L. Scott at Camp Dix.

The new chief of staff has worked his way up from the ranks. He was born in Staunton, Va., the birthplace of President Wilson. In 1898 he enlisted as a private in a New York infantry regiment, in which he served during the Spanish-American war. He was later in the Philippines. He was in turn special aid to Major-Gen. Frederick Grant, to Governor-General A. Cameron Forbes of the Philippines, to Secretary of War Dickinson on a tour of France, Germany and Russia in 1911, to Secretary of War Baker and to Gen. Scott.

WADSWORTH SHAKEUP.

Seven New York Regiments Severed From 27th Division.

SPARTANBURG, S. C., Jan. 4.—An order was issued yesterday relieving the First, Tenth, Twelfth, Fourteenth, Forty-seventh, Seventy-first and Seventy-fourth regiments of New York infantry from further duty with the Twenty-seventh Division.

Commanding officers of these organizations were instructed to report to Brig.-Gen. Guy Carleton, commanding the provisional depot for the training of troops.

The order is further evidence of the plans of the War Department for the building up of these units by the addition of troops from the New York draft. While there is nothing official it is indicated that men may come here from States other than New York.

GUNS ACTIVE IN NORTH ITALY.

Enemy Aircraft Again Bombard Padua and Treviso.

ROME, Jan. 4.—The statement issued by the Italian War Department to-day follows:

"Yesterday in the mountain zone we made concentrations of fire in the Lagarina Valley, on Col della Berretta and in the Cismon region. There was increased activity of the enemy's batteries against our positions on Monte Tonalino, to the east of Lake Garda and against our lines of communication on Monte Pallone and Monte Tomba.

"French patrols captured prisoners on Monfenera, and the British artillery did very successful counter battery work to the west of Mosnigo.

"In the coastal zone there were frequent bursts of artillery fire and patrol encounters occurred on both sides to the east of Cavazucherena. One hostile airplane was downed by a British airman, and another one by our fire.

"Last night enemy aircraft made raids between the Piave and Bacchiglioni and numerous bombs were dropped on inhabitated towns, including Treviso and Padua. In the former there were no casualties and only slight damage. In Padua some fires occurred and several private buildings were damaged.

Depot Blown Up; 2,000 Killed.

STOCKHOLM, Jan. 4.—A Haparanda despatch to the *Tidningen* says that the munitions depot on the Russian southwestern front was blown up recently and that all buildings within a radius of a mile and a half were destroyed. Two trains loaded with Cossacks on the way to the Don district were wrecked, causing the death of 2,000 men.

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CABINET SEAT URGED FOR MUNITIONS HEAD

Bills Creating New Department Introduced in Both Senate and House.

COORDINATION AIMED AT

Schwab and Stettinius Suggested for Place—Defence Council May Be Curbed.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—The movement for a greater coordination of the work of supplying the army with materials of equipment, subsistence and actual fighting force manifested itself to-day in Congress. In the Senate Senator Chamberlain, Democrat, chairman of the Committee on Military Affairs, introduced the committee's bill for the creation of a Department of Munitions with portfolio in the Cabinet, and in the House Mr. Towner, Republican, Iowa, presented two similar measures, one to create a Department of Munitions and the other to create a Department of Supplies.

The Senate Military Committee to a man, regardless of party affiliations, stands back of the Chamberlain bill. A favorable report to the Senate is reported certain. Its passage in record time is practically assured, as the Democratic members of the Military Committee are as desirous of solving the present difficulties and unravelling the tangle of red tape as are their Republican colleagues. The ultimate fate of the measure will probably rest in the House, where the least show of Presidential opposition undoubtedly would succeed in defeating it.

Two men who are being prominently mentioned in Congressional circles as the type to head the new department if created are Edward Stettinius of J. P. Morgan & Co., who was the British purchasing agent here, and Charles M. Schwab.

Purpose Explained.

"The bill is intended to increase and expedite the supply of munitions of war," said Senator Chamberlain. "One great trouble with the war establishment as disclosed by the investigation has been a lack of coordination and the seeming impossibility of getting rid of circuitous methods of doing business. Until there can be coordination and methods more direct the United States will be groping in the dark for many months before we can place ourselves in proper fighting trim.

"This measure places all jurisdiction over munitions of war which is defined at length in the bill—and covering everything in one person known as the Secretary of Munitions; subject to the direction, of course, of the President. It coordinates all the bureaus, cuts red tape, does away with useless decisions which had tended only to hamper direct action and gets to the heart of the whole situation.

"I believe if Congress can see its way to the enactment of this measure and the proper man is placed at the head of the Department of Munitions America will soon be occupying its proper place at the battle front. It will be noted that the measure is only in force during the continuance of the war which brings it into existence."

Strikes at Defence Council.

A corollary of the Chamberlain bills which represents the views of Senator McKellar also was introduced in the Senate. It has not been submitted to other members of the Military Committee, and Senator McKellar is its individual sponsor. In it he proposed to amend existing law defining the power of the advisory board of the Council of National Defence by drastic action against participation by any member of such commission in contracts made by the Government. In part it said: "Provided that under no circumstances shall such advisory committee or any employee thereof be connected with or interested in any contract made by the Government for any supplies, nor shall said advisory committee or any member thereof make any recommendations as to contracts, prices, sellers or purchasers in connection with any supply department of the Government."

Senator McKellar's proposed amendment was also aimed at the "dollar a year patriots" now in the service of the Council of National Defence and other Government departments. It said: "Section 3.—It is hereby declared to be unlawful for any person to be employed in any of the executive departments or by any of the various boards or committees of the Government at a nominal salary or to give their services free. Every person employed by the Government shall be employed at a fixed salary, which salary shall be reasonable for the services performed. The system of advisory committees and boards where the members thereof purport to serve the Government without compensation or for nominal compensation in vogue in some of the departments is hereby prohibited.

"Any person violating this act shall be fined not less than $1,000 nor more than $5,000 and be imprisoned not less than one year nor more than five years."

T. R. FOR BUREAU TO END WAR GRAFTING

Suggests Charity Control at Washington—Pre-Election Fund Publicity Favored.

Col. Theodore Roosevelt at his home in Oyster Bay yesterday authorized a statement of his opinions in regard to the investigation which District Attorney Swann is making into the charity grafting and the Fusion campaign fund. The statement was made following an interview by Edwin P. Kilroe, Assistant District Attorney, on Thursday afternoon. The Colonel's statement as quoted by Mr. Kilroe in part says:

"It would be worth considering whether we ought not to have a central bureau in Washington with branch agencies in the big cities of the country. Then no society could be started until those organizing it and soliciting the funds got a character certificate from this bureau, and it would be the right and duty of the bureau from time to time, not merely when complaint was made, but on its own initiative as well, to investigate the financial management of every society so as to find out exactly the conditions under which the money was raised, how much was raised, what representations were made to the public in raising it and how the money was expended. Of every dollar raised for these purposes all but a very few cents should be used for the purposes for which the funds are collected and a few cents only should be spent for actual ministerial work in getting the money to where it will serve the end because of which it is subscribed."

In response to a question from Mr. Kilroe as to what Col. Roosevelt's views were as regards legislation concerning campaign contributions and expenses, the Colonel said:

"I should suppose that we should have in the State a law for the publication of campaign contributions and disbursements in advance of the election. The publication might be made five days before election and at the same time something in the nature of a budget made up for the remaining five days, with provisions for the examination, perhaps by judicial officers, of the accounts of the parties after election in order to see that the pre-election statements were in accordance with the facts. The violation of the law should, of course, be made a serious offense."

RURAL GERMANY ALSO HUNGRY

Suffering There Is Nearly as Great as in Cities.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN *from the London Times.*

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AMSTERDAM, Jan. 4.—While the populations of the large cities of Germany are uttering loud complaints of insufficient supplies of indispensable foodstuffs, the conservative Berlin *Richsbote* declares that dwellers in the country districts and small towns are suffering also severely. It says:

"Besides rations of bread and potatoes, dwellers in the country and in the small towns receive every fortnight only 200 grammes of meat (a little less than half a pound), and often not even this. For growing children there is no possibility of getting anything in place of meat. There is not even a regular supply of jam."

The correspondent says the lack of food suitable for children, especially of milk for babies, forces parents to see them pine away.

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