

NATIONAL GUARD ORDERED TO FILL RANKS AT ONCE

Units to Be Recruited to Peace Strength of Regular Army

By Associated Press
Washington, April 12.—Army department commanders have been ordered to resume recruiting National Guards organizations to the peace strength of the regular army, one hundred men to the company. Many companies now have as low as sixty-five men.

A War Department statement was issued today to make plain that the National Guard recruiting had not been discontinued.

"Such an impression is not correct," the statement says, "and department commanders have been informed that National Guard organizations may be recruited to the maximum peace strength of the regular army."

Look to Congress
Recruiting of the guard to peace strength will not be undertaken until Congress has authorized the emergency enlistment contract, to hold during the war. Otherwise the government is obligated to oblige themselves to six years' service in the guard, irrespective of the present emergency. It is felt this would be unfair to men who wish to volunteer for the war only.

No decision has yet been announced as to the possibility that the states may increase their number of units to the full quota authorized by the National Defense Act. If every state took that step twelve full divisions of the National Guard would be available with a peace strength of 400,000 enlisted men and a war strength of approximately 650,000. Many additional officers would be required, however, to organize new units and that may result in delaying this element of mobilization.

24 PROPERTIES IN NEWVILLE FIRE

Early Morning Blaze in Lower Section of Town Destroys Dwellings and Stables

Newville, Pa., April 12.—A destructive fire broke out in the lower section of Newville about 1.15 o'clock this morning and destroyed eleven dwelling houses, eleven stables, a blacksmith shop and a garage, causing a loss of \$10,000 or \$12,000. The alarm was given and the Friendship Fire Company quickly responded with their auto fire engine purchased last August at a cost of \$5,800. The firemen fought hard, but as all the buildings were frame the fire spread rapidly. Help was asked from Carlisle and the auto engine of the Union Fire Company was sent to the scene, making the run in quick time. The Carlisle firemen aided materially in preventing further spread of the flames.

The properties destroyed were dwellings in Corporation street owned as follows: Three properties of the Skinner estate, double house of Mrs. Jacob Boyles, and homes of Robert Hackett, William Boyles, Elder Nehf, Daniel Heffelfinger and Fred Clark and the Elliott property. Stables burned on Cove alley were as follows: Large livery stable of D. N. Huntsberger, in rear of Central Hotel; smaller stables of D. H. Heller, Mrs. Myers, Dr. E. W. Rensberg, George Brown, the Woodburn estate, Charles Koons and George Kyle. The new automobile garage of D. H. Heller was also destroyed, as was the blacksmith shop of Robert Hackett.

This was the first fire at which the new auto fire apparatus was in service and it did excellent work.

DISMISS GERMAN LABOR

Newark, N. J., April 12.—The Public Service Electric Company, which controls electric lighting in Newark and the neighborhood, has granted leave of absence to 54 employees, natives of Germany and Austria. The company announced today that it construed the President's proclamation regarding the presence of alien enemies on or near properties of military or naval installations as applying to electric powerplants.

NO IMPROVEMENT IN PAPER PROBLEM

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The Fourth Estate, an authoritative newspaper magazine, states that there continues to be a shrinkage of newspaper enrollment—a steady decline of the sum total of paper due to consolidation as well as discontinuances. Biweeklies and triweeklies are returning to the weekly field in order to reduce news print consumption.

Private advices from Washington indicate that there has been no let-up in the effort to compel some sort of agreement that will enable newspapers to live. Manufacturers of paper report trouble from labor and car shortage and these factors make still more difficult an already serious situation.

All Big Papers at 2 Cents

Under date of April 7 the Fourth Estate observes that a great deal of discussion has taken place in all large cities regarding the advisability of one cent papers going to two cents to meet the present high cost. A report from the American Newspaper Publishers' Association declares that the present forecast on paper conditions for 1918 is worse than experienced in 1917. This report states further that other materials will also be seriously affected so that it may be that every publisher will be faced with conditions he had not contemplated. All the Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Baltimore and practically all of the important papers of Pennsylvania have gone to two cents within the last six months.

BIG WAR COUNCIL TO SHAPE POLICY

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and France. The State Department announced it expects the arrival within ten days of a British delegation, headed by Foreign Minister Arthur J. Balfour, representing the navy, General Bridges, representing the army, and the governor of the Bank of England. It was learned authoritatively also that a French commission, headed by M. Viviani, minister of justice, and former premier, will arrive about the same time.

The conferences will take up such questions as the steady supply of munitions and foods to the entente allies.

lies, the proposed \$3,000,000,000 loan, naval co-operation, military participation of the United States, readjustment of diplomatic relations between the United States and the entente nations, relations with the remaining neutrals and future peace terms.

Plan Co-operation

Although as a result of the conferences a concert of action to effect the most thorough military and naval co-operation is certain, it is felt that the discussion will not change the United States' traditional policy of not entering into European alliances.

Naval co-operation is understood to contemplate the policing of all North and South American waters by the American navy, allowing the return of the British and French vessels engaged in that work, and the safeguarding by American ships of at least part of the sea lane to Europe. Whether the latter will necessitate the actual sending of American warcraft to the other side has not been announced, but if it does, arrangements already have been made to offer the port of Brest, in France, as an American naval base.

Not to Send Army

The military participation of the United States also probably will be discussed in broad terms, though it is realized on all sides that this country will not attempt to send an army to Europe for the present. The military situation of this country is well understood by officials abroad. There is, however, an intense desire on the part of the general public in the entente countries to see a small division of American troops at the front.

The complete reversal of American relations to the entente powers through the abandonment of neutrality in favor of war will necessitate an entire readjustment of the country's diplomatic situation.

RECEPTION FOR NEW PASTOR

Grace Methodist Episcopal Church will give a reception for the new pastor and his wife, Dr. and Mrs. Robert Bagwell, this evening, at 8 o'clock, in the Sunday school room. The general committee and the sub-committee have been working hard on the arrangements, and a capacity attendance is expected. The decorations will carry out a patriotic scheme, and ferns, palms and Easter lilies will be used in profusion. The new district superintendent, Dr. Morris Swartz, and the Methodist pastors of the city and vicinity have been invited as special guests of the occasion. The reception line will consist of Dr. and Mrs. Bagwell and the official members of the church and their wives. The Central Mandolin orchestra will furnish the music, and refreshments will be served.

FEAR EDDYSTONE BLAST WAS PLOT

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ment of G. Chal Port, State Fire Marshal, who is also conducting an investigation into the explosion, declared there is no evidence of a plot. He advances two theories as to the cause. One is that an accidental "flare up" of black powder in the east end of "E" building caused a general explosion. The other is that an accidental ignition of loose black powder in one of the four troughs on the base loading tables sent that portion of the plant afire and caused the shrapnel shells to explode.

Run Down Rumors

Police investigation of the probable cause has developed nothing tangible, police officials now devoting themselves to running down the myriad "rumors" that have flourished since the disaster. There remains one other inquiry, that of operations of the Department of Justice and these agents are making no statements, pursuant to the policy of their department since the United States entered the world war. In spite of the plot theory, Captain M. W. Wilhelm, general manager of the munition factory, points out the improbability of three accidental explosions occurring within a few seconds of each other. There is the possibility that the concussion of the first produced the two following blasts, he says, but this is regarded lightly by the explosive experts familiar with conditions in the ruined buildings.

Many Workers Warned

It was said that a plotter with several confederates could have caused the explosions by dropping capsules of acid into several of the three-inch shells. The time it would take for the acid to eat its way through the gelatine capsules, it was stated, would have given the plotters sufficient time to leave the doomed plant.

Other points in support of the plot theory are the warnings that numerous munition workers are said to have received, bidding them to quit their occupations as the plant was to be blown up within a month after the United States declared that a state of war existed with the Imperial German Government.

Experts to-day are analyzing powder in the shrapnel shells at the works of the Eddystone Ammunition Corporation, with the hope of estab-

lishing beyond doubt the cause of the series of explosions. These experts are from the Du Pont Powder Company. They worked all night, and continued their investigation to-day, assisted by the Eddystone concern's authorities.

There is a theory that if a plot existed, as officials of the plant maintain, an acid capsule might have been dropped into a shell in the charging room. The investigation by the experts includes a probe into the possibility of a defect in the explosives with which the shells were loaded.

GOLDSMITH FIRM OBSERVES ANNIVERSARY WITH BANQUET

Employees of the Goldsmith Furniture Store last evening celebrated the thirty-sixth anniversary of the establishment of the firm. Yesterday was also the thirty-third year since A. G. Shantz has been associated with the firm. A large bouquet of flowers was presented to Joseph Goldsmith as a token of his employees' esteem. Those present were A. G. Shantz, George S. Heiges, Robert McCombs, Chester Hale, James Platt, G. A. Bergstresser, Fred Herman, G. J. Rettman, H. E. Moyer, Miss Mary Baker, Miss Sadie Ulrich, Miss Pearl Johnston, Miss Almada Swartz, M. Lee Goldsmith and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Goldsmith.

Expect First Three Chemical Wagons to Be Shipped in Month

The first of the additional motorized apparatus for the city fire department is expected to be shipped to the city within a month, Commissioner Gross announced this morning.

The pieces will be three of the six chemical and hose wagons which have been contracted for. Tractors for the Citizens, Paxton and Susquehanna engines may be received in a few days and will be attached at once. The two triple-combination pumpers are expected July 1, and the Good Will engine early in June.

MOTORCYCLIST HITS ROLLER

Charles Peace, 175 South Front street, Steelton, lost control of a motorcycle upon which he was riding at noon to-day, and crashed into a steam roller of the City Highway Department, on Third street near Market. He was taken into a barbershop nearby and first aid treatment was given, after which he was removed to the Harrisburg Hospital, where it was found that he received several lacerations on his legs. He later went to his home.

BRITISH DRIVE HOME SMASHING BLOWS

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erable gain of ground was effected south, taking the French to the southwestern edge of the upper Coucy forest.

There is every evidence that this attack was carefully prepared by extensive artillery fire and there would be little surprise if it developed into a continuous offensive.

French Straighten Lines

The dent in the French line caused by the German attack in the Champagne some time ago has now been completely straightened out. Paris reports the position re-established intact by means of a sharp attack delivered east of Sapiigneul.

Advices from Rio Janeiro indicate the expectation there that Brazil will rest for the present on the severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, not issuing a declaration of war in the immediate future at least.

Germans Deplore Losses in Battle With British But Minimize Importance

By Associated Press
Copenhagen, April 12.—The battle of Arras in the opinion of the German press is an event of only local importance, lamentable it is true, but already brought to a standstill and not affecting in any degree the strategic condition. It is interpreted by general consent as part of the plan of the Anglo-French command, foiled in its intentions of delivering a shattering blow on the Somme front, to roll up the new Hindenburg line by assaults on both flanks at Soissons and Arras.

Both attempts are already described as failures, despite regrettable losses in men and probably guns. The British official reports are given scanty notice and are printed in inconspicuous type without headlines. The censorship authorities in Germany are said to have assured that the reading public generally should be confident in Field Marshal Von Hindenburg's leadership.

An interview between the field marshal and a Spanish correspondent is given prominence by the German press and shares headline honors with the battle of Arras. In the interview Von Hindenburg avows his confidence in the firmness of the German fronts on the west and east and expresses a conviction that the submarine campaign will not fail. It has had an effect on public opinion where the field marshal still bulks large as a confidence inspiring hero. The interview was evidently launched to counteract any feeling of discouragement at the growing dimensions of what the Vorwaerts terms "a world league for the destruction of Germany."

Lloyd George Declares Kaiser Is Right in His Forecast of Democracy

By Associated Press
London, April 12.—Addressing the American Luncheon Club to-day Premier Lloyd George said the advent of the United States into the war had given the final stamp and seal to the character of the conflict which was a struggle against military autocracy.

The premier said he was not surprised that America had taken time to make up her mind as to the character of the struggle, having regard to the fact that most of the great wars in Europe in the past had been waged for dynasty aggrandizement and conquest.

Early in the war, Lloyd George continued, the United States did not comprehend what had been endured in Europe for years from the military caste in Prussia. Saying that Prussia was not a democracy but that Emperor William had promised it would be after the war, he added: "I think the Kaiser is right."

War's Greatest Battle About to Begin, British Military Director Says

By Associated Press
London, April 12.—That the Arras conflict will develop shortly into the greatest battle of the war was the prediction made by Major General F. E. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the War Office, in his weekly interview with the Associated Press to-day.

General Maurice declared the present British offensive was being conducted according to plans completed in February, thereby controverting the claims of the Germans that their retreat had upset the British schedule and that the Teutonic military authorities control the situation.

The British losses during the first two days of the offensive were only half what they had been in the corresponding time in the Somme offensive, General Maurice declared.

A. Strick's

Removal Sale

Tomorrow we commence our great Removal Sale and one which will go down in the mercantile history of this city as one of the greatest value-giving events ever held.

We are compelled to move to our new building by May 1st and must therefore dispose of the larger portion of our enormous stocks of Millinery and Ladies' Suits, Coats, Dresses, Waists, etc., before the end of this month. All of which is but a matter of days.

This great Removal Sale affords every economy-loving person a rare opportunity for saving for the reason that it occurs at the beginning of a new season when stocks are fresh and new and selection best.

To miss this great event is to miss the real money-saving sale of Ladies' outer garments of the year.

Now at
Fourth and
Market Sts.

After May 1st
at
308 Market St.



Our Regular \$25 Coats are now \$19.50

At this price we include every material in every desired shade—all sizes. No matter what style you may want, we have a coat here for you at this price. Some coats are worth even more than \$25. See these—they're extraordinary values.

Coats Worth \$20 & \$22.50 are \$15.00

In this assemblage we present the greatest values possible at their former values—coats in navy, black, gold, green, rose and covert—all splendidly tailored and handsome styles that will appeal to all. Specially priced for this great Removal Sale at \$15.00.

Such High Grade Suits as These Will Never be Lower in Price

Highest Grade Suits \$35.00	Suits Formerly \$25.00	\$25 and \$27.50 Suits \$19.50
\$45, \$50 and \$60 Are Now	Values to \$40 Are	Are Marked at . . .

Suits of poplin, serge, gabardine, Burrella cloth, velour, Poirer twills and mixtures—suits made by the country's best tailors; all brand new stocks—suits that cannot be surpassed for exclusiveness of style or superiority of fabric or tailoring—in navy, black, gray, beige, Copen, green and rookie. Your unrestricted choice at \$35.00.

Many new tailored models are included in this lot that were exceptional values at their former prices and at these Removal Sale prices are wonderful values—and will go fast, too. All shades, including navy and black—all sizes. Make it a point to see these exceptional suits at this price, \$25.

EXTRA SPECIAL

SERGE COATS in navy and black, from our new spring models. Regularly \$10; specially priced for our Removal Sale at NONE EXCHANGED—NONE LAID AWAY

\$5.00

SPECIAL WAIST OFFERING

New Georgette crepe and crepe de chine waists in gold, orchid, shadow lawn, peach, rose, white, maize, flesh and black. Regularly \$6.00 and \$7.00. Specially priced for our Removal Sale at

\$4.98