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THE SIZE OF THE ARMY.

The two branches of congress are engaged in a squabble as to how large the standing army of the United States should be. The house wants a regular organization comprising a regular army of 220,000. The difference is 80,000 men—about two of the units that European armies are measured by.

Eighty thousand men make a large body of individuals but eighty thousand soldiers do not cut much of a figure in modern wars. Regrettable as it may be, eighty thousand men are but a drop in the bucket of what would be needed in case of a stern conflict between this nation and some first class power.

So it can readily be seen that the squabble in congress is not of much importance. It really does not make much difference which plan is adopted or whether a compromise is agreed upon. In any case, the standing army of the United States will be entirely inadequate to defend this country in case of war.

Bearing that fact in mind, the size of the standing army becomes important merely as regards the needs of the country during times of peace. In such times, the army need be but large enough to man the national defenses and keep the organization intact.

The small army of the United States has been adequate up to the present time to meet all requirements since the Spanish-American war. It should be apparent to all, that in a nation which prides itself on being democratic, the smaller the army of paid professional soldiers, the better it will be.

A standing army of one hundred thousand men could easily fulfill the ordinary peace requirements of the country. And, as in any event, the standing army would be merely a nucleus for a war army, it must be seen that a standing army of even 220,000 men would not be much greater value in time of war, than would the smaller army. Both would be completely lost amidst the masses of volunteers.

Summing it up then, we find that a standing army is essentially a peace army. When war threatens, volunteers must be called for whether the standing army is as small as it is today or as large as the senate seeks to make it.

The matter of relative costs to make it. The matter of relative costs to make it. The matter of relative costs to make it. The matter of relative costs to make it.

As it is now, congress is fussing about 80,000 men and ignoring the one, two, three, four or five million that would be needed in the event of war. Congress is building a few more warships, adding a few motor trucks to the army equipment, buying a few more mules but doing nothing toward industrial preparedness.

Oh, for a broader vision among the men in whose keeping is the nation's future.

USING THE MILITARY RIFLE.

Military rifle shooting, after a certain degree of skill has been attained, is a fascinating sport. There is a peculiar joy in "bringing up the white

SUPERVISOR

I am a candidate for member of board of supervisors on republican ticket, term beginning January 1, 1917, subject to June primary.

Fred M. Manro

A Citizen Army

By Frederic J. Haskin

Philadelphia, Pa., May 9.—Philadelphia is mobilizing. While most of the nation is discussing preparedness, Philadelphia has ten thousand men ready. In theory at least, to take the field. When the recent Sussex crisis arose with Germany, the leaders of the local army wired Secretary Baker that their ten thousand stood behind him.

The organization is formally known as the Philadelphia citizen army and intends eventually to recruit up to a strength of 48,000. Moreover, in the large plans which inspire the founders Philadelphia's corps is to be only the nucleus of a national citizen army of a million men.

Locally people speak of the corps as "Drexel Biddle's Citizen Army" or more familiarly as "Biddle's Army." Therein lies the whole story. For this is a unique army, a paradoxical army, as one Philadelphia citizen yet it gets more men than the national guard. It is a rich man's army, yet in some ways it is an ideal army for a poor man to join.

The army had its birth in A. J. Drexel Biddle's brain. He is a figure pretty well known to American newspaper readers, his exploits as an amateur boxer combined with his sudden determination to found a world-wide chain of bible classes having given material for much picturesque "copy." Less well known perhaps, is the fact that his bible classes have been much talked about until they number 150,000 members. Now he is pushing his army in something the same way.

The original idea of the corps, and the idea that still animates its leaders, was simply to "show congress that it can be done." Several months ago it became apparent that the country wanted preparedness, but the powers that be seemed unable to decide just where to begin and what to do. Philadelphia's citizen army is in the nature of a concrete suggestion, a laboratory demonstration of how citizen armies are built.

Being well endowed with this world's goods and in close touch with men of wealth, Mr. Biddle was in a position to put his ideas into practice. He wanted to get the rank and file of Philadelphia out and give them military training, somewhat after the Swiss or the Australian fashion, without interfering with their regular work. If the citizens of Philadelphia really wanted an army corps, was the implication, let them come out and form one, without waiting for instructions from authority.

At first it looked as if they didn't want one. After lengthy negotiations a number of officers were loaned by the government to act as drill masters. Thousands of recruiting circulars were sent around explaining the scheme, and setting the first meeting at Lansdowne, a country place near Philadelphia. Thousands of dollars were spent to get publicity. Front page advertisements were inserted in the newspapers. When the day arrived, it found Mr. Biddle at Lansdowne with ten officers. The recruits were there too—as many as sixteen of them.

The new army was apparently a fiasco. It looked like failure. But Mr. Biddle remembered his bible class experience, when he had started with four men. He looked over the sixteen recruits, and they were a heterogeneous collection, especially from the religious point of view. There were three Jews, four Roman Catholics, an Episcopalian, two, and members of several Protestant denominations. Nevertheless, the aggregation were called on to start the army by saying the Lord's prayer. This they did, and the first drill was postponed while the recruiting campaign went on.

Before long the tide began to turn, and enough men came out to start the drilling. After two weeks, names were pouring in, until now, as stated before, the corps numbers ten thousand, with a fair prospect of getting the 48,000 set for a goal.

The corps consists in bi-weekly drills with strenuous week-end drilling at Lansdowne. Saturday and Sunday are devoted to the latter, and into these two days the men in charge are contriving to cram twenty-eight hours of military practice of one kind or another. Tents, food and equipment are furnished.

In the matter of meeting expenses, the corps is calling on the wealthy men of Philadelphia. A campaign has just been launched to raise \$500,000 to cover the cost of prospective expansion. The theory is that each recruit disc" (the signal for a bull's eye) at a thousand yards that is not just like anything else in the world, though akin to the soul satisfying smack of a well struck ball. There is no short-cut to proficiency, however, and the recruit is put through the various stages of position and aiming drill, sighting practice, sub-target machine, and gallery practice before he gets out on the range and begins with service charges at full size targets.

Here he commences at two hundred yards, slow fire, then goes through the rapid fire—five shots in thirty seconds—and works his way through the longer ranges for the higher qualifications. He learns the effect of changing light and wind, gets really acquainted with his rifle and its sights, and knows the cussedness of the dancing mirage that comes on hot afternoons. Toward the end of the season he begins to "call his shots" and thinks of trying for a substitute's place on the regimental team next year. Incidentally he has breathed a lot of fresh air, gained better control of his nerves and made himself a better citizen.—May Outing.

shall pay for as much as he can, or will. If he is in good circumstances, he can take care of all his own expenses, get his military training, and do his duty as a citizen. If he is some one equally willing but too poor to go to any extra expense, the corps will do it for him.

It is claimed for such a system that it is based on real justice. Men of wealth have most at stake in case of war. They have more to lose in disaster, most to protect under any circumstances. It is no more than their duty that they should come forward with the money to equip defenders, if the defenders are willing to give their time, which is all they have, toward making themselves efficient. Moreover, wealth comes to most men late in life, when they are past the fighting age. They can do their share by helping some youth with a smaller bank account to learn to handle a rifle.

Many large employers of labor have been won over. There is one detachment of the corps which consists of 1,200 bakers. All these bakers come from a single big bakery, and their uniforms are furnished them by their employer. Several of the department stores have uniformed as many of their employees as cared to join. One jewelry store has sixty-four uniformed men in the field.

Recruiting is still going on actively. Sometimes as many as a hundred men join in a day. To stimulate interest, a unique exhibit has been set on the ground floor of one of the big downtown office buildings. It includes all sorts of souvenirs of the European war, in the shape of helmets, rifles, big ugly looking shells, a model camp, an airplane, even the somewhat discouraging figure of a wounded soldier attended by a pretty Red Cross nurse. This last, however, is a part of the contribution of the Pennsylvania women's division for national preparedness, which is cooperating in the exhibition as are half a dozen other organizations of kindred purpose, such as the state division of the Navy League.

In spite of the fact that it is by way of being protegee of wealth and society, the citizen army is democratic. The men who are backing it are in dead earnest, and efficiency is the one sticking. Some young scions of Philadelphia's first families are serving in the ranks, under the command of men who work at a trade. One of the best captains in the organization spends his working hours laying bricks.

The obligation incurred by the man who signs his name as a recruit are of course less definite than those he undertakes to fulfill when joining the national guard. He is not pledged to any course of action except that he promises to defend his country, and to work faithfully at acquiring a military training. Nevertheless, the leaders of the corps believe firmly that their men can be counted on in any contingency that may arise, as witness their telegram to the secretary of war.

The unique feature of the citizen army is the use it has made of the resources of men of wealth. By paying all expenses for those who can not pay their own, even down to making good a loss of salary when an employer will not give time off without taking it out of the pay envelope, the system puts military training within reach of anybody who wants it. It has put the question of preparedness squarely up to the citizen himself, leaving him to answer it in an unmistakable way of his own actions.

The citizen army hopes to grow until it is a national organization. Plans are already made for starting corps in many other cities, among them Baltimore, Washington and Pittsburgh. In each new city the same double problem will have to be faced that was solved in Philadelphia—first how to arouse the people, and second how to secure the cooperation of men of means. The ultimate goal is an organization a million strong, covering the country.

The men who want that corps have no particular desire to keep it in their own hands. They want preparedness. They are willing to work with anybody who is working for preparedness, ready to affiliate with anything that promises to further the end. They ask nothing better than to have their corps taken over by the government. They believe that what the country really wants is a non-militaristic citizen army. They are trying to show that it can be done.

upon the site of the old one. Its owner chose this location in order that his home might be surrounded by the trees, some of which are many years old. They were too close together to permit the house being taken out between them so he spent several hundred dollars upon the erection of jacks high enough to raise the house over them without injury to their tops.

Hudson Maxim says: "During the past twenty-five years, I have worked diligently for national defense, and during the past two years I have devoted nine-tenths of my time and many thousands of dollars to the cause, and though it has been freely stated that I have been supported in my work by the munition companies, not a single munition concern has ever helped me one cent or contributed one dollar to my work."

Congress seems inclined to favor a provision that cuts a lot of the pork out of the food control bill. It is a provision to require local participation in projects that are mainly of local benefit. For instance if a levee is built, the people whose land will be benefited will have to pay half the cost.

After the furnace fire is discontinued for the summer, it ought to be a crime to permit your house to catch fire. In ninety-nine cases out of a hundred a fire in a home at this time of the year is due to pure carelessness or negligence.

A millionaire has accepted the appointment of chief of police in Cedar

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Remember Date, Monday, May 15

and All Week at

BASE BALL PARK

Heights, Iowa. Maybe there is method in his madness. The chief's house should be pretty well guarded from thieves.

Switzerland utilizes a greater proportion of her available water power than any other nation, having harnessed about 700,000 of the 1,200,000 horsepower provided by the streams.

Various charitable societies in the city of Des Moines have decided to get office quarters together so that they will be better able to work in harmony.

Dinner stories

"People do seem to have lost their senses for good and all," said a farmer, "to go traipsing over a field hour after hour knockin' little golf balls over hillocks and into holes."

"Not a bit of it," said his more sophisticated neighbor. "That there game ain't so silly as it looks. There's a chance for a rare bit of cheatin' in it, I'm told!"

"Mary." Father's voice rolled down the stairs into the dim and silent parlor.

"Ask that young man if he has the time." A moment of silence.

"Yes, George has his watch with him."

"Then ask him what is the time."

"He says it is 11:48, papa."

"Then ask him if he doesn't think it about bedtime."

"Another moment of silence."

"He says, papa," the silvery voice announced impersonally "he says that he rarely goes to bed before 1, but it seems to him that it is a matter of personal preference here, and that if he were in your place he would go now if he felt sleepy."—Harper's Bazar.

A young woman who does a bit in the line of verse recently received the following note from a magazine editor:

"Dear Madam: The verses entitled 'The Kiss' are extremely clever. Can you assure me that they are original?"

Whereupon the fair writer answered: "Sir: Not quite. 'The Kiss' was a collaboration."

PEOPLE'S PULPIT

Articles submitted for publication in this column, should not exceed five hundred words. If longer, no assurance can be given as to when they will appear.

Editor The Courier: Since, according to the great Frenchman, Henri M. Fabre, "the last word of wisdom might well be, to know how not to know," it is possible that even so great and wise an authority as Elihu Root, might happen to know some "of the things," that Josh Billings said "ain't so." Mr. Root seems able to be better satisfied with the protection given to the natural rights of women and children by constituted conditions, past and present, than I think he is justified in by the facts. In that day, foretold by the bible, when no man shall know God (or good) for another, women, as human beings, neither inferior nor superior, will be given the opportunity to find their place in the "economy of nature and society," which, Mr. Root to the contrary, I do not think they

have so far. There is of course the woman "of the sheltered life." Mr. Root's tradition, memory and possession have reference to this class of women. They may keep apart from the struggle, strife, contention, bitterness he speaks of, but what of the great body of women, who face life as it is, surrounded by no artificial social barriers. Mr. Root is undoubtedly a chivalrous, sincere man, but it seems to me he is somewhat sentimental. To be able to make so absolute a statement, as that strife hardens women, no exceptions mind you, indicates something of narrowness and dogmatism in his attitude. He deprecates the idea that a sense of inferiority could possibly color his feelings towards women, but isn't woman inferior, if she must be protected against herself by man? The following is taken from an article in the Atlantic:

One of the wisest sayings uttered on this ancient earth was Josh Billings' after hour knockin' little golf balls over hillocks and into holes."

Des Moines, May 11—Attorney General George Cosson, candidate for the republican nomination for governor before the June primaries has issued a statement in reply to Senator Allen's recent charge that Cosson was a party to an agreement that if he would stay out of the 1914 election he would receive the support of Governor Clarke's friends in 1916. Cosson says there is not a semblance of truth in the statement. His statement follows:

ATTORNEY GENERAL DISCUSSES HIS FELLOW CANDIDATE'S RECENT STATEMENT.

The press dispatches of May 3 contain this statement: "Senator Allen openly accuses Cosson of being a party to an agreement entered into two years ago with friends of Governor Clarke by which the office of governor was bartered away to Cosson upon his promise to withhold entrance into the gubernatorial race in 1914."

From the beginning I have realized that Senator Allen and myself had a number of mutual friends and supporters and that in a broad way we had much the same following. I have therefore overlooked many statements made by the senator and some of his managers, believing that no good could be accomplished by controversies of this nature of a personal nature and that such controversies would be pleasing alone to the liquor forces and the candidate of their choice, but I felt that Senator Allen's inexcusable and unwarranted attack against Governor Clarke's friends, which indirectly casts a cloud upon the governor himself, should not go unanswered.

There is not a semblance of truth in the statement that I made any agreement directly or indirectly with the friends of Governor Clarke whereby I was to receive the support from the governor's friends for the office of governor at the June primary, 1916, in consideration that I refrain from being a candidate against the governor at the last primary election. More than that I was never so much as approached by a single person in Governor Clarke's interest with the request that I refuse to run against the governor for the customary second term.

I believe I have a sense of the fitness

COSSON REPLIES TO SEN. ALLEN

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twenty miles an hour, but felt that he could save money by boarding four days with the county.

MAY TREAT GUEST.

Nevada, May 11.—A man has a right to treat a guest to a drink of liquor. This is a ruling made by Judge R. M. Wright of the Eleventh judicial district, in the case of the state of Iowa vs. George Hoover. Hoover was charged with violation of the liquor laws of Iowa in the giving of liquor to a guest at his home. The court found for the defendant and denied the injunction asked by the state.

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