

## NEXT DRAFT DATE STILL INDEFINITE SAYS BAKER

### Expansion of American Forces Depends Upon Events Abroad and Shipping Situation

### BILLS APPROVED FOR REGISTERING

### Crowder Proposes New Drawing to Fix Order of Liability of Those 21 Since Last June

Washington, Jan. 29.—Expansion of America's fighting forces beyond their present strength depends upon such factors as events abroad and the shipping situation, Secretary Baker said tonight in disclosing that the War Department has not fixed a date for another draft, nor even determined how many men shall be called.

When Mr. Baker told the Senate military committee that the United States would have a million men in France early this year, and that in all a million and a half could go across if ships could be found to carry them, he referred to the divisions now in training camps and those already in Europe. Future developments will decide what additional forces will be sent.

### The Second Draft

The Secretary made clear today his opinion that, if events made it necessary to call more than another increment of half a million men, the Executive's authority to draft men for fighting units other than reserve, would be exhausted and further legislation by Congress would be necessary. He said, however, that under the authority to call two increments of line soldiers of 500,000 each, and such additional numbers for recruit battalions and special units "as the President may deem necessary," the second draft might bring out in all as many as a million men.

### Legislation Approved

The Senate committee today tentatively approved legislation proposed by the War Department to provide for the registration of youths attaining the age of twenty-one years on June 5, authorizing the fixing of quotas on the basis of class 1 of the new classification and empowering the President to call men needed for special industrial or other work.

Provost Marshal Gen. Crowder appearing to explain the bills told the committee it was proposed to hold a new drawing to establish the order of liability of the new registrants. When the new men have been given their serial numbers their names will be in-

serted in the classes to which they may be assigned according to a plan being worked out.

### Class 1, 2,000,000

It is assumed, Gen. Crowder said, that most of the new registrants will fall into class 1, giving that class this year a total of some two million men. From class 1 it is proposed to take the next and any future drafts.

In a formal memorandum presenting his views, the general also disapproved suggestions that the registration be extended to men beyond the age of thirty-one, saying the effort of classification is great and so expensive, and the number of persons past thirty-one years who would fall in class 1 so small, that the task would not be worth while.

### Committee Refuses

Although Secretary Baker today reiterated his desire to have exempted registered men who reach the age of thirty-one years without being called into the military service, the committee refused to include such a provision in the legislation. Gen. Crowder disapproved the suggestion.

The bills probably will be introduced in the Senate tomorrow and Senator Chamberlain said they would be pressed for early passage.

### From Chairman Coffin

From Chairman Coffin, of the aircraft board, the committee today obtained behind closed doors what several members termed "most encouraging reports" of the aviation program.

Although much of Mr. Coffin's testimony was confidential, a considerable portion will be made public, probably next Thursday, when he will be cross-examined in open session.

### Further Inquiry

Further inquiry into the aviation service will be made tomorrow, when Brig. Gen. Squier, chief of the army service, and Col. Deeds will appear, probably in executive session.

The committee had hoped to recall Secretary Baker before the end of the week for cross-examination on his statement yesterday of army achievements, but tonight Chairman Chamberlain thought the aviation branch would consume the next few days and postpone Secretary Baker's return until next week.

Discussion of the controversy over the conduct of the war and the proposed War Department reorganization also is impending both in the Senate and House. Senator Wadsworth, of New York, is planning an address, possibly tomorrow, in support of the bills for a war cabinet and munitions director.

## NEWS NOTES FROM SUMMERTON CITY

Summerton, January 29, 1918.

Dear Editor:  
I fully intended writing a short letter for your valuable paper yesterday, but simply didn't have a spare moment for pleasure of this kind. Went over to Columbia Sunday morning to see a friend and to make a visit to Camp Jackson, and as I didn't get back home till 11 o'clock Monday, and then had to get busy at something else for the balance of the day, and last night had to take in the "movies." So my only chance to get this in for The Times will be right now, before I go to work this morning. I am running against time, "on high," to use auto language.

Well, I certainly did have a big day in Columbia, the "largest" that I have had in quite a while. I will not attempt to give a description of the camp, for I couldn't do justice to the subject. Neither will I try to tell you about the charming little friend, for it would be an injustice. Met up with a lot of boys that I knew. T. E. Lide, who was formerly principal of our Summerton Graded School accompanied us out to the camp and pointed out the different places of interest as we drove through this immense "city" that has sprung up like magic. Also saw my old friend, Austin James, and, believe me, that boy is making the most of the surroundings over there. I think his folks were kinder expecting him home for Sunday, but he couldn't get off. Guess the soldiers forgot it was Sunday. I know that I would have forgotten it had I been in his shoes. I mean his uniform, his company, etc.

Mr. Editor, what struck me most was that all the boys over there seem to be so happy and contented. You are greeted with a smile by them, and that adds so much towards making one enjoy a visit to any place, to see smiling faces. Some of these little goody-good towns around here that have had the devil driven out of their limits, and nothing left in them but churches and grave yards, and where the people take their religion so hard that it has their faces all drawn up, and where they find it so hard to get "a smile" out of anybody should wake up.

The preachers are driving the young people out of the church if they only knew it. And the reason is very plain. They are trying to make Summerton, Manning and other towns too good. Why The Holy City of Jerusalem, as it was 2,000 years ago, must have been a very wicked city, if we judge it by the standards of today.

Why, Mr. Editor, you know what happened in Summerton a few years ago? Well, let me tell you, a man came here and opened up a "dive" right on Main street, right where

there religious (?) folks had to pass on their way to prayer meeting, preaching, etc. It was a big gambling game to be sure. It would make Monte Carlo look like a counterfeit dime with a hole in it. For it was what was known as a Box Ball Alley, and of course, anything done with balls whether it be rolling of them on an alley or playing with them on the diamond, is a sin in the eyes of these good people. So they held an indignation meeting, and the unanimous opinion was, that a dive must close. The preachers on Sunday, instead of taking a text from "the Bible and preaching of Jesus Christ and Him crucified, or of love, or of hope, faith and charity, took for their subject "gambling." And the way they did rant over the subject was pitiful. The result was the Box Ball man seeing that his life was in danger took up his balls and things and left town. Of course he could have stayed on, but he saw starvation staring him in the face, so he did what any sensible man would do under the circumstances. But, believe me, Mr. Editor, we are coming some now, for I heard the other day of a big game of Rook, which is, of course, "Set Back" under a more refined name. I firmly believe that in course of time the "Box Ball Man" can return to Summerton and do enough business to make a living out of it, for the people are beginning to see things, and they want a little amusement along to mix with their religion. And again, having more money than they ever had before are giving more to the church and to charity and the few dimes that the Box Ball man takes in won't be missed in the Sunday offering when the plate is passed around.

F. A.

### SPLIT ON PEACE QUESTION

### Bolshevik Majority Oppose the German Terms

London, Jan. 29.—The Bolsheviks have split on the question of peace, a majority being against the conclusion of peace on the German terms and in favor of a holy war, an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Petrograd says: As the present government is unable to carry on the war, the formation of a coalition of all Socialist factions was proposed.

### WAR TRADE BOARD WARNS

### Against Exporting Conserved List of Goods Without License

Washington, Jan. 29.—Warning was issued by the war trade board tonight against the exportation of goods on the conserved list by parcel post without obtaining the necessary license. Such shipment is prohibited by the espionage act, and persons convicted are liable to a fine of \$10,000 or two years in prison, or both.

### FLOODS DESTROY MUCH PROPERTY

### Steamers Sunk in Ohio River and Numbers of Trains Tied Up

Paducah, Ky., Jan. 29.—More than a dozen steamboats, a number of small craft and at least two dry docks variously estimated in value from \$600,000 to \$1,000,000 were torn from their moorings by ice gorges at lower Ohio and Tennessee river points today and tonight either have been sunk or are floating in immense ice floes near the junction of the Ohio and Mississippi rivers in imminent danger of destruction. A majority of the packets and tow boats, believed safe within the shelter of the Paducah harbor, parted their cables and swung out into the rushing flood.

Vessels such as the Bald Eagle and the Gray Eagle of the Eagle packet line of St. Louis each valued at \$100,000 and among the largest steamboats on the Ohio, were churned by the ice and finally sunk near Metropolis, Ill., approximately fifteen miles from their starting point.

Meanwhile reports from up-river points told of melting snows, swelling tributary streams and the formation of other ice gorges.

### Railroads Tied Up

Bristol, Tenn., Jan. 29.—No trains can be operated on the Appalachian division of the Southern Railway at least the remaining of the week, according to reports here tonight, account of the washing away of more than fifteen bridges and trestles and numerous slides and washouts, following heavy rains and the thawing of snow on the mountains. This division operates into the coal fields and repairs are being pushed. Officials hope to have part of the line in operation by Friday.

### Cumberland Rising

Nashville, Tenn., Jan. 29.—The Cumberland river tonight registered 44.5 feet and is rising. The forecast is that the stage will reach between 48 and 50 feet on Friday. The flood stage is 40 feet. Water now is in the basements of some business houses.

### BILL FAVORABLY REPORTED

Washington, Jan. 29.—The Senate bill to empower the President to create military zones around ship yards where vessels are under construction for the United States was favorably reported to the House today by the merchant marine committee. The bill is designed to give better protection to the ship plants.

### RECENT FIRES CAUSE STIR

### Many Army Officers Believe Detectives Should be Employed Instead of Soldiers

Washington, Jan. 29.—Requests for troops to guard ship yards and war supply plants have been so numerous of late that to avoid confusion and prevent too many fighting men being detailed for ship yard work, Secretary Baker delegated to Brig. Gen. J. McI. Carter, chief of the bureau of military affairs, authority to pass upon all such applications.

Heretofore requests for military protection have been made directly to the commander of the army camp or post nearest the threatened point.

As a result important training schedules have been seriously hampered through the withdrawal of the veteran units detailed for purposes of instructions.

A veritable flood of applications has been pouring in since the recent series of fires in war plants began.

Army officers think soldiers do not make the best watchmen, and especially in cases where the danger is from the interior of a plant. Instead of a cordon of uniformed soldiers around a ship yard they contend there should be a number of detectives at work among the employees.

### GEN. WOOD HIT IN THE ARM

Paris, Jan. 29.—Brief details of the wounding of Major Gen. Leonard Wood, of the United States army, while on a visit to the French front, have been received. Gen. Wood was hit by a fragment of a gun which burst while being tested.

His injuries, which are confined to the left arm, are not considered serious, but he was brought to a hospital here.

### PENETRATE AUSTRIAN LINE

Rome, Jan. 29.—Italian troops made a heavy attack yesterday on the northern mountain front and broke into the enemy lines, the war office reports. Reinforcements which the enemy was hurrying down the Nos and Campomulo valleys were dispersed by the artillery of the Italians and their allies.

Twelve enemy airplanes were brought down. The Italians held mastery of the air everywhere.

The Italians took more than 1,500 prisoners. They stormed enemy positions on the heights east of the Asiago basin, and broke through at several points, resisting violent counter-offensives.

## ITALIANS TAKE BIG BATCH OF PRISONERS

### Austro-German Lines on Asiago Plateau Are Penetrated and Positions Are Taken

### ITALIANS CHARGE AMID DEEP SNOW

### Forty-seven Killed in Air Raid on London—Finnish and Russian Situation Obscure

Notwithstanding the fact that deep snow was still covering the ground, the Italians have carried out successfully a spectacular drive against the Austro-German lines in the mountain region of Northern Italy and captured strong positions and more than 1,500 men.

The blow was delivered on the Asiago plateau sector and the enemy positions penetrated were tenaciously held, despite strong counter-attacks, in which the Austro-Germans were repulsed with heavy casualties. The Berlin war office in admitting the reverse to the Teutonic allied line, asserts that the Italians repeatedly tried to bring up reinforcements to widen the breaches they had made in the front, but that their efforts failed, and 360 Italians were made prisoners.

That airplanes aided materially in the fighting, full details of which have not yet been received, is indicated in the Italian official communication which asserts that during the progress of the battle the enemy lost twelve aircraft.

The victory for the Italians at this particular point is of considerable significance because of the fact that lately, since the enemy's strong attempts to break through to the Venetian plains failed around Monte Tomba and sectors west, the Austro-Germans have been bringing up reinforcements in the Asiago district preparatory to a further series of attacks to reach the low lands.

And from the battle no important infantry operations have been reported, although the Germans have been operating with their artillery on a somewhat extensive scale on the Aras front.

### Air Raid on London

Monday night's airplane raid, the first of the year, on London and adjacent territory, resulted in the largest casualty list of any air raid since that of June 13, last. The total casualties were 47 killed and 169 injured. Forty-one of the fatalities occurred in London, where 162 persons were injured. Bombs were dropped by the invading enemy in Kent and Essex.

In the June raid 97 persons were killed and 437 were wounded by bombs which fell in London and on Essex and Kent.

### Russian Situation

Just what the situation in Russia remains obscure. One report asserts there has been a spirit among the Bolsheviks on the question of peace on Germany's terms, and another that Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, intends to return immediately to Brest-Litovsk for a resumption of the peace conversations with the Austro-German delegates. Still another Petrograd dispatch says Trotsky has reiterated to the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' delegates that the Bolsheviks will insist on a democratic peace. One Petrograd journal declares that Austro-Hungary has already offered to conclude a separate peace with Russia, regardless of Germany.

### Situation in Finland

Scant details have come through concerning the situation in Finland, but the reports indicate that the Red guard is in control at Helsinki, where a revolution manifesto has proclaimed that authority is solely in the hands of the working classes.

The supreme war council with delegates representing the United States, Great Britain, France and Italy in attendance has convened at Versailles, France. The plans of the military campaign of the Entente Allies and of the United States forces are expected to be discussed.

Serious strikes are reported to be in progress throughout Germany. In Berlin and suburban towns 90,000 workers are said to have quit work.

## McLaurin Hotly Scores Blease and Tillman

Bennettsville, S. C., January 27, 1918.

Mr. Editor: I take this method of reaching the various people who by petition and letters have requested me to become a candidate for Governor. I promised them an answer during the present month. And this time I feel that I can perform a better service by announcing clearly my political views than by becoming a candidate for Governor. It is probable after I do that many who would have supported me will not do so and that conditions will make it best that I should not run for office. It is evident that factional lines are to be drawn in the senatorial race, and while I believe that I could be elected by avoiding this issue I do not want office on these terms. I have given the matter careful thought and I want everybody to know beforehand just how I stand. In order to get the warehouse bill made a law I had to reckon with the veto power of the governor, and without the assistance of the faction then in power I could not have moved a step. I have always recognized this obligation and do not intend to forget it. I would like to be in a position while I yet have the mental and physical strength to further develop the State warehouse system by establishing direct sales. I would also like to organize the machinery for State insurance, not only for cotton, but other property. I would like to see a budget system for appropriations, so as to fix individual responsibility for the waste of tax money such as is now going on in South Carolina. I have made up my mind, however, that I am not going to keep my mouth shut nor compromise my convictions for the sake of any office on earth. Should I go on the stump this summer I shall unhesitatingly say that I regard the election of either ex-Governor Blease or Senator Tillman as a stupendous blunder. So far as the State is concerned it will establish more firmly than ever the present factional lines and whoever is elected Governor will necessarily have to line up on one side or the other. This I absolutely refuse to do. Outside of the local issue the consequences are more far-reaching. The attitude of Governor Blease before the war has been bitterly hostile to the present federal administration. Everybody who knows him understands his attitude toward the questions relating to the war and that he will go any length once he has the power to obstruct the policies of Woodrow Wilson. He is bold and has great ability in certain lines; his advent into the Senate would greatly strengthen La Follette and a "little group of willful Senators" who are doing all in their power to hamper the conduct of a war upon whose result depends the future not only of Amer-

ica, but man-kind everywhere. I could not make campaign speeches and dodge this issue. I cannot by silence make myself a party to a national calamity of this character. Senator Tillman is incapacitated by physical weakness for the strenuous work now required. I am glad to be able to say that I am sincerely sorry for this, and in spite of the unjust treatment that I have received at his hands, were he physically fit to perform the duties, I should rise above personal resentment and say that he should be left where he is. This talk about "dying in harness" is all rot. A broken-down horse "dying in harness" is cruelty to animals; it is more merciful to loose the traces, knock off the shoes and turn him out in the pasture to ruminate on things that have been and are to be. It takes a strong horse or "tote" his side of the singletree in these perilous days. It is unfair to the balance of the team when the load is heavy and the pace so fast to be handicapped by hog spavin and heaves in an old horse which won't work at all unless he is in the lead. The work is too heavy now for a spike team, though that is better than a horse that won't even try to pull, bites his mate and kicks at everything in sight. I am not going to help harness either team. What is the use? One horse is not able and Woodrow Wilson as a driver, and we can't get a new driver, (even if we wanted to), for the next two years. It is a bad plan, anyway, when you have to chance drivers to suit a horse. My experience is that a horse more interested in kicking the driver off the seat than in pulling the load won't work with any driver and will make every horse in the team balky before he is through. Then, too, we now need Gatling guns instead of old rusty, worn-out rifles. I know this letter will offend many of my friends, and I regret it from the bottom of my heart, but if they live long enough they will see that I am right as they have found out before when they differed with me. I am saying what I feel to be my duty, and if every political friend I have turns against me it will not be the first time that a sense of duty has left me alone without a party or political faction. I feel that I am capable of rendering good service to the people of South Carolina, but I am not going to dodge as important an issue in order to obtain political support. I am in the middle of the road, unfettered by factional alignments of any kind. Those who desire to be of real service to South Carolina must be courageous and unselfish or our petty factional squabbles will continue to make us the laughing stock of the nation.

Respectfully,  
(Signed) John L. McLaurin.

## WHEATLESS AND MEATLESS DAYS ARE ANNOUNCED

Columbia, Jan. 28.—In accordance with the proclamation of President Wilson, the food administration of South Carolina has announced the following program for this state:

Two wheatless days, Monday and Wednesday, in every week, and one wheatless meal every day.

One meatless day, Tuesday, in every week, and one meatless meal every day.

Two porkless days, Tuesday and Saturday, in every week.

Make every meal a sugar-saving day.

Use more fruit, vegetables and potatoes.

The program for the conservation of food is outlined in a supplemental home card, which is soon to be distributed by the United States food administration for South Carolina. William Elliott, food administrator, is planning to have one of these cards placed in every one of the 300,000 homes of the state. Arrangements are also being made for the distribution of 300,000 leaflets: "Do you know corn meal?" and 300,000 of the leaflets: "Do you know oatmeal?" These leaflets are issued in an effort to have the people use more substitute products for wheat. The leaflets contain a number of valuable recipes.

More than 100,000 homes in South Carolina have already signed the pledge card of the United States food administration. In the new campaign an effort will be made to increase the number of signers to 300,000. All householders who have not signed the pledge card should communicate with the food administration, Arcade building, Columbia, S. C.

The people of the state are urged by the home supplemental card to trade with the merchants displaying the poster bearing the emblem of the food administration. They are also urged to patronize the restaurants who are observing the rules of the food administration.

The home supplemental card all citizens of the state are urged to report to the nearest food administration office the name and address of any person discouraging the production or saving of food.

The home supplemental card contains the following specific directions for food conservation as authorized by the United States food administration:

"Our problem is to feed the allies and our own soldiers abroad by sending them as much food as we can of the most concentrated nutritive value in the least shipping space. These foods are wheat, beef, pork, butter and sugar.

"Our solution is to eat less of these and as little of all foods as will support health and strength. All saving counts for victory.

"The food administration asks every loyal American to help win the war by maintaining daily, as a minimum of saving, the following program:

Explanation: On "wheatless" days use no crackers, pastry, macaroni, breakfast food or other cereal food containing wheat, and use no wheat flour in any form except the small amount that may be needed for thickening soups or gravies, or for a binder for corn bread and other cereal breads. As to bread, if you bake it at home, use other cereals than wheat, and if you buy it, buy only war bread. Our object is that we should buy and consume one-third less wheat products than we did last year.

Have one meatless day (Tuesday) in every week and one meatless meal in every day. Have two porkless days (Tuesdays and Saturdays) in every week.

Explanation: "Meatless" means without any cattle, hog or sheep products. On other days use mutton and lamb in preference to beef or pork. "Porkless" means without pork, bacon, ham, lard or pork products, fresh or preserved. Use fish, poultry and eggs. As a nation we eat and waste nearly twice as much meat as we need.

Make every day a fat-saving day (butter, lard, lard substitutes, etc.)

Explanation: Fry less; bake, broil, boil or stew foods instead. Save meat drippings; use these and vegetable oils for cooking instead of butter. Butter has food values vital to children; therefore give it to them. Use it only on the table. Waste no soap; it is made from fat. Be careful of all fats. We use and waste two and a half times as much fat as we need.

Make every day a sugar-saving day. Explanation: Use less sugar. Less sweet drinks and candy containing sugar should be used in war time. As a nation we have used twice as much sugar as we need.

Use fruits, vegetables and potatoes abundantly.

Explanation: These foods are healthful and plentiful, and at the same time partly take the place of other foods which we must save. Raise all you can for home use.

Use milk wisely. Explanation: Use all of the milk; waste no part of it. The children must have whole milk. Use sour and skim milk in cooking and for cottage cheese.

Hoarding food. Any one buying and holding a larger supply of food now than in peace time, except foods canned, dried or preserved in the home, is helping to defeat the food administration in its attempt to secure a just distribution of food and the establishment of fair prices. The food hoarder is working against the common good, and even against the very safety of the country. Hoarding food in households is both selfish and unnecessary; the government is protecting the food supply of its people.

Loyalty in little things is the foundation of the national strength. Disloyalty in little things gives aid to the enemy. Keep the pledge.

Do not limit the food of growing children.

Eat sufficient food to maintain health; the nation needs strong people.

Co-operate with your local and federal food administrators. Take their advice.

Preach and practice the "gospel of the clean plate."

Housekeepers should help the stores to cut down deliveries.