

AMERICA WATCHES AS ENGLAND FACES CRISIS OVER CONSCRIPTION

Britain's Experience to Teach the World if Volunteer System is Adequate in Case of War.

Colonel Roosevelt Favors Compulsory Service in This Country, but Secretary Garrison is Dubious.

WITH England badly split over the question of conscription and the leading men of America discussing the best means of raising an army in case of war the question of compulsory military service is arousing keen interest all over the world.

England has demonstrated that the volunteer system in vogue in that country for so many years has been a failure in the present case. Every possible effort to avoid the drafting of men for service in the army was made before the question came before the cabinet in a formal resolution.

Of the single men 207,000 were rejected, while 221,853 married men were not accepted by the recruiting officers.

2,182,178 Did Not Respond.

The Earl of Derby's report showed that the total men of military age in

He was represented as saying: "In England they say, 'Be a sport and join the army.' You'd laugh at such a pronouncement as 'Be a sport and pay your taxes.' A man simply must pay his taxes, and that's all there is to it.

"No volunteer soldier is worth anything until he is trained. I was in the national guard three years and was no better than anybody else, and if I had been in a fight I would not have made a better fight than any of the members of the national guard at Santiago.

No More Money For Militia.

"We can't have a real national guard except under federal control. It must be made what its name implies—a national and not a state force."

Colonel Roosevelt added, according to report, that the government should



Photo by American Press Association. COLONEL ROOSEVELT.

appropriate no more money for the national guard until it was brought under federal control.

Speaking next of the Continental army advocated by Secretary Garrison, Colonel Roosevelt, according to the reports, said:

"It is a fallacy, a makeshift and a useless rival of the national guard." The colonel was then quoted as stressing the importance of the American Defense society's emphasizing "service opinion" in its policy and program.

Concluding, Colonel Roosevelt spoke of the necessity for having "a unified America," saying that every one in this country should be a true American and should have left everything un-American behind him if he came from a foreign land.

Secretary Garrison's Plan.

The other day Secretary of War Garrison laid before the house military affairs committee the government's preparedness plans, providing for a great mobile army for the United States to reach a total of 1,000,000 men in six years.

"The plans also provide for the gathering together of huge stores of ammunition and army equipment and a well defined extension and elaboration of the existing coast defenses. The whole preparedness project will call for an increased expenditure of \$600,000,000, with a successive war department budget of \$200,000,000. Recent budgets have averaged \$100,000,000.

"The integrity of the nation and its very existence," the secretary said, reading from a lengthy statement he had prepared, "may depend upon what is done in this matter at this time. This great opportunity will be lost unless a wise, sensible and practical policy is the result of the consideration and action of this congress."

Must Make Promises Good.

Referring to the far spread military responsibility of the nation, reaching into the insular possessions—the Philippines—Alaska and the Panama canal zone, Mr. Garrison added:

"We have determined and announced that the sovereignty of the other republics on this hemisphere shall remain inviolable and must therefore at all times stand ready to make good our position in this connection.

"It will of necessity be conceded by any one who admits that military force is requisite at all that our present military force is totally inadequate to meet our responsibilities.

"The chaos, which a crisis always produces where preparations in advance have not been made, makes it certain that several months of necessity would intervene after the outbreak of war before any considerable number of volunteers would be ready to take their training, and months of training must then ensue before they could be

ready to be sent into battle." A similar delay would meet the effort to assemble arms, equipment and ammunition, Mr. Garrison said, and he insisted that if it accomplished nothing more the plan now proposed would obviate much of this loss of time.

"There is a disposition upon the part of some," he continued, "to assume that we are facing a crisis. The only way to meet any emergency is by adopting emergency measures. The personnel and material needed for military purposes should be immediately mobilized. Every nerve should be strained and every resource drawn upon and nothing overlooked necessary to preserve and defend us, regardless of cost and other considerations.

Calls For Permanent Policy.

"In my view the occasion calls for the adoption of a wise, sensible, adequate military policy on permanent lines and for definite ends.

"There is common agreement among those who have studied the subject intelligently that we should have a force in the continental United States of 500,000 men subject to instant call."

Turning to the national guard, Mr. Garrison said:

"At the present time this force consists of approximately 120,000 men and officers, and it would therefore be necessary if it is to be expanded to 400,000 to add 271,000 men and officers."

Because of constitutional obstacles Mr. Garrison doubts the power of congress to enforce recruiting in the militia in the several states.

"Assuming that congress has the power," the secretary continued, "I do not see how it could make it effective. In any event there would have to be not only acts of congress, but identical contemporaneous legislation in the forty-eight states, to make effective such acts of congress. It seems to me that a mere statement of this situation indicates how utterly futile it is to attempt this solution."

Declaring that there must be unity of responsibility and authority and control in any successful military system, Mr. Garrison made it plain to the committee that he favors a complete federalization of the militia if that force is to be an effective arm of the national defense. The secretary said that in the past states have prevented their troops from responding to the call of the national government; they have even ordered their disbandment to thwart the federal government.

Finally, however, the secretary declared, "if congress prefers the method



Photo by American Press Association. SECRETARY GARRISON.

of direct federal pay it is not a matter in which I have any individual judgment upon which I care to insist."

Swiss System Unadaptable.

Dismissing the so called Swiss and Australian systems of national military service as not adapted for this country in the absence of national control of the public school system, Mr. Garrison said main reliance must be placed upon a standing army, augmented by a Continental army reserve of civilian volunteers, and finally of the national militia. Mr. Garrison then detailed to the committee his plans for the organization of these several units, which already have been made public.

"A small, highly trained, highly effective regular army, expandible in character; federal volunteers, raised, officered and trained in time of peace, and the national guard for state use is the best solution," the secretary said in conclusion.

Of course the German system of recruiting men for the army is well known. Every citizen of that country must serve in the regular army for a term of years and in case of war is absolutely under the orders of his government. The same is true in France, and all men of military age in those two countries are now in the service of their countries. China also started the year 1916 by ordering compulsory military service. It will first be put into effect in Chili province, in which Peking is located, and Shantung province, which adjoins Chili province.

Nice Table Ornament.

When Sir George Trevelyan was chief secretary for Ireland, in troublous times, the police made him carry a pistol about with him. One night after dinner he took it out of his pocket and put it on the table, saying to his host, "Tray forgive me, but if you knew how tired I am of carrying this thing about!"—London Standard.

Mining blanks, Courier Office.

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KEEP OYSTERS BY FREEZING.

Experiments Show Fish Alive After Six Weeks. Preserving shell oysters in cold storage has been successfully tried by Captain Frederick Ockers of West Sayville, N. J.

"I am convinced that frozen oysters will live for a great length of time," he says. "They will practically be in a state of suspended animation and can be kept until wanted. Then they may be gradually thawed back to life." Captain Ockers' idea is that during suspended animation their condition will be similar to that of the frog frozen in a cake of ice. Captain Ockers believes that oysters can be put into the freezer in April or any other time when they are in prime condition and held for a favorable market. He has made successful experiments up to six weeks and believes that if an oyster can be frozen for six weeks and still live the process may be extended indefinitely.

Electric Sparks.

An electrical process is being tried in Russia for the manufacture of gold leaf, heretofore made only by hand.

In a new electrical device for medical purposes the current is regulated by passing it through a moistened sponge inclosed within a glass tube.

German electricians who experiment decided that they obtained better results by placing the carbons in arc lamps horizontally and one slightly below the other.

Insulated with a specially prepared paper, an electric cable carrying 10,000 volts in England was found in perfect condition after more than twenty-three years of service.

Oregon mining laws, 40c. Courier

TIME CARD

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(The Oregon Coast Route) Effective Monday, Dec. 20, 1915.

Train 1 lv. Grants Pass.....7:00 a.m. Arrives Waters Creek.....8:00 a.m. Train 2 lv. Waters Creek.....8:15 a.m. Arrives Grants Pass.....9:15 a.m. Train 3 lv. Grants Pass.....2:00 p.m. Arrives Waters Creek.....3:00 p.m. Train 4 lv. Waters Creek.....5:00 p.m. Arrives Grants Pass.....6:00 p.m.

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For all information regarding freight and passenger service call at the office of the company, Public Service building, or phone 138-R for same.

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Persons, firms and corporations conducting business for which license is required by the city of Grants Pass, and who are conducting the same without license, may upon conviction be fined variously from ten dollars to one hundred dollars for each offense. No notice is required. Licenses payable at the office of the city auditor. H. H. BASLER, Auditor and Police Judge. 645

SHORT AND SHARP.

European affairs are one war loan after another.

On all sides the food for powder supply seems to be unlimited.

Rags are going up in price, but nobody is wearing them blauty.

When you talk of maintaining a principle be sure that it is not a prejudice.

The man that feels like being kicked seldom allows another the pleasure of doing it.

Unless all signs fail, this year will be a record breaker in the making of world history.

Next June will give both Chicago and St. Louis new opportunities to pose as summer resorts.

Everything can be overdone. Many a fellow has been fired with enthusiasm by his boss.

The drug shortage is so acute now in England that many chronic invalids are rapidly becoming convalescent.

If every man who was "a little odd" had to be arrested there wouldn't be enough men at liberty to enforce the law.

Saying the right thing at the right time is equivalent to keeping your mouth shut when you have nothing to say.

In another year the nation will again be giving earnest thought to the question of whether there is going to be any inaugural ball.

It couldn't have been the landlord class that agitated the war as some would have us think. People in Europe are many millions of dollars behind in their rent.

Political Quips.

No lack of preparedness anywhere for presidential nominations.—Atlanta Constitution.

Politically speaking, the rising temperature bulletin is already out for next June.—Washington Star.

Some of the presidential candidates now in the race won't get much for their run except the exercise.—Philadelphia Press.

It is wonderful how clearly a public officer can see what ought to be done—after his term of office is over.—Pittsburgh Post.

Ohio has six native sons in the United States senate, not to mention the long waiting list for the presidency.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Science Siftings.

Jupiter has a mass nearly three times as great as the combined masses of all our other planets.

There are five quarts of blood in the human body. One-half of this can be lost before death is inevitable.

The United States produced twenty-nine of the sixty-six epoch making inventions, England seventeen, France ten, Germany five, Italy two and Brazil, Austria and Sweden one each.

When a man breathes he uses his muscular strength to draw in the air, and it is afterward forced out automatically. With insects, as a German investigator has just discovered, this process is just reversed.

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