

DRAFT MEN NOT TO PAY NOTARY

State Headquarters Announces There Should be No Clerical Fees.

LAWYERS TO SERVE FREE

Notice in Seven Languages Posted in Philadelphia Fixing Only Charge—Registrants May Get Advice From Legal Board.

Harrisburg. — "There is no reason why the filling out of the questionnaire for any registrant should cost a cent," said Maj. William G. Murdock, chief of the State Draft Bureau, here. He had been told that a notary public in Philadelphia is charging men of draft age for the clerical work involved.

"Legal advisory boards have been named to furnish advice free to all registrants," he said.

It is believed that some lawyers who took advantage of registrants during the first draft would do the same thing again, and a notary who charges for a service he knows a lawyer will do for nothing is taking advantage of the registrant he charges, according to members of the district board of the Second division of the middle court district.

This board, which met at the capitol, issued a notice to all registrants in the 17 counties of the district. It read:

"Do not pay any lawyer for advice regarding the questionnaire. Members of the legal advisory board in your district will give this advice free."

The state bureau officials say the only way to break up the practice of charging by unscrupulous lawyers and notaries is through publicity.

A warning printed in seven languages was issued to registrants in Philadelphia not to pay more than the regular notary's fee of 50 cents for administering the oath in filling out draft questionnaires. The circular also notifies registrants that the legal advisory boards appointed by Governor Brumbaugh are composed of disinterested lawyers and laymen, who will advise all registrants free of charge of the meaning of the selective service law as it applies to their particular cases.

The work of filling out the questionnaires by men of draft age is well under way. Nearly all local examining boards have organized committees of volunteer assistants to aid in the work of registration.

University of Pennsylvania students have agreed to aid the drafted men in wrestling with the questionnaires recently sent to the local boards from the war department. The majority of these students will act for the West Philadelphia boards and will be on duty every night during the Christmas holidays.

Refute Enemy Falshoods.

Definite plans to crush German propaganda in Pennsylvania will be put into immediate effect by the 67 chairmen of the county branches of the Committee of Public Safety of Pennsylvania, who left for their homes after a conference at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel on Tuesday, which was addressed by Arthur E. Bester, chief of the speakers' bureau of this state.

The secret service of the United States will be given all the information gathered by the Bureau of Public Speakers, which is the official name of the bureau which will conduct a speaking campaign throughout the state not only to counteract German propaganda with an American educational propaganda, but to create an optimistic tone for the backing of the state's business and industry.

The bureau will endeavor to obtain specific data on all rumors and suspicious utterances and will turn such data over to the federal secret agents for action. At present the secret service is deluged with anonymous letters and complaints as to the behavior and utterances of suspicious persons, but nothing specific is given which would enable the secret service actually to run the suspected persons down.

For this gathering of information the bureau, through its county chairmen, will create chairman for all the cities, towns and community centers in the state, and they in turn will appoint large numbers of speakers. The total number thus actively engaged in making addresses at all sorts of gatherings wherever speakers are needed will exceed 5,000, according to the estimates given out by the bureau's officials.

Draft Revision Urged.

Adjutant General Beary forwarded to Provost Marshal General Crowder the communication of Major Murdock, chief of the State Draft Bureau, who called attention to the fact that under the new selective service regulations all the married men of a residential section, or all the American men of an industrial section, might be called under the second draft. Major Murdock suggested a change to the effect that the quotas be fixed by entire cities and not by arbitrary districts.

PENNSYLVANIA BRIEFS

G. Gilbert Kulp of Shamokin returned from a hunting trip at Larry's Creek with a black bear as his share of the bag. The members of the Shamokin Lodge of Elk were the lumber king's guests at a bear dinner.

Pottsville's police force has requested an increase of \$25 a month in salary.

Prothonotary Robinson has been appointed explosive agent for Perry county.

Pigs hereafter will be raised in the suburbs of Pottsville without hindrance from the Board of Health.

Dorry will have a new bank, the certificate of incorporation for the First Savings and Trust Company having been recorded at Greensburg.

Madison Geiger, a Lehigh Valley Railroad conductor, died at the Hazleton State Hospital from blood poisoning, resulting from a broken leg.

F. E. Bedale of Mount Pleasant has taken charge of the office of inspector of bituminous coal mines for the compensation insurance authorities at Johnstown.

Altoona draftees, seeking information as to their questionnaires, have overwhelmed the lawyers of the city, and 24 Pennsylvania railroad clerks have volunteered to assist.

Arthur Swab, forty-two years old, of Elizabeth, a foreman on a road building contract near White Haven, and Thomas Smith, forty-five years old, of White Haven, one of his employees, were instantly killed when the automobile in which they were riding to work was struck by a Lehigh Valley railroad express train. This car was demolished.

A score of laborers are carried in high-powered touring cars daily from Boyertown to Pottstown to work in the plant of the Eastern Steel Company.

One woman, Mrs. William Tobias, has been elected a director of the new Bethlehem Chamber of Commerce.

The Lebanon Consolidated Water Company of Lebanon filed notice with the Public Service Commission that it had issued \$520,000 of bonds in accordance with a reorganization approved by the commission.

M. S. Hershey, the chocolate manufacturer, closed his big plants at Hershey because of a lack of sugar. Two thousand employees are idle.

The Public Service Commission approved the application of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company to lease the franchise of the property of the Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington Railroad Company.

Col. H. C. Demming of Harrisburg has sent to Governor Brumbaugh a list of 500 minerals and rocks found in Pennsylvania with data as to development. In classifying coals the 42 varieties are not particularized, says the statement, and neither are the 36 varieties of limestone.

City Commissioner Fred L. Morgan, thaler was authorized by the Harrisburg city council in special session to purchase teams and horses for the municipal collection of ashes. The cost is estimated at \$15,000.

The oldest tobacco shop in the United States, Demuth's, has moved into a handsome new building at Lancaster. The store was started on the site of the present store 148 years ago, and the owners have been descendants to the eighth generation of Christopher Demuth.

Eight years was added to the life of the late George M. Shoenfelt of Taylor township, who was buried at Altoona, by the Bible record. His relatives supposed he was eighty-eight years of age, and it was thus published in his obituary. A forgotten entry in the Bible, however, disclosed the fact that he was aged ninety-six and was one of the county's oldest men.

The State Board of Property has refused to reopen the Fish Island title litigation at Wilkesbarre and held that the state cannot be a legal intervener in claims for unsurveyed land. These decisions close long pending cases and establish certain precedents.

The government has commandeered the extensive printing plant of George W. Park at Paradise, Lancaster county. The local trolley companies are under contract to carry ten carloads of paper weekly to the plant and to haul to Quarryville the weekly output. From there it will be taken to Washington by motor trucks, avoiding railroad congestion.

Mayor Smith of Philadelphia issued orders to the police making the city a barred zone to loafers. He decreed they must go to work or jail.

Pennsylvania coal miners have set the nation a real example in patriotism by offering to increase their working day from eight to nine hours.

Forec. Commissioner Robert S. Conklin says that more hunters enjoyed the state reserve camp sites this year than ever before.

John Alexander, native of Germany and reputed graduate of the University of Berlin, is a federal prisoner in Lebanon county jail, charged with being an enemy of the United States who has furnished valuable information to the German foreign office.

Caleb Harvey of Locust Grove had 60 turkeys hatched and apparently doing well this season, but a pair of foxes discovered the fact and gathered nearly every fowl before their work was discovered. The animals have dens in the woods near the barn and easily captured the fowls as they were in the fields.

"SMILEAGE" BOOKS FOR THE SOLDIERS

PRESENTS THAT WILL ENABLE MEN IN CAMPS TO SEE HIGH GRADE PRODUCTIONS.

PLANS OF THEATRICAL MEN

Secretary Lane Reviews the Development of the Science of War—Public Lands to Be Opened for Cultivation in 1915.

Washington.—The sale of "smileage" books, to be presented to men at army camps and cantonments, is being arranged by a subcommittee of the war department commission on training camp activities. At each of the 16 National army cantonments a theater has been erected which seats 3,000 men. Marc Klaw, of Klaw & Erlanger, a member of the commission, has arranged for four companies of the brightest theatrical stars to play "Cheating Cheaters," "Inside the Lines," "Turn to the Right," and "Here Comes the Bride"—all big successes last year in New York. He has also planned to have four companies of the highest-grade vaudeville performers play at these theaters.

At National Guard camps large chauntica tents, with seating capacity of from 1,500 to 2,000, have been put up, and first-class vaudeville is being presented. The expense of operating this circuit of 64 theaters is met by admission charges which run from 10 to 25 cents.

"Smileage" books contain 20 or 100 5-cent coupons, which may be purchased by anyone for \$1 or \$5, respectively, and sent to a soldier friend at the camp. The coupons will be exchanged at the box office for admission tickets. Sending a man a "smileage" book is equivalent to giving him passes to from 10 to 50 performances of various kinds.

Included in the recent annual report of Secretary Franklin K. Lane is the following:

"When the bureau of mines was created by congress five years ago it was hardly to have been imagined that the methods used for the saving of life in the coal mines of the United States would become of vital use in the problem of saving lives and destroying lives in a world war; yet this is just what has happened.

"The soldier's kit, which was so simple a thing in other wars, has had to be increased by a gas mask not unlike the helmet of a deep-sea diver, with a box of chemicals adapted for offsetting the effects of the various kinds of gas the enemy is known to use.

"When we came into the war we found ourselves prepared with the knowledge, the machinery, and the men to promptly meet the need of gas masks in great quantity and of a superior type. Thus the men who had been on this work of meeting the gas compounds in nature's laboratory were found to have a reserve of knowledge as to what gases will kill and what will choke and what will burn and what will hasten disease, which in a war of cumulative frightfulness would make the United States modestly distinguished if it wished to so shine. As one of the group said:

"We chemists in America have never turned our minds to the destruction of human life. Our work has been constructive—the chemistry of the soil, of cement, of printer's ink, of the by-products from petroleum and tar, of 10,000 things which will make for a longer, a happier life for man. But if the world is to be turned upside down and instead of staying death and disease and making new things that man can use for his own enlightenment we are wanted to push forward the work of the destruction of man and all his works we can become rivals of the worst in such enterprise."

"This is not the time to present the things done and the things doing by these men of the necromantic science, but when the day comes for casting up accounts and giving credit their work will not go unrecognized."

Hundreds of thousands of acres of lands in the United States, hitherto untitled, may be placed under cultivation during 1915.

An inquiry by the department of the interior shows that approximately 690,000 acres on various reclamation projects and an area of Indian lands almost as large are susceptible of cultivation.

Dancing is one form of amusement being provided on a large scale for the men of the army and navy. It is one of the ways the war camps community service, under direction of the war and navy departments, provides wholesome pleasure for the troops.

There are now approximately 19,000 speakers in the "four minute men," the nation-wide organization of volunteer speakers who assist the government in the work of national defense by presenting messages of vital national importance to motion-picture theater audiences.

Retail dealers of insecticides are exempt from the licensing regulations covering trade in white arsenic and arsenic insecticides. The only companies required to obtain licenses are wholesalers and jobbers.

A base hospital, several of which are already in operation overseas, consists of the people and material necessary to establish and operate a hospital without asking outside assistance except the provision of shelter. This usually means a deserted hotel, an empty village, a group of huts or a number of large and small tents.

The personnel of one hospital which is fully organized and waiting to be sent to France includes 24 physicians and surgeons, nearly all of whom are now on active duty at cantonments or hospitals in preparation for their future work. The nurses number 65, all having passed rigid examinations. There are six women stenographers and bookkeepers. Of the 133 enlisted men, 65 are orderlies or male nurses, and the remaining 68 are clerks, bookkeepers, mechanics, and skilled laborers. The base hospital is a little world in itself and must have cooks, butchers, bakers, carpenters, engineers, etc.

The equipment for this one unit cost \$140,000.

Secretary of War Newton D. Baker urges men in scientific institutions to continue their training.

"The government service will demand more and more scientifically trained men," said he, "and I hope those who are in charge of scientific institutions will impress upon the young men the importance of continuing their studies, except to the extent that they are necessarily interrupted by a mandatory call under the provisions of the selective draft service law."

Every effort will be made to use each student's special training in connection with specialized occupations in the army, to afford technical students liable to call as great an opportunity through the National army as if they had enlisted.

In Porto Rico, which formerly imported thousands of dollars' worth of beans annually from the mainland, this product is now being exported.

Part of the war-emergency work of the department of agriculture has been to assist the territories to become less dependent upon the mainland of this country for their supply of food. The Alaska stations have greatly increased the areas sown to grain and are able to meet increased demands for seed grain. The Guam station is distributing large quantities of seeds and plants for cultivation by the natives, and Hawaii has materially increased its production of food crops.

While the demand for leather for many uses has taxed the productive capacity of the country, the amount used in ordnance equipment for soldiers is singularly small. The equipment furnished an infantryman by the ordnance bureau (which does not include the uniform equipment from the quartermaster's department) contains only 10.2 ounces.

The largest use of leather in this equipment is in the gun sling, which contains 7 ounces; in the oiler and trench case are 1.5 ounces; bayonet scabbard, 0.7 ounce; pack carrier, 1 ounce.

All meats and meat products for the army and navy are obtained only from inspected establishments and bear the government stamp "inspected and passed." This stamp means that every step in the process of preparing the meat has been under the constant supervision of trained inspectors. At the camps all products are re-inspected and laboratory analyses made to show that the foods have not been made injurious by tampering.

Throughout the country there are 2,000 inspectors engaged in this work.

A censor's label on an envelope does not imply that the writer or the addressee is under suspicion, but that its examination is thought necessary in safeguarding the government's interests.

Under authority of the trading-with-the-enemy act censorship of international mail has been established by the postmaster general. The work will be conducted at New York, the Canal Zone, Porto Rico, and other places where it may be necessary.

Forms of regulations necessary to govern the proper marketing and handling of animal and poultry feed are now being prepared by the food administration.

As in the case of industries dealing in staple foods for human consumption federal supervision of feeds will take the form of a licensing system. Information contained in reports enable the food administration to detect hoarding, excessive profits, and to know the exact amount and location of feeds in the country.

Cantonments throughout the country are being searched to secure all colored men with technical training now in service for the formation of an artillery regiment at Camp Meade, Md.

Proposals to save coal by closing schools in Northern and Central states during January and February have not been met with favor by the fuel administration.

When men called under the selective-service law reach the cantonments they are given, so far as practicable, their choices of army service. Infantry is most often preferred, artillery second, engineer divisions are third in popularity, and quartermasters work fourth.

WHITLOCK'S STORY OF DEPORTATIONS

Report of German Disregard of Human Rights on File in State Department.

OVERWHELMED WITH HORROR

Minister to Belgium Declared It Was Difficult to Write Calmly and Justly in View of the Huns' Gratuitous Cruelty.

Facts concerning the deportation of Belgians and the forced labor exported by the "Hun" military leaders, which excited the indignation of the civilized world, have been thus officially set forth:

The plan of settling forth the essential facts of the deportations and forced labor of Belgians is set forth by the committee on public information as follows: the documents, that is to say, a small fraction of those which could be cited, tell the story, and only such comments are added as are needed to enable the reader to easily grasp the connection of events.

"The deportations . . . were the most vivid, shocking, convincing, single happening in all our enforced observation and experience of German disregard of human suffering and human rights in Belgium."—Vernon Kellogg in Atlantic Monthly, October, 1917.

A summary of the whole situation, down to January, 1917, can be obtained by reading continuously the report of Minister Whitlock, taken from the files of the state department. This tells of the brutality of the deportations.

"Legation of the United States of America, Brussels, Jan. 16, 1917.

"The Honorable, the Secretary of State, Washington.

"Sir: I have had it in mind, and I might say, on my conscience, since the Germans began to deport Belgian workmen early in November, to prepare for the department a detailed report on this latest instance of brutality, but there have been so many obstacles in the way of obtaining evidence on which a calm and judicious opinion could be based, and one is so overwhelmed with the horror of the thing itself, that it has been, and even now is, difficult to write calmly and justly about it. I have had to content myself with fragments of dispatches I have from time to time sent to the department and with what I could, little as that can be, to alleviate the distress that this gratuitous cruelty has caused the population of this unhappy land.

Whitlock Opposed Belgian Idea.

"In order to understand fully the situation, it is necessary to go back to the autumn of 1914. At the time we were organizing the relief work, the Comité National—the Belgian relief organization that collaborates with the commission for relief in Belgium—proposed an arrangement by which the Belgian government should pay to its own employees left in Belgium, and other unemployed men besides, the wages they had been accustomed to receive. The Belgians wished to do this both for humanitarian and patriotic purposes; they wished to provide the unemployed with the means of livelihood, and, at the same time, to prevent their working for the Germans. I refused to be connected in any way with this plan, and told the Belgian committee that it had many possibilities of danger; that not only would it place a premium on idleness, but that it would ultimately exasperate the Germans. However, the policy was adopted, and has been continued in practice, and on the rolls of the Comité National have been borne the names of hundreds of thousands—some 700,000, I believe—of idle men receiving this dole, distributed through the communes.

"The presence of these unemployed, however, was a constant temptation to German cupidity. Many times they sought to obtain the lists of the chômeurs, but were always foiled by the claim that under the guarantees covering the relief work, the records of the Comité National and its various suborganizations were immune. Rather than risk any interruption of the ravellement, for which, while loath to own any obligation to America, the Germans have always been grateful, since it has had the effect of keeping the population calm, the authorities never pressed the point, other than with the burgomasters of the communes. Finally, however, the military party, always brutal, and with an astounding ignorance of public opinion and of moral sentiment, determined to put these idle men to work.

"General von Bissing and the civil portion of his entourage had always been and even now are opposed to this policy, and I think have sincerely done what they could, first, to prevent its adoption, and secondly, to lighten the rigors of its application."

SCOTS CLAIM VON MACKENSEN

Rumor That Famous German Soldier Was Born in Country North of the Tweed.

Thousands of people in England and Scotland believe that General von Mackensen, the best tactician in the German army, and the conqueror of Russia, Roumania, Serbia and northern Italy, is in reality a Scotchman. Much mystery enshrouds this soldier's past. For years he has been in the German

army, but his youth is not described in any authentic documents.

The British story is that a lad named Mackenzie left Scotland years ago, hunting adventure, and drifted into the German army. Finding himself in line for promotion, he changed his name to Von Mackensen and applied himself so diligently that he rose quickly in the ranks and by the time the war was declared was in a general's position.

The story is said to be implicitly believed.

"The young men need not fear being taken to Germany, either to be enrolled into the army or to be employed at forced labor."

"If individual infractions of police regulations are committed, the authorities will institute a search for the responsible authors and will punish them, without placing the responsibility on the entire population."

"The German and Belgian authorities will neglect nothing to see that food is assured to the population."

"On March 23d, 1915, at the arsenal at Luttre the German authorities posted a notice demanding return to work. On April 21st, 200 workmen were called for. On April 27th soldiers went to fetch the workmen from their homes and take them to the arsenal. In the absence of a workman, a member of the family was arrested."

Workmen Imprisoned on Trains.

"However, the men maintained their refusal to work, because they were unwilling to co-operate in acts of war against their country."

"On May 4th, 24 workmen detained in prison at Nivelles were tried at Mons by a court-martial, on the charge of being members of a secret society, having for its aim to thwart the carrying out of German military measures."

"They were condemned to imprisonment."

"On May 8th, 1915, 48 workmen were shut up in a freight car and taken to Germany."

"On May 14th, 45 men were deported to Germany."

"On May 18th a fresh proclamation announced that the prisoners would receive only dry bread and water, and hot food only every four days. On May 23d three cars with 104 workmen were sent toward Charleroi."

"A similar course was adopted at Malines, where by various methods of intimidation, the German authorities attempted to force the workers at the arsenal to work on material for the railways as if it were not plain that this material would become war material sooner or later."

"The following notice was placarded at Menin in July-August, 1915: 'By order: From today the town will no longer afford aid of any description—including assistance to their families, wives, and children—to any operatives except those who work regularly at military work, and other tasks assigned to them. All other operatives and their families can henceforward not be helped in any fashion.'"

Punished for Refusal to Work.

"Similar measures were taken in October, 1915, at Harlebeke-Cortrail, Biessehem, Lokeren, and Mons. From Harlebeke 29 inhabitants were transported to Germany. At Mons, in M. Lenoir's factory, the directors, foreman, and 81 workmen were imprisoned for having refused to work in the service of the German army. M. Lenoir was sentenced to five years' imprisonment, the five directors to a year each, six foremen to six months, and the 81 workmen to eight weeks."

"The general government had recourse also to indirect methods of compulsion. It seized the Belgian Red Cross, confiscated its property, and changed its purpose arbitrarily. It attempted to make itself master of the public charities, and to control the national aid and food committee."

"If we were to cite in extenso the decree of the governor general of August 4th, 1915, concerning measures intended to assure the carrying out of works of public usefulness, and that of August 15th, concerning the unemployed, who, through idleness, refrain from work," it would be seen by what tortuous means the occupying power attempts to attack at once the masters and the men."

Fines Imposed Without Reason.

The German authorities were not satisfied with one impoverishing levy. In November, 1915, one month before the expiration of the twelve-month period fixed for the levy, they decreed that the contribution of 40,000,000 francs a month should be paid for an indefinite period. In November, 1915, they increased the levy to 50,000,000 francs a month. In addition, faithful to the method laid down by the high command, the German authorities have continued to levy fines upon towns and villages for acts committed in their neighborhood, although they had no proof that these acts had been committed by any inhabitant of the city or village thus fined.

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