

# ARMY DRAFT BILL IS LAW

### Senate, By a Vote of 65 to 8 Adopts Conference Report.

### AGE REMAINS 21 TO 30

### Anti-Conscriptionists Made a Hot Fight To Have the Bill Sent Back To Conference—To Be Called In September.

Washington.—The Senate passed the Conscription Bill providing an army of approximately 1,600,000 men, by a vote of 65 to 8. The measure was sent at once to the White House for the President's signature. The War Department will set into motion immediately the machinery for nationwide registration of all men between 21 and 30 years of age, inclusive, for the selective draft.

The Senate's action closed a parliamentary struggle of more than a month and disposed of one of the biggest war problems yet laid before Congress. The measure was sent to conference three times. For a while during the last day's debate it seemed imminent danger of being recommitted again for modification. When the conference agreement on the bill was submitted to the Senate for ratification shortly after the upper House convened, it ran against unexpected opposition, based on the omission from the bill of the Senate provision limiting conscription to the period of the war with Germany.

Charges of improper motives on the part of the conferees and insinuations of a deep-laid scheme by the War Department to use the bill to fasten permanent universal military service upon the country flew thick and fast. The controversy was finally smoothed out by an unanimous consent agreement to incorporate the omitted provision in the Army and Navy budget now pending before the Senate.

As finally approved, the bill provides for raising by selective conscription a war army in increments of 500,000 men from 21 to 30 years of age. It also authorizes without directing the President to raise volunteer forces which Colonel Roosevelt desires to take to France and greatly increases the pay of all enlisted men.

Machinery to register and draft the first 500,000 men already has been set up by the War Department. The President will, by proclamation, designate the day for registration of the 10,000,000 or more men of the prescribed age. Registration books will be in the hands of State and local authorities, who are to cooperate in the work, and Brigadier General Crowder, the provost marshal general, expects to have the complete lists in Washington within five days after registering begins. Then will come the task of selecting the first half million, exempting the physically unfit, those with dependents and men who are needed on the farms and in industries. The process of selection probably will be completed long before the men are wanted. Secretary Baker said that because of lack of facilities the new army would not be called to the colors for training before September.

Whether Colonel Roosevelt shall be permitted to raise an expedition now permitted with President Wilson. His views have not been disclosed, but it is believed he probably will postpone decision while the draft system is being put into operation.

### REFUSES TO STATE WAR AIMS.

### Hollweg Says Would Not Serve Country's Interests.

Berlin.—The Socialist leader, George Ledebur, declared in the Reichstag Tuesday that it was impossible for Germany to win the war of subjugation and expressed the conviction that a revolution must happen in Germany as it had happened in Russia.

"We shall propose a constitutional committee," he said, "to take preparatory steps in the direction of introducing a republic in Germany."

Hollweg Withholds Terms. In one of the most vigorous and plain-spoken speeches he has yet made before the Reichstag since the outbreak of the war the Imperial German Chancellor bluntly refused to enter into a discussion of Germany's peace aims as demanded in interpellations by the Conservatives and Socialists. Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg asserted that these called for the Government's specific peace program, announcement of which would at this time not only be premature, but which it would be difficult to formulate, and also of no practical service to the nation in the present situation.

### 100,000 ENLISTED MEN IN NAVY.

### Man From Jackson, Miss., Completes Total.

Washington.—When Richard Farris Canon enlisted in the navy Wednesday at Jackson, Miss., the enlisted strength of the navy touched the 100,000 mark for the first time. The authorized strength of the navy was 100,657, including all auxiliary forces, but the bill just passed by both House and Senate puts it up to 150,000.

### KING ON AMERICAN STEAMER.

### Britain's Sovereign Visits Sailors and Gunners of Finland.

New York.—American sailors and gunners who man the American steamship Finland received a visit from the King of England. The Finland is now at an English port and King George, while sojourning there, spent more than an hour on the Finland, inspecting her armament and showing particular interest in her gunners.

## World War in Brief

After days of most intensive fighting, in which the position several times changed hands and men fell in hundreds in attacks and counterattacks, the British forces have at last driven the Germans out of the village of Bullecourt and once more are threatening the southern end of the Drocourt-Queant line, which Field Marshal von Hindenburg constructed to defend Cambrai from the eastward advance of Field Marshal Haig's army.

Thousands of fresh German troops recently have been thrown into the fray around Bullecourt, but their efforts, according to official communications, have gone for naught in endeavoring to drive out the British from the entire village.

Although several times the line has been bent by the preponderance of weight of the German formations, at no time have the British been forced to evacuate, holding here and there fragments of the outskirts and keeping back the Teutons until their elements were reformed with sufficient strength to make effective counterattacks and regain their lost territory.

Likewise to the east of Arras, around the village of Roex, the battle has been waged with a viciousness scarcely ever before seen, and here also the British have been successful against the Germans.

Although the forces of the German Crown Prince have renewed with extreme violence their attacks against the French northeast of Soissons, in the sectors of the Moulin-de-Laffaux and Braye-en-Laonnois—three of them against each position—they were again repulsed by the French artillery and infantry, suffering enormous casualties. To the east the French troops, near Craonne, delivered a successful attack, capturing German trench elements.

The Berlin War Office reports that for the first 16 days of May the Germans made prisoners of 5,000 British and French soldiers on the French front, 2,300 of them British and 2,700 French.

From Tolmino to the sea the Italians are keeping up their strong offensive against the Austrians or warding off violent counterattacks against positions they have captured in their new push. All counterattacks thus far have failed, says the Rome War Office, and the Italians have been able to capture positions on various sectors throughout the fighting zone.

An unofficial dispatch reports the taking by the Italians of the fashionable watering resort of Duino, at the head of the Gulf of Trieste, and only 12 miles from the city of Trieste, Austria's most important port on the Adriatic Sea. In the six days of fighting since the Italian offensive began, 4,021 Austrians have been made prisoners by the Italians.

In Macedonia also the forces of the Teutonic Allies are meeting with reverses at the hands of the Entente troops.

Reports from Russia indicate the virtual settlement of the differences that have existed between the government and the Council of Workmen and Soldiers' Delegates. Another heartening symptom in the publication is that 11 of the army commanders, including Generals Brussiloff and Gurko, who had resigned, have decided to remain at their posts.

### \$100,000,000 TO RUSSIA.

### Intimation Given With Loan That More Will Be Forthcoming.

Washington.—The United States loaned Russia \$100,000,000.

The money is to be spent as needed, without stipulation or understanding of any sort further than that Russia stands back of the obligation, will make it good and will disperse the money in this country under the supervision of a representative of the Treasury Department or a commission to be named by the American Government.

### TO GET SUPPLIES ABROAD.

### All Available American Tonnage To Serve France, Italy and Russia.

Washington.—All available American transatlantic tonnage for time being will be used to transport supplies to Russia, France and Italy under an arrangement about to be made by the American government with the Allies. Great Britain has assured the United States that she can carry enough supplies in her own ships to meet the need of the United Kingdom, and perhaps spare some vessels to supplement American tonnage in supplying the other countries.

### AMERICAN SHIP SUNK.

### Steamer Hilonian Torpedoed and Four Members Of Crew Lost.

New York.—The American steamship Hilonian has been torpedoed and sunk off Genoa, Italy, with a loss of four members of the crew, according to a cablegram received here by the owners, the Universal Transportation Company. The cablegram to the owners gave no details of the torpedoing.

### GERMANY'S IRON HAND.

### Socialists Who Advocated Strike Arrested For Treason.

Copenhagen.—A prominent radical Socialist of Berlin has been arrested on the charge of treason in connection with the distribution of leaflets urging a strike on May Day. According to the Local Anzeiger, of Berlin, the German authorities are considering proceedings against leading members of the Socialist party, including members of the party for their activities in this connection.

## BRUSH WITH GERMAN U-BOAT

### U. S. Destroyers Patrol War Zone in European Waters.

### "WE CAN START AT ONCE"

### Escorted American Liner Through Danger Zone—To Be Joined By Others From United States Navy.

London.—Vice-Admiral Sir David Beatty, commander of the British Grand Fleet, has sent the following message to Admiral Henry T. Mayo, commander of the United States Atlantic Fleet:

"The Grand Fleet rejoices that the Atlantic Fleet will now share in preserving the liberties of the world and maintaining the chivalry of the sea." Admiral Mayo replied: "The United States Atlantic Fleet appreciates the message from the British Fleet and welcomes opportunities for work with the British Fleet for the freedom of the seas."

Washington.—A squadron of American torpedo boat destroyers has safely crossed the Atlantic and is patrolling the seas in war service.

The American navy's actual entry into the war zone has already been productive of a brush between a destroyer and a German underwater boat, according to an announcement of the British Admiralty, but the result of it has not been made public.

The destroyer squadron arrived in Queenstown after an uneventful voyage across the Atlantic, but almost immediately, after a formal exchange of greetings with the British naval officials, put to sea again for the hard work that is before it.

### Greeted With Cheers.

A crowd of several hundred persons, some of them carrying tiny American flags, lined the water front and cheered the destroyers from the moment they first sighted the flotilla until it reached the dock. The crowd cheered again when a few moments later the American senior officer came ashore to greet the British senior officer and Wesley Frost, the American Consul, who had come down to the dock to welcome the flotilla. Everything was done in a simple, business-like manner. There was an entire absence of formality.

The commander of the British flotilla was waiting on board his ship and sent wireless greetings to the American units as soon as they were in sight, steaming in a long line into the harbor.

### "Can Start At Once."

After the exchange of shore greetings and the British commander had congratulated the American officers on their safe voyage, he asked: "When will you be ready for business?"

"We can start at once," the American commander replied promptly. This response, so characteristically American, surprised the British commander, who said he had not expected the Americans would be ready to begin work on this side so soon after their long voyage. When he had recovered from his surprise, however, he made a short tour on the destroyers and admitted that the American tars looked prepared.

"Yes," replied the American commander, "we made preparation on the way over. That is why we are ready."

### Set Right To Work.

"They are certainly a fine body of men, and what's more, their craft look just as fit," said the British commander as he watched the destroyers file seaward.

One of the American destroyers began war duty even before reaching this side of the Atlantic. This was when it picked up and escorted through the danger zone one of the largest of the Atlantic liners. This action so pleased the passengers on board that they sent a message of greeting and appreciation to the commander of the destroyer.

### TURKEY SEEKING PEACE?

### Said To Have Made Overtures To Russia, Offering To Open Dardanelles.

Rome.—The Idea Nazionale, the organ of the Nationalist party, prints a report from diplomatic quarters that Turkey has made overtures to Russia, through a neutral source, for a separate peace on the basis of the complete opening of the straits to Russian navigation, both for war vessels and merchant ships. According to this report, Turkey also declares herself disposed to give friendly consideration to the Armenian question and suitable recognition to the principle of nationalities.

### NO SLAPSTICK PATRIOTISM.

### Pennsylvania House Opposes Inopportune Use Of National Air.

Harrisburg, Pa.—The lower branch of the Legislature adopted a resolution protesting against "slapstick patriotism," by undignified use of the air of "The Star-Spangled Banner." The resolution declared that the national airs should at no time be incorporated in a fantasy.

### MUST EAT 105 LOAVES LESS.

### Statistician Says Each Must Curtail To Make Up Deficiency.

Chicago.—It was calculated roughly by a statistician here that to make up the deficiency in the wheat crop every person in the United States would have to deny himself 105 loaves of bread. The calculation was inspired by the campaign of the Department of Agriculture for decreasing the use of wheat flour and using more corn and hominy.

## WAR IS NEAR END SAYS DYING GIRL

### She Rises From Death Bed and Makes Prophecy.

### Was Daughter Of Wealthy Parents Living Just Outside Of City.

### Taken Ill About Three Weeks Ago.

New York.—At a meeting of the directors of the Bank of the Metropolis New York. She was exceedingly bright as an infant, but she was totally dumb, not being able even to moan, as is the case of most persons bereft of voice.

Three weeks ago the girl fell seriously ill and was put to bed. One day her mother walked into the sick room bearing a vase of flowers. She stubbed her foot against an obstacle and vase and flowers fell to the floor. For the first time in her life the child spoke, saying: "Why, mother, you have broken the vase and spilled the flowers."

The mother's astonishment was indescribable. The child was smiling and looking at the tragedy of the vase and its contents. The mother asked her if she had spoken, but there was no answer.

Physicians and specialists were sent for. They advised the mother to repeat the breaking of the vase, hoping it might produce the phenomena. The mother followed instructions, but the child did not repeat her speech. The doctors thought their presence might have affected her.

Two days later the girl called her mother into the sick room. The startled woman found the child sitting up.

"Mother," she said, "I am going to die within a few hours. I am thankful this dreadful war will end in September, 1917."

She adjusted her pillow and smiling laid her head upon it. Two hours later she was dead.

### T. R. TO BE A GENERAL.

### Colonel Will Accept New York Commission.

Albany, N. Y.—At the conclusion of a two-hour conference with Governor Whitman, Col. Theodore Roosevelt announced that he would accept the Governor's offer of a major general's commission in the State service if the Federal Army bill was passed without the provision to permit him to go to Europe with an expeditionary force.

Colonel Roosevelt said: "Governor Whitman has, as you know, offered me the commission of major general if the volunteer plan for sending troops abroad is not accepted in Washington. The commission would authorize me to raise one or more divisions in New York State, but the members would not necessarily come from this State."

### BANK BANDITS KILL TWO.

### One Robber Also Dead; Another Expected To Die.

Pittsburgh.—Police have had recorded practically all of the \$10,000 taken from the First National Bank of Castle Shannon, a suburb, by four bandits who entered the bank, fatally shot the cashier and assistant cashier, bound and gagged a patron of the bank, and in attempting to escape wounded two persons.

One of the bandits, John Oestech, was killed, and another, Sam Berts, was probably fatally wounded by shots from a posse of townspeople. A third bandit, Nick Yecke, was captured and badly beaten by a mob that attempted to take him from the posse. The fourth got away. All of the robbers, according to the police, live in Pittsburgh and are young men.

### THAW ORDERED TO ASYLUM.

### Has Been In Hospital Since Attempt At Suicide.

Philadelphia.—Presiding Judge Martin, in Common Pleas Court, signed a decree authorizing the removal of Harry K. Thaw to the Pennsylvania Hospital for the Insane in this city. Thaw has been confined here since an attempt at suicide several months ago following an indictment in New York.

### BAPTISTS DO NOT WANT WOMEN.

### Southern Convention Refuses Eligibility As Delegates.

New Orleans.—The Southern Baptist Convention refused to amend its constitution so as to make women eligible as delegates in the convention. A proposed amendment for this purpose was referred to a committee for report at next year's convention.

### BIG CHECK FOR JOFFRE.

### Marshal Will Receive 500,000 Francs For Relief Work.

New York.—A check for 500,000 francs will be presented by the Joffre tribute committee of this city to the Marshal of France for relief of French war orphans and Belgian sufferers, Frank A. Vanderlip, treasurer of the committee announced.

### VIRGINIA TO FURNISH 9,320.

### West Virginia's Quota Of New Army Is 7,080.

Washington.—Based upon population estimates by the Census Bureau, Virginia's quota for the first army of 500,000 men to be chosen under the selective draft system will be 9,320, while West Virginia will be called upon to furnish 7,080.

The Census Bureau estimates that Virginia has 186,400 men between the ages of 21 and 30 years and West Virginia 141,500 between the same ages.

## RAISING 116,000 MORE REGULARS

### President Orders Expansion of Army to 293,000.

### FULL WAR STRENGTH AIM

### Plan Is To Convert Each Existing Battalion Into Full Regiment—Officials Confident Number Of Recruits Will Be Enrolled.

Washington.—President Wilson issued orders for the immediate expansion of the Regular Army of the United States to full war strength of 293,000 men through the formation as rapidly as possible of all the new units authorized by the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916.

To accomplish this organization of 44 regiments of infantry, cavalry and field artillery was begun Monday. A total of 116,455 men are needed. These regiments are to be formed in order to give the army the war force contemplated by Congress in 1916, but which was to be obtained in five equal increments to be obtained in a five-year period. One of these increments have been in process of formation. The other four increments are now to be obtained.

### The New Regiments.

When these have been obtained the army will have a total of 64 regiments of infantry, 21 regiments of field artillery, 25 regiments of cavalry—a total of 110 regiments in these three arms of the service—exclusive of coast artillery, staff corps and special service units. There will be 3,373 officers and 127,985 men in the 64 infantry regiments, 1,225 officers and 37,175 men in the 25 regiments of cavalry and 897 officers and 26,748 men in the 21 regiments of field artillery. The entire Regular Army will comprise over 12,000 officers and 293,000 men.

There are now 37 regiments of infantry, 9 regiments of field artillery and 19 regiments of cavalry. The new infantry regiments will be known as the Thirty-eighth to the Sixty-fourth Regiments, inclusive; the new field artillery regiments will be named the Tenth to Twenty-first Regiments, inclusive, and the new cavalry regiments will be designated the Twentieth to the Twenty-fifth, inclusive.

### Standing Of Army.

On April 12 the standing of the Regular Army was as follows: When at war strength with all increments, 293,000; strength on April 12, 131,481; volunteers required on April 12, 161,519.

The situation of the army today is as follows: When at war strength, 293,000; strength on May 13, 176,545; volunteers required on May 13, 116,455.

Since April 1 a total of 67,443 men have been recruited for the Regular Army. These are included in the total of 176,545 men that the army now has and a total of 116,455 are yet needed to raise the army to full war strength. These will be obtained as rapidly as possible and used with new recruits already obtained in bringing existing regiments to full war strength and in forming the 45 new regiments and bringing them to full war strength. The War Department is now working out its plans for the establishment of cantonments and camps in different parts of the country as mobilization camps for the new army regiments. These will be in addition to the National Guard when raised to war strength and in addition to the draft army of 500,000 men. When raised to war strength the National Guard will contain 329,954 men.

### QUITS CONGRESS FOR ARMY.

### Gardner Ordered To Active Duty As Reserve Officer.

Washington.—Representative Gardner, of Massachusetts, has resigned from Congress to enter the army. Mr. Gardner has been one of the most active figures in the movement for military preparedness and was a member of the Ways and Means Committee. He has been ordered to active duty as a reserve officer. He is the first member of either House to quit Congress for military service in the present war.

### PRESIDENT SIGNS ARMY BILL.

### Appropriation For Fiscal Year Is \$270,000,000.

Washington.—President Wilson signed the annual Army Appropriation bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918, and carrying approximately \$270,000,000. No ceremony marked the signing. The bill failed of passage in the regular session of Congress, and it was one of the first measures taken up in the present session.

### CHARLIE TAFT JOINS ARMY.

### Becomes Private In Artillery, But Brother Is Turned Down.

Washington.—Charles P. Taft, the 19-year-old son of former President Taft, has enlisted as a private in the artillery. Taft is under legal age and it was necessary for him to obtain consent of his parents. Robert Taft, another son of the former President, failed to obtain admission to the army on account of his eyesight.

### A FISH FOR EVERY FARM.

### Redfield Says They Are As Easy To Raise As Chickens.

Washington.—Secretary Redfield wants every farmer to have a pond and raise fish. "Why shouldn't a farmer raise fish as well as chickens," asked the Secretary, discussing means to increasing the national supply of food. "Given proper fresh water supply and reasonable space for a pond, an astonishing quantity may be had in two or three years."

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