

PRESIDENT URGES UNITED ACTION IN WAR FOR LIBERTY

Wilson Issues Personal Appeal to the Nation.

ASKS THE FARMERS TO AID

Chief Executive Tells Them That They Hold the Fate of Nations and Asks Every Effort to Supply Food—Says the Supreme Test Has Arrived.

Washington, April 17.—In a personal appeal addressed on Sunday night to his fellow countrymen President Wilson calls upon every American citizen—man, woman and child—to join together to make the nation a unit for the preservation of its ideals and for triumph of democracy in the world war.

"The supreme test of the nation has come," says the address. "We must all speak, act and serve together."

Putting the navy on a war footing and raising a great army are the simplest parts of the great task ahead, the president declares, and he urges all the people, with particular emphasis on his words to the farmers, to concentrate their energies, practice economy, prove unselfishness and demonstrate efficiency.

Text of Address. The address follows: "My fellow countrymen: The entrance of our own beloved country into the grim and terrible war for democracy and human rights which has shaken the world creates so many problems of national life and action which call for immediate consideration and settlement that I hope you will permit me to address to you a few words of earnest counsel and appeal with regard to them."

"We are rapidly putting our navy upon an effective war footing and are about to create and equip a great army, but these are the simplest parts of the great task to which we have addressed ourselves."

"There is not a single selfish element, so far as I can see, in the cause we are fighting for. We are fighting for what we believe and wish to be the rights of mankind and for the future peace and security of the world."

Devote Thelves to Service. "To do this great thing worthily and successfully we must devote ourselves to the service without regard to profit or material advantage and with an energy and intelligence that will rise to the level of the enterprise itself."

"These, then, are the things we must do and do well, besides fighting—the things without which mere fighting would be fruitless."

"We must supply abundant food for ourselves and for our armies and our seamen not only, but also for a large part of the nations with whom we have now made common cause, in whose support and by whose sides we shall be fighting."

Must Supply Ships. "We must supply ships by the hundreds out of our shipyards to carry to the other side of the sea, submarines or no submarines, what will every day be needed there, and abundant materials out of our fields and our mines and our factories with which not only to clothe and equip our own forces on land and sea but also to clothe and support our people for whom the gallant fellows under arms can no longer work, to help clothe and equip the armies with which we are co-operating in Europe, and to keep the looms and manufacturing there in raw materials; coal to keep the fires going in ships at sea and in the furnaces across the sea; steel out of which to make arms and ammunition both here and there; rails for worn-out railroads back of the fighting fronts; locomotives and rolling stock to take the place of those every day going to pieces; mules, horses, cattle for labor and for military service; everything with which the people of England and France and Italy and Russia have usually supplied themselves, but cannot now afford the men, the materials or the machinery to make."

Need Greater Efficiency. "It is evident to every thinking man that our industries, in farms, in shipyards, in the mines, in the factories, must be made more prolific and more efficient than ever, and that they must be more economically managed and better adapted to the particular requirements of our task than they have been; and what I want to say is that the men and the women who devote their thought and their energy to these things will be serving the country and conducting the fight for peace and freedom just as truly and just as effectively as the men on the battlefield or in the trenches."

Appeal to Farmers. "Thousands, nay, hundreds of thousands of men otherwise liable to military service, will of right and of necessity be excused from that service and assigned to the fundamental, sustaining work of the fields and factories, and mines, and they will be as much part of the great patriotic forces of the nation as the men under fire."

"I take the liberty, therefore, of addressing this word to the farmers of the country and to all who work on the farms: The supreme need of our own nation and of the nations with which we are co-operating is an abundance of supplies, and especially of foodstuffs. The importance of an adequate food supply, especially for the present year, is superlative."

"Without abundant food, alike for the armies and the peoples now at war, the whole great enterprise upon which we have embarked will break down and fail."

Hold Fate of Nations. "The world's food reserves are low. Not only during the present emergency but for some time after peace shall have come both our own people and a large proportion of the people of Europe must rely on the harvests in America."

"Upon the farmers of this country, therefore, in large measure, rests the fate of the war and the fate of the nations. May the nation not count upon them to omit no step that will increase the production of their land or that will bring about the most effectual co-operation in the sale and distribution of their products?"

"The time is short. It is of the most imperative importance that everything possible be done and done immediately to make sure of large harvests. I call upon young men and old alike and upon the able-bodied men of the land to accept and act upon this duty—to turn in hosts to the farms and make certain that no pains and no labor is lacking in this great matter."

Special Appeal to South. "I particularly appeal to the farmers of the South to plant abundant foodstuffs as well as cotton."

"The government of the United States and the governments of the several states stand ready to co-operate. They will do everything possible to assist farmers in securing an adequate supply of seed, an adequate force of laborers when they are most needed at harvest time, and the means of expediting shipments of fertilizers and farm machinery as well as of the crops themselves when harvested."

"The course of trade shall be unhampered as it is possible to make it, and there shall be no unwarranted manipulation of the nation's food supply by those who handle it on its way to the consumer."

"This let me say to the middlemen of every sort, whether they are handling our foodstuffs or our raw materials of manufacture or the products of our mills and factories: The eyes of the country will be especially upon you. This is your opportunity for signal service, efficient and disinterested. The country expects you, as it expects all others, to forego unusual profits, to organize and expedite shipments of supplies of every kind, but especially of food, with an eye to the service you are rendering and in the spirit of those who enlist in the ranks, for their people, not for themselves."

"I shall confidently expect you to deserve and win the confidence of people of every sort and station."

Efficiency on Railroads. "To the men who run the railways of the country, whether they be managers or operative employees, let me say that the railways are the arteries of the nation's life, and that upon them rests the immense responsibility of seeing to it that those arteries suffer no obstruction of any kind, no inefficiency or slackened power."

"To the merchant let me suggest the motto, 'Small profits and quick service,' and to the shipbuilder the thought that the life of the war depends upon him. The food and the war supplies must be carried across the seas no matter how many ships are sent to the bottom. The places of those that go down must be supplied at once."

"To the miner let me say that he stands where the farmer does: The work of the world waits on him. If he slackens or fails, armies and statesmen are helpless. He also is enlisted in the great Service army."

"The manufacturer does not need to be told, I hope, that the nation looks to him to speed and perfect every process; and I want only to remind his employees that their service is absolutely indispensable and is counted on by every man who loves the country and its liberties."

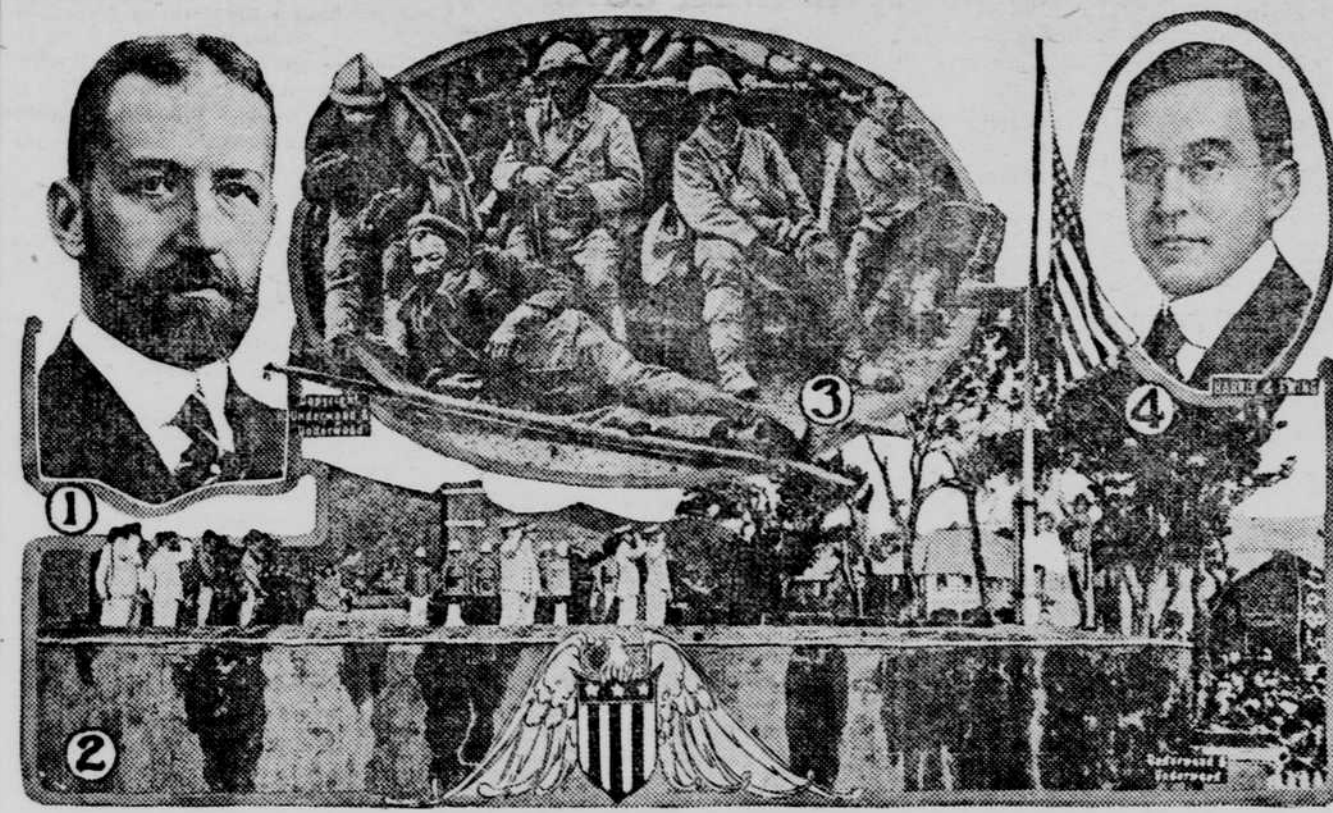
Every Garden Helps. "Let me suggest also that every one who creates or cultivates a garden helps, and helps greatly, to solve the problem of the feeding of the nations; and that every housewife who practices strict economy puts herself in the ranks of those who serve the nation."

"This is the time for America to correct her un pardonable fault of wastefulness and extravagance. Let every man and every woman assume the duty of careful, prudent use and expenditure as a public duty, as a dictate of patriotism which no one can now expect ever to be excused or forgiven for ignoring."

"In the hope that this statement of the needs of the nation and of the world in this hour of supreme crisis may stimulate those to whom it comes and remind all who need reminder of the solemn duties of a time such as the world has never seen before, I beg that all editors and publishers everywhere will give as prominent publication and as wide circulation as possible to this appeal."

Supreme Test Has Come. "I venture to suggest also to all advertising agencies that they would perhaps render a very substantial and timely service to the country if they would give it widespread repetition. And I hope that clergymen will not think the theme of it an unworthy or inappropriate subject of comment and homily from their pulpits."

"The supreme test of the nation has come. We must all speak, act and serve together."



1—New portrait of Mario G. Menocal, president of Cuba, who is co-operating actively with the allies. 2—Raising the Stars and Stripes over the Virgin Islands at Fredericksport, St. Croix. 3—German soldiers, captured by the French, wounded and dazed by gun fire. 4—Theodore Brent of New Orleans, youngest member of the federal shipping board which is planning the construction of 1,000 wooden ships.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

War Councils With Leaders of the Allies Are Opened in Washington.

FIGHT OVER CONSCRIPTION

Dent's Committee Rejects President's Plan—Enemy Submarine Reported Near New York—Nivelle Smashes German Lines Between Reims and Soissons.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

For America at war the outstanding event of the past week was the opening of the great allied war councils in Washington. Headed by such eminent men as British Foreign Minister Balfour and Rene Viviani, former premier of France, the commissions from England and France arrived in the national capital, were installed in fine residences and at once began the series of conferences with the heads of the American government and of its armed forces.

In order to insure the safety of the commissioners, the government quite properly suppressed all news of their movements; and it is in no hurry to tell what transpires at the conferences. It is safe to say, however, that the results of the meetings will be momentous.

Congress provided enough sinews of war for the present by passing the bill for the issuance of \$7,000,000,000, of which \$3,000,000,000 is to be lent to the allies. There was not a single opposing vote in either house or senate. Congress also appropriated \$100,000,000 as an emergency war fund to be put at the disposal of the president.

Conscription Still in Doubt. President Wilson continued throughout the week his strenuous fight for selective conscription, but arguments and threats were alike vain so far as the house military committee was concerned. The committee rejected, 13 to 8, the administration provision, and then adopted an amendment offered by Chairman Dent providing that the president should call for 500,000 volunteers under the existing volunteer act, and should apply conscription only when he "decides that such additional forces cannot be effectually raised and maintained under the call for volunteers." The house agreed to take up the army bill on Monday.

In the senate committee the president fared better, for the administration bill with the selective conscription feature was accepted by a vote of 10 to 7. It is the hope of the administration that the senate will pass this bill before the house acts.

Impressed by the strength of the opposition to his conscription plan, especially in the ranks of the Democratic party, the president on Thursday issued an appeal to the public to support his proposition.

Administration leaders protest that the advocates of the volunteer system have spread the idea that under the conscription plan there is no room for the volunteer system, whereas the president's plan leaves the way open for 500,000 volunteers to serve for the duration of the war only.

At the beginning of the week President Wilson issued a remarkable proclamation to the nation, calling on all the people to give to it, in their respective capacities, their united, full service for the successful prosecution of the war. Such a call was doubtless needed to arouse individuals, but recent events show that the industries of the country already are completely organized and proceeding to carry out the plans outlined by the council of national defense. The work done and being done by that body of patriotic men is revealed as most comprehensive and complete, and when it is known in its entirety will astonish the people of America.

U-Boats in American Waters? Are there any German U-boats in American waters? Berlin says "not yet," but the officers of the American destroyer Smith aver that a torpedo was fired at their vessel early Tuesday morning 100 miles south of New York. They are sure the missile came from a submarine, because they saw the periscope.

Having been advised by British and French naval men that the well-armed merchant vessel is the best weapon for use against the submarine, the American government is pushing with redoubled vigor its plans for the building of big fleets of wooden ships. It is even considering delaying the construction of five battleships for this purpose.

In the United States union labor in general is heartily supporting the government in its war measures. The exceptions are certain scattered groups of manifestly Germanic tendencies. The members of these, as well as certain other Americans with perverted ideas of their duty to mankind, may profitably study President Wilson's proclamation, issued Monday, warning against the commission of treasonable acts. Giving aid and comfort to the enemy is treason, and the punishment for treason may be death. It is a pity that such a proclamation should be necessary.

Recruiting is Better. Recruiting for the regular army and navy during the past week was much more satisfactory than heretofore. From the navy training schools thousands of young men, made fit by intensive training, were sent to the Atlantic and Pacific seaboard to man the vessels of the fleet.

The University of Illinois' plan for the enlisting of a great army of agricultural laborers, men and boys outside the years of military service or otherwise exempt, having been recommended by the council of national defense and approved by the administration, seems likely to solve the problem of farm labor. This, and the concerted movement to urge the growing of limit crops have aroused the farmers and gardeners so that the dangers of a food shortage are decreasing. Every help possible is promised the agriculturists in the way of obtaining seed and labor.

Prices of foodstuffs still are abnormally high, and there are more than hints that the government will curb the avarice of the speculators. Canadian wheat was put on the free list Monday, and the depressing effect on the price of May wheat was immediate but not lasting. The grain speculators are being investigated by the federal authorities.

Great Victory for the French. The greatest battle of the war to date, and consequently the greatest in all history, is that being fought in northern France. While the British were making their tremendous thrust toward Lens and St. Quentin, the French were concentrating their artillery fire on the German lines in the Reims-Soissons sector. When storms and German re-enforcements temporarily checked the rush of Haig's men, Nivelle's troops took their turn. On Monday they smashed against the Teutonic front, crushing the enemy defenses for 25 miles, capturing the second and even the third line in places. Such was the impetus of the attack that in one instance, at Brimont, they broke clear through. This is the sector where the crown prince commands, and he hurriedly brought up brigade after brigade of reserves which made desperate attempts to win back the lost ground. But the wonderful French field artillery had followed close behind the infantry and checked the German counter-attacks with awful loss of life. On Tuesday the French resumed their drive and pushed the Germans still farther back on the line from Reims to the Champagne front. All Tuesday night the fighting was fierce, but the French held their gains. In those two days 14,000 Germans were taken captive and about 16,000 others were killed or wounded. The prisoners were in a state of collapse from hunger and the effects of the gas-fire.

Meanwhile the British pushed their way farther to the north of St. Quentin and consolidated the positions they had won.

What Berlin Says of It. German official reports on the French offensive are naive. They admit the success of the attack, but assert the object of the Germans was, "to buy time for their own re-organization."

Retirement of the Germans in Roumania is foreshadowed by the report from Jassy that they have burned the towns of Braila and Fokshani.

The Turks, too, are retiring, willingly, before the steady advance of General Maude's army northwest from Bagdad and the Russian forces in Asia Minor.

Russia Will Stand Firm. In what may be called the field of diplomatic endeavor, attention must be called again to German efforts to seduce the new Russia from her allegiances and make a separate peace. These efforts, started by Socialist leaders, have now taken on a semi-official character, for the German censorship and prohibition of egress from the country have been relaxed and the government treats the Socialists with a sudden favor that is decidedly suspicious. The negotiations are being carried on in Sweden, whither some Russian radicals have betaken themselves. Encouraging reports from Petrograd say that the duma is split, the majority favoring sustaining the provisional government in its determination to prosecute the war to a victorious end is very large. Germany's pacific promises to Russia, and those of Austria, are too simple-minded, and even were they more substantial, the course of the imperial government has not been such as to inspire the least confidence in its pledges. Wilhelm may mean to fulfill his promises of electoral reform in Prussia, but he gives little assurance of measurably promoting the cause of democracy, for which the world is fighting. Indeed, the promised reform would leave the autocratic system in the heart of Germany.

The leaders of democratic Russia must see, as do the leaders of the other allied nations, that though the world might afford to make peace with the German people, it cannot afford to make peace with the German kaiser. On Wednesday still better news came from Petrograd in the form of assurance that it was no longer conceivable that under any conditions the provisional government of Russia would yield to the overtures of the German and Austrian Socialist agents to negotiate a separate peace.

The Austrian cabinet became disrupted during the week. Two of its members withdrew. It was reported that Premier Tisza of Hungary had resigned.

Food restrictions and labor conditions in Germany gave rise to a big strike of Berlin munition workers that started on Monday. The government was forced to make concessions to them. Poles forced by the Germans to work in munition plants of Warsaw also went on strike.

Norway and Spain Aroused. Norway is becoming more and more indignant over the destruction of her merchant marine by German submarines, and in the last few days the shipping men and the press, heartened by America's entrance into the war, have been openly advocating the arming of their vessels. Spain, too, is exasperated by U-boat outrages, and King Alfonso on Wednesday told some troops at a review: "It is necessary that we shall keep in a constant state of preparation."

Serious news came Thursday from Buenos Aires to the effect that a German inhabitant of three states in Brazil had rebelled. They are said to be well armed and organized. There are about half a million Germans in Brazil. Germany lost one of her "strong" men last week when General von Bissing, the German governor general of Belgium died. The Belgians did not go into mourning.

body else do your job and have a clear conscience. This republic has given everything in the way of opportunity, and, on the other hand, it has the right to demand the service of its citizens.

"A voluntary service, however delightful in theory, is ridiculous in practice. It would be a noble thing if every man rushed to the colors, but every man does not. Only 6,000 men have been enlisted in two weeks, and I leave it to you to estimate how long it will take to get an army of a million men."

Baltimore.—The archbishops of the United States have addressed a letter to President Wilson pledging the loyalty of the Catholic hierarchy, the clergy and people of that faith in this country to the president and the government and accepting "wholeheartedly and unreservedly" the decree of congress "proclaiming this country to be in a state of war." The letter, adopted by the archbishops at their annual meeting in the Catholic university at Washington, is signed by

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Find Powerful Radio Station. Mitchell, S. D.—Existence of a powerful radio station near Wessington Springs, S. D., on a farm owned by a German, capable of receiving messages from either seaboard was revealed by the federal authorities who dismantled the outfit. It was asserted that the plant had two masts sixty feet high with antennae stretching 100 yards. No evidence was discovered that the station had been missed, according to the government officials.

Seeding Comes First. Bismarck, N. D.—Governor Lynn J. Frazier announced just the other day that seeding in North Dakota is more important than the election of a congressman to fill the vacancy left by the death of Representative H. T. Helgesen.

"I expect to call the election in the near future, but not immediately," the governor said. "The farmer at this time could not very well go to the polls, as all their time is demanded in the fields under present conditions."

Drop Kaiser From Yacht Club. New York.—The German emperor and his brother, Prince Henry of Prussia, were dropped from honorary membership in the New York Yacht club. Three hundred members and fifty yachts also were eliminated from the rolls of the organization.

Munition Makers Strike. Amsterdam.—Strikes have broken out in various munition factories in Germany, including the Krupp's. Telegraf says it has learned from German sources.

Soldiers Fire On Strikers. London.—Ten thousand strikers, mostly munition workers, tried to burn the town hall at Magdeburg on April 20, according to dispatches reaching here from Oldenzaal, Holland.

Magdeburg is the capital of the Prussian province of Saxony and one of the strongest fortresses in the German empire.

It is seventy-six miles from Berlin and is the seat of immense steel works and machine shops, forming part of the great Krupp works. The city had a population in 1900 of 229,663.

Dispatches from Amsterdam quoted the Dusseldorfer General Anzeiger as saying that a mass meeting of Berlin strikers adopted resolutions demanding peace without annexation, abolition of compulsory service, liberation of political prisoners, complete political freedom and general, secret, equal and direct franchise throughout the empire.

ASKS FOR POWER TO CONTROL FOOD

HOUSTON LAYS GOVERNMENT'S PROGRAM BEFORE CONGRESS.

WANTS FUND TO OPERATE PLAN

Agricultural Department Seeks Authority to Take Over Concerns in Case of Emergency—Omaha Dealers Vitaly Interested.

Washington.—The government's program of food control during the war was put before congress by Secretary Houston in a communication to the senate asking power for the Department of Agriculture to take direct supervision of food production and distribution in the United States and requesting a \$25,000,000 appropriation to put the plan into operation.

Authority was asked for the Council of National Defense, in an emergency, to buy and sell foodstuffs and to fix maximum or minimum prices.

Plans Food Supply Survey. As outlined to the senate, the government's plan is first to make a complete survey of the country's food supply to determine its ownership and distribution. Then if necessary to Keene and control the operations of all concerns engaged in the manufacture of food or feeds, agricultural implements and all materials required for agricultural purposes.

Authority is sought for the agricultural department to take over and operate the concerns if necessary to the public interest.

Market Grades Necessary. Market grades and classes for farm products, Secretary Houston said, is one of the chief needs of the country to insure proper conditions in producing and marketing farm products.

Authority also was asked for the department to require of transportation companies preference for the movement of farm machinery, seeds, fertilizers and materials that enter into the processes of food production.

Officials of all departments and divisions of the government realize the facts of the situation existing must be learned before remedies can be planned. Now, no one knows how much food there is in the country and how it is distributed.

Suggestions that the government is contemplating measures for national prohibition during the war as a means of increasing the food supply are met with the statement by officials that no early action in that direction is likely as it is not considered necessary at this time.

Mr. Houston warned against agricultural experiments in new areas and tests of new crops. The increase of food, he said, must come about largely through increased farm efficiency and on farms and ranges already in operation. The problem he defined as one of more concentration of effort, not that of putting more land under cultivation.

"Some of the greatest preventable wastes are in the home," said the secretary.

Would Vitaly Affect Omaha. Omaha, Neb.—Omaha, one of the most important food distributing centers in the United States, sat up and took notice when Secretary of Agriculture Houston recommended to congress that the Council of National Defense be empowered to fix food prices.

This city is the foremost butter market in the world, the second largest grain market and the second largest live stock market.

Legislation tending to establish standard food prices affects materially the big business interests here.

Two leading creamery men declare that fixing the prices of dairy products would tend to throw out of joint this city's butter and creamery business amounting to \$10,000,000 annually. They intimate that production itself would be crippled seriously by price tampering.

grain markets by mere decree. Local packers, whose business in 1916 amounted to \$149,768,869, will calmly abide, they say, by any order the government makes affecting their industry.

Can't Avoid Duty By Marrying. Washington.—Men of military age who have married since a state of war against Germany was declared will not escape their obligations of military service under a war department policy formally announced. The department's statement follows:

"The war department announces that all men married since the outbreak of war will be treated upon the same basis as unmarried men in so far as their military obligations are concerned. It is desired that the utmost publicity be given by the press to this announcement."

The department was moved to take this action in order that all men should understand exactly what is contemplated in the organization of an army to fight Germany. It was desired that there should arise no question of slackers upon the score of marriages contracted since the outbreak of war with the possible construction that the marriage in any case was hastened in order that military duty might be evaded.

Name Training Camp Sites. Establishment of fourteen citizen training camps where reserve officers and applicants for commissions in the new army will receive intensive military instruction was authorized by Secretary Baker.

In selecting locations the War department was guided largely by the lines of proposed divisional training areas. The places selected included: For Nebraska, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota—Fort Snelling, Minn.

For Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin—Fort Sheridan, Ill. For Montana, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Utah, Wyoming, Arizona and New Mexico—the Presidio at San Francisco.

Reserve officers and others admitted to the camps will be notified to report between May 1 and 8 at the camps nearest their home. Those selected for admission may receive transportation, subsistence and uniforms at the expense of the government.

The maximum attendance at every camp has been limited to 2,500. The serious shortage of regular army officers makes it unwise to attempt instruction for more than that number for the present.

The plan contemplated provides carefully selected officers for sixteen infantry divisions and two cavalry divisions.

Instruction to Alien Enemies. Washington.—Alien enemies, who tear down, mutilate, abuse, desecrate or insult the flag are to be regarded as "a danger to the public peace," and summarily arrested.

All alien enemies residing within one-half mile of a fort, camp, aircraft station, government or naval vessel, navy yard, factory or workshop for the manufacture of munitions are required to remove prior to June 1, under penalty of summary arrest, under instructions issued by the attorney general to the United States marshal. The attorney general's instructions also cover the enforcement of other regulations prescribed in the president's proclamation. Aliens who fail to leave the forbidden zones by June 1, shall be summarily arrested as may aliens entering them. Permits may be issued by marshals to alien enemies to pass through the zones or to enter them where their daily work carries them into forbidden territory.

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WIFE DIVORCES JACK SPRATT

Like Two Famous Characters of Nursery Fame, Husband Was Too Fat and Wife Too Lean.

Chicago.—Like Jack Spratt and Joan Spratt of nursery fame, Charles W. Lasher, Jr., was too fat and Mrs. Lasher too thin. He weighed 226 pounds, she weighed 119. Naturally, Lasher's side of the bed sagged considerably, and Mrs. Lasher's side sloped gently down toward his recumbent figure. Lasher protested strongly when his better half dropped off to sleep and rolled down upon him.

"We will get twin beds and both can sleep in comfort," said the thin Mrs. Lasher.

PLEA FOR UNIVERSAL SERVICE

Major General Wood Points Out What He Considers the Duty of the United States.

Boston.—Major General Wood, speaking at a meeting of the American Cotton Waste Exchange here, said that the United States would not fulfill its duty in this war until it had sent men to the front. The meeting was called to raise funds for the Red Cross.

"If we are to be part of the war," said General Wood, "our men in our uniform must be at the front. It is no child's play. We shall send living men and bring them back dead—but never until this is done shall we fulfill our duty."