

FIRST LAP FINISHED

CLASSIFICATION OF SNELLING MEN INTO DIVISIONS OF SERVICE STARTS.

WILL WEED OUT WEAKLINGS

No Partiality Shown in Training of Rookies, Who Have Been Put Through Gruelling Course of Study and Manuals.

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Fort Snelling, Minn.—The first period of the northwest's officers' training camp has been completed. This first month of training to become officers in Uncle Sam's new army, to attain the distinction of being included in the "first 10,000" who will train the first half million citizens to be drafted September 1, just ended, has been the same for all the rookies—nearly 2,500 of them—regardless of preferred branches of service—a month of grueling, grinding study, drill and practice in infantry work. Now comes the time for classification of students into separate units according to their choice of service, such as infantry, coast defense, artillery, engineering and so on, for intensified work in the respective departments.

The first period of the three months' course has been devoted to basic infantry instruction and instruction in those duties of officers that are common in all branches of the service. The second period, and remainder of the time in camp, will be formulated to include the special training required for officers in the particular branch of the army in which the student hopes to obtain a commission.

With this shakeup comes the possibility of considerable weeding out, too. The work of singling out those rookies not considered suitable to become officers has been going on steadily until some sixty-odd have been dropped. Indications now are that with the unit system in vogue and the work becoming more severe more would-be officers will be left behind. They certainly will have to show a greater burst of speed to maintain the pace that will be set from now on, which of course promises more dissimulations for inefficiency, physical and otherwise. The strain on the boys' mental and physical resources multiplies with the change and as they advance in this cramming process. There can be no weaklings among the men who will train America's great citizen army next autumn—every man must be sound to the core, ring true to the high standard of military efficiency defined. The oft-touted German efficiency can have nothing on the new American brand now in the making.

FREIGHTER SUNK BY "SUB."

French Steamship Mississippi Is Latest Plunger Victim.

New York.—News of the destruction of the big French freight steamship Mississippi by a German submarine, with a loss of one of the merchantman's crew was brought here by officers of a British freight vessel that arrived from a French port.

The Mississippi, of 6,677 tons gross, was torpedoed and sunk about 145 miles out from the port of Brest, France, on June 7, according to officers of the British ship, which rescued forty-seven officers and seamen from open boats. They had been afloat only a short time.

The British officers refused to disclose details of the sinking as related to them by the French crew. The only sailor lost was drowned while the crew was taking to the boats. The British ship landed the survivors at Fayal, Azores.

The Mississippi, owned by the General Trans-Atlantic Steamship company of Havre, was last reported in marine records as having arrived at New Orleans on March 13 from Havre. She was in regular trade between the two ports.

For Air Supremacy Plan.

Washington, D. C.—Full approval has been given by the war department to the air supremacy program of the defense council's aircraft board and President Wilson has been asked to put the administration's support behind the great project for which an appropriation of \$600,000,000 is sought. Under the plan, the United States would become a great elementary training base immediately for all the allies and enormous numbers of training machines would be turned out while American plants are developing a serviceable battle craft type.

To Train Airmen.

New York.—All expenses of twenty young Americans who will be sent to France and trained to join the Lafayette Escadrille probably will be paid by the Aero Club of America, the board of governors announced.

Army Surgeon Suicides.

Washington, D. C.—Major James Bourke, of the army medical corps, shot and killed himself at his home here. He had been suffering from a mental breakdown. Major Bourke was born in Iowa and was a graduate of Rush Medical college and the army and medical school.

Fire Loss Heavy.

Minneapolis.—Fire of unknown origin destroyed an elevator of the George C. Bigley Elevator company causing a loss of \$225,000.

SCORES THE KAISER

PRESIDENT SAYS MILITARY MASTERS DENIED U. S. RIGHT TO BE NEUTRAL.

FILLED COUNTRY WITH SPIES

Failed in Attempt to Spread Sedition—German People in Grip of Same Sinister Power That Has Drawn Blood From Us.

Washington, June 15.—President Wilson in a flag day address delivered here on Thursday declared that we were forced into the world-wide war by the extraordinary insults and aggressions of the military masters of Germany.

The president's address in part is as follows:

My Fellow Citizens: We meet to celebrate flag day because this flag which we honor and under which we serve is the emblem of our unity, our power, our thought and purpose as a nation. It has no other character than that which we give it from generation to generation. The choices are ours. It floats in majestic silence above the hosts that execute those choices, whether in peace or in war. And yet, though silent, it speaks to us—speaks to us of the past, of the men and women who went before us and of the records they wrote upon it. We celebrate the day of its birth; and from its birth until now it has witnessed a great history, has floated on high the symbol of great events, of a great plan of life worked out by a great people. We are about to carry it into battle, to lift it where it will draw the fire of our enemies. We are about to bid thousands, hundreds of thousands, it may be millions of our men, the young, the strong, the capable men of the nation, to go forth and die beneath it on fields of blood for away—for what? For some unaccustomed thing? For something for which it has never sought the fire before? American armies were never before sent across the seas. Why are they sent now? For some new purpose, for which this great flag has never been carried before, or for some old, familiar, heroic purpose? Which it has seen men, its own men, die on every battlefield upon which Americans have borne arms since the Revolution?

These are questions which must be answered. We are Americans. We in our turn serve America, and can serve her with no private purpose. We must use her flag as she has always used it. We are accountable at the bar of history and must plead in utter frankness what purpose it is we seek to serve.

United States Forced Into War.

It is plain enough how we were forced into the war. The extraordinary insults and aggressions of the imperial German government left us no self-respecting choice but to take up arms in defense of our rights as a free people and of our honor as a sovereign government. The military masters of Germany denied us the right to be neutral. They filled our unsuspecting communities with vicious spies and conspirators and sought to corrupt the opinion of our people in their own behalf. When they found that they could not do that, their agents diligently spread sedition amongst us and sought to draw our own citizens from their allegiance, and some of those agents were men connected with the official embassy of the German government itself here in our own capital. They sought by violence to destroy our industries and arrest our commerce. They tried to incite Mexico to take up arms against us and to draw Japan into a hostile alliance with her—and that, not by indirection, but by direct suggestion from the foreign office in Berlin. They impudently denied us the use of the high seas and repeatedly executed their threat that they would send to their death any of our people who ventured to approach the coasts of Europe. And many of our own people were corrupted. Men began to look upon their own neighbors with suspicion and to wonder in their hot resentment and surprise whether there was any community in which hostile intrigue did not lurk. What great nation in such circumstances would not have taken up arms? Much as we had desired peace, it was denied us, and not of our own choice. This flag under which we serve would have been dishonored had we withheld our hand.

No Enmity Toward German People.

But that is only part of the story. We know now as clearly as we knew before we were ourselves engaged that we are not enemies of the German people and that they are not our enemies. They did not originate or desire this hideous war or wish that we should be drawn into it; and we are vaguely conscious that we are fighting their cause, as they will some day see it, as well as our own. They are themselves in the grip of the same sinister power that has now at last stretched its ugly talons out and drawn blood from us. The whole world is in the grip of that power and is trying out the great battle which shall determine whether it is to be brought under its mastery or fling itself free.

The war was begun by the military masters of Germany, who proved to be also the masters of Austria-Hungary. These men have never regarded nations as peoples, men, women, and children of like blood and frame as themselves, for whom governments existed and in whom governments had their life. They have regarded them merely as serviceable organizations which they could by force or intrigue bend or corrupt to their own purpose.

United States in War for Freedom.

The great fact that stands out above all the rest is that this is a People's war, a war for freedom and justice and self-government amongst all the nations of the world, a war to make the world safe for the peoples who live in it and have made it their own, the German people themselves included; and that with us rests the choice to break through all these hypocrisies and patent cheats and masks of brute force and help set the world free, or else stand aside and let it be dominated a long age through by sheer weight of arms and the arbitrary choices of self-constituted masters, by the nation which can maintain the biggest armies and the most irresistible armaments—a power to which the world has afforded no parallel and in the face of which political freedom must wither and perish.

For us there is but one choice. We have made it. We owe it to the man or group of men that seeks to stand in our way in this day of high resolution when every principle we hold dearest is to be vindicated and made secure for the salvation of the nations. We are ready to plead at the bar of history, and our flag shall wear a new luster.

They have regarded the smaller states, in particular, and the peoples who could be overwhelmed by force, as their natural tools and instruments of domination. Their purpose has long been avowed.

The demands made by Austria upon Serbia were a mere single step in a plan which compassed Europe and Asia, from Berlin to Bagdad. They hoped those demands might not arouse Europe, but they meant to press them whether they did or not, for they thought themselves ready for the final issue of arms.

Vast Empire Planned.

Their plan was to throw a broad belt of German military power and political control across the very center of Europe and beyond the Mediterranean into the heart of Asia; and Austria-Hungary was to be as much their tool and pawn as Serbia or Bulgaria or Turkey or the ponderous states of the East. The dream had its heart at Berlin. It could have had a heart nowhere else! It rejected the idea of solidarity of race entirely. The choice of peoples played no part in it at all. They ardently desired to direct their own affairs, would be satisfied only by undisputed independence. They could be kept quiet only by the presence or the constant threat of armed men. The German military statesmen had reckoned with all that and were ready to deal with it in their own way.

And they have actually carried the greater part of that amazing plan into execution! Look how things stand. Austria is at their mercy. It has acted, not upon its own initiative or upon the choice of its own people, but at Berlin's dictation ever since the war began. Its people now desire peace, but cannot have it until leave is granted from Berlin. The so-called central powers are in fact but a single power. Serbia is at its mercy, should its hands be but for a moment freed. From Hamburg to the Persian gulf the net is spread.

Why Berlin Seeks Peace.

Is it not easy to understand the eagerness for peace that has been manifested from Berlin ever since the snare was set and sprung? Peace, peace, peace has been the talk of her foreign office for now a year and more; but peace upon her own initiative, but upon the initiative of the nations over which she now deems herself to hold the advantage. Through all sorts of channels it has come to me, and in all sorts of guises, but never with the terms disclosed which the German government would be willing to accept. That government still holds a valuable part of France, though with slowly relaxing grasp, and practically the whole of Belgium. It cannot go further; it dare not go back. It wishes to close its bargain before it is too late and it has little left to offer for the pound of flesh it will demand.

The military masters under whom Germany is bleeding see very clearly to what point Fate has brought them. If they fall back or are forced back an inch, their power both abroad and at home will fall to pieces like a house of cards. If they can secure peace now with the immense advantages still in their hands which they have up to this point apparently gained, they will have justified themselves before the German people; they will have gained by force what they promised to gain by it: an immense expansion of German power, an immense enlargement of German industrial and commercial opportunities. If they fall, their people will thrust them aside; a government accountable to the people themselves will be set up in Germany as it has been in England, in the United States, in France, and in all the great countries of the modern time except Germany. If they succeed they are safe and Germany and the world are undone; if they fail Germany is saved and the world will be at peace. If they succeed, we and all the rest of the world must remain armed, as they will remain, and must make ready for the next step of aggression; if they fail, the world may unite for peace, and Germany may be of the union.

Seek to Deceive World.

The present particular aim of the masters of Germany is to deceive all those who throughout the world stand for the rights of peoples and the self-government of nations; for they see what immense strength the forces of justice and of liberalism are gathering out of this war.

The sinister intrigue is being no less actively conducted in this country than in Russia and in every country in Europe to which the agents and dupes of the imperial German government can get access.

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AIR RAID ON LONDON

NINETY-SEVEN PERSONS KILLED AND 437 WOUNDED BY BOMBS.

Ten School Children Are Slain and Fifty Injured—Great Battle in Air.

London, June 15.—The death of 97 persons and the injury of 437 in yesterday's air raid was announced in the house of lords by the earl of Derby, secretary of state for war. The secretary said he feared these figures would be exceeded when fuller reports had been received.

The motorcar used by Vice Admiral Sims, commander of the American naval forces in European waters, was in the vicinity of one of the areas which was bombarded most heavily. This gave rise to a report that the admiral had had a narrow escape from a bomb, but later it was learned that he was not in the car at the time.

The East end of the city was bombarded by 15 airplanes. A large number of British airplanes pursued the Germans, who flew over Essex to London.

The German airplanes appeared over London shortly before noon. A great battle occurred in the air. The invaders were attacked by anti-aircraft guns as well as by British aviators. A bomb struck a schoolhouse, killing ten children and injuring fifty. One German airplane is reported to have been brought down.

The East end of London, in which live the city's poor, suffered heavily

GERMANS IN RETREAT

BRITISH DRIVE FORCES FOES TO ABANDON POSTS FROM ST. YVES TO LYS.

OFFENSIVE IS BIG SUCCESS

Major General Maurice, Chief Director of Military Operations at War Office, Says Messines Battle Was Great Victor.

London, June 16.—Important sections of the German front between the Lys river and St. Yves have been abandoned by the Germans, it was announced officially on Thursday.

British troops are reported as following the retreating Germans closely and have made considerable progress east of Ploegsteert wood.

The statement is as follows: "Our further advance east of Messines, combined with the pressure of our troops south of the front of our attack, has compelled the enemy to abandon important sections of his first line defensive system in the area between the River Lys and St. Yves. Our troops have followed up the enemy closely and have made considerable progress east of Ploegsteert wood. We also gained ground during the night in the neighborhood of Gaspard.

"We raided enemy trenches during the night north of Bullecourt and south of Hooge and captured a few prisoners in each case."

DEFENSE COST

Principal Items in \$3,500,000,000 Army and Navy Deficiency Appropriation Approved by Congress.

Washington, June 15.—Here are the items exceeding \$10,000,000 in the \$3,500,000,000 army and navy deficiency appropriation approved by congress:	
Construction of the merchantmen (\$750,000,000 authorized)	\$405,000,000
Field and siege guns, ammunition	367,000,000
Army clothing, equipage	231,538,548
Army pay, enlisted men	226,882,550
Army transportation	221,963,745
Army subsistence	183,926,646
Field and siege artillery	155,000,000
Army ammunition (small army)	131,048,000
Army ordnance supplies	106,550,000
Army quartermasters' supplies	101,800,114
Army engineer operations	94,500,000
Pay of the navy	75,569,672
Army horses	25,000,000
For procuring, producing, reserving and handling ammunition for vessels	68,664,858
Machine guns	65,900,000
Army arms manufacture	55,349,000
Army barracks	47,603,314
Airplanes and aviation	43,450,000
Bureau of construction and repair of naval vessels	57,327,340
Army pay, officers of line	42,000,000
Army engineer equipment	35,876,000
Bureau of steam engineering	34,900,500
For provisions, rations of navy, coast guard and lighthouse service, naval reserve force, etc.	31,740,992
Army gas masks and medical supplies	29,780,000
For batteries, merchant ships and auxiliaries	29,072,000
For reserve and miscellaneous ordnance supplies	29,230,000
Alteration and maintenance of mobile artillery, including purchase and manufacturing of machinery therefor	25,000,000
Army pay, quartermasters' enlisted men	24,800,128
For new batteries for ships for the navy	22,333,000
For ammunition, merchant ships, and auxiliaries	19,988,800
Coal and other fuel for ships, including transportation	19,362,420
Army pay, medical corps enlisted men	18,748,960
For ordnance and ordnance stores, armament of ships, etc.	16,905,368
Army pay medical corps officers	15,131,752
Seacoast cannon ammunition	12,255,000
Army quartermasters, incidental expense	8,000,000
For purchase and manufacturing torpedoes and appliances	11,242,000
For navy aviation equipment	11,000,000
Army post sanitation	10,546,160
Small arms, target practice	17,500,000

from the raid. Bombs fell in many congested districts, and, while the number of casualties has not been ascertained, two hospitals report handling more than fifty cases.

REGISTRATION NOT A BAR TO ENLISTMENT

Chicago.—The United States army is in urgent need of men. The formation of 51 new regiments offers a rare opportunity for training in the finest practical military school of the nation, our army, which is also the backbone of our land defense, and opens for the American a field of advancement through achievement which has heretofore been unequaled.

Unmarried men between the ages of eighteen and forty can volunteer for service in the regular army for the period of the war. Men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty-one who have registered can also enlist, and, in my opinion, should do so in preference to awaiting the selection by universal service, because they will receive a military foundation that will place them in an excellent position for future advancement in the great armies that will be called later.

F. R. KENNEY,
Captain Commanding District.

Twenty Killed in Explosion.

New York, June 16.—Twenty workmen were killed and buried under parts of the walls of a mixing building of the American Sugar Refining company's plant in Brooklyn, which were ripped apart by an explosion.

Japan to Send a Mission.

Washington, June 16.—Japan will send a mission to the United States. The mission will have broad powers, especially in diplomatic consultation, and is expected to leave Japan during the first part of July.

The Messines offensive was the most successful attack which the British have yet made, every single objective that was marked in the preliminary plans having been attained, said Maj. Gen. F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, in his weekly talk.

PERSHING NOW IN FRANCE

Big Crowds Greet American General—Met by General Joffre and Other Notables.

Paris, June 15.—Major General Pershing and staff have arrived in Paris. The general received a tumultuous welcome as he proceeded through the thronged boulevard. At the station he was welcomed by Marshal Joffre, Ambassador Sharp and Paul Painleve, minister of war.

After the greetings had taken place, the party drove in open carriages through the Grand boulevard, General Pershing riding with Minister Painleve and Marshal Joffre with Ambassador Sharp to a hotel on the Place de Concorde, which will be the headquarters of the American officers during their stay in the French capital.

U. S. Cutter Sunk.

Los Angeles, Cal., June 14.—The U. S. coast guard cutter McCullough was sunk when it was rammed by the steamship Governor off Point Arguello. The crew of the McCullough was rescued.

Smoot Resolution Adopted.

Washington, June 18.—The senate on Friday adopted the Smoot resolution calling on the secretary of war to state whether the Enfield rifle has been adopted for army use in place of the Springfield rifle.

Liberty Bonds Above Par.

New York, June 18.—Initial transactions in Liberty bonds, trading in which began on the New York stock exchange at noon Friday, were above par. A lot of \$10,000 sold at par and 1-50.

SEIZE DRAFT EVADERS

U. S. OFFICERS ARREST MANY SLACKERS IN COUNTRY.

Two Men Convicted in Federal Court of Conspiracy Against Conscription Law.

Washington, June 14.—President Wilson, who now has under consideration the regulations for exemption from military service, expects to initiate the first drawing of names for the selective draft about July 1, according to information obtained at the White House.

New York, June 14.—Louis Kramer and Morris Becker, anticonscriptionists, who proudly acclaimed themselves anarchists opposed to all governments, were found guilty of conspiracy in the federal district court. The specific charge was that the defendants conspired to persuade men of conscript age not to register under the selective draft law by distributing literature at a Socialist meeting.

Three men who were arrested at a meeting of the No-Conscription league, where Emma Goldman and others denounced the war and the army, were held for the grand jury charged with refusing to register for the selective draft. They are Phillip Layne, Herman Wascoe and William Herrguth.

Milwaukee, June 14.—Warrants were issued for six persons who failed to register under the selective draft act in Milwaukee.

Virginia, Minn., June 14.—Nick Luona, aged twenty-eight, and an I. W. W., was shot in the back here by Patrolman Pickle while running away from arrest on a charge of being a slacker. He is expected to recover.

St. Paul, Minn., June 14.—Edward Boski, editor of the Referendum at Fairbault, Minn., was arrested here by a federal agent on a charge of printing articles discouraging enlistment. He was indicted by the federal grand jury recently.

WAR TAX BILL CUT \$9,000,000

Senate Finance Committee Takes Tariff Off Athletic Goods, Patent Medicines.

Washington, June 16.—The house war tax bill was decreased about \$9,000,000 more when the senate finance committee on Thursday decided to reduce the manufacturers' tax on athletic goods, patent medicines, perfumeries and cosmetics from 5 to 2 per cent.

Rates of distilled spirits, malt liquors, wines and soft drinks, raising an aggregate of about \$168,000,000, were approved virtually as drafted by the house.

The committee also ratified its former tentative approval of amendments by Senator Gore of Oklahoma placing prohibitory taxes upon cereals used in manufacturing distilled spirits for beverage purposes and prohibiting importation of such beverages.

Reduction of the tax on patent medicines involves a revenue loss of more than \$5,000,000, and at the new rate of 2 per cent will include about \$3,400,000 instead of \$8,500,000.

The reduction in the rate of athletic goods will reduce prospective revenues from that source from \$2,000,000 to \$800,000.

U. S. LINER SINKS DIVER

Kronland Rams German Submarine While on Way Home—French Liner Sunk—190 Perish.

At an Atlantic Port, June 15.—Destruction of a German submarine by the American steamship Kronland was reported by the merchantman upon her arrival in an American harbor. Her officers refused to discuss the encounter except to say that by agile maneuvering the Kronland managed to ram and sink the U-boat shortly after two of the underwater boats had attacked the merchantman, one from either side. The Kronland lost a blade from her propeller.

Boston, June 15.—The Leyland liner Anglian, which left Boston May 30 for Liverpool, has been torpedoed and sunk by a German submarine, according to cable messages received by agents here.

Paris, June 15.—The French South Atlantic liner Sequana, 5,557 tons, with 550 passengers on board, has been torpedoed and sunk with a loss of 190 men.

NAMES ROCKFORD ARMY CAMP

War Office Announces Approval of Illinois Town as One of Cantonment Sites.

Washington, June 16.—The war department announced on Thursday approval of the following four national army cantonment sites, completing the 13 sites to be selected: Rockford, Ill.; Yaphank, South Haven, L. I.; Annapolis Junction, Md., and Petersburg, Va.

Armed British Ship Sunk.

London, June 18.—The British armed merchant cruiser Avenger was torpedoed and sunk in the North sea on Wednesday night. All but one of the crew were saved. Several Norwegian ships were sunk on Friday.

British Capture 400,000.

London, June 18.—More than 100,000 prisoners have been taken by the British during the war. James Ian MacPherson, parliamentary secretary to the war office, announced on Friday in the house of commons.