

AGENTS ARE CHOSEN

MEN TO AID EXEMPTION BOARDS NAMED BY GOVERNOR.

TO WATCH FEDERAL INTERESTS

Representatives Expected to Prevent Fraud in Evading Service—Each County Has Official.

Lincoln.—Acting upon the request of the war department, Governor Neville announced the appointment of special agents in each county in Nebraska and in each registration district, who will represent the United States government in presenting to county exemption boards and to state appeal boards such information as may tend to show fraudulent exemption claims. These men are expected to secure all of the evidence which they can to prevent men from establishing false claims for exemption. Ample provisions have been made whereby a man subject to the draft might claim exemption and appeal to one of the state boards in case his request is denied. It is thought only a proper safeguard to prevent men getting excused on improper grounds, thereby requiring others to be drawn in their places, that there also be some person in every county to gather information on behalf of the government. The special agents in Nebraska counties except Douglas and Lancaster, are:

- Adams—Volney B. Tremble, Hastings.
- Antelope—Lyle E. Jackson, Neligh.
- Arthur—Milton J. Bauer, Arthur.
- Banner—M. E. Sharto, Harrisburg.
- Blaine—E. G. Reed, Brewster.
- Boone—C. G. Harris, Union.
- Box Butte—Robert Graham, Alliance.
- Lloyd—Hwyester R. Parsons, Spencer.
- Brown—E. L. Egan, Alliance.
- Buffalo—W. D. Oldham, Kearney.
- Burr—A. M. Anderson, Tekamah.
- Butler—M. J. Egan, Taylor City.
- Cass—A. G. Cole, Plattsmouth.
- Cedar—Wilbur F. Bryant, Hastings.
- Chase—Fred E. Ratzke, Imperial.
- Cherry—T. M. Waldert, Valentine.
- Cheyenne—J. G. Mcintosh, Sidney.
- Clay—Harry H. Johnson, Clay Center.
- Colfax—W. E. Allan, Schuyler.
- Cumby—J. C. Elliott, West Point.
- Custer—M. E. Eddy, Broken Bow.
- Dakota—Thomas Ashford, Homestead.
- Dawes—E. D. Criss, Chadron.
- Dawson—George C. Gillan, Lexington.
- Deuel—L. O. Pfeiffer, Chapin.
- Dixon—H. P. Shumway, Waverne.
- Dundy—Ray Nye, Fremont.
- Dundy—Paul Jones, Benkelman.
- Fillmore—Frank O. Edgemohe, Geneva.
- Franklin—R. E. Hart, Bloomington.
- Frontier—James J. Hanson, Fremont.
- Furnas—G. E. Simon, Beaver City.
- Gage—J. W. Colby, Beatrice.
- Garden—H. J. Ratzke, Chapin.
- Garfield—Guy Laverty, Hurwell.
- Gosper—O. E. Bosarth, Elwood.
- Grant—D. F. Casper, York.
- Greely—J. R. Swain, Greeley.
- Hall—J. D. Whitmore, Grand Island.
- Hamilton—J. C. Jeffers, Aurora.
- Harrison—J. G. Thompson, Alma.
- Hayes—M. F. Wason, Hayes Center.
- Hitchcock—F. A. Johnson, Trenton.
- Holt—J. C. Donahue, O'Neill.
- Hooker—W. C. Heslan, Mullin.
- Howard—Frank J. Taylor, El Paul.
- Jefferson—E. A. Wundt, Fairbury.
- Johnson—Frank A. Saffran, Tecumseh.
- Kearney—Charles A. Chappell, Minden.
- Kelso—E. M. Searle, Ogallala.
- Keya Paha—R. C. McCullay, Springview.
- Kimball—James A. Redden, Kimball.
- Knox—D. C. Ladd, Ladd.
- Lincoln—T. C. Patterson, North Platte.
- Logan—R. L. Baker, Gandy.
- Loup—Orville Chappell, Plattsmouth.
- McPherson—J. Weller, Tryon.
- Madison—John R. Hays, Norfolk.
- Merrick—John T. Linn, Central City.
- Morrill—G. J. Hunt, Bridgeport.
- Nance—Albert Thompson, Fullerton.
- Nebraska—Richard P. Seal, Nebraska City.
- Nuckolls—George Jackson, Nelson.
- Osage—C. W. Livingston, Nebraska City.
- Payne—C. C. Chesnut, Payson City.
- Perkins—B. F. Hastings, Grant.
- Phelps—O. C. Anderson, Holdrege, R.
- Pierce—M. J. Egan, Plattsmouth.
- Platte—C. J. Garlow, Columbus.
- Red Willow—Patrick Walsh, McCook.
- Saline—H. H. Campbell, Osmond.
- Richardson—John Miller, Falls City.
- Rock—J. J. Carlin, Bassett.
- Salt Lake—H. V. Kohout, Wilber.
- Sarpy—A. E. Langdon, Patillon.
- Saunder—E. E. Placek, Wahoo.
- Scottsbluff—Fred A. Wright, Gering.
- Sevier—J. J. Thomas, Seward.
- Sheridan—C. Patterson, Rushville.
- Sherman—C. W. Tompkins, Loup City.
- Sioux—A. G. Schuyler, Harrison.
- Stanton—W. P. Cowan, Stanton.
- Thayer—T. H. Carter, Hebron.
- Thomas—J. H. Egan, Plattsmouth.
- Thurston—Guy T. Graves, Walthill.
- Valley—Bert M. Hardenbrook, Arcadia.
- Washington—T. L. Lund, Blair.
- Wayne—John T. Bresler, Wayne.
- Webster—Bernard McNary, Red Cloud.
- Wheeler—J. M. Shreve, Hartwell.
- York—T. W. Smith, York.

Suffrage May Fight Petition.

Possible legal action to prevent the submission of the partial suffrage law under the referendum petitions which were recently filed by anti-suffragists with Secretary of State Pool and approved by him is hinted at by prominent suffrage workers. The suffragists said they had not finally determined on what course would be followed, but they had plenty of legal assistance if it was finally decided to file a suit to establish whether the petitions filed were sufficient. The suffragists contend there are a number of irregularities in the petition.

State's Assessed Valuation Grows.

Nebraska's total assessed valuation of property this year will reach \$529,000,000, according to figures which Secretary Bernecker of the state board of equalization has compiled. With 91 counties reporting officially, the total valuation is \$527,573,025. Allowing a small increase for the two which have not been officially heard from, the total state valuation will run over \$529,000,000. Last year it was a trifle over \$500,000,000. Every county in the state shows an increase.

Hard Cider Causes Trouble.

Hard cider, or a manufactured substitute for it, is giving state and county authorities some trouble in their efforts to enforce prohibition, and it promises also to make trouble for dealers in soft drinks who have been selling it. Samples of the stuff which have recently been sent in to Governor Neville from Fremont and Hastings, tested, respectively, 4 per cent and 6 1/2 per cent of alcohol. It is unlawful to make or sell any beverage if it contains more than one-half of 1 per cent alcohol.

GUARD TO GO SOUTH.

Formation of Reserve Organized to Be Pushed With Vigor.

Brigadier General Harries, commanding the Nebraska brigade, announced positively that the brigade troops will mobilize at their home stations and will proceed from there to Deming, N. M.

He also said there will be no announcement of the time they leave. With the taking into the federal service of the new Sixth regiment, all state troops are now in the federal service.

Following the departure of the National Guards the work of organizing Home Guard companies will be pushed with vigor.

Following is a letter to the chairmen of the county councils of defense, calling attention to the urgent necessity of organizing home guard units:

"Many inquiries have reached the State Council of Defense relative to the formation of the Home Guards in the several communities of the state. The state council, after consultation with Governor Neville and Adjutant General Steele, is authorized to give you the following information:

"That as soon as the National Guard regiments of Nebraska leave the state, the adjutant general, at the request of the governor, will immediately commence the organization of reserve militia forces, under rules and regulations as provided by law. This reserve militia will take the place of the present National Guard. When the reserve militia organizations are completed, if it becomes necessary in the smaller communities of the state, the governor will commission officers who will be authorized to organize Home Guard contingents for local purposes of protection and patriotic endeavor.

Counties Should Help.

"The several county councils are urged to encourage the work which Adjutant General Steele has undertaken in organizing reserve militia contingents and to assist him as much as possible in accomplishing this special task.

"The state council also calls the attention of the county councils to the mass fund movement which seeks to add additional provision for the comforts and needs of the enlisted men of the several National Guard regiments which are about to leave Nebraska. It is a very necessary and commendable thing to do and we ask the several county councils to assist generously this particular patriotic effort."

Vicksburg Commission Meets.

The Vicksburg commission met in the office of Governor Neville last Wednesday and discussed plans for the Nebraska train to the Vicksburg "Fifty Years of Peace" celebration to be held October 16 to 19. The last legislature voted \$20,000 to send Nebraska veterans to the celebration. Five hundred and forty Nebraska veterans have registered for the trip, but not more than 500 are expected to go. It may be necessary for the veterans to pay their own expenses to the central part from which the veterans will leave for the south. Even then it may not be possible to pay all of the fare and the commission will then prorate it among men going on the trip.

Demands of Labor Reasonable.

Demand of Omaha labor unions as to hours of labor, wages and improved working conditions were not unreasonable, and unions at the present time are willing to accept conditions as they existed before the war, according to the report of the state board of mediation filed with Governor Neville.

The report rehearses the history of the Omaha building trades strike, and urges the governor and state council of defense to take some action, whereby Omaha employers may be brought to agree to return to "before the war" conditions and live up to the suggestions made by Secretary of Labor Wilson and endorsed by President Wilson.

County Agent Medium of Defense.

Under the provisions of administration's food control bill the sum of \$115,000 has been set aside for county agent work in Nebraska. This will be sufficient to put a county agent in every county in the state, and to provide a food emergency agent for each district where regular county agents are not employed. County agents and food emergency agents will be put to work organizing and mobilizing agricultural Nebraska for maximum production.

Ordered to War Strength.

The War department has instructed all companies of the National Guard to recruit up to war strength, according to orders received at Guard headquarters in Lincoln. War strength of companies is 152 men.

Receives Interest on Bonds.

The state's first interest payment on its Liberty loan investment was received when Treasurer Hall got a draft for \$885, covering the interest on the state's subscription for half a million dollars of the bonds.

Professor Offers Services.

Prof. Fogg of the University of Nebraska has offered his services to make speeches over the state on the national defense work.

Defense Councils to Meet.

The Nebraska state council of defense has planned a big meeting to be held at the state fair grounds during fair week to take an inventory of the progress made in organizing the state for effective participation in the war.

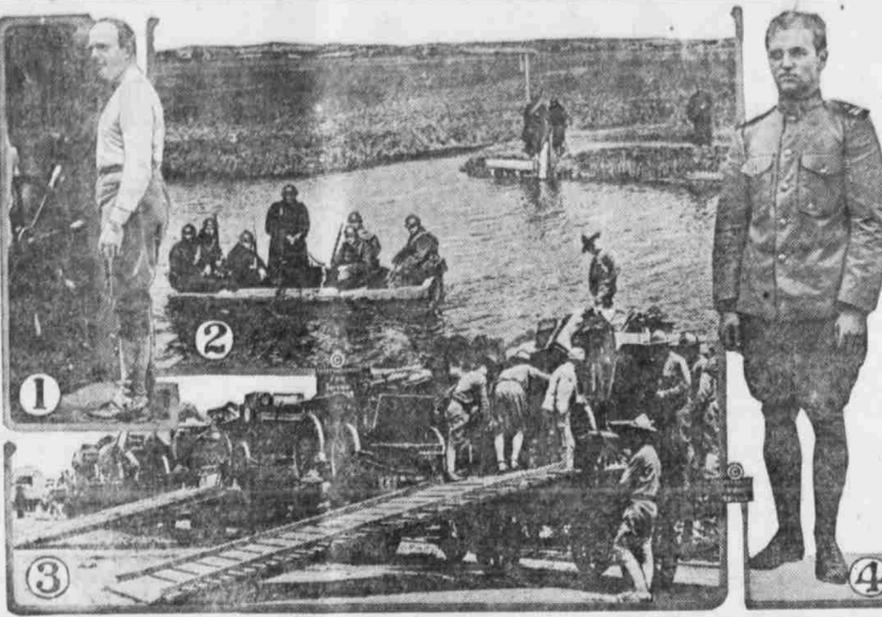


Illustration by Washington artist, who is lecturing at the officers' training camp at Fortress Monroe in camouflage. 2—Belgian soldiers crossing one of the many canals in their country in a ferry barge. 3—American soldiers in France loading a train with their equipment. 4—F. Tribbe Davison, son of H. P. Davison, national director of the Red Cross, who was seriously injured when his airplane fell into Long Island sound.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

Food Control Bill, Giving the President Extraordinary Powers, Now Is Law.

GETTING AFTER PROFITEERS

Government Predicts Record-Breaking Corn Crop—German and Russian Ministries Re-Formed—Elihu Root Returns With Confidence in the Russian Republic.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

The senate last Wednesday adopted the conference report on the food control bill, the measure was signed by Speaker Clark and President Wilson, and is now the law of the land, a law conferring on the president tremendous powers over the food and fuel supplies of the country, and designed to protect the people from extortion. Sixty-six senators voted for the bill and seven against it. Those who persisted in their obstructionist tactics to the end were Frank Gronna, Hollis Hardwick, La Follette, Penrose and Reed. Sherman and Gore both were paired against the bill.

The law contains drastic prohibition provisions. Thirty days after the date of its approval it will be unlawful to use foodstuffs in the manufacture of distilled beverages or to import distilled spirits for beverage purposes, and the president will be empowered to commandeer for military purposes distilled liquors now held in bond and to regulate or restrict the use of foods in the manufacture of wine and beer.

The senate also adopted the conference report on the food survey bill, designed to stimulate production and to give the country information on food resources, and thus the administration's food control program was at last completed.

Coal Prices and Profits.

Coal prices are causing a great stir, especially in the Middle West, and in Illinois the state council of defense advised Governor Lowden to seize the mines because the operators would not sell at what was considered a reasonable profit. The governors and defense councils of 15 Middle West States were asked to meet in Chicago to confer on relief measures.

President Wilson last week made a personal visit to the federal trade commission and the department of justice to urge the hastening of action to curb high prices, and made it evident that he intends to do everything in his power to stop the exacting of exorbitant profits. The war industries board followed up this by announcing that American producers selling war necessities to America's allies would be permitted to make only reasonable profits, provided that the allies must procure in selling to the United States and to one another. The president, moreover, has said that the prices to the public must be made the same as to the government.

Record-Breaking Corn Crop.

Cheering news came out of the department of agriculture in the form of the August crop report, which indicates a corn crop of 3,191,000,000 bushels, the largest in the history of the country. The prospects improved during July to the extent of 60,000,000 bushels, and general rains over the corn belt since the reception of the data on which the report is based enhance still further the expectations of the farmers. The oats yield also will be a record breaker, but the report on wheat is a bit disappointing. The government already has under way a campaign for the raising next season of a crop of more than a billion bushels of wheat and 83,000,000 bushels of rye. The food control law authorizes the fixing of fair prices for wheat and the sale by the government to the

farmers of nitrate of soda from Chile to be used as fertilizer. Every state is asked to plant as large an acreage in wheat and rye as is possible without upsetting proper farm practice. The experts in Washington say that while fertilizer may be scarce, there will be no shortage of seed, farm machinery or transportation facilities.

On Thursday Provost Marshal General Crowder issued the regulations for calling the National army to the colors. The first 200,000 are to be called up to September 1 and sent to cantonment camps by September 5. The government wishes the first day of the mobilization appropriately celebrated throughout the country in order that the citizen soldiers may be fittingly honored.

Some Antidraft Riots.

Taking the country as a whole, the exemption boards are having mighty little trouble in carrying out their duties in the drafting of the National army. Part of Oklahoma and some districts in the Southeast, however, are glaring exceptions to this rule. Serious riots have occurred and bands of draft resisters have armed themselves and taken to the woods. But they are being captured by the score and subjected to the proper punishment. Much of the trouble is stirred up by the I. W. W., and by certain un-American publicists who argue constantly that American soldiers should not be sent abroad to fight, but should be kept at home to await the invading Germans after they have whipped the entente allies.

Among those arrested last week by the federal agents was Dr. Fritz Bergmeier, president of the Volks-Zeitung of St. Paul. On orders from Washington he was put in jail on charges of making disloyal utterances, to be held until President Wilson directs his release. He is an enemy alien.

Canada also is to have a drafted army, the Canadian conscription bill having been passed by the dominion parliament. Under its provisions 100,000 men between the ages of twenty and thirty-two years will be drafted, and it is the expectation of the authorities that they will be in training by autumn.

German Ministry Changes.

Chancellor Michaelis remodeled the imperial and Prussian ministries to his desire, or that of his masters, but the many changes aroused no semblance of enthusiasm in the empire. On the contrary, they are commented on by the liberal and radical press with distrust and dissatisfaction, and no one who has talked for publication has given them his approval. They offer no hope for parliamentarism or any other marked change in internal policies, and so far as can be seen, the war policy of Germany is not likely to be altered. Doctor Kuehlmann, who has succeeded Zimmermann as foreign secretary, is supposed to be opposed to ruthless submarine warfare, but Doctor Helfferich is retained as the representative of the imperial chancellor, and as he is ambitious and powerful it is feared he will more than counterbalance Kuehlmann.

Germany's latest peace suggestions having met with the disdainful reception they deserved, it is unlikely that any more such proposals will emanate from the Kaiser for some time. Seventy-eight professors of Bonn university have signed a petition urging the German government never to make another peace offer.

Root Has Confidence in Russia.

Premier Kerensky last week succeeded in completing his coalition cabinet and obtained the pledges of all factions that they would support him. He has promised many reforms, and also has assured Russia that discipline and authority must first be restored. That he and his colleagues will win out and that Russia will continue in the war until Germany is whipped is the confident assurance of Elihu Root who has just returned from his mission to Petrograd. The disorders there, he says, are not alarmingly serious and are not typical, and the loss of morale in the army he is sure is only temporary.

Already the resistance of the Russian troops to the advance of the Germans and Austrians in Galicia and Bukovina is stiffening, and though in general the retreat continued, it ceased to be a

point and in some instances the Teutons were thrown back. General Korniloff, who succeeded Brussloff as generalissimo, says the first stage of the war is over and the second stage has opened, and intimates that the Russian armies will yet give an excellent account of themselves if British and French officers are sent to help drill the millions of men under arms. They will need this help, he says, if they must meet the massed Germans instead of the comparatively weak Austrians.

On the Western Front.

Activities in Flanders during the week indicated that the allies were following their usual course—attack, consolidation of positions won, and preparations for another attack. The heavy rains hampered operations considerably, but the British made many trench raids and toward the end of the week their artillery fire increased to a tremendous volume. Meanwhile, the Canadian troops pushed up close to Lens and had that important coal center nearly surrounded.

The German resistance in the coastal region is powerful, for the commanders of course realize how dangerous to them is the turning movement. Along the Chemin des Dames the crown prince continued his attacks, all of which were beaten off by the indomitable Frenchmen.

In the Asian fields of combat there was little doing last week, but it was reported that General von Falkenhayn, now German commander in Turkey, is planning an attempt to recapture Bagdad. General Maude's Mesopotamian army, however, is now so strongly entrenched that it has little to fear, and the same may be said of the British forces in Sinal, which also have the support of the fleet.

European dispatches say that the high military authorities in France believe the war will last through the winter and spring, at least, and that the policy of the allies will be to hammer away at the Teuton lines continually and wear the enemy down as much as possible until America gets on the field in full strength. Then the advantage of numbers will be with them to so great extent that victory by force of arms will be in sight.

American Troops to Russia?

Senator Lewis of Illinois declared last week that the next big contingent of American troops would be sent to Russia, which would be surprising in view of the fact that Russia now has under arms more men than she can handle effectively. The Samnies now in France are proving themselves quick pupils and have won the praise and admiration of the British and French officers who are instructing them in the methods of modern warfare. They are happy and eager to get into action but are waiting for American tobacco.

In England is another big contingent of American troops—made up mostly from the operating and construction divisions of American railways. They will be ready to rebuild and operate the roads in France and to fight, too, if necessary, and in preparation for this are receiving intensive training in a peaceful English valley.

The navy department has made another change of policy, dropping the construction of the small U-boat chasers and concentrating on the production of destroyers, which are to be turned out in great numbers. They seem to be the most efficient enemy of the submarine.

Argentina, dissatisfied with the progress of negotiations growing out of the sinking of the Argentine steamer Monte Protégido by a German submarine, has sent a peremptory note to Berlin, demanding a clear and final reply within a reasonable time. Liberia, which some time ago severed relations with the central powers, has now declared war against them. This, like the action of Siam, means that the diplomatic representatives of the small nations have made up their minds as to which group of belligerents will gain the ultimate victory. What perhaps has angered Argentina most is the recent discovery of an extensive German espionage system.

China, too, has decided to cast in her lot with the allies and the cabinet resolved to declare war on Germany and Austria-Hungary; the assistance of the great oriental nation is far from negligible.

FOOD LAWS ENACTED

WILSON SIGNS SURVEY AND REGULATORY BILLS.

HOOVER MADE ADMINISTRATOR

Speculation Will Be Curbed and Price Abuses Corrected.—Drastic Measures Unlikely.

Washington, D. C.—The American government assumed control of the country's food supply last Friday with the signing by President Wilson of the administration food survey and regulatory bills.

Formal announcement of Herbert Hoover's appointment as food administrator was made at the White house soon after the measures were approved, and immediately Mr. Hoover set forth the aims of the food administration in a statement declaring its purpose will be to stabilize and not to disturb conditions.

"Every effort will be made to correct price abuses made possible by abnormal times," Mr. Hoover said, "but drastic measures will not be attempted until it is seen the purposes of the administration cannot be accomplished through constructive cooperation with food producing and distributing industries."

The very existence of corrective powers, Mr. Hoover declares, will tend to check speculation and price inflation.

"The business men of the country, I am convinced," says Mr. Hoover's statement, "as a result of many hundreds of conferences with representatives of the great sources of food supply, realize their own patriotic obligation and the solemnity of the situation and will fairly and generously cooperate in meeting the national emergency."

The two measures recently signed give to the government sweeping wartime powers. The regulatory bill is designed to put food distribution under direct government supervision, and a provision added as an amendment extends an even more drastic government control over coal and other fuels, including the power to fix prices and authorizing government operation of mines.

The survey bill is intended to encourage production and gives the government authority to keep up a continuous census of the amount of foodstuffs in the United States. It will be administered by the department of agriculture.

Exemption Officials Removed.

New York.—Three members of local exemption board No. 90, in the heart of the east side were summarily removed by Deputy Attorney General Conkling, acting under orders of Adjutant General Stotesbury, who is in charge of the operation of the selective draft machinery in New York state. There have been reports that efforts have been made to bribe members of exemption boards in this city to grant registrants exemption from service. The removal order directed "that the charges now made be prosecuted to the fullest extent."

Bills to Insure Fighting Men.

Washington.—Authority to make effective the government's program of insuring the armed forces of the nation was sought of congress in bills introduced in both houses by Senator Simmons and Representative Alexander. The proposed legislation would provide insurance, at minimum cost, for American soldiers, sailors and marines, the insured men paying the premiums; family allowances to dependents of men in the nation's military or naval services; indemnification and rehabilitation, at government expense, of injured men.

Farmer Prevents Terrible Disaster.

Richmond, Neb.—A red bandana handkerchief tied to a cornstalk thrust into a six-inch gap in a broken rail on the Union Pacific main line a mile east of here, saved the Pacific Limited, train No. 20, from almost certain disaster and its 300 passengers from injury or death. To John Moore, a farmer living near Richland, the train and its precious cargo owe their safety, who discovered the defected rail and flagged the train, which was traveling at the rate of sixty miles an hour.

May Change Draft Date.

Washington.—The date for calling the first increment of 200,000 men into the ranks of the national army may be changed from September 1 to 4, September 1 is followed by Sunday and Labor Day.

Canada Restricts Foodstuffs.

Ottawa.—Definite regulations for restricting the use of beef, bacon and white bread in public eating places and for prohibiting the use of wheat in the distillation or manufacture of alcohol, have been promulgated by order-in-council at the instance of the food controller. The serving of beef and bacon is prohibited on Tuesday and Friday and at more than one meal on any other day. Substitutes, such as corn bread, oat cakes, potatoes, etc., must be provided.