

**FOUR MILLION ARMY IS PROVIDED BY BILL**

**Baker Presents Universal Military Training Measure Without Expression.**

**WANTS PUBLICITY FOR IT**

Washington, Feb. 23.—The army general staff universal service bill was transmitted to the senate military committee today by Secretary Baker without a definite expression by the administration either on the general subject or the specific proposal.

The secretary said it was not thought that congress could give so intricate a problem consideration in the closing days of this session, but suggested that wide publicity be given the staff plan "to the end that both congress and the War department can in any subsequent consideration given to the subject, have the benefit of an enlightened public opinion upon the needs and wishes of the country."

"As yet," the letter of transmittal continues, "I am not prepared to say officially for the War department that the need of the country can reasonably be said to be for so great an establishment, nor can we yet, without further study and deliberation, be confident that the means suggested are the most appropriate to the need which it shall be determined wise to foresee."

**Army of Four Million.**

In round numbers the staff plan would supply a trained force of 4,000,000 men, with one year of intensive military instruction. It is estimated by the war college that approximately 200,000 boys in their nineteenth year, would be available for training annually. They would, under the plan, be liable to call to the colors until thirty-two years of age, passing after the first eleven months of their training to the first reserve for the next four years and one month, then into the second reserve and finally into the unorganized reserve until they reached the age of forty-five.

The purpose of the bill is to constitute the first reserve as a fully organized and equipped fighting force with a strength of 1,500,000 ready to respond instantly to a call to arms. The second reserve of equal size, but only partially equipped, would require some time to take the field. Eventually there would be 1,000,000 additional trained men ready to fill in gaps at the front.

**Regular Army Besides.**

In addition to these forces there would be a regular army, composed of men choosing military life as a profession, of 24,400 officers and 285,886 enlisted men. Of these 97,000 would form the overseas forces and 29,000 the frontier forces, the remainder composing the permanent training personnel which could take care of the instruction of from 492,386 to 654,292 reserve recruits annually. If the proportion of available men for training was greater than the figure given, the permanent training force would have to be proportionately increased.

In estimating the cost of maintenance of the proposed army, the war college figured that an annual military budget of \$472,258,746 would be required to keep up the proposed force at a strength of 1,296,023 men, including the regulars.

**Millions of Words Sent Out Keeping Neutrals Informed**

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

Madrid, Jan. 25.—The number of words it has taken to keep at least one neutral nation informed of the war is told in a statement of the news handled by the Spanish Wireless Telegraph company in 1916. A total of over 4,000,000 words was transmitted from the various belligerent nations, and at Madrid and Barcelona the radio telegrams were distributed to the press and to subscribers in the form of bulletins, blue for Austro-German news and yellow for that of the entente, distributed three times a day.

The number of words received from the entente nations greatly exceeded the count from the central empires, the former being 2,329,158, as compared with 1,621,995.

**Fitzpatrick Notes**

**Omaha is Metropolitan**

Frank A. Fitzpatrick, formerly superintendent of Omaha public schools, visited here on Friday for the first time in twelve years. He is New England manager for the American Book company, with offices in Boston.

"I can not help but note the splendid metropolitan appearance Omaha is acquiring, with many new buildings and a general air of prosperity," remarked the visitor.

Mr. Fitzpatrick was en route to an educational meeting at Kansas City.

**Obituary Notes**

**GEORGE H. WADSWORTH**, aged 72, a pioneer of Nebraska and a resident of Omaha for twenty-five years, died Friday evening at the home of J. C. Feldon, 1214 Lake street. Death was the result of kidney trouble. Mr. Wadsworth was a surgeon during the civil war and up to within a few years of his death was active in his profession. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Funeral services will be under their auspices. For the last fifteen years, Mr. Wadsworth had made his home with J. C. Feldon, a comrade whom he met during the civil war.

**MRS. HATTIE PRICE**, wife of Peter M. Price, formerly of Omaha, died Friday at her home in San Diego, Cal. She is survived by her husband, one son and one daughter. The burial will be held there Monday.

**MRS. ELMIRA M'ELHOES**, wife of J. S. McElhoes, died at her home in North Madison Thursday afternoon after an illness of two weeks. The funeral exercises were at the residence at 2 o'clock Saturday afternoon. Rev. C. W. Harper of the Methodist church officiated. Elmira, Luensana, Switzer was born at Rimersburg, Clarion county, Pennsylvania. She came to Madison county, Nebraska, in 1871 and was married to Jesse S. McElhoes, January 23, 1872. The deceased is survived by her husband and three daughters, Viola Shroeder, Luella, Osmond; Mrs. Blanche Upton, Madison, and Mrs. Amelia Upton, Los Angeles, Cal., and a son, Samuel McElhoes, Lawton, Okla., all of whom were at the bedside when death came, except Mrs. Upton. Mrs. McElhoes became a member of the Methodist church when 16 years of age and continued an affectionate member until her death.

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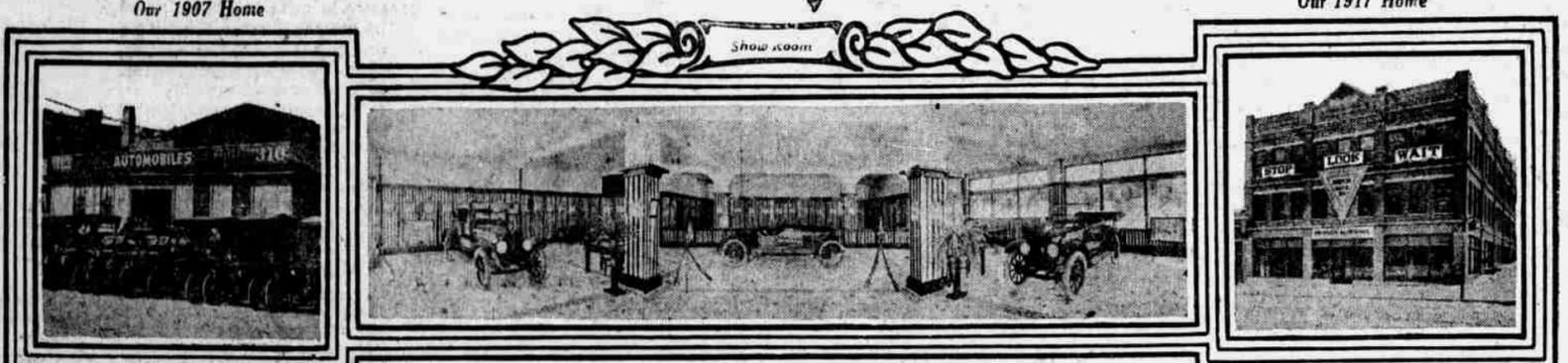
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