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CROWDER INTIMATES SECOND DRAFT WILL BE IN APRIL

Will be Made as Soon as Congress Amends Laws Relative to Basis of Apportionment. Men Will be Drawn in Small Groups

Washington, March 12.—Provost Marshal General Crowder today made the first official announcement of the time of the second draft. It will be ordered as soon as congress amends the law to compute the basis of apportionment among the states on the number of registrants in class one instead of population. For purposes of computation 800,000 men will be considered as composing the second draft although no such number will be called to the colors at any one time.

Men in deferred classifications, the provost marshal general announced, would be called in small numbers as well as men in class one for the purpose of utilizing special technical qualifications or sending them to schools to acquire such qualifications. The provost marshal general makes the definite statement, however that there will be no sudden withdrawal of great numbers of men from industry and agriculture during the coming summer, but that they will be drawn in relatively small groups, spreading throughout the year. To give the exact numbers, he says, would be to give the enemy military information.

While General Crowder sets no time in his statement, it has been stated previously that supplies and equipment for the men of the second draft would become available in April and as action on the desired legislation is expected before that time the first calls are expected soon afterward.

"The next national quota will be announced and apportioned among the several states as soon as pending legislation authorizing a change in the basis of computation is enacted by congress," says the provost marshal general's statement. The number that will be assumed as a basis for computation will be 800,000, which is well within the authorization of Clause 4 of Section 1 of the selective

service act of a second increment of 500,000 men, increased by the recruit training units authorized by Clause 5 of Section 1, and by the technical troops authorized by Section 2 of said act. It cannot now be announced what the total number to be called to the colors each month will be, but it may be stated that no more men will be called than can be properly accommodated and promptly assimilated.

"There are difficulties confronting the nation in the supply of labor appertaining to agriculture. Class 1, from which new levies are to be withdrawn, will contain many more men than are at present required for the army. It would be a most unscientific and fatuous step if the men in Class I were called indiscriminately without regard to the labor situation in agriculture. Therefore, the local boards will be directed to fill their quotas in the order of liability of men in Class I as determined by the national drawing, except that where it is shown that a registrant is completely and assiduously engaged in the planting, cultivation and reaping of a crop, his call to the colors shall be deferred to the foot of the quota of his board as long as he continues to be so engaged.

"Whenever any registrant whose call to the colors has been deferred by reason of his engagement in agriculture is shown to have been idle on the farm on which he is engaged or to have trifled with the deferment that has been accorded him, the boards will forthwith induct them into military service if his order number has been reached in the meantime. The effect of this expedient is to grant furloughs from service prior to actual call to the colors to the men so greatly needed in the production of this year's crop.

AMERICANS MAKE THREE BOLD RAIDS

Sweep Past German First Lines

GERMANS FLED FROM TRENCHES

Gun Positions are Destroyed and Enemy Lines Boxed In at Both Ends. Americans Assisted by French and Attached at Midnight. Important Papers Brought Back.

American initiative has asserted itself on the Lorraine front in France. Three savage raids on the German lines have been made by the Americans, who succeeded in reaching the second line of enemy trenches before being ordered to return. During their stay in German-held territory they destroyed carefully built defenses and picked up much war material.

The American artillery ably assisted the infantry in the operation. A heavy barrage fire was laid down in and the Germans had fled before the wave of infantry reached the hostile positions. After the Americans had been in the German trenches for a few minutes the German barrage fire was loosed on them, but the American guns answered shot for shot and silenced a number of batteries. The American artillery men used gas shells with good effect. Near Toul, the American heavy guns have been in action.

Three raids on the British lines have been attempted by the Germans in the Armentieres sector, but the British, in spite of a heavy fire from the enemy's heavy guns, repulsed the Teutons. The fighting has spread along the Flanders front, the Ypres and Passchendaele sectors figuring in the official reports. The activities of the contending armies have spread farther south, encountering near St. Quentin being mentioned for the first time in recent weeks.

Information received from German prisoners was responsible for the dislocation of German plans for heavy attacks on the British southeast of Houtholst wood. On February 20, Feb. 28 and March 8 attacks were forestalled by a terrific British artillery fire, and while an enem y attack on March 9 was successful to some degree, the British on Saturday succeeded in re-establishing their line.

The British forces operating in Palestine have once more advanced north and northwest of Jericho. They have taken positions to a depth of 3,000 yards over a front of 12 miles. The Turks fought stubbornly at various points of vantage.

The resignation of Leon Trotzky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, is explained by a report that he acted after a quarrel with Nikolai Lenin, the premier, who insisted that the Russian people agree to the disastrous peace of Brest-Litovsk, while Trotzky protested against submitting without a struggle. The only fighting reported in Russia is in the neighborhood of Kiev, Raskdjelnaia and along the Shmerinka-Odessa railway, where the Germans claim to have scattered bands of Russians.

There has been fighting on quite a large scale on the Italian front. In the mountain sectors of the line enemy attempts to advance have been checked, while along the Piave river the Austrians were defeated in an attempt to launch pontoons for an attack on the Italian lines.

The French have been in scattered encounters with the Germans at various points along their part of the front but nowhere has there been serious fighting. A further bombardment of Rheims cathedral may be expected, for the Germans report that a French observation post on that almost ruined shrine has been detected.

Lycium at Gray Court.

The De Koven Quartette, one of the numbers on the Gray Court Lycium, will give a concert at the Gray Court-Owings school building Friday evening, March 22nd. The public is invited.

MR. MOORE TO LEAVE LAURENS

Offered Lucrative Place in Tennessee

LEAVES POST ON APRIL 1ST

Mr. P. W. Moore, Who Has Made a Splendid Record Here, Gives up Local Field to Accept Position of Town Manager of Maryville, Tenn., Home of Large Corporation.

After returning last week from Maryville, Tenn., Mr. P. W. Moore, county farm demonstrator, announced that he had been offered a much more lucrative position as town manager of that city and that he was considering acceptance of the place. After thinking over the matter for several days and discussing it with his friends, he definitely decided to accept the offer and notified Mr. W. W. Long, city agent, of his decision. Mr. Moore will give up his work here in time to enter upon his new duties on April 1st.

The offer came to Mr. Moore from the Aluminum Company of America, which has a large plant at Maryville doing government work. Mr. Moore will act as a sort of town manager, having general supervision of the farms, schools, churches, police regulations, fire department and other welfare work which the company with its two thousand employees is interested in. The town has a population of about 12,000, most of whom are connected directly or indirectly with the great corporation under which he will work. After looking over the field last week, Mr. Moore thought that he would be very much pleased with his surroundings, especially since the company gave him to understand that he would be given further advancements in the future.

Mr. Moore came to Laurens from Greenville about two years ago and has made a great success of his work here. He has won the confidence of the farmers and business men and with this support has been able to accomplish very much along the line of food growth and conservation. He has taken a special interest in the movement for better livestock in the county and has succeeded in increasing the number of thoroughbred cattle and hogs very materially. General regret because of his expected departure was heard on every side after his announcement was made.

Big Cotton Sale.

One of the largest deals in cotton which has been made in this vicinity in recent months was made a few days ago by Messrs. R. F. and Creswell Fleming, when they disposed of the remainder of their 1911-15-16-17 and -18 crops, 252 bales in all. The sale was made just before the last slight rise in the market, but brought ground 22 1/2 cts, the settlement being in the neighborhood of \$10,000. Some of this cotton has been held since the break of 1914, when the market went down to 6 cents and the "Buy-a-Bale" movement was started. The Messrs. Fleming are not cotton farmers solely, as they put an extensive acreage in corn, wheat and other cereals besides raising cattle and hogs.

Methodist Revival Services.

Rev. J. M. Steadman, pastor of the First Methodist church, has announced the beginning of revival services in his church on the fourth Sunday in this month. The services will be conducted by the pastor himself. In announcing the beginning of the services, Mr. Steadman stated that it has been his custom, during his ministry, to hold such services during the first year of his pastorate with the cooperation of the congregation. He not only invites the cooperation of the Methodist church, but of all the Christians of Laurens. The ladies are requested to hold cottage prayer meetings between now and the beginning of the services in the same localities where they were held during the Holcombe meeting. The Christian ladies of all the churches are invited to join in these prayer meetings and pray for the success of this meeting and the one to be held in the Baptist church. The two pastors, Mr. Steadman stated, have a full and harmonious understanding as to these two meetings.

W. L. GRAY RE-ELECTED CHAMBER COMMERCE HEAD

Officers and Directors Elected to Serve Another Year.

Body Agrees to Assist Supervisor in Fixing Court House Lawn

At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce Monday night W. L. Gray, who has served as president for the past year, was re-elected to serve for another term. W. R. McCuen was re-elected secretary and Rev. S. H. Templeman chaplain. The following were elected directors: R. R. Nichols, W. E. Meng, Dr. W. H. Dial, S. M. Wilkes, E. L. Clardy and Allison Lee.

Secretary McCuen, in reviewing the work of the body for the past year, pointed out that while the city had not gained any new industries, as many members considered the chief function of the chamber, yet many substantial accomplishments stood to its credit. Among them he mentioned the placing of the White Way lights on the public square, the success of the road bond election, the success of the Liberty Bond, Y. M. C. A. and Red Cross drives, the organization of which had the support of the chamber, a general quickening in food crops and other things educational which the body had supported.

It being brought to the attention of the chamber that the county farm demonstrator had resigned to accept similar work elsewhere, a resolution

was introduced by Rev. Templeman and unanimously passed endorsing the work of the farm demonstrator and pledging the cooperation of the body to Mr. W. W. Long in securing another. The consensus of opinion was that immediate steps should be taken to fill his place.

Following a general discussion of civic questions, the unsightly appearance of the court house square was brought up and a resolution was passed offering to pay for the seed and fertilizer if the supervisor would furnish labor to beautify the square within a reasonable time. The consensus of opinion was that the work should be done as soon as possible, so that the grass and plants may start growing in the spring months.

Under a new plan of financing the body, the secretary was authorized to employ collectors to call upon members at the regular stated times to collect dues. The secretary, who was strongly opposed to remuneration for his services, finally agreed to accept the allowance provided for him previously but on condition that the cost of collecting dues be taken out of this allowance.

BAKER TO SPEED UP LIVELY CAMPAIGN.

Many Believe This Is Object of War Secretary's Visit to France. Speaks President's Views.

Washington, March 11.—Safe arrival in France of Secretary Baker and his party having been formally announced today by the Navy Department, press reports about his movements on the other side are being watched closely. Many officials think it possible that the story of his activities if permitted to pass the censor, will throw interesting light upon the object of his mission to the theater of war.

Emphasis laid by the War Department upon the fact that Mr. Baker's trip was purely a military pilgrimage, without diplomatic significance has directed attention to the known desire of President Wilson to see an energetic campaign waged by the allies. With American troops holding a constantly increasing sector of the battle lines the wishes of the Washington government undoubtedly will have even more weight than heretofore with the Allied chieftains. Secretary Baker will be able to learn first hand from Gen. Pershing the judgment of that officer on all that is going on in France. He will not only hear what the American leader thinks of the prospects for his own forces, but will get also views, founded on long continued observation, as to the French and British war machines. It is assumed that the secretary is gathering just such information for the President and, going as he has done, backed by intimate knowledge of all that has transpired in the United States since this country entered the great war, he will be able to give as well as receive important information.

The great question of the direction in which the United States is to exert its greatest efforts in the war may be decided on the results of the conference abroad. There has been a constant conflict not only as to the use of ship tonnage as between the shipment of troops and the shipment of supplies for Allies, but also as to the priority rights of various army supplies and equipment.

Aside from any particular object the Secretary's trip may have, he has been eager to get to the front ever since the United States entered the war. He has frequently told officers en route to Europe that he envied them their opportunity to see world history in the making. Added to that is his great feeling of personal responsibility for the war preparations of the government.

Mr. M. L. Check, of Princeton, accompanied by his daughter, Miss Sarah Check, who is working as a trained nurse in Spartanburg, were in the city Thursday, Miss Check being on her way to Spartanburg after a visit home.

MAY GIVE CASUALTY LIST ONLY WEEKLY

Officials Consider Using European Custom Instead of Daily Announcements. Today's Casualty Lists.

Washington, March 11.—In discussion today of the War Department's new policy of announcing names only in the casualty lists from France it developed that department officials are considering adopting the European custom of publishing casualties weekly or semi-monthly, instead of daily.

This plan has been suggested, on the ground that it would effectually conceal from the enemy the losses in particular engagements or series of engagements. Even if it is approved by the general staff, final action on the suggestion is expected to await the return of Secretary Baker from Europe.

Lacking instructions to the contrary from President Wilson, the department probably will adhere strictly to the decision to eliminate dates, designations of units to which the men belonged and their home addresses in the daily list.

Major Gen. March, acting chief of staff, and the officers immediately around him are in agreement, it is understood, that Gen. Pershing's judgment must be accepted on all questions of this character. As the man on the ground, he is regarded as best fitted to gauge the results at the front.

Since relatives of the men killed or wounded are promptly informed, it is argued that no hardship is imposed by the new order upon those not concerned. In this connection an incident was disclosed today to throw light upon the extent to which the enemy goes by watching press reports. Several months ago, in the course of an item published in an American paper regarding the troops in France, the names of a village at which some of the men were quartered was mentioned. It was an unimportant point. There was no military stores nor even any extensive training camp there. The town had never been visited by enemy aircraft nor had there been bombing raids in that section.

Sometime after the publication, raiders swooped down on the town three times in succession in the same night. They did not attack any other point in that vicinity. Many bombs were hurled at this one town and there were several civilian casualties. Two casualty lists were issued today by the department and there were none yesterday and it is assumed that the first list given out today contained the names called by Gen. Pershing yesterday.

Mr. E. C. Franks, after visiting his brother, Lieut. Marvin Franks, in Jacksonville, Fla., has returned to the city. Mr. Franks was accompanied by Mr. H. C. Robt, who took the steamer there for New York.

OUT FOR MAGISTRATE.

Mr. J. N. Wright Announces that He Expects to be in the Race for Magistracy of This Township.

Mr. John N. Wright, the popular purveyor of shovels, plows, "holmbacks", bridges, and other paraphernalia in the hardware line at Moseley & Roland's store, confided to the Advertiser news gatherer the other day that becoming tired of the complacency of hardware life, when taken singly and in continuous doses, he had decided to seek the excitement of the political atmosphere again and toss his top-piece into the race for magisterial honors from the great and glorious Laurens township, Laurens county. After delivering himself of a few awkward sentiments along those lines, he added that he had seen fit to offer for the place on one other fateful occasion but a few, enough to make a majority, had thought it incumbent upon them to vote for another party and that consequently he had gone down into proud but smiling defeat. However, he continued, "I hold no ill-will against these voters who had sought other legal luminaries to weigh the hands of justice in the aforesaid great and glorious township, but, on the other hand, I feel a kindly affection toward them and hope that they will return the compliment this summer." With those few well chosen words, he departed to the back of the store to sell a couple of plough-shares.

The announcement of Mr. Wright comes upon the heel of the announcement by Magistrate Traynham that he would not seek re-election this year. Judge Traynham has been in ill health in recent months and though he is now able to be out, does not wish to exert himself with the heavy duties of another administration of the office.

FAILED TO CROSS PIAVE.

Italian Guns Frustrate Attempt by Austrian Troops.

Rome, March 11.—Austrian troops which apparently were making an attempt to cross the river Piave were prevented from doing so yesterday by the Italian batteries which sunk rafts and boats in the river opposite Fagare, the war office announced today.

A SOLDIER'S APPRECIATION.

Letter of Thanks from Camp Jackson Soldier to Miss Mary Shell, Related to Shell Family of This County.

How the soldiers appreciate the "knitting" which the women have been doing for them since the war began is well illustrated in a letter of thanks received by Miss Mary Shell, of Los Angeles, Cal., from a soldier at Camp Jackson. Miss Shell, though a long way from this city, is closely related to the Shell and other families of this county and is a sister-in-law of Mr. Jim Gray. The letter, which was written in January and forwarded to some of Miss Shell's relatives here, was as follows: Miss Mary Shell, Los Angeles, Calif. My Dear Miss Shell:

I was a very fortunate being a few days ago to receive a sweater, to which your note of Oct. 13th, was attached, and I want to take this opportunity to thank you most heartily and sincerely, not only for the sweater, but also, for the sentiment expressed in the note attached.

The sweater evidently was just made for me, as it "just fit". I just arrived at this camp a few days ago, from camp at St. Louis, Mo., and from reports we will no doubt leave for France before very long. However, should it be my fortune to again return to U. S. A. I hope that I may also be fortunate enough sometime to be able to thank you personally for your kind efforts.

Should you ever have time to write, a lonesome soldier boy would be very glad to hear from you, at any time.

Sincerely,
Peter M. Mehl,
A. O. B. D. F.,
Camp Jackson, So. Car.
Prov. Co. 1.

Clerk-Carrier Examination.

The United States Civil Service Commission has announced an open competitive examination for clerk-carrier to be held at Laurens, April 13th, 1918. At the same time an examination will be held at the same place for rural carrier at Lanford Station. Application blanks may be had at the postoffice at Laurens.