



Official Bulletin



PUBLISHED DAILY UNDER ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT BY THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION
GEORGE CREEL, CHAIRMAN

Vol. 1.

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 1917

No. 6.

WOMAN'S LIBERTY LOAN COMMITTEE IS ORGANIZED

Secretary McAdoo announces the formation of a woman's liberty loan committee to give the women of America an opportunity for patriotic service by aiding in the distribution and sale of all bonds issued by the Government of the United States to defray necessary war expenses. At his request the following women have consented to serve on the committee:

Mrs. W. G. McAdoo; Mrs. Antoinette Funk, of Chicago; Mrs. George Bass, of Chicago; Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, of New York; Mrs. Kellogg Fairbank, of Chicago; Mrs. J. O. Miller, of Pittsburgh; Mrs. Guilford Dudley, of Nashville, Tenn.; Mrs. George T. Guernsey, of Independence, Kans.; Mrs. Frank A. Vanderlip, of New York; and Mrs. Frank S. Higginson, of Boston.

Will Extend Work to States.

The Woman's Liberty Loan Committee will ask for the cooperation of the Woman's National Defense Committee. The executive committee of the Liberty Loan Committee will form an advisory committee of national organizations in which women hold membership. Comprehensive plans are now being worked out to extend the work of the committee into all of the States and to use every means at its disposal to create interest in the liberty loan bond issue. In announcing the membership of the committee, Secretary McAdoo issued the following appeal to the women of America:

To the women of America:

"There has been no crisis in the history of mankind when women have not responded to the supreme test of service.

"As a Nation of men and women we have been asked to give our sons to a war that can only end in peace to mankind. They are even now moving from their homes to enter the service of the world.

Service of Paramount Value.

"I am asking the loyal women of America to aid their country by giving at once a service of paramount value to the Government, to our soldiers, to the vast army serving in industries, business, in the home, and on the soil.

"I ask that they give to the limit of their means by buying liberty bonds, that money, which is a fundamental need in war, shall be at hand. I ask them to give to the limit of their time that the liberty bonds may meet an early sale. I ask that they bear in mind that this is a service of patriotism as honorable and as useful as that in any department of the great army of Americans standing for liberty and humanity."

EXTENDS CREDIT TO RUSSIA.

The Treasury Department authorizes the following:

A credit of \$100,000,000 was extended by the American Government to the Russian Government to-day through Secretary McAdoo. Present at the ceremony were Secretary McAdoo, Constantin Onou, Charge d'Affaires of the Russian Embassy, Assistant Secretary Crosby, Frank L. Polk, Counselor of the State Department, and Serge Ughet, Financial Attache of the Russian Embassy. After the credit and the acknowledgment were signed, Secretary McAdoo expressed the earnest hope that it would be beneficial in strengthening the cause of liberty, not only in Russia, but throughout the world. He said that the American people and Government hoped for the success of the Russian Government and desire that the extension of credit will be of material assistance.

Mr. Onou replied by saying that the Russian Government and people appreciate deeply this mark of confidence on the part of the American Government. He mentioned the difficulties before the Russian Government and extended the thanks of his Government for the credit given by the United States.

NAVY PASSES THE 100,000 MARK IN ENLISTED STRENGTH

The Navy Department to-day announced:

The Navy to-day passed the 100,000 mark in enlisted strength. That figure was reached at 2 o'clock this afternoon. The hundred thousandth man enlisted was Richard Farris Cannon, who enlisted at the Navy recruiting station, Jackson, Miss.

Progress of Recruiting.

The following table shows the progress of recruiting:

March 25.—The day President Wilson signed the order providing for increasing the enlisted strength to 87,000 the total enlisted strength of the Navy was 61,381.

April 2.—The day the President delivered his war message to Congress—63,140.

April 6.—The day war was declared and Secretary Daniels issued the order for the mobilization of the Navy—64,680.

(Continued on page 2.)

SECRETARY HOUSTON EXPLAINS PROPOSED FIXING OF PRICES

In response to a letter regarding the fixing of prices of food products, the Secretary of Agriculture to-day, May 16, sent the following reply:

"Your letter of May 1, with inclosure, has been brought to my attention. Your correspondent expresses apprehension from the talk in the newspapers about the Government setting a price on food-stuffs. He seems to think that it is contemplated to fix a price to producers which would be so low that they would not secure a reasonable return. Of course there has been much confused writing in the papers.

Two Suggestions Made.

"Only two suggestions have been made: One is that the Government be given power to fix a minimum price, with a view to stimulate production. This price would be sufficiently high to insure producers against loss. It could not have the effect feared by your correspondent, because the very object would be to stimulate production by assuring sufficiently high prices to producers. The other suggestion is that the Government be given power to fix a maximum price, in extreme emergencies, to break corners or to control extortion.

"It is not contemplated that the Government, if it had the power to fix a maximum price, would announce the existence of such a price in reference to any one or more commodities in advance of the appearance of an acute situation; nor is it contemplated that such a price, if fixed, would be of continuing operation.

"The single thought in this connection is that the power might be used as a club to be applied only in individual cases where it is clear that an individual or corporation had established a corner or was practicing extortion. The power, it is suggested, would be used against such individuals or corporations, and when that particular situation was controlled, or the abuse eliminated, the incident would be closed. Any further exercise of the power would depend upon the appearance of a similar condition."

PARCELS POST ANNOUNCEMENT.

The following cablegram, dated May 14, 1917, has been received from the postal administration of China:

"Owing to lack of accommodation on Japanese and Russian railways north of Moukden please stop acceptance of parcels for Harbin until further notice."

In view of the foregoing, postmasters must refuse, until further notice, to accept for mailing parcels destined for Harbin, China.

SECRETARY OF INTERIOR SUGGESTS WAR TOPICS FOR COMMENCEMENT DAY ESSAYS

SECRETARY'S LETTER TO SCHOOL PRESIDENTS

DEAR SIR: Will you be good enough to urge upon our schools, universities, and colleges that in the commencement exercises of this year preeminence be given to the discussion of the causes and purpose of the war. As suggestive a few possible themes are inclosed which may be used.

Cordially,

FRANKLIN K. LANE.

The list of suggested subjects for commencement day essays or orations, made by the Secretary of the Interior follows:

- Belgium's Wrongs.
- Mobilization of the Nation's Industries and Resources.
- Washington's Attitude Toward War.
- The Debt of the United States to France.
- Tolstol and the Russian Revolution.
- League to Enforce Peace.
- Specialization of Industry in War Times.
- What Russia Did for the United States in the Civil War.
- Uses of Photographs in War.
- Wealth of the United States.
- Use of Alcohol in War Times.
- Russian Methods of Cooperation.
- America's Contribution to War Machines.
- Is the Submarine a Justifiable Instrument of War for any other than Naval Defense?
- Lincoln in 1917. What would he have done?
- War Bread.—How Made.
- Value of Sacrifice to a Nation.
- How Can I Help in the War? A self-analysis by the individual pupil of his or her opportunities for service—gardening, scouting, etc.
- Universal Military Service.
- Education and War. The direct relation between education and industrial efficiency, and therefore between education and war.
- Autocracy Versus Democracy. A comparison of the governments of the belligerents.
- The American Negro as a Soldier.
- Story of his contribution to the Army and Navy in earlier wars.
- His character as a soldier when well led.
- The Rise of Democracy through the War.
- The Red Cross—Its History and Work.
- Our Ties with South America: What They are and What They Ought to be.
- The English Ideal of Liberty.
- Military Training in Public Schools.
- Women and the War.
- Aviation during the War.
- What Constitutes "Sacrifice" for the Nation.
- The Democracy of Universal Service.
- The Russian Revolution—A forward step in Democracy.
- Government Control of the Nation's Food Supply.
- Preparation for Peace at Close of the War.

International League for Peace.
American Aid to Stricken Europe. Relief work in Belgium; Red Cross; ambulance service by American universities.

War and Thrift. The governmental regulations of food, fuel, clothing; what habits are likely to be carried over into ordinary life after the urgency conditions are removed. How each person can help.

Development of the Various Sciences During the War. Medicine, surgery, sanitation, physics, chemistry, navigation, aviation.

The President's Reasons for Entering into War with Germany.

The Freedom of the Seas. The points involved in the submarine issue.

America's Duty to the World's Democracies.

The Council for National Defense. What it means to the Nation.

The National Food Problem.

Treatment of Our Alien Born.

Honor in Public Service. How a national emergency drives out sectional interest, "pork-barrel" legislation, and personal and petty profit.

Feeding Armies.

World Democracy.

WILL LEAVE WAR COLLEGE.

Col. Elliott and Col. Sayre Ordered to Join Their Regiments.

The following-named officers are relieved from duty at the Army War College, Washington, D. C.:

Col. Stephen H. Elliott, Cavalry, detached officers' list.

Col. Farrand Sayre, Cavalry.

Col. Elliott is placed on duty with the Eleventh Cavalry and will proceed to join that regiment.

Col. Sayre is attached to the Sixteenth Cavalry and will proceed to join that regiment.

The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

CANCELS CAMP CONTRACT.

Secretary of Labor Wilson announces the cancellation of a contract recently made by the Bureau of Immigration with E. B. Gresham, of Hendersonville, N. C., for the rental of the Kanuga Club property, between Hendersonville and Asheville, N. C., which was to have been utilized as a concentration camp for interned Germans. Secretary Wilson has agents negotiating for another large tract of land in the South. He stated that he expects that a contract for this property will be signed within a few days.

WITHDRAWAL OF COASTWISE SHIPS FOR OVERSEAS TRADE

Finding it necessary, in view of the pressing need for transportation of food to the allies, to withdraw for trans-Atlantic trade about 30,000 tons of shipping now used in the coastwise trade, the Shipping Board has adopted the following resolution:

Resolved by the United States Shipping Board, That the committee appointed by the Council of National Defense to advise in matters of shipping, urge upon owners of American vessels with whom they are in touch to the extent of a tonnage of, say, about 30,000 tons, to contract with or make charters to the agents of the allied governments for carriage to allied countries of food, munitions, supplies, and other goods, at a rate to be agreed upon between them. The terms and conditions as to rates and war-risk insurance to be agreed between owners and charterers, but not to exceed one trip.

Further resolved, That the names of said vessels and the trades they are leaving shall be communicated to the Shipping Board by wire or telephone for their approval.

The purpose of this request being the application by the Shipping Board of the urgent necessity for stimulating the carriage of foods, munitions, and supplies to the allies fighting against the central powers.

Resolved further, That the Shipping Board will use its utmost endeavors to secure armed guard for said vessels.

Resolved further, That this method of stimulating the tonnage for the allies arises from the immediate necessity of the situation; that it shall not be deemed as establishing any policy in the matter of control or stimulation of such traffic as shall be binding upon the board hereafter.

Navy Passes the 100,000 Mark in Enlisted Strength.

(Continued from page 1.)

April 25.—End of the first month's recruiting—81,269.

May 7.—End of the first month of the war—92,852.

May 16.—The 100,000 mark passed.

Enlistment of Apprentices.

In addition to the 87,000 enlisted strength the law permits the enlistment of 6,000 apprentice seamen, members of the Hospital Corps, reserves, and other auxiliary services, and the men on duty with the Naval Militia are not included in the 87,000. The total number authorized is 100,657, and this number will be reached to-morrow.

The bill authorizing an increase in the Navy to 150,000 has passed both House and Senate, and while there are certain differences in the bill to be settled in conference there is no doubt that the increase will be authorized. Meanwhile there will be no let up in recruiting.

Leave of absence for 14 days on account of sickness is granted Maj. William A. Duncan, Medical Corps.

Secretary of Agriculture Explains Farm Labor Problems

The Secretary of Agriculture, in a statement before the House Committee on Agriculture, said:

"There is one factor in particular of great importance, one about which there is much concern. I refer to the labor supply not only for the ordinary farming operations, but especially for the harvest season. There is general agreement that labor may be the principal limiting factor in increasing production. It is true, generally speaking, that in the section west of the Mississippi River and south of the Ohio River the labor supply is not very far short of normal, but even in that region there are particular areas where there is a shortage reported. The exact extent of it I have no means of knowing. There have been reports of migrations of negroes from Alabama and Georgia.

Shortage of Labor.

"In the neighborhood of the larger industrial centers, even in the West, there are reports of a considerable shortage of labor. There are reports of greater shortages in the Northeast generally—in the section immediately north of us, in eastern Pennsylvania, in New Jersey, in northern Delaware, in southeastern New York, in southeastern Michigan, and in parts of New England, especially in Connecticut.

"The creation of a large army will involve some additional abstraction of labor from the farms. It is, therefore, of the utmost importance that steps be taken to assure the farmers that, in the harvest season especially, they will be able to secure an adequate labor supply. I believe the problem can be solved. It must be, and I believe farmers should have no hesitation in extending their planting to the limit. The Nation must see to it that they have labor to harvest their crops and must extend such aid as may be needed.

Many Suggestions Made.

"Many suggestions have been made looking to its solution. I believe that the problem can be solved largely by organization and cooperation. The department is taking steps to place in each State, in contact with the State central board, a man whose thought and time shall be given to the matter of labor supply and its organization. He will work with the State central board and the local bodies that are being formed.

"One of the first things that we shall undertake to do will be to make a sort of farm-labor survey. We know, of course, that even in the same community the load may not come on one farm at exactly the same time that it comes on another. Through cooperation on the part of the farmers, even in the same community, something can be done to mobilize labor, to render help in a pinch on certain farms that need help, through the utilization of labor on other farms which may not, at a given time, be so hard pressed.

May Find Surplus Labor.

"Over larger areas, the possibility of discovering labor in one section to render help in another part is even greater. The load does not come at the same time in different States. Through a careful survey we can discover surplus labor or labor not fully employed at a particular time in

a given section, give information concerning it to the proper agency in another section or State where there is a deficit, and assist in securing the surplus.

"We shall, as I have pointed out, work with the State central and local agencies and shall cooperate with other Federal departments, particularly the Department of Labor. We have done this in the past with some success without very much organization and without very much previous planning.

Hopes to Transfer Labor.

"In former years when the crops were large the Department of Labor has been instrumental in assisting State commissioners of agriculture in certain States to locate labor not then employed in their States and in adjoining States. I think we can do much to make more effective the regular labor remaining on the farms in particular localities. I think we can do something to bring about a transfer of labor temporarily from one section to another.

"I think it will be possible to call into service labor not heretofore regularly or fully utilized. We have had large numbers of boys and girls organized in clubs rendering useful service. There is an army of nearly 300,000 of them. I have no doubt that it can be extended; that its number can be increased; and that its services can be used in additional directions.

Number of Boys Estimated.

"It has been estimated that there are over 2,000,000 boys in towns and cities, some of whom have been in touch with rural life, who could be utilized, especially in harvest season, if proper steps to organized them were taken. There are many in rural communities whose service has not been fully utilized. It might be found to be desirable and feasible for schools and colleges in certain sections of the country not to resume their sessions so early in the fall so that the boys may help on the farms during the harvest season. In some directions girls may render valuable and valiant help.

"I am not trying to indicate all the methods we might employ or persons we might utilize but simply to give some hints. Whether it will be necessary to go further I can not now say, but since ample food is so fundamental a need in this crisis no step to render aid should be omitted which the emergency may require, and the farmers should know this."

TRANSFER OF STEAMER.

The Secretary of Commerce makes the following statement:

"The Bureau of Fisheries' steamer *Halcyon* has been transferred to the Navy Department, and accepted, for use in the coast-patrol service. The vessel is brand new, being accepted by this department for the Fisheries Bureau the latter part of April. She is a wooden-hull, single-screw, steam-propelled vessel, 100 feet 6 inches in length, 10-foot draft, and developed 10 knots on her acceptance trial. The *Halcyon* was constructed under the supervision of this department at Boothbay, Me., and is an exceptionally well-built vessel."

LABOR COMMITTEE, DEFENSE COUNCIL, HOLDS MEETING

The general meeting of the committee on labor, advisory commission, Council of National Defense, brought together in Washington yesterday officers and executive members of the American Federation of Labor, presidents or representatives of national labor organizations and of the railway brotherhoods, in joint session with some of the most prominent employers and financiers in America, publicists, educators, and representatives of the Army and Navy. The meeting was called by Samuel Gompers, chairman of the committee on labor, for the purpose of receiving the English representatives of labor who arrived in this country a week ago, namely: C. W. Bowerman, M. P., secretary of the British Trades Union Congress; James H. Thomas, M. P., general secretary of the National Union of Railway Men; H. W. Garrod, labor welfare representative of the ministry of munitions; and Joseph Davies, member of secretariat of Prime Minister Lloyd George; and the Canadian representatives of labor delegated by the Canadian Government, Mr. J. C. Waters, president Canadian Trades and Labor Congress, and G. D. Robertson, president National Association of Railway Telegraphers of Canada. This delegation was accompanied at the meeting to-day by Judge Maurice Amos of the British commission.

Welcomed by Mr. Gompers.

About 200 members of the committee were in attendance when Chairman Gompers called the meeting to order at 10 o'clock. Mr. Gompers welcomed the English delegates on behalf of the committee on labor and gave a brief review of what the committee has accomplished in the short time since its formation by way of organization and determination of plans for the work before it. Mr. Thomas gave an address on the meaning of war as it is seen by those who are face to face with its realities and commented on the part labor is playing in the struggle, both in the trenches and the factories. Mr. Bowerman spoke. James Duncan, vice president of the American Federation of Labor and labor's representative on the commission the Government is sending to Russia; Myron T. Herrick, John D. Rockefeller, jr., and Joseph Davies, secretary to Premier Lloyd-George, also addressed the conference. The remarks of Judge Amos completed the morning session.

Received by President.

At 2.30 the entire committee was received by President Wilson at the White House. The chairman, Mr. Gompers, addressing the President, described the purpose of the committee, its composition, and the character of the service it is preparing to render. The President expressed his appreciation of the plans of the committee and his sympathy with its purpose of conservation of the health and welfare of the workers in the Nation's industries. At the conclusion of his address the President greeted the members of the committee individually.

(Continued on page 8.)

The Official Bulletin

Published Every Week Day by the
Committee on Public Information.

Office: No. 10 Jackson Place,
Washington, D. C.

Copies of the OFFICIAL BULLETIN will be furnished without charge to newspapers, all post offices in the United States, public officials, and agencies of a public or semipublic character equipped for the dissemination of official news of the United States Government.—E. S. ROCHESTER, *Editor*.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES BY MAIL:

Daily (One year)..... \$5.00
(Six months)..... 3.00

EXECUTIVE ORDER.

I hereby create a Committee on Public Information, to be composed of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, and a civilian who shall be charged with the executive direction of the committee.

As civilian chairman of the committee I appoint Mr. George Creel.

The Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, and the Secretary of the Navy are authorized each to detail an officer or officers to the work of the committee.

WOODROW WILSON.

April 14, 1917.

LETTER TO PRESIDENT.

The President's action in creating the Committee on Public Information was based on the following letter signed by the Secretaries of State, War, and Navy:

APRIL 13, 1917.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Even though the cooperation of the press has been generous and patriotic, there is a steadily developing need for some authoritative agency to assure the publication of all the vital facts of national defense. Premature or ill-advised announcements of policies, plans, and specific activities, whether innocent or otherwise, would constitute a source of danger.

While there is much that is properly secret in connection with the departments of the Government, the total is small compared to the vast amount of information that it is right and proper for the people to have.

America's great present needs are confidence, enthusiasm, and service, and these needs will not be met completely unless every citizen is given the feeling of partnership that comes with full, frank statements concerning the conduct of the public business.

It is our opinion that the two functions—censorship and publicity—can be joined in honesty and with profit, and we recommend the creation of a Committee of Public Information. The chairman should be a civilian, preferably some writer of proved courage, ability, and vision, able to gain the understanding cooperation of the press and at the same time rally the authors of the country to a work of service. Other members should be the Secretary of State, the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Navy, or an officer or officers detailed to the work by them.

We believe you have the undoubted authority to create this Committee on Public

POST THE BULLETIN.

Postmaster:

Your particular attention is called to THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN which is to be issued as the official news medium of the Government under the direction of the Committee on Public Information appointed by the President of the United States for the purpose of disseminating official news during the present war crisis. All postmasters are directed to post this BULLETIN daily in a conspicuous place in the lobby or other portion of their respective post-office buildings where the public can read it; and, without expense to the Government, each and every postmaster is earnestly urged to see that this BULLETIN is made available to as many people as possible in the manner suggested.

A. S. BURLESON,
Postmaster General.

ORDER TO NAVY MEN.

To all flag ships and shore stations: By direction of the President, the Committee on Public Information is to issue an official news medium which will be known as THE OFFICIAL BULLETIN, for the purpose of disseminating official news during the present war crisis. The first number will go to press during the week of May 7, and copies will be forwarded immediately to every ship and shore station and departmental bureau of the Navy. It is the desire of the department that the daily bulletin be made accessible to the entire personnel of the Navy. All commandants and commanding officers are directed to have it placed in a conspicuous and accessible place and to notify the officers and men under their command of its existence and purpose.

JOSEPHUS DANIELS,
Secretary of the Navy.
May 5, 1917.

Information without waiting for further legislation, and because of the importance of the task and its pressing necessity, we trust that you will see fit to do so.

The committee, upon appointment, can proceed to the framing of regulations and the creation of machinery that will safeguard all information of value to an enemy and at the same time open every department of government to the inspection of the people as far as possible. Such regulations and such machinery will, of course, be submitted for your approval before becoming effective.

Respectfully,

ROBERT LANSING.
NEWTON D. BAKER.
JOSEPHUS DANIELS.

First Lieut. Francis H. Miles, jr., Coast Artillery Corps, is relieved from his present duties and will repair to this city and report to the Chief of Ordnance for duty in his office. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

DEVICES USED IN COMBATING GASES IN TRENCH WARFARE

In response to inquiries from the Army and Navy as to information concerning the best types of apparatus to be used in combating noxious gases, the Bureau of Mines, Department of the Interior, which had such an investigation under way in behalf of the miners of the country, has made a printed report, with the result that experts are busily engaged in designing an apparatus that promises to be superior to any now in use on the European battle fields.

The experts of the bureau, Dr. Yandell Henderson, professor of physiology in the Yale Medical School, and J. W. Paul, in charge of the rescue work of the Bureau of Mines, make the statement that the wearing of the present types of oxygen-rescue apparatus involves grave danger, owing to the fact that the makers have as yet failed to meet satisfactorily certain mechanical and physiological apparatus and suggest ways in which these may be eliminated.

Of Value to Army and Navy.

"While this report is primarily of interest to the mining industry and is meant as a measure for the improvement in the oxygen apparatus used in saving life at mine disasters," said Van H. Manning, director of the bureau, "it comes at such a time as to be of great value to the Army and Navy in their need of apparatus to protect the lives of their men in warfare.

"In the apparatus now being used we have found a number of grave defects. As an instance of one of these serious defects, the manufacturers of such apparatus have directed that the oxygen supply should be set at a rate sufficient for only moderate exertion upon the part of the wearer. Because of this rescue crews have been trained to walk slowly and to stop and rest at frequent intervals. Moving slowly might mean to be crushed and a vigorous attempt to escape would result in collapse or even asphyxiation because of an insufficient supply of oxygen.

Has Developed an Apparatus.

"As the most effective means of putting into concrete form and of testing the feasibility of the recommendations of this report, the bureau has attempted to develop an apparatus along the physiological lines for which it calls. For some time W. E. Gibbs, an experienced mechanical engineer, has been at work for the bureau on this problem. Mr. Gibbs, aided by the advice and cooperation of the authors of this report, has produced an apparatus which, in experimental tests, has shown itself superior to the older types, but which still has to be subjected to further tests in service. In addition, Mr. Gibbs' services have been tendered to the military forces for the development of an apparatus that will be of value in the trenches."

AMERICAN SHOES IN PORTO RICO.

Porto Rican markets for American shoes are discussed in detail in a report issued to-day by the Department of Commerce. Although low wages have always been the rule in the island, there has recently been a growing market for medium and high grade shoes. American manufacturers get practically all of the trade.

BILL TO GIVE PRESIDENT POWER OVER FREIGHT SHIPMENTS

A bill empowering the President to determine what classes of freight shall have priority in shipment and to direct shipments in accordance with the emergency needs of the Nation has been submitted to the House by Chairman Webb, of the Judiciary Committee, with the approval of the President. The measure authorizes the President to delegate the powers conferred to any department or agency of the Government, or, if he deems it necessary, to appoint a commissioner or commission of transportation to administer the law.

Statement by Attorney General.

In explaining the need for such legislation, Attorney General Gregory authorizes this statement:

"As war conditions develop it is certain there will be times when the shipment of arms and ammunition may be of prime importance; at another time the movement of provisions may be more important; at another, the movement of coal and iron ore may become the most important of all.

"Under these conditions it is thought essential that the power should be fixed in the President to determine from time to time what particular freight shall have priority and for how long this priority should continue. The powers conferred are to exist only during the war. In carrying out these powers it is proposed that the President be authorized to utilize any existing department or agency of the Government, or to appoint for this purpose a commissioner or a commission, not exceeding five in number."

Provisions of the Bill.

The bill provides:

"Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled:

"SECTION 1. That during the continuance of the war in which the United States is now engaged the President shall be, and he is hereby, authorized to direct that certain kinds of traffic or particular shipments, as may be determined by him, shall have preference or priority in transportation by any common carriers by railroad or water. He may give these directions at and for such times as he may determine, and may modify, change, suspend, or annul them.

"SEC. 2. No act done or omitted to be done by any carrier necessary to comply with such a direction shall be the basis of any criminal or civil liability.

Payment of Compensation.

"SEC. 3. The President may from time to time direct the exercise of the powers hereby conferred by any department or agency of the Government, the officials of which shall receive no compensation for their service hereunder, or by any person whom the President may appoint as commissioner, or by any persons not to exceed five whom he may appoint as a commission of transportation. Any such commissioner or member of such commission not otherwise in the employ of the Government shall receive compensation as the President may fix.

"SEC. 4. Subject to the approval of the President, the department or agency of

NEW RULINGS BY POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT ON FORWARDING MAIL FOR OR FROM WAR PRISONERS

OFFICE OF POSTMASTER GENERAL,
Washington, April 7, 1917.

ORDER No. 211.

Ordered that, during the continuance of hostilities between the United States and Germany, no letters, packages, or other mail matter originating within the United States or its possessions and destined for Germany, or addressed to any post office, port, or other place within the jurisdiction of Germany, or to any person residing within the jurisdiction of Germany, shall be dispatched from the United States to their said destination, provided, however, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to authorize the seizure or detention of any foreign closed transit mails for Germany originating in other foreign countries or originating in Germany and destined for any other foreign country (not her colony or dependency) while in transit over territory of the United States, which closed mails should be returned by the United States exchange office first receiving them to the country whence received, accompanied by a Bulletin of Verification stating that the United States can not act as intermediary for the forwarding of such mails.

That for the purpose of executing this order postmasters at post offices of the United States and its possessions are hereby instructed to send to the Division of Dead Letters, Post Office Department, Washington, D. C., for return to the senders or other appropriate disposal all mail matter prohibited dispatch as above indicated.

the Government, or commissioner or commission of transportation so selected by him, may adopt all necessary rules and regulations for their procedure and for the enforcement of the directions to be given to carriers, and may employ and fix the compensation of such officers and employees as may be needed, and rent suitable offices. All necessary expenses, including compensation, shall be paid as directed by the President out of funds which may have been or may be provided to meet expenditures for the national security and defense."

GIVEN ACTIVE DUTY.

By direction of the President, First Lieut. Emory S. West, United States Army, retired, is placed on active military duty under the provisions of the next to the last proviso of section 24 of the act of Congress approved June 3, 1916. Lieut. West will proceed to Fort Douglas, Utah, and report in person to the commandant, war prison barracks, that post, for duty. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY.

By direction of the President, Col. William R. Livermore, United States Army, retired, is placed on active military duty under the provisions of the next to the last proviso of section 24, act of Congress approved June 3, 1916. He will repair to this city, take station, and report to the Chief of Engineers for assignment to duty. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

This order is hereby made to include all mail matter destined for Germany now remaining in the United States and its possessions, and that which may be mailed or received hereafter.

Postmasters will cause due notice of the foregoing to be taken at their offices and until otherwise instructed refuse to accept for mailing any mail matter destined for delivery in Germany.

In view of the fact that under existing conditions mail for Austria, Hungary, Luxembourg, Bulgaria, and Turkey requires transit through Germany, to which country mail service from the United States is now suspended, mail for those countries will be treated, until otherwise ordered, in the manner herein prescribed for mail destined for Germany; but mail from those countries received in the United States will be dispatched to destination.

A. S. BUBLESON,
Postmaster General.

MAY 15, 1917.

The provisions of Order No. 211 of April 7, 1917, are not to be understood as applying to mail for or from prisoners of war, as defined by section 8, on page 114, of the Postal Guide for July, 1916. Such mail, whatever its origin or destination, must be sent forward, if practicable, in accordance with its address.

Postmasters will cause due notice of the foregoing to be taken at their offices.

A. S. BUBLESON,
Postmaster General.

From United States Official Postal Guide, July, 1916, page 114, section 8:

Prisoners of war mail.—Exemption from all postage charges applies in the countries of origin and destination, as well as in the countries through which the mail passes, to correspondence addressed to or coming from bureaus of information concerning prisoners; to or from soldiers, prisoners in belligerent countries, or interned in neutral countries; and to any article admissible to the mails exchanged between Canada and the United States when addressed to or mailed by a prisoner of war in either country. Sailors and civilians on interned vessels and in war prisons or camps are assimilated to soldiers who are prisoners of war.

In addressing mail the name of the addressee must be followed by the words "prisoner of war."

On receipt from a foreign country, articles from prisoners or bureaus entitled to freedom from postage shall be stamped at the United States exchange post office, "No charge for postage; prisoner of war mail," before being dispatched to destination.

All mailable articles (letters in their usual and ordinary form, post cards, prints, commercial papers, samples complying with the Postal Union Regulations) are acceptable free of postage.

There is no exemption from the payment of the registration fee of 10 cents, nor from the payment of postage at the rate of 12 cents a pound or fraction thereof, on packages sent by international parcel post.

War Department Orders Giving Assignments to Officers

Private Charles A. Whittle, Company M, Seventh Infantry, Fort Bliss, Tex., is transferred to The Army Service Schools Detachment, Fort Leavenworth, Kans., and will be sent to that post for duty.

Private First Class Edward E. Castle, Medical Department, now in this city, having performed the duties assigned him in Special Orders, No. 130, Fort Sam Houston, Tex., May 10, 1917, is relieved from further duty in the Southern Department and will proceed to Fort Warren, Mass., for duty, with permission to delay 10 days en route for his own convenience. The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Corpl. George A. Thomas, Troop G, Third Cavalry, now in this city, having performed the duties assigned him in Special Orders, No. 130, Fort Sam Houston, Tex., May 10, 1917, will return to his proper station. The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Brig. Gen. Clarence P. Townsley, United States Army, is relieved from his present duties, to take effect at such time as will enable him to comply with this order, and will proceed to San Francisco, Cal., and sail on the first available transport to Manila, P. I. Upon arrival there Brig. Gen. Townsley will assume command of the coast defenses of Manila and Subic Bays. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Private First Class Emmett M. Keith, Quartermaster Corps, General Hospital, Fort Bayard, N. Mex., is transferred as private to the Sixth Field Artillery and will be sent to Douglas, Ariz., for assignment to a battery. The expenses incident to the transfer will be borne by the soldier.

Private William J. Johnsey, Company H, Seventeenth Infantry, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., will be discharged by the commanding officer of that post, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Band Leader George Stretz, Second Band, Coast Artillery Corps, Fort Williams, Me., is placed upon the retired list at that fort and will repair to his home. The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation and pay the soldier commutation of rations in advance for the necessary number of days' travel, it being impracticable for him to carry rations of any kind. The journey is necessary for the public service.

Q. M. Sergt. Henry J. Rath, Quartermaster Corps, Fort Crook, Nebr., will be sent to Fort Mackenzie, Wyo., for duty and to relieve Q. M. Sergt. Benjamin A. DuBois, Quartermaster Corps. Quartermaster Sergeant DuBois upon relief will be sent to Fort Crook, Nebr., for duty.

Q. M. Sergt. Charles F. Bremerman, Quartermaster Corps, Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., will be sent immediately to Fort Ontario, N. Y., for duty.

Paragraph 59, Special Orders, No. 103, War Department, May 4, 1917, relating to Pvt. Owen H. Norvell, Coast Artillery Corps, Second Company, Fort Howard, Md., is revoked.

Q. M. Sergt. Charles Bader, Quartermaster Corps, will be placed upon the retired list at Seattle, Wash., to date April 27, 1917, and will repair to his home. The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation and pay the soldier commutation of rations in advance for the necessary number of days' travel, it being impracticable for him to carry rations of any kind. The journey is necessary for the public service.

Private Henry W. Weber, Headquarters Company, Ninth Field Artillery, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, will be sent on first available transport to Fort McDowell, Cal., and upon arrival will be discharged by the commanding officer of that depot, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Private George J. Gordon, Company C, Second Engineers, El Paso, Tex., will be discharged by his commanding officer, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Color Sergt. Adolf Saugestad, Twenty-second Infantry, Fort Jay, N. Y., is transferred to the Fifteenth Infantry, stationed in China, and will be sent to Fort McDowell, Cal., to report to the commanding officer, who will send him on the first available transport to join his organization.

Color Sergt. Harvey A. Carpenter, Fifteenth Infantry, is transferred to the Twenty-second Infantry, and the commanding officer, Fort McDowell, Cal., will send him to Fort Jay, N. Y., to report to the commanding officer for duty.

Pvt. First Class Simon J. Jason, Medical Department, Fort Slocum, N. Y., is transferred as of his present grade to the general service, Infantry, and will be directed to report to the officer in charge of the recruiting station, 25 Third Avenue, New York, N. Y., for assignment to duty.

Pvt. Frank J. Anderson, Coast Artillery Corps, First Company, Fort Kamehameha, Hawaii, now at the Letterman General Hospital, Presidio of San Francisco, Cal., is transferred as private first class to the general service, Infantry, and will be sent to the recruiting station, 1705 Lawrence Street, Denver, Colo., for duty.

Pvt. Harry Kirschner, Company B, Twenty-second Infantry, Fort Jay, N. Y., will be discharged by his commanding officer, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Sergt. First Class Joseph P. Conway, Signal Corps, upon arrival at Fort Lawton, Wash., will be sent to Fort Riley, Kans., for duty and to relieve Sergt. Charles Cavanaugh, Signal Corps. Upon relief Sergt. Cavanaugh will be sent to Fort Leavenworth, Kans., for assignment to duty by the commandant, The Army Service Schools.

So much of paragraph 37, Special Orders, No. 104, War Department, May 5, 1917, as relates to Q. M. Sergt. Herman C. Kilber, Quartermaster Corps, is revoked.

Capt. Emery T. Smith, Field Artillery, detached officers' list, is assigned to temporary duty as instructor, citizens' training camps, Western Department, and will report at once to the commanding general of that department for assignment to a station and will join the station to which assigned. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Capt. John W. Downer, Field Artillery, detached officers' list, is relieved from duty at Chicago, Ill., and will proceed to Minneapolis, Minn., and report to the recruiting officer at the latter place for duty as assistant. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Leave of absence for one month on surgeon's certificate of disability is granted Capt. Charles C. Benedict, junior military aviator, Signal Corps.

Maj. Ulysses S. Grant, 3d, Corps of Engineers, is detailed temporarily as recorder of the Board of Ordnance and Fortification during the absence of Capt. Alvin B. Barber, Corps of Engineers.

First Lieut. George E. Foley, Fifth Infantry, New Jersey National Guard, will proceed to Washington, D. C., and report in person to The Adjutant General of the Army for instructions. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

The resignation of Capt. James Baca, First Infantry, New Mexico National Guard, is accepted by the President, to take effect this date.

Each of the following-named officers is assigned to temporary duty as instructor, citizens' training camps, Central Department, and will report by telegraph at once to the commanding general of that department for assignment to station and will join the station to which assigned:

Capt. John Cocke, Eighth Cavalry.
First Lieut. Harding Polk, Cavalry, detached officers' list.

The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

First Lieut. Kenneth P. Lord, Cavalry, detached officers' list, will report in person at once to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., for duty as assistant to the adjutant of that camp. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

By direction of the President, Maj. Joseph Frazier, United States Army, retired, is detailed, with his consent, under the provisions of the act of Congress approved June 3, 1916, as professor of military science and tactics at Rice Institute, Houston, Tex., and will proceed to that place and report in person on or about May 20, 1917, to the president of the institute for duty accordingly. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

By direction of the President, Capt. William B. Baker, United States Army, retired, is placed on active military duty under the provisions of the next to the last proviso of section 24, act of Congress

War Department Orders Giving Assignments to Officers

approved June 3, 1916. He will report to the general superintendent, Army Transport Service at New York, N. Y., as soon as possible, for assignment to duty as his assistant.

Army Field Clerks Thomas F. Carney, Frederick Power, Herbert Dunn, Charles Clark, Arthur Corbishley, and William A. Dunlap are relieved from duty in the Philippine Department, to take effect at such time as will enable them to comply with this order, and will proceed to San Francisco, Cal., on the transport scheduled to sail from Manila, P. I., on or about June 15, 1917, and upon arrival at San Francisco will proceed to stations as follows, reporting to the commanding officers thereof for duty: Clerk Carney to the headquarters, Central Department, Chicago, Ill.; Clerk Power to The Army Service Schools, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.; Clerks Dunn and Clark to the headquarters, Western Department, San Francisco, Cal.; Clerk Corbishley to the headquarters, Southern Department, Fort Sam Houston, Tex.; and Clerk Dunlap to the Field Artillery Board, Fort Sill, Okla.

The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation.

Travel expenses will be paid to Clerks Carney, Dunn, Clark, Corbishley, and Dunlap under paragraph 733, Army Regulations, 1913.

The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

Cpts. Francis M. Smith, Wyles, Parrett, Liebman, Fillmore, Osborn, and McKay will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Madison Barracks, N. Y., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. Van Rensselaer, Thornton, Robinson, Martin, Morris, Rollinson, and Scruton will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. John G. Wilson, Strange, Wall, Schocklin, Wight, Holmes, and Poland will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Fort McPherson, Ga., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. Wicks, Weyant, Ladd, Bauer, Lynch, Leland Willson, and Chandler will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp for New England States, Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. Nagel, Nelson, Porges, Kingsley, Shaw, Roberts, and Deford will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Fort Niagara, N. Y., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. Hite, Frank B. Smith, Meyer, Lawton, and Ford will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp, Fort Myer, Va., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

Cpts. Bullock, McGrath, Delano, Wyman, Ketcham, and Chaffin will report in person to the commanding officer, citizens' training camp (for congressional districts Nos. 1 to 26, inclusive, New York State),

Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., for duty as assistants to the camp quartermaster.

First Lieut. Thomas J. Camp, Twentieth Infantry, is detailed for temporary duty as instructor, citizens' training camp at Fort Sheridan, Ill., and will report at once to the commanding officer of that camp for duty and by telegraph to the commanding general, Central Department. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

First Lieut. Samuel H. Houston, Infantry, detached officers' list, is detailed for temporary duty as instructor, citizens' training camp at Fort Snelling, Minn., and will report at once to the commanding officer of that camp for duty and by telegraph to the commanding general, Central Department. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

By direction of the President, Capt. Duncan Elliot, Cavalry, detached officers' list, will report in person to Brig. Gen. Abel L. Smith, Quartermaster Corps, president of an Army retiring board at Washington, D. C., at such time as he may designate, for examination by the board.

Private Don George, Company K, Seventh Infantry, Camp Fort Bliss, Tex., will be discharged by his commanding officer, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Corpl. Otto C. Raffel, general service, Infantry, recruiting station, 115 East Main Street, Fort Wayne, Ind., will be discharged by the officer in charge of that station, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Master Hospital Sergt. William G. Soekland, Medical Department, is placed upon the retired list at San Antonio, Tex., and will repair to his home. The Quartermaster Corps will furnish the necessary transportation and pay the soldier commutation of rations in advance for the necessary number of days' travel, it being impracticable for him to carry rations of any kind. The journey is necessary for the public service.

Private Dana N. Wilcher, Company D, Thirty-fifth Infantry, Nogales, Ariz., will be discharged by his commanding officer, on account of fraudulent enlistment. The provisions of paragraph 1380, Army Regulations, apply to this case.

Private First Class Mike Cherney, Quartermaster Corps, Plattsburg Barracks, N. Y., is transferred as private to the Army service detachment and will be sent to West Point, N. Y., for duty.

The acceptance by the President on May 6, 1917, of the resignation of First Lieut. Hoffman Nickerson, Seventy-first Infantry, New York National Guard, is announced.

Sergt. Lester E. Jackson, Medical Department, Fort Ethan Allen, Vt., will be sent to Fort Jay, N. Y., for duty with Base Hospital No. 2, to be mobilized at the earliest practicable date.

By direction of the President, Maj. Courtland Nixon, United States Army, retired, is placed on active military duty

under the provisions of the next to the last proviso of section 24, act of Congress approved June 3, 1916, is detailed as an acting quartermaster, and will report in person not later than May 16, 1917, to the depot quartermaster, New York, N. Y., for duty as assistant.

Paragraph 18, Special Orders, No. 99, War Department, April 30, 1917, is amended to read: "Q. M. Sergt. Francis Christian, Quartermaster Corps, Fort Screven, Ga., upon relief by Q. M. Sergt. William F. Rock, Quartermaster Corps, will be sent to Fort Warren, Mass., for duty in the Coast Defenses of Boston."

First Lieut. Edward H. Raymond, Jr., Dental Reserve Corps, is assigned to active duty. He will report in person to the commanding officer, Base Hospital No. 2, New York, N. Y., for duty.

Leave of absence for one month on account of sickness is granted Capt. Benjamin G. Weir, junior military aviator, Signal Corps.

Leave of absence for three months on surgeon's certificate of disability is granted Capt. Henry S. Wygant, Twenty-first Infantry.

The resignation of Capt. George G. Backhouse, First Cavalry, New York National Guard, is accepted by the President, to take effect this date.

The depot quartermaster, San Francisco, Cal., or one of his commissioned assistants will make one trip to Oroville, Cal., for the purpose of inspecting the canning factory of William Wolf & Co., in connection with award of contract for tomatoes for the fiscal year 1918, and upon completion of the duty enjoined the officer who shall make the trip will return to his proper station. The travel directed is necessary in the military service.

The following-named officers of the Medical Officers' Reserve Corps are assigned to active duty; they will report in person to the commanding officer, Base Hospital No. 2, New York, N. Y., for duty:

Maj. George E. Brewer.
 Capt. William Darrach.
 Capt. Homer F. Swift.
 Capt. John A. McCreery.
 Capt. Armitage Whitman.
 Capt. Willard B. Soper.
 Capt. Louis Casamajor.
 Capt. Alexander R. Stevens.
 First Lieut. Fordyce B. St. John.
 First Lieut. Alwin M. Pappenheimer.
 First Lieut. Harold Neuhoef.
 First Lieut. W. Barclay Parsons, jr.
 First Lieut. Benjamin R. Allison.
 First Lieut. Herbert N. Vermilye.
 First Lieut. Roderick V. Grace.
 First Lieut. William F. Cunningham.
 First Lieut. Austin D. Hobbs.
 First Lieut. Gerhard H. Cocks.
 First Lieut. Henry S. Dunning.
 First Lieut. Robert H. Kennedy.

By direction of the President, Maj. John A. Dapray, United States Army, retired, is placed on active military duty under the provisions of the next to the last proviso of section 24, act of Congress approved June 3, 1916. He will report in person to the Chief of the Militia Bureau, War Department, for duty as an assistant in his office.

DUTIES OF REGISTRARS AND OTHER DATA ON THE ENROLLMENT OF NATION'S MAN POWER

The War Department authorizes the following:

The hundreds of offers from persons willing to act as registrars without compensation are very gratifying to the War Department. Such service is welcomed as a patriotic act. The names of all such volunteer registrars will be reported to the governors of their respective States and reported by the governors to the War Department.

Where uncompensated service is not offered the registrar will receive \$4. Most of the work of the registrars will be performed on registration day, but whether completed on that day or not no more than \$4 will be paid to any one registrar.

Persons desiring to serve as registrars, either with or without pay, should not apply to the War Department, but to the sheriff, or if they live in a city of over 30,000 to the mayor. By these officials the applications will be referred to the proper appointing boards.

Registrars must be competent clerks, whose handwriting is neat and legible. They should be residents of the precincts for which they are appointed and they should be persons who have lived long enough in those precincts to be well acquainted with the inhabitants thereof. They should be citizens of the United States or persons (not alien enemies) who have declared their intention to become citizens.

Under direction of the registration boards the registrar prepares the places of registration. Normally the equipment of the precinct polling place will be used.

After being duly sworn, the registrar is charged with the duty of making the actual registration of all persons subject thereto whose homes are in the precincts to which the registrar is appointed. His functions include the recording on the registration cards of the answers of the person registered and the entering on the back of the card of a brief description of such person. He should issue a registration certificate to each person whom he registers. At the conclusion of the registration proper the registrar should fill in on the blank form furnished for the purpose a summarization report of the registration.

From San Luis Obispo, Cal., a suggestion has come to the War Department that the first slackers will be those who attempt to evade registration. Referring to the fact that many citizens fail to vote, the department's correspondent expresses the fear that there will be many who will absent themselves on registration day.

The cases are not parallel. By not voting, the citizen neglects a duty he owes to his country. But the fact remains that he does not lose caste nor does he risk the imputation of cowardice. But in failing to register he places himself cross current to the overwhelming sentiment of the country, as voiced by its representatives in Congress. He casts doubt upon his courage, commits a misdemeanor, and renders himself liable to imprisonment.

A registration certificate will be furnished each man when he registers. Lists of names of persons registered in the several voting precincts will be bulletined in these precincts.

It is the duty of all officers of the law to report to the proper registration board the names of all those subject to registration who have not registered. Further, it is the duty of any citizen who has knowledge of an evasion of registration to lay information against the offender.

CHANGE IN SHIPPING RULES.

Regulation Relating to Inspection of Vessels Amended.

George Uhler, Supervising Inspector General, Steamboat-Inspection Service, has sent out the following circular letter to the United States supervising and local inspectors, Steamboat-Inspection Service, steamboat companies, and others concerned:

"Under the provisions of section 4405, Revised Statutes of the United States, as amended by the act of Congress approved February 8, 1907, the executive committee of the Board of Supervising Inspectors, Steamboat-Inspection Service, at a called meeting held in Washington, D. C., from May 7 to 11, inclusive, 1917, adopted the following resolution. This amendment of the rules, having received the approval of the Secretary of Commerce on May 12, 1917, has now the force of law and must be observed accordingly.

"Resolved, That section 10, Rule VI, Ocean and Coastwise, which section was adopted at a meeting of the Board of Supervising Inspectors on February 27, 1917, and reading as follows:

"'10. In order that any steam vessel may hereafter be certificated for ocean service, other than coastwise service, it will be necessary that the strength of the vessel in all her parts, except where otherwise specially provided for by the rules and regulations of the Board of Supervising Inspectors, be equal at least to that required by the American Bureau of Shipping,' be struck out."

Labor Committee, Defense Council, Holds Meeting.

(Continued from page 3.)

Among the speakers at the afternoon session there were J. C. Waters, president Canadian Trades and Labor Congress; G. D. Robertson, president National Association of Railway Telegraphers of Canada; and H. W. Garrod, representing labor in the ministry of munitions. There was general discussion and information was developed of the highest interest as to the English experience in mobilizing industry and adjusting the critical employment problems growing out of the emergency conditions created by the war.

First Lieut. Herbert W. Landon, Medical Officers' Reserve Corps, is assigned to active duty. He will report in person to Capt. Ira Longanecker, Infantry, detached officers' list, at the Michigan Agricultural College, for duty pertaining to the examination of candidates for training camps.

COAL SHIPMENTS POOLING ARRANGEMENT ANNOUNCED

At a meeting of coal operators, railroad executives, and representatives of the Interstate Commerce Commission, called together yesterday by F. S. Peabody, chairman of the committee on coal production of the Council of National Defense, a plan was presented and approved for pooling all coal shipments passing through Great Lake ports to the head of the Lakes. The scheme announced is expected to prove a highly important step toward solving the vital problem of getting an ample coal supply to the Northwest. The plan was drawn up and presented to the committee on coal production in the form of a report by a special committee on lake shipments appointed last week by Mr. Peabody's committee and made up of representatives of both the coal and the docking interests. H. McCue, of the Pittsburgh Coal Co., served as chairman of the special committee.

The Pooling Plan.

Under the pooling plan all coal shipments to the nine lake ports of Erie, Conneaut, Ashtabula, Fairport, Cleveland, Lorain, Huron, Sandusky, and Toledo will be placed under the control of a central executive committee consisting of three representatives of the lake coal shippers and two representatives of the docking companies. The railroads will be represented in their dealings with the pool by a special commissioner to be employed by them. The executive committee of the shippers and the docking companies will establish the charges to be paid the pooling organization by the individual shippers.

According to the estimates made by Mr. McCue's committee, the pooling plan will cut down the individual consignments to be shipped from approximately 800, the total last year, to less than 120. By coordinating the efforts of the shippers and the shipping companies it is expected to shorten the period in which coal cars are detained at the lake ports from 3½ days, the present estimated figures, to 2 days.

Can Save on Cargoes.

Under the pooling plan it is hoped through consolidating the cargoes to avoid completely the waste caused by the existing practice of holding both cargoes and vessels for the accumulation of individual cargoes. It will further increase tremendously the capacity of railroads and vessels to carry additional coal to the head of the Lakes and bring back a relatively increased tonnage of iron ore and other products.

The question of getting coal to the Northwest is regarded as of particular importance to the prosecution of the war. On the supply of coal depends the ability of the States at the head of the Great Lakes to turn out supplies of ore essential to the manufacture of war material.

The coal operators who are agreeing to the new plan, realizing its value as a necessary war measure, are in many cases sacrificing the individuality of their firm names, as under the pooling system many separate names long established in the trade on the Lakes will disappear.