

PLAN EXEMPTIONS FOR RECRUITING

America to Guard Against Crippling Factories Needed in Conduct of War.

EXAMPLE IN ENGLAND SEEN

National Consumers' League Warns Against Abolishing the Labor Regulation of Hours—Watch Labor Situation Carefully.

Washington.—Before the greater American army is raised the council of national defense is expected to publish a list of those trades that can best spare men for the army, or a list of those which should not deplete their industrial forces. The labor committee of the advisory committee of the council of national defense held a conference in Washington with labor leaders and manufacturers at which plans were formulated for taking stock of the labor resources of the country.

The United States expects to profit by the experience of England and France, where in the rush of raising the first big armies men were taken from trades upon which the efficient conduct of the war depended, and it was found that the nation would have been better off if some of the trained and skilled artisans had remained in their factories. Also in England there was a letting down of labor regulations which resulted in such impairment of output that the eight-hour day for women and the universal day of rest were restored.

In connection with the ascertainment of what trades can best spare men for war, President Ralph Peters of the Long Island railroad recently issued a statement to his employees in which he said that trained railroad workers would be of more service to the country in keeping the roads in efficient operation than they would be in the army or navy.

The first call for 500,000 men will make a severe drain upon some industries, and in the early stage of preparedness of the country those in authority in Washington wish to make sure that the industries the country needs to conduct the war most vigorously will not be crippled.

English War Industries.

In this connection there is interest in England's list of "war industries" fixed upon after the experience of the crippling of industries at the start of the war. The lines of work which the British government maintained as necessary follow:

- Batteries
- Bleaching and dyeing
- Breweries
- Brickworks
- Brushmaking
- Button industry
- Candles, grease, tallow
- Cement, lime
- Charcoal
- Chemical industry
- Coke
- Copperage
- Engineering
- Food
- Foundries
- Furniture
- Glass
- Hats
- Iron and steel
- Jewelry (cheap)
- Leather
- Linoleum
- Lumber
- Malting
- Mattresses
- Metals
- Military insignia
- Motocars
- Munitions
- Needles
- Oil mills
- Packing industry
- Paint
- Paper
- Petroleum
- Pianos
- Pottery
- Powder
- Printing
- Rubber
- Sand bars
- Saw mills
- Shoemaking
- Soap industry
- Stone
- Surgical dressings
- Surgical appliances
- Textiles
- Tobacco
- Toymaking
- Waters (aerated)
- Wire
- Woodworkers

This list does not mean that the British found that all of the articles represented were needed in the conduct of the war, but that those employed in the manufacture of the named articles were generally skilled men, whose experience adapted them for work in other lines of industry, if needed.

The United States, because of the difference in some basic industries between this country and England, may strike some items from the list and add others. Because of the size of America's population and the diversity of her industries, coupled with the opportunity of profiting by the experience of England and France, those who have studied the situation believe that the United States can raise an army of 1,000,000 men without crippling the industries needed in the conduct of the war. This is especially true of the munition industry, at present highly organized in the United States. But because it may be necessary to raise larger armies, the authorities see the importance of mapping out a comprehensive program. It is said by those who have cooperated with the labor committee. The labor committee will have branches in every state in order to enable it to have at all times accurate reviews of the labor situation. With the labor committee as co-operating some experts who have studied the labor situation in Europe. The problem of having women replace men in factories is one of the things being considered.

Wars Against Overzeal.

Labor leaders have generally signified their willingness to forego for the time the benefit of labor regulations, with the understanding that they be restored after the war. In this connection the National Consumers' league has sent out a warning against relaxing labor regulations on the ground that in the long run it will cost to national defense. The league paid special reference to the danger of relaxing labor limitations for woman workers. In a letter to Mrs. Norman R. Whitehouse, head of the New York State Woman Suffrage party;

Miss Maude Wetmore, president of the National League for Woman's Service; Mrs. Philip N. Moore, head of the National Council of Women; Miss Alice Carpenter, chairman of the women's section of the Women's National Service school, and Mrs. J. Willis Martin, chairman of the board of directors of the National League for Woman's Service, the league called attention to these dangers.

"The impulse to service," the letter said, "prompts eager men and women to give their all—sons, fortunes, strength, homes, efforts of every kind—to the country in war time. In their zeal and haste there is danger that the safeguards of the life, health and vigor of working people will be lost, and upon them success depends. In the whole industrial history of the country we have never faced so critical a moment. The United States is beginning preparedness on a colossal scale, and the wage-earners are called on to exert their fullest working capacity. They will respond to the call. It is of supreme importance for the efficiency of the nation as a whole that the energies of the army should be kept at their highest pitch.

The league's warning said that at the beginning of the war England had suspended laws limiting the hours of work even for women employed in war supplies factories; that the impairment of output in a few months led to an official investigation which in turn brought radical recommendations regarding the limitation of emergency measures, as a result of which the weekly day of rest was restored and the eight-hour shift for women went into effect in all government munition works, and overtime was curtailed in all establishments. The league made these recommendations:

1. Preserve short working hours wherever they exist.
 2. Maintain the present minimum of sanitation and safety.
 3. Keep the children in school, by means of scholarships where necessary.
 4. Uphold the standard of living for the family, whether the chief wage earner is a soldier at the front or working on national supplies at home.
- The appeal was signed by Mrs. Florence Kelley, general secretary of the league, and Miss Pauline Goldmark, research secretary.

PRESIDENT POINTS OUT HOW ALL MAY HELP

- TO FARMERS—Increase the production of your land and co-operate in the sale and distribution of your products.
- TO MEN AND BOYS—Turn in hosts to the farms to help cultivate and harvest the vast crops imperatively needed.
- TO MIDDLEMEN—Forego unusual profits and "organize and expedite shipments of supplies."
- TO RAILWAY MEN—See to it that there shall be no "obstruction of any kind, no inefficiency or slackened power" of the "arteries of the nation's life."
- TO MERCHANTS—Take for your motto, "Small profits and quick service."
- TO SHIPBUILDERS—Speed construction of ships, for "the life of the war depends upon" you.
- TO MINERS—if you "stacken or fail, armies and statesmen are helpless."
- TO MANUFACTURING MEN—"Speed and perfect every process," for your "service is absolutely indispensable" to the nation.
- TO GARDENERS—By creating and cultivating gardens you can help "greatly to solve the problem of feeding the nations."
- TO HOUSEWIVES—Eliminate wastefulness and extravagance.
- TO EDITORS AND ADVERTISING AGENCIES—Give widespread circulation and repetition to this appeal.

STEEL MILLS BUSY ON FEDERAL WORK

Domestic and Foreign Inquiries Turned Down in Rush to Supply Government.

PRICES ARE NOT CONSIDERED

Disposes of Report That Financiers With Investments in These Properties Wanted War—May Supply Allies With Ammunition.

Pittsburgh.—The vast difference at which government agencies are enabled to buy iron and steel as compared to that charged other consumers is startling.

During the week the government received the option of paying \$58 a ton for plates and \$50 for steel bars and structural shapes. Deliveries are to be made immediately upon receipt of specifications at mill. This, in some instances, will be overnight. This illustrates how well prepared the mills are and how rapidly they can turn out work in emergencies.

The great discrepancy between quotations given the government and private consumers cannot be made clear in simple figures. During the past month Japanese buyers hesitated to pay \$8, or \$160 a ton for ship plates. Last week they decided to place the order when the price was advanced to 10c, or \$200 a ton, and producers refused to take the order. The government is being favored at the rate of \$22 a ton in building material at the lowest possible quotation made by any steel maker. On steel bars the government will receive an advantage of \$27 a ton. While the money consideration is large prompt deliveries is far more important. The report that financiers having their money invested in manufacturing properties favored war for the purpose of reaping a financial harvest, is disposed of. The facts are they will suffer great financial loss.

May Supply Allies With Ammunition.

Only the most favored and fortunate patrons of steel producers have been able to have orders accepted for future delivery since war was declared. Until government work is disposed of or scheduled, domestic and foreign orders will not be accepted. It would not be surprising, if after the conference with Balfour and representatives of the entente allies this government does not take over the handling of munition contracts for its allies. Should this be done European countries will be amazed at the rapidity of manufacture in this country. Foreign governments will also save millions of dollars by having this country handle all contracts for war supplies, and the day of vast fortunes made in a few months from this source seems to be approaching an end.

Refusal of mills to accept orders for plates has been numerous. One order of 18,000 tons of ship plates, 2,000 tons of boiler plates, 4,000 tons of ship plates, plates for 250 locomotives for export and a vast amount of miscellaneous material has been turned down. Mills are clearing plants of everything which might impede progress on government work. One of the requirements of the government will be thousands of steel ranges for field use. These are made of heavy sheets and can be turned out by hundreds each day. Steel is going forward to finishing plants for millions of small sheets. It is doubtful if this government will call for many large shells as they can be made more rapidly than guns to use them. Quotations of ship plates range from 5.50c, Pittsburgh, for delivery at convenience of mill, to 10c.

Rejected Man Puts ON WEIGHT; ACCEPTED

Chicago.—Harold Evans of Davenport, Ia., who was rejected because he was 13 pounds below the required weight for navy recruits, was accepted a few days later when he tipped the scale at 110 pounds. Evans said an exclusive diet of beefsteak and water gave him the necessary increase in weight.

Paints American Flag on House.

New Brunswick, N. J.—To show that he is a loyal citizen although born in Germany, Edward Armein of New Brunswick, N. J., has painted an American flag on the front of his house. Someone stole a flag that he hung out so he resorted to paint. Armein will soon get his final naturalization papers.

Poisoned Milk to Revenge Herself.

New York.—For revenge on a milkman against whom she had a grievance, Bertha Kruish put poison in milk sold to Mrs. Carl Kinkadey, who employed her as a housemaid in New York city. The maid is being held by the authorities.

INTERESTING ITEMS FROM THE CITIES

New York Jewel Thief Worked Clever Trick

NEW YORK.—Here's the latest trick in thievery. The knave called up Reed & Barton, local jewelers, on the telephone, said he was Frank Hedley, general manager of the subway system, and asked that several brooches be sent to him at his office. He wanted to select a gift, "Hedley" added.



Reed & Barton put half a dozen brooches valued at \$5,500 in a package and sent them to Hedley's office, 105 Broadway, by a trusted messenger. The messenger was told Hedley was out. As a fact, he was ill, and not expected at his desk for several days. Before the messenger reached the store on his return trip the telephone bell rang and the man representing himself as Hedley asked for the manager. "I am very sorry I was not at the office when your man called with the brooches," he said, "but I am unavoidably detained. In fact, I shall return there today. Would you be good enough to send the brooches to my home, 96 Fanshawe avenue, Yonkers?"

The manager said he would be delighted, and when the messenger appeared he sent him to Yonkers, telling him to take a receipt for the package and leave it.

When the messenger alighted at the railroad station a most agreeable man told him just how to get to Mr. Hedley's house by the shortest cut. He remembers the man was going part way himself and went along until he could point out the house.

Fine Singer Discovered Doing Menial Work

PITTSBURGH.—Owing to spring skies reminding her of sunny Italy, or perhaps it was the incessant bird song in the William Penn hotel lobby, Cecelia Samarrari, once singer in grand opera, while on her knees with a scrub brush in her hand, opened the casket of her forgotten notes and to the wonder of hundreds of guests scattered sweetest music from "Il Trovatore," and then she whistled arias from the famous opera.

Assistant to President McCargo, A. K. McRae, and Assistant Manager T. F. Mullins were hurriedly summoned from the front office, and they also listened without disturbing the newly awakened singer. As the song stopped and a crowd had gathered around, the woman looked up in surprise, blushed and went on with her work. Mr. Mullins bade her enter the office, feeling that she could find a better job around the hotel, and she did. She told her story, while a waiter translated into English:

"Three years ago I was married to a French singer connected with Spallet's grand opera company, playing in Paris at the outbreak of the war. My husband got killed in his first battle—he had been called out immediately—and I was heartbroken. It must have affected my mind, and in some way I ceased to please the audiences, as my heart was too heavy. I was discharged. I was never taught to do anything but sing, and with my mind bewildered I made my way to America to go to some friends in Chicago. I had enough money to carry me over for a year. I found my friends had moved to Pittsburgh, but I never found them here. With my money all gone and my heart sick of all thoughts of the opera, as it brought my dead husband back too vividly to me, I applied at different places, but could get no work. An Irish woman got me a place scrubbing in the hotel here; but the bird song and the blue skies, with the breath of Italy all about, made my heart joyous and I sang."

Discovered War Eagle, Hidden for Fifty Years

PLYMOUTH, MASS.—Here is food for thought on the part of those who are seeking portents. Plymouth has seen its old war eagle once more after it had been hidden from the gaze of the public for many years. An Italian laborer brought the old bird to the light in the attic of the old Brannhall building on Main street, which is undergoing alterations.



Before and at the time of the outbreak of the Civil war the old effigy of a spread eagle, carved in wood and standing on half-nurtured American flags crossed in its talons, stood over the gun rack of the Standish Guards, in what is now Masonic hall. When, as Company B, Third Massachusetts Infantry, the organization became part of the Minute Men of '61, on the first call, Capt. Charles C. Doten, commanding, gave the order to march, his men picked their muskets from beneath the eagle and started for Fortress Monroe.

Warm Reception Is Promised Returning Hubby

DETROIT.—Edward Louis of this city gave himself up to the authorities in Meconemie a few days ago. "I'm a wife deserter," he said bravely. "I want to take my medicine like a man." The police obligingly locked him up. Then they asked Sheriff Stein to look up Mrs. Louis at 741 Junction avenue, the address given by the penitent husband.

At this house the Wayne county deputies found a buxom young woman, about twenty years old, energetically sweeping off her front steps.

She was mildly interested in hearing that her husband was in Meconemie but flourished her broom in realistic fury when she learned of his self-made charge.

"He's kidding himself," she told the deputies. "He's no wife deserter. He's just excess baggage. I'll meet him with this broom if he tries to tell me he's a wife deserter. I'm through with him. All he wants is a ticket to Detroit after clearing out on his last pay day when we'd been married only six months. Wife deserter? Bah! Well, I won't claim him! I've got my old-job back. I'm living with my mother and I have my freedom. Tell him to quit kidding himself! I'm happy without him!"

AROUND THE WORLD

Thousands of Mohammedans know the Koran by heart.

Vienna reported a saving of \$142,000,000 of gas under last year's new time schedule.

Rudyard Kipling and Conan Doyle are confident speakers, and do not seem to be troubled with nerves.

The million-dollar insurance fund didn't last long among Gotham's gold kings. It's the two-million-dollar habit now. J. P. Morgan took out \$2,500,000 and H. P. Davison, his partner, took out an extra million.

A Twilight Proposal

By Virginia Lee

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Was ever a fair young girl in the radiant bloom of youth, innocent, trusting, with a cherished glowing ideal at soul so blessed as Madge Willis! And amid it all she was waiting for a present—a gewgaw ornament or passing token of remembrance, but a royal lifetime gift—a husband!

She stood in the doorway of the cabin set just back from the river on the Texas border. Her father, sturdy old Teuben Willis, had been a land speculator in the district for over twenty years. As the saying went, he had made his pile and was about to return to his former home in the North. Madge expected his return from Paxton, where he had gone to close up some business affairs. He was to bring Walter Rayburn back with him.

"I won't bring you a stick-pin or a new hat, Jewel," her father had said. "The present I'm going to give you is—Walter Rayburn. Glad? So is he, and he's going North with us, and we'll be happy all the way round."

For, although Madge and Walter had been engaged for over two years, Mr. Willis had insisted that time must develop the worthiness and steadfastness of the ardent lover. Only twice a year had Walter come down to the old ranch on the Rio Grande. And now there was to be a quiet wedding at the little town of Pittsville, ten miles away, and a flight to a less-isolated spot in the state where Madge was born.

"It's like the opening of some beautiful dream," murmured Madge, as she stood in the doorway of the rule but comfortable old cabin, gazing at the reddening sunset. "I'm glad we are going to leave, for the Mexican raids are coming closer and more frequent."

She went into the house to glance at the clock. According to all calculation, her father and Walter must soon put in an appearance. A clatter outside of horses' hoofs and strange voices sent a sharp thrill through her frame. Madge went to the door. It was to shrink back in sudden terror.

Ten men on horseback had driven up and now surrounded the house. Two others drove a light wagon. At a glance Madge recognized them as Mexicans. She noted, too, their semi-military garb.

She had acquired a very fair smattering of the Spanish language, and only a few overheard sentences were necessary to apprise Madge of the fact that the long-dreaded raid was a reality.

The leader of the group was a handsome, courtly young fellow. He gave sharp, definite orders. All of the men, except two, deployed, surrounding the building. The leader advanced and swept his hat to the ground in a respectful bow.

"Senorita, a brief domiciliary visit—of necessity, order by superiors," he observed in a suave, still half-mocking tone. "No harm will be done to you, but there must be no outcry or attempt to escape. You are alone?"

"Yes," she retorted, and her flashing eyes dashed the audacious fellow with their sheer contempt and defiance.

"We counted on that," remarked the leader. "Petro-Sanchez—the box. We know it is here."

Madge chilled. She comprehended to what they referred—the little safe in her father's bedroom. It had often held heavy collections and important documents. These ruffians had learned of it. Their presence might mean beggary to her father, it might destroy all their fond plans for the future!

Steadily she faced the leader. She saw that resistance or pleading were alike futile. Madge railed slightly at the two men who had entered the house returned. It required all their strength to carry the little safe to the wagon.

"It is locked," spoke one of them. "The chief will know how to open it," chuckled the leader. "All ahead. I will drive. At your pleasure, senorita."

Madge was compelled to mount the wagon seat. The cavalcade in the lead, the leader took up the lines.

"You must not be left behind to start an alarm," he remarked smoothly. "It remains with the chief as to your permanent detention."

Madge turned her face away from the speaker. She refused to exchange words with him. He allowed the lines to trail and the horse went slowly, although the horsemen had spurred up and were quite a distance ahead. There was a spell of silence. Madge crowded to the extreme end of the seat as her polite but insistent captor resumed his observations.

"The exigencies of warfare are cruel, senorita," he continued with specious blandness. "For instance, Chief Avarro has little conscience. Listen, you are beautiful—so much so that I, loyal as I have been, will forget my commander and my country if you will become my bride. You will not speak? I appear contemptible to you? Not so, I am only in earnest. I can save you; I can save the precious safe. One word from you and I can turn from the road. I know an obliging priest. I will be true and loving. Think it over."

Madge's heart sank. She knew that his reference to his bandit chief bore a tinge of truth. She shuddered. Then suddenly she shrank back. It had grown dusk, but the moon was just rising. It cast a sudden shadow across the front of the vehicle. Then a hand shot from a horseman who had suddenly appeared. It seized the leader. He whirled from the seat through the air, and—"Splash!" He had landed ten feet down into the waters of the broad, rolling river.

The Horseman leaped from his steed and ran to the head of the horse ahead, backed the wagon, reversed it and sprang to its seat.

"Walter—oh, it cannot be!" cried Madge, and clung to his arm as he spurred up the horse, his own, well-trained, acting as pilot.

A shot rang out. It proceeded from the revolver of the baffled leader, and he was shouting vigorously, as if hoping to attract the attention of the cavalcade, now out of sight. "Take the whip. Lash up the horse. There may be pursuit. The mischief!"

Half a mile covered at a furious rate of speed, a wheel struck a boulder, clattered to fragments and the vehicle sagged to one side. Walter sprang to the ground and caught Madge in his arms. He was outlining a run to the cover of the near woods when a group of half a dozen men came dashing on horseback from the direction of the cabin. Walter ran up to their leader. The new party hurried onward; he returned to his fiancée.

"Your father and a posse," he explained. There was the echo of firearms down the road. Reuben Willis and his companions returned with the Mexican leader and two others as captives. The others had escaped.

"And, oh! I was so sorry to see you precious safe in their hands," spoke Madge, when the captured raid-



Recognized Them as Mexicans.

ers were headed on their way to the nearest jail, and she and her father and Walter had reached home. Reuben Willis laughed.

"It was needless, Jewel," he said. "His former contents are safe in the bank vault at Houston."

"And that handsome but wicked fellow wanted me to run away with him," pouted Madge.

"We will cheer the annul of his ten-year sentence in the penitentiary by sending him one of our wedding announcements," proposed the happy Walter hilariously.

Mechanical Protection.

"I think I have hit on an invention," said the fat plumber, "that will make my fortune."

"New kind of mop?" the thin carpenter inquired, facetiously.

"Not on your life."

"Patent clothespin, I suppose?"

"You've got another 'suppose' coming."

"When what is it?"

"Talking machine."

"But the world is talked to death now."

"This is different."

"In what way?"

"It only uses three sentences, one at a time."

"What does it say?"

"It says in gruff tones, 'Who is at the door?' 'Get my gun' and 'Call the patrol wagon.'"

"But what is the idea?"

"I am going to sell them to maiden ladies so they can make unwelcome strangers think there is a man in the house."

Out for Ease.

Some of the inmates of an asylum were engaged in sawing wood, and an attendant thought that one old man, who appeared to be working as hard as anybody, had not much to show for his labor.

Approaching him, the attendant soon discovered the cause. The old man had turned the saw upside down, with the teeth in the air, and was working away with the back of it.

"Here, I say, my man," remarked the attendant, "what are you doing? You'll never cut the wood in that fashion. Turn the saw over."

The old man paused and stared at the attendant. "Did you ever try to saw this way?" he asked.

"Well, no," replied the attendant, "of course I haven't."

"Then hold thy nose, man," was the instant reply. "I've tried both ways, and—impressively—"This is easier."

Origin of Harmless Phosphorus.

The danger attendant on the use of the white or yellow phosphorus illustrated in the crop of fatal accidents, suicides and in several cases murder by phosphorus poisoning which immediately followed the production of the new form of match, led to the innocuous and now familiar red or amorphous phosphorus introduced in 1832 by J. E. Lunstrom of Sweden and which has with more or less variation remained in use to this day.—New York World.

Irish Blarney.

An Irish magistrate, one of the old school, was summing up a case in a Dublin court. The plaintiff was a handsome woman and her good-looking daughter was one of the witnesses. "Gentlemen of the jury," said his honor, "everything in the case seems plain—except, of course, Mrs. O'Toole and her charming daughter."—Boston Transcript.

No Clue.

"Did that Englishman drop anything?" whispered the political spy.

"No," replied his assistant, "nothing but his h's."

ROB TOMBS OF RICH JEWELS

Japanese Thieves Spare Not Even the Dwellings of the Dead in Raid at Nara.

Tokyo.—Desecration and despoilment of imperial tombs near Nara for purposes or robbery has led to the discovery that other ancient tombs scattered through different parts of Yamashiro province have been broken open and contents of value removed. The treasures disinterred from the

tombs of members of the imperial family who reigned both before and after Christ include objects of rare and non-appreciable mirrors are said to date back as far as 2,000 years. Among articles stolen were several ancient necklaces and a number of old metal mirrors containing 50 per cent gold with exquisite antique designs on the back. Another curious relic was a stone pillow in the earliest epoch of Japanese history.

The hieroglyphs on the back of the mirrors are entirely new to archae-

ologists, though they are presumed to be of Chinese origin. The precious stones are valued at many thousands of yen and are supposed to have come from China.

Poisoned Milk to Revenge Herself.