

Men Resisting the Draft Face Court-Martial For Desertion

Those Called For Service Are Under Military Laws And Must Obey Accordingly.

RESISTANCE IS FUTILE NOW.

Those Who Try It Will be Caught and Dealt With as Deserters in Time of War. Ruling by General Crowder. Draft Resisters Stand Virtually No Chance of Escape.

(Wilmington Star.)

Washington, Aug. 4.—Registered men who resist the Selective Draft law face military court martial for desertion and the possibility of execution for desertion in time of war. The whole military and civil power of the Federal government and the civil power of the States, cities or counties will be employed to bring them to book.

Bickett Reports Draft Plots.

This was announced in a formal statement tonight by Brigadier General Crowder, provost marshal general, in response to reports from North Carolina, Georgia and Oklahoma, of anti-draft disturbances. As yet the power of the Federal government has not been invoked by the governors of the three States nor by the agents of the Departments of Justice. The only official notice received in Washington of the disturbance was a telegram from the Governor of North Carolina saying that the registered men of two townships in that State might refuse in body to comply with the summons for examination.

No official word came from Oklahoma, where the most serious situation prevails. It was believed the governor is confident that order can be restored without military aid. There will be no hesitation, however, in employing Federal troops if they are needed.

General Crowder's statement formulated after conference with officials of the Justice Department, follows:

Too Late to Resist Now.

"Press reports and other advices indicate that in one or two separated districts, individuals misinformed as to the purpose of the law and misguided as to its results, are threatening forcible resistance to the draft.

"There is nothing to resist at this stage in the execution of the law. All persons between the ages of 21 and 30 inclusive, have been enrolled for military service. A preliminary call has gone forth to some persons, but the immediate and actual object of this call is merely to provide an opportunity for such persons, or for some one else in respect of them to present to the government reasons why they should not be finally ordered to report for military duty.

Under Military Laws.

"If such persons do not appear and present these reasons, they have simply neglected to take advantage of an opportunity that was offered solely for their benefit. The failure of persons to take advantage of this opportunity does not interfere with the raising of the army and interests the government only as a punishable crime of omission. If they do not desire to make any such claims or, if for any other reason they fail to appear, their names are automatically posted as having been called and not exempted or discharged. Automatically, also, they are inducted into the military service and made subject, to military law. Failure to appear merely hastens the automatic process.

Desertion a Capital Offense.

"When the time allowed for making these claims has elapsed, these persons will be enrolled as in the military service. They will then be ordered to appear as soldiers. From this point on, they will be under the swift and summary procedure of court martial. Failure to report for military duty when ordered to do so constitutes desertion. Desertion in time of war is a capital offense. Deserters may be apprehended by either civil or military authority and, after the mandate of the Federal government has gone forth, the whole strength of the military arm of the government is available to apprehend deserters if it is necessary to use such force.

Demonstrations Futile.

"Demonstrations against local boards are simply futile strokes in the air. All the records necessary to hold such persons are already on file at state headquarters and at the National capital and since local boards have no occasion to use any force in simply offering a beneficial opportunity to registered persons, there is no field for resistance. If resistance is attempted later when the army seeks to apprehend deserters, it will instantly encounter troops of the Federal government."

In practice, under General Crowder's construction of the law, registered men who do not appear for examination will be posted to the dis-

trict boards as selected for military service as soon as the five-day period allowed them to put in an appearance after they have been summoned, has elapsed.

Two days more will elapse after their names reach the district board to await appeal action by the individual. They will then be posted to the adjutant general of the State as selected to fill the quotas of their district.

No Chance of Escape.

Orders for the mobilization of the selected men will be given some time during the present month. If the resister fails to obey that order, he will be set down as absent without leave and the machinery of the army will be set in motion to bring him in. In addition, all state and municipal police authorities and all United States marshals will be used to apprehend him. When it is clear that he is wilfully absenting himself with no intention of reporting to the army, a charge of desertion will be placed against him. From that time on, any civil officer who arrests him will earn a reward of \$50.

If found guilty by court martial of desertion, the individual may be sentenced to death and only the President save him from punishment.

MOVEMENTS IN GRAIN PRICES.

Yielding in All Cereals Followed by Renewed Advances. Rains Benefit Crops.

Following the yielding tendencies noted early last week, grain prices again turned sharply upward and the closing out of the July wheat delivery in Chicago sent that position up to \$2.74, belated covering by shorts explaining the advance. Afterwards, however, the trend in prices was downward and from its final figure of 2.29 last Saturday the September option receded to \$2.15, though it rose again on Thursday to \$2.31. But the situation in this cereal, as frequently stated, remains artificial by reason of the restriction on speculation. News of the week regarding the crops was rather mixed, and some apprehension of damage was caused by the excessively high temperatures. Not a few reports, on the other hand, told of improvement, and good rains in the Northwest have helped spring wheat, though Snow's most recent estimate indicates a loss in yield. Yet this is offset by the indicated gain in winter wheat.

As in wheat, prices of corn yielded for a time, and favorable crop news had not a little to do with the reaction. Breaking of the prolonged drought in Kansas, and rains in other States, have done much to improve the outlook, and, while the intense heat of the present week raised fears as to damage, Snow's prediction was for more than 3,000,000,000 bushels. Yet during Thursday's session strength again developed, the market apparently having become in an over-sold position. As illustrated the restraints on speculation, the Chicago Board of Trade, at a meeting held this week, decided to stop all future operations in the September corn delivery. The settling price was fixed at \$1.65.—Dun's Review, Aug 4th.

Wanted at Camp Greene.

Captain R. B. Rollinson, the camp quartermaster at Camp Greene, is asking for bids on the following quantities of supplies, bids to be opened August 15, or as soon thereafter as troops arrive. Those desiring to bid may obtain the necessary blank forms from the camp quartermaster. Alexander House, Camp Greene: 20,000 cords of wood, 36,000 pounds print butter, 14,000 pounds yeast, 2,000,000 pounds beef, fresh, 50,000 gallons gasoline, 30,000 gallons mineral oil, 100,000 gallons crude oil, 10,000 pounds bone black, 5,000,000 pounds ice, 500,000 pounds blacksmith coal, 1,800,000 pounds lime, 2,000,000 pounds potatoes, 560,000 pounds onions, 10,000,000 pounds hay, 7,800,000 pounds oats, 2,400,000 pounds straw, 1,200,000 pounds bran. The above amounts cover what will approximately be required for a period of three months.—Charlotte Observer.

FREE OF CHARGE.

Any adult suffering from cough, cold or bronchitis, is invited to call at the drug store of Crech Drug Co., and get absolutely free, a sample bottle of **Boschee's German Syrup**, a soothing and healing remedy for all lung troubles, which has a successful record of fifty years. Gives the patient a good night's rest free from coughing, with free expectoration in the morning. Regular sizes, 25 and 75 cents. For sale in all civilized countries.—Adv.

MAY DRAFT POSTAL EMPLOYEES.

These Are Subject To Service in Army. Exemptions Will be Asked Only for Qualified Distributors of Mails. The Department's Rulie Steps Are Taken to Reduce Number of Exemptions Because of Dependent Families.

A Washington dispatch of August 3 says:

A ruling today by the Postoffice Department shows that department officials will make few requests for the exemption of postal employes from military service. Postmasters are instructed not to ask for exemption for carriers or laborers or for clerks in second-class offices below the \$1,000 grade, clerks in first-class offices below \$1,100 grade, or any above these grades unless they are qualified distributors of mail.

The ruling is the first formal action by an executive department in compliance with President Wilson's order directing that department officials indicate exemptions and that the requirement of indispensability be rigidly enforced. As generally constructed the postal ruling shows the purpose of the administration to make the government departments leaders in freeing valuable employes for war service.

The entire mail carriers force, numbering thousands of men of whom a considerable percentage are within the draft age limits, is excluded from exemption unless for physical reasons or because they have dependent families. Every portion of the country is reached by the ruling as even the rural carriers are included. The department's ruling in regard to clerks leaves railway mail clerks within the exemption class, as they are highly specialized distributors.

Provost Marshal General Crowder took steps today to reduce the number of exemptions because of dependent families. Instructions were sent to the governors of all States pointing out that the minimum pay of soldiers is now \$30 a month and that local boards must consider whether a man's dependents could be supported on that amount. The telegram follows:

"Please call attention of local boards to the fact that a soldier's pay is not less than thirty dollars a month and that all clothing, subsistence, medical treatment and housing are furnished him. Under the law he may allot any portion of his pay to a dependent. Many soldiers receiving thirty dollars a month are easily able to allot twenty-five dollars monthly to the support of dependents. In case of death in line of duty, the government will pay to the beneficiary designated by the soldier six months' pay.

"Section four of the selective service act provides that those in a status with respect to persons dependent upon them for support which renders their exclusion or discharge advisable may be discharged, but it does not require that they shall be discharged in all such cases. The discretion of local boards is invoked by this provision and such boards may well take the facts recited above into consideration in deciding claims for discharge due to dependency with a view to determining whether as a matter of fact, the person claiming such discharge will not be in as good or better position to support his dependents after selection for military service than he was before. If such is the case, of course, the discharge should not be granted."

MICRO NOTES.

Miss Florence Fitzgerald is visiting at her father's, Mr. H. Fitzgerald.

Miss Sadie Bagley has just returned from a visit to relatives in Pembroke, N. C.

Miss Belva Lockwood Batten visited Miss Flossie Thomas, of Wilson's Mills this week.

Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Fitzgerald spent Wednesday in Raleigh.

Mrs. Jno. W. Aycock and children, of Rocky Mount, are spending this week with Mrs. B. L. Aycock.

Miss Jessie Rose, of Wallace, N. C., is visiting Mrs. Robert Fitzgerald.

Mrs. D. H. Jones, of Goldsboro, spent a few days this week with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. L. Batten.

Miss Otha May Long, of Dillon, S. C., is visiting Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Berry.

Rev. J. T. Collier and little daughter, Rada, are visiting in Petersburg, Va., this week.

Mrs. Hattie Strickland and daughter, Miss Cisneros, have returned to their home in Rocky Mount, after spending a few days here with Mrs. Fozze Wallace.

Misses Myrtle and Lucile Owen, of Stantonburg, N. C., spent a few days recently with their sister, Mrs. S. C. Batten, being called here on account of the death of their little fourteen months old baby.

REPORTER.

Of 30,000 cotton mill operatives in New Bedford, 1,000 have already gone into military or naval service.

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To the man that is forty who has made moderation in all things his rule, life has only well begun and fame is still possible. The best things in a man's life usually come to him after the age of forty.

Through Sleepers To ATLANTA And ASHEVILLE

Commencing Sunday, July 8th, the Atlantic Coast Line will inaugurate a through sleeping car line between Wilmington and Asheville, via Florence, Sumter and Columbia, in connection with the Southern Railway System, upon the following daily schedule:

- LV. Wilmington..... 3:45 P. M.
- LV. Chadbourne 5:30 P. M.
- AR. Florence..... 7:30 P. M.
- LV. Florence..... 7:55 P. M.
- LV. Sumter..... 9:25 P. M.
- AR. Columbia..... 10:50 P. M.
- LV. Columbia..... 11:50 P. M.
- AR. Spartanburg.... 3:20 A. M.
- AR. Tryon..... 4:50 A. M.
- AR. Saluda..... 5:15 A. M.
- AR. Flat Rock..... 5:35 A. M.
- AR. Hendersonville 5:50 A. M.
- AR. Asheville..... 7:00 A. M.

Returning: leave Asheville 4:10 P. M., arrive Florence 8:45 A. M., arrive Wilmington 12:50 Noon.

This Sleeping Car Service, which will be operated until Sept. 16th, will afford comfortable accommodations for passengers visiting the Mountains of North Carolina.

The old established through sleeping car line between Wilmington and Atlanta will be continued via Augusta, in connection with the Georgia Railroad, upon the following schedules:

- LV. Wilmington ... 3:45 P. M.
- LV. Florence..... 7:55 P. M.
- LV. Sumter..... 9:30 P. M.
- AR. Orangeburg... 10:53 P. M.
- AR. Augusta (Eastern time) 1:35 Night
- AR. Atlanta, (Central time) 6:10 A. M.

Returning: leave Atlanta 8:35 P. M., arrive Florence 8:45 A. M., arrive Wilmington 12:50 Noon.

Passengers may remain in this car, in the Union Depot, which is in the heart of Atlanta, until 7:00 A. M., if they so desire, and on account of the earlier arrival of this train, and the use of the Union Depot, convenient connections may be made with through Observation-Dining-Sleeping Car-Coach trains which leave from same station for Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, etc.

Connections are made at Florence with above trains by leaving Smithfield at 3:08 P. M., and equally good connections are made returning.

For fares, tickets, etc., apply to J. A. CAMPBELL, Ticket Agent, Smithfield, N. C.

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