Important News Events of the World Summarized

U.S.—Teutonic War News

Labor and capital are the keynote of the address of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, before a joint gathering of American negotiators and labor leaders in Washington.

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Junius Spencer Morgan, son of J. P. Morgan, has joined the naval reserve as an ensign and has been assigned to the station at Newport, R. I. It was announced at recruiting headquarters at New York.

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Vigorous action for the overthrow of the German autocracy in America now was begun at San Francisco by the federal and authorities acting on information they said had been furnished by Captain Fleischbeign, a former officer and master spy on the Pacific coast. Fleischbeign is under arrest in Los Angeles.

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President Wilson, following a conference with Secretary of War Baker, issued an executive order Wednesday increasing the raising of Washington's army, to 1,000,000 men, the largest army to full war strength.

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It was announced at Binghamton, N. Y., that the Erie railroad will immediately replace all wooden bridges on the line from New York to Chicago with women as watchmen.

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European War News

A manifesto to the Russian army issued by the council of soldiers' and workingmen's delegates, at Petrograd, urged the continuation of the war against the central powers, declaring that a separate peace is impossible.

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The socialist leader, George Ledebour, declared in the Reichstag that it was impossible for Germany to win a war of aggression, and expressed the conviction that a revolution happened in Germany as it had happened in Russia. "We shall propose a commission of inquiry," he said, "to take preparatory steps in the direction of introducing a republic in Germany."

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Chancellor von Bethmann Hollweg in his speech in the Reichstag said he was virtually made a peace offer to Russia, saying: "I declared openly the peace aims of conquest, Germany's peace aims are the assurance of her future and making impossible demands that neither either desired to set forth any program of conquest.

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E. S. Cutler, a Buffalo manufacturer, has been made commissioner of the bureau of foreign and domestic commerce, with headquarters at Washington. He will instil business methods into the bureau and the United States consular service.

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Senate and house conferees on the army bill at Washington agreed to report the measure with the senate plan authorizing the president to raise the army, abandoning Colonel Roosevelt's desires to lead to France.

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All appropriation records of our government for several years to come, shall, as far as the interests of the public service permit, be composed of men who come, and of officers who have come from the ranks, from the some state or local unit.

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No person liable to military service shall be permitted to escape such service by furnishing a substitute or the payment of money, and the purchase of bounties for recruits is prohibited.

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The person who will be exempted from military service under the draft is designated by this provision of the bill:

That the vice president of the United States, the officers, legislative, executive and judicial, of the United States and of the several states, territories, and the District of Columbia, the regular or duly ordained ministers of religion, religious creeds who are conscientiously opposed to the participation in the military by reason of religious belief, and members in good standing of the well recognized religious sects organized and existing creed or principles forbid its members to participate in war in any form and whose religious conscientious scruples against war or participation therein in accordance with the creed or principles of said religious organization; but no person so exempted shall be inducted into military service, it is the policy that the president shall declare to be noncombatant.

Certain Classes to Be Exempted.

The president is hereby authorized to exclude or discharge from said draft under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, the second paragraph of section one hereof, all persons in the military service of the United States, consisting of such numbers of the national guard and national army as he may determine.

Age Limits Are Fixed.

"Such draft as herein provided shall be limited to military service in the forces of all male citizens or male persons not alien enemies who have declared their intention to become citizens, between the ages of twenty-one and thirty years, both inclusive, and shall be organized and maintained under such regulations as the president may prescribe and in accordance with the terms of this act.

"Service for the several states, territories and the District of Columbia, or any organized force, shall be performed in proportion to the population thereof and credit shall be given for any state, territory, district, or subdivision thereof, which has furnished troops in the regular army, the national guard or the national guard on April 5, 1917, in excess of its quota under the draft herein provided for such state, territory, district or subdivision, either as a part of the regular army or of the national guard.

Provides for Military Law.

"All persons drafted into the army of the United States and all officers herein provided for shall from the date of their draft or acceptance, be subject to the laws and regulations governing the regular army, except as to promotion so far as such laws and regulations are applicable to persons not commissioned and retention in the military service on the active or retired list, contemplated by existing law, and law and those drafted shall be retained to serve for the period of the existing emergency unless sooner discharged or furloughed and shall be authorized to raise and maintain by voluntary enlistment or draft, as herein provided, special and technical troops or such other organizations as may be necessary in connection therewith to employ them into organizations and to govern them when in service by the paragraph of section 1 and section 2 of this act.

"Organizations of the regular army, the national guard, except as to the number of officers, and the national army shall be composed of men of such ages, and of officers who have come, and of officers who have come from the ranks, from the some state or local unit.

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Powers of Exempting Boards.

"Such boards shall have the following respective jurisdictions to hear and determine all claims for exemption hereinafter provided, all questions of inclusion, exemption or discharge, all questions of or claims for including or excluding persons or classes of persons from the operations of the draft, and all questions or claims of discharging persons or classes or persons from the service hereunder, not included within the original jurisdiction of such local boards.

"The decision of such district board shall be final except that in accordance with such general regulations as the president may prescribe, appeal may be taken to the president in certain cases.

"Any person subject to registration must have attained their twenty-first but not their thirty-first birthday, and such persons as fail to register will be deemed to have registered as of more than one year. Persons temporarily absent from their legal residence may register by mail under presidential regulations.

Provisions for Volunteers.

The provisions governing voluntary enlistment in the regular army and national guard follow:

"That the qualifications and conditions for voluntary enlistment in the regular army provided shall be the same as those prescribed by existing law for enlistments in the regular army, except that persons may be enlisted for the period of eighteen and forty, both inclusive, at the time of their voluntary enlistment, and such enlistments, shall be for the period of the existing emergency unless sooner discharged.

Age Limits for Enlistments.

"Provided, That all persons enlisted under the provisions of the provisions of this act shall be as far practicable under such regulations as the president may prescribe of the same; provided further, that all persons who have enlisted since April 1, 1917, either in the regular army, the national guard, and all persons who have enlisted since the declaration of war June 5, 1916, upon their application, shall be discharged from their enlistment for the existing emergency.

"That provision be made for the discharge of any or all enlisted men from the military service of the United States by such general regulations as the president may prescribe, and such enlistments, shall be for the period of the existing emergency unless sooner discharged.

Provides for Enlistments.

"That all officers now enlisted men of the United States herein provided for other than those who may be hereafter appointed on the same footing as to pay, allowances and promotion as now provided by law, and enlisted men of corresponding grades now enlisted in the United States regular army, and commencing June 1, 1917, and during the period or continuation of the emergency, all enlisted men of the United States who are now in active service whose base pay does not exceed $24 per month shall receive an increase of $10 per month; those whose base pay is $30 per month shall receive $5 per month; those whose base pay is $36 per month, and those whose base pay is $45 per month, provided that the increase provided for in this section shall not include the compilation of allowances.

Presidents Powers Broadened.

An extensive new provision of the bill as drafted is:

That the president is authorized to increase or decrease the number of officers prescribed for the typical brigade, division, corps and army in the regular army, and to prescribe such additional officers and assistants and fix the grades of officers' reserve corps to temporary service as he may deem necessary, provisions of section 38 of the act of June 3, 1916, notwithstanding; by appointment from the regular army, the national guard and the officers' reserve corps, or by promotion from those duly qualified and regularly commissioned officers of the regular army, the national guard and the officers' reserve corps, and the president is authorized to prescribe the rules and regulations governing such appointments and promotions, and to prescribe the rules and regulations governing the examinations, which shall be conducted by boards of officers, one member of each board to be detailed from the line and one from the staff corps or department of the branch of service to which the candidate belongs, and the president may prescribe such regulations governing the appointment of reserve officers in the various staff corps and departments as he may deem necessary.

"Such district boards shall refer to each appeal and affirm, modify or reverse any decision of any local board brought before them by appeal from any such district board has jurisdiction to hear and determine the rules and regulations prescribed by the president, and such district boards shall have the right to administer oaths, examine witnesses against protestant, and determine questions of fact in all cases of appeals and all questions or claims for including persons or classes or persons from the service or for discharging persons or classes or persons from the service that are not included within the original jurisdiction of such local boards.

"The decision of such district board shall be final except that in accordance with such general regulations as the president may prescribe, appeal may be taken to the president in certain cases.

"Any person subject to registration must have attained their twenty-first but not their thirty-first birthday, and such persons as fail to register will be deemed to have registered as of more than one year. Persons temporarily absent from their legal residence may register by mail under presidential regulations.

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Age Limits for Enlistments.

"Provided, That all persons enlisted under the provisions of the provisions of this act shall as far as practicable under such regulations as the president may prescribe of the same; provided further, that all persons who have enlisted since April 1, 1917, either in the regular army, the national guard, and all persons who have enlisted since the declaration of war June 5, 1916, upon their application, shall be discharged from their enlistment for the existing emergency.

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OPERATIONS UNDER SELECTIVE DRAFT

Measures for Raising of Military Forces, as Agreed Upon by Congress.

AGE LIMIT, 21 TO 30 YEARS

Male Citizens, and Those Who Have Declared Their Intention to Become Citizens, of That Age, Liable to Draft—Classes That Are Excused.

Washington.—The selective draft under which the new United States army will be raised will be applied under the following provisions of the army bill:

"That the enlisted men required of the states and maintain the organizations of the regular army and to complete and maintain the organizations of the national guard and the national army, in the numbers of the National Guard drafted into the service of the United States, at the maximum peace strength as by this act provided, shall be raised by voluntary enlistment, if and when the president decides that they cannot be raised in sufficient numbers by selective draft; provided, that all enlistments hereby authorized and maintained by selective draft, as hereinafter provided, this provision shall not prevent the transfer or the form of training enlistee from one arm or force.

Age Limits Are Fixed.

"Such draft as herein provided shall be limited to military service in the forces of all male citizens or male persons not alien enemies who have declared their intention to become citizens, between the ages of twenty-one and thirty years, both inclusive, and shall be organized and maintained under such regulations as the president may prescribe and in accordance with the terms of this act.

"Service for the several states, territories and the District of Columbia, or any organized force, shall be performed in proportion to the population thereof and credit shall be given for any state, territory, district, or subdivision thereof, which has furnished troops in the regular army, the national guard or the national guard on April 5, 1917, in excess of its quota under the draft herein provided for such state, territory, district or subdivision, either as a part of the regular army or of the national guard.

Provides for Military Law.

"All persons drafted into the army of the United States and all officers herein provided for shall from the date of their draft or acceptance, be subject to the laws and regulations governing the regular army, except as to promotion so far as such laws and regulations are applicable to persons not commissioned and retention in the military service on the active or retired list, contemplated by existing law, and law and those drafted shall be retained to serve for the period of the existing emergency unless sooner discharged or furloughed and shall be authorized to raise and maintain by voluntary enlistment or draft, as herein provided, special and technical troops or such other organizations as may be necessary in connection therewith to employ them into organizations and to govern them when in service by the paragraph of section 1 and section 2 of this act.

"Organizations of the regular army, the national guard, except as to the number of officers, and the national army shall be composed of men of such ages, and of officers who have come, and of officers who have come from the ranks, from the some state or local unit.

"No person liable to military service shall be permitted to escape such service by furnishing a substitute or the payment of money, and the purchase of bounties for recruits is prohibited.

Men Who Are Exempted.

The persons who will be exempted from military service under the draft is designated by this provision of the bill:

That the vice president of the United States, the officers, legislative, executive and judicial, of the United States and of the several states, territories and the District of Columbia, the regular or duly ordained ministers of religion, religious creeds who are conscientiously opposed to the participation in the military by reason of religious belief, and members in good standing of the well recognized religious sects organized and existing creed or principles forbid its members to participate in war in any form and whose religious conscientious scruples against war or participation therein in accordance with the creed or principles of said religious organization; but no person so exempted shall be inducted into military service, it is the policy that the president shall declare to be noncombatant.

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DETAILS OF NEW CONSCRIPTION LAW

Washington, May 19.—[Special.]—Outstanding features of the universal service law drafted by the senate and house conferees:

Ages of Draft, 21 to 30 Inclusive.

Ages of Volunteers, 18 to 45 Inclusive.

Number subject to draft—1,000,000 to be selected by Draft or Volunteer.

Number to be drawn by selective conscription 1,000,000

In two drafts 500,000 each.)

Regular army 625,000

National Guard 450,000

Total strength provided 2,001,000

Classes of Service Provided for Emergency; Exemptions:

Ministers of religion and theological students.

Members of religious sects opposed to war.

Liable to Exemption:

County and municipal officers.

Customhouse clerks.

Employees of arsenals, armories and navy yards.

Persons engaged in industries, transportation, dependents.

The physically and morally deficient.

Aliens.

Proclamation by the president for exemptions.

Immediate registration by those of 21 years.

Selection from register of men for service.

Dispatch of men drafted to assembly camps.

Provision for Pay:

Second-class privates $30

First-class private 33

Second-class corporal 36

Corporal 38

Sergeant of the line ..... 330 and 42

Quartermaster and hospital sergeant 46

First sergeant 51

Salaries Provided Women Around the Army; Prohibition.

Appointment of the social evil.

Contractors, customhouse clerks, persons employed by the United States in the construction of any public building and workmen employed in the service of the United States, and such other persons employed in the departments of the government as the president may designate; persons employed in the service of the United States, and such other persons employed in the departments of the government as the president may designate; persons employed in industries essential to the maintenance and support of the military or the effective operation of the army; persons in the military service of the United States during the emergency; persons who have conscientious scruples against service in the land or naval forces of the United States; persons exempted by the president; persons who have been duly discharged from the land or naval forces of the United States; persons who have been duly discharged from the land or naval forces of the United States; persons who have been duly discharged from the land or naval forces of the United States