

DRAFTING AN ARMY

Conscription Had Its Origin in France in 1798.

THEN SPREAD OVER EUROPE.

The Terrible Power It Placed in Napoleon's Hands Forced the Other Nations to Adopt the System—Its Introduction into This Country.

Conscription originated in France in 1798. At that time the country had just passed through the long and bloody war of the French revolution which the monarchs of Europe had banded together to crush. France, under Napoleon, had come forth victorious, but her army was exhausted, and it was evident that some new system of recruitment would be necessary, as volunteer enlistment no longer sufficed. It was then that General Bonaparte brought forth and passed the law establishing conscription. Since then it has been the basis of all French military legislation and, to a certain extent, of that of all other countries.

It was through the terrible power of conscription that Napoleon was enabled to carry on the gigantic wars which characterized his reign and by means of it, after losing in the snows of Russia the largest army that up till that time had ever been put into the field to reappear a few months later with another army almost as large.

Out of necessity the other nations were forced to follow France's example, and conscription became general. Under the French regime every citizen between the ages of twenty and twenty-five was liable to service for five years. Prussia, however, still further developed the powers of conscription by reducing the period of service in the ranks and passing her soldiers as soon as they were sufficiently trained into a reserve force, thus by degrees training her whole population.

This latter system, which was considered as one of the most far-reaching and important events of the last century, owed its origin to the conditions imposed on Prussia by Napoleon in the treaty of Tilsit, whereby Prussia was restricted to a standing army of 43,000 men. She kept to the letter of the law by maintaining her army at the prescribed number, but her trained citizen reserve force was limited only by the population of the country.

The military history of the United States is as remarkable as the rise and rapid growth of the nation itself. In 1790, as fixed by an act of congress, the rank and file of our army amounted to 1,210 men, and in 1814 an English expedition with only 3,500 men was able to seize and burn Washington.

Conscription first made its appearance here at the time of the war between the states. At the beginning of the war in 1861 our whole regular force was but 14,000 men. At first the northern army was increased by volunteer enlistment, but the unexpected prolongation of the war proved this method too slow to replenish the waste of the armies, and in 1863 the government resorted to a draft.

The first attempt to carry it out met with forcible resistance and led to a serious riot in the city of New York which lasted for several days. All opposition, however, was put down and the draft executed with all possible forbearance and justice. Exemptions and substitute purchases were so freely given in the north that the draft had little effect except as a stimulus to the states in bringing to full strength their quotas of volunteers by various bounties.

In the south, however, conscription was sweeping from the first, and toward the end of the war it became omnivorous. Every man between the ages of seventeen and fifty-five was legally liable to service, the only excuse being physical incapacity.

The total number of men called under arms by the government of the United States between April, 1861, and April, 1865, amounted to more than 2,750,000, nearly half of this number being raised by conscription. If to this we add the 1,100,000 men from the southern states the total armed force of the country at that time amounted to almost 4,000,000, drawn from a population of only 32,000,000. Philadelphia Ledger.

Why They Have Green Backs.

Why the United States banknotes are printed with green backs is not generally known, although there is a most excellent reason for it. The great drawback to paper currency, says the Baltimore American, is the likelihood of its being counterfeited, and therefore experts are constantly at work to contrive ways of making it impossible to copy such bills.

Stacy J. Edson was the man who in 1857 invented the green ink that Uncle Sam uses on his bank bills. The ink, which was patented, is anti-photographic—that is, it cannot be photographed, nor can counterfeiters in trying to get a facsimile of the notes move it with alkalies. The secret of the ink's ingredients of the ink of course is carefully preserved.

An Arabian Titbit.

Cheese today is not common among the Bedouin Arabs, butter being preferred. There is a substance closely corresponding to cheese mentioned in Samuel. This consists of coagulated buttermilk, which is dried until it becomes quite hard. It is then ground, and the Arabs eat it mixed with butter.

He is twice a conqueror who can restrain himself in the hour of victory.—Cyrus.

Beware the Closed Mind.

Keep Always in Touch With New Ideas and New Methods.

THE PLATE ON THE MUMMY.

Curious Story of a Prophecy That Was Fulfilled.

Visitors at museums often comment on the sadness of the present state of the Egyptian mummies who were buried with such great care in hope that their rest might never be disturbed. But such thoughts never enter the minds of natives who pillage their ancestors' graves, nor do they disturb the more civilized explorer. To a superstitious person, however, a story of a mummy that R. Caton Woodville tells in "Random Recollections" might have sinister meaning.

After the ill-fated expedition to relieve Gordon, Walter Ingram brought to London the mummy of an Egyptian Arab near Assuan. When he unrolled the mummy he found on its chest a gold plate, upon which was inscribed the name of a man who had died a violent death. His bones shall never be found. They shall be scattered to the four points of the world.

Shortly afterward Ingram went to Somaliland on a big game expedition. He had a four bore rifle and when in the elephant region saw a good target. So he let his rifle to one of his companions who had not so heavy a weapon, to give him a better chance of bagging an elephant. He himself intended a royl and was off with three Somalis armed with a few spears, which stood him of only 200 grains, to bag an antelope or perhaps a lion.

As luck would have it, Ingram came upon a fine old female elephant with a magnificent pair of tusks. It was the site of temptation to be resisted. Ingram looked up to the elephant, the hunter tried both barrels at the beast's forehead from about fifteen yards. The bullets flattened out, the animal's skull and only made him very angry. Ingram got out of reach and reloaded, and so on until he had expended all the contents of the cartridges.

As he was galloping away after his last shot, with the forest before him, he saw his pony suddenly stop and still apparently for its usual habit. The elephant, therefore, whisked the hunter out of the saddle, dashed him to the ground and trampled him to death. The tragedy occurred in the bed of a dry nullah and was witnessed by the three Somalis, who had flung for safety to the tops of trees. They were armed only with spears, which, of course, were useless weapons against the elephant. After the brute had gone they scrambled down, dug a hole with their spears, placed the body of poor Ingram in it and returned to camp with their sad story.

Some time afterward Mrs. Ingram, the hunter's mother, sent out an expedition to find and bring back to London the remains of her son. The spot was found, but two heavy seasons had passed, and the dry nullah had become a running river that had washed away the remains to the four points of the earth. Thus was the prophecy fulfilled.

Stilled the Battle.

A Touch of Nature That Halted War's Carnage For a Moment.

A day was dawning on a battlefield in northern France through a fog so thick that none could see more than a few yards from the trenches. In the night the Germans had drawn back their lines a little and the French had closely advanced, but between the two positions a lone farmhouse was still standing. As the sun rose and the fog cleared and the gunner found their ranges, heavy guns began to boom and answer back. Thus began the old, old warlike story of day after day of destruction and death.

But suddenly on both sides the firing ceased, and there fell a peculiar dead silence. Midway between the trenches the now shattered farmhouse there was no, it must be impossible, it must be a delusion? But no, there in the green meadow, crouching on its hands and knees, was a little child, a mere baby. It appeared perfectly happy and contented and in the sudden dimness of the soldiers the baby's laugh was heard as it climbed at a hand-bell. Not a sound was heard but that, not a shot was fired, nor did a soldier on either side draw breath.

Suddenly an older soldier jumped out of a trench and ran to where the child was crawling. He tenderly took it up and carried it back to shelter. From the trenches of the French there came no shots, but there rang along both lines a mighty cheer.

But soon alas, the guns were booming again and answering back, and the lowering bit of meadow was plowed by shells, for war is war, and men must not long yield to pity. Christian Herald.

Nests on the Water.

It is almost unthinkable that a bird should build a nest on the water. Yet that is exactly what the grebes always do. With reeds, grass and plant stems the grebe makes a regular floating island, somewhat hollowed out on top, usually near the open water of a marshy or reedy lake. We have several kinds of grebes, but their nests are much alike, sometimes moored to the reeds, but usually floating freely on the water.—St. Nicholas.

The Deacon's Philosophy.

No one ever gets to heaven before his time, and most of us it's a long time coming.

The good Lord helps us to hold our ground while the old world's turning to the brighter side, but we seldom credit Providence with that good work.

Ever stop to think that there are just storms enough in life to make the rainbows we sigh for?—Atlanta Constitution.

Just a Guess.

"What's all that pounding in the other room?" questioned a drummer while he was waiting to see the buyer.

"Dunno," replied the office boy. "I heard the boss say he'd got to frame a speech, an' I guess he's doin' it."—Philadelphia Record.

How It Happened.

"How did you happen to quit the stock market?"

"Well, my margin got very narrow and I sort of slipped off."—The Lamb.

Telling the Pull Man.

Dentist—Which tooth is it that troubles you, Sam? Pullman Porter—Lower Five, sah.—Boston Transcript.

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Don't Shut Yourself Up in an Office.

The man who shuts himself up in an office makes a great mistake, thinks Thomas L. Wilson, the Chicago publisher in the American Magazine he says.

The trouble with the executive who is too much in his office is that he loses more by the arrangement than anybody else in shutting others out he shuts himself in. He loses the numerous advantages of personal contact and points of view. There's nothing like looking a man in the eye and hearing his story to get at the meat of a situation. Most executives prefer to have everything brought to their attention in writing. That plan may be a time-saver, but my own experience has been that it will pay to get all information possible by face to face interviews.

Lessons Learned by Divers.

Experiments made by the British admiralty and the United States navy prove that deep sea diving is feasible. It has been found that the shorter the time a diver takes in getting to the bottom the better, because his body absorbs less nitrogen. Also, the diver must have at least one and one-half cubic feet of air per minute at all depths. Lacing the legs of the diver's suit increases his stability and permits him to come to an erect position with ease. It also lessens the danger of his falling or being suddenly blown to the surface. Popular Science Monthly.

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Making It Worse.

"Did you try counting sheep for your insomnia?"

"Yes, but it only made matters worse the sheep reminded me of my butcher's bill."—Boston Transcript.

What Hurts.

Doctor—You mustn't stay out late at night. Patient—a married man—Is the night air bad for me? Doctor—No, it is the excitement after getting home that hurts you.—London Telegraph.

Voice of Experience.

"Your wife seems to be very angry."

"Yes."

"What's the trouble?"

"I didn't inquire. That only makes words."

Pope Benedict XV. has sent peace proposals to all belligerent nations. Whether they will accept them or not remains to be seen.

Village of Lourdes

THE VILLAGE OF LOURDES

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The village of Lourdes lies in a picturesque site on the eastern slope of the Pyrenees, in the far south of France. Two dashing mountain streams foam together where the town stands, and over it looms a great precipice rock, topped by a castle of the middle ages. The mountains are velvet green with forest, the air is clear and soft. The streets of the ancient town are quaintly pleasing, the old houses standing row on row in quiet dignity. The population of the place is only about 5,000, but a million pilgrims visit it every year.

Business Opportunities for Women

have been created by the call to the colors of men from many business offices. Many young men who were students in the Rochester Business Institute have responded to the call for service for their country during the past six months. Men who had been trained for positions as stenographers, bookkeepers and clerical assistants were very rapidly accepted by the Government for the special and much needed service they were prepared to render.

As a result a number of business firms are now applying to the R. B. I. for women to take the places previously held by men and it is expected that very many more women will be required permanently in business offices in the future. The R. B. I. is therefore urging young women to realize the importance of beginning their training for these excellent positions at the earliest possible date. There will also be very active demand for young men who are under the age limit for military service to serve as stenographers, bookkeepers and clerks.

Next Monday, August 20, will be a regular registration date in the R. B. I. and it will be an excellent time to begin a course of training in any of our departments. The regular fall term will open Tuesday, September 4. Call at the school office any school day from 8:30 to 5 on Saturday from 8:30 to 1 and let us talk with you about these opportunities. Our 1917-18 catalogue will be delivered or mailed to any address. Telephones, Main 3869, Stone 326. R. B. I. Building, 172 Clinton Avenue, South. Adv.

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Mrs. P. Holland, of Port Pierre, So. Dak., whose son was afflicted with epileptic spells since about 10 months, tried several doctors without any improvement—he then tried Pastor Koenig's Nervine and has not had any more spells since he took 3 bottles, therefore cannot praise it enough.

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Unprepared.

Edith—Were you taken by surprise when he proposed, dear? Elsie—Goodness, yes! Why, I hadn't even looked up his financial standing.—Boston Transcript.

Falsehood.

No falsehood, did it rise heaven high and cover the world, but bankruptcy one day will sweep it down and make us free of it.—Carlyle.

Sincerity is the basis of all true friendship. Without sincerity it is like a ship without ballast.



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"It's always getting me into trouble one way or another," replied Mr. Chugins. "When it runs I get arrested for speeding; when it refuses to run I get arrested for profanity."—Washington Star.

An Anecdote.

The American women have always followed with interest the latest styles from Paris.

During his recent tour of Organ Concerts in this country, Joseph Bonnet, the great French organist, now on a leave of absence granted by his government, encountered a local press agent who was more than progressive.

To excite the curiosity of the fair ladies, he flooded the town with circulars, announcing that if they desired to see the latest creation from France, it was only necessary to come to the Concert Hall the next evening when the latest Bonnet from Paris would be there.

It is needless to say the Hall was crowded to the doors, and the new Bonnet became the "toque" of the town.

Shared Heart.

The seventh annual festival will be held at the Church Grounds, Flower City Park, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings, August 20, 21 and 22.

Patronize our Advertisers

In New York, Glad knows less of the Inter-Inter quotes work world so full well time's but bring interest. First condition sever that This one is it is the recent of a view is correct, territorial extent. And then when of the Fraction rerner these from a absolutely is attracted can think Bodin same develop unlimited in the Mankied as city, we separated by existence infrequent still he world alities each o by its lessal. What pervers the me tells us at the nized t of stat to the was t and th to the sov was to limit h evident Gladde until r that are were r prerog submit which. Mr. The p archy, alism t ed wit tion." long as remain war' of always cific pu. "It l Dr. Gled in me better, and tric figured hensive i stat church tween Massac "And t mediev the uni merely sented