

DRAFT BILL WAITS ON SENATE BATTLE

Republicans on Committee Demand Roosevelt Make Stand Known.

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held this afternoon on the mobilization plan, with Chief of Staff George C. Marshall and Maj. Gen. John E. Williams, chief of the War Department's National Guard Bureau, as the witnesses.

President Roosevelt has not commented on the specific pending conscription bill.

But in his speech to the Democratic convention at Chicago, Mr. Roosevelt said:

"Because of the millions of citizens involved in the conduct of defense, most right thinking persons are agreed that some form of selection by draft is an necessary and fair today as it was in 1917 and 1918."

Demand Stand by F. D. R.

Heated exchanges over the conscription question began soon after the committee met in executive session this morning, it was said. Mr. Bridges, Senator Chan Gurney (R. S. D.) and Senator John Thompson (R. Idaho) demanded to know the President's position.

Mr. Bridges, it was said, told the committee that Mr. Roosevelt has sent messages to Congress on all other phases of the defense program but has said nothing about the conscription bill, originally introduced by Senator Edward R. Burke (D. Neb.), a lame duck anti-New Dealer, and by Rep. James Wadsworth (R. N. Y.).

"We don't know how the President stands on this important issue and I think we have a right to know," Mr. Bridges was reported to have said. Mr. Gurney and Mr. Thomas backed him up.

Finally Decide on Draft

Senators Sherman Minton (D. Ind.) and Joseph Lee (D. Okla.) New Dealers, accused the Republicans of "playing politics" with the question. Mr. Sheppard sought to smooth out the row by pointing out that the War Department favors the bill. He said that was tantamount to Administration support.

The Republicans were not satisfied with that, however, and the debate went on. Finally, it was agreed that the National Guard measure should not be delayed by its present program permits.

Willie's Stand Asked

If granted the authority, he said, he will order the Guard to duty in successive increments to permit the effective use of available training facilities and equipment. When the Guardsmen have attained the desired state of efficiency, they will be released.

Mr. Wheeler challenged Republican Presidential Nominee Wendell L. Willkie to advise the country of his stand on conscription.

He insisted that he should "tell the mothers of America, the workers of America, the youth of America and millions of others whether you are in favor of changing our traditional policy with reference to voluntary enlistments in time of peace and also whether you subscribe to the policies laid down by many of your friends who want to do everything short of war—which means war."

Mr. Austin's suggestion, which has not yet come before the committee in the form of an amendment, would limit the bill's application to about 12,000,000 men, in place of 42,000,000 who would have to register under its present provisions.

Mr. Sheppard said that some committee members desired a clarification of provisions in the bill designed to protect trainees' jobs while they are in camp. The bill now stipulates that employers refusing to rehire men at the expiration of their draft service would be deemed guilty of violating the Wagner Act.

House Hearings Resumed

The House Military Affairs Committee meantime resumed hearings on its own version of the conscription bill.

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Michael J. Ready, general secretary of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, charged that professional military men were exerting "high pressure propaganda" to the effect of conscription. He said a drive for voluntary enlistments would be better for the country.

Msgr. Ready, who said he spoke for all the Catholic bishops of the

United States, said that the church would naturally abide by the decision of the Government, but that it preferred to see a voluntary enlistment drive tried first.

Rep. John Costello (D. Cal.) interrupted his testimony to call for a conscripted army of 1,000,000 men. He said that voluntary enlistments were "coming slow"; that the Army strength had increased from 229,465 men in April to only 267,500 now.

He said he did not believe the Army could be strengthened sufficiently under the present voluntary system.

Fossick Pleads for Objectors

Dr. Harry Emerson Fossick, pastor of the Riverside Church, New York, in a statement prepared for presentation to the House Committee, urged adoption of the conscientious objectors amendment proposed by the Quakers.

The amendment would give individual conscientious objectors an opportunity to state their case.

Little opposition to Mr. Roosevelt's plan to call out the National Guard was manifested in either House.

"With the foreign situation being what it is, we have to take every precaution to guard against come what may," Chairman Andrew J. May (D. Ky.) of the House Military Affairs Committee said. "We have to take the word of the commander-in-chief. Undoubtedly the inclusion of the Philippines in his request is based on the critical Far Eastern situation."

Asks President Be Specific

Rep. Paul Schaefer (R. Mich.) disagreed.

"The President will have to be much more specific than he has been before I would approve such a request," he commented. "I would like to know what will be done with the National Guard, where it will be kept and why it is necessary."

If approved by Congress, the cost of mobilizing the Guard and reserves probably would come out of 200 million dollars voted recently to Mr. Roosevelt to use as he sees fit in bolstering the nation's defense.

Mr. Roosevelt said that the security of the nation demands that the Guard "be brought to the highest possible state of training efficiency more rapidly than its present program permits."

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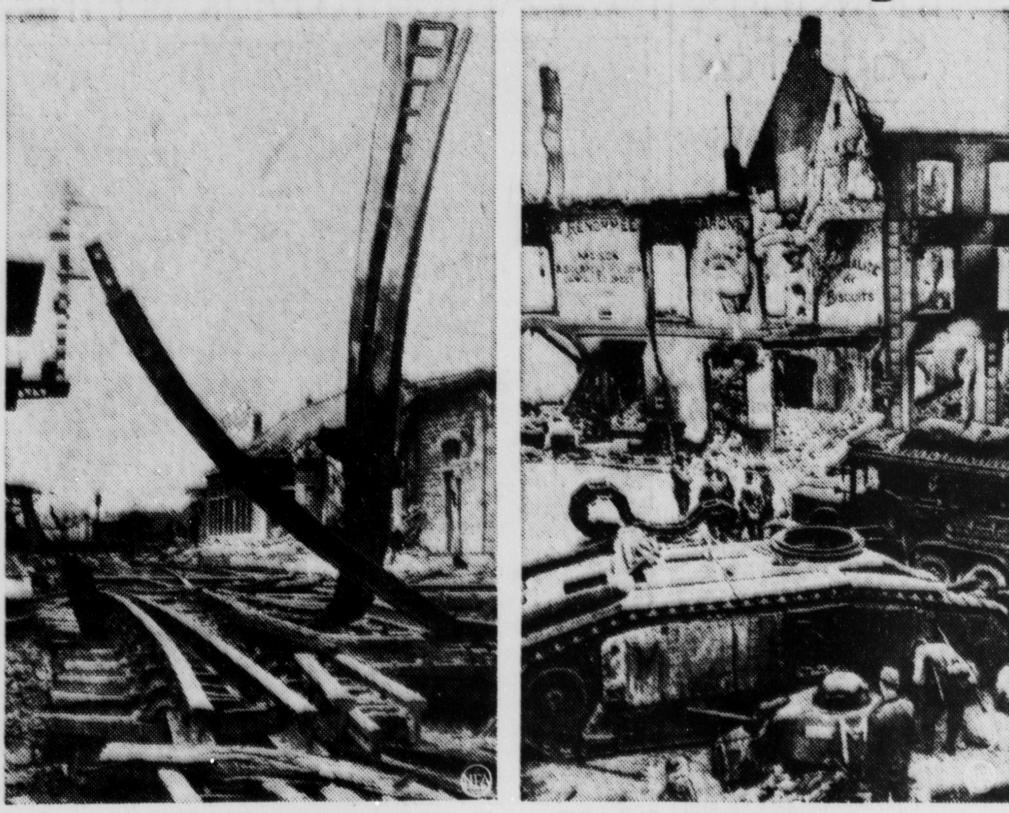
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French Ruins Prove German Might



Tortured into twisted scrap iron, these rails show how railroads, vital links in army communications chain, were smashed. The photo above shows the Jemelle, France, railroad station, after Nazi bombers scored direct hits.

Giant tanks, thickly armored to withstand fire, fell before the Nazi juggernaut. Above, in setting of bomb-blasted buildings, Germans dismantle captured French tank for shipment to Germany where the steel will be used for munitions.
