

ROOSEVELT AND FOUR SONS WOULD JOIN

First Reserves to be Organized in United States Under Name of American Legion.

New York, Mar. 3.—Formal announcement was made here last night of the formation of an organization of first reserves, to be known as the American Legion, to be composed of army, navy and militia men not in service, which will better insure the nation's preparedness in case of war. Captain Gordon Johnston, aide-de-camp to Major General Leonard Wood, made the announcement on behalf of a group of army and navy men, who, in an unofficial capacity, are acting with civilians in promoting the movement. Capt. Johnston said that it is the intention to establish a first reserve of between 250,000 and 300,000 one-time army, navy and militia men for instant call in case of emergency.

He said that General Wood had given the organizers of the American Legion permission to establish temporary headquarters on Governor's Island which is a government reservation and headquarters of the department of the east of the United States army.

Theodore Roosevelt has written a letter approving the proposal. Numerous other public men have endorsed the project, and a statement by the promoters says that former Secretaries of War and of the Navy have indicated their willingness to act in an advisory capacity.

Asserting that he and his four sons will become members of the legion, Mr. Roosevelt in a letter to the organizers says that in the event of war he intends to ask Congress for permission to raise a division of cavalry. Mr. Roosevelt's letter in part follows:

"I and my four sons will gladly become members. I very earnestly hope and pray that there will be no war, but the surest way to avert war is to be prepared for it, and the only way to avert disaster and disgrace in war is by preparation, both military and naval, in advance.

"In the event of war I should ask permission of Congress to raise a division of cavalry, that is, nine regiments such as the regiment I commanded in Cuba, and unquestionably the ranks of these regiments would largely be filled from the men of the Legion and would in their entirety be filled by men such as those in the Legion, for in the event of war there will be no time to train the men first classed upon in such duties as shooting, riding and taking care of themselves in the open.

"We should as a nation have begun to prepare ourselves the minute the war broke out seven months ago. It is absolutely impossible to be sure, when there is a tremendous war, that we shall not be drawn into it against our will. The people of this country are only beginning to realize the extent of our military and naval unpreparedness.

"It is planned to have two active branches of the Legion," said Captain Johnston. "The line will be composed exclusively of men who have had army or navy service, who are capable of high power rifle and are seasoned in that fundamental of soldiering, taking care of themselves, roughing it in the open—a combination of regulars and rough riders."

"The special service branch of the Legion will accept in its various services only those men with thorough technical qualifications, such as engineers, doctors, aviators, blacksmiths, telegraphers, chauffeurs and men of dozens of other special callings. It will be what the government now lacks—a first reserve."

TRAINS DOGS FOR SERVICE ON BATTLEFIELD

Mr. Ian Malcolm, M.P. for Croydon, who for some months has been director of the wounded and missing department of the Red Cross Society, in a letter home states:

There is a very interesting society in France known as the Ligue des Chiens Sanitaires, which trains dogs of all sorts, apparently, to carry despatches from the front to another or to hunt for wounded men. They very kindly asked me to their training ground, and I am very glad that I went. There, in a large open space, were, I should say, fifty or sixty dogs, black, white, grey, brown, and of all shades of color, and of all breeds, from the smallest to the largest. They were all fenced up and brought out one at a time for their lesson. In the field there were trenches, and fences, pits and gravel mounds, obstacles of all kinds. The dogs were each at different stages of proficiency in the art of tracking wounded; some had begun learning that week; others had been with the trainer for months, and one was a perfectly trained dog which the trainer had used for a couple of years. The latter was a little wonder; he could climb wire netting or a stone wall like a cat, and he had the nose and pace of a first class pointer. It was beautiful to see him work. A man goes by devious paths and ultimately hides in a pit enclosed in a fifteen foot wire cage, like the walls of an aviary without the roof. The dog is brought on the ground by his trainer, picks up the scent almost at once, and off he goes. Finally he reaches the pit, makes three springs up the fencing, finds the man, takes his cap and races back to his master. He is then put on a leash, and off he goes again at full speed, dragging the man with him as fast as his legs can carry him over the broken ground until he reaches the wounded soldier, who is

MR. ALSOP BEGINS ACTION FOR DIVORCE FROM YOUNG WIFE



Finding the three generation barrier unsurmountable, Edward B. Alsop, eighty years old, a wealthy resident of Pittsburgh, who also maintains a home in Washington, D. C., has begun divorce proceedings against his beautiful young wife, Effie Pope Alsop. The suit asking for the annulment of the ties which bind him to his wife, who is twenty-three years old, was filed before Judge Brown, in Common Pleas Court. He charges his wife with desertion. When seen after the action was filed Mr. Alsop refused to make any comment concerning his shattered romance. He had no complaints to make regarding the treatment he received from his wife. Mr. and Mrs. Alsop separated more than a year ago, the wife suddenly leaving Mr. Alsop's home in Washington. The filing of the divorce action is the culmination of a romance which had its inception eight years ago at Lake Towan, North Carolina, when they were stopping at the quiet resort. Effie Pope Hill was then but fourteen years old. Mr. Alsop soon became attracted by the girl's unusual charm and beauty and began paying her attention, and five years later the friends of Mr. Alsop were shocked when his wedding to the young woman, then but nineteen years old was announced.

What Capture of The Turkish Capital Would Mean

By far the most significant and spectacular event of the European war for many months is the smashing of the forts at the entrance of the Dardanelles by the most tremendous naval gunfire ever directed at any land defenses and the advance up the strait by the powerful English and French fleets. From all accounts it seems as if the cry "on to Constantinople" might be raised with confidence by the Allies.

To be sure, the work is by no means done, but it appears to be proceeding methodically and with a cold and terrible precision. Everything has been provided for: mines and chains have lost their terrors by reason of new and comparatively safe methods of removing them by "sweeping" under cover of the long-range guns of the battleships. The boasted outer defenses have been proven not impregnable; the inner defenses may soon share the same fate. Once the Sea of Marmara is reached by the powerful allied fleet—or even half of it, if losses

then tended and, if possible, brought back to the nearest field hospital. These dogs I believe are in general use in the French and German armies, but hitherto I fancy that there are few, if any, among our British regiments. It would be an interesting experiment to try some among our troops who could certainly work the dogs if any soldiers in the world could.

A FAST VOYAGE.

The three-masted schooner Annie L. Warren, arrived at Halifax Thursday from Philadelphia. She made the passage in the very first time of four days having sailed from the American port on Sunday morning.

DENIES CHAOS AT LONDON DOCKS

Chairman of Dock Committee says reports of congestion have been greatly exaggerated.

London, Eng., Mar. 4.—"A chaos exists at the London docks. There has been, none since the outbreak of the war. What has existed has been congestion—often severe, I admit, and somewhat prolonged; but what I wish to emphasize is that the position is growing better every day, and, in three weeks' time we hope to be able to deal effectively with any congestion or abnormality as the contingency arises. I wonder, however, what the general or business public thinks of the work which the Port Authority has done in the greatest port of the world at a time of unprecedented pressure at the height of a European war." So said Mr. J. C. Broadbent, chairman of the Dock and Warehouse Committee of the Port of London Authority, and one of the port's representatives at the Board of Trade, to a representative of the Journal of Commerce, who had asked him for an official opinion on the statement that "merchants, manufacturers and shippers were becoming alarmed at the chaos which now existed at the London docks."

Highly Exaggerated Accounts. "That fact of the matter is," proceeded Mr. Broadbent, "highly exaggerated accounts have got abroad concerning the position at the docks, and

there are many who readily enough forget, or they do not appreciate, the work which has had to be done and which there still remains to do. Over and over again we have had to put the requirements of the military and naval authorities before the claims of shippers and merchants. We have today 6,000 men employed at the docks, compared with 4,000 at the same date last year. That is in spite of the fact that large numbers of men have been called up as reservists and others have joined the colors. Moreover, something like 1,500 skilled regular laborers have gone abroad or have been sent to other parts to help in the work of unloading war material. We are dealing with something like 150 transports, besides an extraordinary increase in other tonnage, due to many ships being diverted to the Thames owing to military requirements. "The year's supply of sugar purchased by the government has to be brought into port and warehoused within five months. Deliveries have already started, and while the ordinary quantity at the docks in normal times is no more than 21,000 tons, today we have 80,000 tons. At other times we have no more than 2,000 tons of wheat waiting to be taken away; today 24 thousand tons are in the warehouses and granaries. French wines and brandies, which are usually discharged at Newhaven, are today being discharged in the port of London. So it is with other commodities.

Wool Arrives With Rush.

"While the Australian troops were coming over, and during the exploits of the Emden, there was no great export of Australian wool. Now the wool is arriving with a rush, and at the next monthly sale 160,000 bales will be on offer—almost a record, necessitating most of our men working at present on the wool discharges alone. Then there are the large quantities of contraband goods which have to be warehoused. For these goods and much

else we are erecting additional storage sheds. Men are working day and night and nearly all the labor available is being utilized. Today there is, comparatively speaking, very little casual labor employed at the docks. Efforts have been made for years to eliminate that type of labor, so that today there are fewer irregularities in the supply and demand but we are making use of every man who can be employed. The congestion at the port is gradually being smoothed out; soon, we hope, it will disappear. But what is not generally known is the tremendous exertion which our laborers and everyone else working at the docks have had to exercise at a time of unimaginable pressure and difficulty."

PROBATE COURT.

Estate of Hugh Andrews, machinist. Deceased died intestate leaving him surviving a widow, four sons (one of

whom, William, is of the 26th Battalion, Overseas Contingent) and six daughters. On the petition of the widow and those of the children who are of age, Hugh Andrews, a son, is appointed administrator. No real estate. Personalty including a leasehold, \$5,000. Francis Kerr, proctor.

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND.

The following subscriptions to the Belgian Relief Fund were received on Saturday:
Ludlow Street Baptist Church per Mrs. C. R. Belyea \$10.00
Proceeds bean supper, Ladies' Sewing Club, Ford's Mills, Kent Co., per Gusie MacMillan, secretary, and P. L. L. L. Morton, treasurer 20.00
Proceeds concert and pie social, Hoyt Station, N. B., per Mrs. Hubert Webb 81.10
Queensdown Women's Institute, per M. Louise Scovell 10.00

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