BROKE GERMAN LINE

Details of Important Allied Victory Before Ypres.

OLD SCORE IS WIPED OUT

Capture of Messines Ridges Peculiarly Gratifying, as It Was the Scene of Former British Defeat—Defenses Shattered.

With the British Armies in France, June 7.—In one of the most elaborately planned and daringly executed maneuvers of the war Sir Douglas Haig's forces have dealt a mighty blow against the German line in Belgium, and been rewarded with notable gains in terrain and the capture of more than 5,000 prisoners and numerous guns of various caliber. In addition they inflicted heavy casualties on the Germans.

The Germans, though apparently aware that the blow was coming and seemingly prepared to meet it, were driven from their nearly three years' hold on Messines ridge, opposite "poor old" Ypres. Ypres in a sense was avenged today, for Messines ridge has been the vantage point from which the Germans have poured torrents of shells into the stricken city. The British also wiped off an old score against the Germans, for they held the ridge in October, 1914, and with very thin forces, and virtually no artillery, fought bloodily but vainly to hold it when the Prussian troops massed their modern and overpowering weapons of war against it.

Prisoners taken declared that the bombardment of Vimy ridge was child's play compared with the gunfire turned upon Messines ridge.

Triumph for Artillery.

This fire reached its climax just as dawn was graying the eastern skies and while the full moon was still suspended high in the heavens.

The attack was accompanied by all the arts and devilries of latter-day war. The enemy guns and gun crews had been bathed for days in gas shells sent over by the long-range British guns.

The night was filled with red incendiary flames. Shells that spurted lead in streams crashed in appalling numbers about the heads of the defending soldiers. High-explosive and shrapnel fire was rained out with such rapidity that the earth writhed under the force of the attack.

Mines that had taken two years to dig and fill with an overwhelming explosive broke into an avalanche of flaming destruction in the half light of dawn. This was indeed an Ypres day of retaliation and victory for the vicious sufferings of two years and eight months.

Gunners Strip to Waist.

It was a day of intense heat, and the gunners worked stripped to the waist. The attack went forward with clock-like regularity.

The British casualties were slight. Three out of four of the casualties were reported to be walking cases, who would return to duty in a few days.

The attack began at dawn, and the setting was as picturesque as can well be imaginable. The day before had been hot and sultry. Toward evening there was a series of thunder storms which extended well into the night, the lightning mingling with the flashes of the guns, but the thunder being drowned by all unnoticed amid the din of the cannon. A full moon struggled continuously to break through the heavy clouds which scudded across the velvety night sky.

Sing on Way to Fight.

On the way to the front were all the familiar pictures of the war—endless trains of motor trucks; all varieties of horse transport, the British soldiers marching to battle light of heart and singing songs familiar in every American community.

In the shadow of an old windmill which has withstood the storms of a century and been undaunted by nearly three years of war, the correspondent witnessed the last phases of the seven-day preliminary bombardment and the final outburst of the guns which sent the British infantry confidently on their way to new successes in fighting the greatest military nation the world has ever known.

From the German line the same lazy, looping rocket signals were ascending to illuminate the treacherous bit of ground between the trenches known as No Man's Land. This night-ly "strafing" had been going on so long that the enemy considered it entirely normal and took no alarm. Occasionally blue and yellow rockets would be flung into the air by Germans holding the front line.

One by one the guns became silent. There was the old "grandmother" howitzer of enormous caliber, which kept breaking the peace at five-minute intervals, the shock of each succeeding explosion and the shriek of the heavy shells being emphasized by the silence which lay over all the surrounding country.

Like Volcanoes in Eruption.

Day was scarcely breaking when from the dimly visible ridge a score of fiery volcanoes seemed suddenly to spring from the earth. The night had been filled with strange noises and still stranger sights, but these masses of flame, leaping from the ground, had a meaning all their own. They were the spectacular outward and visible evidences of more than a million pounds of high explosives which had been buried deep in mines below the enemy's positions for months.

All the world appeared lurid and horrible under the sinister glow. The earth shook as if torn by a great seismic disturbance. It was not a single shock. The force of the explosion actually set the earth rocking to and fro, and under the influence of the giant guns, which immediately began to roar from far and near, the trembling continued indefinitely. It was 3:10 o'clock when this final terrific bombardment began.

It has seemed that the battle of the Somme attained the ultimate in the close assembly of war weapons, but this sudden outpouring on Messines ridge was beyond all calculation. The lighter field guns far forward set up a perfect curtain fire, under which the assaulting troops trudged confidently to their allotted goals. Farther back the deep-throated heavies began to pour out torrents of high explosive shells on the German trenches and communications, while still other guns —enough to win any ordinary battle— confined themselves solely to the task of deluging German guns and gunners in baths of gas fired in shells of every conceivable caliber.

The effect of this counter battery work was not appreciated until later in the day, when the infantry sent back word that their progress had not been hampered by the enemy artillery and that their casualties amounted to virtually nothing.

Enemy Signals for Help.

Great black observation balloons had stolen skyward during the din of the newly begun battle. In the wood back of the windmill spring birds, awakened by the deafening clamor, had begun to sing joyously. Like so many children who have come into the consciousness of being in the midst of the war, these birds regarded the appalling noise of the battle as a normal condition of life.

The smoke of the giant mines exploded along the battle front meantime rose in great, curling plumes toward the sky and was punctuated by red signals for help from the stricken Germans in the front and support lines. Never was the air filled with more frantic notices of danger. The entire horizon glowed with red balls of fire sent up by the nervous Germans.

More and more British airplanes began to make their appearance. One flew over the lines, the flashes of the guns being reflected brilliantly on its highly glazed wings.

Under this appalling fire trudged forward on the ten-mile front General Plumer's army. At many places the men found German troops utterly dazed by the mine explosion and the ordeal of artillery fire.

First Taste of New Warfare.

Many of these troops had but recently come from Russia, where they had spent 18 months and knew nothing of what actual warfare was like on the western front. They had broken at the first mine explosion and had only been gathered together in groups by their noncommissioned officers when the British appeared out of the smoke and shells and made them prisoner.

They said they had been given to understand that the British always killed their prisoners. It was really pitiful in some instances to see the manner in which these prisoners cringed to their captors.

As a matter of fact, the British soldier, when the fighting is done, is inclined almost too generously to treat the German prisoners as pals. Some of the prisoners taken today had only gone into the German lines last night and had made their way forward under a galling fire and had lost heavily. But the troops already in the line were calling for relief in such a manner that their appeals could not be denied.

Failed to Time Attack.

In view of the fact that the attack had been expected the German commanders were endeavoring to get their best units available into the fighting front, but had underestimated when the British would strike. The troops in a strange line were utterly bewildered when the attack began and fell easy prey to the advancing British.

The Irish, New Zealanders and Australians, who had been released in every detail of "the show," knew just what to do from the moment the word to advance was given.

The battle was far more visible during the first uncertain moments than later when the sun gradually formed its way through the western banks of clouds. By that time the smoke of exploding shells and the vapors from the blinding barrage, which had been part of the artillery duty, obscured the more distant landscape to such an extent that the range finding guns could be seen at all, although the firing was almost at one's feet. The brilliantly leaping shrapnel shells, breaking far above ground, appeared through a thick mist only as brief and brilliant electric sparks.

British Planes Rule Air.

For a month past, but especially since June 1, the airplanes on this front have been indefatigably at work during every possible flying hour. They had brought down nearly 50 machines in six days as a means of blinding the enemy, while the Germans have endeavored valiantly to obtain airplane observations for their artillery, but their observing machines have seldom been able to direct more than one or two shots before the British fighting craft had pounced upon them and either sent them crashing to the earth or had driven them to cover at breakneck speed.

Today the British planes flew far and long over the enemy's retreating lines and were only challenged by some very feeble shooting and stray batteries. All through the day British planes ruled the air. They co-operated actively with the British artillery and infantry in maintaining the success of this brilliant episode in modern warfare.

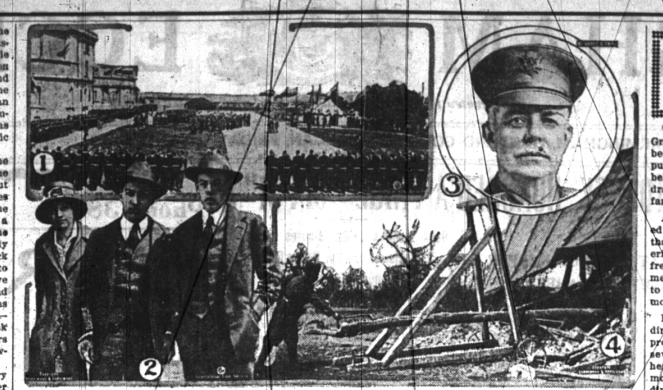
HAVE CAPTURED FIVE TOWNS

British Make Gains of Tremendous Importance in Their Two Victorious Drives in Belgium.

London, June 7.—The British really made two victorious drives. Beginning their attack on a nine-mile front between Messines and Wytschaete, at an early hour, they captured all their first objectives, taking a large number of prisoners, and then continued to press the advantage thus gained. Messines, Lenfre, Zeebres and Wytschaete were reported taken.

The official report says that the second drive carried the village of Oosttaverne and the German positions east of the village over an extent of five miles. The German casualties were very heavy, and the British took more than 5,000 prisoners, many guns, trench mortars and machine guns.

Naval airplanes dropped bombs on the airdrome at Nieuwmunster, near the coast between Zeebrugge and Ostend.



1—Scene in the great Russian fortress of Kronstadt, whose garrison revolted but later yielded to the provisional government. 2—Eleanor Parker of Barnard college and Charles F. Phillips and Owen Cattell of Columbia university, who were arrested in New York for conspiring against the draft; Phillips pleaded guilty and asked permission to register. 3—Brig. Gen. R. E. L. Michie, aid to General Scott in the Root mission now in Russia; the low-colored uniform he has on is now disapproved by the war department. 4—One of the battering rams used by the Germans to destroy without explosives the cottages in the French territory from which they are being driven by the allies.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE PAST WEEK

More Than Ten Million Young Americans Register for National Army.

PERSHING REACHES ENGLAND

British Start Tremendous Offensive in Belgium, First Blowing Up Messines Ridge — Japan Warns Russia Against Withdrawing From the War—Food Scarcity Worries Germany.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

More than 10,000,000 men between the ages of twenty-one and thirty years responded to the call of the nation on Tuesday, June 5, registration day for the national army. Thus the first step in the execution of the selective service law was completed with gratifying success and the predictions of the Germans and of the traitors in America who side with them that the registration would be a failure were proved false.

That there would be opposition to the registration was a foregone conclusion, but it was sporadic and on the whole was of no importance. Such hostile demonstrations as there were generally took place in strongholds of the I. W. W. and the Socialists and were promptly squelched.

Returns from some states were below the estimates of the census bureau, but in other states those estimates were exceeded. A large proportion of those registering claimed exemption, usually because of dependent relatives, and the war department officials, as a result, intimated that the rules governing exemption would be tightened.

The considerable number of claims for exemption really does not mean that so many young Americans desire to avoid service. Such a conclusion would be most unjust, for everywhere there were evidences of unbounded patriotism and loyalty, and the indications of exemption claims arose mainly from the necessary answers to questions that were merely statistical.

As soon as the machinery of registration is readjusted, 1,500,000 names will be drafted, the exemption boards will do their work and 625,000 men will be called for immediate service.

Pershing Arrives in England.

The safe arrival of General Pershing and his staff at an English port was announced on Friday.

The naval collier Jupiter, laden with grain and other supplies for the Pershing army and escorted by American warships, arrived at a French port; a squadron of our warships arrived at Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, presumably to relieve the British navy of the patrol of the South Atlantic; and more hospital units landed in England and proceeded to France. So much the government allowed to be known of the movements of our armed forces. Military expediency demanded the suppression of much more interesting news.

Preparations have been made for the reception of American troops in France. A number of bases have been organized, camps for infantry and artillery have been laid out, and aviation parks established.

From France came the news of the exploit of the American steamship Silvershell which encountered an enemy submarine in the Mediterranean. The two vessels fought for an hour and a half, exchanging many shots, and then one shell fired by the naval gunners on the Silvershell found its mark and the U-boat was sent to the bottom.

British Offensive in Flanders.

After a smashing bombardment lasting three days, the British began their expected offensive in Flanders early Thursday morning with an explosion that was heard by Premier Lloyd George at Walton Heath, 140 miles away. Nine miles of German positions along the Ypres-Armentieres front were blown into the air by 20 charges of high explosives, totaling a million pounds. Instantly the Englishmen, Irishmen, Australians and New Zealanders that make up the British army in Belgium sprang forward in successive waves, and one of the fiercest battles of the war was on.

The attack was directed at the Messines ridge, between Messines and Wytschaete, where ever since October of 1914 the Germans had maintained themselves in a sharp salient that always threatened Ypres, only three miles to the north. This morning rush resulted in the capture of Messines and Wytschaete and the enemy's defense systems on the nine-mile front, and later in the day another forward movement took the British into and through the village of Oosttaverne. The entire salient was straightened out and all the counter-attacks were repulsed. Any considerable further advance in this sector will threaten the German hold on Lille, which is about five miles from the nearest British position. Large numbers of prisoners already have been taken.

The Germans must have known that the attack of Messines ridge was intended, for the preparatory bombardment was terrific, and yet reports from prisoners indicated that they actually were taken by surprise.

In preparation for the operations in Flanders the British fleet co-operated with the land forces, subjecting Ostend to severe bombardment. The British air forces also were in action, repeatedly raiding the German bases at Zeebrugge, Ostend and Bruges. In retaliation a squadron of German airplanes attacked the British naval base in the Medway, close to London, on Tuesday, but was driven off with the loss of eight machines.

Several times during the week the Germans made vicious attacks in the Aisne and Champagne sectors, and even gained possession of some French positions; but the gallant poilus almost immediately recovered the lost ground, inflicting severe losses on the enemy.

The Austrians claimed to have effectually checked the Italian advance toward Trieste, and announced that the Italian losses in the offensive were 180,000 men. On Tuesday the Italians were forced back south of Gorizia.

Dispatches from Rome revealed the fact that Italy had proclaimed the independence of Albania.

Once more the British admiralty issued a very satisfactory report on the work of the submarines, showing but 22 British vessels sunk in the week, five of which were fishing vessels. The American destroyers completed their first month in the war and have proved themselves most valuable aids to the British naval forces.

Russia Is Warned.

Conditions in Russia remain chaotic, though they may be straightened out somewhat by the work of the Root commission and the American railway engineers. The revolt of the garrison of Kronstadt, which declared the island fortress independent of the government, caused considerable concern in Petrograd, but on the action of the garrison was denounced by the Petrograd council of workmen's and soldiers' delegates it collapsed, and the garrison bowed to the authority of the provisional government.

Following President Wilson's example, France replied to Russia's statement of her peace plan by setting forth in a general way the demands of the French. These, embodied in a vote of the chamber of deputies, include the liberation of the territories invaded by Germany, the return to France of Alsace-Lorraine and just reparation for damage.

Japan also took official cognizance last week of the Russian crisis, informing the government at Petrograd that if Russia withdraws from the war Japan, in consultation with England and the United States, will consider what measures to adopt. The provisional government was warned that if Russia accepts a separate peace it will become another Austria under the domination of Germany, will lose Poland, Lithuania and Finland and will be stripped of many of her outlying possessions. Furthermore, Japan informed Great Britain that while, in case of Russia's withdrawal from the entente, Japan would prefer to send her troops to France rather than to undertake military chastisement of Russia, if the new situation seemed to threaten Japan the latter would take measures for self-protection. This means she would declare war on Russia and take away Manchuria and possibly, outer Mongolia.

The best informed opinion is that the entente allies have little to hope from Russia in the way of further active participation in the war. If she can be persuaded to reject a separate peace and to hold the Germans back from further invasion, that is about the limit of reasonable expectation. The provisional government seems utterly lacking in cohesion and its power is negligible.

The strike of munition workers in Petrograd was averted on Wednesday, but only by granting the demands of the men, including the six-hour day.

General Brussiloff was made commander in chief of the Russian armies and General Gurko again resigned as commander on the western front.

Two Things Worry Germany.

Two things are causing especial anxiety in Germany. One is the persistent demand of the people in Austria-Hungary for a peace on the Scheidemann plan of no annexations and no indemnities—a separate peace if Germany remains obdurate. The German Socialists are aroused to anger by the prospect of this breaking up of the alliance of the central powers, and lay all the blame on the pan-Germans.

The other cause for German worry is the scarcity of food, which admittedly is increasing throughout the empire. Food Controller von Batocki told the reichstag that the potato crop is smaller than was expected, and that the crops in the occupied territories are a great disappointment, as seed will hardly germinate in ruined soil. In Turkey, Bulgaria and Austria, he admitted, the food situation was desperate. The cities and towns over there are suffering far more than the country districts, for the peasants retain much of the meats and other foodstuffs they produce, despite the efforts of the officials to force them to disgorge. In some parts of Germany the townspeople have been conducting regular expeditions into the country to seize food, by armed force if necessary.

The war and the question of China's participation therein are causing a lot of trouble for the rulers of that so-called republic. The situation is confusing to occidentals, but the concrete results have included the revolt of 13 provinces, which formed a provisional government, and the resignation of the vice president.

Germany has undertook to appease Spain by apologizing for the sinking of a Spanish vessel and offering to pay damages, but the Spaniards are still angry and the food situation there is bad. King Alfonso last week made a demand on the central powers that the abuse of Jews in Palestine be stopped, and in this was backed up by the Argentine republic.

Northcliffe Comes to America.

An interesting development of the week was the acceptance by Lord Northcliffe of the position of head of the British war commission in the United States in succession to Arthur J. Balfour. The great editor and publisher is, next to Lloyd George, the most influential man in Great Britain and it is predicted that his work in America will be momentous.

A good example of German methods of oppression is supplied by the treatment of Mons. That Belgian town was fined $100,000 last week because a Belgian paper, printed in Holland, announced that Crown Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria was in Mons when that city was bombarded by allied airmen—also probably, because the Germans needed the money.

The finance committee of the senate put in another strenuous week revamping the war revenue bill and finally got it in shape for consideration by the senate.

The campaign for the sale of Liberty bonds is still being carried on with vigor and the greatest success throughout the country. Why it should be necessary to urge people to put their money into these absolutely safe and very desirable securities is not easily understandable, but since it is, the men who have the work in charge are to be highly commended for the skill, persistency and ingenuity with which they are pushing the campaign.

GRANT DEMANDS OF WORKERS

Threatened Strike of Employees of Petrograd Munition Plants Has Been Temporarily Averted.

Petrograd.—The threatened strike of 140 factories in Petrograd engaged in metal and other war work has been averted for the present. The workers' claims were granted, including the six-hour day.

Gen Michael Alexieff, who recently retired from the chief command of the Russian armies, has been appointed military adviser of the provisional government.

An official announcement made prior to the departure of the socialist ministers for Kronstadt reads:

"The provisional government, recognising that the present condition of affairs in Kronstadt is both menacing and intolerable, has requested the socialist ministers Tsereteli and Skobeleff to visit the fortress city with the object of clearing up its attitude toward the central power."

Arthur Henderson, British minister without portfolio; Albert Thomas, French minister of munitions; and Emile Vandervelde, Belgian minister of munitions, all noted socialists, have sent a letter to the council of soldiers' and workmen's delegates expressing surprise that a call should have been issued by the council for an international conference to consider means of ending the war before the negotiations between the British, French and Belgian delegations and the council had been ended.

Michigan Happenings

Traverse City—Employes of the Grand Rapids & Indiana railroad have been allotted 200 acres for gardening purposes here by the company. The belief that farm employes will not be drafted has caused many to go on farms here.

Adrian—Semi-official advices received here by Postmaster Gillen indicate that the postal department is considering a plan to eliminate certain rural free delivery routes as an economy measure. Federal inspectors are soon to determine which routes might be most easily disposed of.

Fremont—Joseph Gerber, 73, former director in the Old State bank here, president of the board of trade for several years, founder of the tannery here, a large stockholder in the Fremont Canning company and former director in the Western Michigan Development bureau, is dead. His wife died a few weeks ago.

Lowell—A score or more of passengers narrowly escaped injury when a Belding-Freeport local and a freight on the Pere Marquette collided head on four miles south of here, several cars of each train being derailed. Fireman William Lewis, of Grand Rapids, was injured internally and Conductor John Oberlin, of Saginaw, sustained a fractured leg. Both will recover.

Detroit—George Sager, 14 years old, lost his life in River Rouge in an unsuccessful attempt to rescue his father, David Sager, 40 years old. The pair were fishing from the railroad bridge which spans the river at the end of Dix avenue in the Oakwood section. The older Sager's line caught in driftwood and as he attempted to loosen it he lost his foothold and fell.

Flint—While attending a school picnic, east of the city, John Hogan, 10 years old, son of Edward M. Hogan, was drowned while bathing in Kearsley creek. Pupils and teachers of the third and fourth grades of the Fairview school made up the picnic party. After they had eaten lunch the teachers called to the children to start for home, but several of the boys remained behind to go swimming.

Traverse City—Several thousand members of the Grand Traverse region will meet here June 27 for their annual meeting and picnic.

Muskegon—The local council passed an ordinance providing a $100 fine or 90 days in jail penalty for failing to stamp weight on every loaf of bread sold here.

Flint—The Young Women's Christian association is forming a housewives' class for the purpose of teaching women how to prevent waste in the kitchen.

Flint—Ten temporary school houses, at a cost of $1,000 each, will be built ready for occupation Sept. 1, to relieve congestion pending the construction of permanent school houses.

Grand Rapids—July 4 is the trial date set for Rev. Danie Roy Freeman, Rev. Klass Oosterhuis and the 11 socialists indicted with them on charges of conspiracy to defeat the aims of the conscription act.

Charlotte—While playing in the field where his father was plowing, Dewayne Smith, 3 years old, son of a Chester farmer, fell asleep in a furrow. A colt driven in the furrow jumped over the child. His hind foot grazed the boy's face. The child was uninjured.

Hastings—Art Priester, a Barry township farmer, discovered a wild duck's nest on his farm. He placed the eggs under a setting hen and hatched some ducklings, which soon died. Game Warden Bunner, of Kalamazoo heard about it and Priester paid $10 fine and costs.

Flint—Six hundred dollars was raised here for tornado sufferers at Charleston and Mattoon, Ill.

Owosso—Franklin Pinney, 21 years old, son of Eli Penny, of Morley, was killed while trying to catch a freight train.

Grand Rapids—The traverse jury for the June term of the United States district court here was dismissed to work on farms.

Battle Creek—The day following the cyclone here, there were 15 insurance companies advertising tornado insurance for the first time.

Traverse City—Grand Traverse will hold its annual fair this year, it was decided after it was planned to abandon it because of the war.

Flint—Joseph Schmidt, 24 years old, got blood poison as the result of a cut in his shoulder caused by a chisel dropped by a fellow workingman from the floor above the one on which he worked.

Grand Rapids—Janitors in public schools must undergo a physical examination, the board of education decided, following the death of Michael McDonald, janitor, who was killed in a fall while cleaning windows.

Muskegon—Herbert Lukman, 30 years old, suffered a broken leg when he run head-on into a street car while riding a bicycle and carrying an umbrella opened in front of him.

St. Louis—Mr. and Mrs. Michael Shong, pioneer residents of Gratiot county, celebrated the 50th anniversary of their marriage at the home of their daughter, Mrs. Wm. Vanderbeck, in Pine River township. Ninety-four relatives attended the celebration. Mr. and Mrs. Elias Sutphin, pioneer residents of this city, also celebrated their golden wedding.

Manistee—Capt. John Hanson, 61 years old, for 30 years keeper of the local coast guard station, is dead. He experienced three shipwrecks on the ocean. He also figured in numerous rescues of crews and passengers near this port.

Holland—Simon Slink, who disappeared after the auto accident in which his car was smashed and his three companions injured, returned to his home after wandering about the woods near the scene of the accident for two days. His mind was dazed by the accident.

I MUST PLACE GUARD ON WAR STRENGTH

GOVERNMENT ORDERS STATE TO MAKE PRESENT COMPANIES READY FOR SERVICE.

CANNOT ORGANIZE NEW UNITS

War Department Announces That Until Present Units Are Fit, No New Ones Will Be Recognized.

Lansing.

No new units for the Michigan National Guard will be recognized by the war department until the units now in the guard shall be placed on a war strength and made properly efficient.

That in substance was an order received here by Adjutant-General Bersey regarding the newly-organized third battery of artillery in Lansing. This means that extra units are to be accepted only when all others are literally "up to snuff."

The new regiment of infantry which has been unofficially reported from Washington several times, but has never been officially heard of in Lansing is considered now but a probability contingent upon the completed recruiting of the other infantry regiments.

Colonel Thomas C. Morgan, of Battle Creek, came to Lansing to see how the land lay for the acceptance of a couple of companies from that city in the proposed new regiment. The plan is to have two companies of home guards organized, made as efficient as possible with the idea of offering them as completed units for active service in the guard later.

State Law Protects Soldier.

Michigan men who enter the service of the United States will not lose their contract interests in property even should they fail to keep up their payments, according to Maj. Samuel D. Pepper, judge advocate of the Michigan national guard.

Reports have reached Maj. Pepper that when the Michigan national guard was in service on the border, many men lost the interests they had acquired in homes, while some had their wages garnished or their insurance confiscated. Maj. Pepper holds that such action is illegal.

"Very few seem to know that the Michigan laws protect the soldier in actual service from just such distressing situations," said Maj. Pepper.

"Section 38 of the general military laws of the state provides: 'All officers and enlisted men who may be in the actual service of this state or of the United States, in all cases, except for treason, felony or breach of the peace, shall be privileged from arrest and imprisonment during the period of such actual service, and for a period of six months after such service, and their separate property shall during the same period be exempt from all process by way of execution, levy, seizure or attachment for debts contracted prior to or during such service.'

"If a soldier who is called into the service goes away leaving a debt, or installments fall due during his service, his creditors cannot get judgments satisfied out of his property during his service nor for six months after his service ends. The law would also protect soldiers from having their families evicted from houses, since it takes a writ of restitution to get possession.

"This law would seem to afford a great measure of protection to soldiers from this state whose business affairs are at all involved at the time of entering the United States service."

Hospital Corps Get Motors.

Orders to "motorize" the hospital and field ambulance companies of the Michigan National Guard have been received from the chief of the militia bureau at Washington by Quartermaster General Walter G. Rogers.

Colonel Rogers has forwarded to Washington a requisition for 12 motor ambulances and five motorcycles and he expects the equipment will be shipped to Grayling before the state troops are mobilized. The 12 motor ambulances will be turned over to the ambulance company at Bay City, while the Grand Rapids field hospital unit will get two of the motorcycles.

Blankets Sent Port Huron Guards.

Unable to obtain blankets from the government at present, the Port Huron company of the Thirty-third Michigan regiment, which is still in the federal service, appealed to the state war preparedness board and 20 blankets were shipped to Port Huron. One of the first official acts of the Michigan war board was to authorize the purchase of 2,000 woolen blankets. Some of these blankets were given to the Grand Rapids naval militia and others were turned over to the state constabulary.

Judge Henry A. Mandell of Detroit, is holding court in Grand Traverse county, this term in place of Judge F. W. Mayne, who is, in turn, holding court in Wayne county.

Corp. Henry Miller, Escanaba, of Co. L, Thirty-third Michigan infantry, who has been since his return from Mexico, is dead.

A large force of carpenters is at work on the new soldiers' and officers' quarters at the Grayling state encampment grounds.

State Gets Battalion of Artillery.

Michigan is practically assured of a battalion of field artillery.

Adjt. Gen. John S. Bersey received word from the chief of the division of military affairs at Washington that battery B has been accepted on condition that batteries A and B are recruited up to full war strength. This means that the local artillery companies will have to obtain 190 men each. The total number needed to complete the battalion which will conclude battery C will be 570 men.