

MILITARY CENSUS OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

The Military Census of the State of Connecticut is founded upon the principle of universal service. The Census Committee which was appointed by Governor Holcomb for the purpose of taking the census, have started with this fundamental principle and although many of them favor compulsory service, we are pretty well agreed that that is impossible of attainment with the present state of public opinion and that the wisest course is to take the next best thing which does seem to be possible; that is, a controlled volunteer system, which means that men of military age should be assured of protection in case they volunteer, to the extent that they will not be called to the colors until the men of the same class are called, as explained below.

The Committee recommend that they be instructed to carry out the plan substantially upon the following outline:

SCOPE OF CENSUS.

The Military Census should include:

1. Men.
2. Industries.
3. Doctors and Nurses.
4. Motor transport.
5. Motor boats.
6. Newspapers.

(Note) The census of transportation and food we consider absolutely a Federal activity, which is impossible of successful undertaking by the States, and should not be taken up unless requested to do so by the Government.

USES OF MILITARY CENSUS

M E N

1. The first use of the information gathered by the Military Census should be to enroll in an industrial reserve all men now employed in industries which are necessary for war, and thus prevent them from enlisting in the field forces, This would prevent the loss to the country of their services in industry, which would be of greater value than their military services because of the enormous part which industry plays in war to-day.

This would protect a man from the draft.

2. Having accomplished the enrollment of the industrial reserve, all remaining men between the ages of 18 and 25 should be called upon the declaration of war, and those men with dependents should be exempted.

3. When all fit men between the ages of 18 and 25 without dependents have been called, the next class from 25 to 35 should be called, and those with dependents should be exempted.

4. When all fit men between the ages of 25 and 35 without dependents have been called, the next class from 35 to 45 should be called, and those with dependents should be exempted.

5.) Follow the same course as outlined above by classes
6.) in calling those with dependents. The age limits of the
7.) above mentioned classes and the number of classes desired should be determined by the Federal military authorities.

(Note) "With dependents" should be carefully defined as to the nature and extent of dependence.

This part of the Census is about 93% complete.

INDUSTRIES

Information should be gathered and put in quickly available shape, as to the assistance which the various industries of the State of Connecticut could render the United States Government in time of war. Having gathered this information, it should be indexed and arranged according to trades, products manufactured, etc., so that the proper authority will have a ready reference for consultation, giving him complete information as to where to look for any war materials which are manufactured, or could be manufactured, in the State.

This part of the Census is about 50% complete.

DOCTORS AND NURSES

Enroll all doctors and nurses who are fitted for medical service in connection with army forces of the State or country, and arrange it in such manner that a list of those

doctors and nurses who are willing to do any service within the State may be quickly found, and a separate list showing those who are willing to do service wherever they are sent.

MOTOR TRANSPORT

1. Prepare lists of motor owners who are willing to turn over their trucks or passenger cars to the Government at a reasonable price in case of war.
2. Make an additional list of those not in the first class, which could be commandeered by the Government in case of war.
3. It might also be desirable to make an additional list of automobile owners who would volunteer to put themselves and their cars at the disposal of the military forces to transport troops or supplies wherever desired, until it is possible to organize an army motor transport service.

The above information should be classed according to capacity and state of repair of the machines.

A valuable adjunct to this department would be to arrange and organize a chain of service stations which have repair shops, adequate gasoline supply, etc., in principal towns and cities.

NEWSPAPERS

Organize the newspapers of the State and get them to commit themselves, if possible, to a policy of keeping before the public enlistment advertising matter and educational literature upon the subject, which would be given out by some central agency for the purpose.

CONTROL OR USE OF CENSUS

The Census should be put at the disposal of the War department and the Eastern Division Headquarters, as well as the State authorities, together with such personal assistance on the part of individuals who thoroughly understand its making and its use, as would be necessary to make the information quickly available. Without this its value will be lost.