

Skilled lumberjacks, portable mill operators, tie cutters, logging teamsters, camp cooks, millwrights and charcoal burners are among the classes of men desired. For the "service" battalions both negro and white laborers will be enlisted.

#### OCCUPATIONAL CENSUS OF THE ARMY

THE War Department has authorized the following statement:

There is now being made under the direction of the Adjutant General a comprehensive occupational and educational census of the men of the National Army.

The object is to carry the selective service law to its logical conclusion and to increase the efficiency of the army by putting the right man in the right place.

With this in view, a personnel organization has been established in each of the 16 cantonments. The previous occupation, education and preference for service of every man are recorded on individual cards, which are then filed and analyzed at the divisional personnel office in each cantonment. An analysis as to the entire 687,000 men of the first increment can readily be made from these records.

In this work the War Department is having the assistance of a body of civilian experts organized under the name "Committee on classification of personnel in the Army" and including a number of professional employment managers loaned to the government by large industrial and business concerns. The data collected will be used within the divisional organizations to assist division commanders in making the best possible assignment of their men. It will also be of importance in locating men fitted for special branches of the service, such as Aviation, the Ordnance Corps, etc., for which it may be necessary to assign men from the cantonments.

It must not be assumed that men can continue their old occupations in the army. The function of an army is to fight and most of the men irrespective of previous occupations, will be in the infantry and artillery. Nevertheless, the specialization of modern war requires large numbers of skilled men adapted for technical units and special branches of the service. The

locating and placing of such men to the best advantage is of vital importance.

#### OPPORTUNITY FOR PHYSIOLOGISTS AND BIOCHEMISTS

THE Surgeon General of the army is organizing a Food Division of his office, the object of which is to safeguard the nutritional interests of the army by means of competent inspection of food from the standpoint of nutritive value, the supervision of mess conditions, including the economical utilization of food, and a study of the suitability of the army ration for troops in the camp and in the field. Well-trained physiologists and biochemists are needed to direct this work. These men are being commissioned, according to age and experience, as first lieutenants and captains in the Sanitary Corps, Medical Department; or, if they have medical degrees, in the Medical Reserve Corps.

It is probable there will be as many commissioned officers as there are camps and cantonments. Nutritional surveys will be conducted at the camps by surveying parties composed of these commissioned officers, and of drafted men, who have had scientific training, acting as assistants and clerks. It is estimated that such a survey can be completed in from ten days to two weeks for each camp.

It is hoped by means of these surveying parties also to instruct the company mess sergeants and company cooks in improved methods of selecting and preparing the foods. A school for the finished training of the scientists employed in this work is now being organized. The organization of the army, the army methods of handling and cooking foods, the latest methods of food examination and analysis, the conduct of the food survey and kindred topics will be covered by competent instructors from various departments of the army and other departments of the national government.

The facilities of the Bureau of Chemistry, including its analytical laboratories scattered over the country, have been placed at the disposal of the Food Division for this work. Analyses of the garbage will be made and of all foods whose composition is not already known, and the actual distribution of nutrients and of total calories consumed by the men will be com-