

# PASSPORTS FOR REAL WORKERS ONLY

## State Department Insists That All Grandstand War Spectators Shall Return from France at Once—A Ban on Pretenders in Relief Units

It becomes more and more difficult for an American civilian to get out of this country into Europe. As the war progresses it will become as literally true as vigilance can make it that the only American civilians in France will be there because of some approved necessity. This will be brought about by the State Department in two ways—by restrictions imposed on the issuance of passports and by the cancellations of passports now held in France by Americans who are not needed there. New measures just put into effect by the State Department are designed to accomplish this end as speedily as possible.

There are now in France many American civilians who are "enjoying the war," so to say; not in any morbid way, but still having the time of their lives in the midst of its tremendous excitement and thrill. They are full of sympathy for the cause of the Allies, voice that sympathy on the slightest occasion, and yet, apparently do not, or will not, recognize the fact that their presence in Paris as onlookers in a great world crisis is a hindrance to the cause for which they express such overflowing devotion.

Practically all of this class of Americans in France obtained entrance through the same door, as relief workers. Some of them went with good intentions, but were found to be unfitted, mentally or physically, for the arduous work. In relief centres near the front they were in the way; hence it was most welcome to the earnest and capable relief workers when the incompetents departed for Paris as a centre of excitement where war thrills could be enjoyed without having to put up with the inconveniences and exactions of the fighting zone.

Others had no intention of doing any relief work from the start, but used it merely as a pretext to get into France, so that they could behold the great spectacle of war from a front seat. They engaged luxurious apartments. Their doings, sometimes made more prominent by gossip and scandal, have been a source

of keen regret not only to the great American relief organizations working in France, but also to the great army of American relief workers who are rendering such valuable service. There are both men and women in this class of shirkers, where shirking is most out of place. By far the greater number are

about have already been taken by the State Department. Passports expire every six months. Americans in France must obtain renewals from the American Embassy at Paris. Thus, the State Department controls the stay of all Americans in France. The Embassy has been instructed to make a thorough investiga-

It is an undertaking of much detail, and arrangements have been completed by the State Department for the establishment of a special passport office in Paris, to have charge of all American passport business, including such checking up as may call for the employment of intelligence officers. The Embassy, in carrying out the investigation, has been instructed by the State Department to obtain from each American relief organization in France information on the following points, to be submitted to the Embassy two weeks after the request is received:

1. Character of organization, nature and amount of work undertaken and performed and present and prospective facilities for carrying it on.  
2. Arrangements with French authorities to employ American military authorities.  
3. Co-operation with other American or French organizations.  
4. List of Americans now employed by it, stating as to each (a) name and address, (b) number and date of passport, (c) age and special qualifications for work, (d) period of employment, (e) nature of work performed, (f) time devoted to work daily.  
5. List of Americans formerly employed by it, stating as to each (a) name, (b) period of former employment, (c) why employment has ceased.  
6. List of Americans now in France formerly employed by it, but no longer employed, stating as to each (a) name and address, (b) number and date of passport, (c) period of former employment, (d) why employment has ceased, (e) present occupation.  
7. A D P proximate number of additional Americans whose services are desired within the next two months, nature of work to which they are to be assigned, and necessary qualifications.

In order to establish a strict check on workers going abroad in the future, the State Department sent a circular letter a few days ago to all relief organizations in this country. After stating that the excellent work of many American relief workers in France had been discounted to a considerable extent by numerous Americans who had obtained passports for that purpose, but had not been employed in work of such a nature as to justify their presence in France, this circular said:

"To meet this situation the department has adopted the following regulations: Hereafter relief and hospital organiza-

tions in France and other European countries who desire to obtain workers from this country will be required to satisfy the American Embassy that the services of a certain number of workers for a particular kind of work are needed. The Embassy, which will keep in touch with the work being done by the various organizations, will, upon request, telegraph the department as to the needs of the organization in question, stating, for instance, that an organization needs a certain number of nurses, motor drivers, or dietitians. The department will then inform the organization in selecting only such persons for relief or hospital work as are specially fitted for the tasks which they are to do, and it, therefore, wishes to emphasize the necessity of exercising the utmost care in choosing persons for this work.

Under this arrangement the department will not require, before granting a passport to a relief worker, that her individual application should have been approved by the organization abroad under which she expects to serve. However, it is deemed desirable for the organizations in the United States, when it is possible, to inform their representatives abroad in advance of the special training and qualifications of the individuals whom they propose to send.

Each applicant, the circular continues, must be at least 25 years of age, and will be required to submit with her passport application a sworn statement that she is going abroad solely for relief work, and intends to return as soon as she has ceased to be engaged therein. Further, each applicant must submit with her application a written statement from the head of the hospital or relief organization in this country which she represents, stating the special preparations and

qualifications which she has for the proposed work, and that she is of sound health and physically capable of performing the work.

At the same time the State Department has taken steps to inquire more closely into the antecedents of all persons seeking passports. Consequently, it will be necessary to make application further in advance than heretofore, in order to insure action before the ship sails.

"Each applicant is required to show to the State Department that his contemplated trip is imperative," said Richard W. Flournoy, Jr., head of the Citizenship Bureau, which has charge of the issuance of passports. "He must support his passport application with documentary evidence proving the necessity of his trip. Each applicant is also investigated by various other offices of the Government in order to establish the applicant's good faith and the true object of his trip abroad. This procedure necessarily takes time, and applicants should accordingly send in their applications at least three weeks prior to their intended departure from New York."

The State Department investigations may require a week, sometimes longer. Of first importance is the loyalty of the person who applies. If there is any question as to this, the passport is, of course, refused. Checking up on the object of the trip is often one that necessitates considerable inquiry, and sometimes in a number of places. Then each of the passports issued has to be visited in New York by the Consular officer of the country to which it is accredited. For instance, the French Consul in New York

requires three days for his visé, indicating that he, too, in each case makes a careful investigation. In addition the passport must be checked up and countersigned by customs officials in New York, for which another forty-eight hours is needed.

Some persons seek passports to Europe on the grounds of health—that a change to Europe is necessary for this reason. There are all kinds of climates in this country and altitudes also, and it should be known, Mr. Flournoy remarked, that this is a most difficult ground upon which to obtain a passport. Physicians' certificates, supported by most careful investigations by the Bureau of Citizenship, are necessary. Without an important reason for going abroad it is a waste of time to apply for a passport, and in addition it adds to the burden of work of the bureau. No passports are now issued to any country in Europe on the ground of pleasure or recreation. This decision was made some months ago, because it was not possible to keep the check required in time of war on the vast number of persons who would go from this country to Europe.

"The number of American civilians in Europe now," said Mr. Flournoy, "is very much less, of course, than in ordinary times, but the work in the Bureau of Citizenship is far greater than ever before. Previous to the war there were seven employes in the office; now we have seventy-five. Last year, up to March 31, this office issued 38,786 passports, nearly twice as many as in former years—that is, before we were at war." Before the beginning of the present

war the greater number of Americans who went to Europe did not have passports. Passports were not really needed except in Russia, Turkey, or the Balkan countries, or they might have been called for under certain circumstances in Germany. Americans making their first trip to Europe in the days before the war, who carefully provided themselves with passports, usually found on their return that they had made the whole trip without the passports having been called for a single time. However, when the war broke out those who had taken the precaution to provide themselves with passports did not regret it.

Now a passport is needed every day in Europe, perhaps every hour. So the State Department recently changed the form of the passport. It was formerly a good deal like a diploma and folded like one; it was not convenient for the pocket. The new passport folds up into a small compass, and with its strong cardboard back looks like a small pamphlet when so folded. It is designed to be quickly opened when needed. The forgery of it is difficult. It might be said that within the last year only one case of an attempt to forge a passport has been heard of.

There are many good reasons for increased restrictions in issuing passports at this time. One of them will appeal to everybody. This one is the shipping situation. Every American in France not needed there as some part of the vast organization to defeat Germany reduces, by the amount of his or her food and other requirements, the shipping space available for the transportation of supplies to our own forces and to the Allies.

### THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA PASSPORT



### DEPARTMENT OF STATE

To all to whom these presents shall come Greeting

I the undersigned Secretary of State of the United States of America, hereby request all nations to whom these presents shall come to permit

Alexander Smith  
Citizen of the United States, safely and freely to pass across the seas of said States, and to receive all lawful aid and protection.

This passport is valid for use only in the following countries and for objects specified unless amended.

France  
Commercial Business

The bearer is accompanied by

Given under my hand and the seal of the Department of State at the City of Washington, this 27th day of May, 1918.

In the year 1918 of the Independence of the United States the one hundred and forty ninth.

Wm. Lansing

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION

Age 26 years Height 5 ft 6 in Weight 140 lbs Eyes Brown Hair Brown Complexion Fair

Place of Birth New York Date of Birth May 27 1892 Occupation Bookkeeper

PHOTOGRAPH OF BEARER

SIGNATURE OF BEARER

#### FIRST REPRODUCTION OF NEW-STYLE UNITED STATES PASSPORT.

Hitherto the State Department Has Refused Permission to Print Pictures of the Small Passport, Which Folds Into a Stiff Cover and Fits in One's Pocket Like a Thin Book. The Old-Time Passport, with Numberless Visés Pasted on It, Sometimes Extended to Nearly Six Feet in Length and Was a Clumsy Document to Handle.

women. In recent cablegrams from Paris reference has been made to the disagreeable situation created by the idlers. But they are not to idle much longer. However much they would enjoy seeing the war through as sympathetic bystanders, they will be compelled to return to the United States. Steps to bring this

tion of all American relief workers in France. On the basis of this report a way will be found to bring back to America those who are only making a pretense of doing relief work or who are simply lingering, after having discovered that they were incapable of the duties required.

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## Millions of Feet of Movie Films for Soldiers

### How a Woman Directs the Complex Task of Selecting Subjects, Censoring, and Shipping Motion-Picture Equipment to All American Camps

NEXT to the selection of food for the American soldiers, probably no other phase of army work requires more time and discrimination than the choice of recreation. The Young Men's Christian Association, which is in charge of it, has enlisted the co-operation of some of the most skilled athletic directors and amusement experts in the country. Now, recreation takes in almost everything from football to dominoes, from major league baseball games to grand opera singing, from boxing to checkers. But if a vote of all the American men in khaki could be taken, both here and in France, probably they would list the "movies" as their chief relaxation.

The recreation boards are pulling together in an effort to find out just what films the soldiers want. Warren Dunham Foster, President of the Community Motion Picture Bureau, has been in France for two months studying the problem, and a staff of twenty-seven skilled investigators is on the point of sailing to carry out his plans in the Y. M. C. A. huts at the front and just behind the firing line. Artists, dramatic critics, authors, and producers have been enlisted in the effort to get the best films. Any motion picture that hopes to do service in the army or the navy has to pass the severest tests.

Between 7,000,000 and 8,000,000 feet of films every week are shown in the camps and cantonments of this country. In France, where the work is still comparatively new, 1,500,000 feet of films have been shown in the camps, and between 75,000 and 100,000 feet of fresh film are being shipped every week. In the transport service are 900,000 feet of films, soon to be increased to 2,000,000 feet. In the Atlantic fleet, where the pictures go out for brief engagements only, 135,000 feet go out at a time. These are circulated from one cruiser to another. The service has been extended to take in even the army and navy hospitals.

Behind the task of selecting the pic-



Y. M. C. A. Motion-Picture House, Near the Front in France, Camouflaged by Brush as a Protection Against German Aviators.

tures there stands a woman, Mrs. Edith Dunham Foster, editor of The Community Motion Picture Bureau. She passes upon all the millions of feet of films shown by the Y. M. C. A. The other critics she is the one who decides. It's a big job. "I do not expect to sleep or to eat with any thoroughness until the war is over," she remarked the other day. Under her are division workers of the bureau and Y. M. C. A. stationed all over the United States and in Europe. The needs of the various camps differ widely. Obviously the Allentown camp, largely made up of college boys, requires a different type of picture from the one popular in a centre where thousands of negroes are assembled as muleteers and stevedores.

In one of the muleteers' camps there had been recently a number of desertions. An appeal was sent out for motion pictures, and Mrs. Foster's bureau responded by sending thousands of feet of films. There was no building large enough to hold the audience, and the first show was held in the open air, with more than 5,000 muleteers and stevedores attending. Desertions in the camp decreased quickly, and Y. M. C. A. workers reported that movies had been a large factor in the change.

After each motion-picture program in

a hut, or elsewhere among the soldiers, a "recreation card" is sent in to Mrs. Foster. These cards tell of the seating capacity of the show place and the number of soldiers in the audience—the second number often twice as large as the first. As nearly as the Y. M. C. A. man can do it, a consensus of the opinion of the soldiers is taken of the film. Their word is final. If the men of one camp do not like a picture it is never permitted to go out again to the soldiers of a similar camp.

"I try to get away from my own opinion entirely and to look at the film with the eyes of a soldier," Mrs. Foster said in telling of her work. "One who is going to pick out pictures for the army has to know the camps and live the life of a soldier at heart before she can be an accurate judge."

In pictures of love-story interest she always selects the one-girl and the one-man kind, because she says that those are the ones that men want when they get down to basic facts, as they do in wartime. The "eternal triangle" is a barred subject. After a number of experiments it has been decided that the week's three movies at a camp shall include, as a general rule, the following: One all-man program—pictures of fight-

ing, racing, adventure in the great outdoors; one comedy, and one drama.

If there is one kind of picture for which the American soldiers have shown a liking more than any other it is the detective story. The patriotic picture, such as "The Slacker," "The Man Without a Country," and "Over There," is also high in favor at present. The comedy is the thing that especially appeals to the soldier who is still at a camp in this country. He wants to laugh more than he wants anything else when he goes to the movies. In France, on the other hand, he wants what Mr. and Mrs. Foster call "pictures of home."

"Send pictures of children, and then more children. The men are asking for them all the time," was a cabled message from Mr. Foster when he was "over there."

In short, the demand in France is for the very films which are avoided at camp in the United States. Homesick soldiers, lately taken from farms and distant homes and set down in camps in another part of the United States, have been unanimous in condemning the "mother, home-and-heaven" type of pictures. They don't want films that show partings with sweethearts, or grieving mothers. But over in France the soldier has got down to the foundations of things, and he isn't afraid to show his feelings.

"At some of the embarkation points the men are looking at our pictures ten minutes before they sail," Mrs. Foster said. "It's like waving a hand to them before they go. We try to put on at these points pictures that won't work too much on their feelings, will entertain them, and will remind them that the folks at home are with them in the fight."

One of the innovations for wartime pictures is a little machine on wheels, which can be rolled noiselessly into hospitals of the camps and cantonments, and which throws pictures on the ceiling. It was tried out at Cape May recently, and was such a success that it will be used forthwith in the hospitals of France.