

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR

CONSCRIPTION IS BALKED IN SENATE

FILIBUSTER HALTS ACTION ON 2,000,000 ARMY BILL

PACIFISTS FEAR DRAFT RIOTS

Modified Army Staff Bill Puts Responsibility for Draft Upon President Unless He Consents to Trying Out Volunteer Plan

(By the United Press.)

Washington April 21.—The administration's selective conscription army bill struck an unexpected snag in the senate this afternoon following a spirited committee hearing of anti-conscription pacifists. Senator Thompson this afternoon started filibuster tactics to delay consideration of the question of raising an army of 2,000,000 to defend the country. Thompson at the close of the morning hour, which is devoted merely to routine business demanded the regular order, which was yesterday shunted aside so that debate on the spy bill was postponed, giving the army measure precedence over all other matters.

In the meantime the house military committee reported out the army general staff bill so modified as to shift responsibility for the use of the selective draft system to President Wilson unless he should consent to try out the volunteer system first.

Chairman Dent, volunteer proponent, and Representative Kahn, California conscription advocate, and ranking representative member of the military committee, completed their respective majority and minority reports.

Predict Draft Riots.

Washington, April 21.—Predicting serious "draft" riots if conscription goes into effect, a score of anti-conscriptionists appeared before the senate military affairs committee today. The committee granted them two hours to put their objections on record.

Joseph Cannon, labor leader and organizer said: "There will be strikes, prices will be raised from war exploitation, and blood is going to flow in the streets. We are going into war to establish democracy in Germany, and in so doing are establishing autocracy in the United States."

Amended Bill Reported Out.

Washington, April 21.—The house military committee today voted 12 to 8 to report out the general staff army bill with an amendment "authorizing" the president to call for volunteers if he wishes to, before the selective draft is resorted to. Representative Caldwell, New York, who previously had voted for the volunteer provision, voted "present."