

NATIONAL LEAGUE WINS MILITARY COMMITTEEMAN TO DEFENSE PLANS

Chairman Hay Favors Increase In Artillery and Pay for National Guard

[Associated Press by Federal Wireless]

NEW YORK, D. C., Sept. 21.—Representative James Hay of Virginia, chairman of the house committee on military affairs, and long one of the bitterest opponents in Congress of better preparedness for war, has capitulated to the protectionists.

The National Defense League yesterday made public a letter from the congressman in which he advocates increasing the field artillery from six to twelve regiments.

Pay for National Guard.

He suggests that the national guard might be increased if 25 per cent of the wages paid soldiers of the regular army were offered in recruiting of the militia.

The congressman has not abandoned entirely his former attitude, for in the letter he states it as his belief that Congress would not consider legislation for compulsory military service.

Reverses Former Attitude.

The Hay letter created a sensation in military ranks here. Knowing his previous opposition to all plans for expansion on a large scale in the army, they were surprised not only because he showed signs of withdrawing that opposition, but because he actually recommended the doubling in strength of the field artillery.

His idea for one-fourth regular army pay in the national guard is said to be original. Military men here are giving the suggestion serious consideration in view of the approaching demands on Congress which they expect the National Defense League will have a part in pressing.