

# FIRST CITY MAN TO JOIN ARMY IS T. HOLLINGSWORTH

**"Sign Me Up; I Do Not Claim  
Exemption," He Tells**

**Board 145.**

## SHARP WARNING TO OTHERS

**Chairman, Angered by Efforts  
to Escape Service, Tells Regis-  
trants What to Expect.**

## DOCTOR DISCLOSES A PLOT

**Authorities Investigating Plan to  
Stimulate Conscripts' Hearts, and  
So Have Them Rejected.**

Thomas E. Hollingsworth, who lives at 404 Eighth Avenue, Brooklyn, is the first New Yorker to join the National Army of the United States. Mr. Hollingsworth appeared before Board 145, at the City College last night. He passed the physical examination with flying colors, and as he came out of the examining room quietly remarked to the members of the board:

"Sign me up. I do not claim exemption."

And then Hollingsworth, without waiting to receive the congratulations of the members of the board, of which Dr. Charles H. Tuttle of the City College Faculty is the Chairman, walked out of the building and started for his home in Brooklyn. Joseph Edward Stillman of 680 St. Nicholas Avenue, who was examined by the City College Board Monday night, will waive exemption, it was said last night, but this fact had not been officially brought to the attention of the board, and for this reason the honor of being Number One in the New York City contingent goes to Hollingsworth. When he registered on June 5 his home was at 540 West 142d Street, which accounts for his examination by Board 145.

"He is a fine fellow," said Dr. Tuttle, "and an army of men like him could take Berlin."

The City College board examined fifty-five men yesterday, and of these Mr. Hollingsworth was the only one to waive exemption. Twenty-four qualified physically, the decision of the medical examiners was reserved in three cases, and six of the others will undergo further examination today. When the men who appeared for examination last night came before the board, Dr. Tuttle did some very plain talking.

"In these two days we have examined," he said, "about seventy men, and those who will probably respond to their country's call can be counted on the fingers of one hand. I am sorry to see so many of the men of this section claiming exemption, and I must say that the spectacle is not one which reflects credit on Washington Heights. I wish to make it plain tonight that all of these men who claim exemption on the ground that they have relatives solely dependent on them will have to produce those dependents before this board for examination before their cases are finally disposed of. I may also state, for the benefit of those who may have sought to escape service or may do so in the future, that such cases will not only be the subject of thorough investigation on the part of this board, but they will also be investigated by the proper agencies of the Federal Government."

It should be mentioned that three of the men before the board yesterday are already in the army and simply appeared in order to keep their records clear. Three others were enemy aliens and were not examined. Of those who qualified but did not waive exemption one was Harry J. Griss, of 300 West 157th Street. The impression is that he will not file a claim for exemption. Harry Krindler, of 69 West 154th Street, who also qualified, said he would claim exemption because he is employed by the City of New York. Before such a claim can be allowed the City authorities will have to make affidavit that his services are indispensable.

Anthony Carrigrone of 322 West 145th Street, also qualified, but claimed exemption on the ground that he is the sole support of a family. John Meehan, of 258 West 153d Street, who also qualified, claimed exemption on the same grounds. Philip J. Meehan of 90 Bradhurst Avenue, passed, but did not announce his decision. Victor Irvine, 80 Bradhurst Avenue, was rejected because of his height, four feet and eleven inches. Arthur L. Connolly of 840 West 150th Street, Arthur G. Jennison, of 668 St. Nicholas Avenue, and Walter H. Lowell of 500 West 144th Street, were disqualified for various physical reasons.

### All May Claim Exemption.

Nine men were examined by Board 163, with headquarters in Hunter College, Lexington Avenue and Sixty-eighth Street. Five were found physically qualified.—Joseph A. Davis of 23 West Sixty-fifth Street, Nathaniel Weg of 11 West Sixty-third Street, Arthur S. Kriete of 58 West Fifty-ninth Street, Cornelius T. McLaughlin of 42 West Sixtieth Street, and Lawrence J. Carter of 353 West Fifty-seventh Street. All of these, it was said, would claim exemption.

Board 71, with headquarters at Throop and Bushwick Avenues, Brooklyn, examined forty-seven men yesterday, of whom thirty-two qualified as physically fit, but a big majority of these will claim exemption, it was said, while none had waived exemption. The board announced last night that its members were all nearly overcome with the heat, and that the names of the men examined would not be given out until today.

Board 168, which has headquarters in the Wadleigh High School, 230 West 115th Street, examined one man yesterday. Isaac Gold of 6 West 112th Street. He said he had a family and announced he would claim exemption.

The official examination begins this morning when Board 142, with headquarters in Public School 77, at Eighty-fifth Street and First Avenue, and Board 154, in the Julia Richman High School, 60 West Thirteenth Street, start

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# FIRST IN CITY TO JOIN ARMY

the examination of those drafted which had been set for Friday morning at 10 o'clock, had been postponed until Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock. Heart disease, it was said, last night, was the cause of death.

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With the first third of their regular quotas. In addition Board 145 and Board 71 will continue examining men who waive the five days' rule. Thirty other boards begin examinations tomorrow, and all the others in the city will be at work by Sunday morning.

Evidence of a plot to obtain exemption through the administration of a heart stimulant which would deceive the examining physician was brought to the attention of United States District Attorney Caffey by Deputy Attorney General Conkling yesterday, and is being investigated by secret service agents. The man who gave the information to Mr. Conkling was a well-known New York physician, and one of the persons alleged to be concerned in the plot is a physician of pro-German views. Mr. Conkling was also furnished with the names of two men of draft age who were alleged to have made arrangements to take the treatment. Several other men of draft age are said to have been approached, and the names of these men are also known to the Government authorities.

Dr. Karl Osterhaus, former Medical Director, U. S. N., who is one of the members of the Government Medical Advisory Board at the State Arsenal, said that it would be an easy matter to detect whether or not a heart stimulant had been administered. Certain tests, Dr. Osterhaus added, will be made in every case of undue acceleration of heart action.

## Ruling on Vegetarians.

Deputy Attorney General Conkling came in contact yesterday with a new class of "conscientious objectors" when he received a letter from Louis Berger, Treasurer of Der Vegetarier, a monthly magazine published in Yiddish. The letter read in part as follows:

The New York Vegetarian Society was organized prior to May 18, 1917. The cardinal principle of the society is that its members abstain from eating all foods that come from any living being. They do not eat any fish, flesh or fowl, and consequently are strongly opposed to the killing of human beings in war or otherwise.

These vegetarians are averse to being drafted into the army and compelled to participate in any service that tends to violate the cardinal principles of this society. Religious organizations whose creeds are opposed to war are exempt from military service. I would ask what steps the Government will take with reference to the vegetarians who are of military age.

Mr. Conkling's reply was as follows:

You have written me a letter asking me to give you certain information which, I take it, means that you ask me what steps the Government will undertake by way of exempting vegetarians from military service. You state that you belong to a society, the members of which abstain from eating all foods that come from any living being, &c., consequently they are strongly opposed to the killing of human beings in war or otherwise.

I think there is no idea on the part of this Government, notwithstanding anything the Germans may have in mind, to kill any human being for eating purposes. The regulations provide no exemption for vegetarians, and you will fall in line if you are called and do just the same as those who eat meat will do. Perhaps if you would devote a little more time to trying to be real Americans and be willing to sacrifice a little bit toward defending the honor of this country, instead of worrying about vegetarian societies and exemptions at this particular period of the great international conflagration, you might sleep better at night and at least know you had done something worth while.

At 8 o'clock last night Mrs. C. J. Hettesheimer, wife of Dr. Hettesheimer, a member of Board 76 of Brooklyn, died at her home, 309 Wyckoff Avenue, where the board, of which her husband is a member, meets. Chairman William K. Moss of the board announced that