

FINDS NAVY LEAGUE LACKING IN ENERGY

**Dr. Robert Grimshaw, Efficiency
Expert, Compares Our Defense
Bodies with Germany's.**

WOMEN FOR PREPAREDNESS

**National Special Aid Society to
Pledge Its Members to Duty
in the Event of War.**

Dr. Robert Grimshaw, who has been teaching system and organization at New York University, and for twenty years was an efficiency engineer in Germany, charged the Navy League, the American Legion, and other organizations for military preparedness with lack of energy, in his address yesterday afternoon at 597 Fifth Avenue, before the National Special Aid Society, of which many prominent women are members.

Dr. Grimshaw talked chiefly on the work which would fall to the lot of women in the event of war, and how they should prepare for such work, but he drew a sharp contrast between the definition of the word "preparedness," as it is understood in this country and in Germany.

"I joined the Navy League in this country several years ago," he said. "When I was at Hanover, Germany, I kept in touch with it with difficulty, because of the fact that few of its statements or circulars were ever sent to me, and the only regular way in which I heard from it was in receiving an invitation to the annual dinner some time after it had occurred. But during that time I found that the Navy League in this country increased to a membership of about 2,500. Now, during almost the same years, the German Navy League, with its aim of eventually defeating the navy of Great Britain, increased to a membership of 800,000. Practically every man of influence belongs to it. Its effect in keeping the people interested in the growth of the navy and in stimulating patriotism was incalculable. At the same time there grew up in Germany an organization for the same purposes which, if anything, was more powerful, and that was the Women's Auxiliary to the German Navy League. It raised more money for the navy than the men's organization.

No Red Tape in Germany.

"There was no red tape about the methods of Germany in this present war. Her preparedness was nearly complete. For instance, in Hanover, where I was at the outbreak of the war, notice was published by the authorities that all horses owned by the residents were to be taken, well shod and a four-foot halter around their necks, to certain places. There those which were wanted for the army were taken, a price fixed by the army officers was paid, and the rest sent away, to be used later, if necessary. Automobiles were commandeered in the same way.

"Early in August a soldier rapped at the door of my residence. When I opened the door he showed me a red card, and said that he was to be quartered there. I said that I had only one spare room, and that that was to be used by my daughter, who was to arrive the following day. He said that she could go to a hotel or stay elsewhere, that there was no doubt that he was to get the spare room.

"The joker in this was that the red card which he had presented to me bore the date of December, 1913. Nearly a year before it had been decided that, if war broke out, I was to lodge one Max Dudeck of the 101st Grenadier Re-

serves, and that every other soldier was to be provided for similarly.

"Now, suppose it were decided suddenly that 50,000 soldiers should be quartered in New York. At present, of course, there is no danger of any such number of our soldiers being here; but where could we take care of any large body of soldiers here? There is no provision for it here or in any other city, and it simply could not be done."

Before the close of the meeting, which was presided over by Mrs. William Alexander, President of the society, it was decided to lay out a plan to induce women to fill out cards similar to those of the American Legion, telling what they were able and willing to do in the event of war.

Appeal to Congress.

A resolution, drawn by Joseph H. Choate, was adopted, and will be circulated for signatures and sent to Congress. It is:

The undersigned, being members of the National Special Aid Society, or other women of the United States who favor adequate preparation by their country for the defense of its people, territory, rights, and interests, respectfully petition the Congress of the United States to take proper and sufficient means to that end. The fate of nations during the past two years, however honorable and high-minded their intentions, admonishes all that disaster may result from a lack of defensive preparation; and the moneys of this nation spent for such preparation are only a premium paid to insure against that which might otherwise befall.

We have likewise joined in the selection of delegates to attend, as associate members, the conference of the National Security League to be held in the City of Washington on Jan. 20, 21, and 22, and we empower such delegates to advocate in our behalf the principles for which we stand.

Besides Mrs. Alexander, the officers of the society are: Mrs. William C. Potter, Vice President; Mrs. T. J. Oakley Rhineland, Treasurer; Mrs. John A. Logan, Jr., Secretary; Miss Lulsita A. Leland, Assistant Secretary, and Advisory Board, Dr. Charles L. Dana, Samuel R. Bertron, Maunsell Crosby, Frederic R. Coudert, the Rev. Dr. W. R. Jelliffe, Robert Olyphant, and Howard Taylor.

Some of the members of the General Committee are Mrs. John Jacob Astor, Mrs. William H. Bliss, Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont, Mrs. I. Townsend Burden, Jr., Miss Elsie de Wolfe, Mrs. Edwin Gould, Mrs. George J. Gould, Miss Louise Iselin, Mrs. Jay Gould, Mrs. John G. Milburn, Mrs. Paul Morton, Mrs. Charles de L. Oelrichs, Mrs. Charles M. Oelrichs, Mrs. Frederic Foster Carey, Mrs. Alexander D. B. Pratt, Mrs. Vivian Spencer, Mrs. Charles Van Rensselaer, Mrs. M. Orme Wilson, Mrs. William Rockefeller, Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, Mrs. Douglas Robinson, and Mrs. William F. Sheehan.