Memorandum regarding the rules for discharging soldiers with dependent families, April 20, 1917

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Maine National Guard

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MEMORANDUM:

STATE OF MAINE
The Adjutant General's Office
Augusta, April 20, 1917.

Discharge of enlisted men on account of dependent families.

1. With reference to memorandum from this office dated April 13, 1917, authorizing the discharge of all enlisted men of the National Guard who have families dependent upon them for support, the members of which would become a charge upon the Government in case they were called into Federal service, you are advised that by direction of the Secretary of War the discharge of men solely because of the fact that they are married or have families is not authorized.

2. When a man's means are ample for the support of his family in his absence, or where his business can be so conducted in his absence as to afford a means of support for his family, discharge should not be granted.

3. The object of discharging men as provided in the memorandum of April 13th above referred to, is to avoid working a hardship upon dependent members of their families and to obviate the necessity of the payment of benefits to such members while the soldier is in Federal Service.

GEORGE McL. PRESSON,

The Adjutant General.