

# Militia Called Out to Guard Power Plants

**Troops Were Mobilized Last Night to Protect All Public Utilities and Industries—Company E Divided Between Niagara Falls and Hydraulic Companies.**

Niagara Falls, March 26.—Militiamen and special officers are guarding the two great power houses and the electro-chemical industries of this city that would be of untold importance to the government in event of war.

Company E, Third regiment, was mobilized at the armory early yesterday morning upon an order received from Governor Whitman. Captain E. J. Murray was instructed to take steps at once to protect public utilities and industries in this city. Requests were made at once by officials of the Niagara Falls Power company and the Hydraulic Power company for protection.

After a conference with the officials of the two companies, Captain Murray announced that Company E would be detailed to guard these two power houses. First Lieutenant John Welch was assigned to the command

of the detachment to guard the property of the Niagara Falls Power company and Lieutenant Whitney Vogt is in command of the detachment guarding the Hydraulic Power company's property. Each detachment established comfortable quarters last night on the property of the two power companies.

The guardsmen will be assisted by nearly 100 special officers of a detective agency, who have been doing guard duty at the power houses for some time.

As company E has barely enough men to guard the two power houses, the electro-chemical industries of the city are without a military guard. Nearly every big chemical plant has had a force of special police doing guard duty. Several of these plants doubled the number of guards this morning.

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The Niagara Falls division of naval militia is expecting orders to mobilize and reinforce the company E guardsmen. Officers of the division were at the naval militia's headquarters in the armory the greater part of the day. There are about 70 men in the division that would be available for guard duty. If the division is not put on guard duty it is expected that it will be sent to some eastern point.

Police Superintendent John Curry has detailed six patrolmen to guard the city waterworks.

Niagara Falls will play a tremendously important role in supplying America's fighting men with instruments of war in event of hostilities. Its electro-chemical industries and manufacturing plants are ready to operate in full capacity in supplying the needs of the government.

The National Defense Council at Washington has a complete report of what each factory in this city can do in the way of supplying war materials. The plants have been classified by government experts and the part that each will play has been decided upon by the men mobilizing the nation's resources.

In the event of war Niagara Falls will be one of the nation's greatest centers for the manufacture of chemicals used in the making of ammunition.