letter came to the desk of the author of the CONGRESSIONAL FRONT. It was one of thousands. It was from a Sergeant. He has served more than three years. In his letter, he reviewed his own career in the army and commented on his present duties. He also speculated about his future. And at the end of the letter, he wrote, "I want out! And I don't mean maybe". It is a typical letter; and quite understandable. Moreover, the folks back home want him out. Years of separation is one of the real sacrifices of war. This is especially true where children are involved.

WHAT THE MAIL SHOWS.
The mail that comes to Congress in a veritable deluge shows a certain division among the folks at home and men in service on how demobilization should be handled. Group One feels that youngsters of high school and college age should have at least some preference in early discharge from the service. They feel that time runs against the younger men and that they should get back to their classrooms. Group Two feels that those with dependents, namely wives and children or aged parents, should have a preference. Their point is that children of tender ages are in need of the guiding hand of the father. Group Three believes that men over 35 should have a preference because Time also runs against them and that readjustment becomes increasingly difficult as the months go by. Group Four believes that those who have served overseas and especially if they have been in combat deserve a special preference. Group Five includes those who feel that since the war is over, the draft should stop at once and that no more youngsters should be inducted. Probably other groups could be listed but these five classifications represent the principal divisions of thought. You will note the basic reasons in each group. One group feels that youth and education deserves preference, another that dependency deserves the emphasis, another that age should be the dominating factor, another that it should be overseas service and combat.

THE PROBLEM IN A NUTSHELL.
Here is the demobilization problem in a nutshell. The army has 8,050,000 men and women in service. That equals the population of the State of Illinois. They are scattered from Alaska to Brazil and from New York to Tokyo. It estimates that 500,000 are needed to occupy Europe and 900,000 in the Pacific. That may be reduced later. Presently, however, that totals 1,400,000. It needs 200,000 as a strategic striking force to meet any condition that may arise. To keep 1,400,000 overseas on occupational duty and to maintain a reserve of 200,000 requires another 485,000 for operational, school and service work. In addition an estimated 415,000 are needed to carry on the business of discharging and demobilizing. This also includes those who are in hospitals. That totals 2,500,000. It therefore proposes to demobilize 5,550,000 by July 1, 1945. That means 10 months on or at an average rate of 555,000 every 30 days. Already 520,000 have been discharged. Separations will be stepped up from 250,000 in September to 600,000 in December and to 672,000 every month thereafter. To do this however requires induction at the rate of 50,000 per month plus 300,000 enlistments in order to replace those who are discharged.

WHAT IS PROPOSED
All men with 80 points or more under the point formula will be discharged. The number of points required for discharged will be reduced as rapidly as possible. Men who are 38 years of age or over, and men age 35 with two years of service will be discharged. This age limit will be reduced as quickly as possible. Where hardship is involved, applications will be entertained for immediate discharge. This is the picture at the moment, subject to whatever changes Congress might direct or such modifications as the Department may from time to time adopt.