

GOVERNOR'S MILITARY STAFF.

Governor Ritchie has determined not to appoint a military staff as provided for in Article 65 of the Annotated Code. He gave out the following explanation of his decision on the subject:

"On the few occasions upon which, as Governor of the State, I may need military aides, I have, after much consideration, decided to have them assigned to me from those members of the National Guard who participated in the war, rather than appoint the customary honorary staff.

"The staff, as it has been constituted in former years, would now receive, under the national defense act, no recognition at all from the Federal Government or the General Staff, and the desire of the War Department and the modern tendency in other States are both in favor of assigning to the Governor, as his personal aides, officers of appropriate rank from the National Guard or from a veteran organization of the war, as is done in the case of the President. For instance, this is now required by law in New York, Florida, Montana, Utah, Vermont, Washington and other States.

"Not only is this the logical and clearly proper thing to do from a military point of view, but it seems to me particularly appropriate at this time that military honors should go to those who won military fame in the war and who are now serving their State as members of the National Guard."

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