

# WILSON READS MESSAGE

## Great Throng Listens to President's Address.

### Plans to End Trusts—Punish Men, Not Business—Declares Enforcement of Strict Amendments Possible.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 20.—President Wilson personally laid before a joint session of congress today the fundamental principles of the Democratic administration's program for dealing with trusts and "big business." The President presented the case, he said, "as it lies in the thought of the country," reiterating "that private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable," and declaring that conscientious business men throughout the nation would not be satisfied until practices now deprecated by public opinion as restraints of trade and commerce were corrected. The President spoke as follows:

"In my report 'On the state of the union,' which I had the privilege of reading to you on the second of December, I ventured to reserve for discussion at a later date the subject of additional legislation regarding the very difficult and intricate matter of trusts and monopolies. The time now seems opportune to turn to that great question, not only because the currency legislation which absorbed your attention and the attention of the country in December, is now disposed of, but also because opinion seems to be clearing about us with singular rapidity. In this other great field of action, in the matter of the currency, it cleared suddenly and very happily after the much debated act was passed; in respect of the monopolies which have multiplied about us and in regard to the various means by which they have been organized and maintained, it seems to be coming to a clear and all but universal agreement in anticipation of our action, as if by way of preparation, making the way easier to see and easier to set out on with confidence and without confusion of counsel.

"Legislation has its atmosphere like everything else and the atmosphere of accommodation and mutual understanding which we now breathe with so much refreshment is a matter of sincere congratulation. It ought to make our task very much less difficult and embarrassing than it would have been had we been obliged to continue to act amidst the atmosphere of suspicion and antagonism which has so long made it impossible to approach such questions with dispassionate fairness. Constructive legislation, when successful, is always the embodiment of convincing experience and of the mature public opinion which finally springs out of the experience. Legislation is a business of interpretation, not of origination, and it is now plain that the opinion is to which we must give effect in this matter. It is not recent or hasty opinion, whole generations. It has clarified itself by long contest, and those who for a long time battled with it and sought to change it are now frankly and honorably yielding to it and seeking to conform their actions to it.

"The great business men who organized and financed monopoly and those who administered it in actual everyday transactions have year after year, until now, either denied its existence or justified it as necessary for the effective maintenance and development of the vast business enterprises of the country with modern circumstances of trade and manufacture and finance; but all the while opinion has made head against them. The average business man is convinced that the ways of liberty are also the ways of peace and the ways of success as well as that the masters of business on the great scale have begun to yield their preference and purpose, perhaps their judgment also, in honorable surrender.

"What we are purposing to do, therefore, is happily not to hamper or interfere with business as enlightened business men prefer to do it, or in any sense to put it under the ban. The antagonism between business and government is over. We are now about to give expression to the best business judgment of America, to what we know to be the business conscience and honor of the law. The government and business men are ready to meet each other half way in a common effort to square business methods with both public opinion and the law. The best-informed men of the business world condemn the methods and processes and consequences of monopoly as well as condemn them, and the instinctive judgment of the vast majority of business men everywhere goes with them. We shall now be their spokesman. That is the strength of our position and the sure prophecy of what will ensue when our reasonable proposals are adopted.

"We are all agreed that 'private monopoly is indefensible and intolerable' and our programme is founded on that conviction. It will be a comparative but not a radical or unacceptable programme, and these are its items, the changes which opinion deliberately sanctions and for which business waits: 'It awaits with acquiescence, in the first place, for laws which will effectively prohibit and prevent such interlocking of the personnel of the directorates of great corporations—banks and railroads, industrial, commercial and public service bodies—as in effect result in making those who borrow and those who lend practically one and the same, those who sell and those who buy the same persons trading with one another under different names and in different combinations, and those who affect to compete in fact partners and masters of some whole field of business. Sufficient time should be allowed, of course, in which to effect these changes of organizations, without inconvenience or confusion.

"Such a prohibition will work much more than a mere negative good by correcting the serious evils which have arisen because, for example, the men who have been the directing spirits of the great investment banks have usurped the place which belongs to independent industrial management working in its own behalf. It will bring new men, new energies, a new spirit of initiative, new blood, into the management of our great business enterprises. It will open the field of industrial development to scores of men who have been obliged to serve when their abilities entitled them to direct. It will immensely hearten the young men coming on and will greatly enlarge the business activities of the whole country.

"In the second place, business men as well as those who direct public affairs now recognize, and recognize with painful clearness, the great harm and injustice which has been done to many, if not all, of the great railroad systems of the country by the way in which they have been financed and their own distinctive interests subordinated to the interests of the men who financed them and of other business enterprises which those men wished to promote. The country is ready, therefore, to accept, and accept with relief, as well as approval, a law which will confer on the Interstate Commerce Commission the power to superintend and regulate the financial operations by which the railroads are henceforth to be supplied with the money they need for their proper development to meet the rapidly growing requirements of the country for increased and improved facilities of transportation. We cannot postpone action in this matter without leaving the railroads exposed to many serious handicaps and hazards; and the prosperity of the country are inseparably connected. Upon this question those who are chiefly responsible for the actual management and operation of the railroads, have spoken very plainly and very earnestly, with a purpose we ought to be quick to accept. It will be a very important step toward the necessary separation of the business of production from the business of transportation.

"The business of the country awaits also, has long awaited and has suffered because it could not obtain, further and more explicit legislative definition of the power and meaning of the existing anti-trust law. Nothing hampers business like uncertainty. Nothing daunts nor discourages it like the necessity to take chances, to run the risk of falling under the condemnation of the law before it can make sure that what the law is. Surely we are sufficiently familiar with the actual processes and methods of monopoly and of the many hurtful restraints of trade to make definition possible, at any rate up to the limits of the law. The government has disclosed practices, being now abundantly disclosed, can be explicitly and item by item forbidden by statute in such terms as will practically eliminate uncertainty, the law itself and the penalty being made equally plain.

"And the business men of the country desire something more than that the menace of legal process in the matters be made explicit and intelligible. They desire the advice, the definite guidance and information which can be supplied by an administrative body, an interstate trade commission.

"The opinion of the country would instantly approve of such a commission. It would not wish to see it empowered to make terms with monopoly or in any sort to assume control of business, as if the Government made itself responsible. It demands such a commission only as an indispensable instrument of information and publicity, as a clearing-house for the facts by which both the public mind and the managers of great business undertakings should be guided, and as an instrumentality for doing justice to business where the processes of the

courts or the natural forces of correction outside the courts are inadequate to adjust the remedy to the wrong in a way that will meet all the equities and circumstances of the case.

"Producing industries, for example, which have passed the point up to which ordinary legal process may be consistently applied with the public interest and the freedom of trade, cannot always be dissected into their component units as readily as railroad companies or similar organizations can be. Their dissolution by ordinary legal process may often-times involve financial consequences likely to overwhelm the security market and bring on its breakdown and confusion. There ought to be an administrative commission capable of directing and shaping such corrective processes, not only in aid of the courts, but also by independent suggestion, if necessary.

"Inasmuch as our object and the spirit of our action in these matters is to meet business half way in its processes of self-correction and disturb its legitimate course as little as possible, we ought to see to it, and the judgment of the public mind should be our guide, that the punishment of men of affairs everywhere would be applauded if we did see to it, that penalties and punishments should fall, not on business itself, to its confusion and interruption, but on the individuals who use the instrumentalities of business to do things which public policy and sound business practice condemn. Every act of business is done at the command or on the initiative of some ascertainable person or group of persons. These should be held individually responsible, and the punishment should fall on them, not on the business organization of which they made illegal use. It should be one of the main objects of our legislation to divest such persons of their corporate cloak and deal with them as with those who do not represent their corporations, but merely by deliberate intention break the law. The business men, the country through, would, I am sure, applaud us if we were to take effectual steps to see that the officers and directors of great business bodies were prevented from bringing them and the business of the country into disrepute and danger.

"Other questions remain which will need very thoughtful and practical treatment.

"Enterprises in these modern days of great industrial fortunes, are often-times interlocked, not by being under the management of the same directors but by the fact that the greater part of their corporate stock is owned by a single person or group of persons who are in some way intimately related in interest. We are agreed, I take it, that holding companies are prohibited, but what of the controlling private ownership of individuals or actually co-operative groups of individuals? Shall the private owners of capital stock be suffered to be themselves in fact holding companies? We don't wish, I suppose, to forbid the purchase of stocks by any person who pleases to buy them in such quantities as he can afford, or in any way arbitrarily to limit the sale of stocks to bona fide purchasers. We do wish, however, to limit the right to vote. The question is, when their voting power in several companies which ought to be independent of one another would constitute actual control, to make election in which of them they will exercise their right to vote? This question I venture for your consideration.

"There is another matter in which imperative conditions of justice and fair play suggest thoughtful remedial action. Not only do many of the combinations effected or sought to be effected in the industrial world work an injustice on the public in general; they also directly and seriously injure the individuals who are put out of business in one unfair way or another by the many dislodging and exterminating forces of combination. I hope there shall arise in giving private individuals who claim to have been injured by these processes the right to found their suits for redress on the facts and judgments proved and entered in suits by the Government, where the Government has on its own initiative sued the combinations complained of and won its suit and that the statute of limitations shall be suffered to run against such litigants only from the date of the conclusion of the Government's action. It is not fair that the private litigant should be obliged to set up and establish again the facts which the Government has proved. He cannot afford, he has not the power, to make use of such processes of inquiry as the Government has command of. Thus shall individual justice be done while the processes of business are rectified and squared with the general conscience.

"I have laid the case before you, no doubt as it lies in your own mind, as it lies in the thought of the country. What must every candid man say of the suggestions I have laid before you, of the plain obligations of which I have reminded you? That these are now things for which the country is not prepared? No; but that they are old things, things our mentors work are undertaken, if we are to square our laws with the thought and desire of the country. Until these things are done, conscientious business men the country over will be unsatisfied. They are in fact things our mentors and colleagues. We are now about to write the additional articles of our constitution of peace, the peace that is honor and freedom and prosperity."

### Game Treaty Is Desired.

Ottawa, Ont.—The Canadian conservation committee, at its annual meeting here, was asked to aid the American Game Protective association in obtaining an international treaty to give migratory birds in Canada the same protection afforded in the United States by the law passed at the last session of congress. The request was presented by W. S. Haskell, of New York. "A treaty," he said, "is much more effective than a statute. It is a guarantee of the law. The U. S. is ready to sign such a treaty."

### Submarine Is Not Found.

Plymouth, England.—A dozen torpedo boat destroyers and mine sweepers cruising up and down Whitesand bay for the past three days have failed to locate the submarine "A 7," which sank in the course of the recent maneuvers.

### \$50 Stolen; \$30,000 Is Left.

Berkeley, Cal.—Six old Roman coins, valued by the University of California at \$50,000 apiece, were overlooked by thieves who broke into the coincases at the university library. Other coins having a value of about \$50 were stolen.

### Steers at Record Prices.

Kansas City—Steers sold at the Kansas City stockyards Wednesday at \$9.25 a hundred pounds, the highest price ever paid here in January. Calves sold as high as \$11.25.

### Pay for Federal Refugees; Rebel Money Near Par

El Paso, Tex.—General Salvador Mercado, who commanded the Mexican federal army which was routed from Ojinaga, Mex., has been placed in command of the camp of his interned soldiers and refugees at Fort Bliss. As a token of his continued loyalty to the government at Mexico City, General Mercado at once christened the main street of the camp "Avenida General Huerta." Although himself one of the interned refugees who are not permitted to leave the reservation, General Mercado was selected by the United States army officials as best fitted to have personal supervision over his men.

Water pipes were laid and all the Mexicans were told that they must bathe regularly. Outdoor barbershops also were provided.

The Mexican consul in El Paso called at Fort Bliss to arrange to pay some of the back salaries of the Mexican soldiers. He at first refused to meet General Mercado, but later was induced to confer with him. The American officers said they had no authority to negotiate for the payment of salaries to the federals. The money said to be available for the interned soldiers is \$70,000, which was taken from a federal paymaster at Marfa, Tex., who attempted to drive through to Ojinaga when told by the American border patrol to halt.

Japanese nationals will remain in Chihuahua state for the present. S. Baba, representing the Japanese government, returned from a conference with General Villa. He said every guarantee had been given that the Japanese subjects would be unmolested. Most of the Japanese in the north of Mexico are engaged in agricultural pursuits.

General Villa reported from Chihuahua that rebel money was being circulated in the interior at only a small discount from the value of Mexican silver.

One object of General Villa's forthcoming visit to Chihuahua is to confer with representatives of mining and smelter interests. He is desirous of having work resumed to procure taxes on exports for the support of the rebel army.

### Many Hurt in Strike Riots; Women Arrested

Trinidad, Col.—Twenty or more persons, including eight women, are under arrest and at least five are known to be suffering from slight injuries as the result of a serious street riot which took place here when the militia, under the personal direction of General John Chase, broke up a mob of strikers and strike sympathizers which was attempting to march to San Rafael hospital, where "Mother" Jones is held under military arrest.

Stones, bottles and bricks were hurled at the militiamen by a crowd of angry women, who precipitated the outbreak when they were ordered to turn back by the soldiers.

Several soldiers, including Major H. M. Randolph, were assaulted and not until the cavalymen with drawn swords had charged the crowd several times was the mob dispersed.

### San Domingo Rebels Win Two Important Points

Cape Haitien, San Domingo—Both Haitien and Fort Liberté, on the north coast, are in the hands of the revolutionists. The vanguard of the rebels under General Paul entered Cape Haitien without resistance. Fort Liberté, which lies southeast of Cape Haitien, was garrisoned by the minister of the interior and a large body of troops, which, however, on the approach of the rebels, boarded the dispatch boats Pacific and Nord Alexis. The two vessels proceeded at once to sea, steaming in the direction of Port au Prince.

### Ah, Mates, 'Tis Grim Tale.

San Diego, Cal.—In a terrific storm off the coast the sloop Pasquinade was dismasted last Friday. Simultaneously with the loss of the mast a huge wave struck the sloop broadside and caused her to roll over completely, looping the loop twice. So quick was the whole action that when she came up the occupants had not had time to fall off, the mast breaking off and piercing the deck in an upright position 2 feet 6 inches behind where it had been. She came into port apparently undamaged.

### Khartoum Yields Relics.

London.—A dispatch from Khartoum to the Times says recent discoveries made by Professor Garstang, at Merce, the site of the ancient Ethiopian capital, include a sacred well and an observatory in which there was evidence of instruments for taking observations, especially in determining latitude. He also discovered two monumental inscriptions with the longest Mercuric texts extant, which recorded victories with reference to Rome.

### Two Democrats Get Sons.

Pendleton, Or.—According to news received here by their aunt, Mrs. R. A. Strahorn, two brothers, Harry and George Strahorn, of Iowa Falls, Ia., became fathers of sons on December 28, President Wilson's birthday. Both fathers are strong Democrats. They married sisters on the same day. The births occurred within half an hour of each other.

## Industrial Club Work For Boys and Girls

Salem—The following outline of his plans for organizing boys' and girls' industrial clubs in all school districts in the state has been prepared by Superintendent of Public Instruction Churchill.

Each club is expected to take up one or more of the projects named below, and the choice of the project depending upon the work which is of greatest interest to the community in which the club is organized. The following are the industrial club projects suggested by this department for this year:

- 1, Boys' corn growing contest; 2, boys' potato growing contest; 3, girls' canning contest; 4, girls' cooking and baking contest; 5, boys' and girls' poultry contest; 6, girls' sewing contest; 7, boys' pig feeding contest; 8, boys' and girls' gardening contest; 9, dairy herd management; 10, manual arts contest.

The Agricultural college has promised to assist us further in preparing bulletins giving expert advice to the children as to how best to produce the different things named in these projects, such as bulletins on potato growing, etc. These will be distributed through the clubs, and will be of value to parents as well as to the children. The work of organizing the clubs will fall largely upon the county school superintendents, working through the teachers. The University of Oregon, the Oregon Agricultural college and the Oregon Normal school have promised to send out men in addition to the field workers from his office to help the superintendents in this work.

The State Fair board has appropriated to this department \$1000 to be distributed among the boys and girls as prizes at the State Fair. The board has also promised us \$500 to be used to entertain two boys from each county for the whole week of the fair. The boys will be under the most careful supervision and will make a study of every department of the fair, including especially the poultry and the stock judging. In addition to this we expect to send the ten children who stand highest in the state contest to the Panama exposition at San Francisco.

## Ten Oregon Counties to Have Field Agents

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.—Ten Oregon counties have now made appropriations for the support of county agricultural agents, and a number of other counties have taken steps to put the county demonstration policy into effect. Thus approximately one-third of the counties of Oregon have now, or soon will have, county demonstration agents.

The counties that have already made appropriations for this work are Harney, Wallowa, Union, Grant, Klamath, Coos, Tillamook, Lane and Marion. Not all of these have been supplied with the field agents, but applications for the positions are being considered by Professor H. T. French, state leader of the county demonstration work, who announces that the positions will soon be filled.

In all of these counties the sum of money set aside for county demonstration work will be duplicated by the state. The U. S. department of agriculture also co-operates in furnishing resources for the work. Throughout the entire country there are about 200 such agents employed in the various states, some states working as high as 20 men in the field. The work is being extended very rapidly and results in most instances are highly gratifying.

### Tumalo Report Soon; Power Project Approved

Salem—State Engineer Lewis, upon his return recently from Eastern Oregon, where he inspected irrigation projects, announced that the supervising board of engineers appointed to inspect the Tumalo work would make a report in about ten days. The board, which is composed of Mr. Lewis, D. C. Henny, C. M. Redfield and Project Engineer Lurgard, inspected the work and decided that further surveys would be necessary before a complete report could be made.

Mr. Lewis said that E. G. Hopson, supervising engineer of the United States reclamation service, had been informed that the Interior department had approved The Dalles power project, and Mr. Hopson has been named to represent the department in the preliminary work.

Borings will be made for foundations so when the legislative committee meets all the necessary information will be available.

### Rural Mail Carriers Favor Road Bonds

Salem—Setting forth that its members are in the best position to pass opinion on the condition of the roads and declaring that the need for improvement is imperative to good rural postal service and the development of the country, the Marion County Rural Letter Carriers' association has adopted a set of resolutions expressing its hearty approval of the proposed bond issue of \$850,000 for road improvements.

The association pledges the support of its members, individually and collectively, in behalf of the measure, declaring that the movement is both a practical and efficient plan. The resolutions are signed by a committee composed of W. H. Squier, R. L. Wolcott and Percy Ottaway. Jarvis E. Cutsforth is secretary of the organization.

### Man On Hunger Strike.

Corvallis—Leopold Cund smashed a large plate glass window in the Benton County National bank recently and is now in the city jail. He came from Eugene, having been last employed on a grading camp on the Willamette-Pacific. He broke the window here "as a protest against slave conditions resulting from selfishness and greed of those who demand more profit." Cund claims to have had but three meals and one luncheon in eight days and refuses to eat. He says he will never work again and has no right to eat.

The work of Floyd Rader, the Wallowa county agent, has shown the possibilities of expert agricultural supervision. Large savings were made by reducing the damage done field crops by smut, and a model pig house, designed by Mr. Rader, has resulted in a material saving of young pigs.

In Coos county Field Agent Smith is organizing the dairy industry. He is at present supervising an organization of cow-testing associations. This is a necessary step in scientific dairying, designed to improve the dairy herds.

County demonstration work is being organized very rapidly in the Northwest. A conference of the state leaders and county agents for Idaho, Oregon and Washington will be held at Pullman, Washington, January 26 to 29. The three state leaders and a number of county men will participate in this convention. There will be representatives from the agricultural colleges of the three states. The Oregon Agricultural college will be represented by Professor R. D. Hetzel, director of extension, and by Professor French.

The demonstration policy has received the hearty endorsement of the Union County Farmers' union. After hearing the plans explained by Professor French, the members promised to support and co-operate in carrying on the work in Union county.

### Deputy Turns Trapper; Catches Many Varmints

Gold Hill—New and novel employment for the idle hours of state game wardens may be found in the example set by Deputy Warden Hammersley, stationed at Willow Flat, in a typical Oregon wilderness and hunters' paradise, 20-odd miles north of this city. This warden is adding to the efficacy of game protection by a trapping campaign against predatory animals during the dull winter months, and already has a long list of captured varmints to his credit.

Acting under instructions from State Game Warden Finley, the Willow Flat deputy outfitted with traps and lures last fall, established a 13-mile trap line, and began the campaign which he is now so successfully waging. Each pelt secured is carefully prepared for taxidermy purposes and is shipped to Portland, where it is mounted. These trophies will adorn the state biological collection.

### Cheaper Fuel Forecast As Aid to Manufactures

J. C. Turney, of Burns, is of the opinion that the development of the oil prospects in Central Oregon and Harney county will prove a great factor in solving the problem of cheap fuel for factories in Oregon.

"Cheap fuel is the basis of the manufacturing industries, and will be the thing that will give manufacturing the biggest impulse in Oregon within the next few years," he says. "The oil prospects in Central Oregon have not yet been opened up, and thus far the work has been chiefly prospecting, but I am of the opinion that in these fields lies largely the source of the fuel supply from which the state must draw in future."

### New Bridge Is Wanted.

Florence—Because the Lane County court will do nothing to replace the bridge through Acme, the people of that town held a mass meeting and adopted resolutions stating the conditions and applying for help from the court. The town is built over a slough and the only means of travel through it is by this bridge, which was built along the county survey by local residents in 1900, and has been maintained by them until the last two years. Now the court has forbidden travel over the walk.

### Harney Adopts Contract Plan.

Burns—The commissioners' court of Harney county at its session just closed decided to abandon the system of road supervisors and adopt the contract system of caring for the roads, the work of contractors to be done under the direction and supervision of a road engineer.