

CONGRESS DECLARES STATE OF WAR!

FINAL RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN HOUSE

Lower Body Confirms Action of Senate 373 to 50.

Washington, D. C.—The resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany, already passed by the senate, passed the house shortly after 3 o'clock Friday morning by a vote of 373 to 50. It formally accepts the state of belligerency forced by Germany's aggressions and authorizes and directs the President to employ the military and naval forces and the resources of the nation to bring war against Germany to a successful termination.

Without rollcalls the house rejected all amendments, including proposals to prohibit the sending of any troops overseas without congressional authority.

Adoption of the resolution followed 17 hours of debate. There was no attempt to filibuster, but the pacifist group, under the leadership of Democratic Leader Kitchin, prolonged the discussion with impassioned speeches. Mr. Kitchin declaring conscience would not permit him to support the President's recommendation that a state of war be declared.

Miss Rankin, of Montana, the only woman member of congress, sat through the first rollcall with bowed head, failing to answer to her name, twice called by the clerk.

On second rollcall she rose and said in a sobbing voice: "I want to stand by my country, but I cannot vote for war."

For a moment then she remained standing, supporting herself against a desk, and as cries of "vote, vote," came from several parts of the house, she sank back into her seat without voting audibly. She was recorded in the negative.

EXPLOSION KILLS 112

Chester, Pa.—An explosion at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning, in the plant of the Eddystone ammunition corporation, at Eddystone, Pa., near here, is reported to have killed 50 to 150 persons. Several hundred are said to have been injured.

The fire, which was confined to the shrapnel loading building, in which it originated, had been subdued. In this building about 400 men, women and boys and girls were employed as loaders.

Latest reports place the total loss of life at 112. The little Chester morgue is filled with bodies and they are piled upon the sidewalk outside the building.

It is stated the building in which the explosion occurred was used for making time fuses for shrapnel. The workers were mostly women and young girls.

The Eddystone Ammunition company is understood to be an independent corporation, and is engaged in manufacturing and loading shells for the Russian government. The company has no connection with either the Midvale Steel company or the Remington Arms company.

Army of Million At Once Is Plan

Washington, D. C.—How the government plans to raise a war army of 1,000,000 within a year and 2,000,000 within two years was disclosed upon passage of the war resolution by the house.

The bill, prepared by the General Staff and approved by the President for submission to congress, provides for the immediate filling up of the regular army and national guard to war strength of more than 800,000, by draft unless enough volunteers enlist quickly and for bringing into the service by the late summer of the first 500,000 of the new force of young men between the ages of 19 and 25 years, to be called to the colors by selective conscription.

Ex-Czarina's Lady in Cell.

London—Mme. Virubova, the lady-in-waiting to the ex-empress, who introduced Gregory Rasputin, the mythic monk, to the Russian court, has been brought from Tsarskoe-Selo to the Taurida Palace and then taken to the prison of St. Peter and St. Paul, says a Reuter dispatch from Petrograd Saturday.

Mme. Virubova is a fellow prisoner of Mme. Soukhomlinoff, wife of the ex-minister of war.

AIRPLANE FIGHTING TERRIFIC

15 German Aviators Are Seen to Fall and 31 Others Driven Down.

London.—In terrific air fighting during Saturday and Sunday in Northern France, British airplanes carried out numerous raids and dropped more than eight tons of bombs. Twenty-eight British machines are missing, says the official statement from British headquarters in France, and 15 German aeroplanes were seen to crash to the ground and 31 German machines were driven down.

Ten German balloons, the statement adds, were brought down in flames.

Berlin.—The entente allies lost 44 airplanes on the western front, says the official statement issued by the German army headquarters staff. Thirty-three of the British or French machines were destroyed in aerial engagements. Five German airplanes, the statement adds, did not return.

SENATE VOTES TO PASS RESOLUTION

Upper House Declares for War With Only Six Dissenting.

Washington, D. C.—The resolution declaring that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany was adopted in the senate Wednesday night by an overwhelming majority. It was immediately taken up for passage in the house.

Sensors who cast the negative votes were Gronna, of North Dakota; La Follette, of Wisconsin; Norris, of Nebraska; Lane, of Oregon; Stone, of Missouri, and Vandaman, of Mississippi.

The war resolution was adopted by the senate by a vote of 82 to 6.

Senator McCumber's substitute to declare the existence of a state of war on the sinking of another American ship by Germany was defeated without a rollcall.

The resolution drafted after consultation with the State department and already accepted by the house committee, says the state of war thrust upon the United States by Germany is formally declared, and directs the President to employ the entire military and naval forces and resources of the government to carry on war and bring it to a successful termination.

Action in the senate came just after 11 o'clock at the close of a debate that had lasted continuously since 10 o'clock in the morning.

National Army of 2,000,000 Men Plan of Government

Washington, D. C.—Detailed plans of the War department for raising an army numbering millions if that is necessary "to bring the government of the German empire to terms," were placed in President Wilson's hands Thursday in the form of a bill prepared by the General Staff and reviewed and revised in part by Secretary Baker and the general officers who are his military advisers.

The President, as Commander in Chief, already has approved the basis adopted for the war army. Secretary Baker said the measure would go to the house and senate committees as soon as the war resolution was adopted.

Miss Wilson Gives \$1000.

Washington, D. C.—Miss Margaret Wilson, the President's daughter, Saturday handed the Red Cross her personal check for \$1000—the proceeds of her spring concert tour. Her check was dated April 2, the day of the President's address to congress.

The money goes to the fund for use among American sailors and soldiers. Miss Wilson soon will make another tour in the South for the same purpose.

French to Fly U. S. Flag.

Paris.—The American flag will be flown from all public buildings in France as the result of an order issued by Louis J. Malvy, minister of the interior. The mayors of many towns have requested that the American colors be displayed on private residences.

Ex-Rebels Raise Flag.

Raleigh, N. C.—Old soldiers of the North Carolina Home for Confederate Veterans raised the Stars and Stripes over the institution Sunday for the first time. Heretofore the home has flown only the state flag.

NATION'S FORCES FOR WAR MIGHTY

Germany Forced to Combat Vast Resources and Many Men.

Washington, D. C.—Actual and potential resources, which, all told, probably never have been equaled by any other nation in the history of the world, are brought into the great war under the American flag.

In the balance against Germany are thrown a navy in strength and efficiency among the foremost afloat; an army, comparatively very small, but highly efficient, backed by a citizenry of upward of 20,000,000 capable of military duty; industrial resources, incomparably the greatest in the world, already mobilized for public service, and the moral force of more than 100,000,000 Americans, awakened to their country's peril and united behind their President with a patriotic fervor reinvigorating the spirit of '76.

Although much remains to be done, officials believe the nation's destinies are secure now, no matter how stubborn or prolonged may be the pressure of German militarism or how wide the scope of German intrigue.

The navy, always the first line of defense, has cleared its decks of antiquated incumbrances, has added new units, modernized to meet the German tactics, and the patriotic co-operation of ship and material makers is hurrying to completion other fighting craft that will be the last word in power and efficiency.

Authorized but 10 days ago to recruit to the full war strength of 87,000 men, the navy already has almost attained the total. To provide additional officers a class of midshipmen has been graduated three months ahead of its time. A newly organized coast patrol of submarine chasers is on duty, and hundreds of small craft to augment it are under construction.

Army preparations are less complete, because of the uncertainty over what congress will authorize. The regulars, numbering nearly 120,000, and trained and equipped in a way which their officers believe matches, unit for unit, the boasted efficiency of Germany's best, are ready to respond over night to whatever call may come.

The national guard, 150,000 strong and hardened by months of service at the border, already has many units in active service for police duty throughout the country, and can be fully mobilized on short notice. Without additional authorization by congress, the regulars and guardsmen could be recruited to a combined strength of 700,000, and detailed plans for whatever larger army may be authorized have been prepared and great quantities of equipment purchased for it.

Industrial preparations have produced a great, compact scheme of national resources with almost unlimited possibilities.

Munition Prices Ordered Slashed.

Washington, D. C.—Thursday the government invoked for the first time its drastic powers to strike a death blow at exorbitant war profits. Under authority of the last naval appropriation bill a manufacturer was directed to furnish a large order of war supplies at a price fixed by the government far lower than the figure voluntarily submitted. If the order is not obeyed the plant would be taken over and operated by the government.

Officials would not disclose the name of the manufacturer nor the agency through which this order was given. It is said, however, that President Wilson and his advisers were firmly resolved that only fair and reasonable charges should be paid by the nation to its citizens for the things that are necessary to make ready for war.

European governments are paying an average of 10 per cent profit on war material purchased in the United States. It was asserted authoritatively that the government of the United States intends to buy its own supplies at less than that rate of profit to the seller.

Austria Sure to Break.

Vienna.—It appears certain that Austria-Hungary will sever diplomatic relations with the United States if congress declares that a state of war exists between America and Germany. The government has placed a special car at the disposal of U. S. Ambassador Penfield, who will probably leave Vienna on April 5. Before leaving, Mr. Penfield will be received by Emperor Charles. The Ambassador will travel by way of Switzerland.

AUSTRIA SEVERS RELATIONS

U. S. Takes Over Interned Ships as Precautionary Measure.

Washington, D. C.—Austria-Hungary, ranging herself unreservedly with Germany, has severed diplomatic relations with the United States, precipitating a situation which generally is expected here to lead to war.

Baron Erich Zwiadinek, the Austrian charge, asked the State department Monday for passports for himself, his staff and the Austrian consular force in this country, and simultaneously American Minister Stovall reported from Berne that Austria had announced the break in relations to the American embassy in Vienna.

Immediately the Treasury department ordered the seizure of all Austrian merchant ships in American harbors. The Austrian crews were taken off and sent to immigration stations and American guards put on board. The measure was explained as purely one of precaution, but it is realized that it may be interpreted by Austria as an act of war. In a similar situation, after the break with Germany, no ships were seized until a state of war actually had been declared.

Whether Bulgaria and Turkey are preparing to follow suit is unknown, but officials generally believe that sooner or later they will do so. Bulgarian Minister Panaretoff called on Secretary Lansing late in the day to ask if this government had any information from Sofia, but was told none had been received.

Bulgaria, it is believed here, is weary of the war, but German domination of the Central European alliance is expected to drive them, as it drove Austria, to break with Germany's new enemy.

Richard Olney, Ex-Secretary of State, Dies in Boston, Aged 82

Boston.—Richard Olney, statesman, once Secretary of State and always a noted student of international affairs, died at his home in the Fenway, in the Back Bay district, at 8:45 o'clock Sunday night. Word of the passing of the great citizen was not given to the public until Monday.

The end came after a protracted period of intense suffering, which had failed, however, to shake the courage or good humor that had marked his 82 years or to divert his mind from the interest which he had maintained in our quarrel with Germany.

Richard Olney served successfully as attorney general and secretary of state during the administration of President Cleveland, and, although at the head of the State department for the short period of one year and nine months only, he won reputation as a statesman of commanding ability and force. His greatest triumph was his successful insistence upon arbitration of the boundary dispute between Great Britain and Venezuela.

German Maps Are Seized.

New York.—Government agents have seized more than 2000 letters from the German sailors interned at the immigration station on Ellis Island. They also have come into possession of diagrams, blueprints and blank books containing information important to the military and civil authorities.

The fact that beer is not permitted on the island is said to be causing much discontent among the sailors.

York Harbor, Me.—A German who said he was Frank Spikehorn, formerly of Baltimore, was arrested here Tuesday. Maps of the coast with marginal notes in German and a notebook filled with writing were found in his possession.

Wilson Insists on Draft Plan.

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson threw the weight of his personal influence into the scales Tuesday in an effort to overcome opposition in congress to the administration army plans based on the draft system.

Summoning Chairman Dent of the house military committee, now considering the bill, the President made it clear that he believes the safety of the nation hangs on the action of congress in this regard.

He will make a similar exposition of the military situation to Representative Anthony of Kansas, who has led opposition to the draft plan among Republican members of the military committee.

T. R. May Consult Wilson.

Washington, D. C.—Theodore Roosevelt came here Tuesday from New York and although he declined to make a statement it was reported he would confer with President Wilson and offer his services for the war. It was said he also contemplated seeing Secretary Baker to discuss the volunteer army division which the colonel had offered to recruit. The general staff plan for an army raised by selective conscription makes no provision for volunteer units.

LATIN REPUBLICS

MAY ENTER WAR

Brazil and Central American Nations Become Restless.

MEXICAN REPUBLIC IS SILENT

Argentina Divided Over World War and Little Encouragement From That Source is Looked For.

Washington, D. C.—Early entrance of several of the South and Central American nations into the war against Germany is regarded here as practically certain. Brazil, aroused by the sinking of her steamship Parana, is expected to become a belligerent this week and it is assumed that her lead will be followed promptly by other countries.

Reports of divided opinion in Argentina have given officials here little encouragement to look for aggressive action by that country.

Active support of the United States by at least two of the five Central American republics and possibly by four would not be surprising. Official reports that Estrada Cabrera, president of Guatemala, is contemplating seriously a break with Germany have been received.

So long as Mexico's course is undefined, unusual interest is attached to the position of the Central American governments, especially Guatemala, controlling the southern frontier of Mexico. In the event of the development of an unfriendly situation in Mexico, it is realized that Guatemala's role would be far from unimportant.

In Guatemala, Cabrera has built up what is regarded generally as the most efficient army in Central America and with it he would be in a position to lend valuable assistance to the United States. Antipathy between the Guatemalans and the Mexicans there has existed for years.

It is known that earnest efforts have been made by counsellors of Cabrera to induce him to enter promptly into the war. If he does place his country in the list, it is expected that Nicaragua will shortly follow, and the long-standing differences between those two countries and Salvador and Honduras may be swept away in a desire to present a united Central America.

Cuba Enters War Against Germany

Havana.—Cuba, not yet out of her teens as a republic, is at war with Germany—the first of the Latin-American countries to range herself alongside the United States, her liberator and protector.

At 7:16 o'clock Saturday night President Menocal affixed his signature to the joint resolution adopted unanimously late in the afternoon by both the senate and house without a dissenting vote being raised, thus putting into effect the declaration that a state of war exists between Cuba and the imperia German government.

Emperor William Asks Plans on Reforms for Germany

Amsterdam, via London.—Emperor William has ordered German Imperial Chancellor von Bethman-Hollweg to submit to him certain proposals for the reform of the Prussian electoral law to be discussed and put into effect after the conclusion of peace. An official telegram from Berlin announcing this order adds that it foreshadows also the reform of the upper chamber of the Prussian diet.

Kaiser's Allies to Break With U. S.

London.—Passports have been placed at the disposal of the American embassy in Vienna, according to a dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from The Hague, quoting telegrams received there from the Austrian capital. The dispatch says that Bulgaria and Turkey have also decided to break off relations with the United States, and that Holland will probably look after Austrian interests in Washington and Americans in Vienna.

Brazilian Not Warned.

Rio Janeiro.—The captain of the torpedoed Brazilian steamer Parana cables that in addition to the killing of three members of his crew, several sailors were wounded by the explosion of the torpedoes. He says the ship was attacked at midnight without warning and denounces the conduct of the Germans as barbarous.