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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Newspaper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service

SPECIAL SESSION OF CONGRESS APRIL 2ND

COURSE THE U.S. WILL FOLLOW IF WAR COMES

NOT PROBABLE THAT ARMED FORCE WOULD BE SENT TO EUROPEAN THEATERS

OPEN PORTS TO ALLIED SHIPS

Member of Cabinet Details Plans by Which Government Would Prosecute Hostilities

Washington, Mar. 21.—This is how one of President Wilson's cabinet members described today the probable course of action this nation will take if war with Germany comes, as is now expected:

Alignment with the entente allies. The British and French fleets now in western Atlantic waters would be released for duty elsewhere, especially in the submarine zone by being replaced by the American Atlantic fleet, this country does not at present plan sending an armed expedition to Europe, because the allies have all the men they need.

Our ports would be thrown open to allied ships for all purposes.

Extension of unlimited credit to the allies so that they would be able to purchase all the necessary ammunition, food and supplies.

While nothing official could be learned regarding the meeting it is known that the defense council for weeks has been consulting with the nation's largest manufacturers of powder, explosives of all other descriptions and of rifles and all manner of guns, in the interest of standardizing all output with the least possible delay and expense.

It also has been one of the objects of munition standardization division to formulate the most detailed plans for the purchase of munitions and elimination of "supercharges" that have been made the government in former wars.

The first installment of bids for the two hundred or more submarine chasers for the navy were opened at noon. Nearly one hundred additional boat building concerns were requested to inform the government of their capacity for turning out the chaser boats.

Keels for 60 are now being laid at the New York navy yard and for four at the New Orleans yards. Every speed-up measure, including suspension of the eight-hour work day regulations in the yards, will be put in force.

Chicago, Mar. 21.—Number two yellow cash corn sold in the Chicago market today at \$1.14 per bushel, the highest in history. Number three white sold at the same figure.

SULZER REPRESENTS ALASKA IN CONGRESS

Juneau, Mar. 21.—Charles A. Sulzer, democrat, will receive the certificate as delegate to congress from Alaska by virtue of a decision delivered yesterday by Judge Robert W. Jennings, of the United States district court. James Wickersham, republican incumbent, was declared by the canvassing board to have been re-elected, but the court held that the board counted illegal ballots for Wickersham and found Sulzer's majority to be 19 votes.

The decision was one of the most exhaustive ever rendered in Alaska.

STATE DEPARTMENT SEES WAR AHEAD

Washington, Mar. 21.—The state department made it clear today that in war operations that may come there must be co-operation between the allies and the United States. The department indicated it believes war is inevitable.

TORNADO KILLS 7 IN ARKANSAS

Twister Wrecks Practically Every Building in Delmark, and Injures Many People

Little Rock, Ark., Mar. 21.—Seven persons were killed and eight injured in a tornado near Delmark, early today, which wrecked practically every building in Delmark.

The dead: Charles Weatherington and wife; Albert Herring; Milton Herring; Milton Hutchinson; Mattie Hearn; Lewis Roberts.

ADVANCE DATE FOR THE OPENING OF WARSHIP BIDS

Washington, Mar. 21.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels late today directed that the date for opening bids on the 15 new destroyers be advanced eleven days, from April 4 to March 24. The department announced also that it would at once order additional destroyers under the \$115,000,000 naval emergency fund which President Wilson has liberated for use. Shipyards were notified to send representatives at once to Washington to confer in the matter with naval experts.

GERMANS APPROACH PREPARED POSITION

London, Mar. 21.—The German retirement has apparently not yet reached the "Hindenburg line." Nevertheless, a slowing up in the speed of the retrograde movement and a stiffening of the fighting, reported from both the French and British fronts, indicated that the moment when German troops will settle down in their prepared positions and make a stand was fast approaching.

The line on which fighting was in progress today apparently extends southward from a point near Arras to St. Leger, Velu, Canlay (all on the British front) and thence, on the French front, to Roupy, Tergnier and the San Quentin canal.

In several places, at least the line of today's fighting is within two or three miles of the "Hindenburg line," as experts here have picked it up. The French are nearest the German permanent defenses. The British have made haste more slowly, preferring to rebuild the destroyed country over which they advanced.

England is awaiting a great battle.

RATING IS RESTORED TO NATIONAL GUARDSMEN

Washington, Mar. 21.—President Wilson has issued an executive order restoring to their former civil service status all national guardsmen who, as a result of border service, lost their rating, the department of commerce stated today. The president's order was that the eligibility period be extended in cases of guardsmen so that they could be restored to the rating they held at the time of their call to the colors. Guardsmen were requested to write to the civil service commission, giving the time of their call and the time of their mustering out. Several thousand men are affected.

DECLARATION OF WAR EXPECTED TO FOLLOW

Aggressive Action Will Be Taken Against Central Powers, Hope of Averting Open Hostilities With Germany Having Been Dispelled By U-Boat Activities

Washington, Mar. 21.—President Wilson called congress into extra session for April 2. He has decided to meet Germany's high sea affronts with sweeping action.

War today seemed just ahead. Congress will be asked to consider aggressive steps to be taken toward the imperial German government.

With a state of war admittedly existing as a result of U boat attacks on American merchant ships, a declaration of war may result as the first action taken by congress.

If the president does not ask a declaration of war, congress may demand one.

In any event, steps will be taken to put the American navy and army on a war footing. This footing will be of such preparations as these branches of the national defense have never before assumed.

Possibility of averting open hostilities with Germany appears to have been killed.

The president's decision was based on a tremendous appeal from the country for revenge for Germany's killing of American citizens and destruction of American property in contravention of all international law.

The president's course marks the end of his constant efforts—efforts which have been alike strongly commended and bitterly condemned—to keep this country at peace, even with Germany, in order that it might perform the "greater service" or restoring reason to war-mad Europe.

In reaching his conclusion to lay before the congress the grave problem of determining upon this government's policy toward Germany, the president brought to end a struggle for peace—not only with his advisers

but with himself—perhaps the most dramatic in history.

Holding out against arguments for positive warlike action until the last, Wilson was loath to take a course which he believed might be construed "as forcing the issue."

Appeals were made to him by his cabinet and through many telegrams from prominent people that "action was demanded immediately," "not only for the sake of America's conscience, but for the sake of the peace of the world."

In this connection, it is recalled that President Wilson, about a year ago declared to some of his advisers that he had reason to believe that if the United States entered the war actively, there would be a termination of the struggle within a few months. His advisers told him within the last twenty-four hours that to assume now a positive stand against Germany would be to encourage the new Russian government, hearten the allied troops in the field, perhaps create an irrepressible demand in Germany for the overthrow of the autocracy there and bring lasting peace to the world vastly nearer.

It became known today that in the past few weeks telegrams and much of the advice that have gone to the White House have counselled upon war and have been frank in declarations that a high note of patriotism must be sounded at once; they have declared this to be no time for "waiting to hear from the country." They have declared the country has need now of a leader who must tell the country and people what they must do; they have declared it is finally

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AMSTERDAM HEARS OF RIOTING IN BERLIN

Amsterdam, Mar. 21.—Rumors of serious rioting in Berlin, so great as to require presence of troops, were circulated here this afternoon. The rumor had it that many detachments of troops had been called from the east front to pacify the rioters.

GERMANY AGAIN COURTING PEACE

Agents of the Kaiser Said to Have Recently Visited Holland and Switzerland with Proposals

New York, Mar. 21.—German agents have recently visited Holland and Switzerland to sound allied feelings as to fresh German peace proposals, according to a dispatch from the Hague, published today by the New York Times.

"A German government official," the dispatch related, "said Russian events had modified the situation. Germany can no longer claim her eastern objects, such as freedom of the Poles, Lithuanians and other subject races, since these will obtain full liberty through the Russian revolution. He suggests that Germany might be able now to consider restoring Poland to Russian influence under a guarantee of complete autonomy. Another German visiting Holland said there were discussions in Vienna concerning the possibility of providing autonomy for the small peoples within the existing state limits and without severe disturbance of existing frontiers."

"It is understood that inquiries, particularly regarding the American view on this point, are being cautiously made by way of Switzerland."

NEW FRENCH PREMIER ISSUES STATEMENT

Paris, Mar. 21.—"We are now in a position where we can fight with equal strength of arms as long as necessary—having what our enemies do not have, the sentiment that we are defending the cause of right and of civilization."

So read a stirring statement issued by the new premier, Alexandre Ribot, today to the people of France. It was his formal cabinet declaration.

Ribot re-affirmed France's intention to continue to the end. He lauded France's victorious soldiers, "already liberating part of the invaded territory, which is only a preface to new and supreme efforts against the enemy."

The new premier likewise declared his intention to direct a general political war, with parliament, leaving generalissimo in complete direction of army operations.

He announced new taxes and a law to prohibit importation from foreign countries of articles unnecessary to the life of the country.

"With our allies," he concluded, "we have the common ideal and spirit of liberty and brotherhood, which guarantees the future peace wished by the president of the great American republic, as to condition and organization of society and of nations."

The message also "salutes Russia" and expresses the hope that the "revolution will go on without shedding of blood."

Pendleton, Mar. 21.—William Piper, 95, a pioneer of the days of 1849, died this morning at his farm home near here. He was one of the first settlers in eastern Oregon.

AMNESTY IS DECREE OF SLAV GOVERNMENT

POLITICAL OFFENDERS ARE RESTORED TO RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES IN UKRAINE ISSUED

A CONSTITUTION FOR FINLAND

Wholesale Arrests of Adherents of the Regime of Former Czar Nicholas Are Ordered

Petrograd, Mar. 21.—A general political amnesty was decreed in a ukase issued today by the Russian provincial government.

"Yielding to the imperial demands of the national conscience, in the name of historic justice, and in commemoration of the definite triumph of the new regime, founded upon right and liberty," the ukase stated, "we ordered a general political amnesty."

The ukase also confirmed previous announcements of a constitution for Finland and ordered immediate application of such a plan, providing for early convocation of the Finnish diet to this end.

London, Mar. 21.—Simultaneously with issuance of a ukase announcing amnesty to political prisoners, the new Russian government today began wholesale arrests throughout Russia of adherents of the former bureaucratic regime. Even the czar and his family were reported to have been included among those who are ordered detained. In the case of the former ruler, his "detention," judging from Petrograd advices, is to be in the imperial palace at Tsarko-Seio.

At least one high dignitary of the Holy Russian church, Rajef, chief of the holy synod, has been arrested, with a former premier, Skovozoo and several leaders of the "black band," the inner circle of bureaucrats.

Advices late today added to this list of prisoners the names of General Gondatti, governor general of the province of Amur and General Neatchenkoff, a troop commander in the same province. Presumably these two officials refused to renounce their allegiance to the royalist regime.

Khief advices today said the clergy there had made formal recognition of the new government.

MORE RUMORS OF A GERMAN REVOLT

Amsterdam, Mar. 21.—Rumors of a German revolution were circulated on the stock exchange here today. So far as was evident from undisturbed telegraphic connection of railway wires and regular arrival here of German newspapers, there was no basis whatever for the report.

The rumors, however, aroused excitement.

MOVIE PRODUCER AFTER RUSSIA'S DEPOSED CZAR

New York, Mar. 21.—An offer of 10,000 rubles a week (\$5,000) was cabled to Nicholas Romanoff of Russia today by Louis J. Selznick, movie producer, to come to America and appear in a film called "Behind the Throne." Selznick, once a penniless exile, is now a millionaire.

THAT LITTLE WHICH HE HATH SHALL BE TAKEN AWAY.



—Cesare in New York Evening Post.