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WAR ON AUSTRIA

Resolution Passes House By Vote Of 363 To 1.

Washington, Dec. 7.—War between the United States and Austria-Hungary was formally declared today. Congress, with one dissenting vote in the House, adopted and President Wilson approved, a resolution declaring the existence of a state of war between the "Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government and the Government and people of the United States," and authorizing the President to employ the nation's armed forces and pledge its resources to achieve victory.

After only one hour's debate, the resolution was unanimously adopted by the Senate with an affirmative vote of seventy-four. It was approved by the House 363 to 1. Representative London, the New York Socialist, casting the only dissenting vote. A few minutes later, Vice President Marshall and Speaker Clark had signed the document and sent it to the White House, where President Wilson attached his signature with Secretary Tamm and Assistant Secretary Forester as the only witnesses.

In accord with President Wilson's suggestion action in respect to Turkey and Bulgaria, Germany's other allies, were left to the future. Widespread demand in Congress for their inclusion in the declaration was indicated in both Senate and House debates, but when the roll call came, the President's advice was followed in a demonstration of American unity and harmony. Representative London, who cast the one negative vote, explained his opposition by stating that he was pledged to that course by the Socialist party.

Debate in both houses was unexpectedly brief, lasting only an hour in the Senate and only two hours and forty minutes in the House. Also, in sharp contrast to the discussion which preceded the war declaration against Germany last April it was almost devoid of spectacular features.

Senator Stone, who had charge of the resolution, and Senators (Graham, Norris and Vandaman, who also voted against the German declaration, today joined the majority. A fifth, former Senator Lane, of Oregon, has since died.

Senator La Follette, who also opposed war with Germany, was absent when the roll call was taken and did not vote.

Necessity for cooperative military action of the Allies was the principal reason advanced in debate for immediate passage of the Austrian resolution. Senator Stone said American troops might soon face Austrian forces through extension of the western front to Italy by the inter-Allied war council.

Urging unanimous endorsement of the resolution and deploring any action which might embarrass the President or any effort to amend the resolution to include Turkey and Bulgaria, Senator Lodge, senior Republican member of the foreign relations committee, gave reasons why, he said, a majority of the Senate favored formal declarations against Germany's other two allies. He indicated the Turkish Government as a "curse" to modern civilization and expressed hope for its extinction.

At Cassatt School.
"Little Jack Horner sat in a corner, Eating a Christmas pie;
He put in his thumb, and pulled out a plum,
And said 'What a good boy am I.'"

On Thursday evening, December 20th at 7:30 o'clock the public is cordially invited to attend the Christmas tree and exercises at Cassatt Rural Graded School. Each girl is requested to bring a "custard pie" which will be sold to the highest bidder.

The "Jack Horner" who purchases the custard pie will have the privilege of sharing it with his girl. The proceeds of the pies will be used for the benefit of the school. The exercises and tree will be free.

Cotton Ginned in County.

Up to December 1, 1917 there had been 14,578 bales of cotton ginned in Kershaw County against 9,406 for a like period one year ago.

THIRTEEN NEGROES HANGED

Had Paid Death Penalty Before Verdict Was Made Public.

San Antonio, Texas, Dec. 11.—A trampled clearing in a lonely mesquite thicket on the government reservation here, except for the ashes of two huge bonfires, showed no sign tonight that it was the execution place of thirteen negro soldiers of the Twenty-fourth Infantry today. The negroes, convicted of participating in the riots at Houston, Texas, August 23, last, were hanged at one minute before sunrise.

After dark last night, motor trucks carried the lumber for the scaffolds and a company of engineers to the clearing. The scaffolds were built by firelight. Motor trucks shortly after five o'clock this morning carried the condemned negroes and the officers and military guard to the place of execution. The trucks later carried the bodies to a place as indistinguishable as the execution site where the burial took place. Then they hauled back to Fort Sam Houston every piece of lumber used in the scaffold so that the site was clear before formal announcement of the executions had been issued by the southern department headquarters.

The condemned negroes had known of their fate since Sunday. Twelve of them sought spiritual council of army Y. M. C. A. workers. The thirteenth whose name has not been disclosed gave no inkling that he knew. Outwardly all were staid. They did not know the date of the execution, but last night they were taken from the cavalry guardhouse where they have been prisoners more than a month, and placed in separate barracks.

Aside from less than a dozen officers of the southern department and the sheriff of Bexar county, no one in the city or the army camps knew of the execution, date or place. The other defendants were ignorant of the fate of their companions until after the formal announcement had been made.

The condemned men were aroused this morning a few minutes before regular army reveille. The military guard had been summoned silently and no sound was heard in the camp where nearly 40,000 men were sleeping, except the purring of the army truck motors awaiting their loads. The negroes dressed in their regular uniforms as carefully as for inspection.

They displayed neither bravado nor fear. They rode to the execution singing a hymn, but the singing was that of soldiers on the march. Arrived at the clearing the song ceased, the men, shackled were helped from the trucks to the scaffolds and seated on chairs. A low "good-bye boys" addressed to members of their military guard who had been in charge of the negroes since they were brought here from Fort Bliss, was the only expression from any of the negroes.

The men's feet were bound. An army chaplain offered prayer. An officer called "Attention", and as on parade the negroes stood erect. They stood quietly while caps and nooses were adjusted and then stepped on the traps. The major in charge of the execution gave a signal and soldiers sprung the traps.

The negroes plunged nine feet to instant death.

No announcement has been made when the forty-one negro defendants given life sentences by the court-martial will be taken to Fort Leavenworth.

The men hanged, all enlisted men of the 24th infantry, were: Sergeant William C. Nesbitt, Corporals Larnon J. Brown, James Wheatley, Jesse Moore, and Charles W. Baltimore; Privates William Brackenridge, Thomas C. Hawkins, Carlos Snodgrass, I. B. Davis, James Divins, Frank Johnson, Risley W. Young, and Pat MacWhorter.

Of the others four were sentenced to dishonorable discharge from the army, forfeiture of all pay and allowances due, and prison terms of two years and six months. Five were acquitted and sent to join their commands.

In spite of the executions and announcement of the other sentences this morning the riot at Houston is not a closed incident. Investigation is still in progress and it is expected additional court-martials will follow.

Country in Grasp of Blizzard.

The cold weather which is prevailing at this time is the most severe this section has experienced this year. A slight snow fall has been experienced Camden for the past few days. It has remained frozen which makes walking difficult and dangerous. A shortage of wood and coal has caused many people great inconveniences.

Slight Increase in Sinkings.

London, Dec. 12.—A slight increase in the losses of British merchantmen by mine or submarine in the past week is noted in the admiralty statement tonight. Fourteen vessels of more than 1,000 tons were sunk, as well as seven under that tonnage.

The losses to British shipping by mine or submarine the previous week comprised 16 merchantmen of 1,000 tons or over and one under that tonnage.

RECORD FOOD CROPS

Wheat and Corn Show Increase But Cotton Falls Short.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Food crops generally with the exception of wheat established records in production this year and their value far exceeds that of other years. Cotton, however, caught by an early frost, suffered a sensational loss of approximately a million bales from early estimates.

Cotton production this year is estimated at 10,949,000 bales, a reduction of more than a million bales in the cotton crop from the last estimate made of the country, as shown in the final estimate of production issued today by the Department of Agriculture.

A killing frost before the middle of October, several weeks earlier than usual, was the cause of the million-bale decrease from the October estimate when the department forecast a crop of 12,047,000 bales.

Lateness of planting, because of dry weather, and the shortness of the season, due to early frosts, curtailed production of many crops.

Final estimates announced today by the Department of Agriculture show the great corn crop to have been damaged to the extent of about thirty-two million bushels by frost. Nevertheless, corn production established a record this year with 3,150,494,000 bushels, while its value, also a record, is \$4,053,672,000.

The wheat crop shows a decrease of about 9,000,000 bushels from previous forecasts. This year's crop is estimated at 650,828,000 bushels and its value at \$848,372,000.

Oats is a record crop with 1,587,288,000 bushels and a value of 1,061,427,000.

The potato crop is the largest ever grown with a total of 442,538,000 bushels, valued at \$543,865,000.

Other crops whose production establishes records are: Rye, sweet potatoes, beans, onions, cabbage and tobacco.

Rutledge County Defeated.

Kingstree Dec. 12.—Complete returns from the seven precincts in Williamsburg County voting yesterday on the proposition of cutting off a portion of the county for the formation of Rutledge County give a total of 823 against and 214 favorable to the proposition. The necessary vote to carry the election for the establishment of the new county was 358. The proposition is defeated in Williamsburg County by a substantial margin.

A Correction.

We were in error last week in stating that Mr. Geo. H. Dunnell had returned to Camden to manage the Kirkwood stables for the season. He has rented the old Latham stables on lower Broad Street and will operate them for the season.

The Starving Armenians.

The Committee of Relief gives us so many incidents of suffering that some conception of the need must after a while stir us to action. We are told how tender hearted American women have been compelled to steel themselves against the sight of children in the street dying for lack of food—to pass by without helping, having no resources to warrant adding one more to the number already being fed.

The following contributions this week are gratefully acknowledged:

C. J. Shannon, Jr.	\$5.00
Miss Sarah Boykin	4.00
From the boxes:	
Bank of Camden	1.10
G. C. Bruce	1.00
Sheheen and Bro.	.92
First National Bank	.60
Phillips & Co.	.30
Candy Kitchen	.25
Lang's Grocery	.10
W. R. Zemp	.05
Previously acknowledged	146.68
Total	\$159.95

All contributions sent to me will be acknowledged in the Chronicle and forwarded to the National Committee.

F. H. Harding, Local Com.

BIG HAUL OF WHISKEY

Two Large Trunks Seized at Seaboard Last Thursday Night.

Sheriff I. C. Hough, Chief of Police A. G. Whitaker, and policeman L. T. Stewart last Thursday night seized two large trunks put off a passenger train at the Seaboard station here.

How the officers got on to the shipment coming here they would not say, but the contents of the trunks showed they were not wrong in seizing them.

The trunks were shipped through from Jacksonville and had evidently been packed by some one who knew his business. The total haul amounted to 21 gallons and one quart, making the largest haul yet made anywhere in this section.

Figured at the retail price of booze asked by the blinds at the present time—\$6.00 per quart—it would run into a money value of around \$500. The officers are practically certain they know who the booze belongs to, but they have not obtained evidence enough to make any arrests. Up to the present time no one has come forward to claim the trunks or the booze.

KERSHAW NEWS NOTES

Interesting Items Gathered From The Era of That Place.

W. R. Gregory left yesterday for Charleston to attend the sessions of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free Masons of South Carolina as a representative of the local Masonic lodge.

Mrs. Eugene Varu, of Omaha, Neb., is visiting her friend and former college-mate Mrs. S. O. Gregory.

The little son of Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin A. Barrett, of the Lancaster Cotton Mill village died at the home of his parents at that place Friday night of last week. The remains were interred at the Laurel Hill cemetery near Kershaw.

Mr. A. S. Karesch, who has been engaged in the mercantile business in Kershaw for the past three years, has sold his interest in the business and will leave today for San Antonio, Texas, to enter the aviation service of the United States Army.

Miss Louise Crouch, of Leesville, the former beloved and most highly respected teacher of the Abney school was married in Columbia November 17 to Mr. Wildan Sadler, of Camp Sevier, Greenville. Her marriage was quite a surprise to her many friends and was witnessed by only a very few of her intimate friends.

On last Thursday the boys of the Kershaw High School defeated the basket ball team of the Flat Creek school by a score of 13 to 9. On Friday afternoon a team of girls from the Kershaw High School was defeated by a team of girls from the Camden High School by a score of 4 to 9.

Dr. W. C. McDowell, T. K. Fletcher, R. L. Bell and Frank McDowell went to Atlanta to attend the Sunday services at the "Billy" Sunday tabernacle.

A number of Kershaw people went to Camden Monday night to witness the "Birth of a Nation" at the Opera House in that city.

Born to Mr. and Mrs. Leroy Hicks, Atlanta, Ga., Thursday November 6, 1917, a daughter.

Mrs. Frank Abel and daughter Mrs. Lester Young of Savannah, Ga. are visiting the former's mother Mrs. Watts at this place.

Mrs. A. Karesch, of Camden, spent several days here this week with her son A. S. Karesch.

Attention Registrants.

Beginning with December 15th and for the next twenty days thereafter (excluding Sundays and legal holidays) 112 questionnaires will be mailed out each day. The men receiving them had better go at once to some member of the Legal Advisory Board for Kershaw County, or else to some citizen in their community who has been designated to assist the Advisory Board in the filling out of these questionnaires. The members of the Legal Advisory Board are Mr. Thos. J. Kirkland, Mr. L. A. Wittkowsky, and Mr. Laurens T. Mills.

Below are given the dates and the order numbers of men to whom questionnaires will be mailed upon such dates. They must be back in the hands of the Local Board within 7 days from the date of mailing, or else the person to whom mailed will be placed in Class 1 and thus in the first class in order of liability to service. Anyone receiving a questionnaire had best immediately have filled out and return. The fact that a questionnaire is not received makes no difference so everyone had better observe closely the date on which his number is posted.

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| Saturday Dec. 15, 1917, 1 to 165, both inclusive. |
| Monday Dec. 17, 1917, 167 to 323 both inclusive. |
| Tuesday Dec. 18, 1917 324 to 447, both inclusive. |
| Wednesday Dec. 19, 1917, 448 to 571 both inclusive. |
| Thursday Dec. 20, 1917, 572 to 683, both inclusive. |
| Friday Dec. 21, 1917, 684 to 795, both inclusive. |
| Saturday Dec. 22, 1917, 796 to 907 both inclusive. |
| Monday Dec. 24, 1917, 908 to 1019 both inclusive. |
| Wednesday Dec. 26, 1020 to 1131 both inclusive. |
| Thursday Dec. 27, 1917, 1132 to 1243 both inclusive. |
| Friday Dec. 28, 1917, 1244 to 1355 both inclusive. |
| Saturday Dec. 29, 1917, 1356 to 1467, both inclusive. |
| Monday Dec. 31, 1917, 1468 to 1579, both inclusive. |
| Wednesday Jan. 2, 1918, 1580 to 1691 both inclusive. |
| Thursday Jan. 3, 1918, 1692 to 1803 both inclusive. |
| Friday Jan. 4, 1918, 1804 to 1915, both inclusive. |
| Saturday Jan. 5, 1918, 1916 to 2027, both inclusive. |
| Monday Jan. 7, 1918, 2028 to 2139, both inclusive. |
| Tuesday Jan. 8, 1918, 2140 to 2251, both inclusive. |
| Wednesday Jan. 9, 1918, 2252 to 2367, both inclusive. |
- Can Get Money Tuesday.**
Members of the First National Bank Christmas Savings Club are requested to present their pass books at this bank on Tuesday, December 18th, or any time after that date and get their money. Jno. T. Mackey, Cashier.

FROM NEW YORK TO MIAMI

Over Capitol Highway as Surveyed by O. M. Wells.

From New York run through Newark, Elizabeth, Rahway, and Metuchen to New Brunswick, thence the Cranbury Turnpike is followed to Hightstown. From Hightstown run to Windsor, disregarding the Trenton sign to turn right, and continue straight on to a macadam four corners; turn right and run through Robbinsville and Mercerville to Trenton which provides all hard surface road in good condition. From Trenton to Philadelphia the highway is also in good condition.

From Philadelphia to Wilmington the road is hard surfaced and in fair condition. Between Wilmington and Elkton, at the present time, there are a few short detours made necessary by bridge construction. These detours, of course, will be eliminated as the improvements are completed. Motorists can obtain a chart over the best road by applying to the clerk at the Hotel DuPont in Wilmington.

From Elkton through Baltimore to Washington the road is all open and in good condition. From Washington through Alexandria, Accotink and Lorton to three miles beyond Occoquan, the road is improved surface in good condition. From that point to Dumfries there is an eight-mile stretch of very narrow, rough road. That portion of the road from Dumfries, crossing the Chappawamsic Swamp has been somewhat improved by filling in, but is very narrow and apt to be slippery in wet weather.

The Government is now working on a four-mile stretch of new concrete road, leading to the Marine Camp at Quantico, and without doubt they will also find it necessary to make repairs on the Chappawamsic road as well as the Dumfries-Occoquan road, before the heavy trucking can be carried on between the trunk line and Quantico. The remainder of the route through Fredericksburg to Richmond is in very good condition.

The twenty-mile stretch between Richmond and Petersburg is full of holes and in such a poor condition that the springmakers on each end of the route are doing a rushing business. It seems a shame to have a road connecting two large and important cities such as Richmond and Petersburg, in a condition of this kind. Of course the above section has become badly worn during the last three months, due to the heavy traffic to the Military Camp at Petersburg.

From Petersburg through Dinwiddie and South Hill to Clarksville, is a graded clay road with a sand-clay top dressing which is in fair condition with the exception of a few gullies. From Clarksville through Oxford to Durham, N. C., is fair going with the exception of a few rough and rutted stretches. From Durham through Cary, Sanford and South River to Pinehurst, the road is mostly in good condition, though now and then a rough stretch will be encountered; the same conditions existing between Pinehurst and Cheraw.

For ten miles beyond Cheraw the road is unimproved and very rough, and careful driving will be necessary. From that point on through McBee, there is a stretch of 15 miles which is a credit to the town and the balance of the road to Camden is in fair condition.

From Camden, through Columbia, Batesburg and Aiken to within five miles of Augusta the road is in fair condition. From that point on into Augusta the surface is very rough and has been in this same condition for the last three years. The best road by which to reach Atlanta, from Augusta, is by way of Harlem, Thompson and Crawfordville to Athens, thence via Winder, Lawrenceville and Decatur to Atlanta.

From Augusta through Sylvania to Savannah, the road is now in good condition most of the way, and can be traversed without any difficulty. From Savannah to Darien conditions are fair, with the exception of one or two short rough stretches, and the Altamaha River is crossed at Darien by running the automobiles on flatcars which is accomplished without any trouble.

From that point to Jacksonville there are two or three places which are apt to be troublesome in wet weather, although much improved since last year, as convicts have been working for the past six months filling and grading. The soft dirt where the fills are being made, is apt to cause difficulties to the motorist in wet weather; however, the teams which are being used by the convicts are available for hauling out the car in case it becomes stuck.

From Jacksonville to St. Augustine, is all good brick, with the exception of four miles at the end of Duval County, which is now under construction and when finished will make seventy miles of brick surface between Jacksonville and Daytona. The last five miles before reaching Seabreeze, is somewhat rough and worn but passable. The twenty miles of beach from Ormond, down the coast, is also good at low tide. From that point to Miami, the entire east coast is in good condition; Palm Beach county having finished its section during the summer, makes it all hard surface.

The new bridge now under construction at Stewart, crossing the St. Lucie

GERMANS MAKE ATTACK

Fighting Near Cambrai Continued For Many Hours.

London, Dec. 12.—A fierce mass attack was made by the Germans today against the elbow in the bend of the British line between Bullecourt and Quant (about 10 miles west of Cambrai) says the Reuter correspondent at British headquarters in France. Their intention was to overwhelm their opponents by sheer weight of numbers. Owing to the staunchness of the British opposition, the attack only enabled the Germans to get a footing in about 500 yards of the British front line, when the attack was arrested.

Thus the attack was reduced to the limits of a very small local success at the most. The correspondent adds that it is difficult to get details, but the fighting lasted from dawn until 1 o'clock in the afternoon, and the continuance of firing after that suggested a British counter-attack.

In his description of the battle, the correspondent says: "What apparently was intended as a determined German attack upon the sector of our line east of Bullecourt was delivered shortly after dawn, and owing to the staunchness of our troops, was reduced to the limits of a very small local success at the most. The spot the enemy chose was the elbow in the bend of our line between Bullecourt and Quant."

"The Germans opened an intense bombardment as the first streaks of a frosty dawn were paling the eastern sky. Our artillery promptly replied with a barrage put down between the opposing trenches, in order to catch any infantry advance. "Assaulting waves of Bavarian troops came over in close formation. It was the manifest intention to throw great pressure upon the front of the attack and overpower the defenders if possible, by sheer weight of numbers."

"Fierce fighting ensued, but it is too early to get details since communications are always difficult during engagements. So far as I can gather, the Germans managed to get some sort of a footing in about 600 yards of our front line trenches before their attack was arrested. "The artillery duel continued until about 10:30 o'clock, when it died down, but the constant rattle of machine guns suggested that some fighting was still in progress, and it is quite possible that we were counter-attacking."

"This is really all there is to tell. It seems reasonable to believe that the Germans failed in their project, whatever it was, since the extent of their gain was so small and so indefinite in point of tactical achievement that it is difficult to regard it as representing any complete seam of operations."

"The weather remains fine and dry, so that open warfare is still possible at a time of the year when normally both sides would be settled into winter quarters."

The Show Tomorrow Evening.

Bright lines, blithe dances, funny situations, melodious tunes to say nothing of pretty girls galore, forms the combination which makes the big musical success "The Beauty Shop", the attraction billed at the Opera House for tomorrow, matinee and night a show worth while.

The piece was written by Channing Pollock and Renold Wolf, two well known journalists, who also contributed the books and lyrics of "The Red Widow" and "My Best Girl", while the tuneful scores which contains at least twenty real song hits was composed by Charles J. Gebest, who was also responsible for the musical numbers of the above plays.

The company presenting the play numbers sixty, mostly girls, and the production and costuming is said to be equal to any seen on Broadway or in fact any other place. The Opera House will be well heated and free from smoke.

Appointed District Deputy.

At the recent meeting of the Grand Lodge of Ancient Free masons of South Carolina held at Charleston, Mr. L. T. Mills, of Camden, was appointed district deputy for the fourteenth district. This office was formerly held by Mr. J. B. Wallace who has moved to Beaufort county.

River, will not be finished for another year which makes it necessary to use the ferry as heretofore.

From Daytona, crossing the peninsula through Orlando and Kissimmee to Tampa, the road is mostly in good condition, with the exception of a few places now under construction, the poorest stretch being from Apurdale to Lakeland.

From Tampa to Petersburg the road is largely of brick and in good condition.

Pleasure touring through the South, depends entirely on weather conditions, as unimproved roads, especially those of red clay become heavy and slippery after long rains. Hard rains help to improve the sand roads as the sand packs when wet.



Alice Southern in "The Beauty Shop" Opera House Saturday Dec. 15.