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WILSON'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS

Those Who Counsel Peace Asked to Take Advice Elsewhere

PRESIDENT ASKS FOR WAR ON AUSTRIA

President Wilson, in Ringing War Message to Congress, Asks Immediate Declaration of War On Austria.

Washington, Dec. 4.—The text of President Wilson's war message to Congress, asking that body to immediately declare war against Austria-Hungary, follows in full:

"Eight months have elapsed since I last had the honor of addressing you. They have been months crowded with events of immense and grave significance for us. I shall not undertake to detail or even summarize those events. The practical particulars of the part we have played in them will be laid before you in the reports of the executive departments.

"I shall discuss only our outlook upon these vast affairs, our present duties, and the immediate means of accomplishing the objects we shall hold always in view.

"I shall not go back to debate the causes of the war. The intolerable wrongs done and planned against us by the sinister masters of Germany have long since become too grossly obvious to every true American to need to be rehearsed.

"But I shall ask you to consider again with a very grave scrutiny our objectives and the measures by which we mean to attain them; for the purpose of discussion here in this place is action, and our action must move straight towards definite ends. Our object is, of course, to win the war; and we shall not slacken or suffer ourselves to be diverted until it is won.

When Shall We Consider War Won?

"But it is worth while asking and answering the question, when shall we consider the war won?"

"From one point of view, it is not necessary to broach this fundamental matter. I do not doubt that the American people know what the war is about and what sort of an outcome they will regard as a realization of their purpose in it. As a nation we are united in spirit and intention. I pay little heed to those who tell me otherwise. I hear the voices of dissent—who does not? I hear the criticism and the clamor of the noisily, thoughtless and troublesome. I also see men here and there flying themselves in impotent disloyalty against the calm, indomitable power of the nation. I hear men debate peace who understand neither its nature nor the way in which we may attain it with uplifted eyes and unbroken spirits.

"But I know that none of these speak for the nation. They do not touch the heart of anything. They may safely be left to strut their uneasy hour and be forgotten.

"But from another point of view I believe that it is necessary to say plainly what we here at the seat of action consider the war to be for and what part we mean to play in the settlement of its searching issues. We are the spokesmen of the American people and they have a right to know whether their purpose is ours. They desire peace by the overcoming of evil, by the defeat once for all of the sinister forces that interrupt peace and render it impossible, and they wish to know how closely our thought runs with theirs and what action we propose. They are impatient with those who desire peace by any sort of compromise—deeply and indignantly impatient—but they will be equally impatient with us if we do

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A GLANCE OVER THE COUNTRY

News in a Condensed Form to Be Read By the Busy Reader.

Kerensky is reported to be hiding Finland.

Greenwood will have a Community Christmas Tree this year.

In the Red Cross drive for Christmas the South's quota will be over 500,000 new members.

The president has allowed an advance of 35 cents a ton on hard coal.

Pershing says that "Germany can be beaten, Germany must be beaten, and Germany will be beaten."

The Boys Newspaper is an eight page weekly written entirely by boys in Chicago. It will soon be issued daily.

Courtland Smith will act as intermediary between the National Capital and the country newspapers of America to further the Thrift Campaign.

Two hundred Oglethorpe men are on the waiting list. They have not received their commissions or assignments yet and it is not known when they will be called to active duty.

LESLIE M. SWOPE.

The friends of Leslie M. Swope, son of Dr. and Mrs. George W. Swope, of this city will be pleased to learn that he has been elected as a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Society of Harvard University, where he is a senior. The Phi Beta Kappa Society was founded at William and Mary College in 1776 and is the oldest Greek letter society in America. It has chapters in the leading universities, the chapter at Harvard being Chapter Alpha.

The society endeavors to gather the leaders in scholastic attainment from each class, and also to raise the intellectual tone of the under-graduate body. Not more than forty men may be chosen to this society from each class. In the fall of each year, the college office sends to the active society, that is, to the eight seniors elected the year previous, the names of the twelve highest Juniors and of the forty-four highest Seniors, exclusive of those already members. From these names eight Juniors and twenty-two seniors are chosen for membership in the society. Of the seniors this year only sixteen were selected for membership, only this number having the requisite scholarship. Leslie M. Swope of Abbeville, S. C., and Rudolph E. Langer of Cambridge, headed the list, standing highest in scholastic attainment in the senior class.

The honor which young Mr. Swope has won is a very high one. It is evidence of intellectual achievement in one of the greatest universities in America and is the reward for conscientious labor and work well done, as is stated by the Harvard Crimson: "The Phi Beta Kappa man wins his laurels by long hours in the library, by hard ceaseless labor. He is in training for three and four long years and his honor comes to him without glamour. The love of learning is what drives him on; there is no publicity; is a simple reward yet one full of honor."

Mr. Swope will graduate this year and after that will take the law course at Harvard.

AMERICAN SOLDIERS ARE CAPTURED

British Retirement May Be Necessary In Cambrai Sector

ENEMY HOLDS UP ON ATTACKS NEAR CAMBRAI

French Report Successful Operations at Verdun, Where They Took a Few Prisoners.

American Field Headquarters in France, Dec. 6.—German troops fighting around Cambrai have captured a few Americans, according to unofficial word received here from the British front.

Headquarters has issued no confirmation as yet.

If the news is true, it is stated on authority that the number of Americans taken was small.

American headquarters has not as yet received a report of the Cambrai fighting, in which American army engineers participated. No announcement of casualties is yet available.

BRITISH RETIREMENT MAY BE FORCED AT CAMBRAI

London, Dec. 5.—British troops, acting in conjunction with an efficient force of Russians, have carried out a successful operation in Mesopotamia, Major General F. B. Maurice, chief director of military operations at the war office, announced today.

"For the first time since May, 1915, the Germans captured British guns at Cambrai," General Maurice added.

"We captured 138 of the enemy's guns at Cambrai alone—therefore, there is no reason for us to be ashamed at the balance.

"Some adjustment of the British line around Cambrai may be necessary as a result of the Germans' small gain in that section," General Maurice said. He described the south flank gain as most important because it menaced supplies.

"There is no doubt that Quartermaster General Ludendorff planned and supervised the Cambrai attack," General Maurice continued. "It was made simultaneously on both flanks and was followed by an attempt at penetration of the center. Both the stroke at Bourlon and in the center failed. To the south, the Germans succeeded, on account of the surprise nature of the attack, and broke our original line to a depth of 6,000 yards, overrunning our guns."

HUNS MASS TEN-DIVISIONS FOR BLOW AGAINST ITALY

Italian Headquarters in Northern Italy, Tuesday, Dec. 4.—(By the Associated Press.)—Great forces of men and guns have been massed by the Austrians and Germans in the Asiago section, according to reports reaching here tonight, and resumption of the offensive is expected. The reports indicate that the enemy is employing ten divisions of troops.

An exceptionally heavy artillery bombardment from the enemy around Asiago last night and through the early hours today appears to foreshadow the long expected resumption of the heavy enemy offensive from the north.

Cannonade was of extreme violence, the enemy using heavy as well as middle caliber guns. The first violent eruption began early last night. There was a lull toward midnight and then it was resumed with added intensity at 3 o'clock in the morning, lasting until 9 o'clock.

Heavy shells were rained on the whole range of Italian positions and were concentrated on the locations supposed to shield Italian batteries. The violence of the artillery action, left little doubt that it was a prelude to infantry advances in force whereby Field Marshal Conrad von Hoetendorf, who is directing the

U. S. TO TAKE OVER RAILWAYS

Government May Take Control of the Railways

NO SPECIFIC PLAN OF ACTION ENDORSED

Either Government Operation Or Suspension of Anti-Trust Laws Necessary.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Immediate action to effect national unification of the railroads, either by government operation or by suspension of the war of anti-trust and anti-pooling laws, a federal loan and regulation of security issues to permit more effective voluntary co-operation was recommended today by the Interstate Commerce Commission in a special report to congress.

Neither plan was specifically endorsed, but an implication that the majority believed the railroads might successfully work out their own unification, prompted Commissioner McChord to submit a separate report emphatically urging government control and saying "the strong arm of government authority is essential if the transportation situation is to be radically improved."

Any voluntary pooling plan would fail to meet war exigencies, he declared, because of the unavoidable influence of selfishness among roads.

There was no disagreement that competition among railroads must be diminished, if not altogether eliminated, to prevent a serious breakdown of transportation facilities under the war's strain.

The railroads' own proposed solution of the difficulties—an increase in rate in order to attract capital—was characterized as entirely inadequate by the committee. Even with more funds, the report said, the shortage of equipment could not be remedied materially because of the inability of industries to manufacture it. Doubt was expressed if sufficient capital would be attracted in view of the flotation of enormous war securities.

These considerations led the commission to what it considered an inevitable conclusion that a high state of efficiency could be maintained for the railroads only by thorough co-operation, elimination of duplication of routes and other elements of expense and energy, and elimination of the economic waste which comes from competition. This would mean it was pointed out, a complete reconstruction of the policies under which railroads have been developed.

If the alternative of government operation under the direction of the president be adopted, said the commission, suitable guaranty of an adequate annual return should be given, with provision by which the roads could reimburse the government for improvements, after the properties are returned to private owners.

MRS. SHILLITO HEARS BILLY

Mrs. Elizabeth Hill Shillito accompanied by her granddaughters, Mrs. J. M. Morgan and Mrs. W. S. DuPre, went over to Atlanta this week to hear Billy Sunday. We have not seen her to find out just what she thought of him, but we guess she was delighted with his style.

Austrian forces in this sector, hopes to realize his project of pressing down the valley leading to Vicenza and the open plains.

The latest reports show that the intense bombardment continues. The indications are that this is something more than a demonstration or feint and signals a new and strong offensive.

WAR DECLARATION ON AUSTRIA CERTAIN

BIG BATTLES IN NORTH ITALY

Allies Are Awaiting the Attack With Confidence.

While for the moment there are no infantry operations of great magnitude in progress on any of the numerous battle fronts, indications are not wanting that shortly the Cambrai sector in France and the northern line in the Italian theatre will again witness titanic struggles, with the Germans and the Austro-Hungarians the aggressors.

Already the Germans in the Cambrai region have brought up reinforcements with the object of blotting out the salient driven into their line by Gen. Byng's dash, a small portion of which they have reconquered, but at a fearful price. In Italy, along the Sette Comuni and the Asiago plateau, enemy guns of all calibres have opened fire on the Italian positions and several hill positions have been captured in small attacks. Both before Cambrai and in the Italian region the allied armies are awaiting with complacency the enemy's assaults.

While near Cambrai it is conceded that the British will be forced, by reason of the dangerous salient held by the enemy in their line to somewhat straighten out their front optimism is expressed that on the whole General Byng's forces will be able to give a good accounting for an yattacks the enemy may launch.

Likewise the menace of a dash by the Austro-Germans down through the hills and out upon the plains of Venetia has been provided for so far as the reinforcement of the Italians by the British and French troops and the bringing up of fresh guns is concerned. If Field Marshal von Hoetendorf, commander of the enemy troops, should be able to break the line and gain his objective, it will be only one of the most sanguinary encounters of the war.

In Mesopotamia the British and Russian troops have carried out a successful operation against the Turks, but just where has not been stated. This has significance, inasmuch as it is the first report of the fighting of the Russians with the British in this region since they formed a junction after the British captured Bagdad.

AUNT LEAH.

Aunt Leah Thomas, an old colored woman of the city, offered her services free to the ladies of the Red Cross during their dinner on last Monday. She says that the white people help the colored people when they are in need and she wants to do her bit to help with the war, so she came down and helped all day.

The next Liberty Bond issue is to be put out in March of next year.

Representative Osborne of California has a bill which would raise the salaries of all government employees receiving \$1,200 a year or less, 5 per cent. His bill would make the salaries of the representatives and senators subject to the income tax.

COTTON MARKET

Cotton ----- 28 1-2
Seed ----- \$1.08

Made by President the Recommendation Congress Will Adopt

BE REPORTED FOR DEBATE IN THE HOUSE FRIDAY

Congress Clears Deck for Immediate Action Against Austrians—Joint Resolution by Pres. and State Department Approved.

Washington, Dec. 5.—Congress cleared the way today for prompt response to President Wilson's call for a declaration of war with Austria-Hungary.

A joint resolution approved by the President and the State department declaring existence of a state of war between the United States and the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government from today at noon was introduced in the house and unanimously approved by the house foreign affairs committee. It will be reported tomorrow for house debate Friday, with final action in the senate late this week or early next week probably.

Conforming to the President's recommendations the resolution which authorizes and directs employment of the Nation's armed forces against Austria and pledges the country's resources to victory, applies to Austria alone. Germany's other allies, Turkey and Bulgaria, are not mentioned.

As perfected by the house committee and ordered reported without a dissenting vote, the resolution reads as follows:

"Whereas, the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian Government has severed diplomatic relations with the government of the United States of America, and has committed acts of war against the government and the people of the United States of America, among which are its adherence to the policy of ruthless submarine warfare adopted by its ally, the Imperial German Government with which the United States of America is at war and by giving to its ally active support and aid on both land and sea in the prosecution of war against the government and people of the United States of America, Therefore: be it

"Resolved, By the senate and the house of representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That a state of war be and is hereby declared to exist and to have existed since noon of the 5th day of December, 1917, between the United States of America and the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian government; And that the President be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to employ the entire naval and military forces of the United States and the resources of the government to carry on war against the Imperial and Royal Austro-Hungarian government, and to bring the conflict to a successful determination all the resources of the country are hereby pledged by the Congress of the United States."

Although sentiment remain strong in both branches to have the war declaration extended to Turkey and Bulgaria, approval of the resolution as it stands is regarded as virtually certain. Reasons given confidently today to Chairman Stone and Flood and which probably will be made public in debate, were regarded as convincing. Senator Stone and Representative Flood both conferred with Secretary Lansing and it was understood to be the secretary's conviction that no circumstance yet was warranting action against Turkey and Bulgaria.