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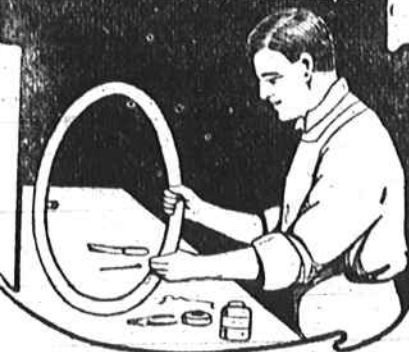
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PRESIDENT WILSON'S MESSAGE

National Preparedness Main
Theme of Head of Nation.
Submits Definite Plan to In-
crease Present Standing Force
of Regulars and For Four Hun-
dred Thousand Citizen Soldiers
Raised in Increments of One
Hundred and Thirty-three
Thousand.

FOLLOWING is the message of
President Wilson delivered at a
joint session of the senate and
house at the beginning of the
sixty-fourth congress:

Gentlemen of the Congress—Since I
last had the privilege of address-
ing you on the state of the Union the war
of nations on the other side of the sea,
which had then only begun to disclose
its portentous proportions, has extend-
ed its threatening and sinister scope
until it has swept within its flame
some portion of every quarter of the
globe, not excepting our own hemi-
sphere, has altered the whole face of
international affairs, and now presents
a prospect of reorganization and re-
construction such as statesmen and
peoples have never been called upon
to attempt before.

The president tells how this country
practiced neutrality and declares that
he hopes that when the time comes
for readjustment and recuperation this
country will be of infinite service. Re-
ferring to Central and South American
problems, the president declares that
we should retain unabated the spirit
which has inspired us throughout the
whole life of our government and
which was so frankly put into words
by President Monroe.

We have been put to the test in the
case of Mexico, and we have stood the
test. Whether we have benefited Mex-
ico by the course we have pursued re-
mains to be seen. Her fortunes are in
her own hands. But we have at least
proved that we will not take advan-
tage of her in her distress and under-
take to impose upon her an order and
government of our own choosing. Lib-
erty is often a fierce and intractable
thing, to which no bounds can be set
and to which no bounds of a few
men's choosing ought ever to be set.
Every American who has drunk at the
true fountains of principle and tradi-
tion must subscribe without reserva-
tion to the high doctrine of the Vir-
ginia bill of rights, which in the great
days in which our government was set
up was everywhere among us accept-
ed as the creed of free men. That doc-
trine is, "That government is or ought
to be instituted for the common bene-
fit, protection and security of the peo-
ple, nation or community;" that "of
all the various modes and forms of
government, that is the best which is
capable of producing the greatest de-
gree of happiness and safety and is
most effectually secured against the
danger of maladministration, and that
when any government shall be found
inadequate or contrary to these pur-
poses a majority of the community
have an inalienable, inalienable and
indefeasible right to reform, alter or
abolish it in such manner as shall be
judged most conducive to the public
weal." We have unhesitatingly ap-
plied that heroic principle to the case
of Mexico and now hopefully await
the rebirth of the troubled republic,
which had so much of which to purge
itself and so little sympathy from any
outside quarter in the radical but ne-
cessary process. We will aid and be-
friend Mexico, but we will not coerce
her, and our course with regard to her
ought to be sufficient proof to all Amer-
ica that we seek no political suzerainty
or selfish control.

PAN-AMERICANISM HAS
NONE OF EMPIRE'S SPIRIT.

Economic Adjustments Inevitable With-
in the Next Generation.

The moral is that the states of Amer-
ica are not hostile rivals, but co-op-
erating friends, and that their grow-
ing sense of community of interest,
alike in matters political and in mat-
ters economic, is likely to give them a
new significance as factors in interna-
tional affairs and in the political his-
tory of the world. It presents them as
in a very deep and true sense a unit
in world affairs, spiritual partners,
standing together, because thinking to-
gether, quick with common sympathies
and common ideals. Separated, they
are subject to all the cross currents of
the confused politics of a world of hos-
tile rivalries; united in spirit and pur-
pose, they cannot be disappointed of
their peaceful destiny.

This is pan-Americanism. It has none
of the spirit of empire in it. It is the
embodiment, the effectual embodiment,
of the spirit of law and independence
and liberty and mutual service.

The president calls attention to the
meeting in Washington recently of
representatives of the pan-American
republics and says that economic ad-
justment is inevitable in the next gen-
eration.

No one who really comprehends the
spirit of the great people for whom we
are appointed to speak can fail to per-
ceive that their passion is for peace,
their genius best displayed in the prac-
tice of the arts of peace. Great democ-
racies are not belligerent. They do not
seek or desire war. Their thought is



Photo by American Press Association
PRESIDENT WILSON'S LATEST
PICTURE.
(From snapshot taken on Nov. 26.)

of individual liberty and of the free
labor that supports life and the un-
censored thought that quickens it.
Conquest and dominion are not in our
reckoning or agreeable to our prin-
ciples. But just because we demand an
undisturbed government of our own
upon our own principles of right and
liberty, we resent, from whatever
quarter it may come, the aggression we
ourselves will not practice. We insist
upon security in prosecuting our self-
chosen lines of national development.
We do more than that. We demand it
also for others. We do not confine our
enthusiasm for individual liberty and
free national development to the in-
cidents and movements of affairs which
affect only ourselves. We feel it where-
ever there is a people that tries to walk
in these difficult paths of independence
and right. From the first we have
made common cause with all partisans
of liberty on this side the sea and have
deemed it as important that our neigh-
bors should be free from all outside
domination as that we ourselves should
be; have set America aside as a whole
for the uses of independent nations and
political freedom.

Out of such thoughts grow all our
policies. We regard war merely as a
means of asserting the rights of a peo-
ple against aggression. And we are
as fiercely jealous of coercive or dicta-
torial power within our own nation
as of aggression from without. We
will not maintain a standing army ex-
cept for uses which are as necessary
in times of peace as in times of war.

SUGGESTS BROAD PLAN
FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE.

Increase Standing Regular Force—Four
Hundred Thousand Citizen Soldiers.

But war has never been a mere mat-
ter of men and guns. It is a thing of
disciplined might. If our citizens
are ever to fight effectively upon a
sudden summons, they must know
how modern fighting is done, and what
to do when the summons comes to
render themselves immediately avail-
able and immediately effective. And
the government must be their servant
in this matter, must supply them with
the training they need to take care of
themselves and of it. The military
arm of their government, which they
will not allow to direct them, they may
properly use to serve them and make
their independence secure, and not
their own independence merely, but
the rights also of those with whom
they have made common cause, should
they also be put in jeopardy. They
must be fitted to play the great role
in the world, and particularly in this
hemisphere, for which they are qual-
ified by principle and by chastened am-
bition to play.

It is with these ideals in mind that
the plans of the department of war for
more adequate national defense were
conceived which will be laid before
you, and which I urge you to sanction
and put into effect as soon as they can
be properly scrutinized and discussed.
They seem to me the essential first
steps, and they seem to me for the
present sufficient.

They contemplate an increase of the
standing force of the regular army
from its present strength of 5,023 offi-
cers and 102,985 enlisted men of all
services to a strength of 7,136 officers
and 134,707 enlisted men, or 141,843
all told, all services, rank and file, by
the addition of fifty-two companies of
coast artillery, fifteen companies of en-
gineers, ten regiments of infantry, four
regiments of field artillery and four
aero squadrons, besides 750 officers re-
quired for a great variety of extra
service, especially the all important
duty of training the citizen force of
which I shall presently speak, 792 non-
commissioned officers for service in
drill, recruiting and the like and the
necessary quota of enlisted men for
the quartermaster corps, the hospital
corps, the ordnance department and
other similar auxiliary services. These

Declares That if Full Navy Pro-
gram Is Carried Out We Will
Have a Fleet For Defense That
Will Be "Fitted to Our Needs
and Worthy of Our Traditions."
Greatest Danger to Country
Comes From Within Our Bor-
ders.

are the additions necessary to render
the army adequate for its present du-
ties, duties which it has to perform
not only upon our own continental
coasts and borders and at our interior
army posts, but also in the Philippines,
in the Hawaiian Islands, at the isthmus
and in Porto Rico.

By way of making the country ready
to assert some part of its real power
promptly and upon a larger scale
should occasion arise the plan also
contemplates supplementing the army
by a force of 400,000 disciplined citi-
zens, raised in increments of 133,000 a
year throughout a period of three
years. This it is proposed to do by a
process of enlistment under which the
serviceable men of the country would
be asked to bind themselves to serve
with the colors for purposes of train-
ing for short periods throughout three
years and to come to the colors at call
at any time throughout an additional
"furlough" period of three years. This
force of 400,000 men would be pro-
vided with personal accoutrements as
fast as enlisted and their equipment
for the field made ready to be supplied
at any time. They would be assem-
bled for training at stated intervals at
convenient places in association with
suitable units of the regular army.
Their period of annual training would
not necessarily exceed two months in
the year.

The president says it is up to the
patriotic young men of the country to
respond to this call.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR GREATER NAVY.

Always Looked to It as Our First and
Chief Line of Defense.

The program which will be laid be-
fore you by the secretary of the navy
is similarly conceived. It involves only
a shortening of the time within which
plans long matured shall be carried
out, but it does make definite and ex-
plicit a program which has heretofore
been only implicit, held in the minds of
the committees on naval affairs and
disclosed in the debates of the two
houses, but nowhere formulated or for-
mally adopted. It seems to me very
clear that it will be to the advantage
of the country for the congress to adopt
a comprehensive plan for putting the
navy upon a final footing of strength
and efficiency and to press that plan
to completion within the next five
years. We have always looked to the
navy of the country as our first and
chief line of defense; we have always
seen it to be our manifest course of
prudence to be strong on the seas.
Year by year we have been creating a
navy which now ranks very high in-
deed among the navies of the maritime
nations. We should now definitely de-
termine how we shall complete what
we have begun and how soon.

The program to be laid before you
contemplates the construction within
five years of ten battleships, six battle
cruisers, ten scout cruisers, fifty de-
stroyers, fifteen fleet submarines,
eighty-five coast submarines, four gun-
boats, one hospital ship, two ammu-
nition ships, two fuel oil ships and one
repair ship. It is proposed that of this
number we shall the first year provide
for the construction of two battleships,
two battle cruisers, three scout cruisers,
fifteen destroyers, five fleet submarines,
twenty-five coast submarines, two gun-
boats and one hospital ship; the second
year two battleships, one scout cruiser,
ten destroyers, four fleet submarines,
fifteen coast submarines, one gunboat
and one fuel oil ship; the third year
two battleships, one battle cruiser, two
scout cruisers, five destroyers, two fleet
submarines and fifteen coast subma-
rines; the fourth year two battleships,
two battle cruisers, two scout cruisers,
ten destroyers, two fleet submarines,
fifteen coast submarines, one ammu-
nition ship and one fuel oil ship, and
the fifth year two battleships, one bat-
tle cruiser, two scout cruisers, ten de-
stroyers, two fleet submarines, fifteen
coast submarines, one gunboat, one am-
munition ship and one repair ship.

The secretary of the navy is asking
also for the immediate addition to the
personnel of the navy of 7,500 sailors,
2,500 apprentice seamen and 1,500 ma-
rines. This increase would be suffi-
cient to care for the ships which are
to be completed within the fiscal year
1917 and also for the number of men
which must be put in training to man
the ships which will be completed
early in 1918. It is also necessary that
the number of midshipmen at the Na-
val academy at Annapolis should be
increased by at least 300 in order that
the force of officers should be more
rapidly added to, and authority is asked
to appoint, for engineering duties
only, approved graduates of engineer-
ing colleges, and for service in the avia-
tion corps a certain number of men
taken from civil life.

If this full program should be carried
out we should have built or building in
1921, according to the estimates of sur-
vival and standards of classification
followed by the general board of the

(Continued on next page)

Southern Commercial Congress
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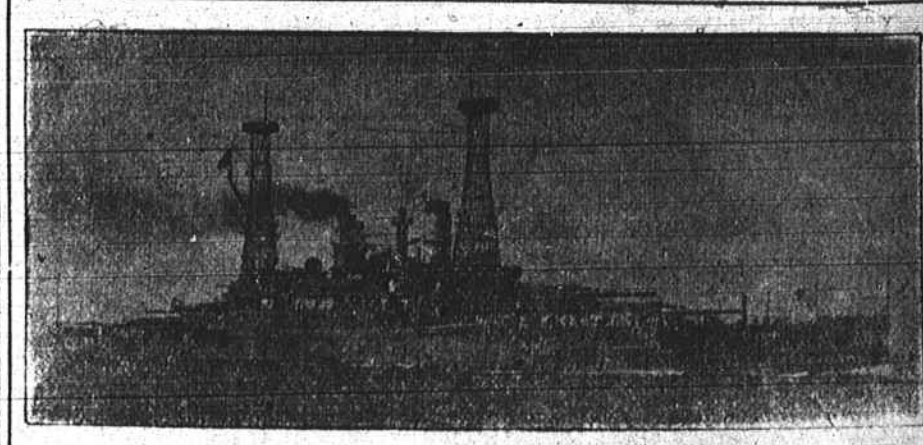
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DECEMBER 13TH TO 17TH, 1915

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discussing business welfare, both of the manufacturer and of the farmer.
Last year the Congress was held at Oklahoma City and the year before
at Mobile. This year the meeting is to be held at Charleston and very
many men of prominent business, social and public life have already ac-
cepted invitations to be present. At least four members of the Cabinet of
the President of the United States will be present at the meeting.

A squadron of the Atlantic Fleet, Torpedo Boats, Submarines and Torpedo
Boat Destroyers, as well as Dreadnaughts, will be in the Charleston Har-
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