

# The Laurens Advertiser.

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## UNITED STATES ON VERGE OF WAR

### WILSON ASKS FOR ARMY OF 500,000 FOR DEFENCE

**America to Vindicate Principles of Peace and Justice Against "Selfish and Autocratic Power"—Utmost Cooperation in Counsel and Action with the Allies --Mobilization of the Material Resources. Send Navy for U-Boats.**

#### ACTION DEFERRED UNTIL TODAY.

Washington, April 3.—The resolution declaring a state of war exists with Germany and directing the president to prosecute war against the imperial German government to a successful termination, was presented to the senate today. Senator Hitchcock, for the foreign relations committee, asked unanimous consent for its immediate consideration, but it went over under the rules on objection by Senator La Follette. When Senator La Follette objected to immediate consideration there was a stormy scene between him and Senator Martin, the Democratic leader. This was interrupted by a burst of applause from the galleries which Vice President Marshall had difficulty in checking. When order was restored Senator Martin moved that no other business be taken up. The senate adjourned at 1:03 p. m. until 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Washington, April 2.—President Wilson tonight urged Congress, assembled in joint session, to declare a state of war existing between the United States and Germany.

In a dispassionate, but unmeasured denunciation of the course of the Imperial German Government, which he characterized as a challenge to all mankind and a warfare against all nations, the President declared that neutrality no longer was feasible or desirable where the peace of the world was involved; that armed neutrality had become in-effective enough at best and was likely to produce what it was meant to prevent, and urged that Congress accept the gauge of battle with all the resources of the nation.

"I advise that Congress declare the recent course of the Imperial German Government to be in fact nothing less than war against the government and people of the United States," said the President, "that it formally accept the status of belligerent, which has thus been thrust upon it and that it take steps not only to put the country in a more thorough state of defense but also to exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the Government of the German empire to terms and end the war."

When the President had finished speaking resolutions to declare a state of war existing were introduced in both houses of Congress, referred to appropriate committees, and will be debated tomorrow. There is no doubt of their passage.

The objects of the United States in entering the war, the President said, were to vindicate the principles of peace and justice against "selfish and autocratic power." Without selfish ends, for conquest or dominion, seeking no indemnities, or material compensations for the sacrifices it shall make, the United States must enter the war, the President said, to make the world safe for democracy, as only one of the champions of the rights of mankind, and would be satisfied when those rights were as secure as the faith and freedom of nations could make them.

The President's address was sent in full to Germany by a German official news agency for publication in that country. The text also went to England and a summary of its contents was sent around the world to other nations.

To carry on an effective warfare against the German government which he characterized as a "natural foe to liberty," the President recommended:

Utmost practical co-operation in counsel and action with the governments already at war with Germany.

Extension of liberal financial credits to those governments so that the resources of America may be added so far as possible to theirs.

Organization and mobilization of all the material resources of the country.

Full equipment of the navy, particularly for means of dealing with submarine warfare.

An army of at least 500,000 men, based on the principle of universal liability to service, and the authorization of additional increments of 500,000 each as they are needed or can be handled in training.

Raising necessary money for the United States government, so far as possible without borrowing and on the basis of equitable taxation.

All preparations, the President urged, should be made in such way as not to check the flow of war supplies to the nations already in the field against Germany.

Measures to accomplish all these ends the President told Congress, would be presented with the best thought of the executive departments which will be charged with the conduct of the war and he besought consideration for them in that light.

### WILSON TO PARDON SEVERAL THOUSAND

Prosecutions where Suspensions of Sentences Nullified by Supreme Court.

Washington, March 31.—Attorney General Gregory announced tonight that President Wilson would exercise clemency in a large number of federal prosecutions where suspension of sentences had been nullified by the Supreme Court's recent opinion holding such suspensions illegal.

Clemency will be exercised, the attorney general said, without applications being made, in those cases where pleas of guilty were entered or verdicts of guilty returned prior to June 15, 1916, but no sentences pronounced; and in those cases where the sentence imposed was less than the period between the date of imposition and June 15, 1917.

The number who will receive pardons or commutations under the ruling probably will run into the thousands. Many of them have been at liberty for long periods, and the president is understood to feel that the new business and personal relations they have been permitted to build up because of clemency by the courts should not be broken down. Under the supreme court opinion all of them would have been compelled to but for the president's intervention to return to custody.

Attorney General Gregory issued this statement:

"The supreme court on December 4, 1916, without any dissent, in the case of Ex-Parte United States, petitioner (the Killits case) decided that United States District judges had no power to suspend the imposition of sentence or the execution of sentence, except for the purpose of disposing of judicial questions. Only a portion of the district judges claimed the right to exercise such a power and the Killits case was instituted by the government for the purpose of settling the question and obtaining uniformity in the administration of the criminal laws.

### SMITH & LITTLE SELLING OUT.

Popular Clothing Firm to go Out of Business at Once.

Smith & Little, a well known gent's furnishing establishment of the city, have decided to sell out their stock completely and go out of business. Their determination to sell out was due to the apparent certainty of war. Mr. Smith, the senior member of the firm, is second lieutenant in the local National Guard company, which expects a call now at any time, and Mr. Little, the other member of the firm, feeling that his absence would greatly handicap the business, they decided to sell out. This store has only been in business for about one year but during that time they have built up an excellent trade. Shortly after going into business last summer Mr. Smith was called to the colors and served for six months on the Mexican border. He has thus had the hard luck of being away from his business practically all of the time since its organization.

### GUN CLUB ELECTS OFFICERS.

Held Meeting Last Week at Club House for the Purpose.

At a meeting held last week at the Gun Club the following officers were elected to serve during the coming year: President, Dr. C. P. Vincent; Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. D. B. Swygert; Trap Manager, Mr. Will Waldrop. The club has been in operation now for over a month and has about thirty enthusiastic members. The club meets at the traps every Thursday afternoon and usually a large crowd is present to join in the sport.

### Death of an Infant.

The infant child of Mr. and Mrs. Charles K. Finkbeiner died at the home of its parents in this city Tuesday and was buried in the cemetery here Thursday morning. The child was about three months old. Mr. Finkbeiner is a son of Supt. Finkbeiner, of the glass works, and is himself an employee there. The parents have the sympathy of the community in their bereavement.

### SENATE OF FRANCE SHOWS ITS WRATH

Continue War Until German Imperialism and Militarism Definitely Crushed. Hatred Now a Holy Duty.

Paris, April 1.—The Senate yesterday showed its wrath at the devastations in northern France by voting a resolution denouncing the civilized world the acts of the Germans in demanding that the authors be punished, and resolving to continue the war until German imperialism and militarism are definitely crushed.

Former Premier Viviani participated in the discussion.

Senator Cheron said that Germany, as a signatory of The Hague conventions, gave a guarantee against the abuse of person or property. This had been treated as a simple scrap of paper, he said, and it would be necessary to go back ages to find such acts of savagery and devastation as the committee found in northern France.

"We visited a number of cities and about fifty villages," said Senator Cheron. "Everywhere it is pillaged and systematic devastation. In a German cemetery we found a statue of peace. It is true that in the same cemetery a tomb was violated, a coffin opened and emptied of its remains and filled with filth.

"At Chauney the Germans destroyed everything by fire and explosions. There remained nothing of this city except a suburb. In this suburb the Germans concentrated the inhabitants of a certain number of localities and then bombarded the suburb, making a number of victims. For these crimes there must be triple punishment, that of the international law, penal law and the victory of civilization.

"No one today would think of making peace with such criminals; any transaction would be treason. The hatred against Germany is the most holy of duties."

Minister Viviani, in the name of the government, associated himself with the conclusions of Senator Cheron, saying:

"Thefts, incendiarism and assassinations constitute not only attacks on international honor, but are crimes of common law which must be the object of enforcement. They are derived from the mediocre physiology of the Germans."

### REVIVAL CLOSED THURSDAY.

Wonderfully Interesting Ten Day Meeting Came to an End Thursday Evening.

A wonderfully interesting ten day revival meeting came to a close at the first Baptist church last Thursday evening with a soul stirring service. The meeting was productive of a great deal of good, many additions being made to the church and a new spirit aroused in religious matters. More than 70 members were added to the roll of this church and other denominations of the city benefitted proportionately.

The services were conducted by Rev. M. E. Dodd, D. D., of Shreveport, La., and the song services were led by Rev. P. A. Bower, of Albany, N. Y. At the conclusion of the service Thursday night the large audience, in retiring from the church, filed by the pulpit and said good-bye to the two ministers.

### WOULD SERVE NATION.

McAdoo's Three Sons Volunteer for Naval Duty.

Washington, March 30.—Secretary McAdoo's three sons have volunteered for service in the naval reserve in case of war. Francis McAdoo, a New York lawyer, besides volunteering has given the government the fast motor boat Adroit for a submarine chaser. William G. McAdoo, Jr., a senior at Princeton, will leave college immediately to serve in the aviation section. Robert H. McAdoo, the secretary's youngest son, will leave school as soon as called upon.

### Fair Association Meets.

Greenwood, March 30.—Secretary Brooks Marshall of the Piedmont Fair association has issued notices of the annual meeting of the stockholders of the association to be held in the city hall here next Monday, April 2.

### ANNUAL COUNTY SCHOOL FAIR TO BE HELD FRIDAY, APRIL 13

Reports From the County Schools Indicate That Much Interest is Being Taken in the Fair and That a Large Crowd will be in Attendance.

- \* I—Literary Contest—10 o'clock at Laurens graded school building.
- \* II—Declamation Contest—10 o'clock in Laurens graded school chapel and Baptist S. S. room.
- \* III—Elementary Meet—10 o'clock, Laurens graded school campus.
- \* IV—Grand Parade—11:30 o'clock.
- \* V—Awarding of Blue Ribbons—12:30 o'clock, Laurens graded school campus, and Oath of Allegiance to United States flag.
- \* VI—Dinner.
- \* VII—High School Athletic Meet—2:30 o'clock, Laurens graded school campus.
- \* VIII—Viewing Exhibits—10 a. m. to 3 p. m., court house.
- \* IX—High School Oratorical Contest—8:30 o'clock, Laurens graded school chapel.

Preparations are in progress for the annual county school fair, which is to be held Friday, April 13. Instructions to teachers were sent out from the department of education several weeks ago and teachers and pupils have been busy in preparation for the annual event. Last week the preliminary declamation contests were held in the various sections of the county and by now the contestants who are to enter the many contests have been about decided upon. Reports coming into the office of the department of education indicate that the fair will be largely attended and be equal in interest and enthusiasm to previous events of the kind.

The instructions prepared by the department of education show that the 1917 fair will be conducted along the same line as previous fairs. The literary and declamation contests are to be held in the graded school auditorium, with the exception of the primary declamation contest, which is to be held in the Baptist church. The athletic contests are to be held on the graded school grounds and the exhibits in art and handwork are to be shown in the court house. The high school oratorical contest, as in past years, will be held in the graded school building at night and to this the customary small admission fee will be charged.

The parade this year will take on a patriotic air. United States flags are expected to be shown in profusion. Each child of the Laurens graded school has been provided with a flag to be carried in the parade and other schools will doubtless have large numbers of flags. The stores in the city are expected to make a patriotic display at the same time by having their stores decorated in national colors and by displaying flags on the front and top of buildings.

### Judges. Literary Contest at Graded School Building.

READING. First Grade, Room 7.—Conductor, Miss Harper. Judges, Mrs. Guy Garrett, Miss Mary Miller, Miss Bettie Watson.

Second Grade, Room 8.—Conductor, Miss Franks. Judges, Misses Nina Moore, Elizabeth McClure, Mattie Holland.

Third and Fourth Grades.—Conductor, Miss Clardy. Judges, Misses Maurie Simpson, Kiddie Arnold, Toole.

Fifth and Sixth Grades, Room 1.—Conductor, Miss Babb. Judges, Misses Maimie Byrd, Maude Langston, Carrie Langston.

SPELLING. Third and Fourth Grades, Room 2.—Conductor, Miss Workman. Judges, Misses Genie Aiken, Bernie Wallace, Lucille Cox.

Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Grades, Room 3.—Conductor, Miss Mary Simpson. Judges, Misses Martie Atkinson, Eva Shell, Mabel Moore.

Tighth, Ninth, Tenth and Eleventh Grades, Room 5.—Conductor, Mrs. Rop-

r. Judges, Misses Boozer, Mary Garrison, Chapella Dunlap.

### ARITHMETIC.

Third and Fourth Grades, Room 14.—Conductor, Miss Virginia Agnew. Judges, Misses Lottie Young, Madge McKittrick, Lillie Parson.

Fifth and Sixth Grades, Room 13.—Conductor, Miss McCants. Judges, Misses Nora Wilson, Ethel Willis, May Roper.

Seventh and Higher Grades, Room 11.—Conductor, Miss Nickels. Judges, Misses Corinne Aiken, Marie Langston, Mrs. R. T. Wilson.

### COMPOSITION.

First and Second Grades, Room 6.—Conductor, Miss Corinne Agnew. To tell the story, Miss Thames. Judges, Misses Ethel Simmons, Mary Wallace, Mattie McFadden.

Third and Fourth Grades, Room 7.—Conductor, Miss Hobson. To tell the story, Mrs. Jones. Judges, Misses Alma Garrett, Louise Harris, Druela Smith.

Fifth, Sixth and Seventh Grades, Room 10.—Conductor, Mr. Miller. Judges, R. S. Woodson, R. T. Wilson, Miss Sara Stuart.

Eighth, Ninth and Tenth Grades, Room 12.—Conductor, Miss Spruill. Judges, Misses Olive Counts, Mierce Armstrong, Rebecca Moore.

### HISTORY.

Room 4.—Conductor, Miss Roland. Judges, R. A. Babb, Mrs. Cresswell Fleming, Mrs. W. L. Gray.

### Sewing Contest.

Back Campus.—Conductor, Mrs. Swygert. Judges, Misses Bessie Todd, Lent Jones, Mrs. McAllister.

### Stories in Literary Contests.

Henry Bennett, chairman; Warren Bolt, Hubert Woodside.

### Exhibits.

Literary.—Judges, Misses Kate Simpson, Lexington; Miss Martha Hellams, Clinton; Miss Lois Erwin, Spartanburg; Mrs. N. B. Dial, Laurens; Miss Sarah Stuart, Greenville.

Manual Training, Woodwork.—Judges, Mr. Barnett, Mr. Sexton, Mr. Reid. Domestic Art and Domestic Science.—Judges, Mrs. Ferguson, Mrs. Nickels, Mrs. Clark.

### High School Declamation.

Judges, Col. William Workman, Chick Springs; Dr. Mann, Greenville; Dr. D. M. Douglas, Clinton.

### Declamation Contest.

For Girls.—Judges, Miss Nett Spratt, Greenwood, Mrs. Homer Blackwell, Mrs. J. H. Teague.

For Boys.—Judges, Mr. Templeman, Mr. Rankin, Mr. Fair.

### Elementary Athletic Contest.

For Boys.—Prof. Stoney, Clark and manager; assistants, Hugh Eichelberger, Harry McAllister, Earl Langston.

For Boys and Girls.—Miss Wofford, clerk and manager; assistants, Amella Parson, Carrie Lee Higgins.

### High School Athletics.

Conductor, Mr. Arthur Lee; assistants, Mr. Stoney, John Spratt, Tom Lake.

To entertain orphans.—Mr. Jeff Adams.

### GREENWOOD CHURCH DEDICATED SUNDAY

Dr. F. Y. Pressley, President of Erskine Theological Seminary, Preaches Sermon in Morning. Greenwood, March 30.—The new A. R. P. church here will be dedicated Sunday. The dedicatory sermon will be preached by Dr. F. Y. Pressley, president of the Erskine Theological Seminary, at 11 a. m. A fraternal service will be held at 3 o'clock in the afternoon and at the evening service the Rev. R. T. Kerr will preach. The new church building is of the bungalow type and is attractive in appearance and well arranged. It is located on Monument street almost at the head of Park street. The Rev. John T. Young is pastor of the church and has a growing congregation.