

UNITED STATES DECLARES WAR

AGAINST GERMANY---ACT RECEIVES LARGE MAJORITY--SIGNED BY PRESIDENT.

Washington, April 6:--The United States today accepted Germany's challenge to war and formally abandoned its place as the greatest neutral of a world in arms.

President Wilson at 1:18 o'clock (official time) this afternoon signed the resolution of Congress declaring the existence of a state of war, and authorizing and directing the Chief Executive to employ all the resources of the nation to prosecute hostilities against the German Government to a successful termination.

The act was done without ceremony and only in the presence of members of the President's family. Word was flashed immediately to all army and navy stations and to vessels at sea, and orders for further precautionary steps withheld until the last moment were dispatched.

The President signed the resolution with a pen handed to him by Mrs Wilson and which he will preserve. The President then went to lunch and later to the Cabinet meeting.

By proclamation the President announced the state of war, called upon all citizens to manifest their loyalty and assured Germans in this country that they would not be molested as long as they behaved themselves. Orders were issued soon afterward for the arrest of sixty ring-leaders in German plots and intrigues.

Complete mobilization of the navy, calling all reserves and militia to the colors, was ordered by Secretary Daniels as soon as the war resolution was signed. The War Department, already having taken virtually every step contemplated before raising a real war army is authorized, waited on Congress. Secretary Baker conferred with Chairman Dent, of the House military committee, and arranged to appear before the committee tomorrow to discuss the general staff army plans and consider the war budget of more than three billions.

The President went over all of the great preparatory measures with the Cabinet, discussing what has been accomplished and dwelling, it is understood, upon arrangements for cooperation with the entente allies against the common enemy.

The seizure of German ships laid up in American harbors was the subject of interested comment, and legal officers of the government began consideration of the question of whether the United States can confiscate the ships outright or must pay for them after the war. In any event, as soon as they can be made seaworthy the fine merchant fleet thus acquired will give America a merchant marine that could not be duplicated in several years and add more than 600,000 to the tonnage available for the transportation of supplies and munitions to the allies.

Word that King George and President Poincare had dispatched messages of congratulation to President Wilson was received unofficially. Only unofficial information, also, came concerning the action of President Menocal, of Cuba, in recommending a declaration of war against Germany by Cuba, and the growing sentiment for war in Brazil.

Foreign relationships of the United States today underwent the greatest change in the country's history, sweeping away practically all the international questions of the past two years and substituting entirely new problems. As a result, the State Department is being entirely reorganized and the great mass of routine which has overwhelmed even the highest officials, is to be distributed along new lines.

The first act by the department when war became a fact was to prepare copies of the war resolution and proclamation for all the foreign missions here for immediate transmission to their governments. Cables were sent to American missions abroad and full mail dispatches prepared to go forward at once. So much of this work had been foreseen that it merely awaited release on word that the President had signed the proclamation.

Instructions prepared several days ago were sent to the Treasury Department to cease transmitting details of the armament and armed guards on merchantmen entering American harbors, on the ground that henceforth no restrictions will be placed on such vessels. Announcement will be made shortly that all the allied war vessels have been given free admission to American harbors. It is probable, however, that with the seizure of German shipping here and the enlistment of the American navy in the patrol forces, the entente will withdraw virtually all war craft from this side of the Atlantic.

Negotiations are now practically completed for the admittance of American armed ships into neutral European harbors. All European neutrals are expected to receive them, except possibly Holland.

When President Wilson signed his proclamation declaring that a state of war exists, the United States, for the second time since 1814, entered war with an European power. While the United States is the first republic of the western hemisphere to join the ranks of the belligerents in the world war, there are indications that her step soon may be followed by others. President Menocal of Cuba has urged the Cuban Congress to declare a state of war exists between the newest republic of the new world and Germany. Anti-German feeling is reported high in Brazil after the sinking of a Brazilian merchant vessel, and the largest republic of South America also may join in defending herself against German methods of naval warfare.

Washington, April 6:--Methods of financing the war with Germany and of extending huge loans to the Allies constituted one of the chief subjects considered at today's Cabinet meeting.

Indications are that the first year's demands upon the financial resources of the country will run far in excess of the \$3,500,000,000 already asked of Congress, and may appropriate \$5,000,000,000.

Bond issues already authorized al-

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REWARD OFFERED FOR LABOR SCOUTS

ACTS OF DISLOYALTY TO STATE AND NATION ALSO TO BE SUPPRESSED.

Gov Manning has offered a reward of \$50 for the apprehension and conviction of labor agents, who are enticing negroes from this State to other States. The Governor in his proclamation sets forth the fact that false promises have been held out to the negroes as to the wages and other conditions in the North and other centres where they have been lured by false promises.

The Governor says that the negroes themselves are suffering because of the false representations, which are being made to them to induce them to leave the South and gather in centers where they are dying in large numbers because of existing conditions. He takes this action also because of protection to the farmers who are being inconvenienced in many sections by shortage of labor. The Governor also stresses the fact that this year above all others everything should be done to grow all the food stuffs and crops possible and he urgently asks that any one having knowledge of any person or persons enticing labor to notify him or officers of the law.

There is a State statute against enticing labor and this is called to the attention of the public.

The Governor sent word to each of the 45 Sheriffs in the State in offering this reward and urged them to use every means to put a stop to activities of labor agents.

In his communication to the Sheriffs the Governor also asked

them to report any act of disloyalty to the United States or to the State government. He stressed the fact that this country is now at war with Germany and evidences of disloyalty should be promptly suppressed.

LIEBENFELS CREW JAILED.

Convicted Germans Now Behind Bars.

Charleston, April 7:--The arrest of the eighth member of the Liebenfels crew sought by federal deputy marshals occurred this afternoon, and all the Liebenfels subordinate officers were lodged in the county jail, seven being taken into custody last night upon receipt of orders to this effect. Capt Klattenhoff is under close guard at a local infirmary, where he has been a patient since the sinking of his steamship in this harbor, January 31, an event which resulted in the conviction of the eight under officers, who were released on bond pending an appeal. Capt Klattenhoff has never been able to appear for trial. It is understood the Germans will be sent to Georgia, there to be interned in detention camp during the period of the war. They were arrested as alien enemies from aboard a German ship. The recent secret service raid here had no connection with their apprehension, it is stated. Other arrests of alien enemies are expected to develop here at any time.

To Meet at Georgetown.

The Woman's Missionary society of the South Carolina conference will hold its annual meeting at Georgetown April 25-29. Every adult and young people's society of Kingstree district is urged to send a delegate. Please send names of delegates by April 15 to Mrs B F Jones, Highmarket street, Georgetown, S. C. OSSIE EPPS, Sec.

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