

Speeds Up Summons For Extra Session

Wilson Issues Call for Congress to Meet April 2.

Possible That Actual War Will Be in Effect When Sixty-fifth Congress Begins Special Sitting--Believed That Declaration Must Come From Germany--News From Berlin Says War May Be Declared Within Next Forty-Eight Hours.

London, March 21.—According to private telegrams from Berlin to the Amsterdam Bourse, it is expected that a state of war with the United States will be an accomplished fact within 48 hours.

Washington, March 21.—President Wilson today met the constantly increasing probability of war with Germany by summoning congress to assemble in extraordinary session April 2, two weeks earlier than the date he had chosen before the latest assaults on American rights on the seas.

When the president addresses congress he is expected to show how a state of war actually has existed for some time because of the unlawful aggressions of German submarines.

Congress is expected formally to declare a state of war existing, vote a large sum, probably half a billion dollars, for national defense and clothe the president with authority to use the armed forces of the United States as it empowered President McKinley to deal with the menace of Spain in 1898.

Such action would not be a declaration of war except in a technical sense and whether the United States and Germany actually go to war in the fullest acceptance of the term will depend on what the imperial government does before congress is assembled or after it acts.

Dispatches from abroad tonight declaring that the German government expected a state of war within the next 48 hours placed an ominous aspect on the situation.

The president's proclamation follows: "Whereas, public interest requires that the congress of the United States should be convened in extra session at 12 o'clock, noon, on the 2nd day of April, 1917, to receive a communication by the executive on grave questions of national policy.

"Now, therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim and declare that an extraordinary occasion requires the congress of the United States to convene in extra session in the capitol at the city of Washington on the 2nd day of April, 1917, at 12 o'clock, noon, of which all persons who shall at that time be entitled to act as members thereof are hereby required to take notice.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States of America, the 21st day of March, in the year of Our Lord 1917, and of the independence of the United States the 41st.

May be Changes. Much to change the president's intentions or the course of the government in the crisis may develop before April 2.

President Wilson and his advisers in the cabinet and in congress have no intent that war shall be declared by the United States. By the hostile acts of German submarines they believe the imperial German government is actually making war on the United States and that it shall be recognized as such a state.

A Defensive War. In every sense, war, if it actually comes, will be defensive, free from ambitions of spoils or territory in

which the United States, the president has publicly declared, shall want nothing for itself and shall seek only to preserve the rights of civilization and humanity.

In such an occasion the United States might even demand actual participation in the hostilities on the European continent without becoming a political ally of any of the entente powers, simply casting its weight of men, money an dmoral influence into the battle against a common enemy.

Ports of the United States probably would be opened to warships of the entente navies; credits and the vast stocks of gold, food, munitions and other materials might be extended to all the entente powers.

It is not improbable that he will ask congress to declare a state of war existing, although there is some indication that he may only outline the situation fully and leave to congress the action which is accepted as unavoidable.

Meanwhile, every preparation for putting the nation's defenses in condition to meet a state of war is going forward.

Army Must Wait. The army plans are in a less definite state because of the uncertainty as to what part it will be called on to play.

The possibility of Germany extending submarine operations to the Atlantic seaboard has not been underestimated but it is recognized that when she extends her warfare from the barred zone to the 3,000 miles of broad Atlantic she so effectively weakens her starvation blockade of England that the announced object of the campaign of ruthlessness will of necessity be abandoned.

Next to war, the attention of the American government is on one other object—the internal situation in Germany.

With a military censorship screening the history making events transpiring within the German empire and equally screening from the German people the full meaning of events in the world outside, the real condition of affairs in that country guardedly reflected in dispatches from abroad commands close attention.

Murmurings of a revolt against autocracy, emboldened by the revolution in Russia; reports of food riots in Berlin, which are said to have necessitated the withdrawal of troops from the fighting lines; military successes by the entente on the Western front and in Asia Minor; the submarine campaign operating far below the efficiency predicted for it, all lead to the belief among officials here that possibly before congress can assemble to meet the situation, the world may be confronted with an entirely different set of conditions.

While it has been assumed by many that any aggressive action by the United States against Germany and in cooperation with the entente allies would be purely of a naval character, designed to aid in the extermination of submarines and raders preying upon congress, state department officials declared today that this country might take any and all military measures deemed to make effective its protest against Germany without actually entering into a formal political alliance.

Officials say that an army could properly be sent to Belgium to help in the restoration of that territory and to throw America's influence on the side of international law and order.

Mr. and Mrs. R. A. Easterling left Sunday afternoon for Barnwell to visit their mother, Mrs. Julia Easterling.

BETTER SCHEDULE

It is Possible That a Change Could Be Made.

The Spartanburg Herald of yesterday says that a meeting was held in Columbia on Wednesday to discuss the subject of an additional train between Spartanburg and Columbia. It is a fact that the Southern is now operating three trains a day each way between these two points. However, it would seem that a re-adjustment of eastbound schedules would prove satisfactory to Spartanburg, as well as to Gaffney, Blacksburg, Greenville and intermediate points, letting train No. 42, which now leaves Spartanburg at 10:40 A. M. leave Spartanburg at 7:40 A. M. and arrive in Columbia at 11:40 A. M.

It seems that this arrangement would be much more beneficial to everybody than the present schedule, and would be more likely to be consummated in view of the fact that the Southern is not very likely to put on additional trains unless the business would justify it, and it does not appear that there is an unusual amount of local business to be had between Union and Columbia.

High School Gives Play. The 11th grade of the high school will give a play, "Woe Two," on Friday evening, March 23rd, in the auditorium of the school building.

Revival at Mon-Aetna. There will be revival services at Mon-Aetna Baptist church beginning Monday night, March 26, and continue for two weeks.

Branden-Stutts. Of much interest to friends in this city and section was the marriage Wednesday evening of Miss Janie Branden and Mr. John Stutts, both of Union.

Lecture at Bishop School. I have been requested to announce that Mr. C. T. Stevenson, of Harriman, Tenn., will deliver a lecture at Bishop school house at Bishop school house on "The Signs of the Times" at 7:30 o'clock, Sunday, March 25th.

Purchases W. H. Barnes' Stock at Lockhart. The W. B. Terrell Co. bought the W. H. Barnes stock of general merchandise at public auction at Lockhart Tuesday.

Married at the residence of Mr. J. Van Kirby, in South Union, their daughter, Miss Anna Kirby, to Mr. Clarence Lowe, also of Union.

Missionary Sunday School Rally. The Mon-Aetna Baptist Sunday school will have a missionary rally Sunday morning, March 25, and have arranged a very pleasing program to be carried out by the children.

Fair Forest Chapter Undertake Good Work. Fair Forest Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, has undertaken a movement to honor the Union county soldiers of the Revolution.

Death of W. J. Rochester. Mr. W. J. Rochester of Jonesville died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. McManus, of Bamberg, Monday and his body was brought to Union the following day for burial in the Rosemont cemetery here.

At Episcopal Church. A preaching mission will begin at the Episcopal church Sunday, March 25th. Daily services 4:30 p. m. and 7:30 p. m.

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SUSTAINING ADAMSON ACT COURT TAKES NEW GROUND

Upholds the Eight Hour Railroad Law. Five to Four, With Dissenters Differing as to Reasons for Opposition.

Washington, March 19.—In an epochal decision holding congress to be clothed with any and all power necessary to keep open the channels of interstate commerce, the supreme court, five to four, sustained the Adamson law as constitutional and enforceable in every feature.

The immediate effect of this decision is to fix a permanent eight hour basic day in computing wage scales on interstate railroads for which a nationwide strike twice has been threatened and to give, effective from January this year, increases in wages to trainmen of about 25 per cent.

What ever should be the right of an employee engaged in private business to demand such wages as he desires, to leave the employment, if he does not get them and by concert of action to agree with others to leave on the same condition, "such rights are necessarily subject to limitation when employment is accepted in a business charged with a public interest and as to which the power to regulate commerce by congress applied, and the resulting right to fix in case of disagreement and dispute a standard of wages as we have seen necessarily obtained."

Agreement Reached Ends Controversy. New York, March 19.—With the nationwide railroad strike averted and the Adamson act declared constitutional the controversy that has raged between the railroads and their employees for nearly a year over the question of hours and wages today passed into history.

Appealed to by the president's mediators to yield on the ground of patriotism to the demands of the employees, the railroads just before daybreak today consented to an agreement whereby the employees receive eight hour basic work day and pay for overtime, the same as that proposed by the Adamson law.

Missionary Meeting. The Northern Division Institute will be held in Greenville, S. C., April 6th and 7th and I earnestly desire that Union County association will be well represented.

U. D. C. Meeting. The William Wallace chapter, U. D. C., will hold their regular meeting Monday afternoon, March 26th at 4 p. m., at Chamber of Commerce.

Low-Kirby. Married at the residence of Mr. J. Van Kirby, in South Union, their daughter, Miss Anna Kirby, to Mr. Clarence Lowe, also of Union.

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AUSPICES OF UNION'S FIRE DEPARTMENT

TOWNSHIP BONDS CARRY ALMOST TWO TO ONE

The vote Tuesday on the question of issuing bonds in the sum of \$125,000 for permanent road building in Union township carried almost two to one.

The vote was as follows:

Table with columns: For Bonds, Against, Total. Values: For Bonds 164, Against 59, Total 223.

The commission has already been named by the county delegation and is as follows:

A. G. Kennedy, E. W. Stone, Geo. W. Going, J. T. Bradley, G. P. Godshall, J. B. Betenbaugh and T. K. Foster.

PRESENTATION OF FLAG TO JOHNSON RIFLES

In April, 1861, the ladies of Union presented the Johnson Rifles with a beautiful flag and the presentation was quite an event in Union society.

The flag was made of blue silk on one side with palmetto tree and crescent and the other side was white with the inscription:

"Presented by the ladies of Union to the Johnson Rifles."

It was finished with gold fringe and was a most beautiful flag.

The Johnson Rifles, commanded by Capt. Wesley Goss, marched to the Culp residence (now Hames) and formed a line in front of the house; the ladies assembled on the piazza downstairs and the school girls upstairs.

Mr. B. Dudley Culp, on behalf of the ladies, presented the flag and Capt. Goss received it.

Mrs. Anne Hill assisted at the presentation and her granddaughter, Roberta Wallace, is president of the Jefferson Davis chapter, which has revived this story.

Mr. William Sanders was color bearer and he brought the flag back and kept it until his death, and it is now on exhibition at the Union Carnegie library.

Another incident connected with it is interesting. Mrs. Anne Jeter of Columbia is the only one left of those who helped to make the flag.

Mr. Culp was a soldier in the Mexican war, going from Chester with the Palmetto regiment. Upon his return he received a gold medal.

MUSIC CLUB ENTERTAINED.

Mrs. Spencer Perrin was hostess to the Euterpean Music club Monday, March 19th, and an enjoyable afternoon was spent.

It was moved and carried that the club donate \$5.00 to the Belgian relief fund.

Miss Louisa Duncan read an interesting article on Modern Operas and then told in an entertaining way the story of Madame Butterfly, the opera composed by Puccini.

The following selected numbers from operas under discussion were played from an Edison machine:

Musetta Waltz from Boheme—Puccini—sung by Anna Case.

Love and Music from Tosca—Puccini—sung by Marie Rappold.

Habanera—violin solo—Albert Spalding.

La Gitana Waltz—Bucalossi—Orchestral number.

Poor Butterfly—popular number sung by Elizabeth Spencer.

Paint Heart Never Won Fair Lady—Arthur Sullivan—sung by trio of male voices—Fish—Archibald and Chalmers.

Sibley's Superb Shows Have Been Engaged to Furnish All Attractions For Gala Week Beginning Monday, March 26

The Union fire department has closed a contract with Sibley's Superb Shows to furnish all shows, rides, free acts and riding devices for their benefit and Gala week, which begins next Monday.

Mr. Robson Barnett, general agent for the shows, was in Union yesterday and applied to the city council for permission to use the lower end of the City park for the midway and the permission was granted.

The fire ladders are very anxious to purchase a horse to enter in the fireman's tournament at Spartanburg in May and it is their intention to devote their profits to this purpose.

The Sibley Shows come very highly recommended as being far above the average carnival, having no immoral or suggestive shows and none of the unfair gambling devices seen heretofore.

The shows have ust concluded a week's engagement in Americus, Ga., for the Georgia State encampment of the W. O. W. and have received very flattering letters of recommendation and press notices from all parts of the South.

They carry eight shows and three riding devices, among which is the latest Coney Island sensational ride known as the "whip."

A free act of unusual thrills is presented by Prince Nelson, champion high wire performer of the world who is the only man who ever walked across Niagara Falls and claims to be the only performer who turns a back somersault on a high wire.

All shows will open promptly at 7 o'clock Monday and at 3 and 7 P. M. daily thereafter.

BOLL WEEVIL CONFERENCE HELD LAST SATURDAY

About 100 representative business men and farmers gathered in the courthouse Saturday to hear an address on the boll weevil menace by W. R. Elliott, district farm demonstration agent.

Mr. Elliott emphasized the fact that there was no doubt of the coming of the destructive agent, and urged the farmers to plant soy beans, velvet beans and peanuts.

A committee of five was appointed to take up the matter and devise plans to encourage the farmers soil building and feed crops and also to undertake to provide a fund by subscription to aid farmers in need of such aid in procuring the necessary seed to plant.

This committee is as follows: A. G. Kennedy, C. A. Jeter, E. Nicholson.

CHILDREN OF CONFEDERACY.

Company B, Jefferson Davis chapter, met with Landy Hames at the home of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Hames, on March 15th, and as it was near St. Patrick's Day, the color scheme of green was carried out.

An Irish flag adorned the president's table and bunches of shamrock were placed about the mantels and tables.

The program consisted of the song, "Carolina," by the chapter.

A sketch of Wade Hampton by Nelle Haile and the story of reconstruction and Gen. W. H. Wallace by Ashby Sawyer.

The story of the red shirts was read by Alec Garner and a red flannel shirt worn by Col. F. M. Mixson was shown by his grandson, Marion Mixson.

Thos. McNally gave a sketch of St. Patrick and an account of the presentation of the flag to Johnson Rifles in the sixties was read by the young host, Landy Hames. This account was prepared by Mrs. A. H. Eison, who was one of the school girls present at the presentation.

The Hames home was formerly the Culp home and it was quite a coincidence that this meeting should have been held there when the presentation of the flag was read.

At the conclusion of the program the guests were invited to the dining room, which was gay and festive with carnations and shamrocks. The center piece was a crystal vase of carnations and the favors were shamrocks and Irish pipes. Delicious refreshments were served by Mrs. Hames, assisted by Mrs. Evelina Rice and Miss Vivian Sarrett. The honor guests were Mrs. F. M. Farr, president of the William Wallace chapter, J. D. C. Mrs. L. J. Hames, regent of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Miss Isla Ellerbe of Jonesville and Bartow Culp, grandson of B. Dudley Culp, who presented the flag to the Johnson Rifles in '60 in behalf of the ladies of Union.

A BOX SUPPER.

There will be a box supper at Gault school on Saturday night, March 24. The public is very cordially invited to attend, and all ladies are requested to bring boxes.