

# WILL PLACE GUNS UPON U. S. VESSELS

WILSON DECIDES TO ARM SHIPS AGAINST GERMAN U-BOATS.

## EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS

National Body to Meet in Special Session April 16.—Desires Aid of Country's Legislators to Protect American Rights.—European War Toll Over Ten Million.

Washington.—President Wilson has ordered the arming of American merchantmen against attacks from German submarines. A proclamation was issued at the same time calling for an extra session of congress to convene April 16. The president said that he wanted congress in session to support him in matters collateral with the defense of our merchant marine. Both decisions came after the senate had passed resolution killing unlimited debate, and Secretary Lansing and Attorney Gregory had told the president that he had power to protect American rights, did he decide upon the course he should take.

### No Details Made Public.

No details of the armed neutrality have been made public, as the administration officials wish to avoid endangering American lives and ships by permitting the information to reach Germany. The president's decision came only after he was convinced that Germany was sincere in carrying out her ruthless submarine decree, and had made efforts to align Mexico and Japan against the United States in the event of hostilities between the two countries. The action taken is considered to be the unavoidable step in the policy adopted by the president when he severed diplomatic relations with Germany on February 3, and warned that the United States would not tolerate attacks on American ships and citizens in violation of international law.

### Issue Rests With Germany.

Regardless of the step taken, officials and senators declared that the issue still rests with Germany. Preparations for the arming of merchantmen have been completed by Secretary of the Navy Daniels. The secretary issued an appeal to the press, urging them that they refrain from discussing them.

The president's proclamation calling for an extra session of congress follows:

"Whereas, public interests require that the congress of the United States should be convened in extra session at 12 o'clock noon on the 16th day of April, 1917, to receive such communications as may be made by the executive;

"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 at the capitol in the city of Washington on the 16th 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 required to take notice.

"Given under my hand and the seal of the United States of America the ninth day of March in the year Our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and forty-first."

His decision to arm vessels came after he was told that the old statute, passed in 1819, cited in the senate as prohibiting such a step without congressional action, could not be applied to the present situation. He also feels that the nation is behind him, owing to the passage of his armed neutrality bill in the house and the known opinion of the majority of the senators. The armed bill, which was talked to death in the senate, provided an appropriation of \$100,000,000 to pay expenses of such a course. Regardless of its failure to pass, the government has enough money available for its immediate purposes, and congress will be asked to provide more at the extra session.

### Can Turn Guns Loose.

The state department's view of defensive armament is that the mere appearance of a German submarine or its periscope near an American armed vessel would entitle the vessel to take all measures of protection on the presumption that the submarine's purpose was hostile. This is based on Germany's announcement that her submarines would attack without

### Carranza Polls Huge Vote.

Mexico City.—General Venustiano Carranza was elected president of Mexico last Sunday by what is believed to have been the largest vote ever cast in the republic. Although the voters had the privilege of writing in or declaring any name they desired, General Carranza received all but a few scattering ballots. The estimated vote cast runs all the way from several hundred thousand to 1,000,000. Mexico will now have a constitutional president for the first

warning any belligerent or neutral merchantmen encountered within the barred zone. The attitude of President Wilson has been that no steps of a belligerent character should be taken and that if a state of war comes it must be through Germany's commission of acts in clear violation of international law.

### War's Toll Over 10,000,000.

Washington.—More than ten million men are recorded as killed, wounded, captured or missing in the European war in the first complete tabulation of official and authenticated semi-official reports of the various belligerents received here. Among the military proper 4,431,290 are reported dead; 2,598,500 wounded, and 2,544,500 captured and missing. Among civilians, especially on the Russian and Balkan frontiers in Armenia another 400,000 are figured as either dead or wounded through the war.

These figures are admittedly only approximate and in some instances necessarily several weeks old. They are not called exact in any sense, but are known to be so nearly so as to give a fairly reliable picture of the war's results. They depend for their accuracy first, on the official reports of the various belligerents which are certainly minimum figures and then on a careful checking with all available authentic information.

### Allies Lose the Most.

The entente's losses are given as 3,318,400, as against 3,384,800 for the central empire. One reason for the great discrepancy between the two is believed to be the relative unpreparedness of the entente, the disastrous retreats in France at the beginning of the war, in Russia from the Masurian lakes and the Carpathians and in Romania.

The entente's dead total 2,890,400, against 1,550,800 for the central powers; the entente's wounded total 1,675,500, against 922,000 for the enemies, and their captured and missing 1,652,500, against 912,000 for the central powers. These losses are based upon the assumption that in Germany 50 per cent of the total wounded return to the front and 80 per cent in all the other countries.

Russia is infinitely the heaviest loser so far, with a grand total of 3,084,200 men. France is next with 1,810,000.

### British Capture Bagdad.

London.—General Frederick Stanley Maude, in command of the entente forces in Mesopotamia, has dispatched the welcome news for the British of the occupation of the city of Bagdad, the chief Turkish city in Mesopotamia and formerly the capital of the empire of Calphs.

The fall of Bagdad, besides ending German hopes of near eastern dominion, based on a Berlin-Bagdad railway, and reverberate throughout the Mohammedan empire and, it is believed, will more than rehabilitate British prestige in the far east, damaged by the earlier loss of Kut-el-Amara.

Perhaps no more welcome news could come at a time when the British public for the first time, owing to the submarine war, is beginning to feel the effects of the war in a greatly reduced food supply, besides being thrown into depression by the revelations of the Dardanelles report.

### Scores Killed by Tornado.

Indianapolis, Ind.—A tornado swept over central eastern Indiana late last Sunday afternoon, killing more than a score of persons at Newcastle, a number in towns near here, and two children in Wayne county. The total number of injured will run over 200, some of whom are probably fatally hurt. The damage will total well over \$1,000,000 at Newcastle and several thousand dollars in Wayne county.

### Ohio Hit by Twister.

Cincinnati, O.—Three persons are known to have lost their lives, four others are probably fatally injured and a score or more less seriously hurt as the result of a tornado which wrecked thirty houses in the residential district of Hyde park in the eastern section of this city. Near Dayton, Ohio, one person was killed and a great deal of damage done by a tornado.

### U-Boat Warfare to Continue.

Amsterdam.—Dutch newspapers publish the following statement made by Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, the German foreign secretary, to a representative of a Budapest newspaper:

"As far as the United States is concerned, we have spoken our last word and the decision is in President Wilson's hands.

"We are determined to carry through the submarine war to the end. The results of unrestricted submarine war thus far have been virtually satisfactory."

Since 1911, when Francisco Madero received more than 300,000 votes, General Victoriano Huerta called an election in 1914 and declared himself elected, but later nullified the election on the grounds that an insufficient number of votes had been cast. His election to the presidency marks the climax to the efforts of General Carranza, who took the field against Huerta February 19, 1915, after Huerta had seized the executive power. The election was simplified by the fact that there is no vice president under the new constitution.

## CONDENSED NEWS OF INTEREST TO ALL.

### DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.

March 20-21—Royal Neighbors of Nebraska State Meeting at Fremont.  
March 21-22-23—State Chapter P. E. O. Annual Meeting at Fremont.  
March 21-22-23—D. A. R. Annual State Convention at Fremont.  
March 29—North Nebraska High School Declamatory Contest at Wayne.  
April 9-14—Annual State Bowling Tournament at Fremont.  
April 21-22—Missouri Valley Chiropractors' Association Meeting at Omaha.  
May 4—Group No. 2 Nebraska Bankers' Association Convention at Columbus.  
May 8-9—Knights of Columbus State Meeting at Alliance.

Frank Knapp, who brought 7,000 bushels of potatoes to Fremont, from his ranch in Kimball county last fall, has disposed of the last of them at \$2.25 a bushel. He received an average price of \$1.50 a bushel for his entire crop of 12,000 bushels.

Work on the brick exterior of the new Pathfinder hotel at Fremont has reached the fourth story. A large force of men is being employed in an effort to have the building complete by June 1. The building is six stories high and will cost \$230,000.

Announcement has been made that the Union Pacific Railroad company will build a new passenger station at North Bend. Work on the structure will begin with the opening of spring.

North Platte has just dedicated a junior high school building that was erected at a cost of \$58,000. The building is equipped with a "gym," manual training and domestic science.

Grand Island has purchased a residence for Bishop Duffey of that Catholic diocese, paying \$14,000 for the property. The bishop will move there from Kearney.

The Merrick county commissioners have hired a manager and will run the county farm themselves, giving up the plan of letting the farm out to the highest bidder.

The laboring men of Fremont have asked that a swimming pool and baths for the use of the public be installed in the new auditorium it is proposed to erect in the city.

Hoskins has just voted on a water works proposition for the fourth time, this time with success to the proposition. The bonds to be issued will be for \$8,500.

Joe Stecher of Dodge and Earl Caddock of Ault, Ia., wrestlers, are to meet on the mat at Omaha April 8. A fast match is expected.

Fred Schelede of Richland sold a shipment of hogs at the South Omaha live stock market which netted him \$14.55 per hundred pounds.

Citizens of North Platte will vote on three bond propositions totaling \$34,000, at a special election to be held on April 5.

A fifty-five acre farm located nine miles west of Omaha sold just recently for \$13,750, or an average of \$250 an acre.

Proprietors of shoe shining parlors in Omaha have announced that hereafter the price of a week-day shine will be 10 cents instead of 5.

Business men of Wayne are behind a proposition to build a \$50,000 hotel in the city.

Intersection paving bonds to the amount of \$40,000 were voted by the people of Beatrice at a special election.

One carload of hogs and a number of cattle were killed in a Burlington wreck in the Tecumseh yards.

Table Rock citizens got together recently and re-organized their Commercial club.

Moorfield Farmers' Equity Union will build an elevator at that place in the near future.

William Ernst, well-known farmer and breeder of Nebraska, and a foremost citizen of Johnson county, died at his home in Tecumseh. He introduced many specimens of grasses and vegetables to Nebraska, having been associated with the state board of agriculture and the state university for years.

The Saunders County Baseball league has been organized with teams at Wahoo, Ceresco, Yutan, Cedar Bluffs, Morse Bluff and Memphis. Games will be played on Sundays during the spring and summer months.

South Omaha live stock market led the world in receipts on March 6, with a total of 29,100 head of stock of all kinds. Chicago, second, had 29,000 head. Hogs sold for \$14.20 a hundred pounds at Omaha and for \$14.70 at Chicago on that date.

Resolutions favoring a new capitol building for Nebraska and a provision whereby people of the state be given an opportunity to vote on a selection of a site where it should be built, were adopted by the Kearney Commercial club.

Scottsbluff is to have a new hotel to cost in the neighborhood of \$100,000. W. H. Osterberg, president of the Scottsbluff National bank, and an Omaha capitalist are behind the project.

A shipment of hogs from Scottsbluff county sold for \$13.80 per hundredweight on the South Omaha market March 5, topping the market for that day.

A movement is on foot to build a new hospital in Aurora. The demand for such an institution is extremely urgent.

Applications for loans aggregating \$2,424,740 are already on file with the officers of the Federal Land bank of Omaha. These are from the forty-nine national farm loan associations already organized in this, the Eighth district. Nebraska leads the list with twenty-six associations already formed, applying for a grand total of \$1,369,100. South Dakota, with fifteen associations, asks for \$694,180. Wyoming, with six associations, wants \$335,900. Iowa has two associations and wants \$115,500. The farm loan act requires these associations to subscribe for stock in the Omaha Land bank to the amount of 5 per cent of the loans granted. Upon this basis the amount of loans asked for will bring an accumulation of \$121,235 to the capital stock of the Federal Land bank as soon as the loans are made.

Scarcity of hogs is given by stockmen as the cause of the present high price of porkers. The lowest price ever brought on the Omaha market was August 5, 1896, when Frank Crittenden, South Omaha, sold some for \$2.55. On the same day Jake Payne and Dick Carpenter, Soreby county, sold a wagon load of hogs for \$2.35. The lowest market average prices were on July 29, 1896, and August 5, 1896, when the average was \$2.71. A herd from Neligh topped the South Omaha market on March 6, selling for \$14.29 a hundred pounds. Old stockmen predict that before April 1 hogs will sell for \$15 and eventually \$20 per hundredweight.

With his automobile converted into kindling-wood, when it was struck by a Burlington passenger train near Hastings, Grant Lovelady was thrown 100 feet from the railroad crossing with no signs of injury other than a slight scratch on the back of his hand. Lovelady is a farmhand for Menno Lay, six miles south of Hastings.

Wheat is still alive in southeastern Nebraska. A number of observing farmers give it as their opinion that there is enough wheat alive to make practically a full crop. Some wheat is dead in every field. Ground which grew good corn in 1916 is in worst shape. All wheat needs moisture soon.

Just recently the congregation of the Prairie Union Baptist church, near Stella, held a monster jubilee celebration in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the institution. The Sunday school of the church was established in 1863. Over 400 people were in attendance.

The Logan County Fair association is to erect a large amphitheater on its grounds this year, having decided on such action at a meeting held recently in Stapleton. The association has a snug sum of money in the treasury which is to be spent on improvements this year.

All record prices for cattle at the South Omaha market were shattered when C. P. Orton of Unadilla sold forty-one head for an average of \$11.75 per hundredweight. The sale was made on March 7. The highest previous top price in all the history of the market was \$11.50.

North Platte is to have a Community Center in the new Franklin school. An effort is being made to convert the school auditorium into a place of recreation, where men, women and children of the city may find amusement.

The Associated Commercial Clubs of Western Nebraska have gone on record favoring House Bill No. 1, introduced by Henry C. Richmond of Omaha, calling for the erection of a new capitol building at Lincoln.

The Union Pacific has stationed watchmen at all important bridges in Nebraska. The action is taken, it is said, to prevent possible damage by cranks in view of the present crisis with Germany.

Hastings business men gave a public reception and banquet to the officers and privates in company G who recently returned from border service.

Disposing of irrigation water rights in the North Platte river valley in Nebraska worth more than \$2,000,000, a Nebraska supreme court decree upholding validity of the state's water law of 1895, and sustaining the water claims of the Tri-State Land and Farmers' Mutual Canal companies, was put into effect by the United States supreme court.

The new \$15,000 brick block recently built at Lewistown by Representative D. S. Dalbey of Beatrice was dedicated with a grand ball given by residents of that town.

Postmaster N. J. Ludi, of Wahoo, has received instructions from Washington to advertise for bids for the new federal building to be built there. The appropriation for this building is \$50,000. City delivery will probably be put in upon completion of the new building.

The Christian church of Aurora, which has been meeting in its basement, has commenced a campaign to raise funds to complete the building. When finished the church will be one of the best in the state.

Ex-County Clerk Hudson of Adams county, convicted of forgery recently by a jury, was sentenced to the state penitentiary for a term of from one to ten years. He has already begun serving the term at Lincoln.

The month of February set a new high water mark for marriage licenses in Dodge county. Forty-two were issued by County Judge Waldo Wintersteen.

Calves on twenty-one farms in Gage county have been found to be afflicted with blackleg, according to a report of County Agent Hest.

## PASS BONE DRY BILL

BUT THREE VOTES AGAINST PROHIBITION MEASURE

## WANT TO ADJOURN APRIL 1

Items of General Interest Gathered from Reliable Sources Around the State House

Western Newspaper Union News Service.

Three votes were recorded against the "bone dry" prohibition bill on its final passage by the Nebraska house. Two of them were cast by members of the Douglas county delegation, Messrs. Keegan and Schneider. The third negative vote was by Moysenburg of Butler.

The bill received ninety votes and was declared passed with the emergency clause. The absentees were Messrs. Behrens, Cronin, Leidigh, Mears, Trumble and Waite. Of these, Messrs. Cronin, Trumble and Waite were the only ones who had been marked absent on the morning roll call, the others having been in their seats earlier in the forenoon.

Mr. Koch was in his seat when the prohibition bill came up, but declined to vote on it. Although his name was called several times, he did not respond. He and Mr. Behrens, who was absent at the time, are from Cuming county, which is known as one of the strongest anti-prohibition counties in the state, having a large foreign population.

Mr. Moysenburg explained his vote against the bill by saying it was not the kind of a measure the people voted for last fall. Mr. Richmond voted for it, notwithstanding his belief that it is not in accordance with the wishes of a majority of the people of Nebraska. It being the only measure before the legislature making the dry amendment effective, he saw nothing else to do.

### Want to Adjourn by April 1

Farmer members of the legislature are beginning to talk about the time of adjournment. Representative Reiser would have the two houses adjourn about April 1, whether they had finished what they wanted to do or not. He said that others were discussing the question and he looked for a movement of that kind to be started in a short time, if the fine weather continues.

To consider all the bills before it, it would take the legislature until July. No effort will be made to do this. The general files in both houses, upon which are placed all the bills that pass the gauntlet of the committees, are well filled. Two or three weeks would be necessary to clean up the house calendar alone, and there are several hundred bills in the hands of the committees. This condition will force a sifting committee early in the month.

### Are Guests of Omaha

Members of the legislature, officials of the executive departments of the state and some of their wives were guests of Omaha last Friday. The special train from Lincoln, bearing 135 of them, arrived at South Omaha at 11 o'clock in the forenoon. Governor Neville was a member of the party.

General Manager Buckingham of the stock yards, took the party in tow, piloting the visitors through the yards and packing houses and giving an automobile ride about the South Side. At noon luncheon was served at the Live Stock Exchange restaurant.

In the afternoon the party took in the auto show as guests of the Omaha Automobile Trade association. In the evening the Commercial club gave a dinner to the visitors at the club rooms.

### Over \$10,000,000 Bond Investment

Over \$10,000,000 of Nebraska's funds are invested in bonds bearing 5 per cent interest or better, State Treasurer Hall has announced. This is the first time in the history of the state the bond investment has passed the \$10,000,000 mark. The state's cash balance was \$1,302,241.95 at the close of business in February.

### Wants Enforceable Anti-Cigaret Law

Representative Dorsey may remove some objections to the cigar statute which he seeks to get through the legislature by amending it to provide that no youths under 21 years shall be allowed to purchase cigars in this state. The present draft of the bill sets the figure at 18 years. The thing about the bill which appeals to men of a practical turn of mind is that it is enforceable and offers a solution to a problem which has worried many boy-workers in the past few years.

### Raises State Printer's Salary

Passage of the Dufoe-Taylor bill making the state printing commissioner the purchasing agent for all printers, stationery and typewriter supplies used by the state departments, institutions, boards and commissions (except in the state university and normal schools) was accomplished in the lower branch of the legislature by the vote of 75 to 5. The bill raises the printing commissioner's salary from \$1,500 to \$2,500 and requires him to put in his full time for the state.

## CUT DOWN THE ITEMS

No Raise in Salary for University Professors

A reduction of almost one-third of a million dollars in the total amount carried by the special itemized appropriation bill for the University of Nebraska and its branches was decided on by the finance committee of the house and the committee's report to that effect has been made to the chamber.

The bill as originally introduced contained items aggregating \$1,350,000. From this sum, the finance committee has lopped off \$307,500, leaving the total at \$1,042,500. This is more than was appropriated in the same bill two years ago. This bunch of appropriations is separate from and additional to the regular one-million levy for university maintenance and the three-fourths mill levy for campus extension and new buildings.

### Dates for Annual Inspection

The dates for the annual inspection of the Fourth regiment Nebraska national guard, have been announced by Adjutant General Hall. The inspection is purely a formality. Colonel Root of the regular army will conduct it this year.

The dates are:

- Headquarters, company, Friend, March 5.
- Company L, Kearney, March 6 and 7.
- Company M, York, March 8 and 9.
- Company K, Osceola, March 10 and 12.
- Company H, Madison, March 13 and 14.
- Company E, Wayne, March 15 and 16.
- Company L, Gordon, March 17 and 19.
- Company G, Stanton, March 20 and 21.
- Supply company, Wisner, March 22.
- Company F, Blair, March 23 and 24.
- Regimental headquarters, Companies A, B, C, D, and machine gun, Omaha, March 26, 27, 28 and 29.

### Open Season for Water Fowl

Scores of requests for information on the open season for waterfowl in Nebraska are pouring weekly into the office of the state game warden, due largely to the confusion occasioned by the altered federal migratory bird law, which went into effect August 21, 1916.

The Nebraska warden is sending out cards which show that the open season in Nebraska is between September 16, and December 31.

Although the state law leaves the open season until April 5, this is superseded by the federal law, which controls.

### Death of Edward Royse

Edward Royse, secretary of the state banking board, died at 5:35 p. m. Monday. He had been in illing health for about two years. He was aged 59 years.

Mr. Royse held the position of secretary of the board of fourteen and one-half years and at the time of his death was a candidate for re-appointment. Although a republican in politics, he had held over under three democratic governors.

Mr. Royse was an efficient officer, and was popular with the bankers of the state. He had a thorough knowledge of the banking laws.

### Favors New Wing to Capitol

The house finance, ways and means committee adopted, without a dissenting vote, a motion that it be the sense of the committee that Richmond's bill, H. R. 1, be reported out amended to provide for a two-thirds of a mill levy for the next two years, the proceeds to be expended in building a new east wing and in paying for the pencil sketches for a completed structure. The bill will carry the present recommendation for the creation of a capitol commission, composed of the governor and four citizens to be named by him, which will adopt the plans for the new structure.

### February Warrants Total \$327,194.48

State Auditor W. H. Smith issued state warrants in February amounting to \$327,194.48. The amount of warrants issued in January was \$739,422.74, making a total of \$1,066,617 for two months. The fire commissioner's office drew on the state treasury for \$1,697.84 to pay the expenses of that department for the month of February.

### Cannot Collect Tuition

Private or parochial schools cannot collect free high school tuition nor can they receive money appropriated for normal training in high schools. This is the substance of an opinion given by Attorney General Willis E. Reed to State Superintendent W. H. Clemmons at the latter's request. The statutes governing matters of tuition and distribution of normal training funds, Mr. Reed points out, are only broad enough to include free public high schools in their jurisdiction.

### Still Hope for New Capitol

The Nebraska legislators' present to the state in the fiftieth year of its existence may be a brand new state capitol building. That much appeared to be more certain on the dawn of its birthday than at any other time in years and years. Adoption by the house of a \$50,000 item for repair of the building added to the fact that the senate had unanimously endorsed the idea of a new building, makes the prediction stand with security.