

PRESIDENT ASKS CONGRESS TO SAY WAR STATE EXISTS WITH GERMANY

Wants Nation to Help the Entente Allies Whip Kaiser.

AUTOCRACY WORLD MENACE

America Enters the Struggle to Aid in Saving Freedom for Democracies.

Washington.—In what has been described on all sides as one of the great state papers of American history, President Wilson addressed the senate and house in joint session Monday night and asked for a declaration of a state of war with Germany.

He based his assertions that the kaiser's government is already conducting hostilities against the United States on Germany's unrestricted submarine warfare, on the widespread and destructive German spy system in this country—which has destroyed property and sought to intrigue Mexico and Japan against us—and on the bloody ambition of Prussian autocracy to dominate the world of self-governing peoples.

And to the end that this autocratic power may be defeated and the safety of peace-loving nations assured, Mr. Wilson called upon congress to employ all the resources of the United States to whip Germany. He urged entire co-operation with the entente allies with men, money and supplies, and he recommended the recruiting of the regular army and National Guard to more than half a million and the raising of an additional 500,000 military force by applying a universal service law.

Most notable in the president's address was the section devoted to an indictment of Prussian autocracy and professional militarism. He said:

Our object now is to vindicate the principles of peace and of justice in the life of the world as against selfish and autocratic power and to set up amongst the really free and self-governed peoples of the world such a concert of purpose and of action as will henceforth insure the observance of those principles.

Neutrality Not Feasible.
Neutrality is no longer feasible or desirable when the peace of the world is involved and the freedom of its peoples, and the menace to that peace and freedom lies in the existence of autocratic governments backed by organized force which is controlled wholly by their will, not by the will of their people. We have seen the last of neutrality in such circumstances.

We are at the beginning of an age in which it will be insisted that the same standards of conduct and of responsibility for wrong done shall be observed among nations and their governments that are observed among the individual citizens of civilized states.

No Quarrel With People.
We have no quarrel with the German people. We have no feeling toward them but one of sympathy and friendship. It was not upon their impulse that their government acted in entering this war. It was not with their previous knowledge or approval.

It was war determined upon as wars used to be determined on in the old, unhappy days when peoples were nowhere consulted by their rulers and wars were provoked and waged in the interest of dynasties or of little groups of ambitious men who were accustomed to use their fellow men as pawns and tools.

A steadfast concert for peace can never be maintained except by a partnership of democratic nations. No autocratic government could be trusted to keep faith within it or observe its covenants. It must be a league of honor, partnership of opinion.

Only free peoples can hold their purpose and their honor steady to a common end and prefer the interests of mankind to any narrow interest of their own.

Does not every American feel that assurance has been added to our hope for the future peace of the world by the wonderful and heartening things that have been happening within the last few weeks in Russia?

Intrigued Against National Unity.
One of the things that have served to convince us that the Prussian autocracy was not and could never be our friend is that from the very outset of the present war it has filled our unsuspecting communities and even our offices of government with spies and set criminal intrigues everywhere afoot against our national unity of counsel, our peace within and without, our industries and our commerce.

Indeed, it is now evident that its spies were here even before the war began; and it is unhappily not a matter of conjecture, but a fact proved in our courts of justice that the intrigues which have more than once come perilously near to disturbing the peace and dislocating the industries of the country have been carried on at the instigation, with the support, and even under the personal direction of official agents of the imperial government accredited to the government of the United States.

Would Act at Convenience.
But they have played their part in serving to convince us at last that the government entertains no real friend-

ship for us and means to act against our peace and security at its convenience. That it means to stir up enemies against us at our very doors the intercepted note to the German minister at Mexico City is eloquent evidence.

We are accepting this challenge of hostile purpose because we know that in such a government, following such methods, we can never have a friend, and that in the presence of its organized power, always lying in wait to accomplish we know not what purpose, there can be no assured security for the democratic governments of the world.

We are now about to accept gage of battle with this natural foe to liberty and shall, if necessary, expend the whole force of the nation to check and nullify its pretensions and its power.

No False Pretense.
We are glad, now that we see the facts with no veil or false pretense about them, to fight thus for the ultimate peace of the world and for the liberation of its people, the German peoples included; for the rights of nations great and small, and the privilege of men everywhere to choose their way of life and of obedience.

The world must be made safe for democracy. Its peace must be planted upon the tested foundations of political liberty.

We desire no conquest, no dominion. We seek no indemnities for ourselves, no material compensation for the sacrifice we shall freely make.

We are but one of the champions of the rights of mankind. We shall be satisfied when those rights have been made as secure as the faith and the freedom of nations can make them.

Just because we fight, without rancor and without selfish object, seeking nothing for ourselves but what we shall wish to share with all free people's, we shall, I feel confident, conduct our operation on belligerents without passion and ourselves observe with proud punctilio the principles of right and of fair play we profess to be fighting for.

Regarding the details of war measures, Mr. Wilson said:

"It will involve the utmost practical co-operation in counsel and action with the governments now at war with Germany and, as incident to that, the extension to those governments of the most liberal credit, in order that our resources may be added to theirs."

Resources.
"It will involve the organization and mobilization of all the material resources of the country to supply the materials of war and serve the incidental needs of the nation in the most abundant and yet the most economical and efficient way possible."

The Navy.
"It will involve the immediate full equipment of the navy in all respects, but particularly in supplying it with the best means of dealing with the enemy's submarines."

The Army.
"It will involve the immediate addition to the armed forces of the United States already provided for in case of war at least 500,000 men, who should, in my opinion, be chosen upon the principle of universal liability to service, and also the authorization of subsequent additional increment of equal force so soon as they may be needed and can be handled in training."

Finance.
"It will involve the granting adequate credits to the government, sustained, I hope, so far as they can equitably be sustained by the present generation, by well conceived taxation."

It seems to me that it would be most unwise to have the credits which will now be necessary entered on borrowed money.

Munitions.
"We should interfere as little as possible with the duty—for it will be a very practical duty—of supplying the nations already at war with Germany with the material which they can obtain only from us."

Referring once more to the attitude of America toward the great German people—as distinguished from the warmad and blood-lusty autocracy, the president declared:

To Germans in America.
We are, let me say again, the sincere friends of the German people, and shall desire nothing so much as the early re-establishment of intimate relations of mutual advantage between us, however hard it may be for them for the time being to believe that this is spoken from our hearts. We have borne with their present government through all these bitter months because of that friendship, exercising a patience and forbearance which would otherwise have been impossible.

We shall, happily, still have an opportunity to prove that friendship in our daily attitude and actions toward the millions of men and women of German birth and native sympathy who live among us and share our life, and we shall be proud to prove it toward all who are in fact loyal to their neighbors and to the government in the hour of test. They are, most of them, as true and loyal Americans as if they had never known any other fealty or allegiance. They will be prompt to stand with us in rebuking and restraining the few who may be of a different mind and purpose.

If there should be disloyalty it will be dealt with with a firm hand of stern repression, but, if it lifts head at all it will lift it only here and there and without countenance except from a lawless and malignant few.

SENATE PASSES BILL

SUBSTITUTE PROHIBITORY BILL WILL NOW GO TO CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

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

Western Newspaper Union News Service.
The senate has passed the substitute bill. The bill must go to a conference committee. It passed by a vote of eighteen to fourteen. Albert of Platte being absent and not voting. Immediately after the senate reconvened, Albert explained that he was unavoidably absent and did not know the bill was to come for passage. He asked unanimous consent to be allowed to cast his vote on the bill. There was no objection and Lieutenant Governor Edgar Howard announced that unanimous consent was granted.

Hog Barn for State Fair Grounds
The bill authorizing the \$50,000 hog barn for the state fair has safely passed the senate but not by the majority its backers might have wished. The vote was 19 to 11, with Hammond, Strehlow and Tanner not voting.

Senator Oberlies of Lancaster qualified his vote of "yes" with a dissertation on "hogs." He had proposed to cut down the appropriation to \$50,000 in committee of the whole, but his amendment had been overwhelming lost.

"In the past week I have been studying hogs and men," he said, "Comparing their habits, code of ethics and conduct under fire, I find that the hog has been somewhat maligned, and the epithets that have been hurled against him in some measure have been misdirected. Believing that the four-footed hog is gaining on his adversary and should be encouraged, I vote 'yes.'"

The senator is supposed to have been alluding to the fight of the majority organized in the senate, which carried successfully the so-called "wet" amendments to the dry bill as it came from the house.

Bill to Display Flag
Patriotism was denoted in the house when House Roll 730, providing for erection of flag staffs at each school in the state, was amended to include this paragraph:

"The national flag of the United States of America, of any convenient size, shall be conspicuously and continuously displayed on the interior wall of every school room, class room and chapel in the house school buildings of the state of Nebraska. A program providing for a salute to the flag and such other patriotic exercises as may be deemed best adapted to the requirements of whatever grades in such schools, shall be carried out by each teacher on Lincoln's birthday, Washington's birthday, Memorial Day, Flag Day and upon such other special occasions as may be required by law or rule of the school board."

Call to Arms May Be Expected
Adjutant General P. L. Hall of the Nebraska national guard has issued the following statement:

"Eight hundred men comprising the Fourth Nebraska machine gun companies, etc., have been ordered out at once to guard places of national importance within the state limits. This is a general order in all the states in the union. Appearances at Washington indicate that our nation is at this time in a critical condition and a general call to arms may be expected in the very near future."

Legislature Stands by President
By unanimous votes in both houses, the state legislature has taken firm ground behind President Wilson in the present crisis, and expressed approval of Senator Hitchcock's work in leading for accomplishment of the administration program in the upper house of congress. The resolution was introduced in the senate by Senator I. L. Albert of Platte county, and in the house by Henry C. Richmond of Omaha, Jacob Sars of Chasco, Fred Hoffmeister of Imperial, W. J. Taylor of Merna and Soren Fries of Dannebrog. Partisan ties were entirely thrown aside.

Another Menace to Capitol.
Another discovery has been made in the basement of the defective wing of the state house that may indicate further sinking of the ground under a portion of the foundation. The discovery indicates a sinking of the earth under a cement floor near the foundation, but whether or not the defect is confined to a small portion of the floor and does not affect the foundation may not be known until the cement floor is torn up.

The proposition to allow the state to become its own printer has been approved by the lower house. By a neat majority and after a long discussion H. R. 151, by Bates and six others, was advanced to third reading. The bill appropriate \$100,000 with which to establish a printing plant at the state penitentiary with which to start the work of doing all the printing required by the various state departments, officers and institutions, in addition to all common school text books demanded by the state superintendent.

TO ADVERTISE NEBRASKA

Department of Publicity Has Sanction of Lower House

The proposition to advertise Nebraska's resources to the world was given the sanction of the lower house when the bill to create a state department of publicity was passed by a vote of 60 to 27.

When this bill was up in committee of the whole two weeks ago an effort was made to tack on an amendment appropriating \$25,000 for the work, but this was voted down. When the bill reappeared the amendment was included, and the measure might have gone thru in that form had not Swanson discovered the mistake. When it came his time to vote he pointed out the error, and the bill was ordered back to the engrossing room. With Chief Clerk Potts assuming all responsibility for the error, no one claimed that any one had tried to slip anything by the house in the way of a \$25,000 appropriation.

As it now reads the measure allows the state conservation commission to employ a director of publicity, who shall serve without pay and who shall have charge of the work of compiling publishing and otherwise giving publicity to all resources, industries, development and opportunities to be found in Nebraska. He shall also have access to all figures and statistics in all state departments.

University Tenders Equip ment.
Chancellor Avery of the University of Nebraska, acting with the consent of the local regents, has placed the mechanical engineering laboratories of the university at the disposal of the federal government. The action was taken in a letter which the Chancellor dispatched to Secretary of War Baker in which he made the offer and enclosed a classified list of the equipment as it stands at present, including the machines, particularly the lathes, and the equipments of the foundry and the forge and wood shops.

To Stop Auto Stealing
Hammond of Furnas succeeded in getting the committee of the whole to approve his S. P. 210, a measure somewhat after the Iowa law intended to put a stop to the theft of automobiles and the sale of stolen vehicles of this kind. The bill provides that when the purchaser buys a new machine he shall pay a fee of \$1 to the secretary of state for a certificate of ownership. If the machine is to be sold a second time the seller must be able to show a certificate of ownership and any one who buys such automobile shall be deemed guilty of a felony.

Seize More Beans at Omaha
State and federal food inspectors certainly are giving Omaha a most thorough going over just now. With 165,000 pounds of beans already tied up in federal court, these men have seized another 131,250 pounds of this stuff to hold for a hearing before Judge Woodrough. Of this last amount 69,000 pounds of beans were seized by E. C. Kemble, chief deputy food inspector of Nebraska, at the plant of the Union Packing Co. Two other consignments, one for 41,250 pounds, and the other for 21,000 pounds, were seized in warehouses.

Members of the Nebraska national guard as mounted police, have began patrolling the streets of Lincoln upon which public buildings are located, acting under orders of Adjutant General Phil Hall. Sixty-eight men are included in the detachment, which is on patrol duty in Lincoln. Information as to what buildings are being patrolled is kept secret. The detail is under command of Captain Jess, of the Fremont signal corps.

Administration of justice over the state requires the services of additional district judges in the opinion of the legislature. Additional officials are given to Lancaster county and to the Tenth judicial district embracing Harlan, Adams, Kearney, Webster, Phelps and Franklin counties, by the adoption of a conference committee report on the Beal judicial reappointment bill.

General John J. Pershing has accepted the invitation of the university of Nebraska senior class to deliver the commencement address in Lincoln on June 13. The acceptance is of course conditional on his ability to get away from army duties at that time, but it is believed that it will be arranged to permit his attendance.

S. F. 323 has been advanced to third reading. Spirk of Saline introduced the bill. It provides a separate ballot box and separate ballots for constitutional amendments and propositions for constitutional conventions and does away with the party circle so far as the counting of straight party votes for such propositions are concerned. Its introducer told what the bill seeks to do and said some believed it would not bring about the result desired, greater interest in the consideration of constitutional amendments.

By a vote of 58 to 38, the house, in committee of the whole Tuesday afternoon, ordered to a third reading the bill appropriating 67-100ths of one mill for the purpose of building a new east wing for the state capitol. This wing is to be built in conformity to a completed plan which is to be adopted by a specially appointed commission, which the governor will select and head. As soon as the bill is engrossed it will come before the house for final passage. It is expected that the vote in favor of the bill will be increased at that time.

MINOR NOTES FROM ALL PARTS OF NEBRASKA

DATES FOR COMING EVENTS.
April 21-22—Missouri Valley Chiropractors' Association Meeting at Omaha.
April 23-25—Annual Meeting State Aerie of Eagles at Nebraska City.
April 26-27—Nebraska Association of Elks Annual Convention at Lincoln.
May 1-2—Modern Woodman State Camp at Norfolk.
May 4—Group No. 2 Nebraska Bankers' Association Convention at Columbus.
May 8-9—Knights of Columbus State Meeting at Alliance.
May 12—State High School Track and Field Meet at Lincoln.
May 16-17-18—Annual Encampment Nebraska G. A. R., Ladies of the G. A. R., Women's Relief Corps; Spanish War Veterans and Sons of Veterans at Columbus.
May 22-25—Nebraska Sportsmen's Association Annual Tournament at Fremont.

Sergeant Walter Knobbs, B company, Fourth regiment, Nebraska National Guard, who had been detailed to duty as guard at the Union Pacific bridge across the Missouri river, at Omaha, was struck by a switch engine and his right leg was cut off at the knee.

A company of home guards has been raised at Beatrice for the purpose of receiving training in the use of arms and general military work. Lexington citizens voted in favor of Sunday baseball at a special election by a vote of 209 to 139.

One thousand North Platte citizens, at a mass meeting, unanimously passed resolutions endorsing the war resolutions passed by the United States senate and repudiating the stand of Senator Norris.

Mrs. Lydia Butler, widow of David Butler, the first governor of the state of Nebraska, is very ill at her home in Pawnee City, and slight hopes are entertained for her recovery. Mrs. Butler is past eighty years of age.

St. Joseph's hospital, at Omaha, with 300 beds, the largest hospital in Nebraska, and all of the Creighton University have been placed at the disposal of the government, President McMenamy of Creighton announced.

Dedication services for the new \$15,000 Methodist Episcopal church at Louisville was held just recently.

Several large oil companies are preparing to drill for oil in Sioux county this spring.

According to Burlington officials the Yutan-Chalco cut-off, which the company is building to shorten the distance from Omaha to Sioux City, will not be completed until May 1.

Work has begun at Table Rock clearing away the debris where the new bank building, hotel and garage is to be erected by the Community State bank of Table Rock.

Unadilla voted on the establishment of a system of water works and for \$10,000 bonds to construct the same. The vote stood 49 in favor of the bonds and 7 against.

Herman Kelsner of Ashton was killed and four men were injured when an automobile in which they were riding was hit by a Burlington passenger train at Grand Island.

A company of rookies, including working men, clerks and merchants, has been organized at Fremont. Regular drilling is being done daily.

The Barnston Farmers' Elevator company is tearing down its old elevator and will at once build a modern structure.

Company M, Nebraska National Guard, was presented with a new flag by the Women's Relief corps of York.

Mrs. W. M. Tilson announced that she will erect a new opera house on the Main street of Hooper.

Several prominent Swedes of North Platte and Lincoln county have just completed the organization of the Swedish Colony association, the purpose of which is to bring to Lincoln county Scandinavian renters and factory workers from eastern states and to give them an opportunity of buying farms of their own.

Carl, the 7-year-old son of Will Johnson, living three miles east of Holdrege, was struck by an automobile while playing in the road a mile and a half east of his home and died as the result.

Applications for more than \$6,000,000 worth of loans have been made to the Federal Land bank of Omaha. These applications come from national farm loan associations in the four states of the district, Wyoming, South Dakota, Iowa and Nebraska.

According to a report submitted at the Nebraska Baptist state convention at Grand Island, the increase of membership of Baptist churches during the past year was 25 per cent, equal to the net gain of the previous twenty-four years.

State and federal officers united and seized 1,000 cans of hominy belonging to the Post Canning company at Omaha. Eight carloads of beans belonging to the same concern were condemned and seized.

Will Geist, grocer of Kearney, a native German, has enlisted in Company L of the Fourth Nebraska National guard. Geist has had former military training.

The Fremont sanitary corps is opposed to performing guard duty and has refused to report for such service at Lincoln.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of Edward Parker, 18, and Bernice Berk, 16, of St. Paul, since March 28, was solved when the young couple were found in a straw stack four miles southwest of St. Paul, dead. A revolver, containing two exploded cartridges lay beside the bodies. A bullet had passed into the right temple of the boy and girl. The girl dropped out of sight while on the way home from church. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Berk, thought she had been kidnaped and had started a search for her through the newspapers. She was an only daughter. Parker was a telephone lineman and had been going with Miss Berk. The boy and girl were very much attached. It was said that Mr. and Mrs. Berk had objected to Parker's attentions because of their daughter's youth. From the appearance of the bodies they had been dead since very shortly after their disappearance.

Louis Kamerad, slayer of little Alice Parkos, daughter of Joe Parkos, farmer near Ord, on February 8 last, who escaped from the Valley county jail, was killed by a posse on a farm near Arcadia. The fugitive had been taken from the penitentiary at Lincoln to Ord to stand trial for murder, which was to begin the day following his escape. District court, which was in session awaiting the trial, adjourned to let the court attendants take part in the chase. The father of the murdered girl is credited with firing the shot that killed Kamerad.

In the Richardson county district court the city of Humboldt won a suit against the county of Richardson in the sum of \$2,647.83 for withholding road tax that the court decided belonged to that city. This case was the same in principle as one decided several years ago by the supreme court. In the same kind of suit Falls City recovered about \$5,000 last year. The city of Rulo has a similar suit pending in court.

Sam Schrock, a farmer living sixteen miles northeast of Holdrege, used an auto to haul in a carload of hogs. He made four trips daily with six and seven hogs averaging \$70 to 410 pounds each. Only one trip a day could be made with a team and wagon.

Henry Bussong of Elwood was instantly killed and Clarence Haworth of Lexington severely hurt when an automobile in which they were riding was struck by a Union Pacific passenger train at Lexington.

Union Pacific officials announce that watchmen in their employ, stationed at the bridges in Omaha, will be sent to points in the state, having been succeeded by details of the national guard.

Price of hogs jumped to \$15 per hundred pounds on the South Omaha live stock market last week. Men in close touch with the situation predict that the \$16 mark will be reached in a short time.

Virginia, fifteen miles east of Beatrice, is becoming quite a grain center. More than 150 cars of grain have been shipped from that point since January 1.

"The Historical Pageant of Peru," with more than 200 people taking part, will be celebrated in the woods near the town on the evening of Tuesday, June 5.

The Gage county board of supervisors awarded the contract for erecting the new county jail to W. J. Robinson of Beatrice for \$24,140. The jail completed is to cost \$28,450.

Lincoln was awarded the 1917 State Golf tournament, the date being fixed for the week of June 25. This will be the first time the tournament has ever been played outside of Omaha.

Miss Bessie Franc Brown, for the last two years pastor of the Friends church at Springbank, has resigned and will go to China to become a missionary.

Lynch hospital at Fairbury, formerly a three-story structure, has been built two stories higher, making a modern five-story building.

The Union Pacific Railroad company has started a building campaign along its main line for 1917 that bids fair to exceed any of former years. At North Platte and Grand Island large modern depots will be erected and at the latter city other buildings and improvements to the extent of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars are now planned. Plans and specifications indicate that this railroad is building for permanency.

Wheat sold for \$2 a bushel at Beatrice the other day for the first time in history.

Sheriffs of several counties and an Omaha detective unearthed forty automobiles at Silver Creek, with their bodies altered and engine numbers changed. It is believed the cars were stolen and that a powerful syndicate of auto thieves is operating in the state. Officers, who took part in the raid, believe the first important step in breaking up the gang has been taken.

A new recruiting office has been established in the armory at North Platte.

In order to protect their industry, owners of a potato plant near Alliance paid \$62,000 for a certain ranch property, which is said to be three times its value. The same tract sold more than a year ago for \$18,000.

Hansen Day and Harley Calvin of Beatrice, both married men with families, were instantly killed in an auto accident a few miles north of Beatrice.

M. E. Smith company of Omaha is soon to establish a shirt factory at Beatrice. The factory will employ about 300 girls.