

Proclamation of Warning

A Washington dispatch, dated April 16, says: All persons in the United States, citizens and aliens, are warned in a proclamation issued today by President Wilson that treasonable acts or attempts to shield those committing such acts will be vigorously prosecuted by the government. Far-reaching importance attaches to the direction of the warning to aliens and the declaration that "resident aliens as well as citizens owe allegiance to the United States," and therefore are equally subject to the laws against treason, and like crimes.

At war the United States is in a very different position from a neutral. Bomb plotters may now be gripped with an iron hand. Not only are conspirators themselves subject to heavy penalties, but anyone, even a German resident who has knowledge and fails to make known the facts to the authorities may be sent to prison for seven years and fined \$1,000.

THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATION

The President's proclamation follows:

"Whereas, All persons in the United States, citizens as well as aliens, should be informed of the penalties which they will incur for any failure to bear true allegiance to the United States.

"Now, Therefore, I, Woodrow Wilson, president of the United States, hereby issue this proclamation to call especial attention to the following provisions of the constitution and laws of the United States.

"Section 3 of Article III of the constitution provides in part: 'Treason against the United States shall consist only in levying war against them, or in adhering to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort.'

"The criminal code of the United States provides:

"Section 1.—Whoever, owing allegiance to the United States levies war against them or adheres to their enemies, giving them aid and comfort within the United States or elsewhere is guilty of treason.

"Section 2.—Whoever is convicted of treason shall suffer death; or, at the discretion of the court, shall be imprisoned not less than five years and fined not less than \$10,000, to be levied on and collected out of any or all of his property, real and personal, of which he was the owner at the time of committing such treason, any sale or conveyance to the contrary notwithstanding and every person so convicted of treason, shall, moreover, be incapable of holding any office under the United States.

"Section 3.—Whoever owing allegiance to the United States and having knowledge of the commission of any treason against them conceals and does not as soon as may be, disclose and make known the same to the President or to some judge of the United States or to the government or to some judge or justice of a particular state is guilty of misprision of treason and shall be imprisoned not more than seven years and fined not more than \$1,000.

"Section 4.—If two or more persons in any state or territory, or in any place subject to the jurisdiction of the United States, conspire to overthrow, put down, or destroy by force the government of the United States or to levy war against them, or to oppose by force the authority thereof, or by force to prevent, hinder or delay the execution of any law of the United States, or by force to seize, take, or possess any property of the United States contrary to the authority thereof, they shall each be fined not more than \$5,000, or imprisoned not more than six years, or both."

ACTS THAT ARE TREASONABLE

"The courts of the United States have stated the following acts to be treasonable:

"The use or attempted use of any force or violence against the government of the United States or its military or naval forces.

"The acquisition, use, or disposal of any property with knowledge that it is to be, or with intent that it shall be of assistance to the enemy in their hostilities against the United States.

"The performance of any act or the publica-

tion of statements or information which will give or supply, in any way, aid and comfort to the enemies of the United States.

"The direction, aiding, counseling, or countenancing of any of the foregoing acts.

"Such acts are held to be treasonable whether committed within the United States or elsewhere; whether committed by a citizen of the United States or by an alien domiciled, or residing, in the United States inasmuch as resident aliens, as well as citizens, owe allegiance to the United States and its laws.

"Any such citizen or alien who has knowledge of the commission of such acts and conceals and does not make known the facts to the officials named in section 3 of the penal code, is guilty of misprision of treason.

"And I hereby proclaim and warn all citizens of the United States and all aliens owing allegiance to the government of the United States to abstain from committing any and all acts which would constitute a violation of any of the laws herein set forth; and I further proclaim and warn all persons, who may commit such acts that they will be vigorously prosecuted therefore.

"In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

"Done at the city of Washington, the sixteenth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, and of the independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and forty-first. By the president: "WOODROW WILSON.

"ROBERT LANSING, Sec'y of State."

WAR AND PROHIBITION

[From the Charlotte (N. C.) Observer, Feb. 13, 1917.]

If war must come, Colonel Bryan might reconcile himself the more readily to it by reason of the single circumstance that it will bring about an immediate agitation for national suppression of the liquor traffic, the same as was done to some extent in France, in England and in Russia. In anticipation of the coming of war the proposition for national prohibition has been already sprung in Ohio. The prohibition of the liquor traffic, leaders in that cause are arguing, would save the United States in dollars and cents as much as would be the cost of maintaining an army of 2,000,000 men. It is claimed that the business interests in Ohio and the western section generally would get behind a movement to make prohibition nationwide. Congressman Cooper, who represents an Ohio district, is expected to take the lead in this matter in case war breaks out. The argument is that Russia preferred cutting off the supply of vodka and losing the revenue therefrom to having conditions of demoralization prevailing in time of war, and the point is made that if Russia could get along without the revenue from vodka, the United States could do equally as well without the revenue from whiskey. It is possible that the Ohio idea is just a little in advance of governmental contemplation. The United States navy has been on a prohibition basis during four years of peace. It is natural to suppose that with the coming of actual war, the army would be placed upon the same basis, and restrictions thrown upon the liberties of the people, themselves, in this regard. The government might not be contemplating absolute prohibition, but that one of its first actions would be the throwing of restrictions around the liquor traffic there can be no doubt. It is in this situation that Colonel Bryan and kindred spirits may find their opportunity for the bringing about of an absolute prohibition of the traffic while the country is at war. There will be no occasion for President Wilson taking the total abstinence pledge, as did the King of England, but that there will be a tightening of the national drinking privileges there is small room for doubt.

W. W. Rounds, N. Y.—Mr. Bryan will continue to have my influence and assistance in his fight against the saloon as he always has had in the past, and if possible I will do more, as I believe he has now entered into the greatest battle of his life, and may God give him health and strength to carry the fight to a finish. I have talked with a number of my farmer friends and they all with one accord give him praise for his new undertaking. All of them think he is sure to win out.

THE PACIFIST ENLISTS FOR WAR

William Jennings Bryan, the most consistent and fearless leader of democracy, the announced pacifist and the denounced so-called "peace-at-any-price" advocate, has offered his services to his government in the war in any capacity the need of the nation demands.

He offers his services, not as a leader of an army as Theodore Roosevelt aspires, but in the capacity of a private, if his government so decides. He does not qualify his offer—he imposes no restrictions; he makes no reservations—he volunteers his all in any service for the nation.

There is nothing surprising in Mr. Bryan's attitude; he is first of all a patriot; he abhors war, yet is willing to fight for country when war comes.

Mr. Bryan offers his country no more than thousands of other good Americans who enlist to serve their country in the crisis—yet one can not help contrasting the patriotic attitude of the much-reviled pacifist with the apparently backward attitude of some of the most frenzied war shouters who have so bitterly maligned the great commoner.

The world's most distinguished out-and-out pacifist has enlisted for war; the country breathlessly awaits the grand rush of the jingo editors, war-shouting politicians, ultra-bellifere statesmen and pseudo patriots toward the recruiting stations.

Don't crowd, gentlemen!—Milwaukee News.

NEW COMMONER READERS

(Continued from Page 12.)

- Kumble, Miss F. S., Ala., 2; Brown, Chas. H., Ill., 5; Clark, S. E., 6; Conner, Thos., Ia., 5; Reinecke, H. W., Tex., 17; Moore, Richard, Okla., 5; Wolf, Dr. B. F., Kepner, H. F., Ind., 5; Elias, Alden J., Pa., 9; Barnes, A. S., Oreg., 5; Dyer, G. M., W. Va., 6; Crawford, Levi, Pa., 5; Bryan, J. L., Ark., 5; Hughes, B. W., Ky., 5; Feroe, Helmer M., Minn., 7; Ratliff, J. M., Ala., 3; Keathley, G. W., W. Va., 3; Hamilton, Mrs. A., Fla., 2; Coleman, F. M., N. Y., 2; Huston, T. W., Mo., 17; Sellers, A. A., Ohio, 2; Brand, A. B., S. D., 2; McKinney, B. H., Fla., 2; McCloskey, Jos., Ind., 1; Gentry, N. H., Mo., 1; Leo, J. W., Wash., 4; Planck, Jos. Webb, Nev., 2; Sprigg, J. E., Va., 3; O'Sullivan, Jno., Wis., 6; Lester, L. B., Miss., 8; Reed, E. D., Ia., 7; Ayers, Nella G., Cal., 5; McCorkle, T. M., W. Va., 8; Lisenbe, J. C., Tex., 4; Wheeler, S. C., Vt., 3; Luke, Geo. W., Ohio, 1; Fink, P. H., Ia., 3; Cleveland, Cynthia E., D. C., 2; Mold, Geo. H., Minn., 2; Collins, W. V., N. Y., 3; Myers, S. H., Ky., 6; Christiansen, M. H., Neb., 5; Hensley, J. M., Cal., 6; Baker, W. P., Minn., 2; Mabens, H. A., Ia., 1; Smith, W. T., Ky., 1; Sundermeier, Fred, Mont., 2; Wilson, O. Chester, Minn., 1; Hicks, Wm. M., Okla., 2; Rothe-myer, W. H., N. Y., 4; Peart, J. A., Ky., 2; Nelson, P. C., Wash., 5; Conlon, R. P., N. J., 5; Schaap, A. J., Ia., 5; Kempe, Peter, Minn., 5; Walmen, J. H., Ill., 5; Davis, Geo. W., Ia., 5; Blunt, Walter C., Va., 9; Eye, C. C., Calif., 6; Ramsay, Jno. L., Wash., 4; Hallum, J. M., Okla., 2; Kimmel, A. J., Neb., 2; Harvey, E. O., Ind., 2; Burke, Kate G., Tex., 1; Shirley, E. A., Ia., 2; Sever, Walter L., N. Mex., 5; Williams, W. C., Ga., 10; Mitchell, Mrs. Jno. E., Wash., 5.

NEW HAMPSHIRE DRY IN 1918

A Concord, N. H., dispatch, dated April 17, says: Today Governor Keyes signed the Lewis bill, passed by the legislature last week, which will make prohibition effective in this state on May 1, 1918.

A filibuster is a legislative course of action that is intended to or deprives you of getting through what you want put through. A justifiable course of action is one that prevents your opponents from winning.

WANTED—THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL DEMOCRATIC AND INDEPENDENT VOTERS WHO ARE WILLING TO ASSIST MR. BRYAN IN THE WORK OF DRIVING THE LIQUOR INTERESTS OUT OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND OUT OF THE NATION.