

FIERY DEBATE ON WAR RESOLUTION

Williams Says La Follette's Speech Would Better Become Hollweg's.

VOTE IS EXPECTED SOON

(Continued from Page One.)

Any man who stands up in the senate at this time applauding the common enemy, who also is the enemy of the human race, and has not one word in praise of the American president or the American people.

Tired of Such Utterances.

"I am a little tired of utterances like that of the senator from Wisconsin denouncing the entente allies. Which would you rather do, fight Germany now with France and Great Britain and Russia, or fight her alone later? You've got to do one or the other. I tell you, if Germany does win that fight on the continent of Europe, she will begin building and getting ready to whip us unless the English fleet prevents it."

"I'm getting tired of this talk that this is a Wall street war. That's a lie. Wall street did not sink the Lusitania, the Arabic, the Sussex, and those other ships. I'm tired of lies like that and I think it is the duty of the American congress and people brand them as lies."

Senator La Follette, in his address, declared that the sentiment of the poor against war would make itself heard, "and, I hope, in a peaceful and orderly way before long, when if we take this step prices of necessities will multiply and they will come to be taxed double again and again. If a vote were taken among the American people it would show ten to one against war."

Says Not Leg to Stand On.

Senator La Follette said: "We have not a leg to stand on to support this war declaration."

Reverting to the president's assertion that the German people were thrown into the war without an opportunity to say anything about it, the senator asked:

"Will the supporters of this war bill have a vote on it before it goes into effect? Unless they do that, it becomes us to speak the point. Submit this question to the people. By a vote of ten to one they would register their declaration against war."

The German people, he declared, have been more solidly behind their government than the people of the United States will be behind the president in waging a war on Germany.

People Who Will Rot.

Asserting that a minority frequently is able to shape the national policy, Senator La Follette digressed from his prepared speech to make a plea that the people make themselves heard.

"The poor who are called to rot in the trenches," he declared dramatically, "have now no organized mouthpiece, they have no press, but some time they will be heard, I hope, in an orderly and peace way, and before long, when if we take this step prices of necessities will multiply and they will come to be taxed double again and again. The people will be heard; they will have their day."

The resolution was not reached in the house, however, as had been planned, and is to be taken up at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning under an arrangement to remain in session until it is passed.

The senate's resolution was adopted by the house foreign affairs committee as a substitute for its own and favorably reported for passage with only two members of the committee against it. They were Representative Shackelford, democrat of Missouri, and Representative Cooper, republican of Wisconsin.

In the senate patriotic speeches of support for the president and a determination to press the war with all vigor were made by democrats and republicans with pledges of nonpartisan consideration for all war questions.

Hitchcock in Charge.

Senator Hitchcock, in charge of the resolution for the president in place of Senator Stone, who would not support it, declared that as much as he wished and had worked to avoid war, he could not vote against the resolution.

Senator Lodge, ranking republican of the foreign relations committee, pledging the support of the republicans to the president, called on the government to seize all German ships

in American waters to replace those destroyed by submarines and in passionate terms called on the government not to conduct a "half war."

Senator Vardaman, democrat, of Mississippi, was the first to announce he would vote against the war resolution. He was followed by Senator Stone, who announced his opposition, but, like Vardaman, pledged his support to the war when it is begun.

Norris Blames Newspapers.

Senator Norris, republican, of Nebraska, told the senate he was "bitterly opposed to the United States entering the war," but did not flatly state that he would vote against the war resolution.

Wall street interests, Senator Norris asserted, are interested in profiting from the United States entering the war. He also declared a "large number of newspapers and news agencies have been controlled and enlisted in the greatest propaganda that the world has ever known to manufacture sentiment for war."

Senator La Follette, who yesterday forced the resolution over until today, was not in the chamber when Senator Hitchcock got unanimous consent to take it up.

Almost every other senator and many house members were present when the debate began.

Hitchcock's Opening Statement.

In a brief opening statement, Senator Hitchcock, in charge of the resolution, said the present was a time for "action, not discussion."

"The time for discussion has passed," he said. "The president has already stated clearly, effectively, most conclusively, the reasons which make this grave step necessary. The resolution provides for war against the imperial German government. It is framed on the lines of other war resolutions. It places responsibility for the war squarely upon the shoulders of the German government, charged with repeated acts of war against the United States. It is also unquestionably a declaration of war. I am impressed with the solemnity of the occasion. Some may be filled with joy at the prospect of war. To me it is depressing and dreadful. The enormous cost which the people must pay, the great increase in the cost of living, the enormous burden of taxes the people must bear and the still greater heritage of death stagger my mind. The awful sacrifice of lives that must follow sickens my heart. I am sure many other senators feel as I do."

For Justice and Liberty.

"We want no more territory," said Senator Hitchcock. "We will demand no indemnity. We have no historic grudge to settle nor racial antipathy. In this respect we differ from the other countries already involved in this awful struggle. There is Pan-Slavism against Pan-Germanism. Italy wants back the Trentino, France its lost provinces; Great Britain has German commerce and German colonies almost in its grasp; Russia wants Constantinople, and Germany, besides its place in the sun, wants to dominate Europe."

"We of all nations will spend our treasure and our blood and sacrifice our lives without the thought of possibility of gain. We are going to war to vindicate our honor and independence as a great nation and in defense of humanity. Such quarrel as we have with Germany is not of our choosing. It was forced upon us and we did much to avoid it. For nearly three years the president, congress and the American people have hoped to avoid it. But one desperate act by the imperial German government has followed another. I do not mean to say Germany has desired war with us. I do not believe that. But the im-

perial German government has been desperate and has taken desperate chances."

American neutrality, the senator said, had first been shocked by the invasion of Belgium; then the sinking of the Lusitania almost caused war. He said, however, he did not consider that German had violated any pledges it had given after the sinking of the Lusitania because it had expressly reserved the right to revoke that pledge.

During Senator Hitchcock's speech Senator La Follette was absent most of the time conferring with Senator Gronna and others who are expected to oppose the resolution.

Senator Hitchcock said he had hoped armed neutrality would avert war.

"Unfortunately the opposition of the filibuster against that bill resulted in word going out to the world that the official branches of the government were at loggerheads," he said. "The result has been that our rights have been more imposed upon than ever; more American ships have been sunk; lives of American citizens have been lost. Armed neutrality has passed as an expedient against war."

"I have been bitterly opposed to war. I have used my influence to that end. Even when I knew the people were calling for war and a majority of congress overwhelmingly was for it, I sought out the president and begged him to remain longer, if possible, under the policy of armed neutrality as an expedient for peace. But the president had information in his possession which made it impossible."

Country and Congress Ready.

"The country is ready and congress is ready. While the vote has not been recorded, the decision has been made. It is war."

"I cannot vote against war," Senator Hitchcock concluded, "without doing a vain and foolish thing. It would only serve to weaken my country in the face of the enemy and the world when war is inevitable. I am ready now to take my place with those who will back up the president for the honor and protection of the nation."

Solemn Promises Broken.

Senator Hitchcock spoke only about twenty minutes and was followed by Senator Swanson of Virginia, who said the German government "has repeatedly and grossly violated its treaty obligations to us and wantonly broken solemn assurances."

"The issue is not peace or war," Senator Swanson continued. "War has already been declared upon us. The issue is whether we shall accept

war or abject and cowardly submission."

Reciting the sinking of American ships, German plots and outrages in this country, Senator Swanson said the Zimmermann plot to incite Mexico against this country "reaches the lowest depths of national turpitude."

"We have long suspected a disposition by Germany to dispute the Monroe doctrine. Now is the time to teach this mischief-making German government that our territorial sovereignty cannot be made a subject of war bargaining."

"The advocates of peace now would place upon this nation the shame of a still greater submission. They would endure still greater affronts and suffer still greater submission."

Not Bluffs or Boasts.

Reciting the warnings given to Germany against ruthless submarine war, Senator Swanson asked if they "were mere empty boasts and bluff or the solemn voice of a resolute people."

"No," he answered. "Congress

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