

# WILSON POLICY IN WISCONSIN STIRS POLITICS

### Manner in Which He Stepped Into Lenroot Election Rouses Leaders and Brings Forth Comment.

Washington Bureau of The Omaha Bee, 1311 G Street. By EDGAR C. SNYDER.

Washington, April 10.—(Special Telegram.)—The election of Irvine Lenroot of Wisconsin to the senate was the commanding event of the week, next to the German drive.

Few elections have been held in my memory that attracted as much national-wide interest or that seemed carried as much political significance. Many were concerned in the outcome of the Wisconsin balloting: first, as to whether it would show the state loyal to the German drive, and in that result the country is most generally grateful; second, would the republican party show itself strong for its own success and integrity as well as supporting the war, and third, and perhaps the most important of all, what effect would the recent tremendous grants of powers, which congress has conferred on the president, have upon the control of elections to the senate and house.

**President Commends Davis.**  
That the president would use the power thus conferred was shown in the pointed letter of the chief executive wherein he commended Davis' pre-war record and by implication attacked Lenroot's record of the same period. Vice President Marshall was sent into the state to speak, as was also J. Ham Lewis, the senatorial "ship." So that all the force of executive and official prestige was invoked. From the result it would seem that the people of Wisconsin resented the presidential interference.

Many wonder why the president saw fit to pitch the campaign on Lenroot's pre-war record rather than on what was done after the declaration. One answer to that is Lenroot's record in support of all measures to win the war was unassailable.

This record goes back to the delicate question of democratic reforms of war support after war had begun in America and especially the last two wars.

#### Champ Clark's Tale.

We hear frequently of Champ Clark's telling how the democrats took McKinley by "the scruff of the neck" and threw him into the Spanish-American war. The house library bound Congressional Record of 1898, at those pages showing the vote on the bill to raise revenue to support that war, is thumbed black by members looking to that vote when every democratic member of the house, with the exception of five, voted against that measure. Those five were J. J. Fitzgerald, Driggs and Cummings of New York, McAleer of Pennsylvania and "Fighting Joe" Wheeler of Alabama. All are now dead, except Fitzgerald.

Now that the president has seen fit to play politics it is interesting to recall a lot of things connected with this pre-war period. In chronological order let me recall them to you in order to refresh your memory.

1. "Preparedness." The republicans have all the argument there. Wilson's incoming was the signal for a letup of preparation for war.

#### "Watchful Waiting."

2. "Watchful Waiting," a doctrine adopted by the president in our relations with Mexico. As a democrat said to me the other day: "There is one feature of this war which compensates for some others. It makes us forget our handling of the Mexican embargo."

3. "Too Proud to Fight." That was a statement made by the president in a famous Fourth of July oration in Philadelphia. It seemed to be accepted and acted upon by the world powers and especially Germany.

4. "The McLemore Resolution." That was a resolution introduced by Congressman Jeff McLemore of Texas the principal feature of which was that, recognizing the fact that the president would not permit foreign ships carrying armed cargoes and American passengers upon leaving our shores to heavily arm to defend themselves against submarine attack, and it not appearing that the president had notified Germany that he would average American lives taken under such circumstances, that I would be the humane course to ask the president to warn Americans from taking passage on such ships. The president resented the pendency of this resolution and called upon the acting chairman of the rules committee to draft a rule summarily to dispose of this obnoxious measure.

The course followed was to table the resolution, which meant that it was not to be debated on its merits. A number of members, including Lenroot, Cannon, Cooper Moore, Kahn of California, Mann, Rodgers, Longworth, Fitzgerald of New York, insisting what they believed to be executive interference in the conduct of the house, voted against tabling, 142 in all.

5. "Peace Without Victory." On a momentous day, June 22, 1917, the president unexpectedly appeared before the senate and delivered a speech in which he declared for a "world peace without victory." This was the speech that for about 30 days was referred to as "The Sermon on the Mount."

#### "Armed Neutrality."

6. "Armed Neutrality." Germany on February 1, 1917, began her ruthless submarine policy. Many able statesmen construe that as the real beginning of war by Germany against the United States. The question of resistance and to what extent at once became the burning thought. On February 26, 1917, President Wilson asked for authority to arm our own ships to protect them against the submarines. He urged that while he had undoubted right without authority from congress, he wanted congress' sanction. He believed with that authority congress could go home until the following December and he could thus keep clear the sea and protect our rights. The house unanimously voted him that authority. All the house, it would seem, favored protecting our rights on the sea. The measure went to the senate, where by extended speeches of Senators La Follette, Norris, Stone,

# Babies Answer Call of Uncle Sam and Accept Registration With Delight



Little Miss Carolyn Collard was one of the first babies to answer the call of Uncle Sam to register all the children under 5 years. She is being weighed by Mrs. C. W. Pollard and Mrs. Sam Rees, jr., two of the workers at the Dundee school. Carolyn, who is above average in weight and height, is the 4-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Guy A. Collard, 623 North Fifty-first street.

The "save the babies" campaign began Wednesday morning with a rush. Workers believe that a most enthusiastic response will be met in all parts of the city. Up to noon 27 infants, mostly between the ages of 3 and 5,

were taken to the Dundee school and were registered.

Mrs. C. W. Pollard, in charge of the clerical work, said that the babies were average ones. The State Council of Defense is promoting the work as a war-time measure.

"It's wonderful the way the children take to the idea," said Mrs. Pollard. "We have had hardly any tears shed."

"A little boy was among those reported missing. A neighbor child told him early Wednesday morning that he would have to school and be registered or Uncle Sam would get him. He reported this to his mother and said he would rather see Uncle Sam go to the school and tell Uncle Sam

she needed him at home today.

Several families came for the registration, among them the three sons of Mrs. Sam Rees, jr., one of the workers. Masters Thomas, Sam and Harding were weighed, measured and examined just before Thomas, Elizabeth and John Naughton arrived, the second trio being children of Mr. and Mrs. T. F. Naughton.

Registration will be held Thursday in the morning at the Saunders school and in the afternoon at Columbia. On Friday the workers will receive at Walnut Hill, Saturday they will go to Cass in the morning and to Bancroft in the afternoon.

# U. S. AIR PROGRAM BRANDED FAILURE IN SENATE PROBE

Washington, April 10.—The government's aircraft program is characterized as "gravely disappointing" and a drastic reorganization of production machinery was recommended in a report by the senate military committee today, which charges government officials with misrepresenting the situation and misleading the public, and with "procrastination" and "indecision."

One-man control of production is proposed and the committee suggests that building be taken entirely out

of the hands of the signal corps. Delay is charged not only in the manufacture of Liberty motors and machine parts, but in the training of fliers as well.

# FIRST U. S. FLIER FALLS PREY TO GERMAN FORCES

Amsterdam, April 10.—The Germans have made their first capture of an American aviator, a semi-official Berlin dispatch reports. He is said to have been shot down on the western front on Sunday.

The American aviator is described as an engineer by profession, who since September of last year has served with the French forces.

# GERMAN TERROR REIGNS IN ALSACE

### Teuton Agents Tell Desperate People French Refuse to Fight; Crime to Speak Own Tongue.

French Front, April 10.—Terror and suffering show marked signs of increasing among the population of Alsace and Lorraine still under the German yoke, according to reports reaching France through neutral sources.

Letters from inhabitants of the two provinces. Even people who occupy comfortable positions are seen walking about in Strasbourg with bare feet as they are unable to get even footwear with wooden soles and paper uppers.

So many German agents speaking perfectly the provincial dialects are about that nearly all intercourse has ceased except between relatives and sure friends.

Large numbers of young women and girls have been taken from their homes by the Germans and sent to the vicinity of the French front, where they are made to work by the military authorities. Some of these girls are below 17 years old, and their deportation caused much disturbance, which became so marked that the German authorities promised to send these children back home.

It is a crime to have any French connections or even to speak French, the latter involving a fine of 20 or 30 marks. Property belonging to French persons or companies, who fled the country on the outbreak of war is being sold to German purchasers.

All Alsations and Lorrains aged from 17 to 60 years, the clergy included, have been called up to perform civilian service for the Germans, and in some instances they have been obliged to go to the advanced positions to build trenches, shelters and tunnels.

Masses of German propaganda are spread among the population, and Americans in Army That Saved Amiens

London, April 10.—But for the gallant defense put up by General Carey's improvised army, in which American railway engineers played a prominent part, the western front of the Daily Mail, the enemy might have pushed through to Amiens in the first few days of his great attack. The improvised force held an important stretch of the front against furious German onslaughts.

"There was no doubt in anybody's mind that they would hold on grimly as long as breath remained in their bodies," says the correspondent.

"It was not until it had been in the field for some time that the force was able to get artillery. But as soon as they had it they certainly used it to good advantage."

"In the beginning, however, it was the men who held the enemy back with their bodies."

The sector involved began at the River Somme near Sully-Laureate and extended southwest to about the Luce river.

are told that the city of Paris is suffering from famine, that there is not coal and that the French troops refuse to obey when ordered to march. This campaign of false news has considerable effect among the younger people, who have no other means of learning what is going on outside the country, but in general, especially among the older people, hope does not disappear that the two provinces will, as a result of the war, again become French.

### Mrs. Caroline Gould Dies

Following an Operation Mrs. Caroline Gould, 76 years old, mother of Mrs. C. H. Withey, 1921 Wirt street, died Tuesday night, following an operation on her eyes.

Mrs. Gould lived here for 18 years with her son-in-law, C. H. Withey, manager of the Farmers' Union Live Stock company, South Side.

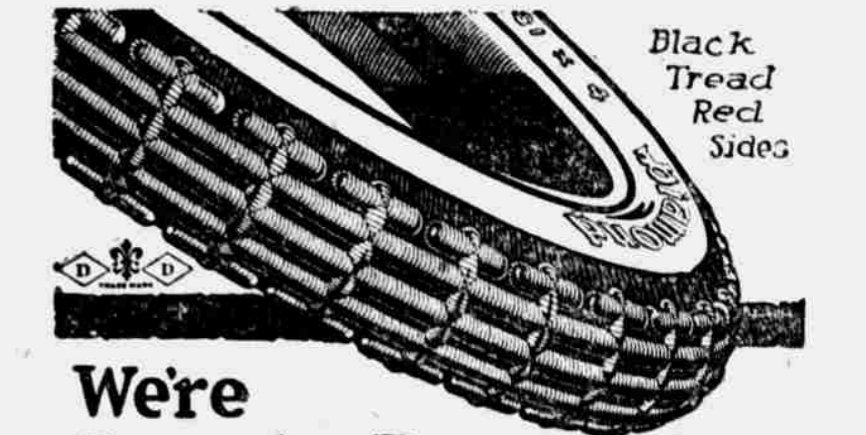
Funeral services were held at the residence Wednesday afternoon. Interment was in Forest Lawn cemetery.

### American Troops Caught In Fire of Mex Bandits

Marfa, Tex., April 10.—A patrol of American troops was fired upon late yesterday east of Fort Hancock. The firing came from the Mexican side of the Rio Grande, where a large force of armed Mexicans has been concentrating for the last week.

No American soldiers were hit when the firing occurred. United States troops are being rushed there from other points along the border. Fort Hancock is 75 miles east of El Paso.

**Aviator Meets Instant Death.**  
San Antonio, Tex., April 10.—Cadet Elam A. Ankrum, 24 years old of Champaign, Ill., was instantly killed, and Cadet George S. Douglass of Marysville, Kan., was perhaps fatally injured, when airplanes, which they were driving collided at Kelly field, an American aviation camp, at a height of 250 feet at 9:30 o'clock this morning.



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Organdies, Crepe de Chine, and Georgette Crepe, in white, flesh, Nile, rose and other new colors—many pretty styles; all sizes.

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White batiste in lace and embroidered trimmed; many with novelty collars of contrasting colors, beautiful styles, wide enough in scope to satisfy every taste.

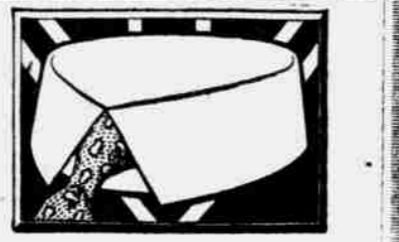
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Waterloo, Ia., Man on Canadian Casualty List  
Ottawa, Ont., April 10.—The names of the following Americans appear in today's Canadian casualty list:  
Wounded—H. M. Gartley, Kansas City, Mo.; J. Eastman, Seattle, Wash.; F. Palmer, Youngstown, O.; R. Kline, Waterloo, Ia.; Sergeant Major McNamara, Philadelphia; M. E. Armitage, Los Angeles, Cal.  
Died—J. Bunce, Sequim, Wash.  
Died—W. Raffentbart, Philadelphia.

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