EXTRA!

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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WAR WITH GERMANY IS CALL BEFORE CONGRESS

Congress Meets; Excitement Fever-High; Sen. Lodge Fights Pacifist

ADVERSE DECISION TO HONOLULU OIL IS RENDERED BY LAND BOARD

Large Local Stockholders Surmise It Affects Only Doubtful Section

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

VISALIA, Cal., April 1—The United States land office rendered an important decision yesterday, upholding the claim of the federal government against the Honolulu Consolidated Oil Company, who have been claimants of oil lands in Kern county valued all the way from three and a half to ten million dollars.

Under the decision the oil company is declared ousted from mineral lands in dispute, which revert to the government to be included in the naval reserve.

The land office upholds the government in its contention that the lands were illegally taken up, the original filers upon the property being dummies.

The original locators had no claim upon the property which merited recognition by the courts and were consequently unable to pass on any valid title to others. These dummy locators sold their rights to the land to the incorporators of the Honolulu Consolidated for $1 an acre, although some of those who figured as sellers did not even seen the land they proffered to be the owners of and which they sold.

Following the announcement of the decision it was announced at the land office that an appeal from the decision had been filed by the officers of the company.

May Be Section 6

Two of the large stockholders of the company in Honolulu this morning said that the meaning of the decision was a matter of surmise on their part but that they thought it probably referred to one portion only of the holdings of the company, what is known as section 6. On this section there had never been an adjudication of the land board while on other lands there had been adjudications by that body.

There has been considerable question in regard to securing titles on such land because of findings, it being said that dummies were used as the Associated Press report of the decision says. In regard to it Captain Matson is reported to have said that if there was any doubt in any of the lands of the company was on section 6, but that on other lands he felt no doubt of ultimately securing patents.

The large stockholders this morning are thoroughly familiar with the status of affairs and while they could not definitely say that it was only section 6 that is affected it was their hope and belief.

Possibly Affects Other Lands

The decision referred to in the foregoing report may be one rendered on the rehearing of the application for patents on the claims for which the company has no patents. It area has patents on some of its claims and the other claims were desired to complete up the patented lands of the company. Over such claims water and oil pipes have been run and wells have been built. On the first hearing the land board decided against the company. A rehearing was sought and obtained. Later, it the counsel of the company expressed confidence in securing a favorable opinion. Such hopes may have been unfounded. A court contest has been talked of for several weeks last and it is expected that now the company will carry the matter through to the supreme court.

A quotation received from the mainland by a local broker this morning the decline in San Francisco was sharp and $2.97½.

Lands First "Free Listed"

Following precedents of many years' standing in similar instances the department of interior originally clear listed the properties of the Honolulu Consolidated Oil Company. Atty. Gen. Gregory later asked that this clear listing be withdrawn, Secretary of Interior Lane declined but later granted the request of the attorney general upon the insistance of the latter. It is claimed the correspondence between the two departments does not disclose the real reasons, the underlying cause for the move by the attorney general. Then came a hearing to restore the lands to the free list and its failure, application for a rehearing, the new hearing with added evidence and now the second adverse decision.

ROW BREAKS UP PEACE MEETING

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

BALTIMORE, Md., April 2—Rioting, fist fights and a general rough house in which college professors, prominent businessmen, national guardsmen and pacifists, professional and amateur, ended a peace meeting here last night.

David Starr Jordan of Stanford University and a pacifist leader was the chief speaker at the meeting, which had been widely advertised as under the auspices of the American League Against Militarism. He had hardly started his lecture when the first interruption came, a series of cat calls, hoots and jeers.

Before the police had ended the disturbance the head of a monster procession headed by national guardsmen, and professors from Johns Hopkins University and other colleges in this city, engulfed the peace meeting. The crowd, good natured and laughing in the main, was headed by an American Flag, and marched into the theater in which the pacifists were gathered, under the shadow of the stars and stripes. Many of the prominent business and professional men in the city were in the invaders, and not a few of them in the front rank as leaders of the procession.

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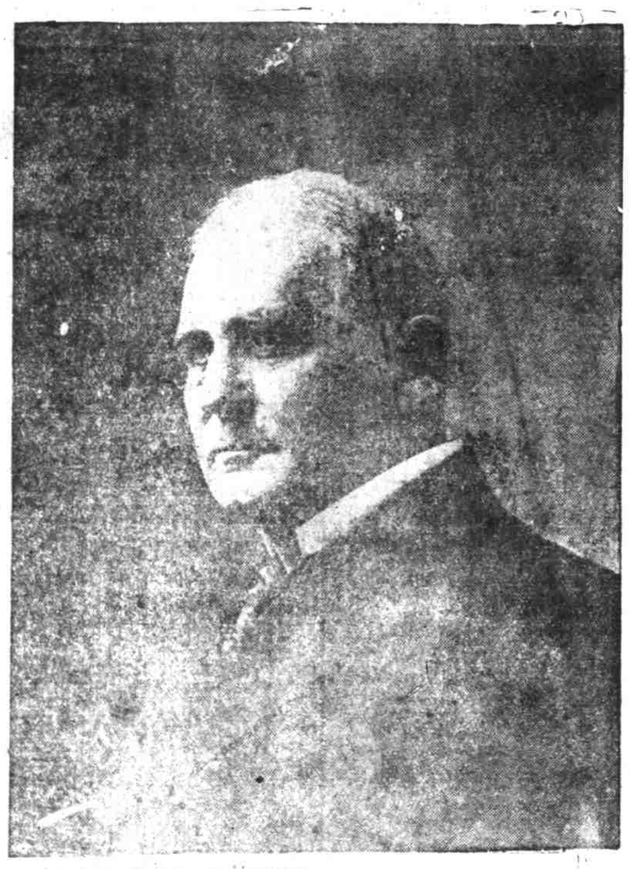
Champ Clark Elected Speaker of The House



CHAMP CLARK

(Associated Press Service by Federal Wireless)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 2.—Congress went into extraordinary session today with momentous questions making every member unusually grave as he took his seat in house or senate.

Democratis won an unexpectedly easy victory in the election of Champ Clark to head the house again as speaker. The vote was 217 to 205. The Republicans lost on a strict party vote, with some of the independents siding with the Bourbons.

PRINCIPAL McDONALD ACRES TO WAIT FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION

BIG EAGLE ATTACKS FARMER IN A FIELD NEAR [illegible]

GERMANS PLAN ENORMOUS BLOWS

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

COPENHAGEN, Denmark, April 2—Germany is preparing to make one last desperate blow, information has been received here from sources in Berlin to the effect that the general staff is getting ready to call upon every available man in the Empire for a supreme effort to end the war this year. This, it is said, is the goal toward which the eyes of the advisors of Field Marshal von Hindenburg have been turning of late, and it is declared that they believe it is possible. The general staff has started work upon plans for converting every factory in the land to the work of producing war material.

No hint of the secret of von Hindenburg's campaign has been allowed to leak out.

AMERICA-AUSTRIA RELATIONS TENSE

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 2—The state department last night refused to throw any light upon the report which has been made public here that American Ambassador Penfield has left Vienna. Officials would not admit that he is now on his way home, nor would they discuss the rumor that he has been recalled for a conference with Secretary Lansing, regarding the state of affairs in Austria.

Count von Tarnowski, the Austrian ambassador here, has not been received formally by this government, although he has been here more than two months.

1700 PEOPLE ABOARD PASSENGER STEAMER ON RIVER BAR IN DISTRESS

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

EVANSVILLE, Ind., April 2—The river steamer St. Paul, carrying about 1700 passengers, has been reported aground in the Ohio river. She was driven out of her course in the channel by high winds and is reported to be flying distress signals. Rescue parties have been dispatched to her assistance.

THREE CONVEYORS OF SUGAR WILL SOON BE WORKING ON WHARF

[illegible] handled by hand.

[illegible] imports to the port of [illegible]

WILSON SPEAKS AT 8 TONIGHT

(Associated Press by Federal Wireless)

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 2.—Congress met today with scenes of extraordinary tensity and feeling so high that a fist fight between Senator Lodge of Massachusetts and a pacifist spectator in the corridor of the capitol was only one of the many sensational events.

Resolutions are already before the house which place the country in the status of a warring nation.

Congressman Flood of Virginia, Democrat, chairman of the house committee on foreign affairs, immediately after the lower house was organized introduced a resolution declaring that "a state of war exists" in the United States upon its foreign relations.

Representative Gardner of Massachusetts, Republican, followed this almost at once with a resolution declaring that "war has been declared by Germany upon the United States," and authorizing the president to use the whole land and navy forces of this country against the empire of Germany and its subject dependencies.

The Gardner resolution also declares that "the grandeur and dignity of the United States are such that they will not permit this country's share in the war to be borne by other nations."

President Wilson has determined to address Congress today and the hour has been tentatively set for 8 tonight.

A fistic encounter between Senator Lodge of Massachusetts and a pacifist, Alexander Bannwart, of Dorchester, Mass., was a feature of the exhibitions of tensity of feeling.

The encounter took place in the corridor of the Capitol when Bannwart approached the veteran statesman and urged that Congress should call for a referendum vote of the people on peace or war.

An exchange of "coward!" and "liar!" between the two men led to the fight. Lodge swung his arm and clenched fist and knocked his opponent down.

This was only part of the personal solicitation on the members of Congress to vote for war or peace.

Pacifists and anti-pacifists by hundreds filled the capitol and nearby streets and button-holed the legislators. They besieged both houses of Congress in an effort to influence its action.

Thousands of telegrams to the capitol, White House are flooding the [illegible]