

MAY NOT HAVE POWER TO ARM SHIPS

MINORITY LEAD BY LA FOLLETTE CHOKES SENATE

Measure Giving Wilson Power in Crisis Prevented by Dozen Men.

MAJORITY ROUNDLY DENOUNCES ACTION

"Reprehensible Filibuster" Phrase of President's Spokesman.

TWO MONTANA SENATORS APPROVED OF MEASURE

Washington, March 4.—(Special.)—Senator Myers said tonight: "I deplore and regret the defeat of the measure by filibuster. I was heartily in favor of its passage and in full accord with the president's wishes. The defeat of the bill without any chance to vote on it is another evidence that the rules of the senate should be revised and a cloture rule adopted which will prevent filibustering in future."

Washington, March 4.—Twelve senators, led by Senator La Follette and encouraged by Senator Stone, Democratic chairman of the foreign relations committee, in a filibuster, denounced by President Wilson's spokesman as the most reprehensible in the history of any civilized nation, defied the will of an overwhelming majority in congress up to the last minute today and denied to the president a law authorizing to arm American merchant ships to meet the German submarine menace.

Unyielding throughout 26 hours of continuous session to appeals that their defiance of the president would be humiliating to the country; uncompromising in a crisis described to them as the most serious to the nation since the Civil war, La Follette and his small group of supporters refused a majority of their colleagues an opportunity to vote on the armed neutrality bill, and it died with the Sixty-Fourth congress at noon.

Responsibility Fixed.
To fix responsibility before the country, 76 senators, 39 Republicans and 46 Democrats, signed a manifesto proclaiming to the world that they favored passage of the measure.

This declaration, embodied in the record of the senate, referred to the fact that the house Thursday night had passed a similar bill by a vote of 403 to 13, and also recited that the senate rule permitting unlimited debate, gave a small minority opportunity to throttle the will of the majority.

The Manifesto.
The text of the manifesto follows: "The majority of the United States senators favored the passage of the senate bill authorizing the president of the United States to arm American merchant vessels, a similar bill having already passed the house by a vote of 403 to 13. Under the rules of the senate allowing unlimited debate, it appears to be impossible to obtain a vote previous to noon, March 4, 1917, when this session of congress expires. We desire the statement entered on the record to establish that the senate favored the legislation and would pass it if a vote could be obtained."

Thirteen senators declined to sign the declaration, but one of them, Senator Penrose, Republican of Pennsylvania, announced that he would have voted for the bill had opportunity been offered him. The 12 who went on record with the 13 members of the house against granting to President Wilson the authority he asked from congress in the crisis were:

Republicans—Clapp, Minnesota; Cummins, Iowa; Gronna, North Dakota; Kenyon, Iowa; La Follette, Wisconsin; Norris, Nebraska; Works, California.—7.

JEANNETTE WELCOMED; NOT THERE

House Gives Tremendous Ovation to Counterfeit Congresswoman.

Washington, March 4.—A hoax played on members of the house and the crowded galleries in the dying hours of congress today overshadowed the singing, cheering and speech making that mark the end of every session. It all centered about interest in Miss Jeannette Rankin of Montana, the first woman ever elected to the United States congress, who will take her seat in the next house. She was expected to be here today, but did not arrive, and Mrs. George W. Edmonds, the wife of Representative Edmonds of Pennsylvania, received the thunderous ovation that awaited her. So well did Mrs. Edmonds play her role that hundreds of persons who shook hands with her in an impromptu reception following announcement from the floor of the presence of Miss Rankin, went away unaware of her real identity.

Miss Rankin Announced.
Representative Britten of Illinois, by pre-arrangement with Mrs. Edmonds, perpetrated the hoax. Half an hour after Speaker Clark had adjourned the session, Britten passed word to Representative Gallivan of Massachusetts that Miss Rankin was in the chamber. Gallivan sprang to the top of a table in front of the speaker's stand, announced that the first congresswoman was present and named Representative Britten to escort her to the front.

Tremendous applause followed as Mrs. Edmonds, who was in a member's seat, walked down toward the speaker. Acknowledging the greeting with a bow, she said in strong, clear tones: "My friends, I prefer to make my first speech in the next house."

Flattering Ovation.
Bowling again, she sat down. The scene which followed was flattering to Miss Rankin. From every part of the chamber members and their wives and children—the floor being open to families by this time—rushed over to greet the "congresswoman". Without embarrassment, Mrs. Edmonds began shaking hands, with smiles and thanks. Soon a long line formed in front of the speaker's stand and the galleries turned their entire attention to the demonstration. Representative Meeker of Missouri and his little crowd of singers in the middle of the floor attracted little attention until Mrs. Edmonds finally slipped away.

Old attaches of the house said the jollification today outdid in fervor any they had ever witnessed in many years. It lasted more than an hour.

Flag Unfurled.
As Speaker Clark's gavel dropped promptly at noon, members on the floor and the press gallery, who previously had been supplied with books of old fashioned songs, burst into "Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean." Mrs. J. Charles Linthicum, wife of Representative Linthicum of Maryland, rose in the gallery and unfurled a huge silken flag, one end of which was gathered up by Mrs. Champ Clark, wife of the speaker. A storm of applause followed.

In another part of the gallery Miss Leona Sherwood, a daughter of Representative Sherwood, sang "The Star Spangled Banner." Mrs. David H. Kincheloe, wife of Representative Kincheloe of Kentucky, whistled "Dixie" with the help from the crowd. "How Dry I Am," sung with particular feeling by "wets," who were so overwhelmingly defeated in the last congress, followed.

The arrival of a body of New York national guardsmen in uniform on the floor created a patriotic outburst. In tribute to the late Representative Conroy, who for many years led the

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Moving Picture Funnies



President Wilson, Vice President Marshall, the capitol at Washington and Chief Justice White, who administered the oath of office to Wilson and Marshall yesterday and will do so at the public ceremony today.

CHINA GOVERNMENT IS SPLIT BY CRISIS

Premier Resigns When President Refuses to Break With Germany.

Peking, March 4.—The cabinet today decided that China should join the United States in breaking off relations with Germany. This decision was submitted to the president, who refused to approve the cabinet's action, saying such power rested entirely with him. Premier Tuan Chi-Jui immediately resigned and left for Tien Tsin, accompanied by several other members of the cabinet. The resignation of the entire cabinet is expected.

Parliament is virtually unanimous in favor of the opinion of the cabinet. The leaders of all the political parties are adversely criticizing the president's position. The vice president of the republic supports the cabinet. An official statement issued from the president's office says that the break between the president and premier was due to personal differences rather than to the foreign policy. President Li Yuan Hung has sent representatives to Tien Tsin to induce the premier to return to Peking.

According to the president's office, the immediate cause of the break was a dispatch sent to the Chinese minister at Tokio, committing China to a rupture of relations with Germany and a union with the entente powers under certain conditions. The president refused his approval because he declared, parliament must sanction all measures contemplating war as well as a direct declaration of war.

President Li Yuan Hung justifies his position by article 35 of the provisional constitution, which says: "The provisional president shall have power, with the concurrence of the national council to declare war and conclude treaties."

STEAMER CHICAGO ARRIVES SAFELY

New York, March 4.—The French steamer Chicago, which sailed from this port February 19, with 141 passengers, 80 of whom were Americans, has arrived safely at Bordeaux after passing through the German submarine zone, according to a private cable message received here late today. Most of the Americans on board were members of hospital contingents on their way to France to engage in war relief work. The Chicago is the first of the French liners to make a round trip between Bordeaux and New York since the German submarine policy was declared.

ADMINISTRATION BILLS DEFEATED

Only Two Measures on President's Program Passed During Session.

Washington, March 4.—Of all the legislation on the administration program proper, only two measures—the revenue bill and the measure giving civil government to Porto Rico and American citizenship to its inhabitants—got through the executive tangle at the close of the session. One of the most important enactments of the three months of the session, the immigration bill, passed both houses, despite the president's announced objection, and then was passed again by both over his veto.

Among the administration bills which failed were the measures to supplement the Adamson law; the bill to enlarge the interstate commerce commission; the Webb bill to legalize joint foreign selling agencies; and conservative legislation, including the general dam bills and water power bills.

Other Beaten Bills.
Bills which do not form part of the original program, but which were pressed unsuccessfully by cabinet officers and administration leaders late in the session, included amendments to the shipping act to give the president power to commandeer ships; a drastic espionage bill, which passed the senate, but never was taken up in the house, and amendments to the federal reserve act to increase reserve bank gold holdings and decrease member bank reserves.

Congress provided for the payment of \$25,000,000 for the Danish West Indies, but the senate failed to ratify, despite an urgent request by the president, the treaty to pay Columbia \$15,000,000 for the separation of Panama. Among important enactments which were not specifically included in the program were the bill abolishing saloons in the District of Columbia and the rider on the postoffice appropriation bill, making it a crime to transport liquor in interstate commerce into a prohibition state.

Appropriations Stopped.
Although the senate filibuster stopped the passage of appropriation bills, carrying in all about \$511,000,000, congress managed to get through 10 other supply measures, with a total of nearly \$1,200,000,000. Appropriation measures that failed included the army appropriation bill, carrying \$270,000,000; the sundry civil appropriation bill carrying \$139,000,000; the general deficiency, \$62,000,000; the rivers and harbor bill, \$39,000,000 and the military academy, \$1,380,000.

Supply Bills Passed.
The bills passed were: Naval, \$325,000,000; postoffice, \$330,000,000; invalid pension, \$160,000,000; legislative, executive and judicial, \$40,000,000; fortifications, \$51,000,000; agricultural, \$26,000,000; District of Co.

Capital Crowded.
Tonight the capitol, filled with the thousands who have come from the four quarters of the nation for the quadrennial event, was a-tiptoe in anticipation of tomorrow's demonstration. Although the inaugural was planned under the president's direction

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WILSON SCORES SENATE RULES FOR PARALYSIS

Says Extra Session Is Required to Clothe Him With Authority, but It Would Be Useless Under Present Situation—Asks That Senate Change Rules in Special Meeting Today.

"CONGRESS UNABLE TO SAFEGUARD COUNTRY"

Washington, March 4.—President Wilson tonight informed the country in a statement that he may be without power to arm merchant ships and take other steps to meet the German submarine menace in the absence of authority from congress. An extra session of congress, the president says, is required to clothe him with authority, but it is useless to call one while the senate works under the present rules, which permit a minority to keep an overwhelming majority from acting.

The president proposes therefore that the special session of the senate which he has called to meet tomorrow revise the rules "to supply the means of action and save the country from disaster."

"A little group of wilful men," says the president in his statement, "representing no opinion but their own, have rendered the great government of the United States helpless and contemptible."

President's Statement.
The president's statement follows: "The termination of the last session of the Sixty-fourth congress by constitutional limitation discloses a situation unparalleled in the history of the country, perhaps unparalleled in the history of any modern government. In the immediate presence of a crisis fraught with more subtle and far-reaching possibilities of national danger than any other government has known within the whole history of its international relations the congress has been unable to act either to safeguard the country or to vindicate the elementary rights of its citizens. More than 500 of the 531 members of the two houses were ready and anxious to act; the house of representatives had acted, by an overwhelming majority, but the senate was unable to act because 11 senators had determined that it should not.

Debate Unlimited.
"The senate has no rules by which debate can be limited or brought to an end; no rules by which dilatory tactics of any kind can be prevented. A single member can stand in the way of action if he has the physical endurance. The result in this case is a complete paralysis alike of the legislative and the executive branches of the government.

"This inability of the senate to act has rendered some of the most necessary legislation of the session impossible, at a time when the need for it was most pressing and most evident. The bill which would have permitted such combinations of capital and of organization in the export and import trade of the country as the circumstances of international competition have made imperative—a bill which the business judgment of the whole country approved and demanded—has failed.

Important Bills Fail.
"The opposition of one or two senators has made it impossible to increase the membership of the interstate commerce commission or to give it the altered organization necessary for its efficiency. The conservation bill which should have released for immediate use the mineral resources which are still locked up in the public lands, now that their release is more imperatively necessary than ever, and the bill which would have made the unused water power of the country immediately available for industry have both failed, though they have been under consideration throughout the sessions of two congresses and have been twice passed by the house of representatives.

"The appropriations for the army have failed, along with the appropriations for the civil establishment of the government, the appropriations for the military academy at West Point and the general deficiency bill. It has proved impossible to extend the powers of the shipping board to meet the special needs of the new situation into which our commerce has been forced or to increase the gold reserve of our national banking system to meet the unusual circumstances of the existing financial situation.

Extra Session Powerless.
"It would not cure the difficulty to call the Sixty-fifth congress in extraordinary session. The paralysis of the senate would remain. The purpose and spirit of action are not lacking now. The congress is more definitely united in thought and purpose at this

moment, I venture to say, than it has been within the memory of any man now in its membership. There is not only the most united patriotic purpose, but the objects members have in view are perfectly clear and definite. But the senate cannot act unless its leaders can obtain unanimous consent. Its majority is powerless, helpless. In the midst of a crisis of extraordinary peril then only definite and decided action can make the nation safe or shield it from war itself by the aggression of others, action is impossible.

Other Nations.
"Although as a matter of fact the nation and the representatives of the nation stand back of the executive with unprecedented unanimity and spirit, the impression made abroad will of course be that it is not so and that other governments may act as they please without fear that this government can do anything at all. We cannot explain. The explanation is incredible.

"The senate of the United States is the only legislative body in the world which cannot act when its majority is ready for action. A little group of wilful men representing no opinion but their own have rendered the great government of the United States helpless and contemptible. There is but one remedy. The only remedy is that the rules of the senate shall be so altered that it can act. The country can be relied upon to draw the moral. I believe that the senate can be relied upon to supply the means of action and save the country from disaster."

President Can't Act.
At the same time the president authorized the further statement that what rendered the situation even more grave than it had been supposed that it was, was the discovery that while the president under his general constitutional powers could do much of what he had asked the congress to empower him to do, it had been found that there were certain old statutes as yet un repealed which may raise insuperable practical obstacles and may nullify his power.

The old law referred to by the president was adopted by congress in 1819 and referred to the resistance of American merchantmen against the attacks of privateers and pirates, but excluded from vessels which might be so attacked, "a public armed vessel of a nation in amity with the United States." Technically, Germany is not at war with the United States and submarines are public armed vessels of Germany.

The president's statement followed a conference at the White House between Mr. Wilson, Secretary McAdoo, Postmaster General Burleson, Colonel E. M. House, Vance C. McCormick, chairman of the Democratic committee, and Secretary Tumulty.

Stone Exonerated.
The president referred to the opposition group as containing 11 senators, whereas 13 who had opportunity to do so failed to sign the manifesto. Senator Penrose did not sign but said he would have voted for the armed neutrality bill. It was assumed the president had eliminated also Senator Stone, in his list, because Stone announced he opposed the bill, but did not oppose a vote.

MILWAUKEE WON'T GET COAL IN PUBLIC LAND

Washington, March 4.—The bill permitting the Republic Coal company to acquire 1,400 acres of coal land in Montana, to supply coal to the Milwaukee railroad, failed of final passage because of the deadlock between the house and senate conferees, the house insisting on a leasing arrangement and the senate asking for sale or lease. Senator Myers tried unsuccessfully to have the house adopt the senate provision.

KALISPELL SECOND.
Spokane, March 4.—Results of today's shoot in the Inland Empire telegraphic trap shooting tournament, placed Spokane and Wallace in first place with three straight victories to their credit. Kalispell and Wallace are tied for second place with two victories and one defeat each.