

WAR PLANS LAID FOR AGGRESSIVE MILITARY ACTION

Every Department of Government Prepares for Coming Conflict.

POLICIES OF MOMENTOUS CONSEQUENCE DEVELOPED

Navy Takes Steps to Co-Operate Fully With Those of Entente Allies.

NATION TO BE ORGANIZED

National Defense Council Will Deal Ahead of Time With Various Economic Problems.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(By Associated Press.)—War plans—military, economic and financial—for aggressive hostility against Germany were rushed forward to-day by the administrative branch of the government, and only await action by Congress on a war resolution to be put into execution.

WILSON AND CABINET GO OVER WAR PLANS

President Wilson and his cabinet went over the war plans at a two-hour session, and previously the National Defense Council, with its civilian advisory commission and several subsidiary organizations, developed policies and details of momentous consequence to the nation. Meanwhile the War and Navy Departments were going ahead with the most immediate preparations for defense.

Already the navy has taken steps to insure co-operation between the American fleet and those of the entente allies, to become effective upon the formal entry of the United States into the war.

The most important plans under preparation by the administration include:

Enlistment by selective conscription of young men for a national army, in addition to the regular establishment and National Guard increments of 500,000, until enough has been obtained to make certain the defeat of Germany.

Preparation of the nation's commercial interests for economical and effective distribution of commodities among the civilian population.

PROVISIONS TO MEET MENACE OF SUBMARINES

Rapid provision of adequate means of combating the submarine menace. The raising of a very large sum of money, as much as possible to be obtained by taxation, and the definite amount of the first budget not to be fixed until the exact needs of the army and navy and of the entente allies are ascertained.

Provision of supplies and equipment of all kinds for the army under a provision of law which allows the Secretary of War to fix a "reasonable price"; and

Division of the young men of the country into service classes, those needed more in industries than in the army or navy to receive insignia showing they are performing duty equivalent to fighting.

Most of these plans will require the authorization of Congress, but from opinions expressed at the Capitol it is believed that once the war resolution is adopted, further legislation to empower the executive branch to go full speed ahead will follow quickly.

There is every indication that the nation, through its representatives, will follow out President Wilson's words to Congress, and "exert all its power and employ all its resources to bring the government of the German empire to terms and end the war."

COMMERCIAL ECONOMY BOARD WILL BE NAMED

The Council of National Defense, composed of Secretaries Baker, Lane, Daniels, Wilson, Houston and Redfield, following a conference with its advisory commission, decided to name soon a commercial economy board to organize the commercial interests of the nation for effective distribution of all necessary commodities among the people generally. Its aim will be to deal ahead of time with problems of war-time distribution.

The council, all of whose members later attended the Cabinet meeting, decided to confer every day this week with the possible exception of to-morrow. Its activities, which have to be approved by the President, and in some cases by Congress, have begun to reach into every problem aimed to make the United States most efficient in war.

Tentative ways in which the great sums of money needed by the government may be raised are in course of preparation. The revenue-making power, however, lies entirely with Congress.

PLANNING TO MEET FINANCIAL BURDENS

In line with the President's suggestion to Congress in his address, that the present generation bear as much of the financial burden as possible, the ways of providing money under consideration to-day included increasing the excess profits tax, lowering the minimum for exemptions and increasing the super-tax under the income tax law, increasing internal revenue taxes on some articles, and placing stamp taxes on some articles not now included. The general idea is to place taxation most heavily on those best able to pay.

It is realized that some of the necessary funds will have to be raised by bond issues in the form of popular subscription loans. It was estimated by one Cabinet member that \$10,000,000 in small interest loans can be raised quickly in the United States.

Germany Unswerved From Chosen Course

BERLIN, April 3 (via London, April 4).—The press report of President Wilson's "state of war" address reached Berlin at 10 o'clock this morning. It is declared here that there will be no change in the German attitude even if Congress adopts President Wilson's views. Germany will not declare war, nor take any step to wage war against the United States.

The submarine war will be continued as it has been conducted since February 1, but this, declare the officials, is not directed more against the United States than any other neutral.

It also is declared that there will be no change in the treatment of American citizens in Germany, who now have the same freedom as all other neutrals. But Germany expects that the United States will continue the same treatment of Germans in that country.

EACH DAY DRAWS ALLIES CLOSER TO ST. QUENTIN

In Fresh Drives British and French Forces Capture Surrounding Villages.

IN STONE'S THROW OF TOWN Germans Violently Bombard Rheims, Throwing 2,000 Shells Into City and Wounding Civilian Population, According to Paris Reports.

Each day finds the British and French forces drawing their net closer upon St. Quentin. Already close to the outskirts of the town on the west and southwest, the British and French, in fresh drives, have captured additional villages and points of support.

Attacking on a front of more than eight miles south and southwest of the harassed German stronghold, the French troops, notwithstanding stubborn resistance by the Germans, everywhere met with success, taking strongly organized positions and villages, notable among them Dallon, about two miles southwest, and Giffecourt, two miles south of the town.

The British, already almost within a stone's throw of St. Quentin, seem to be resting there, while to the north they are carrying out a maneuver having as its object the taking of St. Quentin from the north. In this operation they have partly succeeded. Driving eastward from the region of Verdun, they have captured the town of Malesmeux, five miles north-west of St. Quentin, and further north the Ronsoy wood. Field Marshal Haig's forces also were successful in taking the village of Heuvelin-Coejeul, five miles southeast of Arras.

Rheims has again been violently bombarded by the Germans, more than 2,000 shells having been thrown into the town. Paris reports that there were casualties among the civil population.

On the Russian front the Germans delivered attacks against the Russians at Ilobouk, which is in the Dvinsk sector, and south of Vladimir-Volynski, in Volhynia. At each place the attackers succeeded in penetrating Russian positions, but later were expelled from them.

Heavy snowfalls in the mountain regions of the Austro-Italian theater are hampering operations, but there has been considerable activity in the Adige Valley.

STRATEGIC POINTS CAPTURED BY FRENCH

PARIS, April 3.—A series of powerfully organized points of support held by large German forces and about eight miles in extent have been captured by the French to the south of St. Quentin. Various villages and heights fell into the hands of the French.

The official communication from the War Office announcing this latest successful operation, reports that the town of Rheims has been violently bombarded by the Germans, more than 2,000 shells having been thrown into it, resulting in some casualties to the civilian population.

BRITISH ARE PROGRESSING DESPITE HEAVY BLIZZARD

LONDON, April 3.—Despite a heavy blizzard, which raged during the night, further progress was made by the British forces, says Reuter's correspondent in a dispatch from British headquarters in France. Henin-sur-Coujeul, five miles southeast of Arras, has been cleared of the enemy, giving the British possession of the line running almost straight from Beaumont to the Amiens-Cambrai road near Beaumont. The British occupied the village of Malesmeux, northwest of St. Quentin, while a German counterattack against Templeux-le-Guerard was repulsed with heavy casualties.

CHICAGO AGAIN DEMOCRATIC

Windy City Turns Mayor Thompson's Republican Plurality Into Victory for Opposing Party.

CHICAGO, April 3.—Chicago swung back to the Democratic column at today's city election. Mayor Thompson's Republican plurality of 137,477 in 1915 turned into a victory for the Democrats by pluralities ranging from 25,000 to 40,000.

The Democrats elected Clayton F. Smith treasurer and James T. Igo clerk, the only two general offices being contested. They also elected twenty-four Aldermen, with several wards still in doubt. This is a gain of ten Aldermen, with the chance of getting several doubtful seats.

Two Socialists were elected, and the party polled about 35,000 votes. Women took a prominent part in the election, and succeeded in winning the Twenty-fifth Ward for Robert H. McCormick. They worked around the polls in all parts of the city and voted in large numbers.

ARMY PLAN BASED ON CONSCRIPTION

Young Men to Be Summoned as Rapidly as They Can Be Trained.

AGE LIMITS ARE FIXED Made Clear That 500,000 Is Nowhere Near Number Needed.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—Administration plans for raising an army on the principle of universal liability to service, as the result of Congress action, adopted, are based on selective conscription of young men to be summoned to the colors as rapidly as they can be trained and officered. A detailed scheme for the registration of eligibles has been worked out.

After married men, others with dependent families and those whose service is required in industry have been exempted, others within the age limits will be examined physically, and those found fit will be selected, possibly by lot, until the first 500,000 to be trained are secured.

NEAR LIMIT NEEDED

It was made clear to-day that 500,000 is nowhere near the limit needed, and it is expected that more than 500,000 available will be found in the first classification. Others will be trained as rapidly as possible by officers from the regular army, National Guard and officers' reserve corps.

Maximum and minimum age limits for the first call are fixed in the administration plan, but will not be made public until it is presented to Congress. In recent discussions a minimum of eighteen years and a maximum of twenty-three years have been mentioned.

Preliminary military steps possible under existing laws were added to-day to those already taken. They included direction by Secretary Baker that the first class at the West Point Military Academy be graduated April 20, supplying 125 highly trained young officers.

At the Navy Department it was announced that steps have already been taken to insure close co-operation between the American fleet and those of the entente allies when the necessary authority has been granted. The American Embassy at London has been in close touch with the British Admiralty.

Standardization of the munition industry will be one of the first direct steps taken under direction of the National Defense Council. A continuous and adequate flow of weapons and ammunition of all kinds will be insured, not only for the American forces, but to the entente armies.

IS MADE OBLIGATORY

The National Defense Council has been planning to recommend legislation to standardize prices for army supplies and munitions, but it has been discovered that, under the national defense act of June 5, 1916, the supplying of all kinds of material is made obligatory on all firms and individuals at a reasonable price, to be determined by the Secretary of War. In case of violations, the government is authorized to seize plants and institute criminal proceedings. So far, however, firms generally have indicated entire willingness to co-operate with the government.

The corridors of the Navy and War Departments were busy to-day, and an air of suppressed excitement prevailed in all offices. Immediate preparations must be made to double or triple the clerical forces of both departments to meet the coming strain. New quarters must be found to house the new civil elements. Buildings near the State, War and Navy structures are being looked over for this purpose.

ONE BIG MOVE REMAINS FOR NAVY DEPARTMENT

Only one big move in preparation for war remains to be made in the Navy Department. That is mobilization of the naval militia and the various classes of the naval reserve. The former will go to the reserve ships of the line, filling out skeleton crews and making the ships ready for action. From the latter will come the men for the coast-patrol and submarine-chaser services, as well as additional men for line ships.

Probably 15,000 men could be added to the navy personnel at once by this mobilization. It has been estimated that double that number would be required for full patrol of the Atlantic coast by motor-boats. It seems probable that, unless sufficient volunteers respond promptly, the universal service system may be invoked to fill up the navy's ranks.

Bids were opened at the War Department to-day for sixteen-inch rifles to go in the coast defenses. The Bethlehem Steel Company was the only bidder, offering two or four guns complete at \$225,000 each, or without the mechanism at \$215,000 each. These guns are part of the new coast defense program approved by Congress a year ago.

In connection with the army plans, it was pointed out to-day that, under the present national defense act, the National Guard can be brought to its full war strength by draft. The force has an authorized total strength of 440,000, and its present strength is about 150,000. Orders to muster out men with dependent families and those in the government service or at work on government contracts may reduce this number considerably.

GUARD MAY BE REQUIRED FOR POLICE WORK AT HOME

It is not known whether the War Department contemplates any change in the present status of the guard. These troops would not be available for service in Europe under existing law, and, in addition, the full number (Continued on Fourth Page.)

PILING FRESH FUEL ON GERMAN UNREST

Doubtful if Berlin Will Permit Publication of Wilson's Address.

FEARFUL OF ITS EFFECT

Washington Hears Nothing Official on Rumored Peace Movement.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—(By Associated Press.)—Whether the German government will permit publication in Germany of President Wilson's address to Congress was a question of great interest to-day at the State Department. The sharp line drawn by the President in his address to the German people and the autocracy which lies there is regarded as providing additional fuel for the unrest in Germany which has been recognized even by Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg.

Reports from Berlin that Count Czernin, Austrian Foreign Minister, had proposed a conference of belligerents without a cessation of hostilities, causing great surprise at the State Department, where it was said that no such definite information had been received.

Officials felt at once that the time for such a conference absolutely has passed. The view is being adopted here that no negotiations can be begun until Germany has laid down a general statement of terms as a guarantee of good faith.

The sharp focusing of attention throughout the world by the President's address on the present autocracy of Germany is expected to make some curtailment of that autocracy essential as a peace preliminary. It is very probable, therefore, that a general condition of peace will be some very decided action towards the autocracy.

While the Austrian, Bulgarian and Turkish situation remains just as it was so far as this country is concerned, it is probable that Germany will force those nations to her side.

Count Tarloewski, whom President Wilson said could not be received as Austrian ambassador, now is expected to ask for his safe conduct home. As Ambassador Penfield has been summoned home from the American embassy in Vienna, full diplomatic relationship would no longer exist, and little doubt is felt that the next step will follow within a few days.

ENTRANCE OF AMERICA IS MOMENTOUS EVENT

LONDON, April 3.—(By Associated Press.)—The British press regards the entry of America as one of the most momentous events of the war in its importance attached to President Wilson's address and the high tributes paid to the President's statesmanship.

The Daily Chronicle, giving its editorial on this subject, the unusual honor of leaded type and double column breadth with the caption, "America at War; Wilson's Magnificent Appeal," says:

"It is impossible to read President Wilson's speech without being struck by its statesmanlike breadth and elevation of tone. His long patience and caution in his determination to advance no faster than the mass of opinion in his country, only render more impressive his final crossing of the Rubicon. The moral effect of such a speech, made with a nation of 90,000,000 behind it, must be great throughout the world.

"It is a strange, impressive phenomenon—this tardy, but weighty, intervention of the United States in the death struggle of Europe. Here is a nation composed of settlers, whose migration from the days of the Mayflower onward has been largely in the nature of flight from tyranny. For the first time on any considerable scale they now stretch out their hand.

"The new movement has the same motive as the old. It is not inspired by national ambitions, and has no freedom and for moral principles, and we, the hard-pressed nations to whom this help, with all its vast potentialities, is offered, cannot but feel first and foremost the moral uplifting and precious moral indorsement which comes from the advent on our side of forces inspired by such an ideal."

TO DESTROY POTSDAM

The Express says:

"America is entering the war for the one suicidal purpose of destroying Potsdam. If the President's speech means anything, it means that America will never treat with the Kaiser and will resolutely oppose any peace that leaves the Hohenzollerns on the German throne."

The Daily Mail, in an editorial under the caption of "No Peace With the Hohenzollerns," says:

"President Wilson's speech will stand beside Lincoln's greatest speeches for its gravity and pathos. It is, in effect, an appeal to the American people to take up the task for which Lincoln laid down his life, for the issue is today as it was in 1861—freedom—though it would be a sovereign injustice to compare the South, whose soldiers fought like gentlemen, to the Kaiser's murderous myriads. The President's speech is a plain warning that pirates shall hereafter hang in the executive dock under condemnation of the whole world."

The Mail argues that the destruction of Prussian militarism requires that the German people themselves must be set free, adding, though, to tell the truth they show no desire or aptitude for freedom, and, therefore, the despots who incited the German people with the passion for slaughter and cruelty must be removed.

Under "Brothers in Arms," the Pall Mall Gazette says to-day of President Wilson: "The President frames the issue in a setting calculated to stir the deepest emotions of the American people. The Russian revolution enables him to commend it to them as a conflict between the virtues of democracy and the crimes of autocracy."

"America enters the war without reservations. Her action will be welcomed both for the substantial aid which she will bring and for the community of spirit which she will further among the free nations of the world. It is great satisfaction to be freed thus with the nation carrying so much of our blood in a crusade worthy of its best traditions and ours."

The Globe says: "German statesmen (Continued on Second Page.)

WAY STANDS CLEAR FOR PROMPT ACTION

Germany and Its Allies Propose to Make Another Offer of Peace

AMSTERDAM, April 3.—Germany and its allies propose to make another peace offer shortly.

This much is clearly stated in advices from Berlin. The date and details still are undetermined. Negotiations of momentous importance are under way between Berlin, Vienna, Sofia and Constantinople. Their culmination will be a clear-cut announcement to the world in the near future. In this announcement, it is learned, the central allies will give a rough outline of their peace terms—terms not as moderate as those they were willing to give after the peace offer of December 12, but terms still "honorable" to both groups of belligerents. That, at least will be the claim of those who will tender them.

From unmistakable intimations contained in recent utterances of German statesmen, it is inferred that an indemnity demand will be included in the Teuton conditions.

From a source close to the channels of Teuton diplomacy it is learned that the "message to the world" will be issued on April 24, when the Reichstag convenes.

For at least two weeks prior to that date the responsible leaders of the four powers will sit in conference in Berlin mapping out the plan of procedure. Frequent consultations will be held meanwhile at army headquarters at the front.

At Germany, it is evident from private advices from the empire's capital, is confident that the new peace offer hinted at in the press, particularly in the Lokal Anzeiger, which is now virtually the mouthpiece of Wilhelmstrasse in such matters, will be accepted by the entente.

WAR RESOLUTION ASKED BY WILSON SURE OF PASSAGE

Senate Will Remain in Continuous Session Till Vote Is Reached.

QUICK ADOPTION BY HOUSE IS EXPECTED BY LEADERS

Immediate Consideration in Upper Branch Blocked by La Follette.

CLOTURE IS IMPROBABLE

Very Few Speeches and Few Votes Against Administration Are Forecast.

WASHINGTON, April 3.—The way was cleared on both sides of the Capitol to-day for prompt enactment of the administration resolutions declaring a state of war exists with Germany and directing the President to prosecute it with all the nation's resources to a successful termination.

Balked by Senator La Follette in his effort to have the resolution taken up immediately in the morning, the administration Committee, Senate leaders decided to begin to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock a session to continue until a vote has been taken. Letters signed by Senators Martin and Gallinger, respectively, the Democratic and Republican leaders, went to each Senator to-night, asking him to be in his seat to-morrow when the Senate meets, and announcing the plan for a continuous session.

ACTION PROBABLE TO-NIGHT OR THURSDAY MORNING

If the leaders can hold a quorum, as they were able to do in the closing hours of the last session on the armed neutrality bill, it is probable that there will be action late to-night or Thursday morning. It is not expected that there will be any attempt to filibuster, but no one knew to-night how many Senators would speak.

Adoption of the resolution by the House before to-morrow night is predicted by members of the Foreign Affairs Committee. The committee will meet in the morning, and is expected to report back quickly. A resolution received from the Senate, sentiment on the House side is almost unanimously in favor of the measure.

Sensors who have looked over the situation expect a few votes against it, and not many speeches in opposition. Republicans in close touch with La Follette, Gronna and Norris, on the Republican side, will speak and vote against the resolution, and that they will be joined by Senators Stone and Kirby, on the Democratic side. Of the position that will be taken by Senators Cummins and Lane, they were not all sure.

SENATORS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER WILSON'S ADDRESS

Enthusiastic approval of the President's address is general among Senators. There may be some distinctions, particularly on the part of Republicans, to adopt the President's suggestion as to taxation of the present generation to pay for the war, if that taxation is to be aimed at objects already taxed, in their opinion, to the limit. Some Senators feel that there should be additional taxation on liquor and beer and stamp taxes of the kind that helped finance the Spanish War, and that eventually much of the expense should be met by bond issues.

Arrangements for financing activities to follow adoption of the war resolution are held in abeyance by the House. Ways and Means Committee pending full information as to what steps are planned. Virtually all of the members of the committee are here, and quick action can be taken whenever the call comes.

EARLY ACTION PREDICTED EVEN BY OPPONENTS

Action by the Senate within at least two or three days was predicted to-day, even by Senators opposing it. Some of the "willful men" named by President Wilson declared emphatically there would be no filibuster or protracted debate.

Amendments from Republican Senators, especially to prevent a formal alliance with the entente or a Federal loan to them, are expected. That there would be no need for resolution of cloture rule to pass the resolution was stated even by some of those opposed to war.

Leaders of both parties in the Senate are disposed to pass only appropriation and other war measures and adjourn. Some leaders believe it possible to adjourn by May 15.

Senator La Follette of Wisconsin, leader of the "little group of willful men," said to-day he expected there would be "quite a little debate."

"I don't know," he said. "They may shut me off. They did one, you know, when I expected to speak."

House leaders predicted unanimous support to the President. The only possible objection foreseen by them was to a possible proposal to send troops abroad at once. Later, after an arm has been well trained, if the war continued, they thought the House would support such a plan.

In the wave of patriotic fervor which swept over the House to-day, after overnight consideration of the Pres-

Britain Electrified by Wilson's Address Indicting Germany

Entry of United States Into War Hailed as Sealing Doom of Central Powers.

LONDON, April 3.—(By Associated Press.)—President Wilson's address aligning the United States with the nations fighting against Germany was warmly welcomed and unanimously acclaimed by the British people. They recognize that no decision with a weightier influence upon the result of the world struggle has been given since Great Britain, after a few days of consideration, resolved to march with France. No news of the last year has so stirred the country, save only the Russian revolution.

There have been no street demonstrations or exhibitions of excitement, such as the first weeks of the war saw in London, because the war has long since passed the stage of excitement, and is regarded here, as in America, as a heavy and solemnly borne duty. The substance and tone of the President's address was an electrifying surprise. The directness of his indictment for the German methods and his wholehearted statement of America's duty to maintain her rights and of her duty to civilization was more than the public here expected.

GENERAL EXPECTATION MORE THAN FULLY MET

Dispatches from America in the last month had represented the President as so reluctant to enter the war that recommendations to Congress limited to defensive measures for the protection of American commerce would have fulfilled the general expectations.

That the Russian revolution did much to pave the way for American co-operation with Germany's opponents and, since President Wilson's policy possible is one of the first features of the situation which the newspapers seize upon.

The Russian revolution lifted a great load from the minds of British Liberals, and they enthusiastically indorse the President's words concerning Russia. No one here expects that the new Russian regime will be established without trouble. Nevertheless, the moral gain through the Russian upheaval is regarded as outweighing the temporary handicaps to effective military action while reconstruction is under way.

The only feature of President Wilson's address that evokes dissent in his acquittal of the German people from responsibility for the policies of the German government, Liberal opponents, like the Daily Chronicle, contend that the German people have supported with apparent enthusiasm his annexation and have demanded its annexation.

WILSON WILDLY CHEERED IN HOUSE OF COMMONS

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, April 3.—A storm of applause was aroused in the House of Commons to-day by mention of President Wilson's address to Congress. Henry Dalziel asked Chancellor Bonar Law whether he was in a position to give any information as to the decision of the American Congress in regard to war.

"I have just received a telegram from our ambassador in Washington in which, after referring to the speech of President Wilson, he adds that in his opinion it was well received by Congress, and he expected the authority asked for would be given."

When President Wilson's name was mentioned the members applauded, and they cheered again when the Chancellor told them what the ambassador had cabled.

It is understood that Premier Lloyd George proposes to attend the session of the House of Commons to-morrow for the purpose of making a reference to the entry of the United States into

Buy a Flag To-Day

Patriotic Richmond women at 100 or more stations scattered over the city will offer for sale to-day small American flags, the proceeds from the sale to be devoted to a home-war-relief fund, to be used for hospital purposes in such emergencies as may arise.

The time is propitious for just such an expression of loyalty. With the nation on the brink of war, every loyal American should take pride in showing his country's colors.

Flag Day is being conducted by the patriotic committee of the Capital Division, American League for Women's Service. Mrs. J. St. George Bryan is chairman.

Buy a flag to-day before you begin your business. Every man, woman and child whose heart beats with the President in this national crisis should have a flag before nightfall.

(Continued on Fourth Page.)