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## EXTRA SESSION CALLED AS PRESIDENT DECIDES UPON DEFINITE ACTION

### Congress to Convene April 2--Wilson Determined to Meet Germany's High Sea Campaign With Drastic Steps--Executive Will Probably Be Given Full Power to Act--Actual State of Hostilities Now Exists, It Is Admitted.

## DECLARATION OF WAR MAY BE FIRST ACTION TAKEN

### Clash With Teutons Now Seems Inevitable--Army and Navy Will Be Recruited Rapidly Until Largest in Nation's History--Messages Flood White House Demanding Activities--Military Training Conference to Be Held.

WASHINGTON, March 21.—President Wilson today called Congress into extra session for April 2. He has decided to meet Germany's high sea campaign with open action. War today seemed just ahead. Congress will be asked to consider aggressive steps to be taken toward the German government.

With a state of war admittedly existing as a result of the U-boat attacks on American merchant ships, a declaration of war may be the first action of Congress. If the President does not demand a declaration of war, Congress may do so. Some believe this action will be taken. Others, however, feel that Congress will merely admit that a state of war exists and then grant the President full powers to take such steps as he deems necessary to meet the crisis.

This was the action authorized by Congress just before the Spanish-American War. In any event, steps will be taken to put the army and navy on a war footing in such proportions as these branches of national defense have never before in the history of this country been undertaken.

### Chance of Averting War Closes.

The possibilities of averting open hostilities with Germany appear to have closed. The President's decision is based on the tremendous appeal from the entire country for the avenging of Germany's killing of American citizens and the destruction of American property in contravention of international law.

The President's course marks the end of his consistent efforts to keep this country at peace with Germany that it might "perform the greater service of restoring reason to war-torn Europe." In reaching his conclusion to lay before Congress his determination, President Wilson has brought to an end the struggle to "hold out against positive organization for warlike action to the last." President Wilson was forced to take the stand and force the issue.

### People Urge Action Upon President.

Appeals by many persons and hundreds of telegrams have urged upon the President the need of aggressive action immediately, "not only for American defense, but for the sake of the world." In this connection it occurred that President Wilson, about a year ago, told some of his advisers that he had reason to believe if the United States would enter the war, the struggle would end in the near future. Advisers have told him that within twenty-four hours the effect of assuming a positive stand against Germany would be to increase the confidence of the Russian government in its co-operation with the other Allied forces and perhaps create a demand in Germany for the overthrowing of autocracy.

### Messages to White House Counsel War

It became known today that within the last few weeks many telegrams and messages of advice received at the White House have counseled war, saying that a high note of patriotism must be struck at once.

The messages also declared the country must have a leader to tell the people what to do, and that it is up to the President to decide on active steps against Germany's military ruthlessness. This is in effect what the President has been told by his closest and most trusted counselors. It is, in fact, what was told President Wilson in the cabinet meeting yesterday. It was in the face of such overwhelming evi-

Great Britain in this country, today withdrew their plea of not guilty and pleaded guilty. Their sentences will be pronounced tomorrow.

### N. Y. Times Wants New Cabinet.

By United Press  
NEW YORK, March 21.—An immediate reorganization of the cabinet along patriotic, non-partisan lines is demanded today by the New York Times, in an editorial declaring that "the Government is unprepared—yet the Government must carry on the war."

### Speeds Up Naval Program.

By United Press  
WASHINGTON, March 21.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels late this afternoon directed that the date for the opening of bids on the fifteen new destroyers be advanced eleven days, from April 4 to March 24.

### Five Americans Lost on Vigilancia.

By United Press  
WASHINGTON, March 21.—Five Americans died in the sinking of the American steamer Vigilancia. The consul at Plymouth reported the death list to the State Department today.

### German Newspapers Deny Revolt.

By United Press  
AMSTERDAM, March 21.—Rumors of a German revolution were circulating on the stock exchange here today. An effort to find if the rumors were true, through telegraphic connections with German newspapers, resulted in reports that there is no basis for the rumors.

## 'RETREAT TO VICTORY'

### Germany Says That Is What Retirement of Troops in West Means.

By United Press  
BERLIN, March 21 (via wireless).—Germany has retreated to victory. Another master stroke has been effected by Field Marshal von Hindenburg. The intended plan of the Allies for a great spring offensive has been destroyed.

This, in brief, is the official explanation given for the first time today to the United Press to account for the German retirement on the western front:

"Germany has retreated to victory, because the army has taken its place in new positions long prepared. These positions embody the newest lessons in war. They will force the enemy to learn his trade all over again. They would astound military men if their full details were revealed and may effectively transform the entire character of the war."

### French Occupy Ten More Towns.

By United Press  
PARIS, March 21.—Ten additional villages have been occupied by the French in their attacks in the region north of Soissons and west of Laon, today's official statement declares.

## SUPPORTS PRESIDENT HILL

### Convention of Woodmen Circle Votes Approval of Administration.

The expression of unqualified support of President A. Ross Hill and his administration of the University has come from the state convention of the Woodmen Circle composed of women, which met at Springfield last week. All the delegates were of the opinion that the University is under an able and competent head and they wish no change made. They intended to express this opinion by a resolution, but lack of time prevented its adoption. The women therefore requested Colonel J. W. Pooler, district manager with headquarters at Springfield, to make known their hearty sympathy when he attended the Woodmen of the World convention now in session here.

## MRS. MILLER RETURNS HOME

### Vice-President of Suffrage League Back From Work in Washington.

Mrs. Walter McNab Miller, vice-president of the National Suffrage League, has returned from Washington, D. C., where she has been working for the league during the last session of Congress. Mrs. Miller is ill with the grip at her home, 1901 University avenue.

## CITY CENSUS NEARS COMPLETION

### Totaling of People Will Start Tomorrow, Says V. B. Jones.

The totaling of the people in Columbia will probably begin tomorrow, as only a few more districts remain to be canvassed, according to Victor B. Jones, secretary of the Commercial Club, who is in charge of the census. The canvass shows that there are many vacant houses in the city.

## F. G. HARRIS CAN FIND NO SLIGHTING OF M. U.

### State Senator Thinks Legislature Did Best It Could With Short Funds.

## JUST WAIT, HE SAYS

### Looks for Next Session to Be Generous—Proud of Governor Gardner's Work.

Although the University of Missouri didn't receive so much money as it should have from the Legislature, it fared as well as any other institution," said F. G. Harris of Columbia, state senator from this district. "The appropriation committee faced a hard problem on account of the deficiency in funds and had to make a cut all along the line," continued Senator Harris. "In my opinion the revenue measures promulgated by Governor Gardner will readjust the financial machinery of the state to such an extent that the next session will be able to give the University whatever it asks for."

"Not a speech made in the Senate reflected in any way on the University and its management," he added.

### Columbia May Get Electric Line.

"I introduced a bill in the senate that I believe will put Columbia on a transstate electric line in the near future. This bill allows a foreign corporation to hold more than 10 per cent of its capital stock in this state. Under the old law a foreign corporation was limited to owning 10 per cent. The owners of the McKinley electric system have given this as the reason they can't build more roads in Missouri. Governor Gardner was very much interested in this bill.

"One reason for the success of Governor Gardner's program was the personal fight he made in behalf of his measures. He was on the job all the time, always with his hear to the ground. It was no fault of his if any of his measures failed to be adopted."

### "Gardner a Sound Business Man."

"I think the Governor is a sound business man and will give Missouri the most successful administration it has ever had. I supported the Governor's measures from beginning to end. A senator going to the legislature doesn't have the opportunity to study the measures beforehand and hasn't time after the session begins. Governor Gardner was elected on his program; hence I thought it my duty to abide by the governor."

The last General Assembly was far ahead of any previous one, according to Senator Harris. More constructive legislation was enacted than ever before, he thinks, and more genuine harmony prevailed in both bodies of the Legislature.

## Bill Will Help Prohibition.

"A bill that will help the prohibition cause in Missouri is one that provides for contests when constitutional questions are voted on," he continued. "I believe the prohibition amendment would have carried in Missouri last November had a fair count been made in St. Louis. Jackson County by voting 'dry' showed the city element was opposed to the liquor traffic. A bill closely related to this is one providing for challengers at constitutional elections. Both bills passed. They were introduced and handled by me in the senate.

"The measure doing away with the contract system of labor at the penitentiary was an excellent thing. It places Missouri in the class of progressive states. It was a piece of really humanitarian legislation. A bill providing that all state and eleemosynary institutions be managed by a board of control was defeated. I supported this bill in the senate and really believe it would have been economically advantageous.

## Recording Tax Bill Falls.

"Another bill I insisted on was the mortgage recording tax bill. This bill passed the senate, but failed in the house. It would have added about \$500,000 to the annual revenue of the state and would have equalized the taxes on this kind of property. As the law now stands, only a portion of the mortgages secured by real estate are taxed. This law would have got them all, as it provided the tax must be paid when the mortgage was recorded. The bill also would have brought revenue to the state from foreign loan companies doing business in this state.

"The good roads legislation will help to pull Missouri out of the mire. A resolution giving the small road district the right to make levies for roads will help the rural districts a

## THE WEATHER

For Columbia and Vicinity: Generally fair tonight and Thursday; not much change in temperature; lowest tonight a few degrees above freezing. For Missouri: Partly cloudy tonight and Thursday; not much change in temperature. Shippers' Forecast: Prepare shipments within a radius of 200 miles of Columbia to withstand temperatures as follows: West and North 32; East and South above freezing.

**Local Data.**  
The highest temperature in Columbia yesterday was 46 and the lowest last night was 35; precipitation 0.21; relative humidity 2 p. m. yesterday 87 per cent. A year ago today the highest temperature was 71 and the lowest 41; precipitation 0.00 inch.

**The Almanac.**  
Sun rises today, 6:11 a. m. Sun sets, 6:22 p. m.  
Moon rises, 5:01 a. m.

**The Temperatures Today.**

7 a. m.	35	11 a. m.	54
8 a. m.	40	12 m.	57
9 a. m.	46	1 p. m.	59
10 a. m.	49	2 p. m.	61

great deal. Special road districts, by this resolution, have the right to raise money without resorting to bonds.

## Cadet Appointments to End.

"A bill doing away with the appointment of cadets to the Missouri Military School was passed. This was thought advisable, because under the prevailing system, not all students have a fair chance, as there are only a small number of appointments to be made."

This was Mr. Harris' second term in the senate. He has previously served two terms as representative. In his opinion his constituents endorse his actions in the Assembly just ended.

The last measure passed by the Legislature was Senator Harris' joint and concurrent resolution for the submission of a constitutional amendment under which special road districts may make an annual levy of 75 cents on the \$100 valuation.

## WILL HAVE RESERVOIR

### Columbia to Get \$16,000 Tank—Council Is Unanimous for Proposition.

Columbia will have that long wished-for reservoir as the result of the City Council's unanimous vote in favor of the proposition at the meeting last night. The measure was introduced and passed after it had been learned that the wells which furnish Columbia's water supply were large enough to furnish a reservoir continuously with water for some time.

M. E. Fawks, superintendent of the Water and Light Department and E. B. McDonnell, chairman of the Water and Light Committee of the Council, requested that the reservoir be constructed in the basin of the lake now being used as a water reservoir. The tank will be made of concrete. It will cost about \$16,000, although the detailed plans have not been made and a definite estimate cannot be made. It is planned to place the construction of the reservoir in the hands of the superintendent of the Water and Light Department and the City engineer. They will submit plans and estimate costs as soon as possible.

The polling places and judges for the city election to be held April 3 were named by the council. First Ward, Belden Hall; judges, Democrats, Al Allton, John Challis, George Denham; Republicans, Emmet Fay, Irvin Rose, C. A. Cottle. Second Ward, courthouse; Democratic judges, W. B. Kellner, N. H. Hickman, A. M. Dinwiddie; Republican judges, Alex Stewart, Frank Oliver, Pat Woods. Third Ward, Chandler's barn; Democratic judges, Virgil Potts, B. E. Miller, A. C. Hulen; Republican judges, L. G. Kohlbusch, C. W. Loomis, Emmanuel Davis. Fourth Ward, W. K. Stone's garage; Democratic judges, V. Bailey, O. R. Johnson, C. S. Ballew; Republican judges, Simon Hedrick, W. C. Gibbs, Frank Dunlap.

The following accounts were allowed: general revenue, \$97.78; security, fund, \$72.50; water and light fund, \$2,826.

The contract for construction of walks on the east side of South Eighth street was allowed to John N. Fellows. Through Lakenan Price, the condemnation of a brick sidewalk in front of B. F. Venable's property on Eighth street, was protested. The matter was referred to the streets and sidewalks committee for consideration, the report to be made at the next meeting.

## Student's Wife and Daughter Die.

William Wallach, a student in the College of Arts and Science, received word yesterday of the death of his wife and daughter at their home in New York. Their death was caused by asphyxiation, but whether it was an accident is not known here. Mr. Wallach left immediately for New York.

## ST. LOUIS MAN NAMED W.O.W. HEAD CONSUL

### City Delegates Win This Afternoon in the State Lodge Election.

## COCHRAN RAN CLOSE

### Day Spent in Hearing Reports of Committees, Resolutions, Other Business.

The city delegates won when W. H. Hughes of St. Louis was elected head consul of the W.O.W. at 4:30 o'clock this afternoon over O. W. Cochran of Cooper County. Mr. Hughes received 254 votes and Mr. Cochran, 221 votes. After the election of Mr. Hughes the convention took a recess until 5:30 o'clock to watch the cadets drill.

The 500 delegates of the state convention of the Woodmen of the World spent a long, arduous day in the University Auditorium, dealing with somewhat intricate details of lodge affairs, resolutions, reports of committees and finally late this afternoon the election of officers. The task of electing new officers, a question that had caused some fractional contests such as the alignment of the country against the city delegates, was not reached until after 3 o'clock.

The session this morning was filled with lively discussion, intermingled with good-natured raillery. The meeting was called to order by Calude Manlove, head consul and the delegates at once proceeded to business. A motion was introduced to hold the election of the state officers of the lodge at 10:30, but this met with disfavor. After discussion the time for election was set for 2:30 this afternoon, in order to give the factions time to talk over the situation. But it was later than that before the nominations were started.

C. G. Cross of St. Louis, former head consul, gave a report of the last National Convention. He said that Atlanta, Ga., was selected as the next convention city. New York was second choice and Excelsior Springs third.

One of the features of the morning meeting was the lively discussion in regard to the powers of the committee on rules. The Rev. A. N. Lindsey, of Clinton, former candidate for governor, contended that the committee should have power to throw out rules at its own discretion and W.H. Hughes, candidate for head consul of the lodge, maintained that they should all be presented before the convention and that the committee on rules should act only in an advisory capacity.

After an hour's discussion of the method of considering resolutions, the Rev. A. N. Lindsey of Clinton, speaking in behalf of the committee on resolutions, suggested that the committee be given power to consider every resolution. The suggestion was accepted.

Reports of the committees on the Boys of Woodcraft, Woodman's Memorial Home, log rolling, and appeals and grievances were accepted. It was said by a member of the log rolling committee that arrangements are now being made for a log rolling picnic in Northwest Missouri next fall.

The committee on resolutions this afternoon referred eight resolutions to the consideration of the assembly. The first extended thanks and appreciation to the University and President Hill for the use of the Auditorium. The next expressed the gratitude of the delegates for the hospitality shown by the city was also unanimously received. The other resolutions dealt with business matters.

## W.O.W. CONVENTION

The selection of state officers and sovereign delegates disclosed the usual division of convention delegates into factions. Three divisions appeared in the convention this morning during the discussion or candidates. The leading division included the independents in opposition to the administration organization. W. H. Hughes of St. Louis, past head consul of Missouri, was supported for re-election as head consul by the independent faction against O. W. Cochran of Gooch Mill, Cooper County, who was favored by the administration heads. When A. L. Pratt of Linneus, floor leader for the administration faction, introduced a resolution during the morning session that the election of officers be set for 10:30 o'clock, Hughes jumped to his feet with a hot reply, intimating that the administra-

(Continued on Page 4).