

THE NEW ORLEANS BEE

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A MESSAGE TO BE HEHEDED.

Dr. Carl Vrooman, assistant secretary of agriculture, brought New Orleans an important message yesterday in his talks to business men at the Association of Commerce rooms...

Dr. Vrooman drove home the fact that an increase in the production of food crops is more important just now than the raising of armies...

The urgent need of more food is reflected in the reports of the department of agriculture, as well as in current news reports.

Twenty-five young men have enrolled in a new company of guardsmen now being organized at Abbeville.

The people of Jefferson Davis parish met at Jennings Monday and formed a Red Cross auxiliary.

The sale of pews at the Napoleonville Catholic church Sunday brought \$1,940.

The state teachers association meets in Alexandria Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

Donaldsonville authorities are making war on the homeless dog.

The railroad commission of Louisiana is holding its session this week in Baton Rouge.

The Y. & M. V. railroad is building a new station at Holden.

The negroes of Bunkie held a patriotic meeting Tuesday, at which an address was delivered by Dr. Edward P. Jones of Vicksburg.

St. Francisville has contributed seventy members to the New Orleans branch of the American Red Cross.

A crowd of 2,500 saw the naval reserves of Slidell off to join the New Orleans commands Monday.

The home of George T. Norwood at Clinton was damaged \$3,000 by fire Monday.

W. M. Atkinson, son in law of Judge Blackman of Alexandria, was fatally crushed by the collapse of a derrick in the oil field at Caspar, Wyoming.

Franklin has organized over 100 citizens not capable of active service into a home guard.

Our American suffragists are going to do their part in the coming war by raising food-stuffs. This is better than the article their English sisters were raising just before the exciting era dawned upon Europe.

Argentine is finding out that this embargo business cuts both ways. Some weeks ago Argentine placed an embargo on exports of wheat. Great Britain promptly intimated that if Argentina needs all its wheat for home consumption England also needs all its coal for its own use.

Having been thrown out of his job in Belgium, Herbert C. Hoover is to be appointed to deal out rations to the people of the United States; according to one report.

Mr. William Jennings Bryan has stated that the declaration of war closes all discussion in the United States and has offered his services to the president in any useful capacity.

LOUISIANA CONDENSED.

R. T. McDonald, a 76-year-old Confederate veteran of Miro, Caddo parish, has written to a Shreveport official asking for a chance of enlisting.

Co. D, of Monroe left for New Orleans with nearly 200 members and another company is being raised.

The total men enlisted in the Connecticut census is shown to be about 480,000. About 10,000 volunteers assisted in taking the census.

The report says: "Connecticut so far has been among the leaders in preparation for war. She has laid the foundation for an organization in advance of any yet evolved among the States."

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The corner stone of the new Woodmen building at Shreveport was laid Sunday, with Head Consul L. P. Butler as master of ceremonies.

The canning factory of Youngsville will again be in operation this season.

Contractor E. Guillot of New Iberia will build the new high school at Carencro. The contract price is \$30,280.

Sidney McZeal, a small negro, has been arrested at Duson, charged with robbing the post office boxes at Lafayette.

Some fear is expressed in Opelousas that the Schell Irrigation plant may be scrapped by W. A. Billingsley and associates, who purchased it at receiver's sale.

CONNECTICUT HAS MADE SURVEY OF ITS MILITARY RESOURCES

By International News Service. Hartford, Conn., April 11. — Valuable lessons in war organization have been learned by Connecticut, which is just completing the first war census of men and resources ever undertaken by any American State.

The plan recommended through a large statewide committee, under the direct control of the Governor, men would be urged to enroll in the civilian reserve. By this plan the first step must be "voluntary patriotic decision."

Under the plan recommended through a large statewide committee, under the direct control of the Governor, men would be urged to enroll in the civilian reserve.

Every advantage should be taken of publicity and the newspapers of the State should be enlisted in the work. It should be the aim to enlist between 10,000 and 20,000 people in the program.

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WEEK OF TURMOIL PRECEDED DECLARATION OF WAR ON SPAIN

The United States did not declare war on Spain in a single day. Instead, the events of the whole week, April 17 to April 25, 1908, led up to the great step, and at last, on the latter date, after there had been active sea fighting and no one pretended to see a chance for a cessation of hostilities, Congress, in response to President McKinley's appeal, declared that war had existed since April 21.

It was the United States' decision to free Cuba that led to the conflict. That came April 18, after Congress had thrashed over the proposition. Congress gave the President authority to free the island, and what was really a declaration of war was contained in the third paragraph of the resolution.

That the President of the United States be, and he hereby is, directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States, and to call into the actual service of the United States the militia of the several States, to such extent as may be necessary to carry into effect the purposes of this act.

The big break came April 20, when McKinley named noon of Saturday, April 23, as the last hour for the Spanish land and sea forces to evacuate Cuba. John Sherman, Secretary of State, called the ultimatum to Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, American minister to Spain, for transmission to the Spanish government.

Spain got fighting mad. With it waiting for Woodford to hand it the ultimatum, the government gave him his passports. It accepted the ultimatum's delivery to Minister Don y Bonabe, its representative here, as a formal announcement on its part, and answered that if considered the American paper a declaration of war. It dispatched its armada to meet the American fleet.

There were no filibusters in Congress. No "little band of willful men" trying to set McKinley's course at naught. But that was in 1898, not in 1917; and the enemy was Spain, not Germany.

At that time there were scenes of the wildest excitement while Congress thrashed over the resolution designed to set Cuba free. The big fight came over the Turpie amendment, recognizing the insurgent government in Cuba. Seven times on the day of April 18, the joint resolution traveled back and forth between the two houses before an agreement was reached.

The House and the Senate were fighting bitterly. Finally, after the whole Nation was embittered and disgusted at the struggle, the conference committee reached an agreement. The Turpie amendment was lost, but the Senate's point, demanding the phrasing of the first clause in the resolution should be "Resolved, First—That the people of the Island of Cuba are, and of right ought to be, free and independent."

Those two words, "are, and," caused all the trouble. The Senate insisted on granting the Cuban insurgents recognition for the work they had done in freeing themselves part way of the Spanish yoke. The House wished to deny it.

The "are, and" controversy brought out scenes which aroused as much comment in 1908, though, as the recent filibuster. Both houses took frequent recesses while conferees tried to reach an agreement. Members gathered in private lobbies and sang patriotic songs. Others amused themselves by throwing paper baskets at imagined foes on the other side, and paper wads at James Hamilton Lewis, the same "Ham" who is Democratic "whip" in the Senate today, and other members who were called to the chair in mock gravity. James Ham had honored the occasion by appearing in evening dress.

The House and Senate cafes were unable to handle the crowds and at last the patrons were limited only to members and their friends. At kinds of liquor from the private stocks down to the 10-cent quality, were unloaded at "hang up" prices. If Congress regarded the coming crisis with alarm it did not show it.

The House, says a report of the famous meeting was "the proverbial beer garden." The Senate was sleepy and disgusted. The conference committee now and then sent in laisus reports that "no agreement was in sight." The Senate swore at the delay. The House retorted with strong voices lifted with uncertainty, but insistent, melody in the time worn strains of "We Won't Go Home Until Morning."

A popular song was going the rounds then. It was "All Coons Look Alike to Me." The words were joggled and the harmony doubtful. But one of the country's most eminent statesmen—the reporters mercilessly smothered his name—struck up the tune in the Capitol and soon a chorus of congressmen was joining violently in the chorus.

At 2 o'clock the morning of April 19, the word came at last that the conference committee had reached an agreement. The Turpie amendment was lost, the words, "are and," were in. A demonstration followed which Congress had never seen before. Men shouted with all their lung power, and women shrieked hysterically. The strain was ended.

By the end of the week, the fighting was on in earnest. Ambassador Woodford left Madrid the afternoon of the 21st. He was escorted to the station and protected from the jeering mob by G. H. Barclay, British charge d'affaires, and Count von Castellendorff, secretary to the German embassy.

McKinley conferred with Senate foreign relations committee that day, and Senator Cullum, a member, said no formal declaration of war would be enough. "There is need of a state of war now existing," he explained. Henry Cabot Lodge of Massachusetts was a member of that committee. He stood behind McKinley, a Republican, then, the same as he is standing behind Wilson, a Democrat now.

SOUVENIR SHINPLASTERS FOR HISTORICAL SOCIETY

For the Louisiana Historical Society's annual Patriotic and Reminiscence Banquet, held on January 8, at the Hotel Greenwood, at 8 p. m., Mr. C. W. Alexander of Philadelphia, who brought the Liberty Bell to New Orleans in 1885, and who was part in the ceremonies here, has sent to Mr. W. O. Hart, chairman of the Louisiana Historical Society committee, in payment of his ticket, five pieces of fractional currency issued by the United States about the close of the war, being one fifty-cent piece, one twenty-five cent piece, two ten cent pieces and one five cent piece, and same will be deposited after the banquet in the historic collection of the Society in the Capitol.

UNIFORM TRAFFIC LAW

The American Automobile Association, having prepared a draft of a uniform traffic law, which it hopes may eventually be adopted in all the states, Mr. W. O. Hart, one of the commissioners on a uniform State laws from this State, has applied for a copy of the law and when received will send it to Mr. W. A. Round, chairman of the Committee on Scope and Program of the National Conference on Uniform State Laws, with the suggestion that he recommend it for consideration and adoption at the next conference.

BRAZIL IS SEEING RAIDERS.

By International News Service. Buenos Aires, April 11.—A strange vessel believed to be a raider has been sighted off the Atlantic coast.

LADIES HEAR DR. VROOMAN.

Listen to Address Emphasizing the Need of Food Conservation.

Carl Vrooman made his third appeal in New Orleans for the production and conservation of food before the National Council of the Woman's Federation at the French Opera House last night. Naturally, the problem of food conservation was emphasized. Gov. Brough of Arkansas was the other orator of the evening.

The ladies, however, went to the meeting committed to household economy. Following a talk by Mrs. Joseph C. Gaway, chairman of the Home Economics department, a resolution offered by Mrs. Thomas G. Winter, of Minneapolis, was unanimously adopted, pledging the council to economy both in dress and household expenditures.

FIGALLO'S 52 YEARS LIFE Best Italian Restaurant in City. 722 IBERVILLE ST. Anthony Guiffria, Prop.