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PRESIDENT HAS NO AUTHORITY TO ARM MERCHANT SHIPS

SUCCESSFUL FILIBUSTER BY STONE, LAFOLLETTE AND FEW OTHERS.

ARMED NEUTRALITY BILL DEFEATED BY FILIBUSTER

Dramatic Scenes Enacted in Senate Chamber at Closing Session Continuing Throughout 26-Hour Session to Adjournment at Noon Sunday.

Washington.—President Wilson 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.

The President's statement in full 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 the 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 Representtives had acted by an overwhelming majority, but the Senate was unable to act because a little group of eleven Senators had determined that it should not.

"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 have but the physical endurance. The result in this case is a complete paralysis alike of the legislative and 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.

Other Measures Lost.

"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 waterpower 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 th unusual circumstances of the existing financial situation.

"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 the 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 memebership. 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.

Crisis of Peril.

"In the midst of a crisis of extraordinary peril, when only definite and decided action can make the nation safe or shield it from war itself by the aggression of others, action is impossible.

"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.

"The remedy? That 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 on to supply the means of action and save the country from disaster."

TWELVE SENATORS DEFEAT VOTE ON NEUTRALITY BILL

PRESIDENT WILSON INFORMS COUNTRY IN A STRONG STATEMENT.

"In the Midst of Crisis of Extraordinary Peril" Few Members of Senate Hold Up Action on Legislation so Needed and Desired by President.

Washington.—Twelve Senators, led by Senator LaFollette and encouraged by Senator Stone, Democratic chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, in a filibuster denounced by President Wilson's spokesmen 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, and denied to the President a law authorizing him to arm American merchant ships to meet the German submarine menace.

Unyielding throughout the 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 War Between the States, LaFollette and his 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. To fix responsibility before the country, 76 Senators, 30 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 permiting unlimited debate gave a small minority opportunity to throttle the will of the majority.

Text of Manifesto.

The text of the manifesto is as follows:

"The majority of 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 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 the fact 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 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 in the crisis were:

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

Democrats—Kirby, Arkansas; Lane, Oregon, O'Gorman, New York; Stone, Missouri; Vardaman, Mississippi—5.

79 Senators Sign Manifesto.

The 76 Senators who signed the manifesto were:

Democrats — Ashurst, Bankhead, Beckham, Broussard, Bryan, Chamberlain, Chilton, Fletcher, Hardwick, Hitchcock, Hollis, Hughes, Husting, James, Johnson, South Dakota; Kern, Lea, Lee, Lewis, Martin, Virginia; Martine, New Jersey; Myers, Newlands, Overman, Owen, Phelan, Pittman, Pomerene, Ransdell, Reed, Robinson, Saulsbury, Shafroth, Sheppard, Shields, Simmons, Smith, Georgia; Smith, Maryland; Smith, South Carolina; Swanson, Thomas, Thompson, Tillman, Underwood, Walsh and Williams.

Republicans—Borah, Brady, Brandegee, Catron, Clark, Colt, Curtis, Dillingham, Dupont, Fall, Fernald, Harding, Jones, Lodge, McCumber, McLean, Nelson, Oliver, Page, Poindexter, Sherman, Smith, Michigan; Smoot, Sterling, Sutherland, Townsend, Wadsworth, Warren, Watson and Weeks.

Of the seven Senators not recorded, three, Gallinger and Goff, Republicans, and Gore, Democrat, were absent on account of sickness. Senators Lippitt, Republican, and Johnson, of Maine, and Smith of Arizona, Democrats, were absent from the city. Senator Culberson, Democrat, did not reach the Senate in time to be recorded.

Dramatic Close.

Hours before the end, Senators who fought throughout the night to break down the filibuster conceived a way to thwart LaFollette's plans to occupy the center of the legislative stage at the climax of the bitter fight. Its execution brought the session to a dramatic end, with LaFollette fighting for a chance to deliver a speech on which he had worked many days. He saw friends of the doomed legislation inflict the death blow he planned.

Instead of LaFollette, Senator Hitchcock, leader of the majority in favor of the bill, talked out the waning hours of the session. He timed his opportunity to the minute Senator LaFollette entered the Senate chamber shortly after 9 o'clock in the morning, prepared to take the center of the stage for the last act of the tragedy. When the moment he had chosen arrived, he addressed the chair, but Senator Hitchcock prevented his recognition.

The forensic struggle which ensued seldom if ever had been equalled in the history of the Senate. Voices were strained to shrieking, and threatening fists were shaken at the presiding officer while the crowded floor and galleries looked on breathlessly. But the incident soon passed without violence. The chair recognized Senator Hitchcock and LaFollette's opportunity was snatched away.

Tense Moments.

The closing moments of the session were tense and impressive. Ten minutes before the end Senator Hitchcock had made his last appeal for unanimous consent for a vote on the bill. LaFollette objected. The Nebraska Senator, prefacing his closing remarks with a portion of President Wilson's address to Congress asking for the authority about to be denied, solemnly said:

"It is unfortunate and deplorable that 12 men in the Senate of the United States have it in their power to defeat the will of 75 or 80 members by one of the most reprehensible filibusters ever recorded in the history of any civilized country."

Senator Hitchcock paused while his words echoed through the chamber. LaFollette stolidly glared toward the Nebraskan, who presently added that perhaps he should apologize for the violence of his words.

"You are perfectly safe," LaFollette returned without rising from his chair. "No one can answer you."

No one did, for the hour of noon had struck, and the Sixty-fourth Congress was ended.

LEADER OF SUCCESS FILIBUSTER IN SENATE.

ROBERT M. LAFOLLETTE.

THE PRESIDENT RENEWS HIS ALLEGIANCE TO CONSTITUTION

CONSECRATES INAGURATION WITH MESSAGE OF HOPE FOR PEACE.

Washington. — Woodrow Wilson, with the major part of the world at war, and America poised on its verge, consecrated his second inaguration as President of the United States with a message of hope for peace.

Standing in the shadows of the Nation's Capitol, with his face turned toward the Eastern war-seared skies, the President renewed his oath of allegiance to the Constitution, praying to Almighty God that he might be given wisdom and prudence to do his duty in the true spirit of the American people.

Washington.—President Wilson's inaugural address was as follows:

"My fellow citizens: The four years which have elapsed since I stood in this place have been crowded with counsel and action of the most vital interest and consequence. Perhaps no equal period in our history has been so fruitful of important reforms in our economic and industrial life or so full of significant changes in the spirit and purpose of our political action. We have sought very thoughtfully to set our house in order, correct the grosser errors and abuses of our industrial life, liberate and quicken the processes of our national genius and energy, and lift our politics to a broader view of the people's essential interests. It is a record of singular variety and singular distinction. But I shall not attempt to review it. It speaks for itself and will be of increasing influence as the years go by. This is not the time for retrospect. It is time rather, to speak our thoughts and purposes concerning the present and the immediate future.

"Although we have centered counsel and action with such unusual concentration and success upon the great problems of domestic legislation to which we addressed ourselves four years ago, other matters have more and more forced themselves upon our attention, matters lying outside our own life as a nation and over which we had no control, but which, despite our wish to keep free of them, have drawn us more and more irresistibly into their own current and influence.

"It has been impossible to avoid them They have affected the life of the whole world. They have shaken men everywhere with a passion and an apprehension that they never knew before. It has been hard to preserve calm counsel while the thought of our own people swayed this way and that under their influence. We are a composite and cosmopolitan people. We are of the blood of all the nations that are at war. The currents of our thoughts as well as the currents of our trade ran quick at all seasons back and forth between us and them. The war inevitably set its mark from the first alike upon our minds, our industries, our commerce, our policies, and our social action. To be independent of it was out of the question.

"And yet all the while we have been conscious that we were not part of it. In that consciousness, despite many divisions, we have drawn closer together. We have been deeply wronged on the seas, but we have not wished to wrong or injure in return; have retained throughout the consciousness of standing in some sort apart, intent upon an interest that transcended the immediate issues of the war itself. As come of the injuries done us have become intolerable, we have still been clear that we wished nothing for ourselves that we were not ready to demand for all mankind—fair dealing, justice, the freedom to live and to be at ease against organized wrong.

"It is in this spirit and with this thought that we have grown more and more aware, more and more certain that the part we wished to play was the part of those who mean to vindicate and fortify peace. We have been obliged to arm ourselves to make good our claim to a certain minimum of right and of freedom of action. We stand firm in armed neutrality since it seems that in no other way we can demonstrate what it is we insist upon and can not forego. We may even be drawn on, by circumstances, not by own purpose or desire, to a more active assertion of our rights as we see them and a more immediate association with the great struggle itself. But nothing will alter our thought or our purpose. They are too clear to be obscured. They are too deeply rotted in the principles of our national life to be altered. We desire neither conquest nor advantage. We wish nothing that can be had only at the cost of another people. We have always professed unselfish purpose and we covet the opportunity to prove that our professions are sincere.

"There are many things still to do at home, to clarify our own policies and give new vitality to the industrial processes of our own life, and we shall do them as time and opportunity serve; but we realibe that the greatest things that remain to be done must be done with the whole world for a stage and in co-operation with the wide and universal forces of mankind, and we are making our spirits ready for those things. They will follow in the immediate wake of the war itself and will set civilization up again. We are provincials no longer. The tragical events of the thirty months of vital turmoil through which we have just passed have made us citizens of the world. There can be no turning back. Our own fortunes as a nation are involved, whether we would have it so or not.

"And yet we are not the less Americans on that account. We shall be the more American if we but remain true to the principles in which we have been bred. They are not the principles of a province or of a single continent. We have known and boasted all along that they were the principles of a liberated mankind. These, therefore, are the things we shall stand for, whether in war on in peace.

"That all nations are equally interested in the peace of the world and in the political stability of free peoples, and equally responsible for their maintenance;

"That the essential principle of peace is the actual equality of nations in all matters of right or privilege;

"That peace can not securely or justly rest upon an armed balance of power;

"That governments derive all their just powers from the consent of the governed and that no other powers should be supported by the common thought, purpose, or power of the family of nations.

"That the seas should be equally free and safe for the use of all peoples, under rules set up by common agreement and consent, and that, so far as practicable, they should be accessible to all upon equal terms;

"That national armaments should be limited to the necessities of national order and domestic safety;

"That the community of interest and power upon which peace must hence forth depend imposes upon each nation the duty of seeing to it that influences proceeding from its citizens meant to encourage or revolution in other states shou sternly and effectually suppress prevented.

"I need not argue these princ you, my fellow countrymen. your own, part and parcel own thinking and our own affairs. They spring up nativ us. Upon this as a platfo purpose and action, we can gether.

"And it is imperative that we stand together. We are bein into a new unity amidst the fi now blaze throughout the wo their ardent heat we shall, i providence, let us hope, be pu faction and division, purified errant humors of party, of pr terest, and shall stand for th come with a new dignity o pride and spirit. Let each to it that the dedication is heart, the high purpose of t in his own mind, ruler of his and desire.

"I stand here and have high and solemn oath t have been audience beca ple of the United States me for this august deleg er and have by their ment named me leader know now what the t realize to the full the which it involves. I pr be given the wisdom an to do my duty in the tr great people. I am th can succeed only as th guide me by their confi counsel. The thing I s the thing without whic sel nor action will avai America—an America ing, in purpose, and i duty, of opportunity, We are to beware o would turn the tasks sities of the nation to vate profit or use them ing up of private powe no faction or disloyal the harmony or embar of our people; beware ernment be kept pure i all its parts. United p ception of our duty resolve to perform it i men, let us dedicate o great task to which we our hand. For myself, I r tolerance, your countenance and your united aid. The shadows that now lie dark upon our path will soon be dispelled and we shall walk with the light all about us if we be but true to ourselves—to ourselves as wished to be known in t of the world and in the those who love liberty the right exalted."

GRAND PROCESSION AT INAUGURATION OF WOODROW WILSON

KHAKI, BRONZED GUARDSMEN, JUST HOME FROM BORDER GUARD LINE.

PRESIDENT AND MRS. WILSON RIDE IN AN OPEN CARRIAGE

Long Line of Military Organizations, Guardsmen, Sailors, Cadets, Veterans, Governors, Women and Civilians Maks Up the Inaugural Parade.

Washington.—The mighty procession which marked President Wilson's second inauguration marched with wind-whipped flags over Pennsylvania avenue from the Capitol to the White House between open lines of khaki, bronzed guardsmen from New York, home from service on the border. It was the first time since the inauguration of Lincoln in 1861 that troops had guarded the line of march.

Despite the wind and lowering clouds, which early in the day darkened the city with threats of a continuation of the downpour, almost every foot of vantage space along the mile-long way was occupied, and the great reviewing stands, windows, balconies and housetops held thousands more.

The crowd waited patiently behind the stout steel cables stretching from the White House to the Capitol, hundreds of early comers being in position at 7 o'clock, four hours before the President and his party left the White House. Ten hours later, when the last of the marchers was nearing the reviewing stand, the line still [illegible]

Presidential Party.

[illegible]ent Wilson and his escort, [illegible] B of the Second Cavalry, [illegible] White House at 11 o'clock. [illegible]ent and Mrs. Wilson riding [illegible]n carriage drawn by four [illegible]eceded by mounted police [illegible] and flanked by secret [illegible] The Vice President fol[illegible]er carriage, with his [illegible]scort of cadets from [illegible] Academy, mounted on [illegible]

[illegible]n left the Court of [illegible] White House, the [illegible]ollow square, with [illegible]age in the cen[illegible] after 1 o'clock [illegible]rade started up [illegible]dent and his es[illegible]

[illegible]un had come out, [illegible] and sprinkled over the [illegible]ay. The line moved slowly between [illegible]wo New York regiments — the [illegible]welfth and the Sixty-ninth—standing at attention. They were the visible evidence of elaborate steps taken [illegible] insure the President's safety.

With bands blaring many tunes and flags whipping, the parade got under way—a long line of brilliant color. First came the West Point cadets, overcoated, a marching mass of gray and white whose clock-like movements were as of one man. They were followed by the Annapolis cadets, 1,200 strong, wearing their deep blue overcoats.

Military Organizations.

Then came the long line of military organizations, guardsmen, sailors, coast artillerymen and cadet schools which formed the first and second divisions, under command of Major General Tasker H. Bliss and Brig. Gen. Williams A. Mann. As the head of the line reached the Court of Honor the marchers stopped and remained at attention for 20 minutes while the President prepared to take the place in the reviewing stand.

A bugle gave the signal, and the long line moved again. The inaugural parade was on, with the President standing where Presidents long have stood on inauguration day to review the marchers. For nearly four hours they filed past—sailors, soldiers, guardsmen, cadets, veterans, Governors and their staffs, thousands of civilians in civic and political organizations, Indians here and there, a line of women, and hundreds of brass bands.

The crowds in the reviewing stand and on the streets were chilled by the wind. The paraders marched [illegible]ently in the face of it. In sudden [illegible] It picked up the sand and [illegible] them, swept their colors from [illegible] and sent their hats high