

WEATHER FORECAST.  
North and South Carolina—Thun-  
der showers this afternoon and to-  
night. Cooler tonight. Tuesday,  
fair and cooler.

# THE WILMINGTON DISPATCH

FINAL EDITION

VOL. XXIII. NO. 74. WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA, MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 2, 1917. PRICE FIVE CENTS.

## WAR DECREE READY TO BE OFFERED

### President Will Address Congress Tonight

## CHAMP CLARK AGAIN SPEAKER OF HOUSE; DEMOCRATS CONTROL

Mann Presented as Republican Candidate But Lost On First Ballot

FLOOD HAS A WAR RESOLUTION READY Will be Introduced in House at Once — New Members Sworn In and House Hurries to Complete Organization.

TO ADDRESS JOINT SESSION AT 8 O'CLOCK.  
(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, April 2.—President Wilson will address a joint session of Congress at 8 o'clock this evening.  
The President decided to speak at 8 o'clock on the suggestion of Majority Leader Kitchin, who sent word to the White House that it was best to decide on a definite hour, although the House might be organized earlier.  
Senate leaders and it was understood that when the Senate meets again at 5 o'clock another recess until 8 o'clock would be taken.

Washington, April 2.—Speaker Clark was re-elected today by a vote of 217 to 205, over his Republican opponent, representative Mann, as the first step in organization of the House of Representatives — the necessary preliminary to the delivery of President Wilson "war address."  
With the re-election of Speaker Clark it seemed certain that President Wilson would deliver his address late this afternoon.  
It is expected on every hand that he will ask Congress to declare that a state of war exists between the United States and Germany.  
This seemed so certain that Chairman Flood of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the administration spokesman there, prepared a resolution to declare a state of war and authorized the President to act. The resolution follows:  
"Whereas, the recent course of the Imperial German government is, in fact nothing less than war against the government and people of the United States.  
Resolved, by the State and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the state of belligerency between the United States and the Imperial German government, which has thus been thrust upon the United States is hereby formally declared, and  
That the President, be, and he is hereby authorized to take immediate steps not only to put the country in thorough state of defense, but also to exert all of its power and employ all of its resources to carry on war against the Imperial German government and to bring the conflict to a successful termination."  
Champ Clark, of Bowling Green, Mo., was re-elected Speaker of the House of Representatives over James R. Mann, of Illinois, by a vote of 217 to 205.  
All of the Democrats present and 4 of the so-called Independents — Martin, Progressive-Protectionist, of Louisiana; Schall, Progressive of Minn.; London, Socialist of New York and Randall, Prohibitionist, of California — voted for Clark.  
Two Republicans, Gardner and Fuller, of Massachusetts, voted for Representative Lenroot, of Wisconsin. Representatives Dallinger of Massachusetts and Gray of New York voted for Representative Gillett of Massachusetts and Representatives James of Michigan and Haskell of New York Republicans, voted present.  
Clark's election was effected in exactly one hour and forty minutes after the House convened, the exact time he predicted in an interview. (Continued on Page Three).

MISS RANKIN GETS GREAT RECEPTION  
(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, April 2.—Representative Jeanette Rankin, of Montana, the first woman member of Congress, took her seat in the House today, after an elaborate prelude of ceremonies, in which woman suffragettes predominated.  
The personal ceremony was a breakfast for the Honorable Jeanette Rankin, of Montana, under the auspices of the suffragettes of all factions. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, president of the National American Women Suffrage Association, sat at Miss Rankin's right, and at her left was Miss Alice Paul, chairman of the National Woman party.  
"The day of our deliverance is at hand," was the keynote of Mrs. Catt's speech.  
Miss Rankin, in reply, made the longest speech she has delivered since she arrived in the capital.  
"The day after election," said Miss Rankin, "looked very much as if I had not been elected, but it seemed to me that the campaign had been, nevertheless, worth while, because the women had stood together, the women had learned solidarity. It seemed to me that one thing had been alone worth striving for. I think that this breakfast this morning shows that the women are standing together.  
"I want you to know how much I feel this responsibility. There will be many times when I shall make mistakes, and it means a great deal to me to know that I have your encouragement and support."  
Miss Rankin's entrance into the House was signalized by uproarious cheering and applause.  
Every member and everybody in the crowded galleries rose as, accompanied by Representative Evans, of Montana, she walked to a seat in the rear center of the hall. She carried one of the scores of bouquets which came to her office today. She did not wear a hat and was attired simply in a dark dress.

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TURKS LOST EIGHTY THOUSAND MEN  
(By Associated Press.)  
London, April 2.—Andrew Bonar Law, member of the British war council, today stated in the House of Commons that the total casualties of the Turks in the battle of Gaza, in Palestine, were 80,000. The number of British killed was less than 400.

THIS CITY MAKES BID FOR THE CAMP  
(Special to The Dispatch.)  
Raleigh, N. C., April 2.—Col. Walker Taylor and Capt. E. A. Metts, of Wilmington, presented that city's claims as a mobilization point with considerable eloquence today, but the strife among towns for camp centers has become so fierce that all stand to lose if one may read the looks of the men who settle these issues. The Wilmingtonians were heard by Col. Woodbury of the United States Army, who has been mustering out the Third Regiment. Mrs. Vanderbilt's offer of the Buncombe estate for use was among the many. It looks today entirely like Camp Glenn, if mobilization again becomes necessary.  
Governor Bickett today called upon the Council of State to consider a pardon in which the governor had been the prosecutor. As the result, council gives liberty to Charles Alston, Franklin negro, who was serving thirty years for murder, second degree. Alston had been fourteen years in prison.

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On both sides of the Oise-Aisne canal, and on the highlands of Flanders, it is announced the French made some advance under heavy losses.  
Russian forces, after strong artillery preparation, yesterday launched an offensive along a breadth of more than four miles against the German positions on the Rumanian frontier heights on both sides of the Oituz valley, says the German official statement issued today. The Russian waves broke down under the German fire and in one place after hand-to-hand fighting.  
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The South and Southwest is ready for the conflict with Germany, he said. "This great section of the country, part of which was deemed to Mexico by Foreign Secretary Zimmerman, has not an ounce of anti-war spirit. Neither is there any rampant jingoism. The people of the South and Southwest feel that war is inevitable, and they are willing to go into it to demand our rights. In fact, they do not want to stay out any longer, and they feel that their battles are being fought by somebody else."  
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Pacifists Through the City, But Anti-Pacifists Also Out In Force—Simmons Favors A War Declaration  
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(By Associated Press.)  
Washington, April 2.—As Congress assembled at noon President Wilson practically had decided to make his address today, immediately after organization of the House, if it should be delayed until the late afternoon or early evening.  
President Wilson's address immediately will be sent to all the foreign embassies and legations here and will be telegraphed to American diplomats abroad. It was acknowledged today that foreign governments, on receipt of it, may interpret it as they think best, even to assume that it so closely approximates recognition of a state of war as to necessitate the issuing of neutrality proclamations.  
Whether such a step will be taken by any neutral prior to formal action by Congress is unknown here.  
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President Wilson, ready with his address, which it is believed will ask that a state of war already exists between the United States and Germany, waited only for the organization of the House of Representatives.  
As Congress assembled, it was like a scene from the past, the proceedings in the House being completed before 3 or 4 o'clock, the President would make his address today. Should the House organization encounter some unlooked-for delay, the President was expected to make his address tomorrow.  
Democratic House leaders got word from the White House to hurry the organization as much as possible. All plans had been made on the expectation that the President would speak tomorrow, but the leaders promised to do all they could to meet his wish to speak today.  
Congress assembled with a majority openly in favor of a declaration of a state of war, if not actually a declaration of war.  
Beset on one side with large delegations of pacifists praying for peace and besieged on the other by large numbers of "patriotic pilgrims," demanding the country's entrance into the war, Congress waited to hear the President outline the long history of German aggressions against American lives and rights and the predatory violence of her submarines. Administration officials consider Germany has been making war on the United States for some time. A large majority in Congress takes the same view. The minority is divided between those who think a state of armed neutrality is sufficient for the present and the very few who openly favor peace at any price.  
The Capitol was arrayed in a war spirit as Congress assembled. The pacifist delegations, wearing white bands on their sleeves or white streamers across their breasts, paraded the side-walks in numbers, filled the House and Senate galleries and made calls on their Congressmen. They moved about without demonstration and there were few evidences of hostility against them.  
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TRYING TO INDUCE MEXICO TO WAR ON AMERICANS  
German Money and Influence at Work With the Military—Party Gets Recruits  
TEUTON GENERAL GETS RECRUITS  
"Civil Party" in Mexico Striving to Keep the Country Neutral—Working On Carranza  
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"That is cowardice," retorted one of the group.  
"National degeneracy is worse than cowardice," replied the Massachusetts Senator.  
"You are a coward," said Bannwart.  
"You are a liar," retorted Senator Lodge.  
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