

War Has Revived Our National Spirit and Shown Need of Unity, Says Wilson

Foreign-Born Will Come With Cheers to Support the Flag, if Conflict Comes, He Tells the Women's Military Camp—And the Republic's Voice Will Thrill the World.

WASHINGTON, May 1.—America re-awakened in national spirit through lessons of the war in Europe was the theme of an address by President Wilson today at the opening of the National Service School Military Encampment for Young Women.

In concluding his address to the 300 students enrolled for study and service along military lines, the President voiced a warning that the honor and integrity of the United States could not be tampered with. He prayed that the country might not be drawn into war, but said that if it should be, "in the great voice of national enthusiasm which would be raised all the world would stand once more thrilled to hear the voice of the New World asserting the standards of justice and liberty."

The President expressed confidence that in time of trouble the great mass of foreign-born citizens of the United States would be loyal.

"The greeting," as the President's speech was described, followed the raising of the flag, in which ceremony Mrs. Hugh L. Scott, Mrs. Frank F. Fletcher, and Mrs. George Barnett drew the lanyards as the flag was drawn to the top of the staff from which it will wave from sunrise to sunset for thirty days. The sponsors were the wives of the ranking officers of the army, the navy, and the marine corps, respectively.

The President spoke as follows:

"It is with unaffected pleasure that I come to greet you as you have assembled for the interesting things you are going to do. I have always felt that there was very much more inspiration in things that were voluntarily done than in things that were done under official direction and by official summons. You have volunteered to come together without official suggestion in order to study some things which, while they are characteristic of the sort of comfort and assistance which women have been accustomed to offer, are, nevertheless, in this instance associated with a very great national conception and duty.

Has Shown America Dangers.

"We, of course, are living in the presence of conditions which we cannot yet assess, because they are unprecedented. The world never witnessed such a war as is now convulsing almost every part of the world except this part, which we particularly love and would seek to safeguard; and the very foundations of the ordinary life of nations have been disturbed, so deeply disturbed that no man can predict what the final settlement will be.

"And if this war has done nothing else, it has at least done this: It has made America aware of dangers which most of us had deemed unreal, and has made us aware that the danger of our own time is nothing less than the unsettlement of the foundations of civilization.

"Civilization does not rest upon war. It rests upon peace, it rests upon those things which men achieve by co-operation and mutual interest in one another. It does not flourish in the soil of hostility and antagonism, and a world war is a war in the presence of which civilization holds its breath and wonders if it will itself survive.

"As we see these great issues joined, we on this side of the water are done this great service: we are reminded of our spiritual relations not only to this great struggle, but particularly to the great nation of which we constitute parts, and our spiritual relation to the rest of the world is determined by our spiritual relation to America.

"You have come together to be prepared for any unusual duty which America may call upon you to perform, but what has moved you to do this? Your duty to your country. But what is the foundation of that duty? What do you conceive America to be?

"When you come to the last searching analysis we do not owe any duty except to those things that we believe in, and the glory of performing our duty toward America is that we believe in America; and we believe in America because—I venture to say it with entire respect for other peoples and other Governments—this Government was established with a special purpose such as no other Government ever avowed.

"This Government was established in order that justice and liberty might belong to every man whom our institutions could touch, and not only that justice and liberty should belong to America, but that, so far as America was concerned and her influence involved, they should be extended to mankind everywhere. So the inspiration of serving America is a very profound inspiration.

Awakening of the Nations.

"Have you not thought what might be the outcome of this great struggle, so far as the nations already engaged are concerned? Can you not imagine the great awakening that has come to a country like France, for example; how much more intensely every Frenchman and every German feels the national compulsion than he ever felt it before? How much more he feels himself, not an individual, but a fraction in a great whole? How much more his blood springs to the challenge of patriotic suggestions? He is not fighting for his own life. He is sacrificing his own life, or willing to sacrifice it, in order that a greater life than his might persist, the life of his nation.

"So in America we are getting already the indirect benefit of that suggestion. We are beginning to realize how a nation is a unit and that any individual of it who does not feel the impulse of the whole does not belong to it and does not belong in it.

"We have heard a great deal about divided allegiance in this country, but before we discuss divided allegiance in its political aspect we ought to let our thoughts run back to what were perhaps

our divided allegiances in respect to our relations to each other. America had been brought to such a point of diversification of interest, of occupation, of objects sought, that she was in danger of losing the consciousness of her singleness and solidarity.

"There were men pulling at cross purposes in regard to their private interests and their public endeavors in this country long before the war came to remind us that we were a single nation, with a single duty and a single ideal. And the first thing that has happened to us is that we have all been pulled together by a great tug at the heart in respect of our individual interests.

"We have all been reminded with an emphasis, for which I for one thank God, that we are first of all Americans, and only after that at liberty to seek our individual interest. And then those of our fellow citizens who may for a little while have been tempted to think rather of the lands of their origin than of the land of their present allegiance, have been reminded that there is, politically speaking, only one allegiance conceivable, and possible.

Few Hyphenates Here.

"You have heard a great deal about the hyphen. I, for one, have never been deceived. The number of persons of really divided allegiance in this country is very small, and if I had been born in some other country I would, for one, resent the representations which have been made by those who were not the spokesmen of those for whom they pretended to speak in suggesting a divided allegiance.

"I have never had the slightest doubt of what would happen when America called upon those of her citizens born in other countries to come to the support of the flag. Why, they will come with cheers, they will come with a momentum which will make us realize that America has once more been cried awake out of every sort of dlistemper and dream and distraction, and that any man who dares tamper with the spirit of America will be cast out of the confidence of a great nation upon the instant.

"I believe that a certain spiritual regeneration is going to come out of this thing. We have been thinking too much about our individual selves and too little about the country of which we constitute a part, and one of the services, which you ladies are going to render, is to show how, upon no summons at all, upon the mere offering of the opportunity, women will come together to render those inestimable services which are necessary, if the country should get into any sort of trouble.

"God forbid that we should be drawn into war, but if we should be, America would seem once more to shake herself out of a dream to say, 'Did any man deem that we were asleep? Did any man deem that we had forgotten the traditions of America? Did any man deem that he could tamper with the honor or integrity of the United States?' and in the great voice of national enthusiasm which would be raised, all the world would stand once more thrilled to hear the voice of the New World asserting the standards of justice and liberty."

The President with Mrs. Wilson, was met at the entrance of the camp by Mrs. Scott and members of the Service School Committee, who escorted the party to the platform between lines of khaki clad young women.

Mrs. Gibson Fahnstock presented the President. Other guests on the platform included Mrs. Lansing, Mrs. Daniels, Rear Admiral and Mrs. Wainwright, Mrs. William H. Bolling, Mrs. Carl Vrooman, the Misses Burleson, Mrs. Champ Clark, General George Barnett, Mme. Ekengren, the Rev. Dr. Randolph McKim, Colonel and Mrs. Reeves Russell, Mrs. John P. Jackson, Mrs. John W. Foster, Mrs. Spencer Wood, and Miss Mary Custis Lee. Secretaries Baker and Daniels were in the audience.

The encampment is being held under the auspices of the women's section of the Navy League. Those who attend will be taught first aid to the wounded, bandage making, telegraphy and other war-time arts.

Many New Yorkers Enrolled.

The New Yorkers who have already arrived or are expected in time for tomorrow's opening instruction at 9 o'clock are: Miss Edna D. Andrews, Miss Gertrude Atwell, Miss Marian Baldwin, Miss Ethel Burnett, Miss Nancy E. Barton, Misses Mary and Helen Bangs, Mrs. Richard S. Chisholm, Miss Mary A. Cushman, Miss Ruth I. Carleton, Miss Katherine A. Crane, Miss Genevieve Clendennin, Miss Dorothy Dillon, Miss Anita Emmet, Misses Mercer and Hilda French, Miss Rosamond Gilder, Miss Susan Dows Herter, Miss Marian M. Kerr, Miss Frances C. Littlefield, Miss Edith Carleton Leavitt, Mrs. Adrian Larkin, Miss Sarah Larkin, Miss Eleanor Lockwood, Miss Carolina L. Murray, Mrs. Henry K. Murphy, Miss Muriel MacGuire, Miss Gertrude L. Murray, Miss Phyllis Bassett Moore, Miss Juliet L. Nourse, Miss Alice R. Peters, Miss Isabel M. Peters, Miss Joan Peters, Miss Louise L. Painters, Miss Elizabeth J. Russell, Miss Clara Richards, Miss Caroline Villard Rogers, Miss Katharine Rounds, Mrs. J. Harsen Rhoades, Miss Gertrude L. Schuyler, Miss Anna Sturgis, Miss Elizabeth L. Slee, Miss E. D. Thompson, Miss Dorothy Weir, Miss Cora Weir, Miss Jeanette S. Whitelock, Miss Louise Kauter Witherbee, Miss Violet B. Wilder, and Miss Constance Wickersham.

A second class, which will begin instruction May 15, has already been registered. It will include day pupils going out from town and a large number of campers from Washington and distant points.