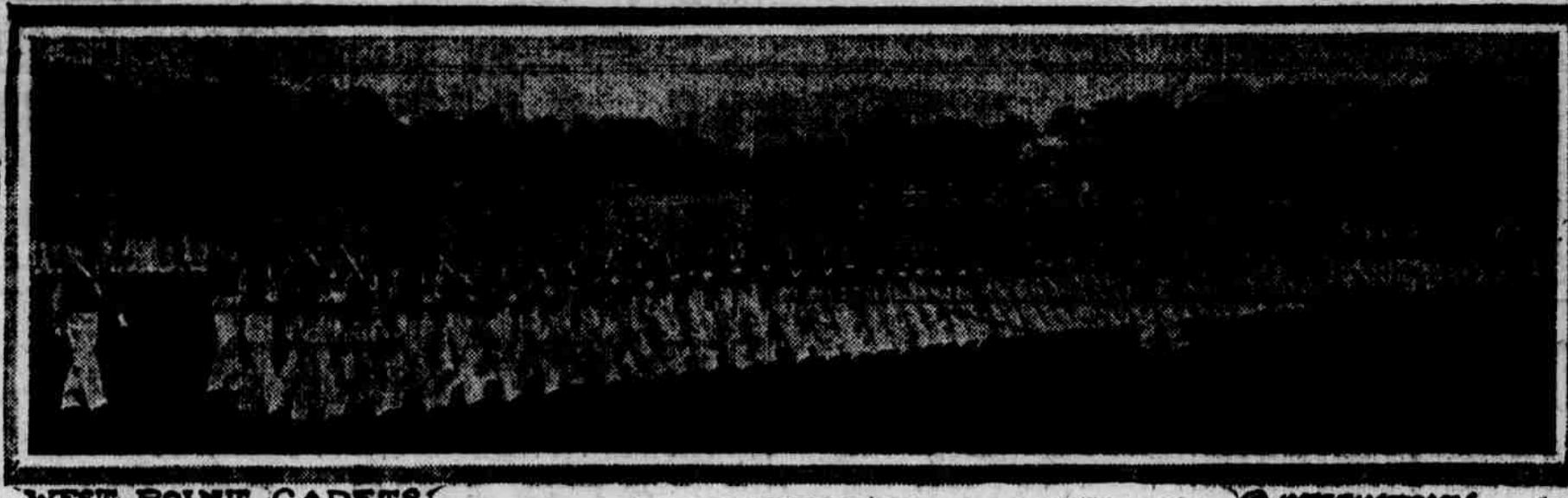


## SOME OF UNCLE SAM'S FUTURE GENERALS WHO MAY SEE SERVICE SOON



WEST POINT CADETS.

The cadet battalion at the United States Military Academy, West Point, N. Y., passing in review. It is from West Point that the United States gets its officers for its army. The present graduating class at West Point is to graduate several months ahead of time, in order to somewhat meet the demand for officers occasioned by the threatened war with Germany. In the event of war the term at the military academy will be shortened.

## Nation Brought Face to Face With Grave Crisis Says American

NOTE—The New York American is taking the lead in preparing the American people for vicissitudes attendant on their entrance into the world war. The following editorial from the American is deemed worthy of reproduction.

There is no question about the power and sincerity of the President's address. It moved the great audience as men are seldom moved, and it is easy to see that it will always have a great place in history.

The fundamental declaration that we have gone to war in behalf of universal democracy was greatly strengthened by the revolution which has overthrown autocracy in Russia, and the President did not neglect to drive home this point.

As a matter of fact, the alliance with the Russian Autocrat always did make the claim that the allies were fighting the battle of democracy a patent sham.

It was impossible for a thinking man to admit that Nicholas II. was waging war to guarantee the security of small states, the sanctity of treaties or the rights and liberties of men.

There stood the long and black record of oppression, treachery, cruelty and brutal disregard of any and all rights of weak peoples, and no sophistry could evade it.

But all that truly is changed, and with Russia a democracy, animated with new ideals and offering freedom to the oppressed little peoples as well as to her own millions, the kaleidoscope has entirely shifted, and the conflict has now become what it was long asserted to be, but never in reality was, a world battle of democracy against monarchy.

So that the very thinking men who could not persuade themselves to see any advantage to liberty or civilization in the subjugation of Teutonic peoples by the accused and abominable Russian despotism can and now do heartily agree with the President's statement of the fundamental issue.

The President says truly that "we desire no conquest," but we take it that that means no spoils simply as

It is very probable that we may be come embroiled in war with Mexico as an ally of Germany—perhaps, also, of Japan—and in that case the nation will surely not be content with anything less than the conquest of Mexico and the abolition of the anarchy and brigandage which have masqueraded as government in that territory.

To all the other insults and injures heaped upon our forbearing heads by Mexico's changing chiefs they now add the treachery of stabbing at America's back while she is struggling with Germany, we are sure that nothing will satisfy the American people but the entire subjugation of a people who do not know how to use freedom and whose hatred and inherent savagery are as dangerous to our peace and as persistently inimical to our people as Prussian militarism is to the peace and safety of Europe's democracies.

Every reason that urges us to war against Germany applies equally well to Mexico, and if Carranza plays the traitor and the assassin to us again, we will be forced to clean up him and all his kind and put Mexico in order.

UNDER OUR OWN SOVEREIGNTY AND OUR OWN FLAG.

One point made by the President has deeply impressed the whole country, that is his frank declaration that war with the present German government would be only a matter of time anyway, and that, as the President

says, the German government "means to act against us at its convenience."

We are bound to believe that the President would not make such a statement in the face of the whole world unless he was in possession of information to sustain the charge.

And believing this, we affirm that the existence of such a situation is not

only cause for war now, but makes immediate war a necessary strategic act of self-defense.

The President's request that Congress turn over the entire MANAGEMENT of the war to the Executive is based on absolutely sound reason.

In peace, deliberation and the counsel of many voices is good. In war, the supreme necessity is undivided authority and responsibility. There must be but one voice and one command, or else there cannot be that decision which is absolutely necessary to military success.

The Congress has its functions, of course, and should exercise them. But the operations of the war should never wait upon debate.

The President is our leader. We all trust him. We must trust him to the full.

Give him all the power he asks and let the responsibility be his.

We think the Government should not delay an unnecessary day in taking over the food supply and fixing maximum prices; in taking over the railroads and operating them for military

purposes; in taking over the steel and munitions plants and operating them for public benefit; and in levying contribution on the wealth of the country.

If the common people are to fight, the rich must pay.

If the poor man is to give up all that is dear to him for his country's sake, the rich man must give up what is dear to him.

This country is not going to stand the shameful spectacle of some growing rich through war while others are suffering and dying through war.

And we urge, earnestly and anxiously, that preparedness be made on a huge scale.

Let us train at least 1,000,000 men.

Let us drive preparedness of our navy until it is the strongest navy in the world.

Let us build innumerable aeroplanes and seaplanes, and train men day and night to handle them.

Let us appropriate billions, but let us tell the President to use our wealth in making our own nation strong to fight on land and on the sea and in the air.

The American has stood for the postponement of war to the last possible moment of postponement. The President has declared convincingly that the last moment has passed.

We are now for the strongest and most effective war that is possible for our great nation to make.

When the President, with all the information that we can have and with other information that we cannot have, solemnly declares that the German Government means to make war upon us at a moment which will be most opportune for it, the only possible course of sense and safety is for us

to make war at the moment which is most opportune for us.

That strategic moment is NOW.

War it is. So be it! Let us make ready with all possible haste, counting no cost, to wage a powerful war, an overwhelming war, a war that will bring victory to our standards and, please God, universal freedom and permanent peace to the inhabitants of the world.

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